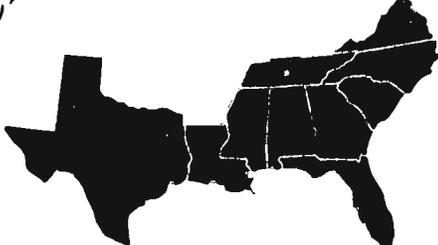
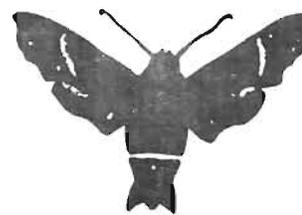




Southern lepidopterists' news

CHARTERED  
1978

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THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE SOUTHERN LEPIDOPTERISTS' SOCIETY, ORGANIZED  
TO PROMOTE SCIENTIFIC INTEREST AND KNOWLEDGE RELATED TO UNDERSTANDING  
THE LEPIDOPTERA FAUNA OF THE SOUTHERN REGION OF THE UNITED STATES.

CHAIRMAN-EDITOR : DAVE BAGGETT

SECRETARY-TREASURER : TOM NEAL

\*\*\*\*\* 1982 MEETING PLANS \*\*\*\*\*

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The 1982 Southern Lepidopterists' meeting will be held the weekend of August 14-15th. in Kingsport, Tennessee, hosted jointly by coordinators John Hyatt, Charles Watson, and Bob Cavanaugh, with emphasis placed on local field trips and culminated with an informal business meeting, banquet, and slide presentation session scheduled for the evening of the 14th. We've extended full invitations to all members of the Kentucky Lepidopterists and to the Ohio Lepidopterists as well, since we share a number of joint memberships and due to the proximity of this meeting to those states. Charles and John are handling the local preparations and are scouting a few prime areas for field trips and will have more of the details available for the next newsletter; in the interim, we suggest that you RSVP with Bob Cavanaugh with your plans to attend in order that we can mail out packaged instructions regarding suggested places to stay and eat, maps of specific sites for the meeting and field trips, and times to meet. More than likely, we will set up a morning meeting for breakfast where the early eager beavers can rendezvous for the morning field trip, and a second meeting site and time in the field for the late arrivals. We'd like to solicit door prizes in the meantime, as well as those who might be interested in giving slide presentations after the evening business session; please contact John or Charles in this area. We are tentatively planning to reserve a banquet hall for the business meeting, John Abbot Award presentation, and slide shows for Saturday evening. We are pleased to announce that our second John Abbot Award recipient will be Dr. Charles V. Covell, Jr. of the University of Louisville, and will present a sketch of Charlie's accomplishments in the next issue. The contest was extremely close, with a scant 8 votes separating first and third places among our candidates. We will update the meeting plans in the June issue of the newsletter.

SOUTH FLORIDA FIELD TRIP !

Dr. Covell has indicated that he has reserved the Camp Owaissa-Bauer facility for May 16th through May 19th, and that there is ample room for others to join him there at that time. I am planning to join him in the field there for a get-together session. You should write or call Dr. Covell ( Department of Biology, University of Louisville, Louisville, KY 40208: (502) 588 5942) ASAP if you are interested in staying at Bauer Hammock. The cost will be a maximum of \$10.00 per night, subject to just how many others are interested in staying there; i.e., probably less. Both Dr. Covell and I will have permits if you have not yet requested yours.

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With great personal remorse, I announce the passing of Charles P. Kimball on March 4, 1982, our first John Abbot Award recipient. "Charley" had been a prominent inspirational figure with regards to my own lepidoptera interests, especially in recent years with the moths of Florida. He always had time to answer my many questions, and although he was not a true taxonomist, his experience often provided useful separatory keys for closely related species. He gave much of his time after retirement to aiding others with identifications of Florida moths, often personally carrying boxes of specimens around to the major museums for authoritative determinations, insuring prompt attention -- this way he also was assured of quick knowledge in cases when something "new" had turned up. Charley became seriously ill in 1981 with respiratory problems, forcing intermittent hospitalization from which he was never to recover. I received my last communication from him shortly after Christmas, in which he indicated some frustration with his illness; a few days later I received a shipment of his entire set of color slides (over 3500) of the majority of known Florida lepidoptera. He will be missed by his many friends and associates in lep circles here and abroad. His collection and extensive personal library has been turned over to the Harvard Museum of Comparative Zoology.

A second member of the Southern Lepidopterists, William E. Sieker of Wisconsin, also passed away on 22 January 1982. I cannot conceive of a more regrettable way to begin a new season than announcing the deaths of these prominent members. Bill was a lawyer by profession, and in addition to his lepidoptera interests, was very active with conservation efforts for Wisconsin chapters of the Audubon Society and the Nature Conservancy. He also was an inspiration to many who knew him, especially regarding youthful enthusiasts. His private Sphingid collection was one of the largest in the U.S., and presumably will go to the University of Wisconsin in Madison, a proper testimonial to his activities as a lepidopterist. Our sincere condolences to the families of both men.

## \*\*\*\*\* GENERAL NOTICES, MEMBER REQUESTS \*\*\*\*\*

H. A. Freeman, 1605 Lewis Drive, Garland, TX 75041 is interested in making contacts for exchanging specimens of Catocala moths from the U.S., Canada, and Mexico.

Dr. J. Mark Scriber, Dept. of Entomology, University of Wisconsin, Madison 53706 needs to obtain livestock (ova/pupae) from the southern U.S. for the following : Pterourus (Papilio) glaucus australis, P. troilus ilioneus, Callosamia angulifera, and Callosamia promethea.

Paul Pfenninger, 1220 Broad St. Box 506, New Castle, Indiana 47362 wants to obtain ova/pupae of Pterourus palamedes for rearing purposes.

Leroy Koehn, 18204 Hiller Ave., Cleveland, Ohio 44119 is now manufacturing his own line of insect bait traps. The traps are collapsable for easy transportation, made of nylon mesh with zippered access, 16" diameter X 30" height, canvas topped. Send SASE for specifics.

Bryant Mather, 213 Mt. Salus Dr., Clinton, MS 39056 needs any additional data for captures of Sphinx franckii he can get; a paper on N.A. distribution is in the mill.

Aquabug International, Inc., 100 Merrick Rd., Rockville Centre, NY 11570 is making an economical lightweight generator ideal for moth collecting in remote areas where AC is required for operation of mercury vapor or UV lighting equipment. The portable 19 lb. model AQB 300 produces 250-300 watts for 1.5 hours on 0.55 liter of fuel. This is the lightest unit on the market, and costs \$275.00 plus handling.

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SPECIAL THANKS to those of you involved with a surprise Christmas gift delivered via Steve Roman and Lee Adair during a lunch meeting here in Tampa. I've been unable to pry much out of these "conspirators" in terms of who to thank, since it arrived with a more-or-less anonymous note from "friends and associates of the Southern Lepidopterists" with indications that a number of you contributed to the gift, an Olympus OM-2n camera with macro lens. The mystery surrounding the gift, the surprise presentation, etc. left me speechless as well as delighted -- one of the nicest things ever happening to me. The camera has already been put to good use in recording larvae of Catocala moths here in Florida; Rick Gilmore, Steve, and I are jointly working on a manuscript dealing with the life histories, distribution, flight periods, population fluctuation theory, new host plants, and methods for locating larvae and adults in the wild state.

The formal CHARTER for the SOUTHERN LEPIDOPTERISTS' SOCIETY is being prepared for screening by all of the coordinators and staff during June. A special committee consisting of one of the staff plus one coordinator from each zone will be assigned the task of preparing the final version for presentation to the membership at large after the 1982 meeting in Kingsport.

Tom Neal has informed me that we should have the new membership list ready for mailing around August; if you have not returned your dues notice yet, please make every effort to get this done ASAP to insure that you are retained on the new list!

As mentioned in the last issue, we are hoping to inaugurate a periodic bulletin series in the future. The Sphingidae of the southern U.S. will most likely be the first topic presented, a means of updating the MONA Fascicle with new and current information. The product will be simple in concept, of use to anyone interested in Sphingidae. Vernon Brou and Lee Adair will probably be the principal authors.

- - - - - CURRENT ZONE REPORTS - - - - -

ZONE I : TEXAS. Coordinators, Ed Knudson, 804 Woodstock, Bellaire 77401, and Mike Rickard, 6550 Hillcroft # 201, Houston 77401.

Spring butterflies of interest include Catasticta nimbice, 28 March, Big Bend Nat. Park, Brewster Co. and Euchloe olympia, 10 April, Tennessee Colony, Anderson Co. (Pieridae); skippers including Autochton cincta (this is not a new U.S./Texas record, but is also not listed in the Miller/Brown checklist), Piruna haferniki, and Paratrytone melane, all 28 March, Big Bend Nat. Pk.; Megathymus yuccae, Cogia outis, and Hesperia metea, 10 April, Tennessee Colony; Lycaenids Mitoura gryneus and Euristrymon ontario, 25 April, Tennessee Colony. Don Harvey noted that Incisalia henrici seemed down in numbers in the Austin area. Ed provided some interesting moth records with Pyrrhia umbra, Acronicta betula, A. longa, A. morula, and A. inclara (Noctuidae) on 25 April, Tennessee Colony; Tacparia zalissaria and Semiothisa multilinea-ta (Geometridae), same as preceding data; Pyrausta homonymalis (Pyralidae), 10 April, Tennessee Colony -- the second Texas record!; Hedia chionosema, Epiblema boxcana, and Proteoteras aescularia (Tortricidae), 18 April, Lake Houston, Harris County. Data for a previously unreported U.S. Sphingid record is as follows : Xylophanes libya, 11 October 1975, Bentsen State Park, Hidalgo County.

ZONE II : ALABAMA, LOUISIANA, MISSISSIPPI, and TENNESSEE. Coordinators, Vernon Brou, Rt. 1, Box 74, Edgard, LA 70049; Bryant Mather, 213 Mt. Salus Dr., Clinton, MS 39056; Charles Watson, 1337 Watauga St., Kingsport, TN 37660; and John Hyatt, 439 Forest Hills Dr., Kingsport, TN 37663.

Brou provided the following records for the Louisiana Lepidoptera Survey : Candelia albovittella, Macrorrhinia signifera, and Anagasta kuehniella (Pyralidae); Epiblema otiosana (Tortricidae); Chimoptesis pennsylvaniana, Epinotia perplexana, Melissopus latiferreanus, and Ecditolopha mana (Olethreutridae); Sparganothis pettitana, S. sulfurana, S. distincta, Archips infumatanus, Choristoneura rosaceana, C. pinus, Argyrotaenia quercifolia, A. juglandana, and Decodes basiplaganus (Tortricidae); Carposina simulator (Carposinidae); Telphusa longifasciella, Frumenta nundinella, Dichomeris ligutella, Tricotaphe inserrata, and Gnorimoschema gallaesolidaginis (Gelichiidae); Stenoma algidella, Antaeotricha humilis, and A. vestalis (Stenomidae); Caloreas carduiella (Glyphipterygidae); and Zelleria retiniella and Yponomeuta multipunctella (Yponomeutidae). Eric Metzler commented that he had taken Cisthene subjecta, Bagisara rectifascia, and Eublemma cinnamomae while stationed in Louisiana in the early 1970's. These were reported as new state records in the last issue, so we're glad for the update, Eric.

ZONE III : GEORGIA. Coordinators, Irving Finkelstein, 425 Springdale Drive NE, Atlanta 30305; Abner Towers, Box 127, Powder Springs 30073; and Scott Brown, P.O. Box 207, Homerville 31634.

On April 18, Irving and Abner visited the Pigeon Mountain locality in Walker County they found so productive last season, and found Falcapica (Anthocharis) midea and Artogeia (Pieris) virginensis both to be common. They also collected Heraclides (Papilio) cresphontes and saw Anaea andria. A return visit on 24 April by Irving, accompanied by Hermann Flaschka, yielded specimens of A. andria, Incisalia nippon, and I. h. henrici. A. virginensis, A. andria, I. nippon, and I. henrici all represent new county records. On April 13th., Irving and Abner visited the Ohoopie Dunes to obtain females of the new Narraga (Geometridae) for rearing purposes, and in the process found another new colony 5 miles north of the TL in Tutnall county, indicating a localized distribution in the immediate area. A paper on the distribution, life history, and general ecology is being prepared by Charlie Covell and Irving.

ZONE IV : FLORIDA. Coordinators, Lee Adair, 810 Gascon Place, Temple Terrace 33617 and Steve Roman, 117 Masters Blvd., Winter Park 32792.

1982 presented Florida with extremely mild winter conditions, which has resulted in early emergences for many species; the hairstreaks and Catocala have been averaging about 2-3 weeks ahead of "normal" -- to date, 23 species of Catocala have been recorded by Gilmore, Roman, and Baggett in surveys prior to May 1st! Reports have been steadily coming in, and we'll include some of the most interesting: Lycaenids - Mitoura hesseli, common but flight-worn, 20 March, Sumatra, Liberty Co. (Gilmore & Baggett); Incisalia n. nippon, 14 March, Gainesville, Alachua County (Neal, a new county record); Incisalia henrici margaretae, 21 February, Alachua Co. (Neal); 10 March, Deland, Volusia Co. (Brown); 13 March, Interlachen, Putnam Co. (Baggett); Satyrium l. liparops, 2 May, Inverness, Citrus Co. (Hill); and Electrostrymon endymion, February, vicinity of Grassy Key, a single male taken by Max Salter of St. Petersburg, which represents a new Florida state record. This specimen will be placed in the FSCA in Gainesville. Nymphalidae: Polygonia comma and Anaea andria, April, Gainesville (Watts); Nymphalis antiopa, April, Jacksonville, and 1 May, Kingsley Plantation State Historic Site, Duval County (Zeiger); Anthanassa texana seminole (new information suggests that this is a distinct species, by the way), 28 April, hwy. 19-98, Gulf Hammock, Levy Co. (Hill, who also found the colony at Ichetucknee several years ago); skippers, Megathymus cofaqui, 5 tents with larvae/pupae, 21 February, Temple Terrace, Hillsborough Co. (Stevens & Adair), and 2 tents with pupae, 13 March, Interlachen (Baggett) which produced adults very intermediate with M. harrisi, considered by many to be a subspecies of cofaqui; Polites baracoa, 2 May, 6 miles west of Floral City, Citrus Co. (Hill); Amblyscirtes aesculapius, 28 April, Gulf Hammock (Hill); Autochton cellus, common, 11 April, Torreya State Park, Liberty Co. (Adair). On a trip to the McKethan Lake Recreation Area in the Withlacoochee State Forest with Dick Anderson on 25 April, I witnessed the intra-specific courtship and subsequent mating of a male Euristrymon favonius and a female Calycopis cecrops, but did not have the old camera handy, unfortunately! The male repeatedly buzzed (in 10-12" up-and-down gestures) the perched displaying female for several minutes prior to coupling.

Numerous moth records were also provided, and include the following: Sphingidae: Paratreia plebeia, April, Withlacoochee St. Forest, Hernando Co. (Adair); E. obscura, November 1, 1981, Ravine Gardens, Putnam Co. (Profant); Darapsa versicolor, 14 March, Gainesville (Neal); and Pachysphinx modesta, 20 March, Torreya State Park (Gilmore). Some of the more interesting Noctuids include Eutelia pulcherrima, 13 March, Alachua Co. (Neal) and 20 March, Quincy, Gadsden Co. (Baggett); Elaphria georgei, 20 March, Torreya State Park; Catocala delilah, reared ex. lv. on Quercus virginiana, April, Hernando Co. (Gilmore); Raphia abrupta, Acronicta betula, Zale buchholzi, Zale galbanata, Z. phaeocapna, Psaphida grotei, Parallelia smithi, Bomolocha deceptalis, B. manalis, Colocasia flavicornis, and Argyrostroma pacalis, 20 March, Torreya St. Park (Neal & Baggett); Lithophane viridipallens, 27 January, Gainesville (Neal); Eucoptochemis fimbriaris and Meropleon cosmion, November 1981, Ravine Gardens, Putnam Co. (Profant), and Catocala louiseae, common at bait, McKethan Lake, Hernando Co. on 4 May (Baggett). The wasp-mimic, Dahana atripennis, was collected in Inverness, Citrus Co. on 27 April by Hill. Good Geometrids included Mellilla xanthometata, March and April, Temple Terrace (Adair); Horisme intestinata, 21 March, Torreya St. Park (Neal) and 10 April, Suwanee River St. Pk. (Baggett); Euchlaena obtusaria, 17 March, Gainesville (Neal); Tetracis crocallata, 26 Feb., Gainesville (Neal); Eubaphe mendica and E. meridiana, Torreya St. Pk., 20 March (Baggett); and Palaemonia merriccata, 2 February, Gainesville (Neal, presumably a new state record). Pyralids included the following from Ravine Gardens, November 1981, all from Profant: Lineodes integra, Tallula atrifascialis, and Pyrausta phoenicealis. Many others were omitted.

ZONE V: VIRGINIA, NORTH & SOUTH CAROLINA. Coordinators, Ron Gattelle, 126 Wells Road, Goose Creek, SC 29445; Bob Cavanaugh, P.O. Box 489, Newport, NC 28570; and John Coffman, Rt. 1, Box 331, Timberville, VA 22853.

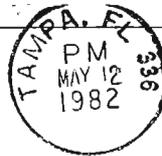
John Coffman indicated that the ova of Catocala dulciola obtained last season were hatching in April, and that he would hopefully be able to rear them through on one of the rosaceous plants present in his area. The plants (plums, hawthornes, etc.) were just beginning to bud as the eggs began to hatch. Leroy Koehn visited some of his old stomping grounds and reported a good spring for Celastrina ebenina in Virginia, but that he did not find any Erora laeta out when he visited. Dick Anderson, who visited both Dan Burris and Baggett in Florida, indicated an interest in investigating the Chesapeake Bay region for additional colonies of Problema bulenta during 1982, as well as to search for other choice skippers. The Great Dismal Swamp and coastal areas in Virginia will yield some surprises, I'm sure.

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The Southern Lepidopterists' News is published four times annually, with membership fees of \$3.00. The organization is open to anyone with an interest in the butterflies and moths of the region. Information about the group may be obtained by writing to the Secretary-Treasurer, Tom Neal, 3820 NW 16th. Place, Gainesville, FL 32605. We openly solicit reports and information from our members to include in the newsletter, which should be forwarded to the coordinator. - Ed.

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The SOUTHERN LEPIDOPTERISTS' NEWS  
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