



Fungal Jungal

It's a jungle out there

Issue 11

Mushroom Calendar

March 29 **Cultivation Seminar: Pleurotus ostreatus** sponsored by the Bitterroot Farm Club, at Garden City Seeds Store, 7:00pm.

March 30 **Master Gardeners' Course on Mushroom Cultivation**, U of M campus Health Science 411, 7:00-9:00pm

April 2 **WILDWALK Giant Fungi** will once again stalk the streets of Missoula. Participants meet at Circle Square at 9:30, parade starts at 11:00

April 6-8 Growing Sustainable Forest Enterprises: An Intermountain Idea Fair will have a session entitled: "**Yew Bark to Mushrooms: Special Products Enterprises**" from 10:30am to 12:30pm. This will be in the Holiday Inn conference rooms.

In addition, your mushroom organization will be sponsoring a display of mushroom literature, and lobbying for your rights to poke around the woods for those gourmet delights.

April 13 **WMMA April Meeting** Missoula Public Library 7:00pm

This meeting will feature a slide show comparing the 40 best edible mushrooms and their poisonous look-alikes.

April 16 **WMMA Optimists Morel Hunt**. Last year we were TOO optimistic, but surely this weekend we'll have a few to sample. Free for WMMA members, \$5.00 for non-members.

May 7 **Flathead Spring Foray** with MNPS. Flathead spring days run both hot and cold, wet and dry. With a little bit of luck, we may have a little bit of lunch. \$5 members, 7 non-members. call Patti Brown 837-5018 for details.

May 21 **Garden City Seeds** annual mushroom hunt on the Teller Wildlife Refuge. Two years ago we found the giant morels on this hunt, and last year was dry, so we went up Mill Creek and found a few blacks and some Suillius. Slide show features common spring mushrooms. Fee is \$7.00 for non-members, \$5.00 for members.

June 9-12 **Southern Idaho Mycological Association Spring Foray** at Quaker Hill, McCall, Idaho. The WMMA will be traveling down in a car-a-van. For details, contact Larry Evans or John Fulton.

WMMA MEETING APRIL 13 AT 7:00 PM MISSOULA PUBLIC LIBRARY





MAIL BAG

Franklin Garland, cultivator of the first European black truffles in North America, has written me with advice on how he trained his dog to hunt truffles.

"The best way to train a dog is to start with a dog that has already been trained in basic dog obedience. So far it always works especially with Yellow Labs. If they know how to learn, they will learn how to find truffles. Using a fresh truffle, and holding it under the dog's nose, use the word "truffle" as you would use the word "sit", "stay" etc. Then hide the truffle under a simple place, such as under a pillow, table, or chair, and tell the dog to find "truffle." Normally this 10 minute exercise repeated 2 to 3 times a week for 6 weeks will train a dog. Make the truffle hiding places harder every day, working up to a natural environment."

Mr. Garland said he expects to have truffle-inoculated filbert seedlings in six-inch pots in 1995. Trees are \$15 for orders placed before November 1, 1994. More information available at the information table.

MARCH MEETING NOTES

by Vikki Rush, Secretary

At our meeting of March 9 we were joined by Larry's University class. The steering committee discussed assembling a brochure to be dispersed within western Montana and also updating the current members list for the purpose of publishing a telephone directory. **If you do NOT wish to be included in this directory, please call a steering committee member ASAP.**

As a group, we discussed the pros and cons of joining NAMA, the North American Mycological Association. At the end of the meeting, a vote was taken, and we decided to become an affiliated club. In this type of club, all WMMA members receive a

\$3.00 discount to join NAMA, and membership is optional. NAMA members receive both **Mycophile**, the bi-monthly newsletter, and **McIlvania NAMA's** scientific publication, as well as various discounts. Pick up an application at the next meeting if you would like to join.

The upcoming **WILDWALK** on April 2 was mentioned. Look for some walking mushrooms on parade!

An information table was available. Many articles from organizations and back issues of **Fungal Jungal** can now be obtained at any WMMA function, for a donation to cover the cost of copying the material.

Larry presented a slide show on his latest obsession: truffles. Some tips for hunting truffles are:

1. Full canopy, usually of Douglas fir.
2. Look inside the dripline at the interface of the duff and mineral soil, usually no deeper than 6 inches.
3. Watch for rodent disturbances.

After the slide program we munched on some fried chicken of the woods (**Laetiporus sulfureous**) and tasted Kargasok Tea.

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MISSOULA PUBLIC LIBRARY
MOREL REPORT

Unique and *Desirable* Gifts! *Collect the whole Set!*

Back issues of **FUNGAL JUNGAL** are now available for \$1.00 each, or the entire collection of 8 juicy, informative issues for just \$5.00. Look at the rave reviews that the critics give these early issues:

"Primitive, but the spelling is correct," L. Evans, editor

"I thoroughly enjoyed reading them," Larry Stickney, president of the Mycological Society of San Francisco.

"Creative photocopying technique," Anonymous copy shop employee.

