

# NJMA NEWS

New Jersey Mycological Assn.

Circulation:

Editor:

Sue Kibby

Vic Gambino

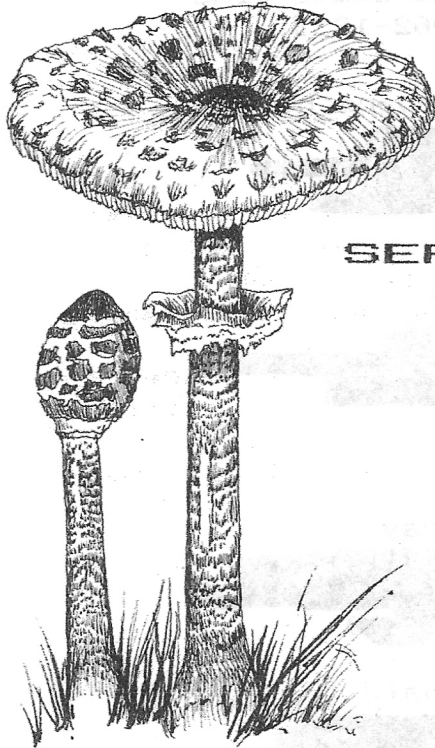
Jim Richards

Art Editor:

Bernice Fatto

Guest Artist:

Geoffrey Kibby



SEPT - OCT 1985 VOL. XV NO. 5

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### FORAY SCHEDULE

SEPTEMBER 1	STEVENS STATE PARK
SEPTEMBER 8	HOLMDEL PARK
SEPTEMBER 15	JENNY JUMP ST. PARK
SEPTEMBER 22	SCEEC (FUNGUS FEST '85)
SEPTEMBER 29	ECHO HILL PARK
OCTOBER 6	* STOKES ST. PARK (ANNUAL PICNIC)
OCTOBER 13	CHEESEQUAKE ST. PARK
NOVEMBER 3	FIRST WINTER LECTURE AT SCEEC

## FUNGUS FEST 1985

The NJMA will hold its annual **FUNGUS FEST** at SCEEC on **SEPTEMBER 22 1985**, from 10:00 am. until 5:00 pm. All members are urged to support this activity by attending and bringing friends. Not only does your attendance financially help the club, but the Fest is our most visual and popular means of advocating the stated goals of the club to collectively learn and to introduce the general public to the fascinating world of fungi. There will be lectures, slide shows, displays and identification of mushrooms brought in by the public. Mushroom books and other craft items will be on sale.

Members are encouraged to foray prior to the Fest to ensure a large and meaningful display of local mushrooms. SCEEC will be open from 12:00 Noon Saturday, September 21, and early Sunday morning in order to allow the identification and sorting committee opportunity to do their thing. **Please bring your specimens early!** Waiting for the last minute, places a heavy burden on this group. Please follow proper collecting techniques, note the location where the mushroom was found, take spore prints, use wax paper. Please don't expect others to do all the gathering. Let's all help to make this the best Fungus Fest yet!

### \* Stokes Foray-Picnic:

Everyone is asked to bring a dish to share with others, preferably homemade. Please label the foods with your name and a list of ingredients.

## NJMA FUNGUS FEST PHILATELIC EVENT COVER

In conjunction with FUNGUS FEST '85, the NJMA will issue a two-color cacheted event cover depicting a stylized representation of *Russula cyanoxantha*. A one day station and approved US postal service cancellation, will be set up at the FEST.

Wayne Skyler, a local Northwest New Jersey artist, designed both the cancellation and the cachet. The cancellation shows three mushrooms viewed from below to show their gills, while the cachet is one of the mushrooms, with an outline of the State of New Jersey in the background.

The NJMA Commemorative Committee will staff the philatelic booth where this year's cacheted cover and prior NJMA commemorative covers will be offered for sale. The FUNGUS FEST "station" will apply the cancel, sell USPS philatelic materials and provide normal letter drop service. The committee will assist collectors in preparing their covers.

Requests for covers to be returned by mail may be made in advance to: Mr. Leonard Frank, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Covers are \$1.00 each plus .22 cents mailing charge for every two covers ordered (unless a self-addressed #10 envelope with sufficient return postage is included). Checks should be made payable to the NJMA Commemorative Committee.

Collectors preparing their own covers for return with FUNGUS FEST cancellation should send their requests directly to: Postmaster, Basking Ridge, NJ, 07920 to arrive no later than September 16th.

## REPORT ON NORTH EAST MYCOLOGICAL FORAY

Lynn Mason

The tenth annual NEMF was held at the State University of New York College at Oneonta, NY, and was considered to be a resounding success by a general consensus of those attending. Many superlatives were used to praise the food, the quality of the accommodations, the food, the friendliness of the staff, the food, the close proximity of the buildings to the beautiful foray sites, and the food.

Two hundred and forty people and fifteen children attended, a decline from the previous years attendance. This modest decline may have been caused by a conflict with Foray schedules between the ten participating mycological associations, however the attendance for this event was impressive.

Special thanks to Dr. Currie Marr and the twenty mycologists and special guests whose tireless work and interaction with the amateurs resulted in the recording of four hundred and one species, including a rare find, *Hericia rosea*. Despite the absence of many mycological friends, this was truly a good all around fun experience.

## THE 1985 KNIGHTON-McKNIGHT NAMA FORAY

August 1-4, 1985, Canaan Valley Resort State Park, West Virginia

Robert Feabody

Foray Chairman Frances Usenik and the Mycological Association of Washington, DC are to be congratulated for their hard work which made for a very successful foray. The accommodations and food service were the best that this reviewer has experienced at any foray. Geoff Kibby and I shared a luxurious room which included 2 queen size beds, a private bath, a color tv and coffee pot. I thoroughly enjoyed my occasional dips in the heated swimming pool. The mushroom collecting seemed in general to be good and certainly the field sites were beautiful to walk through, situated as they were in the heart of the West Virginia mountains. Over 20 professional mycologists were on hand to identify collections (over 450 species were recorded) and to give various lectures and workshops. Sam Ristich entertained us on Thursday evening with a "Slime Mold Extravaganza". This was followed by a wine and cheese party. Vincent Marteka gave us a very interesting look into his "Search for his mycological roots", following the chicken and ribs barbecue dinner on Friday evening.

The Saturday evening banquet honored Elsie and Harry Knighton for their 25 years of dedication to NAMA and Kent and Vera McKnight for their long service to the Mycological Association of Washington D.C. Highlights of the evening were a musical review by Gary Lincoff and Martina Gilliam-Davies that brought the house down, a talk on common Names for Fungi by Dr. McKnight and the annual photo contest award winners presentation.

Everyone attending received a cloth bookbag decorated with a mushroom design by Vera McKnight. Harry and Ann Lubrecht were on hand with their traveling mushroom bookstore which seems to attract amateur mycologists the way the sea attracts lemmings. The craft sales area was also very busy. Bill Long was on hand to display and sell his mushroom stamps and postal novelties.

The NJMA was well represented by the following members: Dennis Aita, Alex Andrecia, Bert and Boris Berghoff, Gertrude Espenscheid, Mitchel Goldman, Geoffrey Kibby, Al and Vera Leyenberger, Gerry Miller, Aaron Norarevian, Ursula Pohl, Sam Ristich, David and Jennie Schmitt, Stan Siegler, Joe, Viola, and Melanie Spock, Sylvia Stein, Rod, Mary King and David Tulloss, Grete Turchik and myself.

## MUSHROOM WEEKEND

There's still time to inquire regarding the weekend of September 20-22, 1985 at Terra Alta Mountain Camp, Terra Alta, W.VA.. Walter Sturgeon is the foray leader. NJMA Members who have attended past events have given favorable reports. For more information write: Nature Education Department, Brooks Nature Center, Oglebay Park, Wheeling, W.VA. 26003

**WANTED** - for forthcoming cookbook:

Literary references to morels - stories about hunting/cooking, poems, etc. (I am not looking for scientific information or field guide sources.) Send complete citation and brief description: author, publisher, page number, etc. If used, the first citation will receive a \$10.00 gift certificate and a copy of the cookbook. Deadline: October 31, 1985. Malfred Ferndock, Box 86, Dennison MN 55018

### **A TALE WITH A SAD ENDING**

A Member of the **North American Truffling Society**, resplendent in his apron, was busily raking for tubers in a remote area. He spied coming towards him a stranger wearing a beret, who was also avidly raking.

Upon visiting with the stranger, the NATS member discovered that the gentleman was French and a professional truffle on vacation in the U.S.

The NATS truffle asked the French truffle, "I've a tuber unknown to me. Can you identify it for me?"

After a careful examination of the specimen, the Frenchman replied, "Non, M'sieur, but I can assist you. I have here Dr. James Trappe's guides, both *Mycotaxon* and *The Orders, Families and Genera of Hypogeous Ascomycotina*, Oui?"

The NATS member then protested "But sir, I **am** James Trappe."

(May 1985 Newsletter of the North American Truffling Society)

### **HALLEY'S COMET MUSHROOM STUDY TOUR OF NEW ZEALAND, AUSTRALIA AND PUPUA, NEW GUINEA**

Organized by Gary Lincoff, President of NAMA; Andrew Weil, M.D., Univ. of Ariz; and Emanuel Zalzman, M.D., Telluride Mushroom Conference, for seventeen days beginning April 3, 1986. The Pupua New Guinea segment of the tour is an optional ten day extension.

Halley's Comet, will be optimally visible in the Southern Hemisphere during the first two weeks of April 1986 -- at the same time as peak mushroom growth in New Zealand and Australia.

The tour will visit Auckland, Christchurch, and other cities in New Zealand; Sidney in Australia; and fossick (foray) in the bush for fungi in the national forests surrounding these cities.

In Pupua, New Guinea it is planned to foray in the Sepik River region, and in the Highlands where Gordon Wasson and Roger Heim studied "mushroom madness", a sporadic affliction of the local residents.

As reservations will be in short supply during Halley's Comet days, contact as soon as possible:

Emanuel Salzman  
c/o Fungophile  
Box 5503  
Denver, CO 80217-5503

**TOXICOLOGY COMMITTEE:**

The following members are all registered with the State of New Jersey Poison Control Center as willing to help in cases of mushroom poisoning and are available to help with identification in any case of suspected poisoning.

In the unlikely event that you need it the State-wide Poison Control Center phone number is: 1-800-962-1253.

John Durkota

[REDACTED]

Gertrude Espenscheid

[REDACTED]

Ray Fatto

[REDACTED]

Erica Frank

[REDACTED]

Victor Gambino

[REDACTED]

Anna Gerenday

[REDACTED]

Geoffrey Kibby

[REDACTED]

Neal Macdonald

[REDACTED]

Al Northup

[REDACTED]

Bob Peabody

[REDACTED]

Jim Richards

[REDACTED]

Dorothy Smullen

[REDACTED]

Joseph Spock

[REDACTED]

Rod Tulloss

[REDACTED]

Grete Turchick

[REDACTED]

## TICK WARNING

reprinted from *THE MYCELIAL MAT*, newsletter of the Nutmeg Mycological Society.

Because mushroomers are often in the woods, the following is presented to members as facts you should know about a new disease that has affected hundreds of people in CT. The information pamphlet, "Lyme Disease" was prepared by the Yale School of Medicine for the CT Chapter Arthritis Foundation and is worth noting in its entirety.

"Lyme disease (originally called Lyme arthritis) was discovered in 1975 in Lyme, CT by a team of Yale doctors. Since then, more than 700 cases of the illness have been reported. Most have occurred in southeastern CT in towns along the coast of Long Island and MA, on Cape Cod, Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket, and in Westchester County and Long Island in N.Y. In addition, cases have occurred in New Jersey, Delaware, and Maryland, as well as some mid-and far-western states.

Yale medical scientists, working with researchers from the Center for Disease Control in Atlanta, have been conducting intensive research to discover the cause, as well as effective treatment of Lyme disease. Recently, research at Yale and several institutions has confirmed that the causative agent is a newly recognized spirochete.

New cases of Lyme disease usually occur from late May until early August. CT patients generally live near or have visited woods and marshes in towns along the coast of Long Island Sound, or coastal area rivers such as the CT River, Thames River, and the East and West Rivers in Madison and Guilford.

The illness is transmitted by a bite by a recently discovered tick known as *Ixodes dammini*, which has been found in these places.

Symptoms most often begin with a small red bump which sometimes expands to a diameter of five inches or more. As it expands, it often develops a bright red outer border, and is very hot to touch. Along with this spot on the skin, patients frequently have fever, chills, stiff neck, and aches in their muscles and joints. Some patients have had only minor discomfort, while others have been quite sick and uncomfortable for many months.

Weeks, sometimes months later, some patients develop neurologic, heart, and joint problems. These symptoms often mimic more serious illnesses such as rheumatoid arthritis or multiple sclerosis.

The disease can be treated if detected early enough. Treatment with either tetracycline or penicillin is often effective and can prevent more serious symptoms, if given early in the illness. For this reason, it is very important to learn to recognize the symptoms.

Learn to recognize the tick. *Ixodes dammini* can be recognized because in its immature stage, when it is most dangerous, the tick is much smaller than the common dog or wood tick. It doesn't swell as much when it attaches itself and engorges blood of humans or animals. It is found in woods, marshy areas, high grass, and brush.

When walking in these areas, be sure you and your children wear protective clothing, such as long pants tucked into high socks, and long sleeved shirts.

Check yourself and children, as well as your pets, frequently for ticks.

Although tick bites are common during the summer, most people do not become ill with Lyme disease or other tick-borne illnesses, according to the Yale doctors. This is probably because most ticks are not infected, or because many people are not susceptible. Therefore, the Yale physicians do not recommend antibiotic therapy for tick bites unless symptoms of Lyme disease or another tick-borne illness develops.

If symptoms occur, you should call your doctor or the State Department of Health.

**REMEMBER THAT IT USUALLY BEGINS WITH A SMALL RED BUMP WHICH SOMETIMES EXPANDS TO A DIAMETER OF FIVE INCHES OR MORE.**

\* \* \* \* \*

### **TICK PRECAUTIONS**

In light of the above article, it might be best to again review precautions we should take when foraging in woods or marshy places.

It's a good policy to wear high boots, and to fasten your pants snugly into the boot tops to prevent ticks from crawling up your legs. As soon as possible, at home or at the cabin, remove your clothes and examine your body for any sign of the nasty creatures. The earlier the better, as ticks do not bite immediately, but spend some time looking for a likely site to attack.

### **NEW TECHNIQUES FOR REMOVING TICKS**

The June 1985 issue of *Pediatrics*, The official journal of the **American Academy of Pediatrics** prints results of a recent study of various techniques of tick removal.

The author, an insect expert from Ohio State University, states that the best way to remove a tick is to grab it as close to the skin as possible and slowly exert pressure on it to remove it. He suggests using a curved forceps or tweezers but, if nothing is available then he recommends using fingers wrapped in a protective covering.

In particular, he advises against using many of the substances previously recommended, such as alcohol, nail polish, or petroleum jelly, which were thought to either be noxious to the tick or to cut off its breathing - but these techniques were shown not to be very effective in the Ohio State studies.

# MUSHROOMS NAMED AND UNNAMED

By Geoffrey Kibby

One of the delights of mushrooming is to find something completely new to you. No matter how many years, or how many thousands of fungi you may have seen, there is still the new and unexpected waiting to thrill and excite you. I have seen professional mycologists lose their decorum and shout and carry on as if they had found gold - which of course they have in mycological terms - when they find some unknown mushroom. Certainly I still thrill to see something I may have only ever have read about, and recently I had the good fortune to find what seems to be a completely undescribed and beautiful fungus.

The fungus in question was a large species of Psilocybe, with a bluish-brown cap when young and stout white stem which rapidly turns bright blue. The fruit bodies were about 4 to 5 inches across and 4 to 6 inches high. Now, as you may know, the presence of blue staining in Psilocybe means that the chemical psilocybin is present and that it is highly hallucinogenic!

So the fungus is obviously highly potent in this chemical and would doubtless fetch large sums of money on the open market for "recreational" purposes. Their exact location wild horses could not drag from me, but suffice to say that it was near the town of Oldwick on piles of wood chip mulch. It was there in large numbers and produced enormous masses of white, binding mycelium (which also stains blue) and obviously is an extremely vigorous species.

A search through the literature that I have was not very satisfactory, revealing one possible candidate - P.caerulescens Murrill. However, I was unable to do the necessary microscope work at that time and so I sent the specimens to Dr Roy Watling in Scotland, one of our foremost mycologists and someone who has great experience with fungi from all over the world. I was both surprised and delighted to learn from him that the fungi did not agree with P.caerulescens, and indeed not with any other species described in Guzman's monograph of the group. They seem to fit his section Mexicanae but that was as far as one could go. As most of the larger Psilocybe species are tropical or subtropical and have been carried around the world via animals and their dung on the one hand, or on rotten wood on the other, it is perhaps not surprising that new species are still being found in unlikely places. I hope in the future to try and trace where the wood chips on which they were growing came from, to see if that can give any clue to their origin.

The recent foray at Tourne park was much enjoyed by all present and was quite rewarding in terms of fungi. Two species in particular are worthy of note: firstly on some woody debris by the side of the path some old remains of the "Stinky Squid" (a lá Lincoff) were seen and some diligent scrabbling in the duff revealed two precious eggs of the same fungus. These were tenderly gathered and taken home to be placed on damp paper towel under a jar and watched carefully for ensuing signs of "hatching". Sure enough, two days later small, bright orange arms could be seen poking out of the top and by that evening the entire, amazing structure had erupted from the egg. There is something



wickedly fascinating about all of the phalloid fungi, but these squid or starfish-like species are especially interesting. They look so animal like! As always I was very much impressed with how such a tiny fruit-body could produce such an intense and disgusting odor. The second interesting fungus was a bolete. A small, rather pretty but unassuming specimen until you bruised it. When touched a curious color change took place. First the pores turned blue-green, then bright pink and finally black! The flesh also went faintly blue, then strongly pink and finally a slatey-purple to black color.

This was something completely new to me although I new it was a Tylopilus by the pinkish pore mouths. A glance at Smith & Thiers revealed a group of species centred around T.porphrosporus which all showed combinations of these colors. The closest I could come in determining the name was T.sordidus of Frost. although the differences between these species seems rather weak in some cases. Whatever the correct name, it is an attractive and remarkable fungus.

#### NJMA 6th ANNUAL PHOTO CONTEST:

Our annual photo contest will be held during our December membership meeting. Three different catagories will be included:

##### PICTORIAL

Photographs of mushrooms, preferably in natural habitat, to be judged on their artistic merits.

##### TECHNICAL

Photographs showing as many identifying charactersitics of fungi as possible. A series of photos will be accepted as a single entry.

These slides will be judged primarily for their usefulness in field identification. The characteristics illustrated are to be indicated on a separate sheet of paper.

##### ACTIVITY

Photos of people in serious or humorous mushroom related activities.

##### CONTEST RULES

The contest is open to NJMA members only.  
Only colored slides will be acceptable.  
Previous NJMA photo contest winning slides are not eligable.  
Slides may be entered in any of the three catagories.  
Your name and catagory must appear on each entry.

Forward all entries to:  
Susan Kibby, [REDACTED] or bring them to  
the November meeting (this is the deadline for submission of  
entries).

## WHITE MUSHROOM SALAD

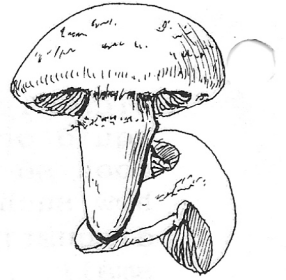
reprinted from *The Trenton Times*

3/4 lb mushrooms  
1 ripe tomato, peeled, seeded  
diced (3/8 in) about 1/2 cup.

1/3 cup heavy cream (cold)  
1 tsp Dijon-style mustard  
freshly ground white pepper  
2 tbs chopped fresh chives

2 tbl unsalted butter

Pinch sugar  
1 small red  
onion, finely chopped  
1 tbs white wine vinegar  
2 tbs olive oil  
salt  
1 tbs chopped fresh parsley



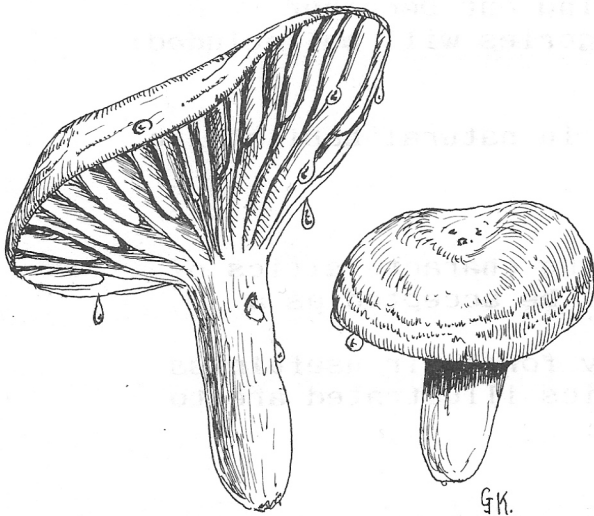
Clean and quarter mushrooms. Heat butter over medium heat. When foam subsides and butter is lightly browned add mushrooms. Saute, tossing constantly, one minute. Mushrooms must remain white and not exude any liquid. Dump into a colander set over a plate and let cool.

Sprinkle tomato with sugar and salt; let drain, cut side down on a plate ten minutes. Pat dry, then combine with cooled mushrooms and onion in serving dish.

Beat cream until thick and foamy; add vinegar and mustard. Beat until stiff peaks form; gradually beat in oil in thin steady stream. Toss salad with dressing. Season with herbs.

## Mycophagist's Corner

### LACTARIUS HYGROPHOROIDES



If ever there was a mushroom that deserved the title of Milk-cap then this species, and a few of its close relatives, is it. An often abundant species in New Jersey it is noted for the copious white latex which pours from any part of the flesh when it is injured. The cap is often quite large, 3-10cm across, and of an attractive pale to deep orange-brown, with a minutely velvety appearance. The gills are thick, pale cream and very widely spaced; an easy way to tell it from its close relative L. volemus. The stem is thick, dry, orange-brown and often with a white bloom. Another close relative is L. corrugis with a darker red-brown cap with a closely wrinkled surface and rich ochre gills. All 3 species are equally milky. These species are all rated very highly as edibles and as they are often

available in large numbers they are well worth the effort of collecting. Some people scald them briefly in boiling water to remove some of the latex, others do not bother, it is a matter of personal taste. Expect to find some variation in color of the fruit-body, there are several varieties recorded in the literature. Look for them in deciduous woods especially by river banks, path sides etc from July- Sept. Greta Turchicks favourite simple recipe is to separate caps from stems, dip caps in flour and fry like a cutlet. To preserve, fry and freeze.

CULINARY GROUP:

The next Culinary Group dinner is to be held on October 19 at the All Saints Church, Millington, Parish Hall.

The theme is to be an All Vegetarian menu. Please call either of the following for details:-

Bob Hosh [redacted] or Jim Richards [redacted] (Day),  
[redacted]

TAXONOMY MEETING:

The next taxonomy meeting will be held on October 4th, 7.30pm. at Dorothy Smullen's house in Millington, N.J. Phone Dorothy on 201-647-5740 for directions. The aim is to look at any fresh specimens available and to demonstrate their important taxonomic features. This is a good chance to find out all about those mushrooms that have stumped you for so long!

NEW JERSEY MYCOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

presents

**FUNGUS FEST '85**

COOKING AND TASTING  
GUIDED MUSHROOM WALKS  
YOUR MUSHROOMS IDENTIFIED  
FRESH LOCAL FUNGI DISPLAYED  
LECTURES - BOOKS - SLIDE SHOWS  
FUNGUS FEST STATION CANCELLATION

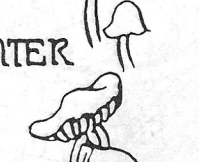
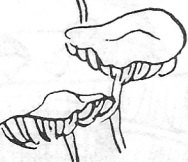
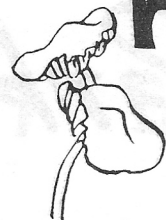
SOMERSET CO. ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CENTER

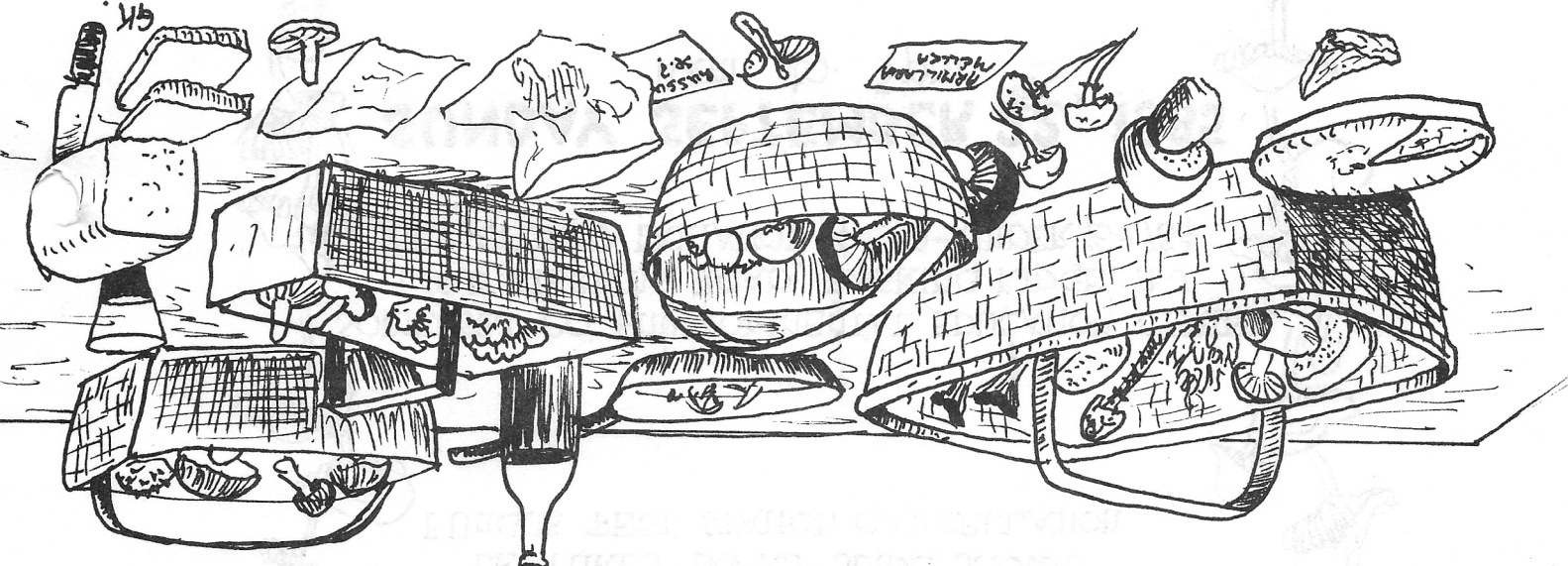
LORD STERLING ROAD, BASKING RIDGE, N.J.

SUGGESTED DONATION - \$ 1.50 - UNDER 16 - 75¢

**SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 22, 1985**

11am to 5pm





# Stokes State Park Oct 6<sup>th</sup> Picnic - Be there!

NJMA NEWS

FIRST CLASS MAIL