

Southern Lepidopterists' **NEWS**

EST. 1978

Official Newsletter of the Southern Lepidopterists' Society

VOL: 22 NO. 2

JULY 31, 2000

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

LEROY C. KOEHN: EDITOR

2000 ANNUAL MEETING AT TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS 23 & 24 SEPTEMBER 2000

The 2000 Annual Meeting of the Southern Lepidopterists Society will be held at Texas A&M University in College Station, Texas, the weekend of 23 & 24 September 2000. The meeting will begin Saturday morning at 10:00 AM at the Minnie Heep Building on the 2nd floor with coffee and conversation. (see map below for direction the Minnie Heep Building ,then follow the Southern Lepidopterist Logo Signs to the meeting room.) This will give those attending an opportunity to met other members, old friends and make some new friends. The Texas A&M collection will be open for viewing and for identifying UFO's. If you have specimens from Texas that you want identified, both the collection and some of Texas finest Lepidopterists' will be available to you.

The Minnie Heep Building will be open at 10 Am and the meeting will commence at 10:30 AM. There will be a business meeting with election of officers and officer reports. Locations of field meetings and the annual meeting in 2001 will be determined. The Abbot Award for 2000 will be presented. Following the meeting, a dinner at a local restaurant.

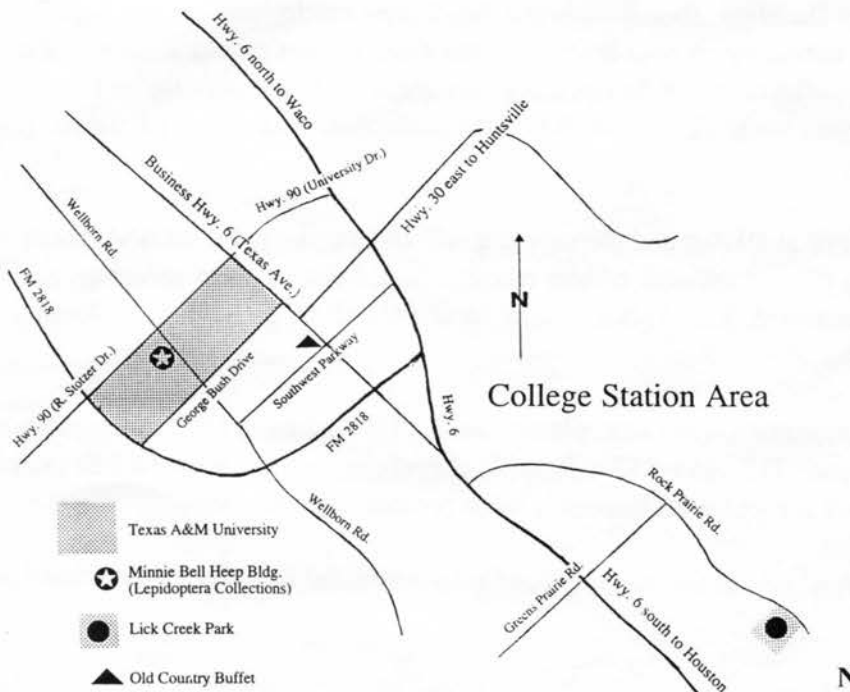
If you are interested in presenting a paper or a short talk, please contact Ed Knudson, 8517 Burkhart Road, Houston, TX 77055; Home Telephone: 713- 464-3529; E-mail: eknudson@wt.net prior to 8 September 2000, with the title and length of your presentation to enable us to provide time for you.

Information and directions will be available at the meeting for those interested in collecting on Sunday.

The meeting agenda is below.

SOUTHERN LEPIDOPTERISTS' SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA

- 10:00AM - 12:00AM Coffee and Conversation. Texas A&M University collection will be open for viewing.
- 12:00PM - 1:30PM Lunch and conversation.
- 1:30PM - 2:00PM Welcome and opening remarks by Ed Knudson, Chairman.
- 2:00PM - 3:00PM Business meeting, election of Officers and officers reports.
- 3:00PM - 3:30PM Ed Knudson & John Oswald (Texas A&M Univ. Entomologist) will present the new TIARA website. They will show many examples of Lepidoptera that will be available on the internet in the near future.
- 3:30PM - 4:00PM Presentation of the Abbot Award
- 4:00PM - 6:00PM Presentation of papers.
- 6:00 PM Adjourn to the Old Country Buffet for Dinner.



THE SOUTHERN LEPIDOPTERISTS' SOCIETY

OFFICERS

Ed Knudson: Chairman
8517 Burkhart Rd.
Houston, TX 77055
E-mail: eknudson@wt.net

Jeffrey R. Slotten: Treasurer
5421 NW 69th Lane
Gainesville, FL 32653
E-mail: slotten@ccgnv.net

Bill Russell: Secretary
772 Yorkshire Rd., NE
Atlanta, GA 30306
E-mail: WHRINATL@aol.com

Paul Milner: Membership
Coordinator
272 Sky Drive
Pisgah Forest, NC 28768
E-mail: pamilner@citcom.net

Marc Minno: Member at Large
600 NW 35th Terrace
Gainesville, FL 32607
E-mail: afn10853@afn.org

Leroy C. Koehn: Editor
6085 Wedgewood Village Circle
Lake Worth, FL 33463-7371
E-mail: Leptraps@aol.com

The Southern Lepidopterists' Society is open to anyone with an interest in the Lepidoptera of the southern region of the United States. Membership dues are annual:

Regular	\$15.00
Student	\$12.00
Sustaining	\$25.00
Contributor	\$50.00

A newsletter, The News of the Southern Lepidopterists' Society is published four times annually.

Information about the Society may be obtained from the Membership Coordinator: Paul Milner, 272 Sky Drive, Pisgah Forest, NC 28768

<u>MOTEL/HOTEL</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>TELEPHONE</u>	<u>SINGLE/DOUBLE</u>
Casa Loma Motel	2000 S. Texas Ave., Bryan, TX	409-822-3728	\$30/\$33
Comfort Inn	104 Texas Ave., South, College Station, TX	409-846-7333	\$66/\$66
Holiday Inn	1503 Texas Ave., South, College Station, TX	409-693-1736	\$65/\$65
Motel 6	2327 Texas Ave., South, College Station, TX	409-696-3379	\$39/\$44
Best Western	901 University Dr., College Station, TX	409-260-9150	\$65/\$78

Friday evening, 22 September, interested parties may meet at Lick Creek Park for an evening of moth collecting. Vehicle access will be provided. Lick Creek Park is 10 miles east of College Station (see map). Ed Knudson will have several light sheets set up. If you plan to collect following the meeting, directions to locations will be provided at the meeting.

2000 ABBOT AWARD CANDIDATES

The Abbot Award will once again be presented at the 2000 Annual Meeting of the Southern Lepidopterists' Society. According to our constitution, "the board will submit a ballot containing the name or names of at least one, but not more than three, eligible recipients to the members with the announcement of the annual meeting. The candidate receiving the largest number of votes by return of this ballot to the secretary will be the recipient." The John Abbot Award is presented no more than once a year to any individual who has demonstrated excellent service to the Southern Lepidopterists' Society and/or is recognized for outstanding contributions towards our understanding of the Lepidoptera fauna of the southern United States. The candidates need not be members of the Society.

Past recipients of the John Abbot Award are Charles P. Kimball (1981), Charles V. Covell, Jr. (1982), Bryant Mather (1983), Roy O. Kendall (1984), Andre Blanchard (1985), Ed Knudson (1986), Dale H. Habeck (1987), J. Richard Heitzman (1988), Thomas Emmel (1990), Howard V. Weems (1991), Douglas C. Ferguson (1992), John B. Heppner (1997), Jeffrey Sloten (1998), and Marc Minno (1999). Please take the time to submit your vote and recognize the hard work of another worthy Lepidopterists. This year's candidates are:

John B. (Barry) Lombardini: Barry has been a long time member of the Society and Texas resident. Barry is an active collector and has published several papers on the Lepidoptera of west Texas and the panhandle.

Harry Pavulaan: Harry has been a long time member of the Society and has served as the State Coordinator of Virginia for many years. He has published several papers on Lepidoptera, including the relationships of *Celastrina* (Azure) butterflies.

Vernon Brou: Vernon has served the Society for twenty years as State Coordinator for Louisiana. His field work in Louisiana is outstanding and has resulted in the description of several new species. He has authored numerous papers and articles on the Lepidoptera of Louisiana and collecting techniques.

Enclosed in this newsletter is your Abbot Award Ballot. Please take time to vote for the candidate of your choice. The ballot can be folded with Secretary's address to the outside, staple or tape securely, apply postage and mail. Or, put your ballot in an envelope and mail to the Secretary.

Please send ballots to the Secretary:
Bill Russell, 772 Yorkshire Rd. NE, Atlanta, GA 30306

THE DAVIS MOUNTAINS OF WEST TEXAS

BY
ED KNUDSON & CHARLES BORDELON

Many collectors visiting Texas chose the Davis Mountains as one of their key destinations. This goes back nearly to the beginning of the 20th century, when various entomologists visited the area and collected many moths (mostly micro lepidoptera and Geometridae), which were subsequently described as new species. This process continues to this day, as there are still many un-described moths in this isolated range in the center of Trans-Pecos Texas.

Then, as now, the Davis Mountains, were almost entirely privately owned; mainly in the form of large cattle ranches. Landowners in this region of Texas have a tendency to discourage access to collectors for various reasons. I recent years the chief reason has been the fear that something will be found that will turn out to be worthy of listing as an endangered species, thereby imposing federal regulations, which are not happily accepted in this region. The ranchers have typically owned the land for many generations and feel (with good cause) that they are preserving a way of life that is rapidly becoming extinct. This tendency has spawned some extremist groups, such as the "Republic of Texas" which advocated the succession of Texas from the union in the late 1990's. However, most of the major ranchers in the region are uninterested in politics, except to distance themselves from it as far as possible. When you go there, you may begin to understand what all the fuss has been about.

The Davis Mountains were created by massive intrusions of igneous rock (not strictly volcanic), which were later exposed to erosion. The entire region, which includes all of Jeff Davis County, northern Brewster County, and northeastern Presidio County is mostly over 4500' elevation, with numerous mountains which culminate at Mt. Livermore, which reaches 8382', the highest elevation in Texas outside of four peaks in the Guadalupe Mountains, about 70 miles to the northwest. In contrast to the surrounding Chihuahuan Desert, the Davis Mountains region supports mainly short grass prairies, with abundant yucca and Cholla cactus at the lowest elevations, to Oak-Juniper woodlands at mid-elevations; to Ponderosa Pine forest at high elevations. Mt. Livermore also supports a forest formation including Limber Pine, Aspen, Silverleaf, and Gambels Oak at the highest north facing slopes (above 7000'). The central part of the range, which is enclosed inside the loop road, resembles the foothills of the Rocky Mountains, rather than the Madrean influences of Big Bend and the Guadalupe Mountains. The Davis Mountains also normally receive more rainfall than the other high ranges of west Texas.

Because of their beauty and anticipated recreational value, the Davis Mountains have attracted the interest of conservation groups, Texas politicians, and land developers. All have had some impact in recent years. Initially, the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department were considering a large state park in the Mt. Livermore area, back in the 1930's. Because of opposition from the landowners, they had to settle for a small state park near the community of Ft. Davis. Later, the region was proposed to become a National Park, but this too was opposed and eventually dropped. Meanwhile, the University of Texas acquired Mt. Locke, a 6800' peak at the eastern edge of the main range, which was used as an observatory. This became the McDonald Observatory, home to one of the five largest telescopes in the world. Developers also gained a foothold, with two large subdivisions, the Davis Mountains Resorts and Limpa Crossing. For a time, it appeared that because of a decline in economic viability of traditional cattle ranching, much of the Davis Mountains could have ended up as private recreational developments. In the early 1990's, the Nature Conservancy began to take an active interest in this region. With the help of several prominent, conservation minded ranchers, they proceeded carefully to acquire the major part of the highest peaks and finest canyons, including Mt. Livermore, itself. Many ranchers in adjacent properties have also agreed to conservation easements, which will save the land from uncontrolled development, but does not prevent them from exploiting some of the recreational value of the land. Presently, the Nature Conservancy of Texas controls about 50-60,000' acres, either by outright ownership, or conservation easements. It is possible that some of this may eventually become wilderness area in the National Park Service, but it is unlikely that it will become a fully developed National Park.

Lepidopterists visiting the Davis Mountains will find access to collecting limited to roadsides, unless they possess a permit for the State Park, the nature Conservancy Preserve (both require extensive preparation and review), or for the Ft. Davis Monument (which offers little that cannot be collected in town). However, roadside collecting can be excellent, especially in the late spring and summer, provided there is adequate rainfall; and again in August-October. Roadside rest areas, especially Madera Canyon, Limpia Creek, and Rockpile (near Sawtooth Mountain) offer opportunities for black lighting, as well as do some of the motels in Ft. Davis. It may also be possible to rent a cabin at Davis Mountains Resort.

Night collecting should be carried out with care, as it is not permitted to use bright lights within visual range of the McDonald Observatory.

Ft. Davis is a quaint and touristy town, which is the best place to stay in the region. There are 3 or 4 motels or B&B's there. The Indian Lodge in the Davis Mountains State park is also a good place to stay and is very popular. Advance reservations are a must! One should not collect around the Indian Lodge, unless you have a permit for the park. However, the Davis Mountain Loop Road consists of SH 118, northeast from Ft. Davis and SH 116, from the Kent (IH-10) turnoff to a few miles southwest of Ft. Davis, where you rejoin SH 17 (from Marfa). SH 118 bisects the central Davis Mountains and ascends to nearly 6800' in places. The northeast half of the range is accessed along SH 118, northeast to Toyahvale and Balmorhea State Park, and the Aguja Canyon Road (FM 1832). Visitors who find Ft. Davis booked should not despair. There are plenty of places to stay in Alpine, about 20 miles south of Ft. Davis, and collecting opportunities there as well, especially at the mountains passes along US 90 west and SH 118 south.

BUTTERFLIES

If you do not include skippers in your interest, you probably should plan your trip elsewhere, since these are by far the most interesting Davis Mountain butterflies. There is a great abundance of Hesperidae. With nearly 75 species recorded. In April and May, during a WET spring (not so in 1999 & 2000), swarms of *Atrytonopsis* species can be found on roadside flowers along the Loop Road. The most common species is *Atrytonopsis vierecki*, followed by *Atrytonopsis pittacus*, *Atrytonopsis ovinia* and *A. python*. We expect the high elevations (above 7500") could also have *Atrytonopsis deva*, and *A. lunus*, but these are yet to be confirmed for Texas. *Piruna pollingi* and *P. pirus* are present at the highest elevations around Mt. Livermore. *Adopaeoides prittwittzi* is an uncommon resident around streams, usually above 6000'. There are at least 10 species of *Amblyscirtes*, most of which can be found on roadside flowers, late May - early September. *Amblyscirtes smius* (really a new genus) is more common on grassy hill tops; *Amblyscirtes fimbriata* probably occurs only above 7500' on Mt. Livermore. Other uncommon species may include; *Chioides zilpa*, *Polygonus leo*, *Codatractus arizonensis*, *Coggia hippalus*, *Thorybes drusius* (don't be fooled by the light fringed *Thorybes pylades* that occur here, or the fairly common *Archalarus casica*.); *Celotes limpia*, *Hesperia woodgatei*, and *Polites carus*. In May, look for *Scutellari* species (skullcap), in late summer look for ironweed as nectar plants along the Loop Road.

The next group of interest are the Lycaenidae, which include no species which is unique to the Davis Mountains, but several, which also occur in Big Bend and Guadalupe Mountains National Parks (ONLY, in Texas), so collecting these, with no permit in Texas, may only be accomplished in the Davis Mountains. The most interesting species include: *Sandia macfarlandi*, *Erora quaderna*, *Fixsenia polingi*, *Ministrymon leda*, and *Euphilotes rita*. The latter is known only from above 8000' on Mt. Livermore, but could also occur elsewhere.

Most of the other butterflies are fairly general in the Trans-Pecos region of Texas.

MOTHS

In early spring, mid-March to mid-April, on warm nights, host of Geometrids and noctuids may be found. Especially *Ersephila*, *Grossbeckia*, *Cyclica*, and *Hydriomena* species, and *Egira* and perhaps *Lithophane* species.

Later in the spring, there are many Lacinipolias (up to 7 species), and other Noctuids, as well as many Pyralids, Gelechiids, and other Noctuids, Geometrids, Arctiids, Saturniids, and sphingids. Early fall (mid-August to mid-September) is the prime time for moths in the Davis Mountains. Many colorful noctuids (Stirines and Heliothiines); Geometrid, Arctiids, Saturnids, Sphingids, and others may be found in abundance. In late fall, October-November, other Noctuids are common, especially Agrotiines and Oncocnemis species.

In preparation, is a regional checklist of the Lepidoptera of the Davis Mountains, which will become Texas Lepidoptera Survey's publication #8. We are, for the first time, actively soliciting records from collectors or observers who have visited the region in recent years. Several Lepidopterists, including Eric Metzler, James Adams and Jim Vargo have recently contributed important records; as well as Chuck Sexton, who has turned up new state records of butterflies from the Davis Mountains. The work on this checklist is far from complete, as we (and others) have just begun to investigate the Lepidoptera fauna of the Davis Mountain. We anticipate that the Davis Mountain checklist may eventually top 1400 species, which would be second only to the Big Thicket Preserve in southeast Texas.

TEXAS LEPIDOPTERA SURVEY

LIST OF PUBLICATIONS: ILLUSTRATED LEPIDOPTERA CHECKLISTS

PUB 1: Check list of the Audubon Sabal Palm Grove Sanctuary (Treats 780 species, 10 color plates)	\$20.00
PUB 2: Checklist of the Big Thicket National preserve (Treats 1726 species, 15 color plates)	\$30.00
PUB 3: Checklist of Big Bend National Park (Treats 1250 species, 12 color plates)	\$27.50
PUB 4: Checklist of Guadalupe Mountains National Park (Treats 1300 species, 12 color plates)	\$27.50
PUB 5: Checklist of Caprock Canyonlands (Treats 1000 species, 12 color plates)	\$27.50
PUB 7: Checklist of the Davis Mountains (Treats 1100 species, 10 color plates)	\$25.00

PROPOSED CHECKLIST

Checklist of the Lower Rio Grande Valley
Checklist of the Texas Hill Country

Due January 2000

TEXAS LEPIDOPTERA ATLAS

PUB 6: Checklist of the Lepidoptera of Texas	\$10.00
(With 16 new color plates, not in above pubs.)	\$30.00
(With color plates, new & from above pubs. 80 plates)	\$125.00
Index (in prep.)	\$5.00

Texas Lepidoptera Atlas to follow (12 Volumes, Illustrated, Annotated)

PUB 8: Vol.III: SESIOIDEA, ZYGAENOIDEA, COSSOIDEA. Due January 2001	\$65.00
---	---------

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO ORDER, CONTACT:

Ed Knudson
8517 Burkhardt Road
Houston, TX 77055
Tel.: 713-464-3529
E-mail: eknudson@wt.net

Charles Borderlon
8440 Washington Blvd.
Beaumont, TX 77707
Tel.: 409-866-8163

Shipping: \$2.50
Per. Vol.

Parrhasius m-album (Lycaenidae) in Louisiana

by

Vernon A. Brou Jr.

74320 Jack Loyd Road

Abita Springs, Louisiana

E-mail: vabrou@compsurf.com

Briefly surveying prior publications mentioning the number of annual broods for *Parrhasius m-album* Boisduval & LeConte (common name: white-m hairstreak) yielded the following: Harris(1972) stated *m-album* has three broods in south Georgia, Heitzman (1987) stated *m-album* has four broods in Missouri, Klots (1951) stated *m-album* has three broods in the south, Pyle (1981) stated *m-album* has three broods in the south. There is no evidence offered by these authors to corroborate these claims. In Louisiana, *m-album* has six or more annual broods (Fig. 1.), adults were taken each month, from end of February through mid November, with initial brood peaking approximately March 8, second brood peaking about May 4, and subsequent broods peaking at 36-day intervals. The approximate 57-day interval between the first and second broods is representative of the initial non-conforming brood interval phenomenon mentioned by Brou (1997) for certain sphingidae species. Brou (1974) previously noted *m-album* being attracted to light traps.

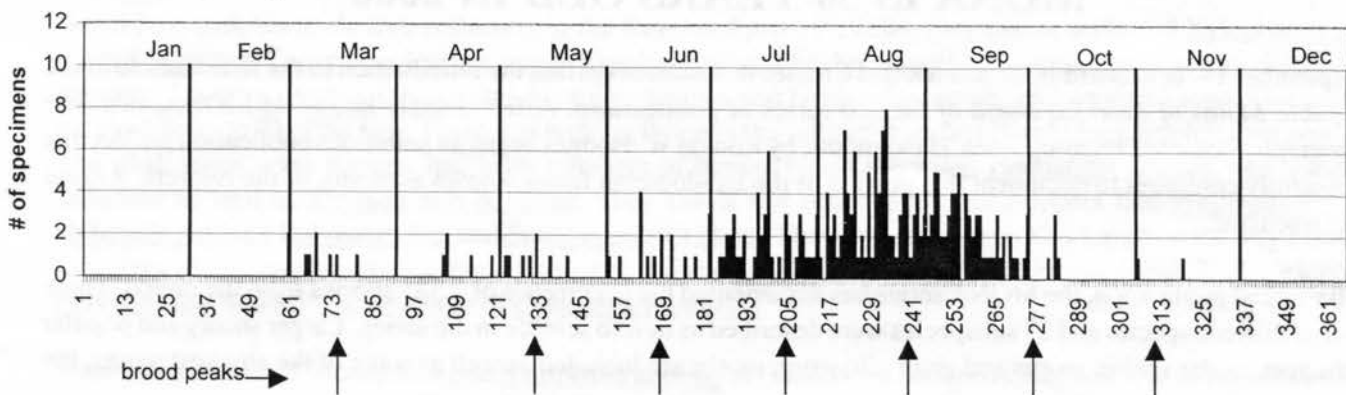


Fig. 1. Phenology of the White M Hairstreak, *Parrhasius m-album* (Bdv. & Leconte) in Louisiana. More than 96% of specimens were collected using ultraviolet light traps, the remainder utilizing fermenting bait traps, flight trap, and netting by hand. Dates of capture 1986 through 1999. n = 259

Literature Cited

Brou, Vernon A. 1974. Butterflies taken in light traps. *Jour. Lepid. Soc.* 28:331.

Brou, Vernon A. and C.D. Brou 1997. Distribution and phenologies of Louisiana Sphingidae. *Jour. Lepid. Soc.* 51:156-175.

Harris, Lucien, Jr. 1972. *Butterflies of Georgia*. Univ. of Oklahoma Press, Norman. xx + 326 pp., col. frontispiece, 24 pls. (10 col.), maps.

Heitzman, J. R. and J. E. 1987. *Butterflies and Moths of Missouri*. Missouri Dept. of Conservation, Jefferson City, 385pp.

Klots, Alexander B. 1951. *A field guide to the butterflies of North America, east of the Great Plains*. Houghton Mifflin Co. Boston, xvi + 349 pp., ill.

Pyle, Robert M. 1981. *Nat. Audubon Soc. Field Guide to N. Am. Butterflies*. Alfred A. Knopf, New York 924 pp.

DAVE MORGAN IS YOUR SLS WEBSITE COORDINATOR

In relatively sparse voting by the membership, Dave Morgan (Atlanta, GA) has been selected, in a close vote, as the SLS's new website coordinator. John Snyder breathes a sigh of relief, as he recently stated to me that he was already managing four other websites and would be happy if someone else had the responsibility of maintaining the Southern Lepidopterists' Society website. His wish has come true. For those who have yet to see Dave's handiwork, check out his website at <http://www.lepidoptera.net/> on which he has posted several outstanding personal photographs.

To remind the membership (and Dave), the major work the coordinator should have is in the initial setup of the website. We (members, state coordinators, etc.) will need to discuss what we want on the website, and make a concerted effort to get materials to the website coordinator in as web-ready a state as possible. The particulars of the position are still not completely worked out yet, though the editor of the newsletter will likely work closely with the coordinator on getting together web-presentable materials.

MONA IS 30 YEARS OLD IN 2000

In September 1970, Richard B. Dominick and Charles R. Edwards drafted the introduction to the first fascicle of the venerable *Moths of America North of Mexico* series of publications. Affectionately known as MONA, that first monograph, Fascicle 21 Sphingoidea, Hawkmoths, by Ronald W. Hodges began an ambitious publication project that successfully continues to document that portion of the lepidopteran fauna, known as moths, of the Nearctic Region plus Greenland.

In 30 years of publication, the MONA series has documented the occurrence of 2,381 species from the region. Three hundred thirteen species and 23 subspecies were described as new to science in the series. Larger showy and popular moths such as the sphinx moths and giant silk worm moths are included as well as some of the smallest moths, the Cosmopterigidae.

In its conception MONA was meant to be an authoritative replacement for the long out of date W. J. Holland's *The Moth Book*, originally published in 1903 and reprinted in 1968 by Dover. The highly popular and, until 1968, much sought after Holland provided some color illustrations, brief annotations about the species, and briefer taxonomic notes. Yet the number of species in Holland was limited, and nearly all species of smaller moths could not be identified with this, the only guide to moths in North America.

The idea for MONA needed time to develop, and eventually a nucleus of people including R.B. Dominick, C.R. Edwards, D. C. Ferguson, J. G. Franclemont, R. W. Hodges, E. R. Hodges, E. G. Munroe, E. W. Classey, B. Harley and others joined their knowledge, enthusiasm, and tenacity to publish the first MONA fascicle.

Five years after the first monograph was published, a public non-profit foundation, the Wedge Entomological Research Foundation, named in honor of Dominick's home in South Carolina, was formed to continue the vision of Richard Dominick, who unexpectedly died after just a few years and after only a few monographs were published.

Now in its 26th year, the foundation continues to publish the highly acclaimed series. The Entomological Society of America awarded Ronald W. Hodges its prestigious Thomas Say Award in 1990 for his leadership with the MONA series. Published reviews of the monographs in the MONA series have been highly complimentary.

Upcoming fascicles include the the tribe Macariini (Geometridae) and the genus *Catocala* (Noctuidae). The Wedge Entomological Research Foundation is actively searching for competent authors of monographs for the series. In addition, the board of directors of the foundation desires to publish suitable monographs beyond the scope of the MONA series. Interested persons should contact the Foundation at: The Wedge Entomological Research Foundation, 85253 Ridgetop Drive, Eugene, Oregon 97405- 9535, USA.

The Wedge Entomological Research Foundation gratefully thanks its subscribers, its supporters, the persons who provide data and energy to assist the authors, and the users of the monographs. Were there not a need, the project could not be sustained. Were there not an interest and dedication of moth collectors, the project would be impeded. Completion of the preliminary survey remains a major goal.

For further information contact:

Dr. Ronald W. Hodges
Managing Director
The Wedge Entomological Research Foundation
85253 Ridgetop Drive
Eugene, Oregon 97405-9535
(541) 684-0484
rwhodges@continet.com

Eric H. Metzler
Secretary
The Wedge Entomological Research Foundation
1241 Kildale Sq. N.
Columbus Ohio 43229-1306
(614) 888 3642
spruance@infinet.com

NEWS RELEASE FROM THE PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE, US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

MATHER RETIRES FROM FEDERAL SERVICE

Dr. Bryant Mather, who served the federal government for 59 years, recently retired from the Senior Executive Service. Mather most recently served as the director of the Engineer Research and Development Center (ERDC) Structures Laboratory. The Structures Laboratory conducts research in the fields of weapons effects, earth dynamics, structural design, structural behavior, camouflage, and construction materials. As director, Mather managed a staff of 142 employees and an annual research program of approximately \$40 million.

A Corps of Engineers employee since 1941, Mather first worked as a geologist and later as an engineer. Throughout his career, he has specialized in concrete research. His first assignment was with the Central Concrete Laboratory at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y. He has been affiliated with the Waterways Experiment Station (now part of ERDC) and the ERDC in Vicksburg, MS, since 1946.

Mather received a bachelor's degree in geology and did graduate work in Geology from John Hopkins University. He also did graduate work in economics at the American University. He received an honorary doctorate from Clarkson University in 1978. Mather is the author or co-author of over 600 technical reports and papers.

As one of the nation's foremost experts on concrete, Mather has received numerous government and professional awards. President Jimmy Carter made him a charter member of the government's Senior Executive Service in 1979. Mather is an honorary fellow of England's Institute of Concrete Technology and was the Corps of Engineers Civilian of the Year for 1992.

A native of Baltimore, MD, Mather is an amateur entomologist and an Honorary Life Member of the American Museum of Natural History. Seven insect species have been named *matheri* in his honor.

Mather is now serving in the prestigious position of director *emeritus* of the Structures Laboratory where he will continue to participate in technical societies and to write technical papers on behalf of the ERDC.

ERDC includes all of the Corps of Engineers dispersed research and development facilities and supports the Army and the Nation with high quality research, leading edge technology, and state-of-the-art facilities. The ERDC organization consist of eight unique laboratories in four locations: Construction Engineering Research Laboratory at Champaign, IL, Cold Regions Research and Engineering Laboratory at Hanover, NH, Topographic Engineering Center at Alexandria, VA, and the Coastal and Hydraulics, Structures, Geo-technical, Environmental, and Information Technology Laboratories in Vicksburg, MS.

NEWSLETTER UP-DATE

The Society continues to grow. We currently have 144 members. Paul Milner, Membership Coordinator, has done an excellent job of getting the renewals for 2000. He has worked hard to contact members who had not renew after the 15th of June. He is committed to see the Society grow and become an important organization for Lepidopterists' in the southern region of the United States. We should sustain our continued growth well into this century.

The field meeting on the south east coast of Georgia was poorly attended, however, those who did attend collected some exciting species, including, Problema bulenta. The field meeting meetings are planned around flight periods of numerous species, and, the dark of the moon. Ask anyone who has attended a field meeting and you will quickly learn that they are exciting and enjoyable. A winter field meeting is being planned for south Florida in December or January. There will be more information in the next newsletter.

I have once again relocated due to employment. I am in the process of selling our home in Florida and purchasing one in Georgetown, Kentucky where I will be working. I will complete this year as Editor. The nominating committee is seeking candidates for Newsletter Editor for 2001. If you have a flare for writing, enjoy receiving mail, and would like to serve the Society, please contact; Ed Kundson, 8517 Burkhart Road, Houston, TX 77055; Tele: 713-464-3529; E-mail: eknudson@wt.net.

If you like what is going on in the Society, let your state coordinator and officers hear from you. If you do not like what is going on, let them know. Only with your in put can we have an enjoyable and active organization.

RESEARCH REQUEST & MEMBERS NOTICE

FOR SALE: LIGHT TRAPS: 12 volt DC or 110 volt AC with 15 or 20 watt black lights. The traps are portable and easy to use. Rain drains and beetle screens protect specimens from damage. For a free brochures and price list contact; Leroy C. Koehn, 6085 Wedgewood Village Circle, Lake Worth, FL 33463-7371: Tel.: 561-966-1655: E-mail: Leptraps@aol.com

FOR SALE: Bait Traps: 15" Diameter X 36" Height, collapsible for travel. Two types available: Flat Bottom and Inverted funnel. For a free brochure and price list contact; Leroy C. Koehn, 6085 Wedgewood Village Circle, Lake Worth, FL 33463-7371: Tel.: 561-966-1655: E-mail: Leptraps@aol.com

RESEARCH REQUEST: I am interested in any Florida records of the Miami Blue, Cyclargus thomasi, since 1989. Please submit relevant data regarding dates, location, sexes, observations etc. Recent attempts to verify its existence in Florida have been unsuccessful, suggesting it may nearly be extirpated from the region. Likewise, I am gathering all Florida records of the newly established Cyclargus ammon which appears to be invading at least one area formerly inhabited by Cyclargus thomasi. All responses would be greatly appreciated. Submit data to: John Calhoun, 977 Wicks Dr., Palm Harbor, FL, 34684-4656 or e-mail at: jcalhoun@maxximmedical.com.

WANTED: I am seeking two butterflies that are common to south Florida. The species are Appias Drusilla (Florida White) and Urbanus proteus, (Long Tailed Skipper). I would prefer to acquire pupae/chrysalis. However, I will accept papered material. Both are very unique and of great interest to me. Contact: Jay Gmerek, 6683 Mt. Hope Drive, San Jose, CA 95120, or via FAX 408-978-0429. Please note on cover page of Fax: Contact Jay, at 408-927-5884.

CHANGES IN MEMBERSHIP

NEW MEMBERS

Tom Allen, P.O. Box 132, Elkins, WV 26241

Kevin Barry, 3320 SW 36th St., Hollywood, FL, 33023

L. Lydia Stuckey, 105 Braswell Place, Chapel Hill, NC 27516

ADDRESS CHANGES

Vernon A. Brou: New telephone: Work; 1-800-928-6247, Ext. 26505; E-mail: Work; vbrou@ochsner.org; Home; vabrou@compsurf.com.

John Calhoun: New E-mail: bretcal@gte.net

Valerie Passoa, 1063 Brettridge Drive, Columbus, OH 43065

John Rawlins: New E-mail: rawlinsj@carnegiemuseums.org

Jeff Robb: New E-mail: jrobb@twu.edu

James Tuttle: New telephone: Home; 520-749-3119

Richard Waldrep, 42 Farcorners Loop, Sparks, MD 21152

STATE COORDINATOR REPORTS

Field reports are extremely important. Researchers continue to reference collection data that has been reported from 20 years ago in our newsletter. All records are important, even for common species. Let your state's field coordinator know of your field activities.

Ricky Patterson is the new coordinator for the State of Mississippi. He replaces Drew Hildebrandt who was the interim coordinator after the retirement of Bryant Mather in 1998. Drew claims to be a coleopterist, but we all know he is a Lepidopterist at heart. Drew has supported the Society and has served as Membership Coordinator from 1996 to 1997. Drew has been a friend to your Editor and has provided encouragement and support over the years. Our hats are off to Drew!

ALABAMA : C. Howard Grisham, 573 Ohatchee Road, Huntsville, AL 35811; E-mail: cgrisham@HiWAAY.net

The following records, unless otherwise noted, are leps collected either from Hollytree, Jackson County, Alabama, in Paint Rock Valley, near the base of Bingham Mountain (herein "J"), or from Maysville, Madison County, Alabama, on Berry Mountain (herein "M") by Howard Grisham, or my son Charles.

Scardia/Fernaldia anatomella (J: 5-12-00); Machimia tentoriferella (J: 10-15-99); Ethmia zelleriella (J: 3-23-00); Antaeotricha schlaegeri (M: 4-7-00); Dichomeris ligulella (J: 10-29-99); Fascista cercerisella (M: 5-6-00); Vitacea polistiformis (M: 9-10-99); Synanthedon aceri (J: 5-5-00); Prionoxystus macmurtrei (M:4-7-00) (J: 5-5-00); Proteoteras aesculana (J: 11-5-99); Decodes basiplaganus (J: 10-15-99); Ecdytolopha insiticiana (J: 5-17-00); Ptycholoma peritana (J: 11-6-99); Argyrotaenia alisellana (J: 5-12-00 J: 5-17-00); Archips argyrospila (J: 5-12-00 J: 5-19-00); Platynota flavedana (M: 5-6-00) (J: 9-10-99); Sparganothis niveana (J: 5-19-00); Fulgoraecia exigua (J: 9-8-99); Pyromorpha dimidiata (J: 4-22-00); Apoda y-inversum (J: 5-12-00); Metrea ostreonalis (J: 5-5-00 J:5-7-00); Loxostege cereralis (J: 4-22-00); Samea ecclesialis (M: 10-22-99); Pyrausta onythesalis (J: 5-5-00); Pleuroptya silicalis (J: 9-24-99); Desmia funeralis (J: 4-16-00); Herpetogramma phaeopteralis (M: 10-22-99); Palpita magniferalis (J: 4-27-00); Agriphila ruricolella (M: 9-17-99); Pyralis farinalis (M: 5-7-00 M: 5-12-00); Herculia olinalis (J: 5-12-00); Acrobasis demotella (J: 5-12-00); Moodna ostrinella (J: 10-15-99); Thyris sepulchralis (J: 3-24-00) (M: 3-30-00); Euthyatira pudens (M: 4-7-00); Enconista dislocaria (J: 3-23-00); Glena cribrataria (J: 4-22-00 J: 5-12-00); Epimecis hortaria (M: 3-23-00); Lycia ypsilon (M: 3-6-00 M: 3-24-00); Phigalia titea (J: 3-4-00); Lomographa glomeraria (J:3-3-00 J: 3-4-00); Erastria cruentaria (M: 3-18-00); Lytosis permagnaria (J: 5-9-00(3)) J: 5-11-00 (11) J: 5-12-00 (8) J: 5-17-00 (4); Lytrosis sinuosa (J: 5-11-00 J: 5-12-00); Nacophora quernaria (M: 3-3-00); Campaea perlata (J: 5-12-00); Plagodis fervidaria (J: 3-23-00) (M: 3-23-00); Plagodis phlogosaria (M: 3-6-00) (J: 5-31-00); Plagodis alcoolaria (J: 4-22-00); Plagodis kuetzingi (J: 5-5-00); Nemoria bistriaria (M: 3-24-00) (J: 3-24-00); Nemoria rubrifrontaria (J: 4-22-00 J: 4-27-00); Dichorda iridaria (J: 4-22-00 J: 5-11-00); Chlorochlamys chloroleucaria (M: 4-7-00); Leptostales panneria (J: 9-10-99); Hydriomena pluviata (M: 3-30-00); Lacosoma chiridota (J: 5-12-00); Heteropacha rileyana (J: 3-9-00); Phyllodesma americana (J: 3-7-00); Callosamia angulifera (J: 5-5-00); Hyalophora cecropia (J:5-5-00); Ceratonia undulosa (J: 5-5-00) (M:4-8-00); Sphinx canadensis (J: 5-9-00); Laothoe juglandis (J: 4-22-00 J: 5-5-00); Schecodina abbotii (J: 4-28-00) (M: 3-26-00); Deidamia inscripta (J: 4-22-00 J: 5-5-00 J: 3-23-00) (M: 3-23-00); Paonias excaecatus (J: 5-5-00); Paonias myops (J: 5-5-00); Darapsa myron (J: 4-27-00); Clostera inclusa (J: 3-9-00); Hyperaeschra georgica (J: 4-16-00); Ellida caniplaga (J: 4-22-00); Furcula borealis (J: 4-22-00); Nerice bidentata (J: 5-11-00); Symmerista albifrons (J: 3-8-00); Dasylophia thyatiroides (J: 4-16-00); Schizura badia (J: 5-5-00 J:5-11-00 J:5-12-00 J:5-17); Schizura leptinoides (J: 4-22-00 J: 5-5-00 J: 5-12-00); Heterocampa umbrata (J:5-5-00); Schizura unicornis (J: 5-5-00); Cisthene packardii (J: 5-5-00); Eurythra phasma (J: 4-22-00 J:5-19-00); Spilosoma congrua (M: 3-23-00); Pyrrharctia isabella (J: 5-5-00); Apantesis/Grammia anna (M: 5-10-00) (J: 5-12-00 J: 5-19-00); Dasychira tephra (J: 9-10-99); Dasychira meridionalis memorata (J: 9-10-99); Phyprosopus callitrichoides (J: 4-27-00 J: 5-19-00); Hypsoropha hormos (M: 3-26-00); Plusiodonta compressipalpis (J: 3-9-00); Phoebria atomaris (J: 3-23-00); Catocala robinsoni (J: 10-29-99); Zale phaecapna (M: 3-24-00); Zale galbanata (M: 4-7-00); Zale lunifera (J: 3-23-00); Eosphoropteryx thyatyroides (J: 5-19-00) (J: 5-31-00); Autographa biloba (M: 3-8-00); Hyperstrotia villificans (J: 8-30-99); Paectes pygmaea (J: 3-23-00) (M: 4-7-00); Marathyssa basalis (M: 3-3-00) (J: 3-7-00); Baileya ophthalmica (J: 4-22-00); 8972 Baileya levitans (J: 3-9-00); Eutelia pulcherrima (J: 5-5-00); Meganola phylla (J: 5-5-00); Lithacodia synochitis (J:5-12-00); Tarachidia erastrioides (J: 5-12-00); Colocasia flavicornis (J: 3-9-00); Colocasia propinquilinea (J: 3-9-00); Charadra deridens (J: 5-12-00); Acronicta vinnula (M: 4-7-00); Agriopodes fallax (J: 5-7-00); Psychomorpha epimenis (J: 3-5-00 J: 3-8-00 J: 3-24-00); Alypia octomaculata (M: 3-30-00); Papaipema marginidens (J: 10-29-99); Iodopepla u-ablum (M: 3-24-00); Dypterygia rozmani (J: 5-31-00); Platysenta/Condica sutor (J: 9-8-99); Phosphila miseliaides (J: 5-5-00); Emarginea percara (M: 5-6-00) (J: 9-8-99); Callopietria mollissima (M: 5-6-00); Platysenta vecors (J: 3-9-00); Psaphida electilis (J:3-9-00 3-23-00) (M: 3-24-00); Psaphida thaxterianus (M: 3-7-00) (J: 3-7-00); Copivaleria grotei (M: 3-6-00); Homohadena infixa (J: 5-19-00); Polia latex (J: 5-7-00 J: 5-12-00); Leucania ursula (J: 9-10-99); Lacinipolia renigera (J: 4-27-00); Leucania scirpicola (M:5-6-00); Orthosia rebescens (M: 3-23-00); Morrisonia confusa (J: 4-27-00) (M: 4-29-00); Achatia distincta (J: 3-7-00); Feltia herilis (J: 9-24-99); Heliopsis turbatus (M: 9-17-99).

On July 1, 2000, Maurice Bottos and Todd Redhead collected at Hollytree, Jackson County, Alabama, with a 1000 watt MV setup. The following Catocala were taken: amica, micronympha, serena, palaeogama, neogama, judith, epione, coccinata, ultronia, sappho, insolabilis, flebilis, innubens ("regular" and "scintillans"), dejecta.

ARKANSAS: Mack Shotts, 514 W. Main Street, Paragould, AR, 72450 No Report.

FLORIDA: 16356 Trafalgar Drive, East, Loxahatchee, FL 33470; E-mail: brts@gnv.ifas.ufl.edu

The following butterflies were recorded by Clay Black and others during several casual surveys throughout 1999 on the Southwest Florida Water Management District's Weekiwachee Preserve in Hernando County: Battus philenor, Battus polydamas, Eurytides marcellus, Papilio polyxenes, Heraclides crespontes, Pterourous glaucus, Pterourous troilus, Pterourous palamedes, Ascia monuste, Pontia protodice, Zerene cesonia, Phoebis sennae, Phoebis philea, Eurema daira, Eurema lisa, Eurema nicippe, Nathalis iole, Atlides halesus, Parrhasius m-album, Callophrys henrici, Calycopis cecrops, Strymon melinus, Leptotes cassius, Hemiargus ceraunus, Libytheana carinenta, Agraulis vanillae, Heliconius charithonius, Euptoieta claudia, Phyciodes phaon, Phyciodes tharos, Polygonia interrogationis, Vanessa atalanta, Vanessa virginiensis, Vanessa cardui, Junonia coenia, Anartia jatrophae, Limenitis arthemis astyanax, Limenitis archippus, Satyrodes appalachia, Hermeuptychia sosybius, Megisto viola, Danaus plexippus, Danaus gilippus, Epargyreus clarus, Urbanus proteus, Urbanus dorantes, Thorybes confusus, Erynnis brizo, Erynnis juvenalis, Erynnis horatius, Pyrgus communis, Lerema accius, Copaeodes minimus, Hylephila phyles, Polites vibex, Atalopedes campestris, Atrytone logan, Problema byssus, Euphyes vestris, Asbolis capucinus, Lerodea eufala, Oligoria maculata, and Panoquina ocola.

David Fine took his uncle Bob collecting in the Keys on April 15th, 2000, they saw or collected Xylophanes pluto, Cautethia grotei, Eupyrhrogolossus sagra, Pheobis philea, Pheobis agarithe, Eurema lisa, Eurema diara, Ascia monuste, Leptotes cassius, Dryas julia, Agraulis vanillae, and Heraclides crespontes on Key Largo. The next day we went down to Big Pine Key. There was nothing flying in the salt marsh except Brephidium isophthalma pseudoea. The slash pines areas though, had large numbers of butterflies on the wing. Hemiargus ammon was somewhat abundant as well as Strymon acis bartrami. They saw a few other species of skippers like Wallengrenia otho, Hylephila phyleus, Polygonus leo, and Euphyes pilatka klotsi. They also stopped on Key Largo on the way home and saw: Phocides pigmalion okeechobee, Pheobis philea and Dryas julia. They found about a dozen 5th instar larvae of Polygonia leo, and a 5th instar larvae of Cyamaenes tripunctus.

Marc Minno and Jeff Sloten saw one Nymphalis antiopa in Gainesville on April 23rd. Jeff also collected two fresh adults in a bait trap in Gainesville on April 25th.

David Fine spent the weekend of April 28 and 29 in the Keys. He saw practically nothing until he got to Key Largo. There he collected Pachylia ficus, Protambulux strigilis, Xylophanes pluto, Cautethia grotei, Halysidota tessellaris, Eupseudosoma involutum floridum and Ascalapha odorata.

On May 6, 2000 Robert Beiriger and Leroy Koehn visited Big Pine Key. They were interested in collecting female Hemiargus ammon and Strymon acis bartram to photograph and obtain ova. They were able to get a few larvae through to adults. It was interesting that the majority of the larvae of Strymon acis bartram died in the first instar (greater than 70%) and after that mortality dropped off considerably.

On May 9, 2000 Davis Fine and Leroy Koehn checked bait traps on the sugar ridge around Lake Okeechobee. They found Vanessa atalanta, Polygonia interrogationis, Asterocampa alicia, Asterocampa flora, Siproeta stelenes, Marpesia pretreus, and Amphion floridensis.

GEORGIA: James K. Adams, 346 Sunset Drive SE, Calhoun, GA 30701; Email: JADAMS@em.daltonstate.edu

There were a number of moth state records collected this spring, and Speyeria diana is having a strong flight this summer in north Georgia! Records are from James Adams, Irving Finkelstein (IF), Bill Russell (BR), Paulette Haywood (PH), Mark Walker (MW), Bob Bereiger (BB), Bob Mower or John Hyatt (and company); most represent new or interesting records (range extensions, unusual dates, uncommon species, county records, etc.) or newly identified species, mostly for NW Georgia.

Records are from Calhoun, Gordon counties, GA unless otherwise specified. "Car." represents the Carbondale exit (134) off I-75, Whitfield County; "Dal." represents Co. Rd 202, south off Dug Gap Battle Rd, just SW of Dalton, Whitfield County; "Bar." represents NE corner of Bartow County, 5 mi. SE of Fairmount; "Gates" represents Gates Chapel Rd., 8 mi. WNW of Ellijay, Gilmer Co; "Swa" represents Swallow Creek WMA, Towns County; "SoB" represents Paradise Cabins area, 4 mi. S. and Nottley River area 8 mi. S. of Blairsville, Union County. Definite county/state records are indicated.

PIERIDAE: *Pieris virginiensis*, 22 May 2000 (Swa; LATE; BR). **LYCAENIDAE:** *Fixsenia ontario*, 28 May 2000, at lights!, also 9 June 2000 (Dal.; MW); *Satyrium caryaevorus*, 28 May 2000 (also at lights at my back porch); *Satyrium edwardsii*, 10 June 2000, Black Rock Mtn. State Park, Rabun County. (PH). **NYMPHALIDAE:** *Speyeria aphrodite* (many!), 30 June 2000, along Rabun Bald Mtn. Rd. at Valley John Lane, Rabun County. (0.3 mi. S. of NC State line); *Enodia creola*, 5 May 2000, near Hawkinsville, Pulaski County. (MW). **HESPERIIDAE:** *Autochton cellus* (several seen), 28 v. 2000, Visitor's Center, Carter's Lake, Murray County. (COUNTY, IF); *Poanes yehl*, 23 June 2000 (SoB; COUNTY; BB); *Lerodea eufala*, 5 vi. 2000, near Hawkinsville, Pulaski Co. (MW); *Copaeodes minimus*, Pigeon Mountain Rec. Area, Walker County. (COUNTY; MW); *Amblyscirtes belli*, 24 June 2000 (SoB; COUNTY; BB). **SATURNIIDAE:** *Hyalophora cecropia*, 13 May 2000 (Bar.). **MIMALLONIDAE:** *Cicinnus melsheimeri*, 13 April 2000, Bainbridge, Decatur County. (COUNTY). **ARCTIIDAE:** *Cisthene subjecta*, 8 July 2000, (Bar.; COUNTY); *Crambidia cephalica*, 8 July 2000 (Bar.; STATE); *Holomelina laeta*, 13 May 2000 (Bar.); *Spilosoma latipennis*, 12 May 2000 (Dal.; COUNTY, 2nd in State); *Grammia figurata*, 12 May 2000 (Dal.); *Grammia anna*, abundant both in Calhoun and Dalton last three weeks of May. **NOCTUIDAE:** *Hyphenodes fractillinea* 13 May 2000 (Bar.); *Nigetia formosalis*, 22 May 2000 (Swa; BR); *Zale duplicata*, 26 May 2000 (Gates; COUNTY; IF); *Colocasia propinquinella*, 9 July 2000; *Acronicta betulae*, 13 May 2000 (Bar.); *Acronicta fragilis*, 23 June 2000 (SoB; COUNTY; BB); *Pseudeva purpurigera*, 26 May 2000 (Dal.; STATE); *Comachara cadburyi*, 12 May 2000, exit 285 (Red Top Mountain State Park) off I-75, Bartow County. (COUNTY), also 11 May 2000 (Gates, COUNTY, IF); *Baileya doubledayi*, 27 May 2000 (Gates, IF); *Hyperstrotia villificans*, 26 May 2000 (Gates; IF), also 28 May, 2000, Atlanta, Fulton County. (IF); *Argillophora furcilla* (2), 13 May 2000 (Bar.; also see Dahlenega report below); *Properigea costa* (2), 12 May 2000 (Dal.; STATE); *Morrisonia*, sp. nov., 1 iv. 2000, Atlanta, Fulton County. (COUNTY; IF); *Homohadena badistriga* (3), 26 May 2000 (Dal.; COUNTY); *Feralia comstocki* (4), 19 April 2000 (Gates, IF and BR); *Protolampra bruneicollis*, 26 May 2000 (Dal.). **GEOMETRIDAE:** *Eufidonia convergaria*, 22 May 2000 (Swa; STATE? [see below]; BR); *Anacamptodes vellivolata*, 26 May 2000 (Dal., COUNTY), also 10 July 2000 (at my house; COUNTY); *Lyctosis permagnaria*, 12 May 2000 (Dal.), also 27 v. 2000 (Gates, COUNTY, IF); *Euchlaena irraria* (common), 26 May 2000 (Dal.); *Pero morrisonaria*, 22 May 2000, (Swa; BR); *Nacophora quernaria*, 24 June 2000 (SoB, BB); *Metarranthis angularia*, several records, May and July 2000; *Anagoga occiduaria*, 11 May 2000 (Gates, IF); *Probole nepiasaria*, 11 May 2000 (Gates, IF); *Eugonobpata nivosaria*, 23 June 2000 (SoB; BB); *Ennomos subsignarius*, 17 June 2000, McCaysville, Fannin County.; *Nepytia semiclusaria*, common, mid May - mid June 2000; *Nemoria lixaria*, 22 May 2000 (Swa; BR); *Eulithis atricolorata*, 23 June 2000 (SoB; BB); *Cladara atroliturata*, 19 April 2000 (Gates, IF). **EPIPYROPIIDAE:** *Fulgoraexia exigua*, 9 July 2000 (13 individuals seen!). **PYRALIDAE:** *Compacta capitalis*, 20 v. 2000, Lake Burton Rec Area, Rabun County. (COUNTY; BR). **HEPIALIDAE:** *Sthenopsis auratus*, 11 May 2000 (Gates, STATE, IF).

James Adams made a couple of short trips, as follows, with many species likely representing county records; uncommon/unusual species are marked with *: *Dahlenega/Cane Creek area, Lumpkin County., May 17, 2000:* **SATURNIIDAE:** *Callosamia angulifera*. **APATELODIDAE:** *Apatelodes torrefacta*. **ARCTIIDAE:** *Clemensia albata*, *Holomelina opella*. **NOCTUIDAE:** *Zanclognatha lituralis*, *Chytolita morbidalis*, *Hyphenodes fractillinea*, *Phalaenophana metonalis*, *Phalaenostola larentioides*, *Lesmone detrahens*, *Zale metatoides*, *Argillophora furcilla**, *Othodes cynica*, *Pseudorthodes vecors*, *Leucania inermis*. **NOTODONTIDAE:** *Nadata gibbosa*, *Heterocampa umbrata*, *H. biundata*, *Macruocampa marthesia*, *Hyperaeschra georgica*. **GEOMETRIDAE:** *Euchlaena muzaria*, *E. amoenaria*, *Eusarca confusaria*, *Eubaphe mendica*.

Dillard, Rabun County., May 18, 2000: **SATURNIIDAE:** Dryocampa rubicunda. **ARCTIIDAE:** Clemensia albata, Holomelina opella. **NOCTUIDAE:** Idia americalis, Zanclognatha lituralis, Chytolita morbidalis, Zale metatoides, Z. aeruginosa, Z. undularis, Z. minerea, Allotria elonympha, Metalectra richardsi, Acronicta americana, Lithacodia muscosa, Callopietria mollissima, Comachara cadburyi*, Morrisonia (undescribed species)*, Anepia capsularis*, Orthodes cynica, O. (formerly Polia) goodelli, Pseudorthodes vecors. **GEOMETRIDAE:** Heliomata cycladata, Semiothisa bisignata, S. minorata, S. ocellinata, Hypagyrtis esther, Eufidonia convergaria* (STATE?), Glena cribrataria, Aethalura intertexta, Iridopsis larvaria, Metarranthis duaria, M. hypochraria, M. indeclinata, Anagoga occiduaria, Probole nepiasaria, P. nyssaria, Pero morrisonaria, Xanthotype sospeta, Dichorda iridaria, Pleuroprucha insularis, Eubaphe mendica, Dyspteris abortivaria. **ZYGAENIDAE:** Pyromorpha dimidiata.

Rabun Bald area, Rabun County, May 18, 2000: **BUTTERFLIES:** Papilio glaucus, Nymphalis antiopa, Vanessa virginiensis, V. atalanta, Calycopis cecrops, Erynnis horatius, E. brizo. **MOTHS – ARCTIIDAE:** Clemensia albata. **NOCTUIDAE:** Idia aemula, I. americalis, Zanclognatha lituralis, Chytolita morbidalis, Bomolocha baltimoralis, Plathypena scabra, Pangrapta decoralis, Allotria elonympha, Parallelia bistriaris, Zale unilineata, Z. lunata, Acronicta inclara, Charadra deridens, Baileya ophthalmica, Comachara cadburyi*, Hyperstrotia secta, Callopietria mollissima, Lithophane innominata* (Late!; STATE), Anorthodes tarda, Elaphria festivoidea, Pseudorthodes vecors, Homorthodes lindseyi, Orthodes cynica, Crocigrapha normani, Egira alternans, Morrisonia confusa, Morrisonia (undescribed species)*, Xestia dolosa. **NOTODONTIDAE:** Nadata gibbosa, Heterocampa biundata, H. gutivitta, Hyperaeschra georgica. **GEOMETRIDAE:** Heliomata cycladata, Semiothisa fissinotata, S. ocellinata, S. bisignata, S. promiscuata, Eufidonia convergaria* (STATE?), Orthofidonia tinctaria* (STATE?), Cabera erythemaria*, Melanolophia signataria, Iridopsis larvaria, Biston betularia, Plagodis serinaria*, Plagodis kuetzingi* (STATE?), Probole amicaria, Metarranthis duaria, M. indeclinata, M. amyrisaria* (STATE), Anagoga occiduaria, Lambdina fiscellaria, Campaea perlata, Tetracis cachexiata, Antepione thiosaria, Hethemia pistaciaria, Cyclophora pendulinaria, Hydriomena pluvata, Eupithecia matheri, Cladara anguilineata* (STATE). **LIMACODIDAE:** Tortricidia testacea.

Dillard, Rabun County, June 29, 2000: **SATURNIIDAE:** Automeris io, Eacles imperialis. **LASIOCAMPIDAE:** Artace cribraria. **APATELODIDAE:** Olceclostera angelica. **SPHINGIDAE:** Laothoe juglandis. **NOCTUIDAE:** Zanclognatha lituralis, Z. theralis*, Z. ochreipennis, Z. protumnusalis, Idia rotundalis, Renia sobrialis, Redectis vitrea, Catocala ultronia, C. andromedae, C. gracilis, C. amica, Tarachidia erastrioides, Hyperstrotia villificans, Ochropleura implecta. **NOTODONTIDAE:** Dasylophia anguina. **GEOMETRIDAE:** Semiothisa fissinotata, Glenodes texanaria, Ectropis crepuscularia, Eugonobapta nivosaria, Episemasia solitaria, Probole nepiasaria, Lambdina fiscellaria, Antepione thiosaria, Eulithis atricolorata, Scopula limboundata.

Rabun Bald area, Rabun County., June 29, 2000: **APATELODIDAE:** Apatelodes torrefacta. **ARCTIIDAE:** Euchaetes egle. **LYMANTRIIDAE:** Dasychira manto, D. obliquata. **NOCTUIDAE:** Zanclognatha ochreipennis, Z. protumnusalis, Z. martha, Idia rotundalis, I. julia, Renia flavipunctalis, Catocala blandula* (STATE), Acronicta ovata, Callopietria mollissima, Amphipoea velata, Eudryas grata, Homorthodes furfurata*, Eueretagtrotis attenta* (STATE). **NOTODONTIDAE:** Datana drexlii, Peridea ferruginea*, Heterocampa obliqua, Symmerista canicosta* (STATE; I have other specimens from other places that are assignable to this species). **GEOMETRIDAE:** Melanolophia imperfectaria*?, Euchlaena muzaria, Plagodis fervidaria, Eugonobapta nivosaria, Sicya macularia* (STATE), Eulithis atricolorata.

Bob Mower collected at Dawsonville, Dawson County, July 1 and 3, 2000: **HESPERIIDAE:** Amblyscirtes vialis. **NYPHALIDAE:** Euptoieta claudia, Phyciodes tharos, Junonia coenia, Limenitis arthemis astyanax, Cyllopsis gemma, Cercyonis pegala, Enodia creola*. **LYCAENIDAE:** Calycopis cecrops, Everes comyntas, Celastrina ladon. **SATURNIIDAE:** Dryocampa rubicunda, Anisota stigma, Citheronia regalis, Callosamia angulifera, Antheraea polyphemus. **MIMALLONIDAE:** Lacosoma chiridota. **ARCTIIDAE:** Holomelina opella, Haploa clymene, Hypercompe scribonia, Halysidota tessellaris. **LYMANTRIIDAE:** Dasychira obliquata, Orgyia definita. **NOCTUIDAE:** Acronicta funeralis*, Polygrammate hebraeicum, Panopoda rufimargo, Allotria elonympha, Catocala epione, C. ultronia, C. andromedae, C. grynea, C. micronympha, Eudryas grata.

NOTODONTIDAE: Peridea angulosa, Macrurocampa marthesia. **GEOMETRIDAE:** Itame pustularia, Semiothisa bisignata, Iridopsis larvaria, Melanolophia canadaria, Erastria coloraria*, Cabera erythemaria*, Besma quercivoraria, Lambdina fiscellaria, Dichorda iridaria, Eulithis diversilineata. **LIMACODIDAE:** Isa textula, Apoda biguttata, Natada nasoni, Parasa chloris, Euclea delphinii, Acharia stimulea.

And last, but certainly not least, there was a field trip in the vicinity of Meridian, McIntosh County, hosted by John Hyatt, 30 June - 2 July 2000 (see reports in this and the next issue of the newsletter). Some of the highlights include: **HESPERIIDAE:** Panoquina panoquin, Problema bulenta (in swamps alongside US Hwy 17 near Butler River Bridge, vic. Darien). **LYCAENIDAE:** Atlides halesus. **NYMPHALIDAE:** Satyrodes appalachia, Enodia portlandia. **ARCTIIDAE:** Dahana atripennis.

LOUISIANA: Michael Lockwood, 215 Hialeah Avenue, Houma, LA 70363

Michael Lockwood collected Anartia jatrophae for a **STATE** record, Golden Meadow, Lafourche Parish, 15 Nov 1999. He took another specimen for a **PARISH** record, Madison, Terrebone Parish, 3 Dec 1999. Michael also found Automeris louisiana on 12, 15, 16, 17, 18, & 21 Feb 2000, Leeville, Lafourche Parish.

James Adams collected at Paradise, St. Charles Parish and found: **NOCTUIDAE:** Enigmogramma basigera, Schrankia macula, Cutina arcuata, **SATURNIIDAE:** Eacles imperialis, Automeris io, **GEOMETRIDAE:** Nematocampa registaria, Pero zulissaria, **LASIOCAMPIDAE:** Tolyte minta, **LIMACODIDAE:** Phobetreron pithecium, **ARCTIIDAE:** Spilosoma virginica, **MEGALOPYGIDAE:** Norope ovina, and Megalopyge opercularis.

MISSISSIPPI: Rick Patterson, 400 Winona Rd., Vicksburg, MS 39180; E-mail: rpattel@Entergy.com

On June 7, 2000, Ricky Patterson visited Tombigbee National Forest, and collected the following at a location 9 miles NNE of Houston, Chickasaw county: **HESPERIIDAE:** Problema byssus (**COUNTY RECORD**), and **LYCAENIDAE:** Harkenclenus titus mopsus (**COUNTY RECORD**). On July 2, 2000, Ricky Patterson visited an area previously found by Larry Gall located about 2.2 miles west of Magna Vista, Issaquena county and collected: **NOCTUIDAE:** Catocola atocola. No other reports received.

NORTH CAROLINA: Steve Hall, North Carolina Natural Heritage Program, Div. of Parks & Recreation, 1615 MSC, Raleigh, NC 27699-1615; E-mail: Stephen.Hall@ncmail.net

The following butterfly records were submitted by Harry LeGrand. Place names refer to counties unless otherwise stated. RE = Randy Emmitt, HL = Harry LeGrand

A very warm spring caused the flights to average a week or two earlier than usual for most species. Below are some of the more significant reports through the end of May.

PAPILIONIDAE: Papilio cressphontes, surprising was one seen at Mount Mitchell State Park in Yancey (**COUNTY**) on May 7 by Clyde Kessler. Though there might be a few local colonies in the mountains, the species must be considered a migrant or stray at this high-elevation park. **PIERIDAE:** Pontia protodice, two males were early, as seen by Don Seriff in Lincoln (**COUNTY**) on March 5. **LYCAENIDAE:** Feniseca tarquinius, notable reports for this species were of one seen in Montgomery (**COUNTY**) on March 24 by RE and two seen in Caldwell (**COUNTY**) by HL on May 7. Atlides halesus, among the many Piedmont reports this spring were two near the inner edge of the range: Catawba (**COUNTY**) on March 10 by Lori Martin and Caswell (**COUNTY**) on March 26 by RE. Fixsenia favonius ontario, RE photographed one, farther inland than previously known in the state, in Caswell (**COUNTY**) on May 26. Unlike in Virginia, where the species is widespread in the mountains, in North Carolina the taxon has yet to be found in the mountains or in the western half of the Piedmont. Insicalia irus, several were found by Bo Sullivan on April 8 in Jones (**COUNTY**) at extensive colonies of Lupinus perennis, the hostplant at this site.

Mitoura hesseli, a decent one-day count of five individuals was made by HL, RE, and Jeff Phippen at Jones Lake State Park in Bladen on April 1. Celastrina neglectamajor, a number of new sites were found for the species, which is certainly not rare in the mountains. HL had a good count of six fresh males in Rutherford (COUNTY) in the foothills of the South Mountains in the western Piedmont on April 30, which is at the beginning of the flight period. In Buncombe County, a male was found on April 29 (surprisingly early for the elevation) by Clyde Kessler, and he had another along the Blue Ridge Parkway in Yancey on May 7. HL had another fresh male in Caldwell (COUNTY) on May 7. In all cases, observers had female C. ladon present for comparison. The flight for the species normally begins around May 5-10, but the warm spring was likely responsible for the flight running perhaps 10 days ahead of schedule. **NYMPHALIDAE:** Agraulis vanillae, an early migrant appeared at Mount Mitchell State Park in Yancey on May 7, as noted by Clyde Kessler. Enodia anthedon, RE observed a female ovipositing on Microstegium vimineum, the noxious Japanese grass, in Caswell (COUNTY) on May 26. This grass, which has spread across many Piedmont bottomlands, was suspected to be the hostplant in most eastern Piedmont sites in the state and may be the reason for the apparent spread and increase of the butterfly toward the Fall Line. **HESPERIIDAE:** Erynnis martialis, this rare species was found twice at new sites: a fresh male seen by HL in Rutherford (COUNTY) on April 30, and a female photographed by RE in Caswell (COUNTY) on May 26. Poanes hobomok, five seen on April 30 by HL in the South Mountains foothills in Rutherford represent the first report for the species in that month (i.e., a record early date).

The following selected moth records were submitted by Steve Hall, Scott Hartley, and Chris Helms. All specimens were collected at Weymouth Woods State Natural Area in Moore County.

GEOMETRIDAE: Selenia kentaria: One specimen was collected in dry oak-hickory habitat on March 30th. This species has previously been collected in North Carolina in the Mountains, eastern Piedmont, and northeast Coastal Plain. This is apparently the first record for the Sandhills (COUNTY RECORD). **ARCTIIDAE:** Cycnia inopinatus: One specimen was collected at a hillside seepage bog on May 2 (COUNTY RECORD). This species has only been collected at a few sites in the North Carolina Coastal Plain, all possessing open, savanna-like habitats. Grammia phyllira. Single specimens were collected on May 2 and May 23, both from legume-rich sites. **NOCTUIDAE:** Hemeroplanis n. sp: This red-banded species has apparently been identified as H. obliquali: in the past, but according to Erich Quinter (pers. comm. to Bo Sullivan) does not match the type specimen. It is quite abundant in the Sandhills, flying during the day. The earliest individuals observed this year were out on April 6; specimens were collected as recently as May 23. Hemeroplanis habitalis: This species appears to be associated with open, sandy habitats in North Carolina, ranging from dune habitats on the barrier islands to longleaf pine-dominated sandhills inland. Specimens were obtained on April 6, April 17, and May 23. Ptichodis bistrigata: This species appears to be strongly associated with sandhills habitats. In North Carolina, it has previously been collected from coastal sand ridges as well as the sand rims bordering Carolina Bays further inland. The specimens collected on April 6 and May 2 may be the first taken in the Fall-line Sandhills (COUNTY RECORD). Tripudia quadrifera: Two specimens of this uncommon species were collected on May 23 (COUNTY RECORD). Hyperstrotia aetheria: The specimen collected on May 2 is apparently the first one found in North Carolina (STATE RECORD). According to Tim McCabe (pers. comm. to Dale Schweitzer), this species is associated with xeric oak habitats and can be common in such habitats in Florida.

SOUTH CAROLINA: Ron Gattelle, 126 Wells Rd., Goose Creek, SC 29445 No Report.

TENNESSEE: John Hyatt, 5336 Foxfire Place, Kingsport, TN 37664; E-mail: jhyatt@eastman.com No Report.

TEXAS: Ed Knudson, 8517 Burkhart Road, Houston, TX 77055; E-mail: eknudson@wt.net

Conditions in Texas have been very dry in most of the state in the spring of 2000, with the exception of northeast, panhandle and north central areas of the state. Some rains occurred in the extreme south and far west Texas late in the spring and we hope this trend will continue.

Knudson & Borderlon collected in the lower Rio-Grande Valley April 1 thru 9, with fairly unimpressive results due to the lack of rainfall. About 85 butterfly species were found valley-wide, the best species unfortunately, were not captured.

In Zapata, Zapata County, 2 April, one specimen of Pieris rapae was observed (Rare in Texas). At Bentsen State Park, Hidalgo County, 3 April, one specimen of Marpesia chiron was observed at close range. A few Myscelia ethusa were seen around baited trees. At Yturria NWR, Hidalgo County, 4 April, one specimen of Proteides merurius was observed at close range, as it was nectaring on a blossom of Wild Olive. It somehow escaped the net. At Penitas, Hidalgo County, 4 April, one specimen of Melanis pixe was observed nectaring on Acacia, but was worn and left alone. At Santa Maria NWR, Cameron County, 5&6 April, most of the usual species were present, but nothing unusual. Phoebis philea, Ascia monuste, Appias drusilla, Eurema boisduvaliana, Dryas iulia, Euptoeita hegesia, Chioides albofasciatus, Urbanus dorantes, U. procne, Chiomara asychis, and Cymaenes odilia. At Sal de Rey NWR, Hidalgo County, 8 April, one specimen of Heliopetes domicella was collected. Strymon rufofusca was found to be quite common; two specimens of Strymon yojoa were seen, but missed.

Interesting moths from this trip included; Acosus connectus, Bentsen State Park, Hidalgo County, 4 April; Ommatospila narcaesalis, Anemosella abliquata, Nemoria zygotaria, Tripudia versuta and Bagisaria tristicta, Sal de Rey NWR, 8 April. On April 15, Knudson went to McMullen County at SR 644 (About 8 mi. E. of Jct. US 16 & SR 644) and collected 3 specimens of Schinia antonio on the host plant, Aphanostepheus ramosissimus (Lazy Daisy or Fleabane Daisy). Jeffrey Sloten also collected this species at a nearby locality about three weeks earlier. These diurnal species fly mostly at mid-day.

On May 8 & 9, Bordelon and Knudson visited the Guadalupe Mtns. National Park. Conditions were quite dry throughout the park. Few butterflies were seen, the most interesting were, Atrytonopsis vierecki, A. python, and A. edwardsii, which were collected in McKittrick Canyon on 8 May. Interesting moths (from Lamar Canyon, May 8 & 9) included; Anoncia callida, Siskiwitia alticolans (Cosmopterigidae); Nealyda bifidella, (Gelechiidae); Mescinia texanica (Pyralidae); Oidaematophorus brucei (Pterophoridae); Euchlaena irraria, (Geometridae); Lophocampa argentata (Arctiidae); and Oncocnemis figurata, O. semicollaris and Acronicta edolata.

On May 10,11 &12, Bordelon and Knudson collected in the Davis Mts. Preserve (Texas nature Conservancy). Again conditions were extremely dry in the Davis Mtns., with many Oak trees seemingly dead or dying. There were few butterflies out. The best moths were collected just below Bridge Gap on Mt. Livermore, at about 7300'. On new state record for Texas was the Physid, Coloneura fragilis. Other interesting species included: Nemapogon defectella (Tineidae); Scrobipalpula henshawiella, Chionodes naevus, C. fremor, C. lactans, C. innox, Dichmeris gelba (Gelechiidae); Bondia comonana (Carposinidae); Miacora perplexus (Cossidae); Catastega spectra, Durangarchips druana (Tortricidae); Pyrausta flavofascialis, P. arizonensis, Dasyphyga alterosquamilla, Triosneura dorsonotata (pyralidae); Vinemine catalina, Galenara lixarioides, Iridopsis emasculata, Carchoides incopriaria, Chlorosea roseitacta, Eupithecia ornata, (Geometridae); Zale chisosensis, Tripudia balteata, Panthea gigantea, Bryoliminia semifascia, Lacinipolia lepidulia, and Euagrotis beata (Noctuidae).

On the weekend of May 13 & 14, Bordelon and Knudson met James Adams and Jim Vargo at Sabine Pass, Jefferson County. The Object of our interest was, Euphyes bayensis, which was not found, nor was it found two weeks later at the same location. Black and UV lighting at the local state park did not yield very much. The most interesting were three species of Doryodes, and various micros. One Choreutid, Tebanna carduiella was a new record for the region. The Geometrid, Itame varadaria, was fairly common.

In recent weeks, both west and south Texas have received some much needed rainfall. Hopefully, this trend will continue throughout the summer.

James Adams and Jin Vargo collected in Texas on April 29 through May 4. They visited Sabine Pass in extreme SE Texas to the Davis Mtns. Jim Vargo sent me a list of 304 species, of which I will include some of the more interesting records. McMullen County, CR 624, 5 mi. e. of SR 16, April 30: Eumorpha vitis, Didugua argentilineella, Zale umbrina, Cydosia aurivitta, and Bagisara praecelsa (All new county records). Val verde County, 2 mi. w. of Del Rio (City limits), May 1: Acanthotoca graefi, Pigia multilineata, Apotolype breviorista, Sphinx istar, Euchaetes elegans, Tarachidia venustula, Fruva pulchra, Spragueia jaguaralis, and Schinia cupes. Terrell County, Sanderson, May 2: Ethmia trifurcella, Filatima obidenna, Cactobrosis fernaldialis, Exelis ophiurus, Animomyia minuta, Philtraea paucimacula, Eucaterva variaria (many cocoons), Lycomorpha splendens, Drasteria howlandi/tejonica (These are probably forms of one species), Oncocnemis toddi, Copanarta aurea, and Abagrotis orbis. Jeff Davis County, near McDonald Observatory, May 3: Chionodes naevus, Thaumatopsis magnifica, Meroptera civiatella, Ufa senta, Glena mcdunnougharia kirkwoodaria, Pachysphinx occidentalis, and Anorthodes triquetra. Uvalde County, Concan, May 4: Petrophila daemonalis, Dioryctria caesifulellaety, Heterocampa astartoides, Hyparpax aurostriata, Goniapteryx servia, Zale edusina, Catocala consors, Euscirrhopterus cosyra, Oncocnemis occata and Cucullis laetifica.

Knudson and Bordelon visited San Antonio and College Station, July 4 through 9. The Sesiid, Vitacea admiranda was common at pheromones from about 6 to 8 PM at both localities. At Guadalupe River State Park, Comal County, July 6; Paranthrene simulans was common and many were found in pheromone traps. That evening few moths came to their lights. Best were: Eueythra trimaculata, Cydosia aurivitta, and Petrophila daemonalis. On July 4, we checked pheromone traps at Stephen F. Austin Park, Austin County. One trap contained many Vitacea scepiformis.

Current conditions in Texas are hot and dry, except the far west Texas, which has had some much needed rain this summer. Conditions in College Station to Sanderson are about normal for this time of year.

VIRGINIA : Harry Pavulaan, 494 Fillmore Street, Herndon, VA 22070; E-mail: hpavulaan@aol.com

Harry Pavulaan was unable to send a field report due to some serious computer problems. Losing fields and not being able to recover information can make your hair turn gray! (Editor's note: Your Editor can relate to Harry's problem. Earlier this year I up-dated my computer and lost the entire newsletter. However, my hair falls out rather than turn gray!)

SOUTHERN LEPIDOPTERISTS' SOCIETY
c/o LEROY C. KOEHN, THE EDITOR
6085 Wedgewood Village Circle
Lake Worth, FL 33463-7371



Deborah & Terry Lott
P.O. Box 141034
Gainesville, FL 32614-1034

2000

48
48
9000
WESPT PAID IN REACH 324
31
AUG