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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

J. BARRY LOMBARDINI: EDITOR

CHANGING OF THE GUARD-HARD ACT TO FOLLOW

I am pleased to become the new editor of the Southern Lepidopterists' Society for the year 2001. Let me introduce myself. My name is J. Barry Lombardini (Fig. 1). The first order of business is to thank and give a huge round of applause to Leroy Koehn for all his work these last many years as the newsletter editor for the Society. Without Leroy the Society would have been at a minimum, less successful, and at a maximum, potentially would have had no newsletter. Leroy's knowledge of the lepidoptera of the Southern region, his writing skills, and his organizational

adeptness has enabled the Society Newsletter to continue to serve its readers in both an informative and interesting fashion. Leroy's past performance will be extremely difficult, near impossible, for me to match. However, we will make an attempt. This is my first endeavor at desktop publishing and, perhaps, I am too old for this task.

The second order of business is for me to tell the readership something about myself. I was not always a Texan as I was born in San Francisco, California. From my parents' front room window in the Sunset-Parkside district we could see the ocean on a clear day which was only a few times a year - remember San Francisco fog. [On a really clear day the Farallone Islands (National Wildlife Refuge) could be seen which are 20 miles off the coast.] My interest in Lepidoptera, *i.e.* butterflies, started when I was around 8 years old - about 6 years after the last Xerces Blue was seen in the coastal sand dunes of San Francisco. Perhaps, the two nicest butterflies that I remember from my early days of collecting were the Green Hairstreak

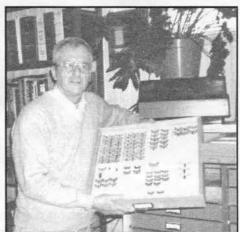


Figure 1

(Callophrys viridis) which was found in the hills of San Francisco, and the California Dogface (Zerene eurydice) which was fairly common in the Russian River Area (70 miles north of San Francisco). Other butterflies that impressed me at this early age were the Western Tiger Swallowtail (Pterourus rutulus) which flew from backyard garden to backyard garden, and the Monarch. My father caught the largest Monarch that I had even seen when we were vacationing in the Sierras and he was on a day fishing trap. As I recall (I must have been about 10 years old) the Monarch was in perfect condition which was remarkable since my dad had no net and kept it in his carton of

fishing worms most of the day. My father built me a large glass cabinet to display my collection. Many years later when I returned to San Francisco to visit my parents and had a rekindled interest in butterflies, I retrieved the cabinet from storage. To my dismay the butterflies had been destroyed by dermestid beetle larvae.

My education after high school continued at St. Mary's College of California where I obtained a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry. From there I went to the University of California San Francisco and earned a Ph.D. degree in Biochemistry. After postdoctoral studies at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in the Department of Pharmacology from 1969-1973, I was offered in 1973 a faculty position in the Department of Pharmacology at the brand new medical school in Lubbock, Texas - Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center. This year I will have been 28 years at TTUHSC starting out as an Assistant Professor and becoming a Professor in 1984. (Thinking a little bit about retiring one of these days.)

Figure 2

It was during my postdoctoral days at Johns Hopkins School of Medicine that I revived my interest in butterflies. I was fishing on the Susquehanna River outside of Baltimore, Maryland, in the spring of 1969 and noticed a large number (~20) of Tiger swallowtails puddling on the banks of the river. The fish weren't biting and consequently it was an easy jump to give up fishing and renew my long lost interest in collecting butterflies. In 1970, I met Robert Bryant a local Maryland butterfly/moth collector (also a member of The Southern Lepidopterists' Society) who mentored me in the finer points of our Lepidopterian interests. "Bob" also encouraged me to acquire an interest in the moths which after many years of avoiding these critters (used to refer to them as "crummy brown moths") I have finally accepted them whole heartily (my thanks to Bob).



Figure 3



Figure 4

Thus, for the last 28 years I have been primarily collecting, first, the butterflies of West Texas and now the moths of this area. This area is now considered home. My wife and I reside in the City of Lubbock which as all the readers most certainly realize is the home of Buddy Holly (Fig. 2) and, perhaps, the membership remembers is where the "Lubbock Lights" were observed. Ha! You ask "What are the Lubbock Lights?". This was one of the earliest sightings (1951) of unidentified flying objects (Fig. 3) -- "Flying 'Whatsits' seen Again" (reported in the local newspaper, the Lubbock Avalanche Journal).

My wife and I have two children, a daughter who is married with three children and a son who is a graduate

student and lives at home with his dog (an unruly Labrador Retriever). While most of the readers will probably think that West Texas is flat, hot, dry, dusty, and not much vegetation - they are right! Well, actually we do have a few trees, some lakes, and a few rivers/creeks (mostly dry but sometimes with a little water) in the region (Figs. 4 and 5). And occasionally, interesting butterflies are seen such as *Chlosyne rosita browni* which was first reported to be found in the US in southern Texas in the Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge in 1972 (Kendall, R.O., J. Lepid. Soc. 26, 49-56, 1972). One specimen (Fig. 6) was collected in my backyard in the city of Lubbock in 1973, and never another one seen since. Another interesting butterfly that occurs occasionally in my area is *Eurema nise nelphe* (*Eurema lisa* is common). While these two above mentioned butterflies are undoubtedly strays (perhaps blown in by the wind), *Glaucopsyche lygdamus jacki*, a beautiful silvery blue butterfly, and *Thessalia fulvia*, the Fulvia Checkerspot (Fig. 7), are residents with viable colonies in canyons located just outside the Lubbock City



Figure 5

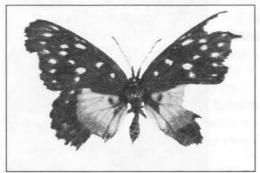


Figure 6

limits. There are approximately 100 different species of butterflies (reported in the Southern Lepidopterists' News, Vol 18, No. 2, pp. 7-9, 1996) found in the Lubbock area. Not too, too bad for an area that is "...flat, hot, dry, dusty, and not much vegetation..."

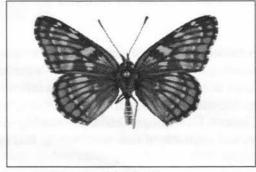


Figure 7

THANKS TO ED KNUDSON

The Officers and the Membership would like to thank Ed Knudson for serving this past year as President of the Society.

UNIDENTIFIED ???

If the membership has an unidentified butterfly/moth send me a picture and I will publish it in the Newsletter. Perhaps a fellow member will be able to identify the specimen. Thanks to Vernon Brou for suggesting to have a section in the Newsletter for identifying unknown specimens. Please send your identifications to the Editor so that the results can be posted in the next Newsletter.



Unknown #1



Unknown #2

This issue's unknowns have been submitted by Vernon Brou from Louisiana.

THANKS LEROY

Leroy Koehn will be retiring from his Editor position with the Southern Lepidopterists' Society beginning January 2001. On behalf of all the members of the Southern Lepidopterists' Society, I wish to thank Leroy for the fine work

he put forth. Leroy began his editorship in 1996. He faithfully produced 4 newsletters of excellent quality each year and helped with all other functions as well.

Leroy is an enthusiastic and caring leader. He was instrumental in keeping the organization going and sought out new members wherever he could. He contributed his own articles and gave excellent presentations at our yearly meetings. He tried to attend all of the field meetings and brought along a great sense of humor. He willingly shared his trapping equipment and ideas with other members and encouraged new members to find new habitats and report their records.

Leroy has agreed to continue as advisor for the incoming editor of the Southern Lepidopterists' Society. He has relocated to Kentucky and plans on being involved with the Kentucky Lepidopterists' Society.

Again, thank you Leroy for all your efforts!

Jeffrey R. Slotten Treasurer of the Southern Lepidopterists' Society

Let me also add a note from the entire Society membership thanking Leroy for all his hard work involving many hours of his time to provide the Society with a first class newsletter.

J. Barry Lombardini



TO THE MEMBERSHIP

As your new editor I am open to any suggestions about improving the Newsletter, and if reasonable suggestions I will certainly try to comply with your wishes. I anticipate that my biggest problem will be to have enough material to fill a reasonably sized Newsletter. Please report your collecting activity and any other information that you think will be of interest to the readership. How about sending me a short article about some aspect of collecting, rearing, life history, butterfly gardening, photography, etc. Take advantage of sending me a picture of your unknowns. (Don't get carried away, I plan to use only 2-4 per issue.) Remember, the Newsletter can only be successful if the membership contributes. Please take a few minutes. Thanks.

BOOK NOTICE: Now in Paperback for 2001 – Nabokov's Blues: The Scientific Odyssey of a Literary Genius, by Kurt Johnson and Steve Coates (McGraw-Hill Professional Publishing: ISBN: 0-07-137330-6, \$16.95 US, March 15, 2001). A "Top Ten" book in Science for 2000 at The American Library Association, The Washington Post and HMS Beagle (the Bio/Med/Tech website); an "Editors' Choice" for 2000 in Booklist, Library Journal and The Seattle Times. SCIENCE calls its conservation message "eloquent and compelling"; NATURE says the Nabokov saga "thoroughly captures the joys and frustrations of taxonomic discovery".

WELCOME ABOARD

Welcome to Bill Russell who takes over the chairmanship of our Society for this year. Bill lives in Atlanta and his interests include Rhopalocera of the New World. He collects and exchanges specimens. Bill is also interested in photography and the flight mechanics of lepidoptera. If you have any suggestions as to how to improve the Society please drop him a line. (Bill Russell, 772 Yorkshire Rd. NE, Atlanta, GA 30306; e-mail WHRINATL@aol.com)

2001 ABBOT AWARD NOMINATIONS

It is again time to start thinking about the John Abbot Award and who the nominees should be. Enclosed in this newsletter is a form that can be used to nominate a candidate. Please take a few minutes to consider who is deserving of this award and mail the ballot to Bill Russell our new Chairman.

MEMBERS' NOTICES

For Sale: LIGHT TRAPS: 12 volt DC or 110 volt AC with 15 watt 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 brochure and price list contact: Leroy C. Koehn, 202 Redding Rd, Georgetown, KY 40324; Tele.: 502-570-9123; 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, 202 Redding Rd., Georgetown, KY 40324; Tele.: 502-570-9123; Email: Leptraps@aol.com.

The Texas Lepidoptera Survey has publication 8 (Illustrated Checklist of the Texas Hill Country), now in print. It now includes over 1900 species from a 45 county region in south central Texas. Ed Knudson and Charles Bordelon are interested in any and all records that readers may have from this region and from the lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas.

NEW MEMBER

Charles W. Garner
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The Southern Lepidopterists' Society

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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:

PALO DURO CANYON - THE BEAUTY OF WEST TEXAS

BY

J. BARRY LOMBARDINI



Figure 1

Francisco Vasquez de Coronado started heading north from Mexico City on February 23, 1540, with 250 cavalrymen, 70 footmen, thousands of sheep, horses, and cattle, light artillery, 100 Indians, and two monks searching for the Seven Cities of Cibola. Rumors were prevalent that north of Mexico there was a wonderful, rich land of Cibola, where seven cities were built mostly of gold and precious stones. The rumor was taken seriously since the Spaniards had previous monetary success when Hernando Cortez conquered Mexico City in 1521 and Francisco Pizarro conquered Cuzco in Peru in 1535 - cities which were wealthy in gold and jewels - items that the Conquistadors and Spain were immensely interested in. Coronado came through the Lubbock area in 1541 and then proceeded more than 100 miles north to discover an enormous canyon - Palo

Duro Canyon (Fig. 1 and 2). After surviving their treacherous march the Conquistadors and their entourage gave thanks to God for His mercy and bounty. This thanksgiving service was almost 80 years before the "first" Thanksgiving was offered by the pilgrims in Massachusetts.

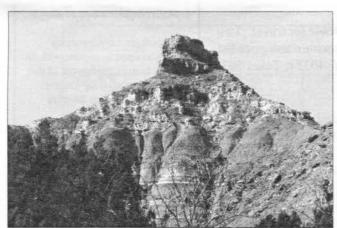


Figure 2

The area of West Texas where Palo Duro Canyon is located has had an interesting past. Perhaps, the most famous incident occurred in 1836 when a 9 year old girl, Cynthia Ann Parker, and her brother, were captured by the Comanche Indians. In the raid, her father was killed along with 4 other men, and her mother later died of her wounds. During the next 24 years, Cynthia Ann Parker was seen many times with the Indians by white hunters, but it was not until 1860 that she was re-captured by white settlers. Her brother was never seen after the initial capture. Cynthia Ann Parker had very little memory of the white mans' ways - even her English was basically lost. During the 24 years with the Indians, she had apparently accepted the Indian ways and was married to Peta Nocona, a Comanche chief. When she was captured by the settlers, she had with her a

young daughter named Prairie Flower who subsequently died at age 7. Cynthia Ann Parker never again accepted the white man's ways and it is said that she died of a broken heart (probably influenza) in 1871 (some dispute as to the actual year), yearning for her forever gone Indian ways. Her son was Chief Quanah Parker, born in 1848, the last of the great Comanche Indian chiefs and who participated in the Red River Indian Wars against the foreign intruder in the Texas Panhandle.

It was in the Palo Duro Canyon named for the "hard wood" of the Juniper trees prevalent in the canyon that the decisive battle took place that forever ended the life style of the Indians in the region. September 28, 1874, Colonel Ranald McKenzie of the Fourth Cavalry led 5 companies of the Tenth Infantry into the Palo Duro Canyon where the Indians under the combined leadership of Quanah Parker, Black Horse, Buffalo Hump (all Comanche), Little Bear and Little Wolf (Cheyenne), Lone Wolf and Satanta (Kiowa) met their defeat. Colonel McKenzie surprised the Indians in their camp in this offensive maneuver, and while the loss of life was minimal (4 Indians, no soldiers) the

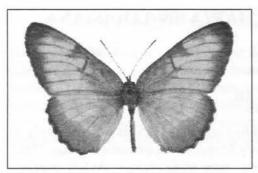


Figure 4

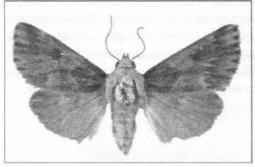


Figure 5

US cavalry captured 1424 horses and 150 mules. The horses and mules were driven into a neighboring canyon (Tule Canyon) and after separating the "better animals" (526), the remaining animals (1048) were destroyed. The US cavalry had demolished the Indian village and their supplies. The battle of Palo Duro Canyon was the fifth battle in a series of 8 battles referred to as the Red River War, pitting the US against the Indian federation, but it was the decisive battle. Winter was approaching, the Indians had no hideout, no supplies, no horses, and no choice but to give up and return to the reservation in Fort Sill, Oklahoma Territory.



Figure 3

Chief Quanah Parker was a man of vision and realized that if the Indian was to have any success in this new, changing world he would have to adapt. Chief Quanah Parker was a spokesman for the Indians in this region and a friend to 3 American presidents: Grover Cleveland,

William McKinley, and Theodore Roosevelt. He had 7 wives and 21 children. President Theodore Roosevelt was invited by Chief Quanah Parker to hunt wolves in the Panhandle in 1906 and President Roosevelt on this occasion told him that he could not have 7 wives, that polygamy was prohibited under United States law. The story has it that Chief Quanah Parker politely replied that he (meaning the President) could tell 6 wives to leave. End of that conversation. Chief Quanah Parker as a war chief was feared by many of his adversaries, but after the wars became a friend to his enemies equal to his intensity as a foe. Chief Quanah Parker died in 1911 and is buried in Oklahoma next to his mother and sister where he rests "until day breaks and darkness disappears".

After the Indians had been removed from Palo Duro Canyon, the buffalo were next. The buffalo hunter was slowly or depending upon your point of view, rapidly, decimating the buffalo herds in the region. Finally, Charles Goodnight, the first permanent rancher in the Texas Panhandle, came into Palo Duro Canyon after the Indian wars, drove out the remaining buffalo, and eventually turned Palo Duro Canyon into one large cattle ranch. The ranch of Charles Goodnight and his partners eventually grew to 1.35 million acres with 100,000 cattle. Presently, Palo Duro Canyon is a Texas State Park and a favorite hiking, camping, and general recreational area in West Texas. Palo Duro Canyon (Fig. 3) is located approximately 30 miles Southeast of Amarillo an 120 miles Northeast of Lubbock. Some of the more interesting lepidoptera in Palo Duro Canyon are: Amymone (Mestra amymone, Fig. 4), Schinia sanguinea (Fig. 5), and the Olive Hairstreak (Mitoura gryneus).

While *Mitoura gryneus* is quite common in Palo Duro Canyon, "siva" has not been observed (at least by me). However, siva has been caught in Caprock Canyons State Park (90 miles to the southeast) which has similar terrain. I will leave it to the experts as to whether siva is a separate subspecies or as Paul Opler states in his book <u>Western Butterflies</u>, "The occurrence of intermediate populations in West Texas and Southern New Mexico indicate that gryneus and siva should be treated as a single, widespread, variable species".

CONGRATULATIONS

THE OCCURRENCE OF NEMORIA EXTREMARIA IN LOUISIANA

BY

VERNON ANTOINE BROU JR.

The small green geometrid **Nemoria extremaria** (Walker) was reported by Ferguson (1985) as occurring only in a narrow zone of counties in peninsular Florida. Ferguson further stated only 30 specimens are known to exist. This author has taken **extremaria** in Louisiana continuously1982 through 2001, near Abita Springs. At this location, it is one of the most common of the green geometrids taken in ultra violet light traps, occurring as adults in all 12 months (Fig. 1). Ferguson has confirmed this Louisiana population is indeed **extremaria** based on a series of specimens sent to him in the mid 1980s. This species can be easily confused with the green forms of the highly variable **Nemoria elfa** Ferguson, a widely common species in Louisiana. Nemoria extremaria is one of seven species of the genus known to occur in Louisiana, some of which have been previously reported. The species **extremaria** is newly recorded for Louisiana. Specimens have been deposited at United States National Museum, American Museum of Natural History, Florida State Collection of Arthropods, and Louisiana State University Baton Rouge. In Louisiana, **extremaria** appears to have at least four annual broods. The largest populated broods appear to be in the spring and fall, the summer broods being less populated.

Literature Cited

Ferguson, Douglas C., in Dominick, R. B., et al., 1985 The Moths of America North of Mexico, Fasc. 18.1, Geometroidae: Geometridae (in part) p.34.

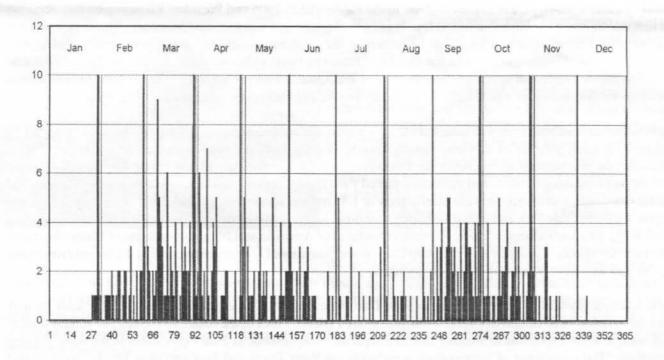


Fig. 1. The flight periods of **Nemoria extremaria** (Walker), sec. 24, T6, SR12E, 4.2 mi. NE Abita Springs, St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana (1996-2000). N= 424.

(Vernon A. Brou Jr. 74320 Jack Loyd Road, Abita Springs, Louisiana 70420 USA, email: vabrou@bellsouth.net)

PORTRAIT OF SPHINGIDAE FLIGHT IN LOUISIANA

BY

VERNON ANTOINE BROU Jr.

The old adage "a picture is worth a thousand words" is quite apropos when evaluating the brood activity of Sphingidae in Louisiana. Figure one clearly depicts an abundance of specimens on the wing peaking end of March to early April as the initial broods of numerous species emerge and take flight. Then there is a prolonged non-conforming brood interval occurring for numerous sphingidae species (Brou, 1997). Many Louisiana species have multiple broods often at approximately 30-day intervals. Some of these often have a very small second brood about 30 days later, but then resume larger populated broods at regular approximate 30-day intervals through the remainder of the year. Evident is a small peak end of April to early May. A few other species make their appearance for the first time during April and May and meld with all others which are now occurring at constant intervals into the second largest quantity of specimens on the wing during the year. It is at this time also the remainder of the latest developing plants now have leaves. Moving to July thru August, the two months with the warmest temperatures, we see the largest quantity of specimens on the wing as well as the largest number of species at any time during the year. On to September, most species are having their last brood, many exhibiting their fifth or sixth brood of the season. A few species, Agrius cingulata (F.), Enyo lugubris (L.), and Xylophanes tersa (L.), have their highest populated broods during the fall months. Most noteworthy here is the total absence of captured specimens on September 2, due to extreme winds, as hurricane Eleana swept through this area of Louisiana.

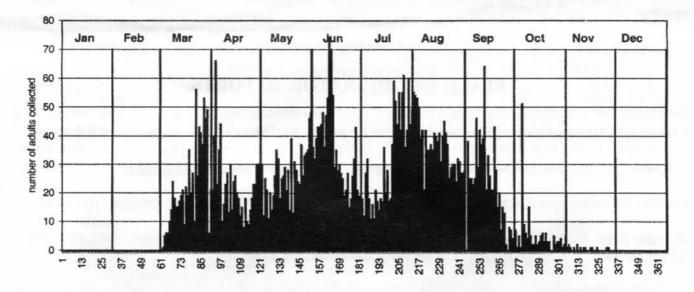


Fig. 1. All adult Sphingidae specimens captured at Abita Springs, St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana, USA during 1985. N=6,234.

(Vernon Antoine Brou Jr., 74320 Jack Loyd Road, Abita Springs, Louisiana 70420 USA email: vabrou@bellsouth.net)

The Society presently has 147 members. Ask a friend or colleague that is not a member to join. Even better --- surprise a friend with a one year gift membership. Lets have a goal of 200 members for 2001.

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

One of the highlights for your editor that Ed Knudson was instrumental in organizing this last year was the Annual Meeting of the Southern Lepidopterists' Society that was held in September at Texas A&M in College Station, Texas (Jeff Slotten already gave the formal report on this meeting in Vol. 22 #3, Pg. 47). Ed put on an interesting meeting where he and John Oswald (Texas A&M entomologist) presented and demonstrated the TIARA website. "The TIARA Project is a collaborative effort among biologists and computer scientists to develop and deliver fundamental information about the biota of Texas and surrounding regions to researchers, educators, policy makers and the general public through a flexible, interactive, web-based, information system." The system was quite impressive, but I have only one question since I must have missed the explanation somewhere during the presentation. What does TIARA stand for?

The Texas A&M collection was open for viewing. It is always a thrill for me to see a lot lepidoptera that are not present in my West Texas area. Roy Kendall's collection which was in the process of being moved to A&M was certainly impressive. At the time of the meeting about half the collection had been moved from Roy's possession to the University.

We had a great dinner at a local restaurant and the College Station City Park was available to us for moth collecting. However, the weather was on the rainy side and the collecting was not very good.

All attending had a enjoyable time with great fellowship! Our thanks to Ed Riley who helped plan and sponsor the meeting.

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Records listed below are from James Adams and Mike Chapman (MC); 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 Co., GA unless otherwise specified. "Car." represents Carbondale, exit 326 (formerly 136) off I-75, Whitfield Co. Definite county/state records are indicated.

NYMPHALIDAE: Texan Crescents (5; Anthanassa texana), along a gum/cypress swamp, west of Brunswick, 13 March, 2001 (MC). Mike reports that these were at a site that he visited regularly over the past eight years, and this is the first time he's seen them. NOCTUIDAE: Feralia major, first one 15 Jan. 2001 (Car.), many more seen both at Car. and in Calhoun (COUNTY), still flying. Four species of Orthosia (garmani, alurina, hibisci, and rubescens) and all species of Psaphida have been having good flights this year (except no records for thaxteriana); P. grandis flew earliest and is now done flying (basically the month of February); rolandi, styracis, resumens and electilis started flying (in that order) from mid to late February and are all still flying. Zale bethunei, 9 and 12 March, 2001; Z. calycanthata, 13 March, 2001; Z. obliqua, 8 March, 2001; several Lithophane antennata, mid-February (Car.); L. viridipallens, 2 and 9 Feb. 2001; L. signosa, at bait 4 Feb. 2001; L. grotei, 19 Feb. 2001 (Car.); Eupsilia vinulenta, cirrapalea and an undescribed speces, all at bait 4 Feb. 200; Cerastis tenebrifera, several, late Feb. - early March 2001. GEOMETRIDAE: Paleacrita merricata, 4 specimens, both in Calhoun and at Car., late Jan. - mid. Feb; Ceratonyx satanaria, many, both in Calhoun and at Car., late Feb. - mid March and still flying; Phaeoura (formerly Nacophora) quernaria, 13 March 2001; X. lacustrata, 11 March, 2001 (COUNTY).

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Ron reports the following: February 26 ----Bamberg Co. SC. 1 Parrhasius m-album, several A. halesus, several Vanessa virginensis. Allendale Co. SC. Coehn's landing: Papilio glaucus (1 canadensis type), P. interrogationis. Johnson's landing: Celastrina idella, Incisalia niphon. Screven Co. GA. Wade Plantation Hwy off 301: Erynnis juvenalis, Epargyreus clarus, C. idella, A. halesus. Burke Co. GA. Stony Bluff landing: V. virginensis, P. rapae. Georgia Power Landing: P. interrogationis, P. comma, Eurema nicippe, many Libytheana bachmanni. In old field Megathymus vuccae tents. March 14 ---- Ron was able to get in about two and a half hours this Wednesday, March 14 at Edisto Island, Charleston County SC. Heavy rain Monday; got up to about 80 on Tuesday. Wednesday was 78 while he was out. Clouded over late afternoon and began light rain about 10 pm: 1) Anthocharis midea midea -Fairly numerous and fresh. Ron said that he saw more females than he had expected. They are not usually out in any numbers this early. The rain Monday was a likely factor in bringing them out. All were very fresh. Perhaps this will be a good year for this very local coastal endemic, 2) Polygonia interrogationis - Widely dispersed singletons, 3) Nymphalis antiopa - One. This area is about 2 miles from the ocean, 4) Phyciodes tharos - Scarse - fresh, 5) Danaus plexippus - One. Was unable to net it to check for tag, 6) Eurema nicippe - Scattered individuals, 7) Colias eurytheme - Scarce, 8) Phoebis sennae eubule. - Scattered individuals. Charleston is the type locality for this subspecies. We have just had the coldest winter on record and a late hard freeze the nights of March 5 & 6. Specimens were freshly emerged. If this subspecies is not resident year round it is NOT because it gets too cold. It will be because by April-May the larval host is not available. Though other hosts may be used. This butterfly is found here (in fair numbers) all winter long on warm days, 9) (Day moth) Alvpia wittfeldi - One fresh male.

Tennessee: John Hyatt, 5336 Foxfire Place, Kingsport, TN 37664, E-Mail: jhyatt@eastman.com

Texas: Ed Knudson, 8517 Burkhart Road, Houston, TX 77055, E-Mail: eknudson@earthlink.net

Ed reports that the weather has been so bad this winter (not too cold, just bad), that he has not been in the field to any great extent. However, Ed does give the following report. February 24 - Spring Valley, TX: diurnal moths, *Psychomorpha epimenis* and *Thyris sepulchralis* were observed. March 3 - Beaumont, TX: Approximately 5 *P. epimenis* observed by C. Bordelon. March 4: Spring Valley, TX: The Tineoid, *Acrolophus mycetophagus* was captured in Ed's kitchen!

Virginia: Harry Pavulaan, 494 Fillmore Street, Herndon, VA 22070, E-Mail: hpavulaan@aol.com

The Southern Lepidopterists' News is published four times annually. Membership dues are \$15.00 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, and dues may be sent to: Jeffrey R. Slotten, Treasurer, 5421 NW 69th Lane, Gainesville, FL 32653.

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