



**New Jersey
Mycological Assn.**

NJMA News
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President: Jim Richards
Editor: Melanie Spock

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No. 3

DR. DON SIMONS ON MUSHROOM TOXINS — MARCH 11

Dr. Don Simons, research chemist with the Dupont Company in Delaware, is slated to speak at the March meeting. Dr. Simons has written several articles on mushroom toxins, particularly Amanita phalloides, which have appeared in professional journals. For the past three years he has been the head of NAMA's Toxicology Committee. He is also an accomplished nature photographer, so we can expect good slides. It is recommended that anyone who eats wild mushrooms should hear Dr. Simons talk on mushroom poisoning so he knows what he's dealing with.

MUSHROOMS CAP OFF MEETING

Professional chef Paul Leutard and sous chef Max Meister certainly demonstrated their culinary expertise at the February meeting. The event was a huge success.

Watching creative chefs at work was fascinating... a pinch of this and a handful of that. Everybody loved the gourmet treats. Every dish disappeared hot out of the fry pans; the warming cart was not necessary as nothing had a chance to get cold. The chefs had their hands full keeping constant flow of food to the approximately 75 to 80 people in attendance.

The program started well enough, with the chefs explaining what mushroom they were cooking, and ingredients they were using. After the first few servings, the meeting broke into a frenzy of eager, hungry mycophagists greedily mobbing the servers. The cooks kept their four burners cooking sauces, curries, flambes and so forth, while everyone ate the gastronomical delights.

Both chefs had studied in Switzerland and had been associated with various restaurants in the Caribbean as well as the Four Seasons, the Rainbow Room, Plaza One, the Tower Suite, and other New York establishments.

Unexpected additions to the fungi feast were an eggplant-mushroom dish brought by Fran Neal, pickled mushrooms by Greta Turchick, and John Wanelik donated honey. Someone brought stuffed mushrooms. Added treats were breads baked by Jim Richards and Mrs. Stefkovich contributed poppy-seed cake, and Audrey Robertson also brought a cake.

Some of the mushrooms used were *Polyporus sulphureus*, *P. frondosus*, *Laccaria ochropurpurea*, *Morchella Esculenta*, *Verpa conica*, various boletes, *Lepista nuda*, *Entoloma abortivum*, *Marasmius oreades*, *Armillariella mellea* and *Coprinus*.

Thanks to the Mycophagy Committee who worked with the chefs and coordinated the event, as well as Karl Hipp, sales manager for a cookware firm.

CLASSES OFFERED

A Basic Beginning Identification Course will be taught by Vic Gambino on Saturday, March 24. This is our first in a series of classes. Designed for someone with absolutely no knowledge of fungal types, Vic has promised that no complex language will be used and all terms will be explained. Vic's lecture will be accompanied by slides and handouts. 1:30 p.m., \$1.00 donation. To register call Vic,

On April 21, Bob Peabody will also teach a beginners course with emphasis on how to learn mushroom identification to genus. It will be 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. with an hour lunch break. Bring your own lunch. A workbook, slides, and Largent's books will be used. The fee is \$2.00 for materials and use of the center. Critiques and reviews of commonly available books used for identification will also be a part of the course. To register call Bob,

Both classes will be at SCEEC, Classroom No. 3.

Regarding other Courses and Workshops, the Education Committee plans to offer 5 levels of instruction to the members this year:

- a) Beginner's Identification - using photo-slides, fresh material if possible, workbook material, and Largent's volumes I & II.
- b) Advanced Beginner's Identification - as above, but working more deeply in the field characters of the less well-known genera.
- c) Intermediate Identification - using microscopes and Largent's III and Watling.
- d) Advanced Identification - using microscopes, Largent's III & IV, workbook material, selected keys.
- e) Post-graduate Identification - a microscope-laboratory discussion course, using Singer's 3rd edition, and emphasizing the problems involved in taxonomy and the conflicts among different 'systems'.

Two other interesting projects the Educational Committee would like to initiate:

Individual and group projects to study particular genera to better understand our mycoflora as well as produce specialists in some areas.

Begin a project to study intensively one small easily reached area - to collect it thoroughly, whether or not identification can be made now.

TAXONOMY DATES

Taxonomy Committee dates are Wednesday, March 7th, at Rutgers, and Tuesday, March 20th at SCEEC. All meetings begin at 7:30 p.m. Starting in April the Taxonomy group will begin a regular schedule. On the second Tuesday of the month they will meet at SCEEC, the fourth Tuesday at Rutgers. The Taxonomy Committee welcomes anyone who is interested to join the group.

FORAY HIGHLIGHTS

The foray committee is finalizing plans for upcoming forays. Some highlights to be expected this season include:

May 13- Morel hunt opening the season.

June 10 - Wild foods foray at Sundance Stables, Hackettstown.

June 22-24 - Annual PEEC weekend. Plan ahead to keep this weekend open. Poconos honeymoon cottages converted into environmental center, complete with indoor and outdoor swimming pools, plus forays, professional mycologists to help with identification, workshops, leisure activities.

August 24-26 - Third Annual Northeastern Foray, in Willamantic, Connecticut. Cost should run about \$40, including meals and lodging. A reservation form will be in an upcoming newsletter.

Sept. 16 - First Annual NJMA "Mushroom Fair" at SCEEC. Mushroom related arts and crafts, public walk and foray.

Sept. 27-30 - NAMA foray at Carrollton, Ohio.

Oct. 7 - Annual picnic at Stokes State Forest.

NORTHEASTERN FORAY

Preparations are being made for the third Northeastern Foray. Participating clubs include the New Hampshire Mycological Society, the Boston Mycological Club, Connecticut Mycological Association, Connecticut Valley Mycological Society, New Jersey Mycological Association, New York Mycological Society and the Nutmeg Mycological Society. The foray will be located in Willimantic, Connecticut at the Eastern Connecticut State College from Friday, August 24, through Sunday, August 26, 1979. Preliminary estimates of the cost of the weekend are \$30 per person for the two nights lodging and the five meals served during the period. A \$10 registration fee per participant will also be required to cover other incidental costs.

Several professional mycologists will be attending the weekend including Dr. Richard Homola, Dr. Sam Ristich, Gary Lincoff, Barry Wulff and Dr. Clark Rogerson. Dr. Howard Bigelow will be the senior mycologist.

The school has recreational facilities for children and will provide students as counselors. Swimming and sports as well as other activities are available. Also, there is a planetarium on the campus that will be open to us. Activities are expected to begin Friday evening and end following the noon meal on Sunday and will include organized forays, instructional lectures, workshops geared for the novice and the advanced amateur, and mycophagy sessions. Further details about registration, programs, and how our club will be assisting in this foray will be available soon. Members are strongly encouraged to consider this opportunity, as it promises to be an enlightening and enjoyable experience.

MUSHROOM MUMBLINGS

Most people who think mushrooms only grow in the woods or country far from the cities will be surprised by a lecture the New York Mycological Society is sponsoring entitled "The Mushrooms of New York City - Edibles, Exotics and Toxics." Gary Lincoff will give the presentation on Monday, March 19 at #2 East 63rd St., N. Y., N. Y., 7:30 p.m., \$3.00 admission.

The New York Botanical Garden in association with Albert Einstein College of Medicine will be holding an intensive two-day program on Poisonous Plants in Urban and Suburban Environments in April. Anyone interested can contact Linda D. Rachele, Ph. D., Associate Coordinator of Continuing Education, the New York Botanical Garden, Bronx, N. Y. 10458, for a brochure and further information.

Attention artists and photographers: At the "Mushroom Fair" in September, we will have an exhibition of drawings, paintings, prints and photographs -- x-rays, scanning electron micrographs. The committee says "Get Ready Now".

About a dozen color slides belonging to Neal MacDonald have been misplaced. If anyone knows their whereabouts, contact Neal, [REDACTED]

Gertrude Espenscheid, who used to pen a syndicated cartoon, has drawn a few relating to mycophagy. She has developed a character named Tina Marasmius, who is a determined, beginning female mycologist dealing mainly with the frustrations and problems of the beginner, and the minor triumphs. We hope to have it as a regular feature.

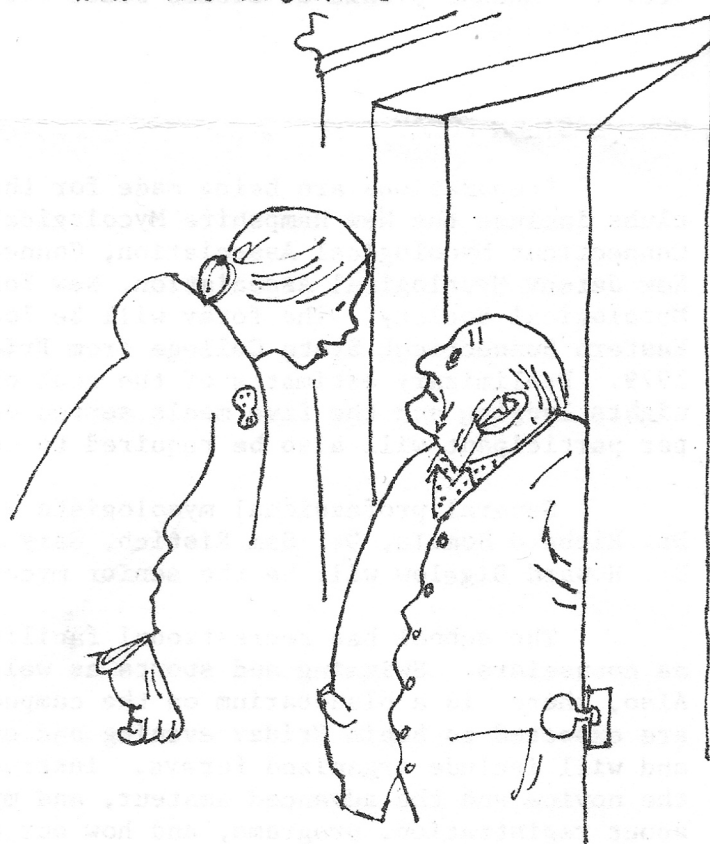
TEE SHIRTS

Anyone interested in purchasing a short sleeve tee-shirt with the club's 4 inch emblem (designed by Neal MacDonald) on the front, please contact Grace Gambino, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] phone
after 4:30 p.m. [REDACTED]

A minimum order of 21 shirts is necessary before the purchase order can be made, therefore, depending upon the number of persons interested, there might be a delay in ordering. The cost is \$7.00; colors: yellow, white with green trim; sizes: s, m, l, xl.

Tina Marasmius



Sir could you tell me-- are there any poisonous snakes in your orchard when the trees are in blossom?

PEEC WEEKEND

The NJMA will be holding our annual weekend foray at the Pocono Environmental Education Center (PEEC) in Dingman's Ferry, Pennsylvania. The foray will begin on Friday evening, June 22, and last until Sunday, June 24, after lunch. This trip will include workshops, lectures, forays, mycophagy sessions, and leave plenty of time for leisure activities.

Accommodations have been reserved for fifty persons. If you are interested, please send in your registration fee as soon as possible.

Rates are as follows:

Registration fee \$6.00 per person, non-refundable (children under five years of age - free)

Food and Lodging \$32.00 per person ($\frac{1}{2}$ price for children five years old and under)

This includes a total of six meals: One on Friday, three on Saturday, and two on Sunday; wine and cheese party; square dance; money for lifeguard for swimming. The center has indoor and outdoor swimming pools.

Cottages have been reserved. All the cottages have a large ceramic tiled bathroom with shower and tub. Bunk beds, mattresses, pillows, chairs, lamps, dressers, curtains and housekeeping equipment are provided. There are dormitory style cottages, and a limited number of family cottages.

You may invite a non-member if you wish.

Registration fees will not be accepted after fifty persons have registered or after May 31, 1979, whichever occurs first. The full fee is due on June 10. The foray committee would appreciate any full fees paid, as it eliminates some bookwork.

The registration form will be found elsewhere in this newsletter.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Mr. Emil Lang
Mrs. Julian Boyd
Mr. & Mrs. T. C. Viars

NEW YORK LECTURE

Dr. Howard Bigelow, Professor of Botany, University of Massachusetts, will be giving a presentation entitled "The Fungi that are Associated with Trees and Shrubs." Sponsored by the N. Y. Mycological Society, it will be on Monday, April 30, 7:30 p.m. at 2 East 63rd St., N.Y., N. Y. Admission is \$3.00.

Hot off the press! A new mushroom book, scheduled to appear in bookstores at the same time as the early morels are making their first appearance in our woods, is THE MUSHROOM TRAIL GUIDE by Phyllis Glick, formerly a member of the N. Y. M. S. and now residing in Colorado. The book is being published by Holt, Rinehart and Winston of New York and will sell for \$5.95 paperback. The book is described as illustrating and describing 105 genera and 401 species. It will fit in a back pocket or a side pocket of a backpack or a mushroom basket, and it weighs only 13 ounces. A review will appear in the next newsletter.

1979 NORTH EASTERN FORAY

The third annual Northeastern Foray will be the best yet -- and the others were great! A weekend devoted to the fungi. There will be field trips to collect specimens, workshops on identification for both beginners and advanced amateurs including microscope techniques, other lectures and talks, slide shows, cooking and tasting.

Visit a commercial mushroom growing plant. Come join us and share in the fun. Meet the professional mycologists who will help with identification, explaining subtle differences. Learn various cooking techniques: which techniques are suggested for which species; share your recipes and try a new one. And, if you've ever found too many mushrooms at one time, you can learn how to preserve them.

Drs. Howard and Margaret Barr-Bigelow have agreed to serve as principal mycologists. Assisting in the identification of specimens will be several other mycologists with broad areas of specialization. They will provide both novice and expert amateurs with the experience and exposure necessary to facilitate identification. Identified specimens will be displayed and available for study and photographic use.

The Foray is to be held on August 24th through 26, 1979, at Eastern Connecticut State College in Willimantic, Connecticut. It is located about one and a half hours from Boston and two and a half hours from New York. It is approximately 35 miles from the Hartford Airport and 20 miles from Hartford's bus and rail stations.

The cost of the weekend is a bargain ---

Plan "A": Registration, 6 meals, two nights lodging in modern dormitory facilities.

3 people per room at \$40.00 per person.

2 people per room at \$45.00 per person.

1 person per room at \$55.00 per person.

You may combine your registration with friends and share a room or we will make room assignments on a first come first serve basis, one sex to a room. All the rooms are in new dormitories and contain one bunkbed (two people) and one sofa bed. Meals consist of Friday evening supper, Saturday breakfast, lunch and supper, and Sunday breakfast and lunch. All are hot meals -- and the food is excellent. Linen, blankets and towels will not be provided in the rooms.

Plan "B": Children, age 2-17, shared room with parents and meals, \$25.00, includes supervised activities available such as swimming (pool), gym, planetarium show, and other sports.

Plan "C": Adults - Registration only \$15.00 each to participate in the Foray activities. Meals in the cafeteria are available, but may not be billed.

Plan "D": Children - \$5.00 each to participate in supervised activities.

Members of the sponsoring associations will receive first preference, NAMA members second preference in the event space becomes limited. Registration will start April 1st and conclude on August 1st or when the limit of 250 people is reached -- whichever comes first! Make your plans early for this informative and fun event! Application blank on last page of newsletter.

Reservation Form for NJMA 1979 Weekend Foray

Registration Fee \$6.00 per person, non-refundable
(no registration fee for children under 5)

Make checks payable to: New Jersey Mycological Association

Mail to: Mr. William Rokicki



No. Attending _____ Name(s) _____

Address _____

Zip _____

1979 NORTHEASTERN FORAY APPLICATION
(*Make checks payable to: Northeastern Mycological Foray)

Name _____ Club Affiliation _____

Address _____

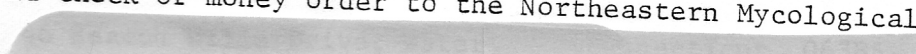
City, State _____ Zip _____

Number of people, in party _____ home telephone number _____

PLAN SELECTED: Parking car on campus? Yes No (Circle one)

<u>Plan A, Registration, Room, Meals</u>		<u>Plan B - Children 2-17, room, Meals</u>	
No. of people	Option	Price	No. of children _____
_____	3 per room	\$40.00 ea.	Option/Room shared with parents \$25.00
_____	2 per room	\$45.00 ea.	
_____	1 per room	\$55.00 ea.	

<u>Plan C - Adults, Registration Only</u>		<u>Plan D - Children's Activities</u>	
No. of persons	Price	No. of children	Price
_____	\$15.00 ea.	_____	\$5.00 ea.

Send application and check or money order to the Northeastern Mycological Foray c/o Mr. James Kronick, 

Mycophagist's Corner

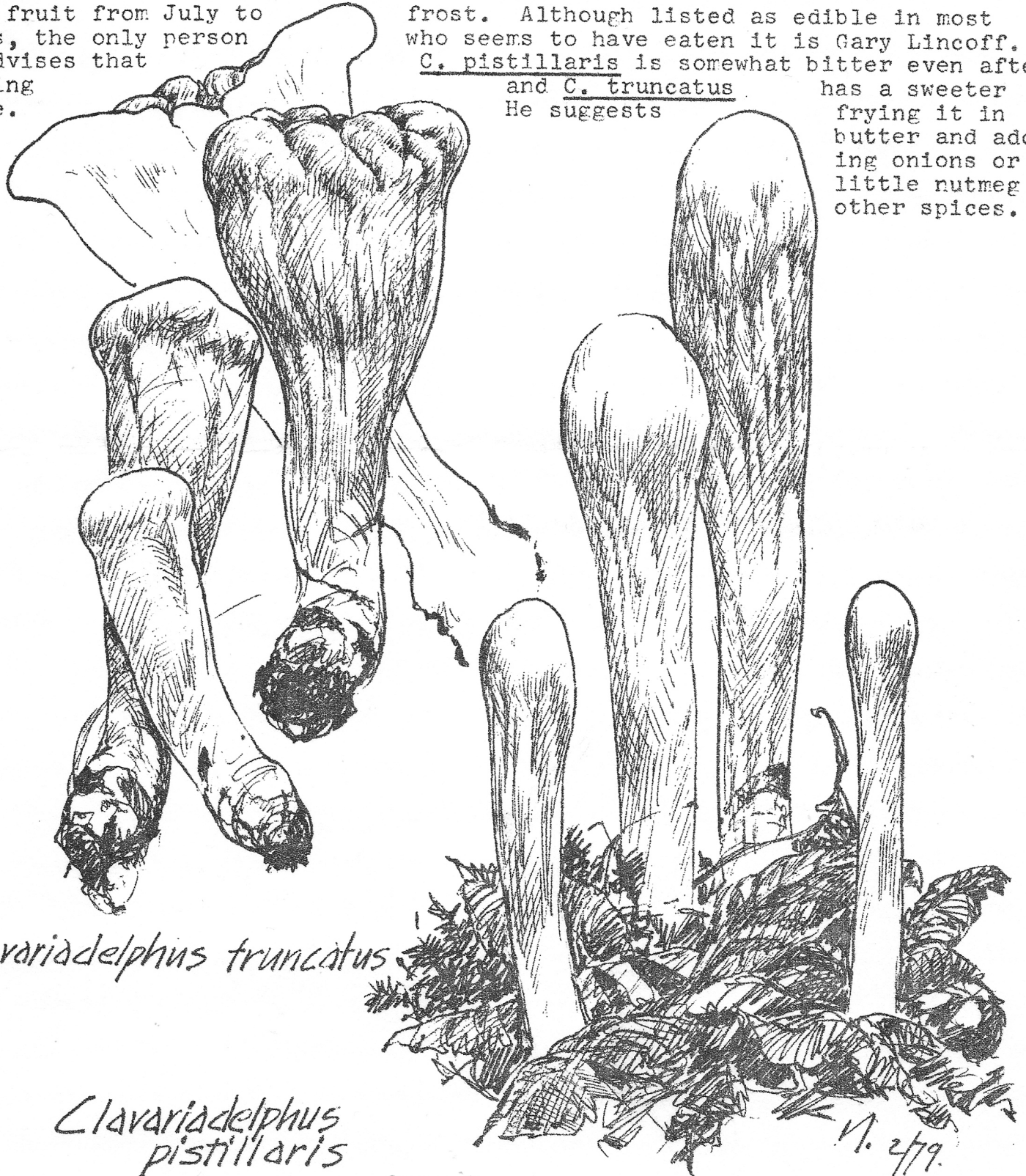
Clavariadelphus truncatus and C. pistillaris are closely related mushrooms of the coral type. C. truncatus is 6-25 cm. high and 2-6 cm. wide, club shaped with a flattened top. The color is variable, bright yellow to golden orange yellow, even pinkish brown. The flesh is white. Spores are 9-13 x 5-7 u.

C. pistillaris is also club shaped, 8-24 cm. tall. The name comes from the Latin pistillum meaning pestle. It varies from orange or brownish-red tinged yellowish. It has spores from 10-16 x 5-10 u.

Both fruit from July to frost. Although listed as edible in most books, the only person who seems to have eaten it is Gary Lincoff. He advises that C. pistillaris is somewhat bitter even after cooking and C. truncatus has a sweeter taste. He suggests

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has a sweeter taste. He suggests frying it in butter and adding onions or a little nutmeg other spices.



Clavariadelphus truncatus

Clavariadelphus pistillaris
AK "FAIRY CLUBS"

11. 279.