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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 (WEBSITE: www.southernlepsoc.org/)

J. BARRY LOMBARDINI: EDITOR

RIGHT PLACE AT THE RIGHT TIME OR JUST LUCKY

The Olympia Marblewing (*Euchloe olympia rosa*) (Color Insert A) was a great catch in the early spring in the Lubbock, Texas, area. Up until this year, I had 3 specimens in my collection with the following locations and dates: Lubbock, TX, 14-IV-1985 and 4-IV-1988; Post, TX, 17-IV-1987. Obviously in 29 years this was considered to be a fairly uncommon species for West Texas. Previous collectors noted the Olympia Marblewing from Claude, Texas, which is located in the Texas Panhandle. However, this year the right conditions all came together or I was in the right place at the right time or just plain lucky. I caught 5 specimens March 31, 2002, in Post, Texas, which is about 40 miles southeast of Lubbock, 1 specimen April 10 at Buffalo Springs Lake (10 miles east of Lubbock) and 4 specimens April 14 in Palo Duro Canyon State Park (Color Insert A) which is located 115 miles northeast of Lubbock. Thus, the 2002 season got off to a good start. (The Editor)



Buffalo Springs Lake, Lubbock, TX

Palo Duro Canyon St. Pk.

SYNGAMIA FLORELLA (STOLL)(PYRALIDAE) IN LOUISIANA BY VERNON ANTOINE BROU JR.

The brilliant and colorful small pyralid *Syngamia florella*(Stoll)(Fig. 1) is the only member of the genus listed for North America, north of Mexico by Hodges (1983). In Louisiana, this moth has been collected over the past 32 years in only two southeastern parishes to date, St. John the Baptist and St. Tammany. The species can be quite common some years, with hundreds to thousands taken in ultraviolet light traps June through December, the peak flight occurring in October (Fig. 2). The species is listed by Kimbell (1965) as common all year in peninsular Florida.

Overall ground color mahogany (brown with reddish tinge), three large bright yellow patches on the forewing, the two outer patches somewhat elongated and oval in shape, the center patch intersecting the costal edge. The triangular shaped basal patch intersecting the inner margin. The hindwing same mahogany color but with yellow radiating from the basal area over the mahogany coloration, especially in the anal area. The hindwing has two large yellow patches, the outer one elongated, positioned about two-thirds distance from the base, the inner basal patch from costal margin blending into inner margin fringe. The distal margin of the yellow hindwing basal patch with a distinct mahogany line border due to yellow radiating over anal area ground color. The outer margin fringe of both forewing and hindwing apices and center same mahogany color, remaining fringe area white to translucent.

The head and thorax same mahogany color with yellow markings, the proximal abdominal segment same mahogany color, next segment yellow, distally edged with orange and mahogany, remaining segments mostly orange, distally edged with mahogany. Both sexes similarly colored.



Fig. 1. Syngamia florella (Stoll) adult male.



Fig. 2. *Syngamia florella* (Stoll) captured at sec.24T6SR12E, .2 mi. NE Abita Springs, St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana. N = 721.

Literature Cited

- Hodges, R. W. (Ed). 1983. Check list of the Lepidoptera of America North of Mexico. E. W. Classey Ltd. & The Wedge Entomol. Res. Foundation, Cambridge Univ. Press. 284 pp.
- Kimball, C. P. 1965 Arthropods of Florida and neighboring land areas, Vol. 1: Lepidoptera of Florida. Gainesville: Div. Plant Industry, Fla. Dept. Agr.

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

COLOR INSERT A

Figures 1-6: Life cycle of the arctiid *Syntomeida ipomoeae* (Harr.) (Accompanies article by Jeff Sloten.) Figures 7-9: Host plants and tents of *Megathymus yuccae*.

Figures 10: Specimen of *Euchloe olympia rosa* found in Palo Duro Canyon State Park near Canyon, Texas. **Figures 11 and 12:** Photographs of Palo Duro Canyon showing the diversity between the ridges with little vegetation and the valley floor with abundant vegetation. Point of clarification of "abundant vegetation" (especially if you include wild flowers) - this occurs only in years with significant rainfall such as the Spring of 1997.

MEMBERS' REQUESTS

Cyclargus thomasi bethunebakeri was once an abundant species in south Florida and the Florida Keys. Since 1992, it has all but disappeared. The only know remaining population is at Bahia Honda State Park on Bahia Honda Key. There is currently a recovery effort consisting of Lepidopterists, Watchers, Breeders and Naturalists, to recover *Cyclargus thomasi bethunebakeri*. However, before any females are removed from the Bahia Honda Key population, a thorough search is underway to look in every corner of south Florida and the Florida Keys.

To assist this search, we need locations where *Cyclargus thomasi bethunebakeri* has been collected. We just need the location and dates.

We need your help. Cyclargus thomasi bethunebakeri needs your help. Please send records to either:

Leroy C. Koehn 202 Redding Road Georgetown, Kentucky USA 40324-2622 E-mail: <u>Leptraps@aol.com</u> David Fine 2924 Dunlin Rd. Delray Beach, FL USA 33444 E-mail: vladnuts@aol.com

COLLECTING MEGATHYMUS YUCCAE "TENTS"

Talking with Kilian Roever (Tucson, Arizona) a few weeks ago he conveyed to me (The Editor) as to how to acquire specimens of *Megathymus yuccae*. Kilian also sent me 5 yuccae plants which had "tents" (See Color Insert A). Kilian states the following: "Enclosed is a sample of *Megathymus yuccae* "tents" from which pupae were extracted. The pupae are then held in emergence cages for several reasons: plants with pupae or larvae in tunnels can desiccate, thereby crushing pupae or preventing adult emergence; color changes of pupae aid prediction of adult emergence; parasitism is readily apparent; and space considerations."

Kilian continues "In the fall I often survey areas for presence of larval activity because frass accumulation is most evident, but usually wait until pupation occurs in early spring before making the collection. During winter the larvae generally remain near the bottoms of the burrows which means considerable digging to avoid mutilation. The pupae are usually within 8 inches of the soil surface a downward movement is generally blocked by the exuviae."

Kilian goes on to state: "After you master the art of locating *M. yuccae* the next challenge would be *M. streckeri....*really tough." Thanks for the information Kilian.

BRIEF OBSERVATIONS OF SPHINGIDAE FLIGHT TIME BY VERNON ANTOINE BROU JR.

Each species of lepidoptera appears to have a particular period of night time activity, the time at which it is most likely to take flight. Each sex may also have a different period of flight. To illustrate this species variable flight time, the arrival time of some species of larger lepidoptera (Saturnidae, Sphingidae, and Catocala) were logged at a single attended ultraviolet light trap (1885 watts) during 5 nights of collecting in 1991 near West Feliciana Parish, sec.63 and sec.76T1SR3W, 3.2 km NE Turnbull/Weyanoke, and in the case of *Eumorpha achemon* (Drury), one night at Natchitoches Parish, Kisatchie National Forest. The light traps were operated from before dusk to after dawn each night. This first report list 13 species (599 individuals) (Figs. 1 - 13) of the more abundantly collected Sphingidae: *Agrius cingulata* (F.), *Manduca rustica* (F.), *Manduca jasminearum* (Guer.), *Ceratomia amyntor* (Geyer), *Ceratomia undulosa* (Wlk.), *Paratrea plebeja* (F.), *Paonias myops* (J.E. Smith), *Paonias excaecatus* (J.E. Smith), *Eumorpha achemon, Eumorpha pandorus* (Hbn.), *Darapsanyron* (Cram.), *Sphecodina abbottii* (Swainson), and *Xylophanes tersa* (L.).

Some species were collected throughout the entire night as *A. cingulata* and *X. tersa* (Figs. 1 and 13). *M. jasminearum* (Fig. 3) displayed a flight period of about one hour. *S. abbottii* has a very brief flight period of less than one-half hour occurring immediately at dusk, the same period to which it responds to fermenting fruit bait over many years of personal observation. Two species, *C. amyntor* and *D. myron* (Figs. 4 and 11), exhibited bimodal distribution on the wing early in the night and again near dawn. *E. pandorus* (Fig. 10) has an eight hour flight period, but the majority of the specimens arrived during the last four hours of the period. Most interesting are the opposing flight periods exhibited by *P. myops* and *P. excaecatus* (Figs. 7 and 8).

1.	1000				Time					
2000 Fig. 1	2100	2200	2300	2400	0100	0200	0300	0400	0500	0600
A. cingulata			111	1		11	111		h	
Fig. 2 2000	2100	2200	2300	2400	0100	0200	0300	0400	0500	0600
M. rustica <i>n</i> = 27		1L	1		_ ull			11		
Fig. 3 2000	2100	2200	2300	2400	0100	0200	0300	0400	0500	0600
M. jasminea n = 10	rum III									
Fig. 4 2000	2100	2200	2300	2400	0100	0200	0300	0400	0500	0600
C. amyntor	1 11						der Goe			

NEWS OF THE SOUTHERN LEPIDOPTERISTS' SOCIETY VOLUME 24 NO.2, PG. 27



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 or the Society Website: www.southernlepsoc.org/

ELECTION FOR THE JOHN ABBOT AWARD

The following members have been nominated for the John Abbot award. Enclosed in this newsletter is a ballot for the Society members. Please return this ballot by August 15 to the Editor, J. Barry Lombardini.

James Adams is the 2002 Chairman of the Southern Lepidopterists' Society. He is also the Georgia Field Zone Coordinator. James has been an active member for many years. He has developed a website on the Lepidoptera of Georgia at Dalton College where he is a professor of biology. James has an interest in all lepidoptera and especially the Arctiidae. He enjoys photography, collecting, and rearing lepidoptera. James is married and has a young son.

John Calhoun is a past Chairman of the Lepidopterists' Society. He has coauthored books on lepidoptera including the Butterflies of Ohio. In addition he has written several papers on butterflies of Florida. John is married and has a daughter and a stepson.

Harry Pavulaan is the Virginia Field Zone coordinator for the Southern Lepidopterists' Society. He is a cofounder of the TILS. He and David Wright have done extensive studies on the Celestrina complex. He described Celestrina idella and is completing a manuscrpt on the cherry gall azure. He is married and has several children.

COLOR INSERT B

Color Insert B presents photographs by Joseph (Terry) F. Doyle that accompany his article "Occurrences and Field and Lab Notes for Some Bexar

County, Texas, Lepidoptera". The figures shown are the following: E. calleta, female, upperside and underside; D. meridionalis kerrvillei, last instar larva, and male and female adult; P. verna, male upperside and underside, female upperside and underside.

COLOR INSERT C

Color Insert C is a composition by Vernon A. Brou Jr. of the different variations in Atteva aurea and Hyparpax aurora present in Louisiana.

Editor's Note: I thank all who are sending me articles for publication in the Newsletter. Keep them coming !!! I request that other members send me any tidbits of information that you may come across. Also sign up a friend or colleague in our Society. There must be some "beetle" people out there (such as Ed Riley) who have a cursory interest in lepidoptera?

DUES **MEMBERS** PLEASE CHECK THE YEAR ON **YOUR ADDRESS** LABEL. IF THE **YEAR IS LESS THAN** 2002 --- THAN YOU **OWE YOUR 2002** DUES

MOTH COLLECTING IN CENTRAL FLORIDA PART VI. NOCTUIDAE (Continued) BY **ROY W. RINGS AND LORRINE F. RINGS**

This article is a continuation of the checklists published in the Southern Lepidopterists' Newsletter of Vol. 20(4):60-63 (1998), Vol. 23(2):24-28 (2001), Vol. 23(3):39-42 (2001), Vol. 23(4):64-67 (2001), and Vol. 24(1):16-19(2002). The species numbers are from Hodges et al. (1983) and the common names of moth families are from Heppner (1998). For each species entry the scientific name, author, year of description, and Hodges number are in the upper left section. The common name is in the upper right section. On the second and succeeding lines are the collection site(s), date, or inclusive dates of collection, and the number of individuals collected (in parentheses). Many thanks to my friend, Eric Metzler, The Ohio Lepidopterists, for identifying some notodontids and noctuids that stymied me.

NOCTUIDAE (Continued)

Tetanolita mynesalis (Walker, 1859) 8366 Lake Manatee State Recreation Area, Manatee County 11/21/98 (1).

Hypenula cacuminalis (Walker, 1859) 8376 Avon Park Air Force Range, Osceola County 5/8/99 (2).

Renia salusalis (Walker, 1859) 8378 Lake Manatee State Recreation Area, Manatee County 2/1/98 (1); Myakka River State Park, Sarasota County 2/28/97 (1).

Aristaria theroalis (Walker, 1859) 8390 Lake Manatee State Recreation Area, Manatee County 2/1/98 (1). Det. by Eric H. Metzler.

Lascoria ambigualis Walker, 1866 8393 Lake Manatee State Recreation Area, Manatee County 5/6/98 (1).

Lascoria alucitalis Guenée, 1854 8395

Avon Park Air Force Range, Osceola County 5/8/99 (1); Highlands Hammock State Park, Highlands County 5/9/99 (1); Lake Manatee State Recreation Area, Manatee County 12/9/98 (1). Det. by Eric H. Metzler.

Lascoria orneodalis Guenée, 1854 8396 Lake Manatee State Recreation Area, Manatee County 3/25/98 (1).

Palthis angulalis (Hübner, 1796) 8397

Highlands Hammock State Park, Highlands County 4/10/97 - 12/4/97 (4); Lake Manatee State Recreation Area, Manatee County 12/21/97 (1), 1/4/98 - 12/23/98 (11); Myakka River State Park, Sarasota County 1/26/97 - 11/22/97 (4).

Palthis asopialis (Guenée, 1854) 8398 FAINT-SPOTTED PALTHIS Lake Manatee State Recreation Area, Manatee County 12/23/98 (1); Myakka River State Park, Sarasota County 11/22/97 (1).

Rivula propingualis Guenée, 1854 8404 Myakka River State Park, Sarasota County 10/14/98 (1), 1/16/99 (1). SPOTTED GRASS MOTH

SMOKY TETANOLITA

LONG-HORNED OWLET

AMBIGUOUS MOTH

DARK-SPOTTED PALTHIS

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Schrankia macula (Druce, 1891) 8431 Lake Manatee State Recreation Area, Manatee County 10/28/97 (1).

 Nigetia formosalis
 Walker, 1866
 8440
 THIN-WINGED OWLET

 Avon Park Air Force Range, Osceola County 4/18/98 (1); Lake Manatee State Recreation Area, Manatee County 11/20/97 (1); Myakka River State Park, Sarasota County 11/22/97 (1), 1/16/99 (1).
 THIN-WINGED OWLET

Bomolocha baltimoralis (Guenée, 1854) 8442 Avon Park Air Force Range, Osceola County 5/8/99 (2); Highlands Hammock State Park, Highlands County 4/24/99 - 5/15/99 (7); Myakka River State Park, Sarasota County 5/17/98 (1).

Bomolocha abalienalis (Walker, 1859) **8445** Myakka River State Park, Sarasota County 5/17/98 (2).

Bomolocha umbralis Smith, 1884 8453

Avon Park Air Force Range, Osceola County 5/8/99 (1); Lake Manatee State Recreation Area, Manatee County 11/11/99 (1); Myakka River State Park, Sarasota County 11/10/98 (2), 2/9/99 (1). Det. By Eric H. Metzler.

Ophiuche minualis Guenée, 1854) 8457

Lake Manatee State Recreation Area, Manatee County 2/26/98 (1); Myakka River State Park, Sarasota County 11/5/97 (1), 3/26/99 (1).

Ophiuche degasalis (Walker, 1859) 8459

Lake Manatee State Recreation Area, Manatee County 10/17/98 (1), 11/11/99 (1); Myakka River State Park, Sarasota County 10/25/97 - 11/22/97 (4), 11/20/98 - 12/24/98 (3).

Ophiuche vetustalis **8460.1** Highlands Hammock State Park, Highlands County 5/9/99 (1).

Plathypena scabra (Fabricius, 1798) **8465** Lake Manatee State Recreation Area, Manatee County 11/1/97 - 12/4/97 (2). GREEN CLOVERWORM

Hemeroplanis historialis (Grote, 1882) 8472 Archbold Biological Station, Highlands County 4/25/99 (1) Det. by Eric H. Metzler.

 Phytometra ernestinana (Blanchard, 1840)
 8480
 ERNESTINE'S MOTH

 Lake Manatee State Recreation Area, Manatee County 10/11/98 (3); Myakka River State Park, Sarasota County
 5/2/98 (1).

 Phytometra rhodarialis (Walker, 1859)
 8481
 PINK-BORDERED YELLOW

 Avon Park Air Force Range, Osceola County 3/3/98 (2); Lake Manatee State Recreation Area, Manatee County
 3/7/97 (1), 4/1/98 - 5/21/98 (4); Myakka River State Park, Sarasota County 1/26/97 - 2/14/97 (6).

 Pangrapta decoralis Hübner, 1818
 8490
 DECORATED OWLET

 Lake Manatee State Recreation Area, Manatee County 4/1/98 - 10/11/98 (2); Myakka River State Park, Sarasota
 County 4/28/98 (1).

Ledaea perditalis (Walker, 1859) 8491 LOST OWLET Avon Park Air Force Range, Osceola County 3/3/98 (1); Myakka River State Park, Sarasota County 2/5/97 (1), 5/2/98 (1), 3/26/99 (1).

BLACK-SPOTTED SCHRANKIA

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10,50573

WHITE-LINED BOMOLOCHA

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Metalectra discalis (Grote, 1876) 8499

COMMON FUNGUS MOTH Highlands Hammock State Park, Highlands County 4/10/99 - 5/9/99 (2); Myakka River State Park, Sarasota County 11/22/97 (1).

Metalectra quadrisignata (Walker 1858) 8500 Myakka River State Park, Sarasota County 10/14/98 1.

Metalectra tantillus (Grote, 1875) 8502 Lake Manatee State Recreation Area, Manatee County 4/1/98 (1).

Arugisa latiorella (Walker, 1863) 8509 Lake Manatee State Recreation Area, Manatee County 10/17/98 (1).

Scolecocampa liburna (Geyer, 1837) 8514

Avon Park Air Force Range, Osceola County 4/18/98 (1), 5/8/99 (1); Highlands Hammock State Park, Highlands County 4/24/99 (1); Lake Manatee State Recreation Area, Manatee County 11/6/97 (1), 4/29/98 - 10/11/98 (3), 11/11/99 (1); Myakka River State Park, Sarasota County 10/14/97 (1), 4/28/98 - 11/10/98 (5).

Palpidia pallidior Dvar, 1898 8517 Highlands Hammock State Park, Highlands County 4/10/99 - 5/15/99 (5); Lake Manatee State Recreation Area, Manatee County 4/29/98 - 5/21/98 (3); Myakka River State Park, Sarasota County 2/28/97 - 11/5/97 (20), 4/28/98 - 11/20/98 (40), 4/8/99 (3).

Phyprosopus callitrichoides Grote, 1872 8525 CURVE-LINED OWLET Lake Manatee State Recreation Area, Manatee County 3/25/98 - 5/21/98 (4); Myakka River State Park, Sarasota County 10/25/97 - 11/5/97 (3).

Hypsorophora monilis (Fabricius, 1777) 8527 Avon Park Air Force Range, Osceola County 3/28/98 (1).

Hypsorophus hormos Hübner, 1818 8528 SMALL NECKLACE MOTH Highlands Hammock State Park, Highlands County 4/10/99 (3); Lake Manatee State Recreation Area, Manatee County 5/6/98 - 5/15/98 (2).

Anomis erosa Hübner, 1821 8545 Lake Manatee State Recreation Area, Manatee County 4/29/98 (1).

Anomis illita Guenée, 1852 8551

Lake Manatee State Recreation Area, Manatee County 11/1/97 - 11/20/97 (5), 4/19/98 - 12/23/98 (6), 11/11/99 (7); Myakka River State Park, Sarasota County 10/14/97 - 12/22/97 (9), 10/14/98 - 12/24/98 (4).

Litoprosopus futilis (Grote & Robinson, 1868) 8556 PALMETTO BORER Avon Park Air Force Range, Osceola County 3/3/98 - 3/18/98 (2). Lake Manatee State Recreation Area, Manatee County 2/26/98 - 5/21/98 (7); Myakka River State Park, Sarasota County 1/26/97 - 2/28/97 (3), 3/26/98 - 5/17/98 (2), 2/9/99 - 4/8/99 (2).

Diphthera festiva (Fabricius, 1775) 8560 HIEROGLYPHIC MOTH Lake Manatee State Recreation Area, Manatee County 10/11/98 (1); Myakka River State Park, Sarasota County 4/28/98 (1); Palmetto, Manatee County 6/15/01 (1).

Raparna melanospila (Guenée, 1852) 8561

Archbold Biological Station, Highlands County 4/25/99 (1) Det. By Eric H. Metzler; Lake Manatee State Recreation Area, Manatee County 11/1/97 - 11/6/97 (3); Myakka River State Park, Sarasota County 11/10/98 (1).

BLACK FUNGUS MOTH

FOUR-SPOTTED FUNGUS MOTH

DEAD WOOD BORER

LARGE NECKLACE MOTH

YELLOW SCALLOP MOTH

COMMON ARUGISA

Metallata absumens (Walker, 1862) 8573

Highlands Hammock State Park, Highlands County 5/15/99 (2); Lake Manatee State Recreation Area, Manatee County 5/6/98 (1) - 12/23/98 (1), 11/11/99 (1).

Anticarsia gemmatalis Hübner, 1818 8574

VELVET BEAN CATERPILLAR

Lake Manatee State Recreation Area, Manatee County 11/1/97 - 12/4/97 (14), 1/6/98 - 12/9/98 (17); Myakka River State Park, Sarasota County 11/5/97 - 11/22/97 (2), 10/14/98 2.

Antiblemma filaria (Smith, 1900) 8578

Highlands Hammock State Park, Highlands County 5/15/99 (2); Lake Manatee State Recreation Area, Manatee County 11/1/97 (1), 1/4/98 - 5/21/98 (3).

Antiblemma concinnula (Walker, 1865) 8579 Highlands Hammock State Park, Highlands County 5/9/99 - 5/15/99 (3), Lake Manatee State Recreation Area, Manatee County 12/23/98 (1).

(To be continued)

COLLECTING IN SABINE PASS, TEXAS BY **ED KNUDSON & CHARLES BORDELON**

Located on the coast of extreme east Texas, near the mouth of the Sabine River, Sabine Pass, is a small village, which caters to offshore rig workers and fishermen. It lies about 15 miles south of Pt. Arthur, where the nearest decent lodging can be found. For Lepidopterists, this place is home to two species of skippers, The Bay Skipper, Euphyes bayensis and Bordelon's Skipper, Poanes aaroni bordeloni, and the Louisiana IO Moth, Automeris louisiana, which very nearly occur nowhere else in the state. The Eastern Pygmy Blue, Brephidium pseudofea, also occurs here, and westward along the coast to near Galveston.

Euphyes bayensis was discovered here in Texas by Charles Bordelon. About a dozen Texas specimens have been collected, mostly along the Port road in Sabine Pass, near Sea Rim State Park, and once along the coast near High Island, Galveston Co, TX. The adults have two broods, late May-early June, and late Sept. early Oct. Most specimens have been taken on yellow composites, at the edge of the salt marsh. The adults mainly fly in late afternoon, and tend to seek out the lower growing flowers. It is likely that this species is more common deeper into the marsh, but we have been unable to investigate this, so far. We know of no Texas populations of the similar Euphyes dion, within 150 miles of Sabine Pass.

Poanes aaroni bordeloni was also discovered by Bordelon and recently described by Gatrelle. This subspecies is larger, and tends to have a more acute forewing apex, than other subspecies. Adults tend to fly in the same habitat as the preceding species, but both broods occur about 2-3 weeks earlier. Occasionally, both species may be found together, but bordeloni is usually much more common.

Automeris louisiana was discovered in Texas by Mike Rickard, who found a mature larva on Scirpus sp. at Sabine Pass, which was reared to adult by Bordelon. Bordelon & Knudson later collected adults of both sexes at blacklight at Sabine Pass and nearby McFaddin Wildlife Refuge. This moth was described by Vernon Brou from coastal Lousiana.

Brephidium pseudofea was first reported from Texas by Roy Kendall in the Galveston area. Its range westward along the coast is unclear, and it may hybridize with B. exile in the coastal bend area. B. pseudofea occurs mostly in pure stands of Saltwort, which is the foodplant. It is rather uncommon and sporadic on the Texas coast.

Other butterflies found in Sabine Pass include Panoquina panoquin and P. panoquinoides, which may be abundant at times. Urbanus proteus may be abundant in the fall, along with the occasional U. dorantes. Ascia monuste also occurs mainly in summer to fall. There are many other interesting moths in the salt marsh, nearly all of which seem to have a brown and whitish streak pattern, which probably helps to conceal them as they rest on the vegetation. Two of the more attractive moths found here are Dipthera festiva and Xanthopastis timais, which are colorful noctuids. Blacklighting in this area can be a harrowing experience, as there are often swarms of aquatic Coleoptera and Hemiptera, many of which can and will bite, with little provocation, not to mention swarms of mosquitoes, mayflies and midges. Collecting at night in the more remote parts of this area can also bring one into rather close proximity to Water Moccasins and Alligators, both of which are abundant.

The wildlife in this area can be quite interesting. It is not uncommon to sight at least four rail species, as well as most of the other shorebirds and marshland birds that occur in Texas. In the spring this general area is renowned for migrant birds, especially warblers. We have also seen mammals such as mink, otter, muskrat, bobcat, and feral pigs at McFadden NWR. Fishing can be good along the seawall at Sabine Pass and also along the beach. However, a Texas fishing license is required.

To reach Sabine Pass, one would take TX 87 from Pt. Arthur, which will pass through a huge refinery complex, before heading to the bridge over the inter-coastal waterway and then to the town square. Follow the road to Sabine Pass Battleground State Park and turn right on the Sabine Port road, which passes a complex of offshore rigs and services, before heading through the marsh to the pilot's station where the road ends. This road is popular with fishermen and crabbers and may be busy on weekends. Collecting may be good anywhere along this road, beyond the industrial section. To reach the beach and Sea Rim State Park, turn right at the town square. The dunes are unimpressive from a distance, but may be good, especially in the fall. This road ends several miles from Sea Rim, as it was washed out by a Hurricane several decades ago, and never rebuilt, but with a good 4 wheeler, one may continue along the beach to where the road returns, near High Island (about 15 miles). One may collect nearly anywhere, respecting private property, of course, but permits will be required for Sea Rim, and McFaddin and Texas Point Wildlife Refuges. Collectors, photographers, or observers are advised to bring rubber boots, insect repellent, sun protection, and plenty of water or other cold drinks.

A JOURNEY BACK TO THE MOUNTAINS OF VIRGINIA BY LEROY C. KOEHN

In November of 1974, I was transferred to Dublin, Virginia by my employer. Dublin is a small community in the mountains about 50 miles southwest of Roanoke. I spent the next five years wandering through those mountains in search of butterflies and moths. Poverty Hollow, Little Meadows, Fox Fire Junction, Caldwell fields, Craig's Creek, all places of mountain beauty and lots of Lepidoptera. Of all the places I have lived, and it has been a few, Dublin, Virginia was the best. In 1980, I moved to central Virginia near the town of Staunton. Our home was in the very small rural community of Barren Ridge. The mountains were just a short drive to the north, but these mountains were different than the mountains in the western part of the state. And so were the Lepidoptera. I returned to Cleveland, Ohio in 1983, but I have never forgotten the time I spent in the mountains of Virginia.

I love the south.

I have occasionally returned to Virginia to visit friend and time permitting, to do a little collecting.

In January of this year, Steve Roble, a Staff Zoologist for the Department of Conservation and Recreation of the State of Virginia contacted me to request records and data on the Lepidoptera I encountered while a resident of Virginia. My conversation with Steve brought back many memories of when I wandered the mountains of Virginia in search



Eggs in Clusters

Larvae on Morning-Glory

4th Instar Larva



Cocoon



Adults - Mating Pair





M. yuccae tent from which the pupa was *M. yuccae* tent extracted. The pupa is placed in an emergence cage until hatching.





E. olympia rosa



Palo Duro Canyon State Park

Palo Duro Canyon State Park

NEWS OF THE SOUTHERN LEPIDOPTERISTS' SOCIETY

VOLUME 24 NO. 2, INSERT B



E. calleta, upperside, female



E. calleta, underside, female



D. meridionalis kerrvillei, last instar larva



D. meridionalis kerrvillei, male



D. meridionalis kerrvillei, female



P. verna, upperside male



P. verna, underside, male

Occurences and Field and Lab Notes for Some Bexar County, Texas, Lepidoptera. Photos by J.F. Doyle



P. verna, upperside, female



P. verna, underside, female

VARIATIONS IN ATTEVA AUREA AND HYPARPAX AURORA IN LOUISIANA

Collected by Vernon A. Brou Jr. at sec.24, T6, SR12E, 4.2 mi. NE Abita Springs, Louisiana.



of butterflies. I found many species that were poorly recorded from the state, and I discovered that many of these could be abundant when they were found. Pyrgus centaurae and Erora laeta were two species that I consistently encountered and I was curious to see if I could find them again.

The Society of Kentucky Lepidopterist held their spring field meeting the weekend of April 12, 13 &14 in the Daniel Boone National Forest, McCreary County, Kentucky. The meeting was planned for spring butterflies, but the weather was just short of miserable with rain and generally damp dreary conditions as the meeting began Saturday morning. By mid-day the sun broke through a time or two and we were teased with a few butterflies. However, moth collecting was spectacular. We set out 6 traps on both Friday and Saturday night, and it required an hour or more for 8 of us to sort each trap. It began to rain Saturday night and continued off and on through Sunday. Once all of the traps were recovered and the moths sorted on Sunday, we all headed home. I still had three days of vacation remaining and decided to return to south west Virginia and visit some of my old collecting haunts. My primary goal was to find Pyrgus centaurae and Erora laeta.

I departed Georgetown, Kentucky at 4 AM on Monday and I made a short stop for some greasy steak and eggs at a Waffle House in "West by God Virginia". The Waffle House, one of my favorite places to "chow down". I became addicted to Waffle House restaurants while living in Virginia. Over the years, I have come to believe that it must be something they put in the food. My wife claims whatever it is, it has effected my brain. Whenever I travel those long distances at night in search of Lepidoptera, Waffle House coffee has kept me awake. Again, my wife claims that it is something the has effected the function of my brain!

Once back on the road, I crossed the border of Virginia on I-77 around 10 AM, exited the interstate at Rocky Gap and began my collecting journey through the mountains in Giles County. I made numerous stops at old collecting spots, most of which I had not seen since my departure from Virginia in 1983. The temperature was in the mid 70's and things were on the wing. As I traveled along gravel roads through Giles County and on into Pulaski County, I found Incisalia henrici, I. niphon, I. augustus, I. irus, Mitoura grynae, Glaucopsyche lygdamus, and Amblyscirtes hegon. I came upon numerous puddle clubs and congregations on various animal droppings. Swallowtails galore, Erynnis juvenalis, E. brizo, and E. baptisae in great abundance and hordes of Celastrina. I also collected and released a very worn Polygonia faunus. At the community of Poplar Hill, I journeyed north across the mountain on Route 100 to Route 730 which passes through Green Valley and onto the town of Eggleston. I traveled several old roads along the New River, butterflies were abundant to say the least. I had found Erora laeta here in the past, but none were found on this day. I turned away from the New River and began a round about back roads journey into Poverty Hollow in Montgomery County. Much had changed since my last visit in the early 90's. Poverty Creek Road has been widened and is very well traveled. Numerous stops along the road failed to produce Pyrgus centaurae. The cut over areas where they once occurred were grown over, but the attack of the Pine Beetle was very evident and could have an impact on the habitat and make it once again suitable for Pyrgus centaurae. It was late afternoon by the time I reached Little Meadows in Giles County. I found very few butterflies and the only thing a great abundance were "NO TRESPASSING" signs. I was somewhat disappointed. I continued my journey to an area above Mountain Lake. Along an old logging road I found my first Pygus centaurae. I saw several others, but the sun was fading and butterflies were about gone for the day.

I spent the night with some friends in Roanoke. I was up early Tuesday morning, after watching the weather report, it appeared that I had one day of good weather before a cold front moved in. I decided not to return to the Mountain Lake Area and instead I chose to visit Augusta and Highland counties in central Virginia. As I traveled north on I-81, I came upon an area south of Exit 180 at US 11 where there is a large stand of Red Cedar trees in Rockbridge County. I had lived in Virginia all those years and had always wanted to stop and shake those cedars, but never did. Today I decided to stop. After my short visit, I was glad that I had finally did. The abundance of Mitoura grynae, Incisalia henrici, I. niphon and the moth Psychomorpha epimenis was incredible. Red Bud trees were in full bloom and when I would poke and shake the blooming trees with my extension net, the cloud of butterflies was impressive. There were two Celastrina (ladon) type blues present. All males, as I never found a female. As I headed back to the Interstate, I could not help but think, "Oh how I wished I had stopped here before".

I continued north on I-81 and exited the interstate at US 250 in Staunton, and continue north on US 250 to Churchville and then west on SR 42 to Buffalo Gap. I turned north on Dry Branch Gap Road and headed into the mountains. I had not gone far when I came upon hundreds of Swallowtails, Celastrina ssp, *Feniseca tarquinius*, Eyrinnis ssp and a few *Polygonia comma* at a large muddy area along the side of the road. This may be the largest puddle club I have ever seen. As I continued north I found *Peiris virginensis, Glaucosyche lygdamus*, and single worn specimen of *Amblyscrites vialis*. After I went over the Dry Branch Gap and came to paved road, a welcome sight after hours of bumpy gravel mountain roads. I turned west onto Route #629 and then onto some well traveled gravel roads at Deerfield. I arrived in McDowell about 2:30 PM. As I traveled I would stop at some familiar places. About an hour out of Deerfield I found a large area of Pussy Toes and Blue Berry in bloom. Talk about butterflies. *Incisalia augustus*, and *I. niphon* were very common. I took a series of *Phyciodes tharos* that appeared to be very dark. I also took a series of very large a Celastrina. I have not found *Celastrina neglectamajor* this early in the mountains and they were exceptionally large for *Celastrina violacea*. I think Harry Pavulaan still has much work to do to solve the Celastrina puzzle!

I was running out of daylight as I drove through the community of Monterey in Highlands County and I still had a good thirty minute drive to the town of Blue Grass. It was after 3 PM when I finally past through Blue Grass and turned north on CR642. The sun was fading and butterflies were scarce. I did however, manage to take a *Euchloe olympia*. With the sun gone for the day, I began my drive back to Staunton.

As I traveled east on US 250 toward Staunton, I stopped at a location where I had found *Celastrina nigra* in 1981. Although the adults were gone for the day, the blue eggs were present on Goatsbread, the host plant of *C.nigra*. I arrived in Barren Ridge and spent the night with the family of former neighbors.

I wanted to return to the Blue Grass area, however, the weather forecast for Wednesday was not good, with overcast skies and rain predicted.

I was gone before 6 AM and stopped once again at Waffle House, this time in Verona at I-81. I love that greasy steak and eggs. I was in Blue Grass by 8:30 AM. The weather was looking good with sun and some clouds and the temperature in the mid-60s. I journeyed along CR642, *Pieris virginensis* was very common. As I steadily climbed in the mountain towards the West Virginia border, it was very evident that spring had not yet arrived. As the sky began to cloud over and I decided to head south towards Augusta County. By the time I reach Waynesboro and crossed over the mountain on I-64, I had found some sun, but the wind was beginning to blow. I traveled south on the Blue Ridge Parkway to CR610. I traveled north to a spot were I had found *Insicalia irus* in the early 80s. The area had changed dramatically. The old logging road had been gated by the forest service. I walked the road up the ridge and found a patch of Pussy Toes were I found *Insicalia augustinus*, *I. niphon*, and single specimen of *Erynnis martialis*. I continued along the road and found *Amblyscirtes hegon* and a few more *Erynnis martialis*. My only previous record for *Erynnis martialis*, a single specimen taken here in 1981. The sky began to cloud over and by now a steady and determined wind was present. I wanted to check out one more spot in Albermarle County before heading home. I traveled east on I-64 to US 250 at Yancey Mills. As I approached the spot, I found a school had been built and the entire area posted with NO TRESSPASSING signs. I pulled into an old field as a light rain began to splatter down. With the wind and the rain, I knew it was time to turn for home.

It was an enjoyable journey and as I drove home, I fondly remembered those days when I wandered the mountains in pursuit of butterflies. Much has changed since I moved away, but then again, much remains the same. Although I found *Pyrgus centaurae*, I had not found *Erora laeta* and I was disappointed. As I traveled south on I-8/64, I exited the interstate at Raphine and then to a cemetery in Tickling Springs to visit the grave of an old friend. I stopped at the truck stop near Raphine, better known in the 80s as the Pop Corn Valley or the Motor Cycle Shop. The names are part of the CB radio culture of that time. They still serve a 32 ounce Porter House steak with navy beans and onions in the truck stop restaurant. My it was good. Unfortunately, I had to drive home with the windows rolled down in the rain. I forgot the Beano!

To wander the mountains again brought back many memories. Virginia was good to me. Whenever I think of Virginia, I remember the mountains and I smile. I really do miss the south.

OCCURRENCES AND FIELD AND LAB NOTES FOR SOME BEXAR COUNTY, TEXAS, LEPIDOPTERA BY JOSEPH F. DOYLE

Bexar County, Texas is located on the boundaries and convergence of four vegetational areas of the state. It also lies ca. 100 miles east of the 100th meridian, a commonly used divider of eastern and western lepidoptera. The climate is described as humid subtropical. This makes for an advantageous situation for the student of lepidopteran life history. The following are some examples:

Eupackardia calleta (Westwood)

During the spring and summer of 2001, I reared several broods of this Saturniinae moth. In early October I placed seven last instar f2 larvae on several bushes of *Leucophyllum frutescens* at the home of Roy O. Kendall at 5598 Mt. McKinley, San Antonio, Texas. (The *L. frutescens* were transplanted by Kendall some thirty years earlier.) The larvae were observed entering pupation soon after. On January 3 and 4, 2002, early morning temperatures fell to the low to mid-twenties. According to the National Climatic Data Centre's Global Surface Summary of Day for San Antonio, January 3 registered a low of 21.9° F. degrees and January 4 at 24.1° F. On 29 January I retrieved three pupae and they were kept in the garage at the author's home at 13310 Bar C Dr., in western Bexar Co. A female emerged on March 21, 2002. The upper and underside of the female are shown in Color Insert B. The remaining pupae are still in pupal diapause. *E. calleta* from Bexar County was relayed to me by Greg Muise. It was collected at his home, 12123 Las Nubes St. in the northeast part of San Antonio, on February 24, 2002. The male came in response to a freshly emerged caged female reared from Beeville, Tx. larvae.

Pompeius verna (Edw., 1862)

The closest known records for this skipper species, east of Bexar County, is Victoria County and six counties in the far eastern portion of Texas. On August 1, 2001, Ronald F. Hirzel, Jr., of Columbus, Georgia, collected a fresh female specimen while stationed at Ft. Sam Houston in San Antonio. It was taken while nectaring on the Salado Creek that runs through the post. The natural habitat of the creek has been preserved as a training area by the U.S. Army. This record represents either a first record for Bexar County or a certification of an old record. The old record was a part of a Boll Weevil Investigation conducted by F. C. Pratt. The date of record was October 28, 1905 (no known location) and determined by H. G. Dyar. The specimen was supposedly deposited at the National Museum of Natural History, Smisthonian Institution, Washington, D.C. According to Dr. John M. Burns, currently at the Museum, a search of *P. verna* material failed to produce the specimen in question. However, he stated that the specimen may still be present in the collection. Two males were subsequently collected by Hirzel at the Salado Creek location on August 25, 2001. Upper and undersides of a male and female in the author's collection are included in Color Insert B. Male, leg. 25 April, 1971, 5 mi. north of Cleveland, Tx., Sam Houston National Forest, San Jacinto Co.; female, leg. 13 July, 1975, Lake Houston, Harris Co., Tx.

Dasychira meridionalis kerrvillei (B. And McD.)

The nominate subspecies of this Lymantriidae moth ranges from Florida to Arkansas and southwest Texas. The subspecies *kerrvillei* is spread from Anderson and Harris Counties, west and south to Kerrville and Uvalde Counties in Texas. Its type location is Kerrville Co. It has been reared by R. O. Kendall on several occasions on *Quercus virginiana* Mill. Examples in Kendall's collection are variable in color and pattern. Comparison of photos with this article (See Color Insert B) to graphic in the Checklist of the Lepidoptera of Texas, Knudson & Bordelon, Publication 6,1999, Texas Lepidoptera Survey will demonstrate one variance. Pertinent information for photographs of male and female in Color Insert B is noted here. Male, ex larva, 25 April, 1982, collected 4 April, 1982, 4942 Sea Breeze, San Antonio, Tx., pupated 7 April, 1982; female, 7 May, 1960, Kerrville State Park, Kerr Co. Tx., field collected in

cupola. Also pictured is last instar larva on larval food plant, *Q. virginiana*, length 45 mm. These specimens are in the R.O. & C.A. Kendall collection and I wish to extend my appreciation to Roy for his loan of specimens for this article.

ANNUAL FALL MEETING AND FIELD TRIP

The 2002 Annual Meeting of the Southern Lepidopterists' Society will be held the weekend of September 21-22, 2002 in Gainesville, Florida. Specifically, the meeting will be held in the Doyle Conner Auditorium, Division of Plant Industry. A map to the building is provided in Volume 21 No.2 PG. 24 of the Southern Lep. Soc. News. The Doyle Conner Building will be open at 8:00 a.m. and the meeting will begin at 9:00 a.m. There will be a business meeting with election of officers and officer reports. Locations for field meetings and the Annual Meeting in 2003 will be determined. We will present the 2002 Abbot Award. Snacks will be provided throughout the day. Lunch and dinner will be on your own, but a group dinner will be encouraged. Arrangements to view the insect collection at the Division of Plant Industry can be discussed with Dr. John Heppner. He can be reached at 352-372-3505 Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. eastern standard time. Bring any specimens you want identified to the meeting. There should be some members who can help with the identifications.

If you are interested in presenting a paper or short talk at the meeting, please contact James K. Adams at 346 Sunset Drive SE, Calhoun, GA 30701, e-mail:jadams@em.daltonstate.edu. Phone:706-602-6993 prior to September 1st, 2002.

Please send James the title and length of your talk. Following the meeting on Sunday, there will be opportunity for collecting in various habitats around the Gainesville area. Prepare to have some fun.

Jeff Slotten SLS Treasurer

NEW MEMBER

Welcome to Linda K. Peterson of Daphne, Alabama, who is a new member of the Society.

REARING NOTES ON *SYNTOMEIDA IPOMOEAE* IN FLORIDA BY JEFF SLOTTEN

Syntomeida ipomoeae (Harr.), known as the Yellow Banded Wasp Moth, is generally distributed throughout Florida. The adults can be found nectaring on various flowering plants. They are also attracted to ultraviolet lights. Covell (1984) lists larval host plants as thistles, grapefruit trees, and blossoms of morning glory. Holland (1903) says the larvae feed on members of the Convolvulaceae (morning glory) family.

William E. Conner, Professor of Biology at Wake Forest University, asked me to obtain females of *Syntomeida ipomoeae* for his research. In April of 2000, I collected 5 females nectaring on *Melilotus alba* (White Sweet Clover) in Hernando County near Istachatta, Florida. Never having reared this species, I did not know what the preferred host plant was in the wild, nor did I know the methods to obtain ova. I placed two adult females in separate small lunch bags and fed them daily with honey, water and sugar. I placed three other adults in a large clear plastic container sealed with netting for ventilation. I placed two adult females together and one other female in another container with the same feeding mixture of honey, water and sugar. Morning glory cuttings were taken and placed in a small hole at the bottom of the container housing the females. A jar was positioned under the containers holding the females

and the stems of morning glory were placed in water. The jars holding the host plant were placed in a shallow pail of water so that the local fire ants would not be able to crawl up and eat the adults. The bag and containers were placed in dappled sunlight on my screen porch. Though females lived for a month or two, only one female laid eggs. These eggs are orange and in clusters. The eggs were laid on the screen netting and not on the leaves of the morning glory plants (photo 1 - Color Insert A).

I sent several larvae to Bill Conner. I reared the other larvae to adults. It took the larvae about one week to hatch from the eggs. Young larvae fed in a cluster and riddled the upper surfaces of the morning glory leaves (photo 2 - Color Insert A). Older larvae tended to spread out and fed voraciously on all parts of the morning glory plants. A fourth instar larva is pictured in photo 3 (Color Insert A). Final instar larvae developed white tufts along the dorsal surface of the body which contrast with the black hairs on the orange surface of the body (photo 4 - Color Insert A). The cocoon is made up of the hairs of the larva and is quite compact (photo 5 - Color Insert A). Adults emerged in a few week if kept in warm conditions. A mating pair of *Syntomeida ipomoeae* is shown in Photo 6 (Color Insert A).

LITERATURE CITED:

Covell, C.V., Jr. 1984. A Field Guide to the Moths. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company. Holland, W. J. 1903. The Moth Book. New York: Doubleday, Page and Company.

STATE COORDINATORS' REPORTS

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE AND PHILOSOPHY: We encourage any and all members to report occurrences of species in your area. One time records of common species can be included for documentation purposes. Most of the records you send in will be included in the state reports, but records are open to editing by the respective state coordinators. Species that have been reported numerous times in a given location and are recorded in season are **not** likely to be included. Any unusual reports (uncommon species, state records, etc.) may require a good photograph or a specimen for confirmation.

Alabama: C. Howard Grisham, 573 Ohatchee Road, Huntsville, AL 35811, E-Mail: cgrisham@HIWAAY.net

Arkansas: Mack Shotts, 514 W. Main Street, Paragould, AR 72450, E-Mail: cshotts@grnco.net

Florida: Robert Beiriger, 16356 Trafalgar Drive, East, Loxahatchee, FL 33470, E-Mail: brts@gnv.ifas.ufl.edu

It has been a another dry winter and spring in Florida and a extremely dry March, April and May. We went almost 8 weeks without any significant rain. Now that the summer rains have started: hopefully, we will see an increase in butterfly numbers. In my reports for the spring, I saw most of the spring species, but number where significantly below level seen in previous years.

April 20th, Robert Beiriger visited various areas in the Ocala National Forest (Marion County, Florida) and saw the following: Strymon melinus, Eurema lisa, Phyciodes phaon, Vanessa virginiensis, V. atalanta, Agraulis vanillea, Erynnis juvenalis, Parrhasius m-album, Fixsenia favonius. Lapara coniferarum, Holomelina aurantiaca, Argyrogramma verruca, Panapoda repanda, Apantesis placentia, and Panapoda rufimargo

April 21st, near Morriston (Levy County, Florida): Atlides halesus, Parrhasius m-album, Fixsenia favonius, Vanessa virginiensis, and Protesilaus marcellus. Near Yankeetown (Levy County, Florida) Mitoura grynea, Poanes aaroni, Brephidium isophthalma and Phyciodes phaon.

Light trapping the May 11th, in the Loxahatchee area: Didasys belae, Leucanopsis longa, Eucereon carolina, Apantesis phalerata, Holomelina laeta, Apantesis nais, Epidomia poaphilodes, Artace cribraria, and Darapas myron.

David Fine has been spending time in the Florida Keys looking for new colonies of *Cyclo thomasi bethunebakeri* (Maimi Blue). All David's records are sightings only. May 10th, on Key Largo (Monroe County, Florida): *Chlorostrymon simaethis, Dryas julia, Heliconius charitonius, Agraulis vanillae, Aphrissa statira, Phoebis philea, P. agarithae, P. sennae, Eurema lisa, E. diara, Heraclides cresphontes, Hemiargus. ceraunus, Leptotes cassius, Phocides tharos, Strymon columella, S. melinus, Tmolus azia, Electrostrymon angelia,* and *Marpesia petrius.*

May 17th, on Big Pine Key (Monroe County, Florida), David saw: Cyclargus ammon, Strymon acis bartrami, S. martialis, Brephidium isophthalma, Hemiargus ceraunus, Leptotes cassius, Erynnis brunnea floridensis, Hylephlia phyleus, and Euphyes pilatka klottsi. On Bahia Honda Key, Cyclargus thomasi bethunebakeri was abundant, as well as many larvae along side carpenter ants (symbiotic relationship). There was also many Heliconius charitonius, Agraulis vanillae, Danaus gilipus, Heraclides cresphontes, Hemiargus ceraunus, Leptotes cassius, Strymon columella, S. melinus, Pyrgus oileus, and Urbanus proteus.

May 31st, on Key Largo (Monroe County, Florida), David saw *Heraclides aristodemus ponceanus* nectaring on native lantana bushes. This butterfly, though on the Endangered Species List, has become more common in South Florida over the last couple years. It is still illegeal to collect, but it is nice to see this species surviving. Bauer Hammock (Dade County, Florida): David saw *Siproeta stelenes*, *Marpesia petreus*, *Eurema dina*, *Strymon columella*, *Leptotes cassius*, *Phoebis agarithae*, and *Tmolus azia*.

The weekend of June 3, Robert Beiriger collected some eggs of *Aphrissa statira* on coin vine in Palm Beach County. He never has had much luck rearing *statira* from eggs and this time he found out why. Predatory thrips are common on the leaves and terminal buds of coin vine and killed most of the larvae before they even started feeding. He lost 11 of 12 eggs and 1st instar larvae to these predators. This might explain why we see large numbers of eggs and few larvae of this species in South Florida.

Leroy Koehn recently identified three specimens of *Epidromia lienaris* (Hubner, 1823) that were taken at the following locations:

Florida: Monroe County, Key Largo Rt 605 - 3 mi. N. of US1 on 1 August 1998 (Male) Florida: Martin County, Jonathan Dickenson State Park on 22 March 1999 (Female) Florida: Martin County, Jonathan Dickenson State Park on 11 June 1999 (Female)

Leroy can find no previous records for this moth from Florida. However, this drab moth could be easily overlooked.

Georgia: James K. Adams, 346 Sunset Drive SE, Calhoun, GA 30701, E-Mail: <u>JADAMS@em.daltonstate.edu</u> (Please check out the new GA leps website at: http://www.daltonstate.edu/galeps/)

John Hyatt reports on his trip to Georgia: "Not much to report. Just back from the coast of GA, where I found *Euphyes dion* in worn condition on May 23 near Woodbine in Camden Co. Did not see any of the other usual swamp skippers - not a single *viator*, *berryi*, *bulenta*, *dukesi*, etc was on the wing. The drought has reached the point down there that the roadside ditches full of pickerel weed have dried up enough for the county to mow them, and it's hard to find a place to collect. But I think that everything was early this year, and was long gone by late May."

Louisiana: Michael Lockwood, 215 Hialeah Avenue, Houma, LA 70363, E-Mail: mikelock34@hotmail.com

Mississippi: Rick Patterson, 400 Winona Rd., Vicksburg, MS 39180, E-Mail: rpattel@Entergy.com

All reports by Ricky Patterson - The spring seemed to be early, with temperatures in mid-April reaching the high 80's. *Megathymus yuccae yuccae*, fresh female collected at Bloody Springs, Tishomingo County on 18 April 2002 (seems a little late, although most records are from pupa collections in late February/early March). *Hesperia metea licinus*, series of males taken 2 miles SW of Bloody Springs, Tishomingo County also on 18 April 2002. Also collected three fresh *Atrytonopsis hianna hianna* males there, this is about three weeks early for this species in Tishomingo County. *Euphyes berryi* collected at Pecan, Mississippi on 1 June 2002. This is not unexpected, but are the only first brood records reported from the state. *Ascia monuste phileta* was found to be common on the Gulf Coast at Waveland,

Hancock County on 2 June 2002.

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 selected butterfly records were submitted by Harry LeGrand. Place names refer to counties unless otherwise stated, and records are not new county reports unless indicated. DC = Derb Carter, RE = Randy Emmitt, RG = Ron Gatrelle, HL = Harry LeGrand, JP = Jeff Pippen.

This was a warmer than usual spring, and the state continues to be in a drought, which became fairly acute by the end of the spring. The spring flight was a bit earlier than usual for many species in March, April, and early May. However, the drought retarded the flowering of nectar plants, such that the flight period of most species emerging in late May was back on schedule.

Records are for March - May 2002.

PAPILIONIDAE:

Papilio cresphontes, DC observed five on April 21 at Figure Eight Island in New Hanover for a good total so early in spring.

PIERIDAE:

Eurema lisa, RG collected one in Clay on May 7. This species is rare in the mountains, expected essentially only in summer and fall.

LYCAENIDAE:

Feniseca tarquinius: Reports this spring were made in Wake on two dates in late March (Betty Anderson) and in Franklin on April 24 (RE).

Satyrium liparops, HL observed one nectaring on Vaccinium arboreum in Wake (COUNTY) on May 14, a long overdue first for that well-worked county. Will Cook noted another in nearby Orange on May 12. Reports of this species in the Piedmont are quite rare.

Fixsenia favonius ontario, DC found a colony close to a known site in New Hanover on May 13. The roughly 12 individuals were nectaring on Vaccinium arboreum.

Callophrys irus, the first record of this declining species for the state's Piedmont region was made by HL in Franklin (COUNTY), when he noted six individuals in association with Baptisia tinctoria on April 21. RE and Will Cook visited the site three days later and photographed several individuals.

RIODINIDAE:

Calephelis virginiensis, Will Cook observed one at a known site in Carteret on the early date of April 20. At another site in Pender, DC had a very good count of 25 on May 11. Even so, this species is restricted to high-quality savannas and flatwoods and is threatened by habitat loss and fire suppression in the state.

NYMPHALIDAE:

Agraulis vanillae, though a few strays occur in the mountains in summer or fall, single seen by RG in Clay on May 7 and by HL and JP in Haywood on May 11 were notable so early in the year.

Chlosyne gorgone, at the previously known site in Clay, where first recorded in the state last year, HL and JP observed one on May 12, and RG found another there on May 18. Very significant was a new site in Macon (COUNTY) found by RG on May 16, though only one individual was found, along a mountain ridge.

Phyciodes batesii maconensis, this southern Appalachian taxon is very rare, but fortunately biologists have turned up sizable colonies recently in Clay. This season HL, DC, and JP counted 24 individuals at several sites on the remarkably early date of May 5. Others were found at known sites at least to May 25.

Euphydryas phaeton, rather early and rare was one seen along the Little Tennessee River in Macon (**COUNTY**) on May 12 by Jason Love. A survey of the area on May 16 by RG also turned up one, perhaps indicating a tenuous locale.

HESPERIIDAE:

Autochton cellus, JP and HL observed and photographed this rarity in Haywood on May 11. There are usually just one or two reports for the state in a given year.

Thorybes confusis, RG collected one in Clay (COUNTY) on May 7 for a first confirmed record for the state's mountain region.

Erynnis martialis, HL found a "large" colony for the state – five individuals – in Franklin (**COUNTY**) on April 21. The powerline where they were seen contains an abundance of *Ceanothus americanus*, the host plant. Two were seen there on April 24 by RE. Another individual was found in powerline in Yadkin (**COUNTY**) by HL on April 20, and RE found another in Caswell on May 17.

Hesperia metea, HL found three individuals, including a pair copulating, in a powerline in Franklin (**COUNTY**) on April 21. DC, HL, and JP had a first state mountain record when a male was seen in Clay (**COUNTY**) on May 5.

Hesperia sassacus, though no new county records were established, this northern species was found at many places and in good numbers in Haywood, Macon, and Clay – the southern end of the range – from May 11-25. A very good tally of 10 was made by RE in Clay on May 25, and the May 11 date was a week earlier than previous state reports. *Atrytonopsis hianna*, RG and others found the species often in the southwestern mountains from May 5-25. Individuals in Macon (**COUNTY**) and Clay were often found near seepages along roadsides. The species is known from just two other mountain counties in the state.

Amblyscirtes hegon, HL found a fairly strong site (six individuals) along the eastern edge of the range in Franklin **(COUNTY)** on April 21. HL also saw another in adjacent Vance **(COUNTY)** on April 28.

Amblyscirtes carolina, HL found a small colony in Franklin (**COUNTY**) on April 21; this lies at the inner edge of the species' range and is a rare Piedmont report. This is the only known site where this and the previous species are found together in the state, as the ranges are essentially separate.

South Carolina: Ron Gatrelle, 126 Wells Rd., Goose Creek, SC 29445, E-Mail: gatrelle@tils-ttr.org

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

Dr. Michael Israel reports the following species of butterflies from TN, Hardin Co., Shiloh Battlefield Park, 19-20 April 2002: *Megathymus yuccae* (found resting on a leaf at 9 pm), *E. clarus, E. brizo, E. juvenalis, L. accius, Hesperia metea, P. vibex, B. philenor, E. marcellus, P. glaucus, P. troilus, P. sennae eubule, C. eurytheme, Calycopis cecrops, E. comyntas, P. tharos, Anea andria, V. virginiensis* larvae, and *H. sosybius*.

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

Bordelon & Knudson collected the following sesiids at pheromones in Texas (2002):

Paranthrene tabaniformis: Liberty Co., BITH, Menard Creek, IV.

Paranthrene dollii: Gregg Co., Longview, 25-IV; Harris Co., Spring Valley, 31-III and 9-V.

Paranthrene simulans: Gonzalez Co, Palmetto St. Pk. 12-16-IV.

Vitacea scepsiformis: Polk Co., Livingston, 27-IV.

Vitacea polistiformis: Haris Co., Spring Valley, 10-V.

Vitacea admiranda: Harris Co., Spring Valley, 5-V; Medina Co., Castroville, 16-V.

Synanthedon kathyae: Sabine Co., 2 mi. N. Red Hills Lake; 26-V; Newton Co., Wild Azalea Cn., 27-V; many at pheromones. About 80% were the unbanded form.

Other interesting moths:

Medina Co., Castroville, 16-V: Givira theodori (Cossid); Pyrausta nexalis (Pyralid) (both northeast of known range).

Butterflies:

Euphyes bayensis: Jefferson Co., Sabine Pass, 26-V (one male).
Enodia creola: Nymphalis antiopa; Liberty Co., Menard Creek, 28-IV.
Satyrium liparops, Fixsenia favonius ontario, Achalarus lyciades (abd.), Pompeius verna: Sabine Co., 2 mi. N. Red Hills Lake, 26-V.

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

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