



~~Lakeland Mycology Club LMC~~

Meetings 2nd Sunday Nov. - April 1:30 p.m.  
Morris County Outdoor Education Center,  
247 Southern Blvd., Chatham, New Jersey

Winter Meeting Review

Our final winter membership meeting, and concluding lecture in our Mini-course on mushroom identification was an unqualified success.

The largest number of people ever to attend one of our meetings was present to hear Dr. Ristich give one of his popular, entertaining and informative lectures. This large assemblage occurred despite the fact that the meeting was not open to the general public.

It is interesting to note that each meeting during the winter drew more people than the previous meeting. This is attributable to having a winter meeting site, and to presenting a variety of interesting programs.

Each of our lecturers during the Mini-course of mushroom identification, Mr. Stan Tyler, Mr. Neal Macdonald, Mrs. Greta Turchick, Mr. Vic Gambino, and Dr. Sam Ristich are to be thanked for their efforts.

We wish to also express our appreciation to Mrs. Grace Gambino and Mr. and Mrs. John Sudol for their efforts in providing refreshments during these meetings.

New Members

We wish to welcome Mr. Alec Feiner of Rumson, N.J. into our club. Mr. Feiner is the Chairman of NAMA's McIlvaine Foray, and we should congratulate ourselves on his membership.

Also joining us are Mr. and Mrs. Bunji Tagawa of Brooklyn, N.Y.

NAMA's McIlvaine Foray

As previously announced NAMA's Annual Foray will be held this year at Dartmouth College, New Hampshire, August 29th, 30th and 31st. Club members, due to our association with NAMA are eligible to attend.

We will print further information on this foray in a later edition.

Morel Hunt, May 4th

Help us celebrate our fourth anniversary by joining our Morel hunt, at Jenny Jump State Forest, Sunday May 4th at 10:00 a.m.

Driving Instructions:

Take Route 80 and exit at Hope, N.J. proceed south on Route 521 until the intersection of 519 and a local road towards Great Meadows. Turn left (east) onto this local road until you see the small "Jenny Jump State Forest" sign; turn right and shortly the paved road will become a dirt road, bear right at the fork; continue past the children's swing sets and meet at the next parking lot.

New Jersey Mycological Assn.

1975 Membership

President - Victor Gambino  
 Vice President - Candace Wiser  
 Secretary/Treasurer - Margarete Turchick  
 Recording Secretary - Irene Tyler

<u>Locality</u>	<u>State. Zip</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>NAMA</u>
Cedar Knolls	N.J. 07927	I	
Cheshire	Ct. 06410	F	*
Landing	N.J. 07850	F	*
Lafayette	N.J. 07848	I	
Morristown	N.J. 07960	I	
Rockaway	N.J. 07866	F	
Dover	N.J. 07801	F	
Denville	N.J. 07834	I	
Clifton	N.J. 07013	I	
Livingston	N.J. 07039	F	
Morristown	N.J. 07960	I	
Millburn	N.J. 07041	I	
Hamilton Square	N.J. 08690	F	
Franklin	N.J. 07416	F	
Ogdensburg	N.J. 07439	I	
East Brunswick	N.J. 08816	I	
Florham Park	N.J. 07932	I	
Clifton	N.J. 07011	F	
Pompton Plains	N.J. 07444	I	
Franklin	N.J. 07416	F	
Sussex	N.J. 07461	I	
East Rutherford	N.J. 07073	F	
Franklin	N.J. 07416	F	*
Sparta	N.J. 07871	F	*
Howells	N.Y. 10932	F	*
2. Madison	N.J. 07940	F	
Branchville	N.J. 07826	F	

1. Unless otherwise notified in our club newsletter, we will meet at the designated place at 10:00 a.m., groups will be formed and started by 10:15 a.m. Late arrivals should check in with the Foray Leader.
2. Forays will be held Rain or Shine. Dress accordingly.
3. The morning foray will continue until 12:30, at which time a lunch break will be taken at a picnic area designated by the foray leader.
4. A general discussion follows lunch, after which an afternoon foray will be formed and started by 1:30 P.M.
5. Members have the choice of discussions or foray after lunch.
6. The foray leader is responsible for the conduct of the foray and the cooperation of members is expected.
7. Two tables will be set aside; a collection and display table. Members are invited to place any specimens collected during the foray on the collection table for the viewing and comments of the members. The foray leader will select prime examples, attempt identification, catalog them and place on the display table.
8. The collection listing will be given to the recording secretary.
9. Members are encouraged to bring friends and others who may be interested in our program to any club function.
10. Suggestions are welcome, please advise the foray leader or any club officer.

### Of Verpa, Morchella and Gyromitra - by Sam Ristic

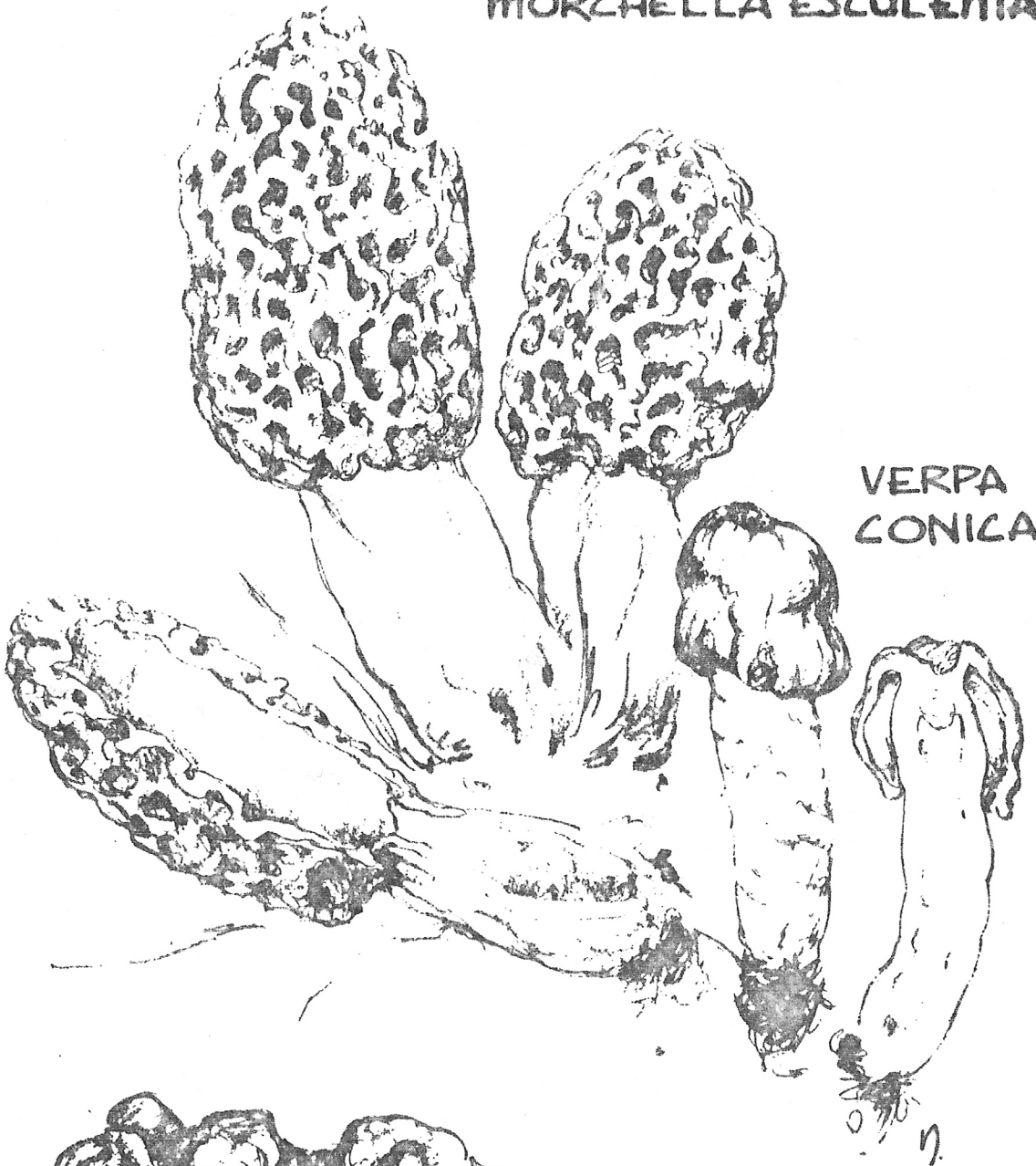
These ascomycetous fungi symbolize spring. In the Northeast (exclusive of Maine) these fungi are found only for a short period of time between April 15 and May 25. For most gourmets, gyromitras and morels top the list. Each year, however, there are reports of people confined to hospitals after eating morels and gyromitras. Recent research may clarify these enigmatic poisonings. Experts now agree that morel poisoning is due to an allied genus Verpa - particularly Verpa bohemica. This ascomycete resembles Morchella semilibra but close examination of a longitudinal slice will reveal the following - Morchella semilibra is attached to the stipe by about 50% of its cap - but by only the tip of the cap in Verpa. M. semilibra has a hollow stem whereas in V. bohemica the stipe is stuffed. So the moral to morels is beware of morels with stuffed stems and loose caps.

As to Gyromitras - the story is more complex - First there is a distinct species difference with G. brunnea and G. californica being poisonous and G. esculanta edible but the distinction is not that simple - other conditions not clearly understood - like age and place may promote the formation of a poison called monomethylhydrazine - which is rocket fuel. The monomethylhydrazine is formed in several steps through an enzyme system. The age of the fungus may therefore determine the titre of hydrazine. This age difference may be the reason why some people get sick and others do not from specimens in the same area.

Heed Alice's words - "All that seems to be is not!"

Editors' Note: This article should not be interpreted as an endorsement of eating Gyromitras.

MORCHELLA ESCULENTA



VERPA  
CONICA



GYROMITRA  
ESCULENTA