

# Spore-Addict Times

The Newsletter of the Pikes Peak Mycological Society

June 1993

## Morel tidbits

by George Davis

With the morel season now over for this year, some new, proven ways of finding this elusive little creature have evolved.

- Morels like cars. So when everyone else takes off to scour the hills and valleys, wait until they are gone then search the parking area. You are almost certain to find several nice morels.
- Morels are very social. When the foray gathers for lunch, look carefully for morels, especially snuggled up next to someone.
- Morels send out advance scouts. Sometimes you may

encounter a morel right after you get out of the car and then not find another one. You have captured the advance scout. Come back in about a week.

- Morels are curious. Follow about thirty paces behind someone who has not yet mastered the art of morel detection. This is a great way to catch them as they come up to see what's going on.
- Morels are curious (#2). When you find a morel, drop to one knee, holler "Bingo!" and look around to see if five or six more

*continues...*

## Meeting News

Ellen Jacobson, Colorado Mycological Society member, seasoned traveler, and contributing editor to *Spores Afield*, will present an account of her recent mushrooming trip along the Amazon River. CMS members lucky enough to see Ellen's presentation in Denver have raved about the accompanying display of 161 slides.

For a glimpse of fungi unlike anything you'll find in Colorado, come to the PPMS meeting on Monday, 28 June at the Junior League office, 2914 Beacon Street at 7:00 p.m.

## Notes from the field

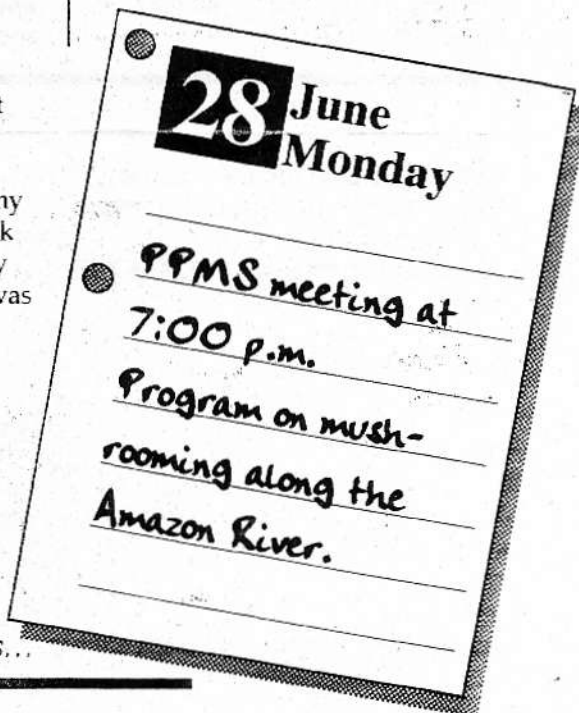
by Graz Benda

Morel season is over—at least in our area—and its not quite time for boletes. However, I did find a giant puffball on 25 May (right next to our recently washed deck) and enough *Suillus* to make a cream of *Suillus* soup.

On 8 June, *Amanita muscaria* and *Leccinum* species made an appearance in Arrowwood. Since then I have found many more *Suillus* (two varieties, and surprisingly they were not wormy) and one *Lactarius*.

On 14 June, I found my last ten morels off Mount Herman Road and only four were still fresh. Several times I checked my morel spot in Mueller State Park to no avail (last year I found my first eighteen morels there). It was interesting to look for morels towards the end of the season because they got bigger and became easier to find. I found some as tall as four inches. However, some of them did not get bigger; they just dried up small, changing into their distinct conical shape but with a wide stipe.

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## Spore-Addict Times

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Spore-Addict Times is published monthly from April through October by the Pikes Peak Mycological Society. Submissions of articles, book reviews, letters, artwork, recipes, and ideas are encouraged.

The Pikes Peak Mycological Society is a non-profit organization dedicated to advancing interest in, and understanding of, the field of

mycology. Membership is open to all persons interested in mycology. Annual dues are \$10 for individual and family memberships.

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# Stems & Pieces

## Study group meeting

An informal fungus study group has been meeting with Lee Barzee semi-regularly since the May meeting. The group has been reviewing identification and keying technique and has had considerable success identifying specimens. The group is not just for experts, and any member is welcome.

## Last chance to pay dues

If you haven't paid your dues (and you're not a charter member), this is the last newsletter you will receive until your dues are paid. If you pay at the June meeting, your name might make it on the 1993 roster.

## Tidbits, continued

morels have popped up to check out the action.

- Morels are compassionate. If you get dizzy from going uphill too fast, bend over, put your head down, and look between your feet. You just might find a morel. (Try this once in a while even if you don't get dizzy.)
- Morels like some people more than others. If you have tried all the above methods and you are still morel-less, find Don, Jack, Frieda, or George Singer. Look in their sacks and praise their skills while fondling their collection of morels. Never return as many to their sacks as you remove to admire.

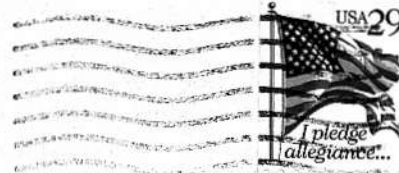
By following these simple rules, everyone should have a fair amount of this delectable mushroom at the end of each foray.

## Notes, continued

One day while foraging and not finding much, even breaking my basket during a fall and smashing the few morels that were in it, I started to see them everywhere. Overwhelmed, I kept picking until it dawned on me that I had no idea where my car was. I increased my pace and got quite concerned as it was approaching the time I was to return home. Meanwhile the morels were everywhere. I just could not leave them behind, even though by this time I was no longer looking for them. Fortunately for me, I heard voices. I listened and thought one of them belonged to Esther Price. Soon I saw familiar faces, and I couldn't have been happier. Jack Richards gave me a ride to find my car which turned out to be not too far away.



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