



Among Fungi

Cascade Mycological Society Newsletter

April 2012 Vol. 13 Issue 2

Spring Morels and Elections

Annual Spring Foray

CMS has picked Saturday, May 19, 2012, as the date for the annual Spring Foray.

The foray will again be in the Metolius River/Jack Creek area. Because of overwhelming participation the last few years, we plan on breaking into at least two, possibly three groups with separate leaders going in different directions. We hope this will improve communication and education and limit confusion, parking issues, and over taxing individual areas. We are hoping to have better scouting reports this years as well, to limit the need to drive around a lot looking for productive spots.

Consistent with our newly implemented policy, this will be a members only foray. You must register if you want to participate. If you want to bring your friends, they must become members and sign up before the foray. It is easy and quick on our web site. We will have more specific information on how register closer to the date. Watch for it on our web site.

As usual, there will be a contingent of us that will arrive the Friday before and camp at the Jack Creek campsite or nearby. We sometimes stay over Saturday night as well. You are welcome to join us in the campground. There is a fee for camping there, and there are other places nearby without facilities you can camp for free.

We also ask that you please LEAVE YOUR DOG(S) AT HOME. Dogs on forays have become the issue we get the most complaints about. This prompted us to initiate a no dog rule this past Fall. So nothing personal, we still love you and want you to come along on the foray, just leave the dogs at home. Thanks.

CMS needs YOU

Over the last year CMS lost Board member Nate York to Portland. This summer we are losing long time board members Seth Miller and Grace Pugh to silicon valley. Our president, Meredith Allen is also leaving this summer because of time pressures from her work.

Nate was our idea man and provided enough enthusiasm to keep us all going. Most recently, Seth has served as the Treasurer on the board. Grace has been our Membership Chair for many years now. The two of them have also provided back up technical support for all things web and computer related. Grace has also managed most of our publicity, sending out notices, information and this newsletter to our members and public service announcements (information packets) to the media for our monthly general meetings and anything else we did. She also moderated "The Forum", our public "bulletin board" on the web site. Meredith kept us focused, on task, kept it all together and kept us all moving forward.

CMS is a non-profit organization that relies on volunteers to keep it going. The loss of our President, Treasurer and Membership Chair is particularly devastating. It will be difficult for the current board to cover all of these positions.

We are hoping to pick up some new board members or volunteers with some skill or a willingness to learn. Particularly skills we'll need to replace are leadership, communication and computer skills. But any time or skills you'd like to offer will be put to use. We can also provide any necessary training. Please join us and help make CMS the truly best mycological organization in the southern Willamette valley!

Annual Board Elections

It's that time of year again. We are planning this year's general election and annual membership meeting and have set June 14 as the date for our annual meeting. Plans are being finalized to hold this year's meeting at Papa's Pizza on Coburg Road. Come on down and meet your Board members and joins for pizzas and beers. As always, the pizza is on us and the beer is on you.

Board elections will be like last year. We will send an email link with instructions on how to vote on line or you can come on down and vote in person at the annual meeting. If we don't have an email address for you please contact us at: webmaster@cascademyco.org and give us one, we'll still send the Newsletter by snail mail if that's what you really want.

We have set May 10, 2012 as the deadline for board nominations. (Please don't nominate someone who hasn't already agreed to serve.) This is your chance to get involved. (See article above.) We can always use new energy, new skills and help with the various tasks need to keep such a wonderful organization functioning and providing everyone with: the greatest Mushroom Show in North America, awesome monthly speakers, an incredible group of mushroom experts and resources and this Newsletter.

Did I mention we are looking for help and you don't necessarily have to be on the Board? Yes, that's right, we can use your time and skill and you don't even have to be on the Board.

Events

May 10 General Meeting

In anticipation of the Spring Foray, our very own Dr. Skye Weintraub, M.D. will give a stunning photo presentation of "Spring Mushrooms of the Central Oregon Cascades."

May 19 Spring Foray

June 10 Annual Meeting

Mt Pisgah Mystery Fungus

Every year we get hundreds and hundreds specimens for the show. They represent somewhere between three and four hundred species. That's why we bring in experts from all over the country to help out. Two thirds or more are fairly easy to identify, most of the rest take a little time, but we get them. And then, every year we get some that are really hard to identify. Our experts can spend many hours working to identify a single specimen. Usually, if they can get to them all, they all get identified. This year there was a particularly difficult mushroom that was never identified, until recently. But it took seven months and an international effort to get it right.

One of our expert ID'er last year, and we hope this year too, Steve Trudell, took home that unidentified mushroom and he sent us this story.

"It took an international team to figure it out, but the yellow toothy fungus from last fall's show (2011, collected at Honeyman State Park I believe) turns out to be a *Hydnellum*, despite not looking much like most of those I'm familiar with. I sent portions of the collection to Hal Burdsall in Wisconsin and Jim Ginns in BC. Neither recognized it, so Jim sent his portion of the material to Karl-Henrik Larsson in Sweden, where it was (DNA) sequenced. The folks there did not recognize it and the sequence placed it outside of the group of fungi they work with, so they forwarded the sequence to Urmas Koljalg in Estonia, who specializes in the *Thelephoraceae*. Apparently the sequence was a good match for *Hydnellum geogenium*.

I looked at the fruitbody fragments today and since it is spiny and has the typical yellow-greenish color I am pretty sure that we have found the correct identity. The name *geogenium* means "born from soil" and indicates that this species can form fruiting bodies so close to the ground that no stipe is developed.

Jim Ginns then searched for records of it and here's what he found: I did a search for *H. geogenium* and found only one record from the west (Redhead had it in Haida Gwaii). So you have either a very rare fungus or one that isn't so

rare but doesn't draw sufficient attention to be collected often."

Thanks to Steve and thanks to the international team that made the ID possible.

CMS Awards Scholarship

Eugene, Or. The Cascade Mycological Society Board of Directors, at their April Board meeting, awarded a \$1,000 scholarship to Alija Mujic, a PhD candidate at OSU.

Mr. Mujic is working on developing a greater understanding of the ectomycorrhizal relationship of the genera *Rhizopogon* and *Pseudotsuga*.

His research project is designed to determine the distribution of *R. vinicolor* and *R. vesiculosus* (OR, WA, BC, UT, AZ, NM), investigate the population history of these two species relative to *P. menziesii* (Douglas-Fir), and investigate the evolutionary forces driving their speciation. This research will add to our understanding of northwest forest ecology and our baseline information about presence fungus most of us never see.

Alija anticipates final data analysis occurring in the Spring of 2013. We have invited him to speak this Fall at a general meeting about his project and his progress at that time.

Past scholarship recipients have given interesting and informative presentations on their research, I look forward hearing more on the plans and progress of this project.



The Mushroom twins taking a break on a foray up Bryce Creek this past winter.

Rumors of *coccora* abound
Your friends like to show them around
When it comes time to share
your friends just aren't there
And not a bite of the bounty can be found.

The CMS Board of Directors

President:	Meredith Allen
Vice President:	Dean Johnston
Secretary:	Skye Weintraub
Treasurer:	Seth Miller
Newsletter editor:	Matthew Johnson
Membership:	Grace Pugh
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Website: www.cascademyco.org

Among Fungi is the newsletter of Cascade Mycological Society. It is published four or five times a year, on a mycologically oriented schedule, so expect them in late summer, fall, winter and spring.

CMS is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Donations are tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed under the law.

Public meetings are held in the evenings, on the second Thursday of the month generally from September thru April. We have speakers on mushroom related topics geared for both beginners and advanced fungiphiles. Board meetings are the first Thursday of the month at various Board member's homes. If you would like to attend a Board meeting, contact us, we'd love to see you at a meeting.

If you haven't seen our website, you must check it out. Get onto the Forum and find out where the mushrooms are! See you there.

MEMBERSHIP

If you have any questions about your membership, contact Grace Pugh at: webmaster@cascademyco.org.

Check out the new mushroomsinbend.org.

Cascade Mycological Society
P.O. Box 110
Eugene, Oregon 97440

Membership Renewal Form

(or just go to our website)

Mail completed form and check/money order to:

Cascade Mycological Society
P. O. Box 110
Eugene, OR 97440
www.cascademyco.org

' Oyster (Senior/Student/low income)	\$ 10
' Chanterelle (Regular)	\$ 15
' Morel (Family)	\$ 30
' King (or Queen) Bolete (Sustaining)	\$ 50
' Horn of Plenty (Life)	\$ 300
' Matsutake (Business/Agency)	\$ 100

Please make checks out to the Cascade Mycological Society. Thank you!

Name(s)_____

Address_____

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E- Mail_____

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Is this a renewal?_____ (thanks) New membership?_____ (welcome!)

Change of address?_____

' I would prefer to receive my newsletter by snail mail.