

fungifama

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South Vancouver Island Mycological Society

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SVIMS

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Meetings: The first Thursday of every month, except December, January, July, and August, 7:00 p.m. sharp at the Pacific Forestry Centre, 506 W. Burnside Rd., Victoria. Dues are currently \$15 per year per family.

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WINDER'S WOODLOT

The mushrooms haven't let up- we're still eating fresh Agaricus augustus. The late summer rains produced a bumper crop of mushrooms this year, and everything looks on schedule for some good fall forays. I've had the occasion to try Dentinum repandum for the first time, so this is turning out to be a wonderful season from my own point of view. Hannah has a "telephone tree" going now, which seems to be working fine- if you are not on it, please contact her so that you know which branch you are on. Society members may be interested to know that I have managed to get hyphal colonies of the following mushrooms into Petri-dish cultures during tile summer: Agaricus augustus, Agaricus bisporus, Armillaria sp., Boletus barrowsii, Laetiporus sulphureus, Leccinum sp., Marsmius oreades, Morchella deliciosa, Morchella esculenta, Pleurotus ostreatus, and Pleurotus porrigens. I'm planning on digging my morel bed fairly soon now. I was pleased to recently discover a large patch of lobster mushrooms (Russula brevipes var. acrior infected with Hypomyces lactifluorum) near my house. They were too far gone to try this time, but I know where they live now (heh, heh)... Other

mushrooms I've found around my place last month include Polyporus elegans, Suillus caerulescens, Amanita gemmata, Russula brevipes var. acrior, Lepiota sp., Armillaria sp., Agaricus subrufescens, Agaricus smithii, Gomphidius oregonensis, Russula albonigricans, Russula sororaria, Marasmiellus candida, Lycoperdon sp., and Russula cyanoxantha.

Well- I have space and time restrictions in this issue, so look for the Ask the Editor column in the next issue. There will also be a recipe for morel salsa-Carumba! See you at Lizard Lake... -RSW

SOCIETY HIGHLIGHTS

-September Meeting

If you have just joined us, a reminder that dues for the remaining half year are \$7.50. Ted Underhill gave us a wonderful slide show depicting various mushrooms and what they are all about, covering them according to their ecological roles. He showed us an ingenious idea for collecting spore prints and information on a sample card, and discussed his preferences for photographing mushrooms (his secret is to use a bulky, non-vibrating camera combined with a flash unit that is not varistor controlled, and Ectachrome professional style film). Mushrooms brought to the meeting included:

Agaricus sp.
Agaricus augustus
Agaricus praclaresquamosus (= A. meleagris)
Armillaria sp.
Hypomyces lactifluorum
Lepiota racchodes
Russula brevipes var. acrior
Pleurotus ostreatus
Lactarius uvidus
Scleroderma citrina

-Muir Creek/China Beach foray (10 September)

This was just a quick check by Hannah and myself, with some of my neighbors joining us. We first checked Muir Creek, and then the mountain slope above the road at China Beach. Both had abundant mushrooms of many kinds.

Muir creek:

Cortinarius violaceus
Lepiota rubrotincta
Leucopaxillus amarus
Lycoperdon sp.
Naemateloma fasciculare
Pleurotus ostreatus

China beach:

Amanita gemmata
Amanita porphyria
Amanita vaginata
Armillaria sp.
Boletus rubripes?
Cantharellus cibarius
Laccaria laccata
Lactarius alnicola
Lactarius deliciosus
Laetiporus sulphureus
Russula spp.
Russula albonigra
Russula densifolia
Russula rosacea

-Shawnigan Lake foray (16 September)

This was the trip led by Bruce Norris, visiting the Shawnigan Lake area and Mt. Prevost.

Shawnigan Lake

Amanita baccata
Amanita smithiana group
Amanita porphyria
Armillaria sp.
Agaricus silvicola
Cantharellus subalbidus
Cortinarius spp.
Clitocybe dealbata
Hypomyces lactifluorum (on Russula brevipes)
Lactarius uvidus
Mycena sp.
Pluteus cervinus
Suillus lakei
Russula spp.
Russula brevipes
Russula xerampelina
Tricholoma magnivelare (=Armillaria ponderosa)
Tricholoma sejunctum

Mt. Prevost

Rhizopogon sp.

-23 Sept. (Shawnigan again)

Catathalasma sp. ?
Cantharellus subalbidus
Gymnopilus spectabilis
Dentinum (=Hvdnum) repandum
Tyromyces caesius
(and others found the previous week)

-Muir Creek/China beach (24 Sept.)

Renata Outerbridge led about 6 people on a foray that was truly memorable. A whopper king bolete was harvested (ca. 6 pounds). At the end of the foray, Renata and Hannah were kind enough to cook a large mess of oyster mushrooms for us, along with a king bolete button and a hedgehog mushroom. These were all quickly devoured as we gazed at the windy seashore at China Beach- a good feast and a wonderful afternoon!

Muir Creek

Amanita porphyria
Boletus edulis
Boletus spp.
Chroogomphus tomentosus
Clitocybe dealbata
Clitocybe sp. (variabilis or clavipes?)
Cortinarius violaceus
Cortinarius spp.
Flammulina velutipes
Fomitopsis pinicola
Ganoderma applanatum
Ganoderma tsugae
Hydnellum sp.
Lactarius alnicola
Lactarius deliciosus
Lactarius olympianus
Lepiota sp.
Leucopaxillus amarus
Lycoperdon spp.
Lycoperdon pyriforme
Merulius tremellosus
Paxillus atrotomentosus
Phaeolus schweinitzii
Pleurotus ostreatus
Russula spp.
Russula albonigra

Blueberry flats

Hydnellum peckii

China Beach (below road)

Boletus coniferarum
Boletus spp.
Gomphidius oregonensis
Tyromyces caesius

-Chronosequence project

You may recall a few months back that member Tony Trofymow asked for volunteers to help study mushrooms in the Greater Victoria Area Watershed. Plans have crystallized - our first visit to the watershed will be on Oct. 13 and 14, our second on Nov. 17 and 18, with visits following at the middle of each month. The plan is to have a team of 6 people each day, including two mycologists. The experimental approach is fairly simple, and will be explained at the outset of the visits (the intent is to assess the number and diversity of mushrooms at different stages of forest development in the Watershed). The Canadian Forest Service will supply the vehicles to get you there (departing from the Pacific Forestry Centre at 506 W. Burnside Rd.)- all you have to do is dress suitably and supply a lunch. Because permits are required, we need to know who wants to go ahead of time- if you can commit yourself to one day per month, please contact Richard Winder, John Dennis, or Tony Trofymow for further details. This will be a good opportunity for amateurs to work closely with mycologists to learn mushroom identification skills, and it will be a chance for SVIMS to get some good information on mushrooms in the restricted Watershed area.

PINE MUSHROOM REPORT

The B.C. Ministry of Forests has just released a report of its findings regarding public response to the pine mushroom task force. It looks as if one of the most likely immediate outcomes will be a license fee for commercial buyers of wild mushrooms. The fee would probably be used to help pay for impact studies, assess the scope of the harvest, etc. Hannah has a copy of the report, if you wish to see it.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Note: Since foray plans can be made or changed at the monthly meetings, it is best to attend the meetings to keep up to date on the latest information. Hannah has arranged a telephone tree to keep us all informed of late-breaking foray plans.

5 October (Thursday) Monthly meeting

Adolf Ceska will show a video of SVIMS events. Please do your part for the environment by bringing your own mug, and don't forget to bring munchies if you signed up to do so or if you simply feel generous!

7 October (Saturday) 2nd Annual Renfrew Rally

Leader - Richard Winder

Destination - Lizard Lake & environs

Objective - chanterelles & Boletus mirabilis & biodiversity Rendezvous - Port Renfrew Recreation Centre, 10:00 a.m. (Look for the big Killer Whale and map on the left). Bring a lunch, and plenty of enthusiasm.

20-23 October (Friday - Monday) SVIMS/VMS Fall Foray
Mesachie Lake Research Station, Cowichan Lake (Registration deadline has been moved to Oct. 10). Please see the Sept. issue of Fungifama for details. There are campgrounds available: 1) Gordon Bay Prov. Park, \$15 tent and RV (no hookups) just west of Honeymoon Bay (tel. 391-2300); 2) Lakeview Park Municipal Campground 3 km [sic] w. of Lake Cowichan Village, on lake, RV & tents (tel. 749-3350).

29 October (Sunday) Annual Mushroom Display

The Annual Mushroom Display will be held this year at Swan Lake Christmas Hill nature Sanctuary on Sunday, 29 October, from (tentatively) 10:00 to 4:00. As usual, the focus of the display will be fresh mushrooms from Vancouver Island, labeled with their names and edibility categories. We are fortunate to again exhibit the stunning mushroom paintings of local artist Peggy Day, and also plan to set up a book display, commercial mushroom section, informative posters, a coffee and cookie sale, a mushroom cooking and tasting area (if we find enough edibles), a SVIMS sign-up area, and a children's corner. Admission is free. Don't forget to tell all your friends and bring your families!

The Annual Display Planning Committee (Adolf and Oluna Ceska, John Dennis, Jocelyn Lalonde, Renata Outerbridge, myself) will make permanent fungus name labels, arrange to bring all necessary material, and will advertise the event with the help of Swan Lake Christmas Hill Nature Sanctuary.

Volunteers will be needed to help collect mushrooms and set up the display on Saturday, Oct. 28, and to help run and dismantle the display on Sunday. A few people may be needed to help direct traffic to residential parking if the Sanctuary lot fills up. Volunteers for Sunday should show up at the Sanctuary at 8:00 a.m., but by all means come later if you can't help the whole day. Please start saving Styrofoam trays, all sizes, from your groceries- they may be useful for the display. Bring them in during the Oct. meeting or when the display is being set up.

2 November (Thursday) Monthly meeting Shannon Berch will be the speaker.