



NMMS

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Refreshments & Editorial

This newsletter is published
monthly by the New Mexico
Mycological Society in
Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Membership

Yearly dues are \$20
(optional NAMA dues are \$32)

Mail application & check to:
NMMS Treasurer
6336 Mendius, NE

Albuquerque NM 87109-4126
Meetings: Are held on the 1st
Monday of the month, except
July & December at 7:30pm at
the NM Museum of Natural
History 1801 Mountain Rd NW

06/05/2006

General Meeting Minutes

1930– President Dave Wallis called the meeting to order in the multipurpose room at New Mexico Museum of Natural History.

Attendees - 8.

Business — Upcoming General Meetings: No general meeting in July.

September 4 is Labor Day; while the Foray ends just over a week earlier on August 27. We may not hold a general meeting. No decision yet.

Nominating Committee for Next Year's NMMS Officers: Dave called for volunteers. Ted Stampfer agreed to serve on the committee; however we still seek a chairperson.

2006 Foray: We anticipate gaining access to the southern portion of the Valles Calderas National Preserve.

Program—Ms. Andrea Porrás-Alfaro, a doctoral candidate at University of New Mexico, delivered a well-constructed discussion and video presentation entitled “Exploring Fungal Diversity.” She conducted her research in the semi-arid environment of the Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge south of Albuquerque.

Meeting adjourned at 2100

Respectfully submitted,
Mark Kalin

Submission Deadline

for the August issue:

Thursday July 27th

NMMS SHOPPING

Select from great books, CDs and DVDs that are practical and entertaining. They are useful to beginners as well as veteran mushroom hunters and make great gifts!

David Arora's
Mushrooms Demystified
*M \$35.00 **NM 38.50

David Arora's
All that the Rain Promises....
M* \$16.00 **NM\$17.50

Jack States'
*Mushrooms and Truffles
of the Southwest*
\$7.00 *MP \$9.00 **NMP

Vera Stucky Evenson's
*Mushrooms of Colorado and
the Southern Rocky Mountains*
NOW ONLY \$15.00 *MP
\$16.50 **NMP

Toadstool's Interactive CD
The Secret Lives of Mushrooms
*MP \$16.20 **NMP \$18.00

Taylor Lockwood's DVD
*Treasures from
the Kingdom of Fungi*
*MP \$15.00 **NMP \$17.00

Taylor Lockwood's Book
*Treasures from
the Kingdom of Fungi*
*M \$25.00 **NM \$27.50

**Available at meetings or
contact Ann Floyd
at 839-3890 or via
e-mail: ann@mycowest.org**

*M = member price
** NM = non-member price

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resources to that event's "Cook & Taste" sessions. Carolyn was one who brought color to the club and kept it alive.

Unlike my initial encounter with Carolyn, I don't recall exactly when I first met Orson Miller. As I became increasingly involved with NMMS, I agreed to act as the club's NAMA Trustee, and it was at one of my early NAMA conferences that Orson and I were introduced. I could say that it is unsettling for a very amateur mycologist to sit at a common table with folks who have dedicated their educations and devoted their lives to the study of fungi. It's further humbling to learn that some of these folks have authored texts and field guides upon which thousands of mushroom enthusiasts rely. Orson was such a person, but I need not have felt intimidated. He was open, unpretentious, and genuinely eager to share in his passion of mycology. In this he epitomized the professional mycologists who sincerely value the involvement of amateurs and contribute to their appreciation and learning.

When former NAMA President Allein Stanley wrote to say that Orson had passed on, she began her message, "A giant is gone." Those who knew and respected Orson Miller will appreciate the merit of this statement. The mycological community will remember Orson's life and contributions, stressing how his tutelage and influence was so important to both amateur and academic mycology.

I would argue, however, that Carolyn Buskirk's contributions,

though seemingly slight by comparison to Orson's, were far more important to NMMS. It is the work and dedication of such individuals, at the local level, which allow amateur mycology to flourish. Carolyn dedicated her time to running meetings, providing programs, publishing newsletters, and sharing her enthusiasm for finding and cooking mushrooms. Carolyn Buskirk and Orson Miller were both wonderful individuals. Each loved and enriched our world of amateur mycology. I don't know whether they ever met, but I know they shared in a passion which transcends the trivial. Mycology may be about fungi, but more importantly, it provides a common ground for uncommon people.

David Walls

Editor's note: Long time NMMS members remember Orson Miller as the first visiting Mycologist in the fledgling days of the club.



THIS IS YOUR NEWSLETTER

We welcome your feedback, pictures, articles and suggestions for improvement!

Contact the editor at
(505)-839-3890
or send e-mail to:
ann@mycowest.org

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE SPARKS FAMILY!

Cynthia's and John's baby arrived at the American Hospital of Paris. John reports that Mother and child are healthy and doing well.

Tom Volk doing well after heart transplant

Check this web site for updates:

http://botit.botany.wisc.edu/toms_fungi/health.html

Farewell to Carolyn Buskirk

Carolyn A. Buskirk (Lichtman), age 79, a retired schoolteacher, avid mycologist, and lover of nature, died on Monday, May 29, 2006. Carolyn was a pioneer of the organic food movement in America, and is acknowledged in organic cookbooks. In the words of her family, "her enthusiastic, optimistic personality was, is, and always will be inspiring."

Excerpted from the
Albuquerque Journal
2/6/06

FUNGI TIDBITS

Submitted by M. D. Bornholdt

HOW MANY SPORES ARE THERE?

Bryce Kendrick Fungifama, So. Vancouver Island Myco. Soc., Feb. 1998

One specimen of the common bracket fungus *Ganoderma aplanatum*, can discharge 30,000,000,000 spores a day from May to September, for a total of 4,500,000,000,000 spores. One fructification of the wood-inhabiting ascomycete *Daldinia concentrica* can shoot 100,000,000 ascospores a day. A single wheat grain infected with stinking smut (*Tilletia caries*) contains 12,000,000 spores. One 2.5 cm-diam. colony of the green mold *Penicillium*, can produce 400,000,000 spores. And I have just done a rough calculation showing that a large specimen of the giant puffball, *Langermannia gigantea*, may contain about 1,000,000,000,000,000 spores, give or take a decimal place or two.

So you will not be surprised to learn that the air we breathe sometimes contains as many as 10,000 spores per cubic meter!

THE CULINARY CORNER



Chanterelles with Fresh Tarragon

2 tablespoons olive oil
2 pounds fresh chanterelles cleaned and chopped
1/2 cup sliced shallots (about six large shallots)
Salt and freshly ground black pepper to taste
1 tablespoon chopped fresh tarragon leaves
2 tablespoons butter

Heat the olive oil in a large pan over high heat. Add about half of the mushrooms and half of the shallots to the pan, allowing them to brown evenly. After they've browned, stir thoroughly and continue cooking for about another four or five minutes. Season with salt and pepper, and about half of the tarragon and butter. Stir to mix well. Repeat this process with the rest of the ingredients in order to avoid having the mushrooms cook in their own liquid, which can make them soggy. Serve warm.

Return address:

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Send to:

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