



southern lepidopterists' news




FOUNDED
1978

VOL:11, NO 4
DEC. 31, 1989

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

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

ARKANSAS BECOMES PART OF THE SOUTHERN LEPIDOPTERISTS' SOCIETY

JEFFREY SLOTTEN

Arkansas is officially recognized as a member state in the Southern Lepidopterists' Society. Thanks to the efforts of Dr. Mack Shotts of Paragould, Arkansas and the overwhelming positive support of the officers and zone coordinators of our society, Arkansas will officially be represented.

There are several advantages that the society will derive from the inclusion of Arkansas. Other members of this state and neighboring regions will now be able to share their knowledge and interests with us. Reports of Lepidoptera activity will now appear in print from this under-represented region of the country. This will encourage interested members who may wish to travel to this region to report their activities and help fill in gaps concerning the ranges of Lepidoptera. It will help bring members together in this region so that more knowledge can be shared. The possibility of future organizations may result. Lepidopterists from Missouri, Oklahoma, Nebraska, and Kansas may find enough interest to form their own organizations.

Dr. Mack Shotts will be the zone coordinator. Should you have any collecting activities to report, please report them to Dr. Shotts.

In closing, I would welcome any feedback from any member of the Southern Lepidopterists' Society concerning the activities of the organization and the direction that we are going.

OBSERVATIONS OF EUREMA NISE IN FLORIDA

JOHN V. CALHOUN

The Jamaican Sulphur, Eurema nise, is primarily a neotropical pierid distributed from the extreme southern United States, south to Argentina, including the greater Antilles (Scott, 1986). In Florida it is rare and poorly understood. The status of Eurema nise in Florida is unclear and it is uncertain whether the species is a permanent resident or an irregular immigrant from Cuba or the Bahamas that occasionally establishes temporary populations.

Eurema nise was first collected in Florida in 1933 at Royal Palm (Paradise Key), Dade County (Klots, 1951). Since 1933, E. nise has been encountered only rarely in Dade and Monroe Counties. With two rather phenomenal exceptions, records generally consist of one or two individuals. The exceptions occurred in 1946 and 1947 when Otto Buchholz and Alexander Klots collected at least 59 male and 26 females at Paradise Key and Key Largo respectively (these specimens are now in the American Museum of Natural History, New York). Even the most prolific populations are typically short-lived. The fact is supported by Klots (1951) who stated that in 1948 E. nise was absent from where it had been common in 1947. Although this region of south Florida has been repeatedly explored, fewer than 20 collectors have had the pleasure of observing this species in Florida.

On 14 December 1983, I had the rare opportunity to observe E. nise at Homestead, Dade County, Florida. Because E. nise closely resembles Eurema lisa in the field, it is hoped that a few comments on the behavior and habitat of E. nise will help others to locate this species in Florida.

The location at which E.nise was found in 1983 consists of a remnant hardwood hammock surrounded on three sides by agricultural land, most notably avocado groves. E.nise was observed from 0930 to 1015 H. The wind was calm and the temperature ranged from 18-21 C (65-70 F) under partly cloudy skies. E.nise was first found at the site when a female emerged from the hammock and alighted on a sunlit patch of ground. After the initial capture, I looked for additional individuals and continued to walk along the edge of the hammock. Several more E.nise were seen flying near the hammock and they ventured no farther than 2-3 meters from its margins. Klots (pers. comm., 1984) noted that the individuals he saw kept "more or less to the shady vicinity of the tree-patches". Approximately 12 individuals were seen by me in 1983.

The flight of E.nise is low and erratic, but not rapid. A near-miss swing of the net will send alarmed E.nise hastily into the shade of the hammock. Conversely, similarly frightened individuals of E.lisa fly directly into the open, sunlit areas. In addition, E.nise appears smaller and more delicate in flight than E. lisa.

One female E.nise was observed ovipositioning on wild tamarind, Lysiloma latisiliquum. Prior to this observation, the only host plant of this species reported in the literature was wild sensitive plant, Mimosa pudica (Riley, 1975). Wild tamarind is a common component of hardwood hammock communities in south Florida where it often forms dense thickets. To utilize this plant, it was necessary for the female E.nise to fly to a height of about 1.5 meters to reach the foliage of the small tree. Eggs were deposited singly on the young leaves.

Subsequent to this discovery, it was learned that a pair of Eurema specimens that were collected at the same site by a colleague on 8 September 1983 are E.nise. These specimens were thought to be E.lisa until they were re-examined. Therefore, this population was present at the site for over three months prior to my visit. It is interesting to speculate on when this population may have become established. In Brazil, development of E.nise from egg to adult last approximately 29 days (Brown & Heineman, 1972). If development time is similar in Florida, this would limit the date of establishment to no later than 10 August 1983. However, it is quite possible that E.nise had been present for some time but was dismissed as E.lisa.

During the period 19-22 March 1984, five additional specimens were collected at the site by other collectors. This suggests that more than two broods were ultimately produced. Several other collectors visited the site on 1 April 1984 but failed to locate E.nise. To my knowledge, no E.nise have been observed at the site since March 1984, thus this population may have been active only for about seven months. This exhibits the ephemeral nature of E.nise populations in Florida.

If a moral is to be extracted from this experience, perhaps it should be that things are not always what they appear to be. Any small yellow Eurema encountered directly adjacent to hammock forest should be examined. Don't make the assumption that all such butterflies are the ubiquitous E.lisa. Also, a common phenomenon must be addressed. Many collectors, myself included, tend to look for particular species when visiting a favorite collecting spot. All other species are overlooked or intentionally ignored. Collectors who hold no such bias and look closely at every individual specimen sometimes make surprising discoveries, even at locations that have been thoroughly explored in the past. I am constantly amazed at the number of species my wife collects on days when I have seen very little because of my "collectors' tunnel vision". My discovery of E.nise can probably be partially attributed to my Ohio eye watching for practically anything to keep my mind off the northern winter I left behind.

DISINFECTION DURING REARING

HERMANN FLASCHKA

Last summer (1988) Mr. J. Tewell of Kansas, who does mass rearing of Graphium marcellus, informed me of the use of Potassium metabisulfite solution that he sprayed on his larva. As a result, his losses due to disease were greatly reduced. He learned of Potassium metabisulfite and its use from a flyer that he received from the Entomological Livestock Supplies, LTD. in Great Britain. The recommended use is to thoroughly spray the solution on rearing containers to disinfect them. The solution is also sprayed directly on ova, larva, on the host plants, etc. The flyer states that it may be used "with impunity", it is completely harmless to insects. I have used this technique with excellent results. There are however, several precautions that should be taken to avoid unnecessary mishaps and to insure success.

A brief explanation of the chemistry may help you to understand the method of use and the dis-infective process. Potassium metabisulfite is the old name of this chemical. Under the new rules it is known as Potassium pyrosulfite (The sodium salt may equally well be employed). The formula is: K₂ S₂ O₅. It has been used by the wine industry for years to kill bacteria and fungi without affecting the yeast. It is generally available in winery supply stores.

For the purpose of rearing, a 10% "stock" solution is prepared by dissolving 10 grams of salt into 90 milliliters of water (For "non-metrics", 1 ounce of salt in 1 1/4 cups of water is close enough). One part of the stock solution is diluted with 9 parts water to yield the "working" solution. (cont. Pg#37)

(cont. from Pg#36) This solution is applied with a spray bottle, the finer the spray mist the better. The spray bottle should be made of plastic as this solution may cause corrosion in some metal containers. While perfectly stable when dry, potassium pyrosulfite decomposes in aqueous solutions and gives off a sulfur dioxide (SO₂) gas which is easily noticed when sniffing the stock solution. This smell is the signal that the correct action has taken place. Sulphur dioxide is a gas and soluble in water. It will separate from the water and disperse in the air. This is the disinfecting process. The sulphur dioxide is the active agent, the remaining salts are of no further use and are harmless.

This solution can be sprayed onto the leaves of the host plant, let the disinfection process occur and after the leaves are THOROUGHLY DRY, offer them to the larvae. It is very important that the spray mist be as fine as possible to assure a thorough wetting. Any areas that are dry will not be affected by the gas and will not be disinfected.

The solution can be helpful when applied to brood sleeves. Again as thorough a wetting as possible is advised. However, in order to avoid prolonged contact with the larvae, a dry and windy day is preferable.

I have successfully reared Eupackardia calleta in plastic shoe boxes grouped about 20 cm away around a 60 watt light bulb. The light is left on 24 hours a day. The paper towels and food plant are changed daily in each box. Before closing the box I apply three squirts of the working solution. Because the containers are closed high humidity develops, therefore thorough wetting is not required. The gas develops and every inch of the container is affected. I started with 63 larvae, 59 cocoons resulted. No mold developed! I did the same with Speyeria diana, from 80 second instar larvae, 66 chrysalides resulted. The losses in both cases were the result of transfer mishaps or problems during molting. The same was accomplished with broods of Arachnis apaches and a Grammia species.; these larvae are now in hibernation.

The only major problem that occurred was not taking into account the underlying physics and the chemical process. I enthusiastically recommended this method to a friend of mine. However, he uses petri dishes which are 1/50th of the size of my shoe boxes. He applied three squirts to a dish, the concentration of sulphur dioxide was excessive and the next morning his larvae were all dead and the leaves of the host plant changed colors from green to white (sulphur dioxide is also a bleaching agent). The size of the rearing container will determine the amount of solution that is used. When I use petri dishes for rearing I hold the open dish with my left arm outstretched and apply the spray mist from my shoulder at about a 45 degree angle.

Experience will enable you to determine the correct amount. Experiment with part of a brood or with pest larvae. A rule of thumb to follow is that a faint smell of sulphur dioxide should be present a half an hour after application in a closed container.

FIELD MEETING REPORT FROM TALL TIMBERS

JEFFREY SLOTTEN

The Southern Lepidopterists' fall field meeting was held at Tall Timbers Research Station north of Tallahassee, Florida. Members began arriving late Friday afternoon. Light rigs were set up, bait and light traps set out, and pheromone traps hung in prime areas by some members. Electrical outlets were available. Generators were used in the more remote locations. The housing accommodations were excellent. Hot showers, kitchen facilities, a washing machine and dryer were well used before the meeting was over.

The research station houses the collection of the late Lucien Harris, Jr., author of the Butterflies of Georgia. We were unable to arrange a viewing of the Harris collection for members. The collection can be viewed from 9 to 5 PM, Monday through Friday. Anyone wishing to view the Harris collection should contact Dana Strickland, Tall Timbers Research Station, Route # 1, Box 678, Tallahassee, Florida, 32312.

The weather for moth collecting on Friday night was excellent. The temperature was warm and the sky was overcast. Some members were up all night collecting moths. After breakfast Saturday morning small collecting parties were formed and dispersed into the interesting habitats that occur at Tall Timbers. Old fields, fallow fields, pine hardwood forest and mesic woodlands were collected. These areas are being manipulated by Tall Timbers to enhance the property for wildlife species richness.

Several members travelled to the Apalachicola National Forest in Liberty County southwest of Tallahassee, and collected along the Apalachicola River and the surrounding wood forests. Rain showers and thunder storms caused some collecting difficulties.

On Saturday evening an in-door cookout provided a great time of food and fellowship. Hamburgers, watermelon, soda pop, and beer were devoured in good measure and good collecting tales and stories were exchanged. A short business meeting followed. Future field trips were discussed and several officers gave short reports. (cont. Pg#38)

(cont. from Pg#37) Door prizes were presented following the business meeting. More lighting for moths followed; however, a heavy downpour of some duration came shortly after nightfall. Many enthusiastic moth collectors braved the rain to check light sheets that were set up at various locations around the station. For those who stayed indoors during the down pour an excellent slide show was presented by Tom Neal on his collecting trip to the rain forest of Peru earlier in the year. Sunday morning the skies were overcast and a slow drizzle was intermittent. Most in attendance departed early Sunday to avoid the rain. All in all it was a great meeting.

Those in attendance were; Deborah Matthews, Terry Lott, Paul Kelly, Jeff Sloten, Jack Heinrich, Irving Finkelstein, Bill Babcock, Jeff Hooper, Leroy Koehn, Woody Dow, Hermann Flaschka and his wife, Charles Stevens, Gina Brown, Marc Minno, Maria Minno and their daughter Angie, Tom Carr, Kilian Roever, Lee Adair, Dave Baggett, Andy Anderson, John Kutis, John Calhoun, and Dale Habeck.

The following species of butterflies and moths were collected on the station property;

<u>Papilionidae:</u>	<u>Hesperiidae: cont:</u>	(* denotes butterfly species taken at UV light)
<u>Papilio palamedes</u>	<u>Oligoria maculata</u>	
<u>Papilio troilus</u>	<u>Lerema accius</u>	
	<u>Panoquina ocola</u>	
<u>Danaidae:</u>	<u>Problema byssus</u>	
<u>Danaus plexippus</u>	<u>Hylephila phyleus</u>	
<u>Danaus gilippus berenice</u>	<u>Erynnis zarucco</u>	
	<u>Erynnis horatius</u>	
	<u>Lerodea eufala</u>	
<u>Pieridae:</u>	<u>Nastra lherminier</u>	
<u>Colias cesonia</u>		
<u>Phoebis sennae eubule *</u>	<u>Sphingidae:</u>	
<u>Eurema दौरा दौरा</u>	<u>Agrius cingulata</u>	
<u>Eurema nicippe *</u>	<u>Dolba hylaeus</u>	
<u>Prysisia lisa lisa</u>	<u>Ceratonia catalpa</u>	
	<u>Lapara coniferarum</u>	
<u>Satyriidae:</u>	<u>Paonias excaecatus</u>	
<u>Herneuphychia sosybia</u>	<u>Paonias myops</u>	
<u>Cyllopsis gemma</u>	<u>Enyo lugubris</u>	
	<u>Xylophanes tersa</u>	
<u>Heliconiidae:</u>	<u>Saturniidae:</u>	
<u>Heliconius charitonius tuckeri</u>	<u>Actias luna</u>	
<u>Agraulis vanillae nigrrior *</u>	<u>Antheraea polyphemus</u>	
	<u>Eacles imperialis</u>	
<u>Nymphalidae:</u>	<u>Citheronia sepulcralis</u>	
<u>Euptoieta claudia</u>	<u>Anisota rubicunda</u>	
<u>Phyciodes tharos</u>	<u>Anisota virginensis</u>	
<u>Phyciodes phaon</u>		
<u>Vanessa virginiensis</u>	<u>Schinia:</u>	
<u>Polygonia interrogationis</u>	<u>Schinia lynx</u>	
<u>Junonia coenia</u>	<u>Schinia arcigera</u>	
<u>Basilarchia archippus</u>	<u>Schinia nundina</u>	
<u>Basilarchia astyanax astyanax</u>	<u>Schinia trifascia</u>	
<u>Basilarchia astyanax/archippus Hybrid</u>	<u>Schinia tuberculum</u>	
<u>Asterocampa clyton</u>		
<u>Asterocampa celtis</u>		
	<u>Other moths of interest:</u>	
<u>Lycaenidae:</u>	<u>Utetheisa bella</u>	
<u>Atlides halesus *</u>	<u>Stiria rugifrons</u>	
<u>Parrhasius m-album *</u>	<u>Phytometra ernestinana</u>	
<u>Calycopis cecrops *</u>	<u>Heliothis phloxiphagus</u>	
<u>Strymon melinus</u>	<u>Heliothis virescens</u>	
	<u>Cirrhophanus triangulifer</u>	
<u>Hesperiidae:</u>	<u>Simyra henrici</u>	
<u>Urbanus proteus</u>	<u>Oreta rosea</u>	
<u>Epargyreus clarus</u>	<u>Synanthedon exitiosa</u>	
<u>Pyrgus communis</u>	<u>Synanthedon pictipes</u>	
<u>Polites vibex</u>	<u>Adaina ambrosiae</u>	
<u>Wallengrenia otho</u>		

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

SOUTHERN LEPIDOPTERISTS' SOCIETY MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

1990 SPRING FIELD MEETING AT PIGEON KEY IN THE LOWER FLORIDA KEYS

The 1990 Southern lepidopterists' Society spring field meeting will be in the Lower Keys, Monroe County, Florida, May 11, 12 & 13. Our base of operations will be the Pigeon Key Research Station in the middle of the old Seven Mile Bridge (Fig. # 1 & 2). We have reserved the station which has cabins with showers and beds. The Station can accommodate 30 people. There are numerous motels in the town of Marathon on Vaca Key at the north end of the bridge. If you plan to attend and stay at the station, you must make a reservation, and reservations are on a first come first serve basis. There will be a cookout on Saturday night followed by a business meeting.

Collecting should be excellent in the Lower Keys at this time of the year. Species which may be expected on Big Pine Key are; Strymon acis bartrami, Strymon martialis, Anaea floralis, Panoquina panoquinoides, Polygonus leo, Hesperia meskei, and Euphyes pilatka klotzi, and on Stock Island the elusive Chlorostrymon maesites, also Epargyreus zestos, and Ephyriades brunnea floridensis. The moths of the Lower Keys are poorly documented. This will be an excellent opportunity to record new species. Big Pine Key, No Name Key, and Cudjoe Key are easily accessible for lighting.

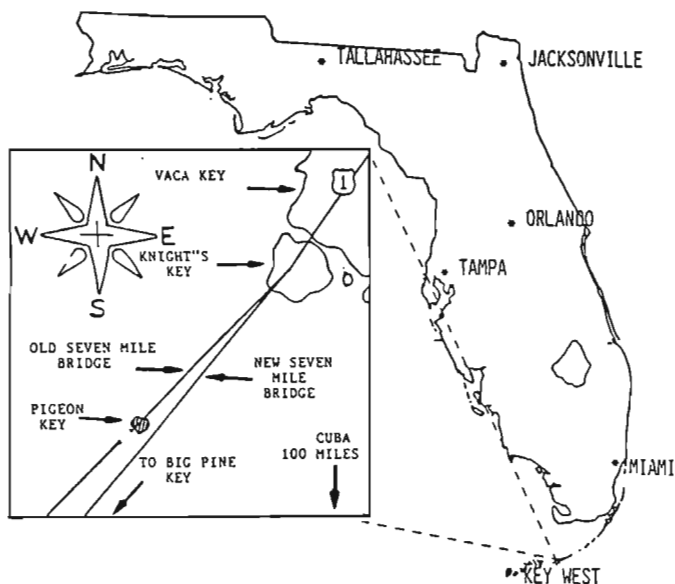


Fig # 1



Fig # 2

From mainland Florida follow US route # 1, south through the Keys until you reach Vaca Key, continue south through the town of Marathon until the four lane are reduced to two lanes; at this point you are on Knight's Key, after less than a 1/4 of a mile you will see the bridges, keep to your right and watch for the signs to Pigeon Key. There is an access to the old Seven Mile Bridge. There will be signs directing you to the station and we will have the Southern Lep's Logo sign out to also help direct you. Should you miss the access point, it will be a seven mile drive across the new Seven Mile Bridge before you are able to turn around, then it will be seven miles back.

Due to the limited accommodations at Pigeon Key, you must make a reservation before April 15, 1990. Remember, reservations are first come, first serve. The cost is \$30.00 for both Friday and Saturday nights, and \$25.00 for only one night, either way includes the cook out. If you are planning to attend, please contact Leroy C. Koehn, Home (305) 344-3873 evening, or at his office (305) 251-3083 between 8AM and 5PM weekdays, or, Jeffrey Slotten at home evenings at (904) 733-9281. All reservations to stay at the Pigeon Key Station must be made before April 15, 1990.

This should be an exciting meeting with some great collecting!! See you there!

SUMMER FIELD TRIP TO SOUTH CAROLINA

A summer field trip to South Carolina is planned for July. Charles Watson will host this field trip. Several scarce species of Amblyscirtes will be sought, including, A. reversa, A. carolina and A. alternata, also the choice lycaenid, Mitoura hesseli. There will be more information in the next news letter.

1991 ANNUAL MEETING IN COSTA RICA

Plans are currently being developed to have our 1991 annual meeting in June at the Selva Verde Lodge in Costa Rica. Selva Verde Lodge is nestled in the Atlantic lowlands of northeastern Costa Rica. The lodge and field station includes a large private tract of virgin tropical rain forest and rich second-growth habitats, where almost 500 species of butterflies and thousands of species of moths occur within easy walking distance. This should be an absolutely exciting adventure for everyone that comes. There will be a complete meeting announcement with dates and cost in the next newsletter.

OHIO LEPIDOPTERISTS' WINTER MEETING

The Ohio Lepidopterists' Society will hold its winter meeting in Columbus, Ohio, on Saturday, January 13th. The featured speaker will be Richard Brown of Mississippi State University. He will be speaking on Tortricidae moths. For more information contact; Eric Metzler, 1241 Kildale Square North, Columbus, Ohio, 43229. Telephone (216) 888-3642.

41ST ANNUAL MEETING OF THE LEPIDOPTERISTS' SOCIETY

The Milwaukee Public Museum will host the 41st annual meeting of the lepidopterists' Society from June 14 to June 17, 1990, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. For additional information contact: Dr. Allen Young or Susan Borkin, Invertebrate Zoology Section, Milwaukee Public Museum, 800 W. Wells St., Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 53233 Telephone: (414) 278-2758, Fax: (414) 223-1396.

BOOK REVIEW

LEROY C. KOEHN

Florida's Butterflies and Other Insects by Peter D. Stilling. 1989, Pineapple Press, Inc., P.O.Box 16008, Sarasota, FL 34239. Telephone (813) 952-1085. 88 pages including a bibliography and index. Hardbound. This beautifully illustrated book is well-suited for the coffee table of anyone interested in the Natural History of Florida. The color photography is outstanding and for each species of insect illustrated there is a brief informative paragraph. Because there are many insects, only the most common have been included. These are the ones most likely to be encountered in Florida by resident and visitor alike. Besides Lepidoptera, a wide variety of insects are represented from most orders; also included are a few spiders, millipedes and centipedes. There is a section on creating a butterfly garden and a list of Florida flowers most attractive to butterflies. A list of larval host plants for some of the common species is included. Although artistically attractive the book has a very limited amount of technical information. The book does not cover all the known species that occur in Florida and therefore has limited value other than identifying the most common species.

All of us have friends and acquaintances who do not understand or share our interest in butterflies. As a gift, this book would enable you to introduce those people to the wonders of butterflies in lay terms.

CHANGES IN THE MEMBERSHIP

TOM NEAL

NEW MEMBERS

Michael Lefort, Rt. # 1, Box 31A, Galliano. TX 70354

Barbara Lenczewski, Dept. of Entomology, 3103 McCarty Hall, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL 32611

James R. Merritt, 1729 South 3rd Street, Louisville, KY 40208

Barry S. Nichols, 7004 Ethan Allen Way, Louisville, KY 40272

William Nix, 3430 Blvd. Chatelaine, Delray Beach, FL 33445

Chip Reed, 459 Graham Wood Dr., Memphis, TN 38122

Benjamin D. Williams, P.O. Box 211, Pomfret Center, CT 06259

OBITUARY

Major Harry O. Hilton, U.S. Air Force Retired, of 23 Blenheim Rd, Shalimar, Florida, died 3 November 1988 at the age of 68 following a prolonged illness. Harry was born 8 March 1920, in Akron, Ohio. He attended North High School in Akron. Before graduation he joined the U.S. Military service 4 August 1932. His training include Naval Radar Equipment course, Flight Radar School, Officer Candidate School at Fort Monmouth, NJ, Field Radio Course, AW Ground Reporting Equipment, Radar Counter Measures, Air Command Officers Course at Craig Field, AL, and Atomic Weapons School. He served in Hawaii, Guam, Japan, Korea, England, and Morocco. His military awards included The World War II Victory Medal; The Army of Occupation Medal (Japan); The National Defense Service Medal; The Korean Service medal; The Air Force Longevity Service Award Ribbon with 4 bronze Oak Leaf Clusters, The United Nations Service medal. He served as Honorary President, Signal Company Aircraft Warning Hawaii-Signal Aircraft Warning Regiment Hawaii Association. Major Hilton retired from the U.S. Air Force in 1962 after completing 24 years of military service. After his retirement from the Air Force, he was employed for 15 years with the Vitro Corp. of Fort Walton Beach, FL. He is survived by his wife, Diana Rene, a daughter, Kathleen E. Hatcher, a sister, four grandchildren, and five great grandchildren.

Following his retirement from the Air Force, Harry visited me in Gainesville at the headquarters of the Division of Plant Industry, Florida Department of Agriculture where he expressed an interest in learning to collect, process, and identify insects. That was the beginning of a close relationship between Harry and me. Harry was a perfectionist, and that quickly became evident when Harry returned after a week of collecting insects in southern Florida. He had pinned, spread, and hand labeled butterflies and moths he had captured as neatly as an experienced collector might have done. Harry soon afterward became a Research Associate, one of the first, of the Florida State Collection of Arthropods. In the years that followed he made extensive year round collections of lepidoptera in the Florida panhandle, especially in the vicinity of Shalimar and Fort Walton Beach. He produced numerous first records of lepidoptera for Florida. This collecting interest led to life histories studies of lepidoptera, and this led to photography of high quality. Harry modified his Hasselbed, a speed graphic, and a Pentax to take some excellent life history photographs of the lepidoptera he studied. Interestingly, Harry never learned to fly during his Air Force career, only to learn after he retired. He and his wife, "Billie", obtained their pilot licenses, bought their own airplane, and then combined flying with aerial photography. Harry photographed hundreds of species of Florida and Massachusetts moths and butterflies in support of studies made by another FSCA Research Associate, the late Mr. Charles P. Kimball. In 1965 Kimball's Lepidoptera of Florida was published as volume 1 of Arthropods of Florida and Neighboring Land Areas. It contained numerous record from Harry's collecting. An extensive set of color slides of lepidoptera taken by Harry are deposited with his lepidoptera collection in the FSCA at the Dolye Conner Building in Gainesville, Florida. In 1965 Harry made a collecting trip to Mexico with my wife, Camilla, and me. The group included two other Research Associates of the FSCA, the late Mr. Charles F. Zeiger of Jacksonville, Florida, and the late Dr. George W. Rawson of New Smyrna Beach, Florida. George celebrated his 75th birthday on that field trip and lived to the ripe old age of 96. That Mexican adventure was one of the most enjoyable of many trips Camilla and I have made to many parts of the New World.

Later, Harry became acquainted with another talented young man who was retiring from an Air Force career, Mr. Terhune "Terry" Dickel. Harry helped Terry get started collecting and processing butterflies. That interest continued to grow so that today Terry Dickel is one of the most active lepidoptera collectors in Florida. Terry, like Harry, is a perfectionist and has produced numerous first Florida and first North America records for lepidoptera, discovered a growing number of un-described species in southern peninsular Florida and the Florida Keys, and is making a major contribution through his genitalia studies of Macro- and Micro-lepidoptera. Harry's influence continues to bear fruit. He will be missed by those of us who had the good fortune to know him.

Dr. Howard V. Weems, Jr., Florida State Collection of Arthropods, Gainesville, Florida.

THIS-N-THAT & OTHER TIDBITS

The Society of Kentucky Lepidopterists' has elected Christa Anderson as its president. She is the first woman president of that organization. Christa is also a member of the Southern Lepidopterists'.

Are women taking over control of the lepidopterists' world? Jacqueline Miller of the Allyn Museum was recently elected president of the Lepidopterists' Society. This is a first for that organization also. We congratulate Jackie and wish her the very best.

A new regional Lepidopterists' Society is forming. An organizational meeting was held in Kansas City, Missouri, with about 25 interested lepidopterists' in attendance from Kansas and Missouri. The *Idalia* Society of Mid-American Lepidopterists' has been formed. It has selected the Regal Pritillary, *Speyeria idalia*, as the theme logo. For further information, contact: Suzette Slocomb, 219 W. 68th St., Kansas City, Missouri, 64113. Telephone (816) 523-2948.

NEWSLETTER UP-DATE

The deadline for the next newsletter, Vol.12 No. 1 is March 15, 1990. All articles and zone reports must be in the hands of the Editor for inclusion in the next newsletter.

Articles for the newsletter are needed. If you have been working on a list of lepidoptera from your area, have a long or short article on the lepidoptera of the southern region, please send it to the Editor.

Your Editor has received little response to a request for photographs for "Parting Shots". If you have photographs of unusual, aberrant, or unique specimens, please send them with a brief description. Photographs of lepidopterists worthy of print are also welcome. Send a copy of the print and the negative. All negatives will be returned after a half-tone negative has been produced for the newsletter printer. Look through those photo albums, lets see some great shots!

Your zone coordinators need to hear from you, even if you think your efforts are not important. As the habitats of our native species continues to shrink, we need to learn more than ever about the what, when, and where of the lepidoptera that inhabit them. Please report your collecting activities. Your records can help other workers who need them.

RESEARCH REQUEST & MEMBERS NOTICES

FOR SALE: Two copies of Holland's Butterfly Book, both are second editions, 1905 and 1925, both in excellent condition. Contact; Leroy C. Koehn, 2946 NW 91st Ave., Coral Springs, Florida, 33065 Tele.(305) 344-3873

RESEARCH REQUEST: Any butterfly records from the Florida Keys, even for common species. Data for Key Largo and Big Pine Key are rather extensive. For many of the other Keys very limited information on species composition and distribution exists. Any and all information would be greatly appreciated. Contact; Marc Minno, 303-18 Diamond Village, Gainesville, FL 32603.

LATEST 12 PAGE WORLDWIDE LEPIDOPTERA SPECIMEN CATALOG! Specialist in Papilionidae, Morpho, Parnassius, Etc. Special Morpho list includes females of M. rhetenor, M. godarti, M. insularis, M. titei, and M. adonis. Books, insect pins, moth lights. Catalog \$1.00 sent airmail. **TRANSWORLD BUTTERFLY COMPANY/ SL Apartado 6951, San Jose, Costa Rica.**

LEPIDOPTERISTS' EXPEDITIONS PROGRAM IN COSTA RICA: Just over 2 hours from Miami, Costa Rica, a country the size of West Virginia, has over 1500 species of butterflies. Collect, photograph or study lepidoptera. Fly direct from Miami, New Orleans, Houston, Los Angeles or New York. We obtain collecting and export permits. Reasonable rates including accommodations in Naturalist lodges in lowland, montane rain forest, and cloud forest locations, meals, transportation, local guide, field trips and more. \$.50 stamp for brochures. **TRANSWORLD BUTTERFLY COMPANY/SL Apartado 6951, San Jose, Costa Rica (TEL +506-284768, FAX +506-281573).**

WANTED: The following books: Butterflies of the West Coast by W.G. Wright; Monograph of the Genus Erebia by B.C. Warren; Birdwings of the World by D'Abrera. State price and condition to; Leroy C. Koehn, 2946 N.W. 91st Ave., Coral Springs, FL 33065.

FOR SALE: Light Traps, 12 volt DC or 110 volt AC with 15 watt or 8 watt black lights. The traps are portable and easy to use. Rain drains and beetles screens protect specimens from damage. For a free brochure and price list contact; Leroy C. Koehn, 2946 N.W. 91st Ave., Coral Springs, FL 33065.

CURRENT ZONE REPORTS

ZONE I TEXAS; Coordinator, Ed Knudson, 808 Woodstock, Bellaire, TX 77401

No report!!!

ZONE II ALABAMA, LOUISIANA, MISSISSIPPI, & TENNESSEE; Vernon Brou, 137 Jack Loyd Rd., Abita Springs, LA 70420; Bryant Mather 213 Mt. Salus Dr., Clinton, MS 39056; John Hyatt, 439 Forest Hills Dr., Kingsport, TN 37662.

Mather reported several new Mississippi STATE records; Chionodes fuscomaculella and Aristatelia rubidella, both are Gelechiids, taken at Vicksburg, Warren County, 4 May 1984. Also, Itame pustularia, a Geometrid, also taken at Vicksburg, Warren County, 25 May 1988 and determined by Dr. Fred Rindge. All were collected by Tom Wallenmaier. A 2nd Mississippi record and a new county record of Symmetrischema stratella, taken at Bovina, Warren County, 31 Dec. 1974

ZONE 111 GEORGIA; Irving Finkelstein, 425 Springdale Dr. N.E., Atlanta, GA 30305

Hermann Flaschka filed an extensive report of his collecting activities this past season, especially his Sesiidae collecting. It is too lengthy for inclusion in the news letter, however, some of the highlights were extracted and are reported below. Anyone wishing a complete copy of his report may obtain a copy by writing to: Hermann Flaschka, 2318 Hunting Valley Dr., Decatur, Georgia 30033, or the Editor, Leroy C. Koehn, 2946 N.W. 91st Avenue, Coral Springs, FL, 33065.

After Hermann's surgery in May, he slowly recovered his collecting ability and began to collect numbers of Sesiidae moths with Pheromone traps. He was extremely successful. Hermann collected Synanthedon pitipes, S.acerrubi, S.decipiens, S.fatifera, S.exitiosa, S.rubrofascia, S.rileyana, Podosesia syringae, Paranthrene asilipennis, P.simulans, Alcothoe caudata, A.carolinensis, Melittia cucurbitae, Vitacea scepiformis, and V.polistiformis.

ZONE IV FLORIDA; Dave Baggett, 403 Oleander Dr, Palatka, FL 32077

Koehn reported collecting in the Wakahatchee Strand Preserve with Slotten on September 9th and Stevens on 23rd and found outstanding collecting. He reported collecting 68 species of butterflies on the 9th and 57 species on the 23rd. Janes Scenic Drive, the road through Wakahatchee Strand was a virtual sea of insects. Thousands of Marpesia petreus, Basilarchia archippus floridensis, Papilio palamedes, Pterorouss troilus, P.glaucus, Danaus gilippus berenice, Danaus eresimus tethys, Anartia jatrophae quantanamo, Euphyes pilatka, Problema byssus, Phyciodes tharos, P.phaon, and P.frisia were found visiting the Bidens which were blooming in profusion along the edge of the road. Passing cars would create clouds of butterflies behind them as they would speed down the damp and dustless road. Dragon flies also filled the air overhead, there were so many that the rattle of their wings created a droning sound in the air. This condition quadrupled as the sun began to set and the noise of the dragon flies drowned out everything else. As dark approached the wasp moth, Cosmosoma myrodora was very common visiting Bidens, and at the UV lights that night was present by the hundreds. The fall web worm, Hyphantria cunea came by the tens of thousands. While attempting to collect other moths from the sheet, the fall web worm would get under your clothes and into your ears. Even taking a deep breath could result in inhaling several rather easily.

John Watts reported finding both Satyrodes appalachia and Achalarus lyciades at Manatee Springs State Park; both are generally uncommon in Florida and this represents a new locality.

Marc Minno reported Eurema nise, Chlorostymon simaethis, and Copaeodes minima from Elliot Key during survey work for the National Park Service. Richard Boscoe also reported C.minima from North Key Largo in early November; these represent the first records from the Keys for C.minima. I stress this information because collectors usually ignore common species in their reports, and here again is an example of the importance of such records!

Your coordinator found Amblyscirtes aesculapius at Sampson, St. John County on Sept. 10 for a new county record. Urbanus dorantes, Copaeodes minima, and Anartia jatrophae were taken in Palatka in his back yard, also new county records.

John Kutis, collecting along forest road M-11 in the Withlacoochee State Forest in Citrus County, reported new county records for Atrytone arogos and Amblyscirtes alternata on Sept. 24th. John Calhoun also found A.arogos near Chassabowitka in Citrus County on Sept. 29, missing the county record by 5 days! However, John Calhoun is definitely making his presence known, as we'll soon see....

Calhoun reported Problema byssus and Junonia evarete, Aug. 27, Pasco County; Polites baracoa, Sept. 2, south of Masaryktown, Pasco County; Anartia jatrophae and Polites baracoa, Sept. 17, Sumter County; Danaus eresimus, Sept. 28, Oldsmar, Pinellas County; he also found D.eresimus near Cosme, Hillsborough County on July 28. During our meeting at Talahassee, he scouted around on his own and did well with new records: Sept. 30, Blountstown, Pyrgus communis new Calhoun County record; Colias cesonia, Oct. 1, Athena, Taylor County, Anthanassa texana seminole, Oct. 1, along the Suwannee River, Dixie County, Anthanassa texana seminole, Satyrodes appalachia, and Colias cesonia Oct 1, along Suwannee River, Gilchrist County.... not a bad batch of new county records for a newcomer----ain't it easy, John?

Jeff Slotten and John Kutis reported Euphyes berryi, Poanes aaroni howardi, and Calephelis virginensis on Oct.7th along CR 314 in Marion County. Kutis also provided new county records for the following: Atrytone logan, Oct. 11, Sumter County; Urbanus dorantes Oct 11, Levy and Lake Counties (this species has been unusually common in northeastern Florida this season, as has been Anartia jatrophae, based on past observations); Anartia jatrophae, Oct. 22, Marion County.

Jeff Slotten provided a new county record for Tmolus azia, Sept. 10, Collier-Seminole State Park, Collier County, Leroy Koehn reported that F.azia was extremely abundant in south Florida in June and July, he found them in Broward County and both he and Charlie Stevens found them in Palm Beach County. The most surprising record and significant range extension for F.azia was reported by Wayne Miller of Kalamazoo, Michigan, he collected F.azia near New Port Richey, Pasco County while on a recent visit to Florida.

Jack Heinrich reported Electrostrymon angelia and Siproeta stelenes from Lee County.

Koehn visited North Key Largo on several occasions in September, October and November, and found collecting very poor for both butterflies and moths. Although conditions were ideal, very little was seen. He did find Chlorostrymon maesites on Nov. 2.

Koehn, Slotten, Minno, and Stevens all collected Neonympha areolatus near Florida City along Card Sound Rd. on Nov. 25. The locality was near a Naval Radar Station and Supply Depot. The small area in which they collected was outside the fence. Several acres of similar habitat were inside the fence. Koehn asked a young Captain who was in charge for permission to collect inside the fence. He explained the habitat was better and other species which inhabit it may as well be present. The Captain listened to the request very attentively, then responded that all the wildlife within the area of Navy control were protected as well as the habitat. In typical Navy fashion they protected the habitat by mowing it the next day.

Tom Neal reported collecting Atlides halesus, Mitoura gryneus swadneri, Calycopis cecrops, and Parrhasius m-album on the blooms of goldenrod in his yard in Gainesville, Sept. 15, 1989. On Sept. 20, he took an Erinnyis alope at a UV light in his carport. Tom's yard must have some magic to it, he is always finding something interesting.

Neal visited Torreya State Park, Liberty County, Sept. 23, 1989, and collected Feltia herilis for a new county record. The only previous record was in Kimball from Escambia County. Neal also reported rearing Cucullia alfarata on Haplopappus. The larva are quite common, however, the adults are rarely seen.

Charlie Stevens collected at Jonathan Dickenson State Park, Martin County, during late October and early November and found; Electrostrymon angelia, Atrytonopsis loami, Hesperia attalus, and Euphyes pilatka.

Wayne Miller and Lee Adair visited the Homestead/Florida City area of Dade County and found some excellent sphingid collecting; Pseudosphinx tetrio, Eumorpha labruscae, Eumorpha vitis and Cocytius antaesus.

ZONE V VIRGINIA, NORTH & SOUTH CAROLINA; John Coffman, Rt. 1 Box 331, Timberville, VA 22853; Bob Cavanaugh, P.O. Box 734, Morehead City, N.C. 28557, Ron Gatrell, 126 Wells rd., Goose Creek, S.C. 29445.

Leroy Koehn returned to his old stamping grounds in Virginia for a visit in late July. Poverty Hollow and Graig's Creek Branch were good to him, again. He collected a melanic Speyeria diana female near Fox Fire on July 30. Near Caldwell Fields he found Erynnis baptisiae, Erynnis martialis, and Polygonia progne. There was a great abundance of swallowtails and fritillaries, but most noticeable was the large numbers of Polygonia species. Lighting for moths produced many Catocala moths which are yet to be determined.

Ron Gatrell reported that the 1989 season in South Carolina was again dry, following last years drought. Butterflies were down again in numbers with many common species being rare or absent.

Gatrell reported the following from South Carolina;

March 18, Berkeley County, Summerville area. Erynnis brizo and Calycopis cecrops were taken. At Edisto Beach, Edisto Island, Colleton County he found Anthrocharis widea widea. Gatrell commented that this species is nearing extinction on Edisto Island due to development. He also found numerous pupae of Megathymus yuccae.

April 4, Berkeley County, near Goose Creek at St. James Estates, he collected Insicalia irus arsace. Gatrell noted that Insicalia irus arsace host plant, Baptisia tinctoria, is very abundant while the insect is very rare. This may be the result of frequent brush fires that burn the area every year or so.

April 17 & 27, Aiken County, near Aiken State Park he found Mitoura hesseli. The species was very common. He obtained ova from females and reared them in sleeves on White Cedar in his yard. The 4th instar larva were bright green matching the color of host plant. The chevrons were light yellowish green and clubbed at the dorsal end. Most larvae were struck with a virus and died prior to pupation. However, several survived and pupated. (cont. Pg#45)

These emerged on June 24th, two were very large and dark females. This is the first reported rearing of the southern population of M. hesseli. He had previously reared the more northern North Carolina population on several occasions in the early 1970's.

May 25, Berkeley County, near Goose Creek he found Achalarus lyciades, Poanes yehl, Atrytone logan, Wallengrenia otho, and Pompeius verna. Skippers were down in numbers from previous years. Near Pimlico, Poanes yehl were extremely abundant this year, he also found Eupheys dion alabamae, Oligoria maculata, and Wallengrenia otho.

May 27, Charleston County, Mt. Pleasant area. Gatrell collected with Ernie Primmer. The famous Satyrium spot had been burned, few hairstreaks were seen, they did find Satyrium kingi, S. calanus, Parrhasius m-album, Atlides halesus, and Euristrymon favonius. Near Pimlico in Berkeley County they collected Poanes yehl, Eupheys dion alabamae, and Polites origenes. At Westvaco Park, Jacksonboro, Colleton County, they collected Satyrodes appalachia for a new county record. They also found Enodia creola, Enodia portlandia, Cylopsis gemma, Megisto cymela (2nd brood, or late emergence of M. cymela viola), Asterocampa clyton and A. celtis alicia. At the Savannah River Wildlife Refuge, Jasper County, they found Problema bulenta.

June 2 & 3, Gatrell collected the same areas again with Jeff Slotten At the Savannah River Wildlife Refuge, Jasper County, they found Poanes viator zizaniae, and Problema bulenta. At Westvaco Park, Jonesboro, Colleton County, they found nothing to be very poor and Catocala moths were way down in numbers with only Catocala alabamae and C. ultronia taken.

July 30, Greenville County, Glassy Mtn., Gatrell collected Enodia anhedon for a new county record. He also found Polygonia comma, Pterourus glaucus, Pterourus troilus, and Calycopsis cecrops.

August 5, Colleton County, Jacksonboro, Westvaco Park, Gatrell collected Anathanassa texana seminole for a new county record.

August 17, Berkeley County, near Goose Creek, Gatrell found Celastrina ladon, they were very large and almost white on the underside. He also collected a Catocala vidua.

Gatrell reported that the collecting season in the mountains of North Carolina was affected by heavy rains. This delayed the season and the weather remained cool. Collecting was very poor; this may have been the effect of the 1988 drought.

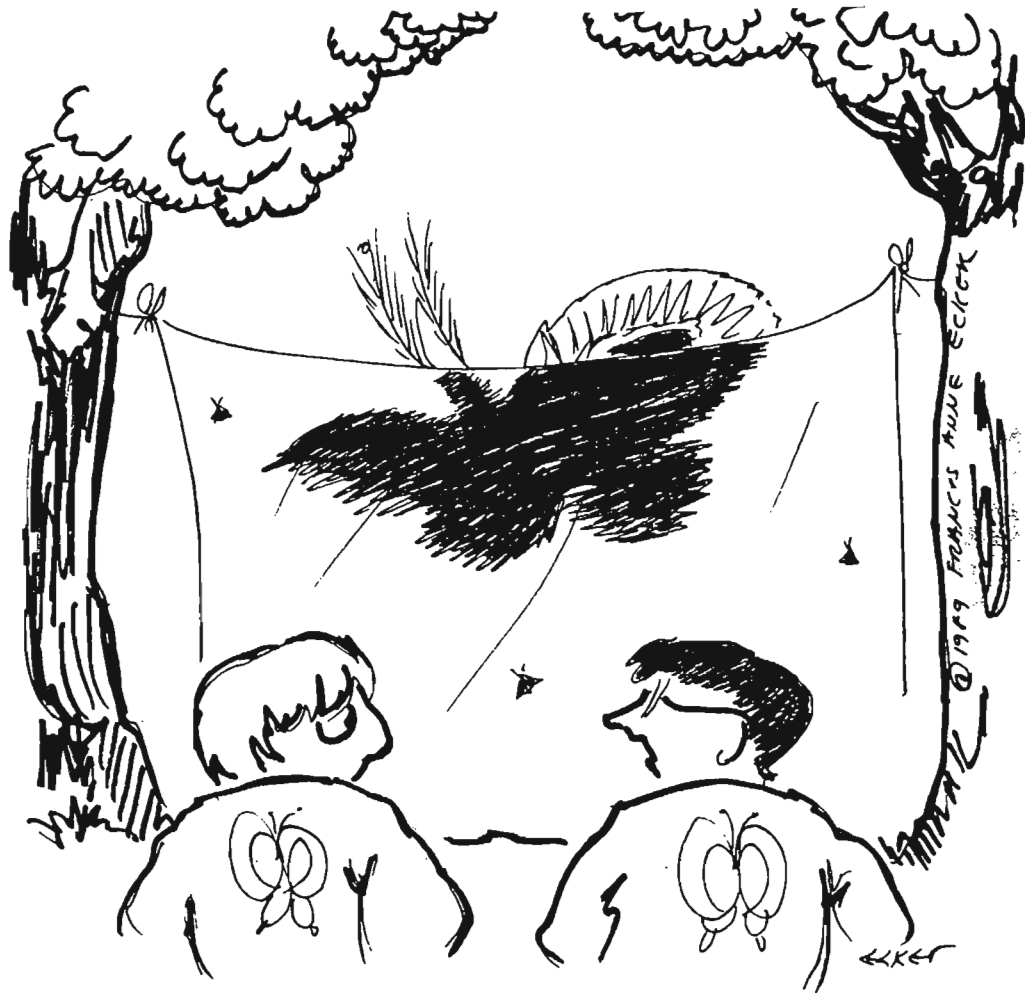
July 7, 8, & 9, Macon County, Jones Knob area, Gatrell took Speyeria diana for a new county record. He also found Speyeria cybele, S. aphrodite, Satyrium falacer, Charidryas nycteis, Celastrina ladon, Polygonia faunus smythi, P. comma, and Amblyscirtes vialis. Gatrell returned on July 29, and found Polygonia faunus smythi, Cercyonis pegala carolina, Pterourus glaucus, P. troilus, Battus philenor, Celastrina ladon, Eupheys ruricola metacomet, and Wallengrenia egremet.

CATOCALA CAPERS

DR. FRANCIS ANNE ECKER



All of us who have ever collected moths at a sheet have experienced seeing the shadow of the moth on the opposite side. We generally hurry to the other side to satisfy our curiosity and see what it is. This little cartoon by Dr. Ecker and Jeff Slotten seemed very real to your Editor.



You Go look.

The SOUTHERN LEPIDOPTERISTS' NEWSLETTER
c/o The Editor, Leroy C. Koehn
2946 N.W. 91st Avenue
Coral Springs, FL 33065



Jacqueline Y. Miller
Allyn Mus. of Ent., FSM, 3621 Bay Shore Rd.
Sarasota
FL 34234