

Next Meeting June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2006

# SPORES Afield

The newsletter of the Colorado Mycological Society

June 2006

## Presidents Column

Well, here we are; its more than half way through



May and I still have not found a single yellow morel, *Morchella esculenta*. I rely on my friends Bill Windsor and Ellen Jacobson to keep me informed

on their progress or lack there of. It could also be that I have only been out twice or maybe I'm just not that excited about tromping through the poison ivy (PI) this year. I had a pretty bad case of it last year after collecting yellow morels. I have gotten PI off and on throughout may life particularly as a child playing in the woods. Last year I knew I was in the PI, it was everywhere but so were the yellow morels; they share the same habitat. Along rivers and in flood plains seems to be there favorite places to grow, in fact most of the yellow morels I picked in years past were in patches of PI. If you would like to learn more about poison ivy check out this web site [www.poisonivy.aesir.com](http://www.poisonivy.aesir.com) for all the nasty details. There is some interesting facts about poison ivy, some of the latest remedies and if you dare pictures of people with the rash caused by poison ivy.

As of this writing Bill Windsor has only found a few yellow morels and a couple of black morels. I went up to an early black morel spot last Sunday the 14<sup>th</sup> and the Aspen leaves were the right size but it was very dry.

(continued on page 8)

## Speaker for the June meeting

Linnea Gillman

"Lookalikes: How to tell the difference between a delicious mushroom and the poisonous one that looks a lot like it"?

One of the keys to identifying edible mushrooms is to know which mushrooms look like the mushrooms you want to eat. In fact, this is essential. You don't want to get fooled by mushrooms that look like one species, but really are another. If you're trying to identify a mushroom and you know the mushrooms that look like the mushroom you think you have, it's far less likely you will be deceived into thinking you have collected one kind of mushroom when really you've collected its lookalike.

In her June lecture, Linnea will present common mushrooms of Colorado and mushrooms that look a lot like them. So you won't be fooled

Linnea Gillman is a past President of CMS and holds a Masters Degree in Mycology from Virginia Tech, where she studied under world-famous mycologist, Dr. Orson Miller. Linnea developed the amazing mushroom display tables, with the pictures and handy identification tips, that we use each year at our mushroom fair. She is known as an outstanding teacher with a vast knowledge of mushrooms and where they grow in Colorado. We're lucky to have her address our group.

## Upcoming Events

- June 12<sup>th</sup>** Linnea Gillman, "Lookalikes"  
see page 1 for more information.  
**Note: this meeting will be held in Gates Hall.**
- July 10<sup>th</sup>** CMS member Ellen Jacobson.  
"Where to go, when to go and how to go 'shrooming"
- Aug. 12<sup>th</sup>** Fair Setup
- Aug. 13<sup>th</sup>** Annual CMS Mushroom Fair at Denver Botanic Gardens, The Fair identifier this year is Dr. Roy Halling of the New York Botanical Gardens.
- Aug. 14<sup>th</sup>** CMS member Rob Hallock. Topic to be announced.
- Aug. 17-20<sup>th</sup>** Crested Butte Wild Mushroom Festival, for more info: call Rodger Kahn at 303-322-5532 or 970-349-0238 or [www.cbmushfest.com](http://www.cbmushfest.com)
- Aug. 17-20<sup>th</sup>** 2006 North American Mycological Association (NAMA) foray will be held at the Hinton Training Center, Hinton, Alberta, Canada,. For more info now call Marilyn Shaw, 303-377-1278, or go to [www.namyco.org](http://www.namyco.org).
- Aug. 26-27<sup>th</sup>** The 10th annual King Boletus Festival. The phone number for the event is 719-395-8458. The event is sponsored by Buena Vista Heritage.
- Sept. 11<sup>th</sup>** Cook & Taste, Chairperson William Windsor, contact him at [wnwindsor@comcast.net](mailto:wnwindsor@comcast.net). or 303-544-6069  
**Note: this meeting will be held in Gates Hall.**
- Oct. 9<sup>th</sup>** Gary Lincoff on psychoactive mushrooms

**Oct. 22<sup>nd</sup>** "End of the Season Fungi Feast" at the Boulder Cork restaurant, more information in the July newsletter.

Bring mushrooms for identification and display to any meeting.

All meetings are held at the Denver Botanic Gardens in Mitchell Hall at 7:30 PM unless otherwise announced.

**For more information related to CMS, contact:**

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### *Spores Afield*

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CMS is an affiliated member of the North American Mycological Association.

CMS website: <http://www.cmsweb.org>

## Upcoming Forays

Please note all forays meet at 9:00 am in the northeast parking lot (also known as the T-Rex lot) of the Morrison exit at I-70 unless otherwise announced. If you carpool from that point which is strongly encouraged, due to limited parking at most foray locations, please chip in gas money. You must be a member of CMS to take part in the forays.

**June 10<sup>th</sup>**, Rob Hallock will lead a foray, please contact him if you are planning on attending, he may be reached at Rob.Hallock@UCHSC.edu, or at 720-480-4452

**Aug. 5<sup>th</sup>**, Tom Ruzicka will lead a foray, please contact him a week or two before the foray.

Be sure to bring your CMS membership card or your current copy of *SporesAfield* with you. If you are not a member you can become one at the foray for the standard new member fee of \$28, which will also get you copies of *SporesAfield* for the rest of the year.

**Forays may be cancelled in the event of dry weather. Call first if in doubt.**

We have a need for people to lead forays. You do not need to be an expert identifier to lead a foray. You only need to be willing to lead a group of people to a location where mushrooms can be found. If you would be willing to lead a foray, please contact Tom Ruzicka 303-447-2740 or via e-mail at: tomruzicka@comcast.net.

## Learning Local Mushrooms with Ellen Jacobson

Dates: August 22 & 23

Time: 9am - 3pm

Cost: \$65/day or \$120 for both days

Meeting Place: Day 1 Minturn Town meeting room, Day 2 Minturn Middle School parking lot.

With enough late summer rain the fungus should rise among-us! Ellen Jacobson began her mushrooming career as one of Vail's early residents in 1965. During the slow summer seasons of the 60's Ellen and her ski patroller friends were known to pick and try almost any mushroom that grew in the mountains. Luckily no one got sick or died! Ellen is now a professional member of the Colorado Mycological Society and has been an identifier and recorder at their annual Mushroom Fair. She has lectured and led courses for many organizations and has been the principal speaker at the annual Buena Vista Heritage Museum Boletus Festival. She has collected mushrooms far and wide including in Peru, Chile, Italy, and New Zealand. Day one will begin indoors and spend the afternoon in the field. Day two will cover identification of additional species all day in the field. Bring lunch and be prepared to be outside.

To register with Gore Range Natural Science School please call (970) 827-9725 ext. 10 or go to [www.gorerange.org](http://www.gorerange.org). Space is limited to 13 people so register early. All registration materials must be received by GRNSS at least 48 hours in advance of the seminar. Participants bring their own lunch and water for the day and come dressed for the outdoors - rain or shine! Transportation is by carpool unless otherwise specified.

## **Poison Center Celebrates 50 Years**

The Rocky Mountain Poison & Drug Center celebrates its 50th anniversary this year. The following information is from a letter written by the current director, Dr. Richard Dart.

RMPDC was founded by Dr. Winona Campbell in a closet at Denver General. It soon expanded under the direction of Dr. Barry Rumack, with the collaboration of numerous talented toxicology fellows, managers, and benefactors. The Center has not only survived, but thrived, during major moves over a period of years from 645 Bannock to the decommissioned Lowry AFB, then back downtown to 990 Bannock. Its valuable work is carried on, currently, by over 150 staff, who occupy 30,000 square feet of office space.

The special events will begin with a one day medical conference on Friday, June 16, followed by a gala celebration that evening. Saturday, June 17, will be “public education day”, which will include a talk on mushrooms. Watch for more specific information in the media.

Marilyn Shaw, mycology consultant to the RMPDC

## **Bridge Dedication to honor Manny Salzman**

By Jason Salzman

Mayor John Hickenlooper, will dedicate a bridge across Cherry Creek to longtime CMS member Manny Salzman at 4:30 pm Thursday, May 25.

Some years ago, Manny spearheaded a campaign to convert the old railroad rail road crossing into a pedestrian bridge. The historic bridge—which would probably have been demolished otherwise—was saved, and it’s been used by people and bicyclists ever since.

The May 25 dedication will take place at the bridge, located at the intersection of Wynkoop and Cherry Creek in Lodo.

Don’t miss this fun event.

*(Presidents continued from page 1)*

This place is about 6500' in elevation and the usual spring creek that flows through the area was bone dry. That's the first time since the drought year that it has not had water.

Bill and I lead a morel foray Saturday May 20<sup>th</sup> and we did find black morels *Morchella angusticeps*. We had a good turn out; 22 people and we only drove about 20 minutes from the usual meeting place. Everyone on the foray learned the correct habitat to look for black morels so even if they did not find one on the foray they are confident the next weekend they go out hunting they will be able to find the right habitat. I still haven't found my first morel this year but I plan on doing a lot more hunting in the coming weeks.

We have a Beta version of the E-SporesAfield. The CMS board looked over and discussed this at the May board meeting. It came out great thanks to our webmaster Bernie Seward, we should be

able to offer this to the membership soon, we just have a couple more issues to work out. The Board of Directors voted to make the position of webmaster a permanent member of the board.

**CMS is in need of a volunteer** or maybe two to take over T-shirt sales. Ed and Ikuko Lubow have been doing this for years now and need someone else to take it on. Thank you Ed and Ikoku!

What this task entails is storing the T-shirts at your home and bringing them to the meetings, setting them out on the table and selling them. This is also done for the CMS Mushroom Fair but we can have other volunteers to help out and do the actual sales at the fair if needed. Please contact me Norm Birchler if you are willing to help.

Send out your best rain vibes, looks like we're going to need them.

Happy hunting!

*Spores Afield*

Page 8



June 2006

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