

Missouri Mycological Society Newsletter

July 1988

Winter Meeting

The MMS winter meeting was held at UMSL on Feb. 22, 1988. The newsletter said only that there would be a business meeting. However, we never have just a business meeting; most of the time was devoted to Walt Sundberg's slide presentation and discussion. This fine program had something for the beginner as well as the more experienced mushroom hunter.

Walt also advised us on how other clubs, with far-flung members, keep going. We need to do things for people with a broader range of interests. This could include:

- A mushroom potluck;
- A photographer's foray;
- Winter meetings elsewhere.

Morels

Last year, the only members who would admit to finding morels were John Mruzik and Roy Jerden. Both went to Babler State Park. Otherwise, things seemed to be poor throughout Missouri and surrounding states. This year we discussed starting a morel *hot line*.

However, since the newsletter didn't get out in March, as originally planned, it is past time. Almost everyone I spoke to found at least a few morels. I hope the rest of you had good hunting too. In Mid-Missouri, 1988 was far better than 1987. The people at work delighted in telling me how many they had found.

Fall Forays

We agreed to schedule fewer forays this fall and get the phone tree running so that there would be more forays when the weather is good. Forays we would like to schedule include:

- Joint with Kaw Valley, near Kansas City;
- Joint with Arkansas, probably near Harrison with Ken Olson as mycologist;
- "Trespassers foray" in St. Louis County in early or mid October;
- Foray near St. Louis, with Walt Sundberg as mycologist, probably late October.
- A possible photographer's foray in the St. Louis area.

And that's all to be scheduled in advance. However, given the good picking that some of us

had last July, we definitely want to work on the phone tree. Particularly in the summertime, it may rain in one part of the state and not another. If members who receive heavy summer rains will call, we will try to schedule forays on a week's notice. Also, I would like to have more than one foray on the good weekends and fewer forays on dry weekends. *Let's get together and work on it!*

Mushroom Potluck

John Mruzik has volunteered his home for a mushroom potluck; perhaps we can do it after the trespassers foray.

Mushroom Festival in Richmond

Richmond, MO, has a mushroom festival each May. This year it was on Friday and Saturday, May 7 & 8. I arrived about noon on Saturday to find a parade in progress with marching bands, antique cars, old and new implements from the Deere dealer, and many other things. There were bleachers set up on one side of the Square. After the parade, a variety of performances might be seen. However, I worked the crowd with my leaflet for MMS (copy enclosed).

I didn't find a lot of interest in mushrooms although there were mushroom decorations in the store windows and at many of the vendors who had set up around the Square. Of all the food stands, only one appeared to be selling mushrooms. I was embarrassed to ask what kind of mushrooms they were -- afraid of what the answer might be.

The wind was blowing all morning. By about 2:00 pm the wind was so strong that the vendors started putting their merchandise away. As I walked back to my car, I passed a large middle-aged man sitting in a large middle-aged car. He said, "I came here to buy mushrooms! Where are the mushrooms?" I told him I didn't know.

I came away with a morel tie tack, a morel bolo tie, and a T-shirt many of you will see this year. It proclaims Richmond as the mushroom capital of the world. I wonder how many other towns make that claim.

NAMA Foray

Will be held in Northern Minnesota August 20-23. Leland von Behren will be going. If you would like to car pool, please call Leland.

Publicity

Using a slide-tape presentation from NAMA, I was at the Jefferson City chapter of the Missouri Native Plant Society in April. The presentation was successful; I urge some of you to do one.

Gleanings

Interesting items from others:

From *Arkansas Fungi*

Alpha-taxonomists classify and name fungi mostly but using the senses of look, smell, taste, feel, etc.; amateurs are called "alphas" too. Beta-taxonomists use technology such as electron microscopy, genetics, biochemistry, &c. With the latter becoming dominant in the study [of fungi], alpha amateurs suspect the Tower of Babel is happening all over again; some professionals agree, alarmed at the thinning number of authorities with both alpha and beta skills.

Said Ron Petersen, "Within twenty years our country may no longer have enough alpha workers to put a name on a mushroom intelligently, though we may have many mycologists who can expound on proteins, DNS, sexuality, and the like."

Arkansas Fungi will publish more on this topic. If it fits, it will come your way.

Also from *Arkansas Fungi*, the news that some mushrooms can stop poison ivy, if applied immediately. Mentioned are *Trametes (Polyporus) versicolor* and *Boletus badius*.

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Member Ron Dollarhite is selling spawn, spores, supplies, instructions, &c. Write him at *Ozark Mushrooms*, Rt 1 Box 1680, Reeds Spring MO 65737.
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Species List

Lynda Richards has been making species lists. Some were done at club forays and others when she went out alone or with one other member. A number of species were found on several forays. This list is not duplicated. But I need advice on how to keep a club species list. Should we

do it by season or location or vegetation or what? Phil, not Lynda, is responsible for misspellings.

Agaricus campestris (?) common meadow mushroom

Amanita sp. destroying angel

Armillaria mellea honey mushroom

Armillaria tabescens ringless honey mushroom

Auricularia auricula tree ear

Caloporus dichrous gelatinous-pored polypore

Cantharellus cibarius chanterelle

Cantharellus cinnabarinus cinnabar-red chanterelle

Cantharellus lateritus smooth chanterelle

Clytocybe sp.

Craterellus folax black trumpet

Cystoderma sp

Erioloma abortivum aborted erioloma

Exida sp. jelly fungus

Favolus alveolaris hexagonal pored

Galerina (?) sp.

Galliella rufa hairy rubber cup

Ganoderma applanatum artist's conk

Geastrum triplex collared earth star

Hericium erinaceus bearded tooth

Laetiporus sulphurus var *semialbinus* chicken mushroom

Lenzites betulina multi-color gilled polypore

Lycogala epidendrum wolf's milk slime (orange, not pink)

Lycoperdon echinatum spiny puffball

Lycoperdon perlatum gem-studded puffball

Lycoperdon pyriformae pear-shaped puffball

Marasmiellus sp.

Marasmius sp.

Mycena galericulata Common mycena

Mycena leaiana Orange mycena

Pannellus stipiticus luminescent panellus

Peziza sp.

Phyllotopsis nidulans orange mock oyster

Pleurotus ostreatus oyster mushroom

Pluteus cervinus deer mushroom

Polyporus badius black-footed polypore

Polyporus radicans rooting polypore

Polyporus (Meripileus) giganteus giant polypore

Poronidulus conchifer little nest polypore

Psathyrella gracilis

Pycnoporus cinnabarinus

Rhodocybe mundula cracked cap rhodocybe

Russula emetica (group)

Spongipellus pachydon spongy toothed

Stemonitis spendens chocolate tube slime

Stereum complicatum golden parchment

Stereum ostrea false turkey tail

Suillus granulatus (?)

Suillus pictus painted suillus

Trametes versicolor turkey tail

Tremella fusiformis white cloud ear or snow fungus

Trichaptum bififormis violet tooth polypore

Tricholoma sp.