Dear MSA Membership,

We write with exciting news. As many of you have experienced, our Society is struggling to manage our growing pains. After much thought and an extensive search, we have decided to transition management of our Society away from Allen Press and to The Rees Group.

The Rees Group (TRG) is a management company with specific expertise managing nonprofit societies, including groups of academics. Based in Madison, Wisconsin, TRG is led by Susan Rees. In our conversations with Susan and her team, we were particularly impressed by TRG’s vision for just about everything that’s been slow for us in recent years.
With TRG, we are anticipating:

- new protocols for membership, including the ability to join for multiple years or automatically renew membership, and the ability to give gift memberships to students!
- an *inoculum* that arrives on time and is published three times a year
- help with organizing our annual meetings, including inspections of contracts, streamlined abstract submission, professionally-published program book, meeting app, etc.
- an up-to-date website that works as well on your phone as it does on your computer
- streamlined application workflows for all of our awards...
- AND MORE!

If you serve MSA in some capacity, TRG may be reaching out to you as we transition. Please let us know if you have questions, and ENJOY!

Sincerely,

*Your Executive Council:*

Sharon Cantrell (President)
Marin Talbot Brewer (Executive Vice President)
Anne Pringle (President Elect)
Marc Cubeta (Vice President)
Tom Volk (Past President)

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**Mushroom Hunting Underwater:**

*Updates on Psathyrella aquatica*

*Written by Darlene Southworth*

In 2005, Robert Coffan observed mushrooms growing underwater in the Rogue River in southern Oregon. In 2007, he took Jonathan Frank and me to see them...

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**Smith Foray Report:**

*44th Annual A.H. Smith Lake States Mycological Foray*
The 44th Annual A.H. Smith Lake States Mycological Foray occurred October 4 – 7, 2018, near Mazomanie, Wisconsin. The Smith Foray was attended by nearly 70 mycologists, budding to mature, with interest in a broad spectrum of fungi and lichens. The weather cooperated nicely and the collecting areas, Wisconsin River bottom, field edge hardwoods, and upland mixed hardwood, were productive. The personal interactions, just as important as the fungi, were equally... [Read the full article].

Fungi to the Rescue!

Written by Jacob Golan

As global change and the effects of the Anthropocene make endless headway, biodiversity continues to suffer. Even some of civilization’s oldest and most closely guarded companions seem unable to dodge all of the punches. Unsurprisingly, fungi are to the rescue...

[Read More]
In memoriam. Donald Barr died suddenly at home in Yetminster, England, United Kingdom. He had been President of the Mycological Society of America in 1990 - 1991...
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