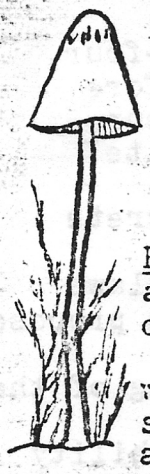

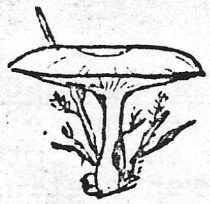

NEWSLETTER

LAKELAND MYCOLOGY CLUB

Editor: ed bosman

RECAP FEBRUARY MEETING: The February meeting was held at Ed and Joan Bosman's home in Flanders. The turnout was light however, due to poor road conditions and the extreme cold.

Mushroom toxins were discussed, and then a financial report was given by our Treasurer. A report showing the present membership status at thirty-four (34), prompted some serious discussion along with the suggestion that the membership be frozen or limited at its present level. The fear expressed was that any further increase in membership would result in the outdoor field trips becoming overcrowded and soon impractical.

Those members who attended the February meeting, besides coffee and other goodies, had an opportunity to sample the stuffed mushroom recipe published in the January Newsletter.

Fred Volkenborn suggested that we meet at his home in Mt. Arlington for the March meeting on the 12th.

MEMBERSHIP POLICY REASSESSMENT: We all have been actively soliciting new membership, including the present project on which Hiram Korn and Neal McDonald have been working.(A pamphlet concerning the Club and its activities, which was intended to advertise the Club and likely result in increased enrollment.)

Possibly there should be a reassessment of the Club's membership policy; however, if we freeze membership, we would no longer be a viable organization. We would be cutting ourselves off from the new ideas and experiences that often comes with new membership. Then again if we encourage further growth, we risk hastening the demise of our Club, at least as we presently know it.

In any reassessment, we should consider those alternatives available to us:

1) We can consider initiating two types of membership, e.g. "active" and "affiliate". "Active" membership would entail a higher membership fee, permitting participation in all monthly meetings and field trips. "Affiliate" members would pay a reduced fee, and participation would be limited to special meetings or field trips held several times a year.

The Newsletter could be used then strictly as a communication media and issued every two months with special editions if necessary. The Newsletter would keep all members informed as to special meetings, internal business, and general news and events concerning Mycology and Mycophagy. Information concerning monthly meetings and field trips would be handled in a separate correspondence.

2) We can consider fostering and encouraging the growth of affiliated clubs. By fostering affiliation, membership within an affiliated club can be controlled without stifling growth of the organization in general. If we consider this approch, we might want to change our present name to reflect a broader geographical area, e.g. "The Kittatinny Mycological Association", or "The North Jersey Mycological Society". We could also retain our name as an affiliate branch of a larger organization.

Any decision that we do make concerning this matter should be incorporated in the project that Hiram and Neal are involved in.

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NEED FOR ORGANIZATION: With our present membership at thirty-four, a serious effort should be made to firm up our organization before we enter into our second year of existence. I propose that at our March meeting the following agenda be discussed and some definite decision be made or program be initiated:

1) The problems of future growth be aired and some concrete decisions be made.

2) That the project of drawing up a constitution or by-laws for our organization be assigned to a committee, and that draft proposals be submitted within some designated period.

3) That the dues for 1972 be agreed upon. (The beginning of the fiscal year should be considered May 1st.)

4) That someone other than myself, take on the responsibility of "Corresponding Secretary", especially now with our present membership level. I will continue responsibility for publishing the Newsletter.

5) That we either formally ratify the existing officers for the 1972 term, or decide on new leadership.

The present staff which developed by the indivuals respectively assuming responsibilities, are:

PRESIDENT..... Hiram Korn

VICE PRESIDENT..... Edward Bosman

TREASURER ..... Fred Volkenborn

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY....._____

RECORDING SECRETARY....._____

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