southern lepidopterists' news

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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: JEFFREY SLOTTEN

SECRETARY-TREASURER: TOM NEAL

EDITOR: LEROY C. KOEHN

1990 SPRING FIELD MEETING IN THE LOWER FLORIDA KEYS

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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.

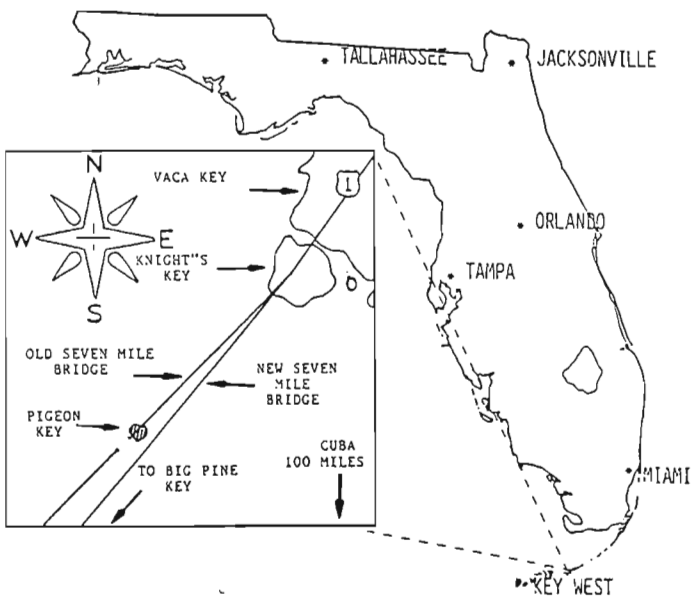

Fig.#1

Fig.#2

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 floridalis, Panoquina panoquinoides, Polygonus leo, Hesperia meskei, and Euphyes pilatka klotsi, 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.

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 lanes 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 Leps' 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. A word of caution: the Old Seven Mile Bridge traffic is restricted to Pigeon Key; it is heavily used by fishermen, even at night. Please drive carefully.

Due to the limited accommodations at Pigeon Key, you must make a reservation before May 5, 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 May 5, 1990.

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

NOTES ON THE HISTORICAL OCCURRENCE OF NATHALIS IOLE IN FLORIDA

JOHN V. CALHOUN

Kimball (1965) discussed the apparent lack of older Nathalis iole records from Florida and suggested that "perhaps the species began to establish itself (in Florida) during the late 1920's". The late Harry K. Clench, former curator of insects at the Carnegie Museum of Natural History, studied the spread of N.iole into the southeastern United States and the Bahamas (Clench, 1976). He was aware of no earlier report of N.iole in Florida than Grossbeck (1917) who listed a capture on Big Pine key, 20 September 1913. The oldest Florida specimen he found in the Carnegie Museum collection was captured in 1921 at Dunedin, Pinellas County. Clench concluded "the fairly extensive information is all consistent with an hypothesis that Nathalis iole was formerly absent from Florida, and that it invaded the southern part of the State, probably from Cuba, sometime before 1913...It established itself and gradually extended it's range northward. By 1920 it had reached Jupiter on the east coast, by 1921 the Tampa area (Dunedin) on the west coast...". Unfortunately, Clench overlooked one literature reference which suggest that N.iole had already established itself as far north as Sarasota and Pinellas County at about the time he believed the species first invaded the State of Florida.

Willis S. Blatchley (1859-1940), an outstanding naturalist from Indiana, traveled extensively and collected insects throughout Florida. In one of his books, entitled "In Days Agone" (Blatchley, 1932), he chronicled his Florida adventures. The entry for Thursday, February 9, 1911), relates his visit to an area "on the bay front about a mile and a half north of Sarasota". He noted that along a sandy road "butterflies were frequent, among them... the dwarf yellow, Nathalis iole Bdv.". He added that the species begins to appear in February and becomes abundant in March and April. His remarks concerning the abundance of N.iole during several months of the year implies that he had encountered the species even before 1911. In a similar book, entitled "My Nature Book" (Blatchley, 1931), his entries for Sunday, December 2, 1917 and Sunday, April 11, 1920 mention the occurrence of N.iole at Dunedin. This obscure record suggests that N.iole became established in Florida much earlier than previously believed. This small species may have occurred in localized populations and was generally overlooked until it became more widespread and ubiquitous.

Before these records can be accepted or rejected, several points must be addressed. It is possible that Blatchley confused N.iole with Eurema daira or even Eurema lisa. He may have simply identified all small yellow butterflies he encountered as N.iole. This hypothesis is supported by the fact that Blatchley never mentioned E.daira or E.lisa by name in these books. However, Blatchley was a competent entomologist of the period who was familiar with butterflies. He received his M.A. degree from Indiana University in 1891 with his thesis "Butterflies of Indiana" which was published in 1892 (Blatchley, 1892). Moreover, the N.iole record from Dunedin that Clench examined in the Carnegie Museum is a male specimen collected by Blatchley on 3 April 1921. Therefore, a general mis-determination seems less likely.

When evaluating literature records, it is frequently difficult to separate probable valid records from those that must be discounted. Facts about the author/collector should be examined as closely as those about the species concerned. As the late Alexander B. Klots once said, sometimes judgement must be based "as much on the knowledge about the source of the record as on the butterflies themselves". Although we cannot definitely accept or reject Blatchley's records, they should not be ignored. To help resolve this perplexing matter, the insect collection of Purdue University, where most of Blatchley's large personal collection was donated, should be examined for existence of early Florida specimens of N.iole.

LITERATURE CITED

Blatchley, W.S. 1892. A catalogue of the butterflies known to occur in Indiana. In: The 17th Ann. Rpt. of the Dept. of Geology and Nat. Res. of Indiana. 365-408

Blatchley, W.S. 1931. My Nature Book or notes on the natural history of the vicinity of Dunedin, Florida. The Nature Publishing Co., Indianapolis. 302 p.

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Clench, H.K. 1976. Nathalis iole (Pieridae) in the southeastern United States and the Bahamas. J. Lepid. Soc. 30(2):121-126.

Grossbeck, S.A. 1917. Insects of Florida IV. Lepidoptera. Bull. Amer. Mus. Nat. His. 37:1-147.

Kimball, C.P. 1965. The Lepidoptera of Florida, an annotated checklist. Florida Dept. of Agr., Gainesville. 363 p.

LYME DISEASE — VERNON A. BROU JR.

Lyme disease usually is first noticed as a characteristic red circular skin lesion. It may develop multiple secondary lesions, blotches, cheek rash, skin rash, conjunctivitis and swelling around the eye. It may be accompanied by malaise and fatigue, fever, chills, headache, and can affect lymph nodes. Other possible intermittent and changing symptoms occurring over several weeks include: irritation to brain and spinal cord membranes, degenerative brain disease, spleen enlargement, sore throat, cough, testicular swelling, and facial palsy.

Migratory polyarthritis affecting tendons, bones, and muscles may occur. There are numerous neurologic and cardiac abnormalities, some of which occur weeks to months after initial manifestation. Arthritis, the most common manifestation may occur weeks to years later and last longer. Occasionally, erosion of cartilage and bones may occurs.

Lyme disease is caused by a spirochete. (Syphilis is another well known disease caused by spirochete.) The Lyme spirochete was first identified only in 1982, genus Borreliae . It can be found in skin, blood, and cerebrospinal fluid of those infected.

Originally observed at Old Lyme, Connecticut in 1975, the disease seemed to occur initially in the northeast, Midwest, and Pacific Coast states, but cases have now appeared across the entire nation. Known tick vectors include Ixodes dammini, I.pacificus and many more, through transstadial transmission. Deer and rodents apparently help maintain the disease cycle. The spirochete had been found in other tick species in Europe and Australia. Onset of the illness is most prevalent between May and November, especially June and July. The incubation period is 3-32 days.

Treatment is by antibiotic therapy for 10-20 days. The drug of choice is tetracycline for those > 9 years of age and for early treatment. Penicillin and erythromycin can also be used. Late stage treatment may require high-dose intravenous penicillin.

There is no evidence of person to person transmission. The age range of recorded cases is 2-88 years. Reinfection can occur.

PARASITES OF SPEYERIA DIANA — HERMANN FLASCHKA

Many species of nymphalids diapause as first or second instar larva. The over wintering larvae then emerge from diapause in the spring to complete their cycle to adults. This type of diapause can cause many problems for the lepidopterists who enjoy rearing. These problems were resolved with the application of continuous light and warm and humid conditions to break diapause.

This method changed my rearing procedures. In the fall of 1980 I reared some Speyeria diana by breaking diapause and rearing them indoors in plastic shoe boxes. I was very surprised when several parasites emerged from the pupae.

I sent the parasites to the USDA Research Center, Beltville, MD. D. Wilder graciously identified them for me. They were all Tachinidae; one species was Parachaeta fusca Townsend, the other was only identified to the Genus of Eusisyropa.

In the fall of 1987, I again reared a brood of Speyeria diana. These produced more parasites. Scott Sherman of the University of Hampshire determined them to the Genus only, Hyphantrophaga Townsend. I learned that this family of parasites lay very small eggs known as "Microtype". These eggs are laid in large numbers on the leaves of the plant and ingested by the larva feeding on the plant. This explained how the well protected larva of Speyeria diana were parasitized.

The extent of this type of parasitism is little known. However, from a brood of 40 chrysalides that Irving Finkelstein (Pers.Comm.) reared, 8 produced Hyphantrophaga . I also reared 60 individuals to pupae, and only 3 produced Hyphantrophaga. The host plants were gather from several localities many miles apart.

In P.H. Arnaud's "A Host-Parasite Catalog of North America", Speyeria cybele is the only Speyeria species listed as a host of Hyphantrophaga.

LITERATURE CITED

Arnaud, Jr., P.H. 1978. A Host Parasite Catalog of North America. USDA Science & Administration Publication, Washington, D.C.

BOOK REVIEW — JOHN V. CALHOUN

Florida Butterflies by Eugene J. Gerberg & Ross H. Arnett, Jr., Natural Science Publication, Inc. $9.95

This book is the first publication in many years to treat the entire butterfly and skipper fauna of Florida. As such, it will pique the interest of many lepidopterists who hold a particular fascination with the many species occurring in the "Sunshine State".

The two primary objectives of this publication, as stated in the introduction, are to provide, 1) A book "for those who have just now noticed the beauty of butterflies" and, 2) a "handy guide for the initiated naturalist who wishes a complete record of the butterflies that live in Florida". How well these objectives are fulfilled is the subject of this review.

The book includes a rather lengthy introductory section, dealing with such subjects as the butterfly life cycle, migration and strays, butterfly habitats, conservation and butterfly names. A section entitled "Butterfly Walks" reminds the reader that collecting is not the only way to enjoy butterflies and simply observing insects can be very rewarding. Additional data concerning butterfly rearing, collecting, preservation of specimens, exchanging and a checklist of the species recorded from Florida are presented at the rear of the book. An annotated list of books and magazines, societies, and a list of entomological supply companies are also provided. The information contained in these sections is basic, but interesting and quite readable.

The remainder of the book is devoted to the species discussions. Each species discussion includes a short description of the adult butterfly, and abbreviated information on habitat, flight periods, host plants and distribution in Florida. Although brief, each discussion provides the beginner with enough information to better understand each species. However, those already familiar with the butterflies of Florida crave more data and will find the lack of detail frustrating.

Unfortunately, the skippers almost seem to have been included as an afterthought. A total of fiftyfour pages are devoted to the species discussion, less than six of these pages are allocated to the skippers. This is disappointing, especially since the skippers comprise nearly 40% of the insects treated. The authors remark that "if you get interested in these insects you will need another book to identify them to species". Perhaps an opportunity to provide the first fair treatment of this group in Florida has been missed.

Each species (with the exception of most skippers) is accompanied by a color photograph of a mounted specimen of the adult. Several species are illstrated with split photographs which depicts both dorsal and ventral surfaces of the wings.

The photographs are of high quality but there are some problems associated with them that must be addressed.

Firstly, the specimens in the photographs are on a black back ground. Dark species practically disappear into the background. As a result, the photograph of Papilio androgeus and Heliconius charitonius tuckeri are difficult to interpret and the outer margins of the wings are nearly invisible. Secondly, the split photographs of Fixsenia favonius favonius actually depicts two separate species: Fixsenia favonius favonius (Dorsal view) and Strymon melinus melinus (ventral view). This error is unfortunate since the ventral surface of Fixsenia favonius favonius is striking and definitive. Lastly, the sex of each specimen used in the photographs was not stated. This could be very frustrating for someone attempting to use this book to identify species with dis-similar sexes. These problems may serve to confuse the beginner and disappoint the more learned lepidopterists.

In view of these and other positive and negative aspects, the final question remains to be answered: How well has this publication fulfilled its two objectives? The introductory material, brief species discussion and the color photographs provide those "who have just now noticed the beauty of butterflies: an interesting glimpse into the realm of Florida butterflies". However, a number of inadequacies, including brief species discussion, problems with the photographs and the lack of detailed data (especially concerning skippers), causes this book to fall short "as a handy guide for the initiated naturalist who wishes a complete record of the butterflies that live in Florida".

This publication, although not "a complete record" does contain information useful to both the novice and serious student and deserves a place on the shelves of all who are interested in the lepidoptera of Florida.

TREASURERS REPORT FOR 1989 — TOM NEAL

	Beginning Balance	Bank Charges	Award Expenses	Meeting Expenses	Postage	Printing	Bank Deposits	Ending Balance
JAN	$181.51	$2.00						$179.51
FEB	179.51	2.15				137.12	135.00	175.24
MAR	175.24	2.30		124.38			600.00	648.56
APR	648.56							648.56
MAY	648.56	2.00					336.00	982.56
JUN	982.56							982.56
JUL	982.56						56.00	1038.56
AUG	1038.56							1038.56
SEP	1038.56				40.00	112.89		885.67
OCT	885.67			192.84				692.83
NOV	692.83						408.00	1100.83
DEC	1100.83			40.23	179.53	313.12	567.95	
TOTALS		8.45		357.45	219.53	563.13	1535.00	

Total expenses $1148.56
Total income 1535.00

Surplus for year 386.44

Please note: Postage & printing costs listed for December are deferred from January and April. The Treasurer assumed these expenses until funds were available in the treasury

Ending Balance as of Dec. 31, 1989....$567.95

Tom Neal
Secretary/Treasurer

MORE ON THE FALL MEETING AT TALL TIMBERS — LEROY C. KOEHN

Due to a limited amount of space in the last issue, the photographs from the last meeting were omitted. They are figured here for your enjoyment. Jeff Slotten provided the behind the camera work, and his excellent photographs are always a pleasure to illustrate.

(Fig.#1) From left to right: Dave Baggett, Dale Habeck, Jack Heinrich, Woody Dow (Hiding behind Debby Matthews), Debby Matthews, Andy Anderson, Hermann Flaschka, Irving Finkelstein, Leroy Koehn, Kilian Roever, John Calhoun, Tom Neal, Charlie Stevens, Gina Brown, John Kutis, Marc and Maria Minno and daughter, Angie. Jeff Slotten is behind the camera.

Fig.#1

(Fig.#2) Its 6:30AM, the moth enthusiasts gather around the table to sort and mount their catch. Killing jars, spreading boards, flashlights, and all sorts of "bug" paraphernalia cover the table. Dave Baggett, Andy Anderson, Lee Adair, Charlie Stevens and John Kutis search for choice catches.

Fig.#2

(Fig.#3) Your Editor has attended many field meetings over the years and has always been amazed at the strange things we lepidopterists do. If the USDA, EPA or a Leon County health inspector opened the refrigerator door at Tall Timbers, what he would have found would have caused someone to receive a citation, gone to jail, or prove to be an exceptionally good talker. Upon opening the refrigerator door, (Fig.#3), between Homogenized Vitamin D Milk, ziplock bags of host plant and cans soda of pop, there is a killing jar, cyanide no less. Lunch anyone!!

Fig.#3

Don't miss the next meeting in the Keys, it will be fun!!!

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

SOUTHERN LEPIDOPTERISTS' SOCIETY MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

1990 SUMMER FIELD MEETING AT CLEMSON, SOUTH CAROLINA

A summer field meeting will be held at the Clemson University Forest near Clemson, South Carolina. Charlie Watson will host the meeting the week end of July 27, 28, & 29. An opportunity to view the Clemson University collection of lepidoptera will be available late Friday afternoon, July 27. Lighting for moths will be available in the Clemson Forest that night.

We will meet at 8:30AM Saturday morning, July 28 at the Wildcat Creek Picnic Shelter in the Clemson Forest. Collecting parties will be formed for all day collecting. A cookout will follow the days collecting activities, followed by lighting for moths. Sundays collecting activities will again be in the Clemson Forest. For directions to the meeting, see the maps below (Fig.#1).

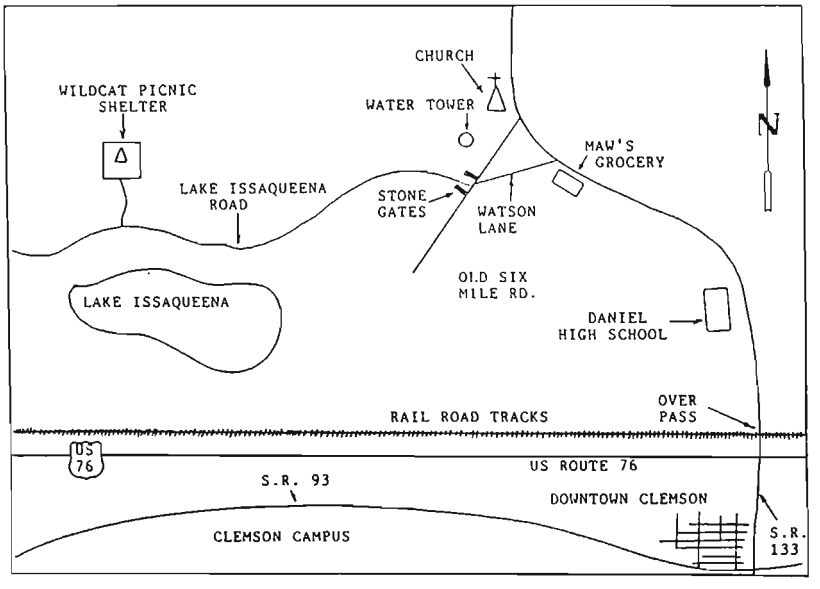

Fig.#1

From down town Clemson follow State Route 133 north, over the railroad overpass, past Daniel High School, to Maw's Grocery, approximately 3.7 miles. 100 yards past Maw' Grocery turn left on Watson Lane. Follow Watson Lane through the Stone gates onto a Lake Issaqueena Rd. which is a dirt road for 2 miles to Wildcat Creek and the pinic area. Look for the Southern Lep. Logo signs to guide you.

Clemson is located in the northwestern corner of South Carolina at the edge of the Piedmont, within sight of the Blue Ridge Escarpment. The elevations in this area range from 600 - 800 feet. The town is quite small and the University has an enrollment of around 13,000. The area is surrounded by 17,500 acre Clemson Experimental Forest which contains a variety of habitats. The butterfly fauna is diverse and includes species typical of the southern Appalachians (Speyeria diana, Pieris virginiensis, Amblyscirtes hegon and Lethe anthedon.) and others more often associated with the Coastal Plain (Euphyes dion, Poanes yehl, Lethe creola, Lethe portlandia, and Amblyscirtes reversa). Six of the seven species of Amblyscrites in the eastern United States have been taken in the Wildcat Creek area. Four of these (A.aesculapius, A.celia belli, A.reversa, and A.vialis) should be on the wing in late July. The moth fauna is more likely to contain a similar mix of "northern" and "southern" species. The Chatooga River, Sumter National Forest and Oconee State Park offer additional collecting possibilities and are within an hours drive of Clemson.

There are numerous motels and campground around Clemson. For additional information contact Charlie Watson, telephone (Home) 803-653-7102 or (Work) 803-656-0428.

This should be an outstanding opportunity to collect those hard to get Amblyscirtes. See you there!!

1990 ANNUAL MEETING AT THE ARCHBOLD BIOLOGICAL STATION

The 1990 annual meeting will be held the weekend of October 12,13 & 14 at the Archbold Biological Station near Lake Placid, Florida. More information will appear in the next news letter. Mark your calender and make your plans to attend.

1991 FIELD MEETING TO COSTA RICA

The 1991 Southern Lepidopterists' field meeting will be held in Costa Rica, June 9 through June 15. The Holbrook Travel agency of Gainesville, Florida will be handling the arrangements. We will be staying at Selva Verde Lodge in the Atlantic lowlands of northeastern Costa Rica. The lodge is located on a large tract of virgin tropical rain forest and rich second growth habitats. The dates of the meeting coincide with the dark of the moon and should provide outstanding moth collecting.

The cost will be determined before September 15, 1990, and will include airfare from Miami, Florida and all lodging, meals and ground transportation in Costa Rica. To make a reservation a $50.00 deposit is required. The deposit will be applied to your cost. For more information and to make your reservation, contact: Leroy C. Koehn, 2946 NW 91st Ave., Coral Springs, FL 33065 (305) 344-3873 evening after 6 PM. Make checks payable to the Southern Lepidopterists' Society. Don't miss this opportunity to collect in rain forests of Costa Rica.

THE LEPIDOPTERISTS' SOCIETY 41ST ANNUAL MEETING

The 41st Annual meeting of The Lepidopterists' Society will be held at the Milwaukee Public Museum, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Thursday, June 14 to Sunday, June 17, 1990. For additional information and registration, contact: Dr. Allen Young or Susan Borkin, Invertebrate Zoology Section, Milwaukee Public Museum, 800 Wells St., Milwaukee, WI 53233 Phone:(414) 278-2758, Fax:(414) 223-1396.

ABBOTT AWARD TO THOMAS C.EMMEL — JEFFREY SLOTTEN

The ballots have been tabulated and this years Abbott Award recipient is Tom Emmel of the University of Florida. Tom will be present with the award at the spring feild meeting at Pegion Key this May. Congratulations on a job well done.

CHANGES IN THE MEMBERSHIP — TOM NEAL

NEW MEMBERS

Eve Dingus, 69 Glenway Place, Brandon, MS 39042

Ken Hansen, 3348 Edgewood Rd., Eureka, CA 95501

Rick Miramon, 2639 N. Johnson, New Orleans, LA 70117

Ms. Tory Vornholt, 4306 Edgewater Dr., Kennesaw, GA 30144

ADDRESS CHANGES

David Liebman, 981 S. Quail St., Norfolk, VA 23513

Stephen M. Mix, 4033 Glouchester Rd., Rocky Mount, NC 27804

John Peacock, 51 Mill Pond Rd., Hamden, CT 06514

Steve Roman, 11224 Georgia Ave. N., Champlin, MN 55316

Harry Pavulaan, P.O. Box 2494, Rockville, MD 20847 (new zip code)

Michael Lefort, Rt.#1 Box 31A, Galliano, LA 70354 (Correct State)

THIS-N-THAT & OTHER TIDBITS

The Idalia Society of the Mid-American Lepidopterists' has been formed. This new organization had its first formal meeting on December 2, 1989, in Kansas City. MO. The first president is Richard Heitzman of Independence, MO, secretary is Suzette Slocumb and Treasurer is Steve Kinder, both of kansas City, MO. Dues were set at $5.00 per year per family unit or $2.00 for children under 16 who's families are not members. Dues can be sent to Treasurer Steve Kinder, 11123 McGee, Kansas City, MO 64114.

Irving Finkelstein, our zone coordinator from Georgia recently underwent emergency surgery of the lower intestines. He is currently recovering at home in front of spreading boards and papered specimens. We wish him a rapid recovery. Just in time for the season!!

Col. Clyde Gillette, Editor of Utahensis - A Lepidopterists' Journal, invites anyone with an interest to subscribe to the Journal. A real bargain at $10.00 per volume. For further information contact: Col. Clyde Gillette, 3419 El Serrito Dr., Salt Lake City, UT 84109.

A new book from the Young Entomologists' Society is available: BUGGY BOOKS: A GUIDE TO JUVENILE AND POPULAR BOOKS ON INSECTS AND THEIR RELATIVES, by Gary A. Dunn. This unique reference provides information on 736 of the most significant "bug books" written for youth. This guide is available to teachers, parents, naturalists, librarians and entomologists, and includes titles, authors, publishers, dates, number of pages and illustrations. ISBN, price, age appropriateness, contents and quality/usefulness rating. Titles cross referenced by subjects, age appropriateness and authors. Price is $12.95 plus $2.00 shipping and handling to: Young Entomologists' Society, 1915 Peggy Place, Lansing, MI 48910-2553.

NEWSLETTER UP-DATE

The deadline for the next issue of the newsletter is June 15th. All articles and zone reports must be in the hands of the Editor for inclusion in No. 2.

We need articles and items of interest to lepidopterists for the Newsletter. We need your support to continue to have an informative and interesting newsletter. This newsletter is only as good as YOU make it. Your input is an essential ingredient for success.

RESEARCH REQUEST & MEMBERS NOTICES

WANTED TO PHOTOGRAPH FOR BOOK: Live ova/larva/pupa of lepidoptera from other areas. Most wanted: Papilios, Parnassius, Pierids, Nymphalids: (Frittilaries, Esp. S.diana, & S.idalia, Anaea sp., Basilarchia sp. A.brodowii, H.misippus, A.jatrophae, Polygonia sp., and Eunica.) Lycaenids, Heliconiids and Sphinx moths, Thysania zenobia, Ascalaphan odorata, Saturniids and more, live Brown Recluse Spider and other interesting insects. Buy, trade specimens or slides. Send your list to: David Liebman, 981 S.Quail St., Norfolk, VA 23513, phone 804-853-4722.

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 beetle 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.

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.

CURRENT ZONE REPORTS

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

For Knudson, the collecting season started Feb. 13, at Double Lake, San Jacinto County. Baiting was successful with about 15 species taken, including a possible new state record, Eupsilia vinulenta. Ceratonyx satanaria, and Eupithecia peckorum were taken at light.

Knudson returned to Double Lake on Feb. 25. Baiting was again successful, with 28 species recorded. Species taken included: Agonopteris sp. prob. clemensella, Dichomeris vacciniella, Euchlaena pectinaria, Cissusa spadix, Zale minerea, Z.confusa, and Acronicta noctivaga. Elaphria georgei was common at light.

Knudson and Rickard collected at Red Hills Lake, Sabine County on March 10 & 11 and they found Amblyscirtes hegon to be very abundant, however, this was not the case in similar areas in Sabine and St. Augustine Counties. On the wing in various localities in Sabine and St. Augustine Counties were: Graphium marcellus, Falcapica midea, Incisalia niphon and Incisalia irus hadrus. Knudson also collected the following moths: Homosetia argentinotella, Menesta melanella, Venusia comptaria (NEW STATE RECORD), Hydria prunivorata, Eupithecia matheri, Zale phaeocapna, Z.helata, Z.metatoides?, Nola triquetrana, Cerma cora, Acronicta clarescens, and Ulolonche culea. Baiting at Red Hills Lake was dismal with only a few Zale seen.

ZONE II ALABAMA, LOUISIANA, MISSISSIPPI, & TENNESSEE: Vernon Brou, 74320 Jack Loyd Rd., Abita Springs, LA 70420; Bryant Mather 213 Mt. Salus Dr., Clinton, MS 39056; Mecky Furr, 7925 Cross Pike, Germantown, TN 38138.

Michael Lefort reported that the "Big Freeze" of December 23, 1989, sent the temperature down to 9 degrees Fahrenheit, a new record low. This is the lowest temperature recorded in Lafounde Parish, LA, this century. However, one month after the freeze, several specimens of Automeris louisiana were collected at UV lights near Leesville, LA on January 21 & 22, 1990 by Mr. & Mrs. Hilton Gaspard. This locality is 5 miles south of the type locality of Golden Meadow, LA. Some individuals were worn, others were fresh.

ZONE III GEORGIA: Irving Finkelstein, 425 Springdale Dr. N.E., Atlanta, GA 30305

No report.... Irving claims that lepidoptera do not fly in the winter!!

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

Leroy Koehn reported that the "Big Freeze" which hit south Florida December 23,24 & 25 did extensive damage to much of the winter vegetable crop and many tropical plants. By the second week of January, 1990, most of south Florida looked like the Fall Season in Ohio. Many trees had lost their leaves or the dead leaves were still on the trees.

Although butterflies and moths were down in numbers immediately after the big freeze, by the end of January things were back to normal. On January 29, Leroy Koehn collected near Frog City on US 41 and collected Euphyes pilatka, E.berryi, Polites baracoa, and Calephelis virginiensis.

Koehn visited the Fakahatchee Strand State Preserve, Collier County on March 1 and found Pterourus palamedes, Pterourus troilus ilioneus, Phoebis sennae eubule, Pyrisitia lisa, Junonia evarete genoveva, Oligoria maculata, Euphyes pilatka, Euphyes berryi, Euphyes arpa, Euphyes ruricola metacomet, Erynnis horatius, Pyrgus oileus, Wallengrenia otho, Polites vibex, Staphylus hayhurstii, and the day flying moth Syntomeida ipomoeae. The night was rather cool with the temperature dropping to 64 degrees F. Moth collecting was excellent early but became very poor as the temperature fell. He managed to collect Eumorpha lubrucsae, Isoparce cupressi, Pachylia ficus and Holomelina laeta.

Koehn visited Jonathan Dickinson State Park, Martin County on March 10 and found Battus polydamus, Eurytides marcellus, Papilio polyxenes, Pterourus palamedes, Pontia protodice, Ascia monuste, Phoebis sennea eubule, Pyrisitia lisa, Colias cesonia, Eurema daira, Heliconius charitonius tuckeri, Agraulis vanillae nigrior, Calycopis cecrops, Hemiargus ceraunus, Calephelis virginiensis, Urbanus proteus, Thorybes pylades, Erynnis horatius, Atrytone arogos, Atrytonopsis loammi, Atrytone logan, Asbolis capucinus, Lerodea eufala, Polites vibex, Wallegrenia otho, Oligora maculata, and Polites baracoa.

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 Gatrelle, 126 Wells rd., Goose Creek, S.C. 29445.

ZONE VI ARKANSAS; Mack Shotts, MD, 514 W. Main St., Paragould, AR 72450.

We welcome Dr. Schotts as the Zone Coordinator for Arkansas. We look forward to his reports.

CATOCALA CAPERS DR. FRANCES ANN ECKER

CATOCALA CAPERS by ECKER

1990 DUES NOTICE AND QUESTIONNAIRE REQUEST

You received your dues notice with the last issue of the newsletter and they are due now. The dues for 1990 are $10.00. All members whose dues are in arrears as of May 31, 1990 will be removed from the membership and will no longer receive the newsletter. Mail in your dues today.

Along with your dues notice, you received a questionnaire. The questionnaire is gauge to measure the interest and the needs of our membership. The officers can then provide the direction for the Society that best meets the needs and interest of the membership. Please take the time to thoughtfully answer each question and return the question with your 1990 dues. Make all checks and money orders payable to the Southern Lepidopterists' Society. Mail your dues and questionnaire to the Treasurer, Tom Neal, 3820 N.W. 16th Place, Gainesville, FL 32605.

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The Southern Lepidopterists' News is published four times annually. Membership dues are $10.00 annually. The organization is open to anyone with an interest in the lepidoptera of the southern United States. Information about the Society may be obtained from the Secretary-Treasurer, Tom Neal, 3820 N.W. 16th Place, Gainesville, Florida 32605

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The SOUTHERN LEPIDOPTERISTS' NEWSLETTER
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