Southern Lepidopterists' NEWS

EST. 1978 *Official Newsletter of the Southern Lepidopterists' Society*

Vol. 28 NO. 3 **September 30, 2006**

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

SNOUT BUTTERFLIES ARE ALSO IN LUBBOCK, TEXAS

This summer in Texas there is an abundance (to say the least) of snout butterflies. These butterflies [*Libytheana carinenta* (Cramer)] are quite common in most years but this year is a bit exceptional in that their numbers are vastly increased. The snout butterfly is a bit unusual in its appearance in that the labial palpi are enlarged and thus appear

to be a *"snout"* and hence their name. According to Scott (Scott, 1986) *"...the palpi resemble a leaf petiole...and the closed wings resemble a leaf..."*.

This year the snout butterfly has emerged in the millions in Central and South Texas, but not to be left out there are also many thousands (millions?) swarming in the City of Lubbock in West Texas as of the first week in August. One particular interesting location in the middle of the City was an ~ 50 foot hedge (*Euoynomous* sp.) which must have contained at least a thousand individuals. The hedge was not in bloom so what was the attraction? Food plant?

Historically, perhaps the largest recorded swarm of snout butterflies occurred *"...in September 1921 when an estimated six billion (6,000,000,000) individuals were involved. Approximately 25 million snouts per minute were recorded moving southeasterly over a 250 mile front from San Marcos to the Rio Grande Valley. That flight lasted 18 days."* (Ro Wauer, The Nature Writers of Texas, http://texasnature.blogspot.com/2005/12/snout-butterflies-are-on-increase-by.html). [Somebody should calculate the amount of frass that was produced by these six billion individuals during their larval stages!!!]

For these swarms to occur conditions have to be just right, such as first, an abundant source of food plant, Spiny Hackberry (*Celtis pallida* Torr.). Spiny Hackberry is present in the southwestern United States (southern portions of Arizona, New Mexico and western and southern Texas) and is dependent upon the weather (rain). Other species of hackberry are also food plants for the snout butterfly but Spiny Hackberry sprouts significant new growth when the summer rains occur. Secondly, massive population proliferation of the snout butterfly is dependent upon a lack of parasitoids (or at least a much reduced number) such as flies and wasps (*Brachymeria* sp.) that kill the larvae. The lack of parasitoids is usually due to drought conditions which were prevalent in Central Texas during the spring of this year. However, with the coming of the summer rains the Spiny Hackberry plants flourished and provided the nourishment for the emerging larvae. And the rest is biology/history - millions of snout butterflies - [The Editor].

Literature Cited

Scott, James A. *The Butterflies of North America: A Natural History and Field Guide*. Stanford University Press, Stanford, California, pg. 344.

****

NOTICE

Copies of the Kimball (1965) catalog of Florida Lepidoptera are still available from DPI for the original price of $5. These copies are brand new just like in 1965 but still only $5 (plus shipping). Anyone interested can contact:

DPI Publications Office, Technical Assistance
P.O. Box 147100
Gainesville, FL 32614-7100

John Heppner states that he still sees *"used"* copies for sale from various vendors for $20 or more, yet DPI still has new copies for only $5, so many persons seem unaware of this. However, only a few are left in stock.

****

ERRATUM

In the report on the 2006 annual meeting (June 30, Vol. 28 NO.2, pg. 34) of the Southern Lepidopterists' Society in Gainesville, Irving Finkelstein omitted that the new Secretary of the Society will be Don Stillwaugh. Apologies from Irving to Don and the SLS membership for this omission.

****

SOME GREAT LITERARY TAUNTS

"A modest little person, with much to be modest about." Winston Churchill about Clement Atlee

"He had delusions of adequacy." Walter Kerr (American drama critic, 1913-1996)

****
******

The Southern Lepidopterists' Society

OFFICERS

Marc Minno: Chairman
2433 River Tree Circle
Sanford, FL 32771
E-Mail:
bbelmont@masseyservices.com

Jeffrey R. Slotten: Treasurer
5421 NW 69th Lane
Gainesville, FL 32653
E-Mail: jslotten@bellsouth.net

Irving Finkelstein: Secretary
425 Springdale Dr. NE
Atlanta, GA 30305-3816
E-Mail: dfritillary@earthlink.net

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

Tom Neal: Member-at-Large
1705 NW 23rd Street
Gainesville, FL 32605
E-Mail: Chouwah@aol.com

Dave Morgan: Website Manager
4935 Shadowood Parkway
Atlanta, GA 330339
E-Mail: davemor@us.ibm.com

J. Barry Lombardini: Editor
3507 41st Street
Lubbock, Texas 79413
E-Mail: jbarry.lombardini@ttuhsc.edu

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

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/

INDEX

****

DEFINITIONS:

Eclosion - the emergence of an insect, as a larva from an egg, or as an adult from a pupa.

Exuviae - The castoff covering of animals; to cast off a skin, shell, *etc.*; to molt.

Fecula - excrement or droppings

Porrect - stretched out or forth; extending forward horizontally.

BLACK GEOS SWARM IN THE SMOKY MOUNTAINS

BY
JOHN HEPPNER

The first two weeks in July sees the emergence of the main summer generation of the black geometrids, *Rheumaptera hastata* (Linnaeus) and *Trichodezia albovittata* (Guenée) (Geometridae: Larentiinae), in the mountains of North Carolina, in the eastern United States. In the Great Smoky Mountains National Park (GSMNP) and the adjacent Cherokee Indian Reservation of the southern Appalachian Mountains, swarms of the adults can be seen during July, since these geometrids are some of the few that are day-flying. The GSMNP protects some of the last major habitats of dense mountain forests to be found in this region of the United States. Logging was done in some parts of the park, but about 25% of the park remains as original forest. The park was founded in 1934 and became an International Biosphere Reserve in 1976. In 1983, it was also named a World Heritage Site.

In June and again in July 2004, moth surveys were conducted at several sites in GSMNP as part of the All-Taxa Biological Inventory (ATBI) project for the park. This inventory is the first total plant and animal inventory conducted for one of the national parks in the United States, begun in 2001, and projected to last at least 15 years and involve 100s of scientists. Most of the national parks in the United States have had cursory inventories conducted of larger animals (birds, mammals, reptiles), and for some also the major plant groups, but no inclusive inventory has been done on any park since the first park was commissioned in 1872 until the current ATBI project began. Insects in particular have been neglected in past studies. Future projects are expected for some of the other national parks in the United States. The GSMNP was chosen first as being the most biodiverse region in the eastern United States. The area covered involves about 522,000 acres (*ca.* 211,250 hectares) of land, encompassing a great variety of habitats, from southern broadleaf forest and open meadows to arctic-alpine fir forests on the highest peaks. Elevations range from 875 ft (267 m) to the top of Clingman's Dome at 6643 ft (1645 m).

During the 2004 surveys I was involved in, thousands of the adults of black geometrid species were seen in early July on the ridges and hilltops at Mollie Gap, called Soco Bald (5400ft elev.), part of the Cherokee Indian Reservation just at the edge of the GSMNP border. While flying about, adults also favored dark spots in the forest, such as an overhanging log or under a tree branch, to rest at on occasion. Some clustering was observed, sometimes near what probably was a newly emerged female. Perching of adults was also seen at old tree stumps, seemingly getting chemicals from the damp decaying wood of the stump since the moths were seen to be using their haustella on the wood. Ground perching was also observed at some spots, like some butterflies do.

From the 1000s of *R. hastata* that swarmed at Soco Bald, one can extrapolate that GSMNP must harbor a population of this species numbering in the millions of individuals. Larvae feed on a variety of hardwood trees (Covell, 1984; Heppner, 2003), so the food supply in this forest habitat is abundant.

In addition to *R. hastata*, the much smaller *Trichodezia albovittata* was also seen. This smaller black geometrid looks somewhat similar to the larger *R. hastata* when on the wing but has much more black on the wings. However, as many individuals of *T. albovittata* as were seen in July 2004, their numbers were only about 5% of the abundance of *R. hastata* at that time.

From observations in July 2004, it is clear that both species swarm on ridges and hilltops, much like some butterflies are known to do. It is not clear that this hilltopping behavior has been noted for these day-flying geometrids before, but it certainly can be confirmed from the observations in GSMNP.

This is Contribution No. 1003, Entomology Section, Bur. Ent. Nema. Plant Path., Div. Plant Industry, Florida Dept. Agric. & Consumer Serv., Gainesville, Florida. J. B. Heppner, Florida State Collection of Arthropods, DPI, FDACS, Gainesville, FL.

Literature Cited

Covell, C. V., Jr. 1984. *A Field Guide to the Moths of Eastern North America.* Boston: Houghton Mifflin. 496pp (64 pl).

Heppner, J. B. 2003. *Lepidoptera of Florida. Part 1. Introduction and Catalog.* In *Arthropods of Florida and Neighboring Land Areas*. Vol. 17. Gainesville: Fla. Dept. Agric. Consumer Serv. 670pp (55 pl.).

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT WHEN IN THE FIELD
POISONOUS SNAKES IN TEXAS
POISONOUS SNAKES IN GENERAL

BY
J. BARRY LOMBARDINI

One would assume that collecting butterflies and moths has no particular, associated dangerous problems. However, as pointed out in previous Newsletters there are some hazards that the collector, photographer, or hiker in the field should be aware of. For instance, chiggers (Randle, 2005), scorpions (Jackman, 2005), and Africanized killer bees (Belmont, 2006), could certainly ruin your day. Killer bees could ruin your day a bit faster than the chiggers and scorpions (at least in Texas). However, there will be no ambiguity after being bitten by a Western Diamondback Rattlesnake that your day is going to be *"real bad"*.

The poisonous snakes found in Texas (Tennant,1985) classified as moccasins, rattlesnakes or a coral snake are the following:

Family: **VIPERIDAE**

Moccasins:
- Southern Copperhead *(Agkistrodon contortrix contortrix)*
- Broad-banded Copperhead *(Agkistrodon contortrix laticinctus)*
- Trans-Pecos Copperhead *(Agkistrodon contortrix pictigaster)*
- Western Cottonmouth (*Agkistrodon piscivorus leucostoma*)

Rattlesnakes:
- Prairie Rattlesnake (*Crotalus viridis viridis*)
- Timber Rattlesnake (*Crotalus horridus*)
- Western Diamondback Rattlesnake (*Crotalus atrox*)
- Northern Blacktail Rattlesnake (*Crotalus molossus molossus*)
- Banded Rock Rattlesnake (*Crotalus lepidus klauberi*)
- Mottled Rock Rattlesnake (*Crotalus lepidus lepidus*)
- Mojave Rattlesnake (*Crotalus scutulatus scutulatus*)

- Western Pigmy Rattlesnake ((*Sistrurus miliarius streckeri*)
- Desert Massasauga (*Sistrurus catenatus edwardsii*)
- Western Massasauga (*Sistrurus catenatus tergeminus*)

Family: **ELAPIDAE**

Coral Snake:
- Texas Coral Snake (*Micrurus fulvius tenere*)

Many of the above snakes are also found in the other states associated with the Southern Lepidopterists' Society.

Rattlesnakes: Now the real kicker is what happens when you are bitten by one of these snakes and envenomation takes place. For instance, the most common and largest rattlesnake in Texas is the Western Diamondback (*Crotalus atrox*; *atrox* = frightful/grim) and it is, perhaps, the most dangerous. While most snake bite victims from this particular species usually do not die there is a very real problem with peripheral morbidity with sometimes a loss of limbs and many times a loss of digits. There are approximately 8000 poisonous snake bites per year (total of all species of poisonous snakes) in the US while only about six deaths occur.

The venom of the Western Diamondback is composed of at least three components all of which are extremely detrimental to the victim: 1) a neurotoxin, 2) tissue-digestive proteases, and 3) blood-targeted toxic enzymes. This is a powerful toxic combination which leads to many of the following effects such as: severe pain which usually occurs almost immediately, followed by swelling at the injection site, nausea, vomiting, sweating and chills, dizziness and/or fainting, weakness, numbness or tingling of the mouth or tongue, changes (either up or down) in the pulse rate

and blood pressure, blurred vision, muscle spasms, blood clotting disorders, and unconsciousness.

So what is your course of action if you find yourself or colleague in the unfortunate position of just having been bitten by a rattlesnake? The California Poison Control System (http://www.calpoison.org/public/snakebite.html) makes the following recommendations: *"If you are less than one hour from the nearest emergency room, initial treatment is relative simple:*

1. *Try to calm the victim.*
2. *Gently wash the area with soap and water.*
3. *Apply a cold, wet cloth over the bite.*
4. *Transport to the nearest emergency facility for further treatment.*

Do NOT DO the following:

1. *DO NOT apply a tourniquet.*
2. *DO NOT pack the bite area in ice.*
3. *DO NOT cut the wound with a knife or razor.*
4. *DO NOT use your mouth to suck out the venom.*
5. *DO NOT let the victim drink alcohol.*
6. *DO NOT apply electric shock.*

The preceding treatments will NOT help the victim and are dangerous. Applying ice or a tourniquet can block circulation, which can result in gangrene and eventual loss of the limb due to amputation. Cutting the wound can cause excessive bleeding. Because human mouths are full of bacteria, sucking the venom from the wound can cause infection, making treatment more difficult."

Current treatment: intravenous administration of antivenin at the hospital.

Now here is what happens when my friends the more aggressive, but perhaps less informed, surgeons get to you. The surgeons may perform a *"fasciotomy"* on your limb which is defined as a surgical procedure to cut away the fascia to relieve tension or pressure. (The fascia is thin sheet of fibrous connective tissue covering the muscles and internal organs of the body.) The performance of a *"fasciotomy"* for relieving the pressure built up in the limb due to edema or swelling is no longer considered necessary and can do extensive damage to the limb. Leaving a limb open for several days after this procedure (the *"fasciotomy"*) does not facilitate drainage of the venom-saturated tissues and *"...leaving a limb surgically breached for this length of time risks infection, nerve damage, and the loss of postrecovery flexion due to scarring"* (Tennant, 1985).

Mocassins: These snakes while poisonous normally will not kill an individual. The fatality rate for the Western Cottonmouth (*Agkistrodon piscivorus leucostoma*) (the most poisonous of the four *Agkistrodon* species) is less than one person per year. However, the toxin of the Western Cottonmouth can cause considerable tissue death as it is hemotoxic meaning that the venom hemolyzes (causes destruction) of the red blood cells. Thus the blood of the victim fails to coagulate or clot resulting in hemorrhage.

Coral Snake: The Texas Coral Snake (*Micrurus fulvius tenere*) is brilliantly colored and has a number of fellow snakes that look somewhat similar. Remember the famous saying: *"red touch yellow can kill a fellow; red touch black, venom lack"*. The venom of the coral snake is neurotoxic, approximately 8 times more potent than the Western Diamondback Rattlesnake and is similar in potency to the cobra, mambas, taipans, and sea snakes to which family this snake belongs. The central nervous system of the victim /prey is affected by their venom. There is an antivenin for treatment.

There are very few human victims of the coral snake as their venom delivery system is nowhere near the capacity of the rattlesnakes. The fangs of the coral snake are approximately 1/8 of an inch and *"...their tiny rigid fangs - grooved pegs rather than the hollow hypodermic tubes of the pit vipers* (rattlesnakes and moccasins) *- are too short to penetrate shoe leather or clothing"* (Tennant, 1985).

So in conclusion, fellow field enthusiasts the parting advice is watch where you step. You are only moments away from the hospital and a *"real bad"* day.

Literature Cited

Randle, D. 2005. Chiggers, *Southern Lepidopterists' Society News.* Vol. 27 NO.2, June 30, pg. 39-40.
Jackman, J. A. 2005. Scorpions, *Southern Lepidopterists' Society News.* Vol. 27 NO.3, September 30, pg. 86-88.
Belmont, B. 2006. Africanized Bees in Florida, *Southern Lepidopterists' Society News.* Vol. 28 NO.1, March 30, Pg. 14-15.
Tennant, A. 1985. *A Field Guide to Texas Snakes.* Texas Monthly Press, Austin, Texas.

****

LARVAL HOST PLANTS OF QUEENS AND MONARCHS ON GRAND ISLE, LOUISIANA

BY
MICHAEL LEFORT

Grand Isle is an inhabited barrier island on the SE coast of Louisiana. It is a well developed vacation and a recreational retreat to locals and others. A small butterfly dome has been erected there for tourists through the work of Wayne Keller, a Grand Isle official and butterfly enthusiast. The dome took a beating from the 2005 hurricanes Katrina and Rita as it has for centuries of past storms, but I continue to collect there as I have for almost 20 years.

When I started collecting on Grand Isle in 1988, I noticed that the two Danaid butterflies, Queens and Monarchs, could be very abundant, even in the middle of Winter. It seemed obvious that they lived and reproduced there. However, there was a problem that could not be resolved: there are no typical milkweed plants on Grand Isle or in SE Louisiana. So for many years I continued collecting Queens and Monarchs there but could not resolve the question of *"what is the larval host plant of Queens and Monarchs on Grand Isle?"*. I was joined many times by fellow collectors Kevin Cunningham and Michael Lockwood and we could not settle the issue. Years went on.

Lucky chance happened in September 1997. Kevin Cunningham and I were investigating one of our favorite spots, a field-like area with scrubby oaks and saltwater pools nearby. Spotting a female Queen obviously looking to oviposit, we followed her and she led us to our looked for plant - an almost minute, easily missed twining vine. The female Queen laid eggs on it. Breaking its tiny leaves produced a milky sap. A few small instars were found. Our sought for milkweed plant was a *Sarcostemma* sp. (tentative I.D.), perhaps well known to some of you readers, but then unknown to us.

So it is that the larval host plant of Queens on Grand Isle was found. But a couple of mysteries remain. We catch Monarch butterflies year around on the island, even in the dead of winter - fresh specimens. They seem to live and breed there, or do they? If they do why don't they migrate with all the others to Mexico? And what do they eat - the *Sarcostemma* vines or perhaps the plentiful oleander on Grand Isle?

Some mysteries continue.

****

LEPIDOPTERA: Lepidoptera is the second largest ORDER in the animal kingdom. There are over 180,000 described species that are classified in 127 families and 46 superfamilies. [Coleoptera is the largest order with 350,000 described species.]

****

THE AURELIAN LEGACY
BRITISH BUTTERFLIES AND THEIR COLLECTORS
A BOOK REVIEW

BY
H. WAYNE LEIBEE

The Aurelian Legacy – British Butterflies and Their Collectors. Michael A. Salmon. University of California Press, Berkeley, California, 2000. 432 pp. ISBN 0-520-22963-0

Introduction

I was attracted to this book because it is full of illustrations that include paintings, photographs, and drawings dispersed throughout the book. To me, a picture really helps the reader to visualize the issue at hand. A book about Lepidoptera without beautiful color pictures is dry indeed.

I found this book fascinating and well written; however this is not a professional book review. Physically, the book is 8.5x11x1.5 inches and fairly hefty. It consists of a foreword, five chapters, two appendices, an extensive bibliography, and a list of 203 illustrations in color and black and white. The quality of the paper and the printing is very high. This is a book about amateur British lepidopterists from 1550 to 1996 and should be of great interest to members of the Southern Lepidopterist Society. This book in hardcover can be purchased used on eBay for under $10.00 without shipping.

Book Summary

The following quotation is a summary of the book as it appears on the back of the dust jacket.

> *"The Aurelian Legacy - British Butterflies and Their Collectors*
>
> *A history of British butterflies cannot be separated from that of their collectors, since our knowledge of them is the result of four hundred years of collection and study. A mere fifty years ago many now uncommon species were widespread and abundant - their subsequent seemingly irreversible decline owing more to changes in land management and the environment than to past collecting. However, given the present state of butterfly populations, indiscriminate collecting can no longer be justified.*
>
> *This thoroughly researched, highly informative, and enjoyable book includes a short history of butterfly collecting in Britain and of the equipment used; brief biographies of 101 deceased lepidopterists, generously laced with anecdotes and quotations, and many contemporary monochrome portraits; accounts of selected species of historical interest; and an appraisal of the effect of collecting and of current conservation policies. Appendixes list all the British and Irish butterflies with their earlier, often confusing and sometimes fanciful, vernacular names; and provide a chronological account of entomological societies, publications, and significant events in the canon of British entomology. The work concludes with a comprehensive Bibliography and Index.*
>
> *Michael Salmon, with his collaborators, provides a fascinating account of the men and women who have made such valuable contributions to our knowledge of British butterflies and of their early and often complex history. The Aurelian Legacy is not only a good read, but is also an excellent reference source for lepidopterists and social historians. Michael Salmon is an amateur lepidopterist who has made a special study of butterfly variation in Britain. He has been responsible for saving a number of historic collections now in danger of destruction from neglect and decay.*

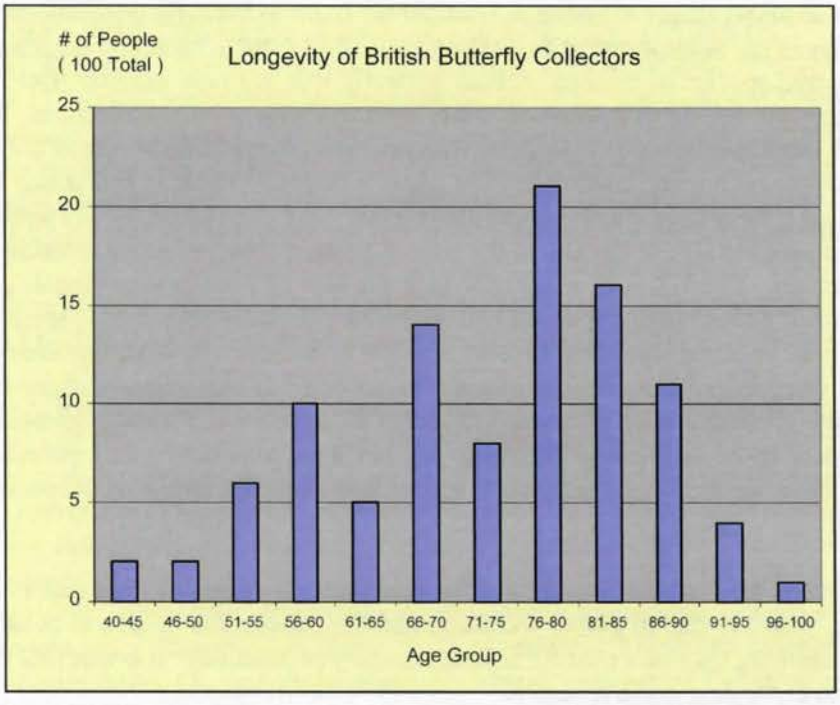
Peter Marren, a well-known natural history writer, and Basil Harley, a keen historian and amateur entomologist, have contributed further research in bringing this unique project to fruition."

Discussion

What is an Aurelian? This book explains the term. Apparently, collecting butterflies in England was a lot more than running around catching insects. It was quite a social event that included picnics, special dress and meeting in coffee houses or taverns for lengthy discussions. Sometime around 1720, the entomologists decided to formalize their meetings and selected the name *"the Society of Aurelians"* with their meeting place at Swan Tavern in Exchange Alley, London. The name comes from the Latin, *aureolus*, meaning golden like the chrysalides of some nymphalid butterflies.

The author, Michael Salmon, has had a passion for butterflies from the age of eleven. The inside flap of the dust jacket states.....

"He has collected and bred many species and made a particular study of butterfly variations. Over the years, he became fascinated by his predecessors in this field and, there being nothing in print documenting their lives and activities, he decided to write this book to reveal the personalities behind the many famous, and some not so famous, names which appear in the British entomological literature. In recent years Dr. Salmon has been acquiring neglected butterfly collections from schools where, Natural History Societies being sadly a thing of the past, they had been consigned to some cupboard or basement allowing moth and museum beetles to take their toll. Among these motley specimens he has made a number of exciting discoveries although unfortunately many have been too far gone to rescue."



This book is only about British butterflies; moths are really not discussed and so the book is somewhat limited from the Lepidoptera sense. The emphasis is primarily on people, and is not a scientific treatise by any means. There is a chapter devoted to an interesting discussion of 35 British butterfly species of special interest. No butterfly species are endemic to the UK, according to Butterfly Conservation.

Of the 101 collectors discussed, many were parsons and only two are women. I recognize only a few names on the list. The reader is left to read about them and select the most interesting individual. As a somewhat unrelated side note and because I like graphs, one factor that I found interesting was the longevity of the group. The chart above shows the ages of the group in five-year increments.

Over 60% of the group (one individual's birth date was unknown) lived beyond the age of 70 which I think is remarkable given that the group covers the time period from the 1550s to 1996, roughly 450 years, during a long

period of poor medical knowledge and treatments. I did not analyze the ages of the collectors by century, but did notice that the earlier centuries contained shorter life spans but not by much. My conclusion would be that chasing butterflies is good for the health of the collector. Or was the liquid refreshment imbibed at the pubs the major contributing factor for longevity?

Chapter two discusses *"weapons of the chase"*, including various nets, setting boards, killing bottles and pins. It mentions the first recorded use of the butterfly net. There is a 1955 photo of a collector holding a *"High Net"* that appears to be about 30 feet in length for collecting the Purple Emperor (*Apatura iris*), a high flying, strong, elusive species, at tree top level. This was a very informative chapter, including a humorous discussion of the creation of a fake species as a practical joke.

Among the British collectors listed is John Abbot of Georgia (1751-1840), which I thought was an interesting connection. While technically correct, that Abbot was British and he collected, almost his entire career was spent in America. He is known also for his beautiful illustrations of American Lepidoptera and as co-author of *The Natural History or Rarer Lepidopterous Insects of Georgia*, published in London in 1797. He never returned to Britain.

Recalling the biography of John Abbot from the December 2003 SLS newsletter, as a boy he was enthralled with the acquisition of the coveted Purple Emperor (*Apatura iris*), *"the ultimate quarry of every Victorian lepidopterist"*, but now somewhat rare in Britain. At the bottom of this review are two images of this famous butterfly, of which the book fails to show.

Dru Drury and Moses Harris, my favorite natural history people for their fine illustrations, are included. Drury owned the most exquisite collection in the late 18th century, 11,000 specimens, goldsmith to Queen of England, illustrator par-excellence. Collected in Virginia, America, the American Painted Lady (*Vanessa cardui*) at the end of this review was engraved by Moses Harris, author of *The Aurelian*, and illustrated in Drury's *Illustrations of Natural History*, published in 1770. Apparently, Harris was not a collector, but an engraver.

Chapter five has an interesting discussion about whether collecting did permanent harm to butterfly populations in Britain. The author concludes, rather weakly in my opinion and in a qualified sense, that it did not and lays the blame at habitat destruction. There are at least five species of resident British butterfly that are now extinct. During Victorian times excessive collecting, trading and selling of butterflies, either as individuals or large collections, for monetary gain was a common practice. A large number of British butterflies are now protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act of 1981, which regulates taking and trading, except under a license. There is also a ban on collecting in nature reserves. I am wondering if the author is a bit blindfolded on this issue. The UK is 94,247 square miles (sq mi) in area. For perspective, compare the size of the UK to the size of Texas at 268,581 sq mi, Florida at 65,758 sq mi and Mississippi at 48,430 sq mi. The UK is a bit smaller than the size of Florida and Mississippi combined. The population density of the UK is 8 times higher than the United States. The author describes the many cases of huge numbers of butterflies taken on specific collecting trips by specific collectors and the huge sizes of individual collections, and this does not consider all the non-documented collecting. If one acknowledges the significant role of habitat destruction, in my opinion, it is still a bit hard to accept the author's conclusion, given the small size of the UK. Every gravid female taken before the chance to lay her eggs kills how many potential individuals? Excessive collecting must have an impact on genetic diversity and provides stress on a species. Admittedly, this is a controversial subject.

The author concludes chapter five on a positive note where he mentions the great butterfly years of 1995 and 1996 in Britain due to hot dry summer weather, possibly due to global warming, and the expectation of arrival of non-residents from the Continent, as if global warming may be a plus for British butterfly populations. It is true that the home ranges of butterfly species have been expanding north recently.

But how will global warming really affect Great Britain and Europe? Time Magazine had a recent two page article on the subject (Time, December 12, 2005, Environment, M.D. Lemonick, pgs. 54-55). The UK lies north of the equator at latitude 50-60 degrees, essentially the same as Canada. Yet the weather is relatively temperate due to the influence of the Gulf Stream. This fact in turn influences the flora and fauna of the UK. Global warming, by melting the sea ice in the north will divert the flow of the warm water from the Tropics sending much colder fresh water east

toward Europe. This in turn will mean frigid weather for Europe; all this reported by the British National Oceanography Center. Maybe a big chill could wipe out many resident species of British butterflies. Quite ironic, indeed!

On the positive side, a recent article from London (Reuters) describes how Britain's contribution to global warming will be reduced by converting up to 10 percent of agricultural land in Britain to biomass fuel using giant elephant grass from Asia and short rotation coppice willow woodchips for fuel in an effort to reduce the carbon footprint. A coppice is a thick grove of short trees. From Wikipedia, (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coppicing):

"Coppicing is a traditional method of woodland management, by which young tree stems are cut down to a low level, or sometimes right down to the ground. In subsequent growth years, many new shoots will grow up, and after a number of years the cycle begins again and the coppiced tree or stool is ready to be harvested again. Typically a coppice woodland is harvested in sections, on a rotation. In this way each year a crop is available, for fire wood or fencing..."

The author suggests, and Butterfly Conservation maintains, the old practice of coppicing was beneficial for the woodland butterfly habitat in Britain. Hopefully, the reintroduced practice will aid in restoring the woodland butterfly habitat. The Purple Emperor might benefit from this practice as this species loves willows!

What is the Aurelian Legacy?

Interestingly the author actually does not specifically discuss the legacy; rather the reader must infer what it might be. The most obvious of course is the great collections of British butterflies residing in various museums. Some collectors were indeed mere hobbyists, but field notes and reports by amateur collectors form an essential record for formal scientific descriptions of range, behavior, and other aspects of butterfly natural history. These collections can provide baseline data if well conserved. They also provide a glimpse at the extent of the past populations of butterflies in the UK. The focus now will be preservation, breeding, reintroduction, population dynamics, DNA study, and habitat improvement.

In my view, a bit of the legacy should be a lesson about human excesses. The great chase for that flying rarity was at one time an obsession to somehow possess the unpossessable, and the butterflies were the losers. Hopefully knowledge about these amateur collectors and their collections can provide a basis for a new different enlightened approach to the environment.

Recommendation

This book is comprehensive, quite literary, amusing, visually appealing and well done. It is a beautifully illustrated book, brimming with butterfly trivia and lore, including the origin of butterfly names in English. It is an excellent reference source for current and future lepidopterists. The appendix lists all the British butterflies with their earlier, often confusing vernacular names, and provides a chronological account of entomological societies, publications, and significant events in British entomology.

I do wholeheartedly recommend the book. It should be in every butterfly collector's library. I leave it to the reader to extract all of the interesting information, which is too extensive to discuss here.

About the book review author

I was a butterfly collector when about 8-12 years old. My collection included about 24 perfect specimens of California butterflies, including my favorite, the Mourning Cloak (*Nymphalis antiopa*), the elusive Western Orange Tip (*Anthocharis sara*) and the largest Buckeye (*Precis coenia*) I have ever seen. I was attracted to them for their color -- creatures of tantalizing beauty. I expended a lot of energy and time assembling this small collection. I know all the butterflies by common name. My collecting days ended sadly the day my cat got into my cigar box collection and pounded it to a mess of powdered bug parts.

Collected in Virginia, the American Painted Lady (*Vanessa cardui*) (to the left) was included on Plate V of Drury's *Illustrations of Natural History*, published in 1770. The two other butterflies shown on that plate were from China. When the plate was printed in 1770, the Painted Lady was considered an exotic insect by the entomological community in England.

Photo: From wikipedia, by Heiko Blaeser, Niederlausitz, Brandenburg, Germany (Sept. 2005).

Photo: www.butterfly-conversation.org

From Wikipedia, *"the Purple Emperor (Apatura iris) is a butterfly of the Nymphalidae family. They are found in woodlands throughout Central Europe and southern Britain. Adults have dark brown wings with white lines and a small orange ring on each of the hindwings. Males have an iridescent purple-blue sheen which the females lack. Females spend most of their lives in the tree canopy coming down only to lay their eggs. Males also spend much of their time in the tree tops, defending their territory from rivals, though they will sometimes descend in order to drink from puddles or feed. Unlike most butterflies, the Purple Emperor does not feed from flowers but instead on the honeydew secreted by aphids and on dung, urine and animal carcasses"* (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Purple_Emperor).

****

TIMES HAVE CHANGED

Vladimir Nabokov's philosophy on collecting in National Parks probably would not fly in today's political climate and is not presently recommended. His retort when the Park Ranger confronts you with a net would be to point to the cars in the parking lot and then tell the Ranger to count all the bugs, including lepidoptera, stuck to the car radiators. Ask the Ranger to compute all the cars that pass through the National Park per day and how many *"bugs"* would thus be killed by this traffic. If there were no or very few cars in the parking lot Nabokov's alternative argument would be to point out to the Ranger *"the millions of endemic insect larvae, mostly undescribed, fed to imported fish by imported fishermen"*. Finally, Nabokov suggested that one could use the argument (if the opportunity arose) that the Ranger just killed a mosquito that had landed on his cheek - probably a new species. Don't even think of trying these lines. They may have worked in 1950, but not in 2006.

[*Nabokov's Butterflies*, Edited and Annotated by Brian Boyd and Robert Michael Pyle, Beacon Press, Boston (2000), pp 494-5.

EPIDROMA FERGUSONI (SOLIS) IN LOUISIANA

BY
VERNON ANTOINE BROU JR.

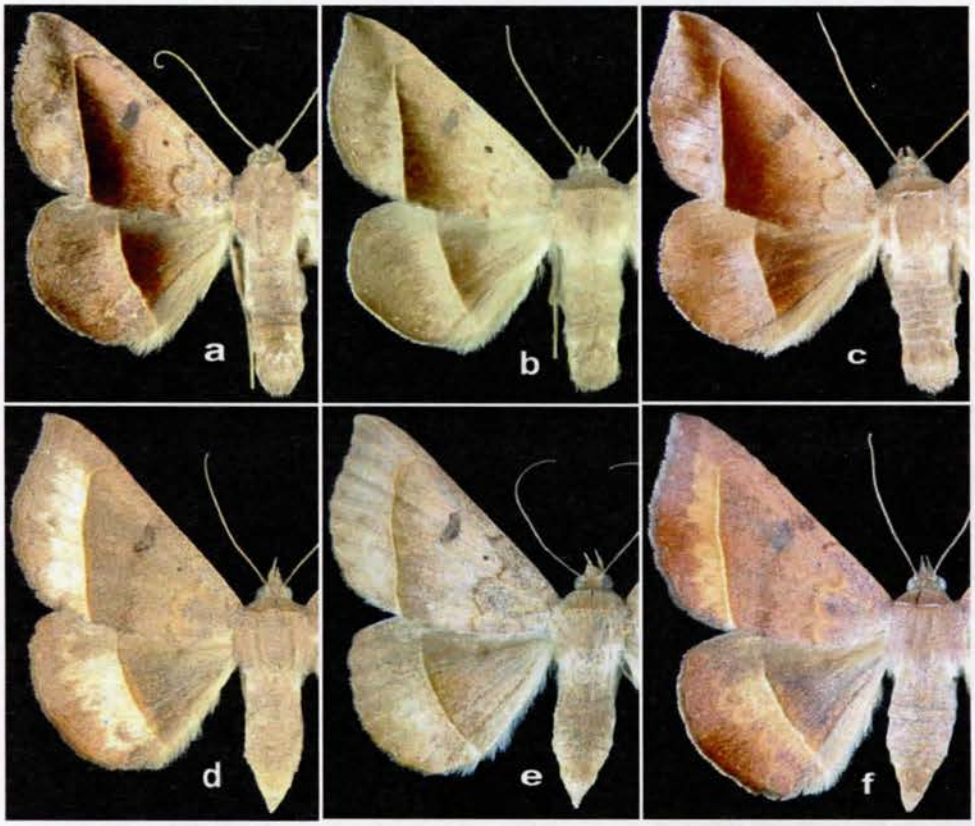


Fig. 1. ***Epidroma fergusoni*:** males a, b, c; females d, e. f.

The medium-sized brown colored noctuid moth ***Epidroma fergusoni*** Solis, (Fig. 1) was first reported in Louisiana by this author (Brou, 1995), when a single female was captured at ultra-violet light in 1993, despite continual 365-366 nightly light trapping in Louisiana for 23 years by this author prior to 1993. ***E. fergusoni*** has become increasingly encountered at this location (Fig. 3). ***E. fergusoni*** was pictured by Holland (1903) as ***Epidroma delinquens*** (Walker) female on plate XXX; the specimen actually is a ***fergusoni*** male. ***E. fergusoni*** was described by Solis (1986) and she reported that there are two additional undescribed species of ***Epidroma*** occurring in Florida as well as a third species she did not elaborate on.

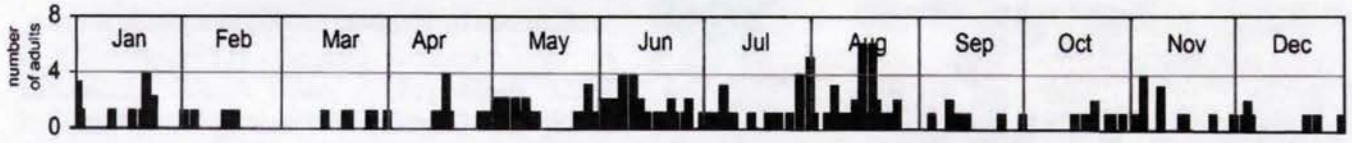


Fig. 2. ***Epidroma fergusoni*** adults captured at sec.24T6SR12E, 4.2 mi NE of Abita Springs, Louisiana. n = 172.

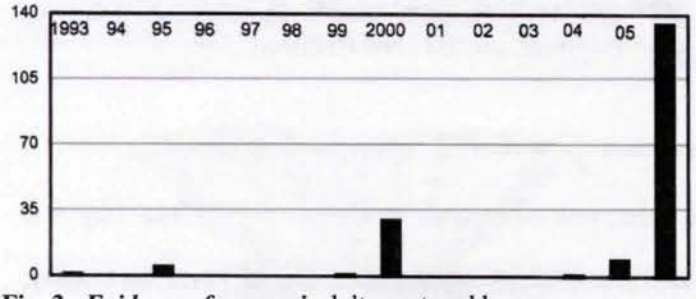


Fig. 3. ***Epidroma fergusoni*** adults captured by year.

Heppner (2003) lists ***fergusoni*** from Georgia, Florida, Alabama and Louisiana in the US, in all months. There appear to be five annual broods based on this small series of specimens (Fig. 2). Fig. 3 illustrates how species dispersal occurred as ***fergusoni*** entered this area and became established in greater numbers.

Literature Cited

Brou, V. A. 1995. A new state record for *Epidroma fergusoni* Solis. *South. Lepid. News* 17:5.

Heppner, J. B. 2003. *Arthropods of Florida and Neighboring Land Areas,* vol. 17: Lepidoptera of Florida, Div. Plant Industry, Fla. Dept. Agr. & Consum. Serv., Gainesville. x + 670 pp., 55 plates.

Holland, W. J. 1903. *The Moth book.* New York, Doubleday, Page & Co. reprinted 1968, New York: Dover, 479 pp., 48 plates.

Solis, M. A. 1986. A new species of *Epidroma* (Noctuidae) from Florida. *Jour. Lepid. Soc.* 40:8-19.

PANULA INCONSTANS GUENÉE, NEW STATE RECORD FOR LOUISIANA

BY

VERNON ANTOINE BROU JR.

A single female specimen of the small noctuid species ***Panula inconstans*** Guenée (Fig. 1) was captured at sec24T6SR12E 4.2 miles NE of Abita Springs, Louisiana on July 20, 2003. This species is reported in the literature and a search of the internet to occur in the Lesser and Greater Antilles, Guadeloupe, St. Lucia, Grenadines, Martinique, Jamaica and Hispaniola. ***P. inconstans*** Guenée is listed by Hodges (1983) to occur in the US, but I can locate no confirmed literature records. It was listed previously by several authors to occur in the USA, apparently Holland (1903) pictured a dark male specimen of ***Melipotis cellaris*** (Guenée) as ***Panula inconstans*** Guenée.

Fig. 1. ***Panula inconstans*** fema le: a. upperside, b. underside.

Fig. 2. ***Melipotis cellaris*** female : a. upperside, b. underside.

Richards (1937) stated regarding ***Melipotis cellaris***: *"This is the species that passed on American lists for years as '**Panula inconstans** Gn.' (see Holland, Moth Book, plate 30, fig. 21, 1903). **P. inconstans** Gn. is another tropical species, to date not recorded from North America."* Richards (1939) states: "*So far as is known, true **inconstans** does not occur or stray north to the United States."*

I have provided for comparison images of ***Melipotis cellaris*** Guenée taken at the Abita Springs, Louisiana study site (Fig. 2). ***P. inconstans*** exhibits unremarkable and uniform brown color on the upper hindwing and both wings of the underside and this captured specimen is noticeably slightly smaller in size compared to my series of female ***cellaris***. ***P. inconstans*** Guenée is not listed among recent publications by Heppner (2003) to occur in Florida, nor by Knudson & Bordelon (1999) to occur in Texas. Butler (1892), states ***Panula inconstans*** Grote, (not Guenée) is a synonym of ***Melipotis cellaris*** Guenée. I wish to thank the following individuals who provided invaluable assistance in this investigation: James K. Adams, John B. Heppner, and Edward Knudson.

Literature Cited

Butler, A. G. 1892. Revision of the Noctuid Genus Melipotis Hübn., with descriptions of two new species. *Ann. Mag. Nat. His*., ser. 6. vol. 10, pp 315-327.

Heppner, J. B. 2003. *Arthropods of Florida and Neighboring Land Areas*, vol. 17: Lepidoptera of Florida, Div. Plant Industry, Fla. Dept. Agr. & Consum. Serv., Gainesville. x + 670 pp., 55 plates.

Hodges, R. W. ***et al.*** 1983. *Checklist of the Lepidoptera of America North of Mexico*. E.W. Classey Ltd. and The Wedge Entomol. Res. Found., Cambridge: Univ. Press. xxiv + 284 pp.

Holland, W. J. 1903. *The Moth book*. New York, Doubleday, Page & Co. reprinted 1968 New York: Dover, 479 pp., 48 plates.

Knudson, E. & C. Bordelon 1999. *Texas Lepidoptera Survey, Checklist of the Lepidoptera of Texas* (2000 edit.).

Richards, A. G. 1937. Notes on some tropical noctuids in North America. *The Canadian Ent*. 69:218-219.

Richards, A. G. 1939. A revision of the North American species of the Phoberia-Melipotis-Drastria group of Moths (Lepidoptera, Phalaenidae). *Entomologica Americana* XIX: 1, 1-100.

CATOCALA ALABAMAE GROTE IN LOUISIANA

BY
VERNON ANTOINE BROU JR.

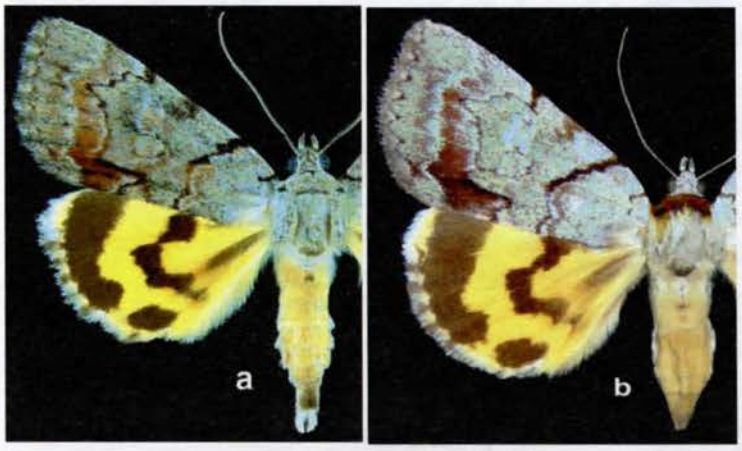


Fig. 1. ***Catocala alabamae:*** a. male, b. female.

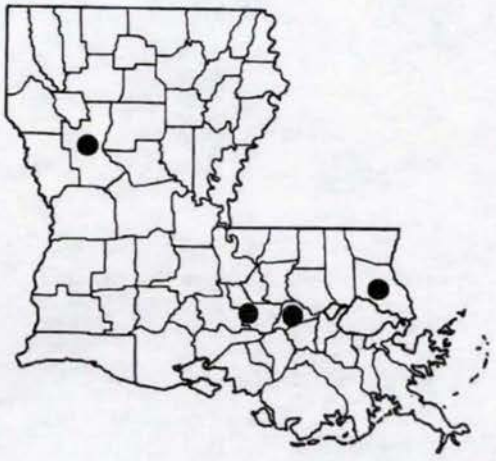


Fig. 2. Parish records by this author.

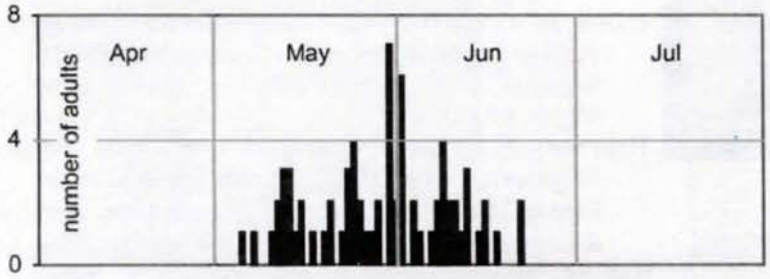


Fig. 3. Adult *C. alabamae* captured in Louisiana. n = 71.

The noctuid moth ***Catocala alabamae*** Grote (Fig. 1) is listed by Heppner (2003) to occur from South Carolina to Florida and Missouri to Texas. In Louisiana, ***alabamae*** occurs uncommonly in four parishes (Fig. 2). Sargent (1976) states ***alabamae*** is rare and sporadic in the east. Covell (1984) states ***alabamae*** is locally common in Florida, but rare or absent in much of its range. Likewise in Louisiana it is never taken in large numbers. The records listed here represent 35 years of continual light trapping and 20 years of bait trapping. The forewing coloration of ***alabamae*** in Louisiana is bluish-gray, unlike some Floridian specimens, which exhibit a greenish suffusion over the forewings. The single annual brood peaks at the end of May (Fig. 3). ***C. alabamae*** can be captured at ultraviolet light and more often at fermenting fruit bait. I have not included the described species ***Catocala olivia*** Hy. Edw. (Fig. 6a,b) and ***Catocala titania*** Dodge (Fig. 6c,d) among the series of 71 specimens I am reporting for ***alabamae***. ***C. olivia*** was not mentioned by Covell (1984) nor Sargent (1976), though ***olivia*** was listed and pictured (plate XXXII) as occurring in Texas by Holland (1903) and is listed for Texas by Knudson & Bordelon (1999). Both ***olivia*** and ***titania*** are considered by some lepidopterist to be synonyms of ***alabamae***. In Louisiana, I have taken six specimens of ***olivia*** and seven specimens of ***titania*** over the past 35 years.

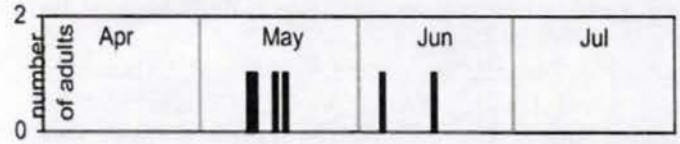


Fig. 4. ***Catocala olivia*** captured in Louisiana.

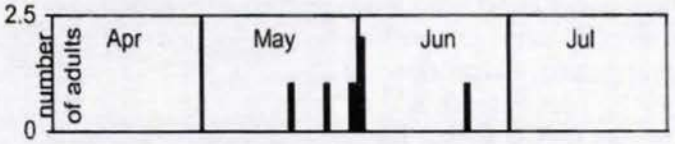


Fig. 5. ***Catocala titania*** captured in Louisiana.

The dates of capture for ***olivia*** are illustrated in Fig. 4 and for ***titania*** in Fig. 5. Based on the few available specimens, both graphs indicate the flight of ***olivia*** and ***titania*** occur within the same time frame as illustrated for ***alabamae***. The locality records for ***olivia*** and ***titania*** are illustrated in Fig. 7. ***C. titania*** appears slightly smaller in size and more often without the prominent antemedial line and the prominent brown area between the postmedial and subterminal lines of the forewings, appearing washed out as illustrated in Fig. 6.

Fig. 6. ***Catocala olivia*:** a. male, b. female:
***Catocala titania*:** c. male, d. female

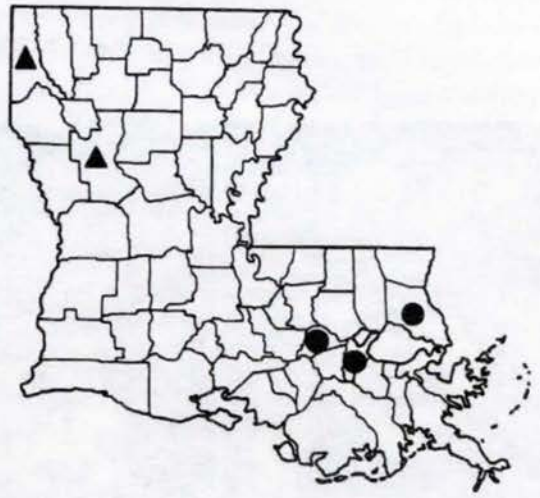


Fig. 7. Parish records by this author:
C. olivia ●, ***C. titania*** ▲.

Literature Cited

Covell, Jr., C.V. 1984. *A Field Guide to the Moths of Eastern North America.* The Peterson Field Guide Series No. 30. Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston. xv + 469pp., 64 plates.

Heppner, J . B . 2003. *Arthropods of Florida and Neighboring Land Areas*, vol. 17: Lepidoptera of Florida, Div. Plant Industry, Florida. Dept. Agr. & Consum. Serv., Gainesville. x + 670 pp., 55 plates.

Holland, W. J. 1903. *The Moth book.* New York, Doubleday, Page & Co., Reprinted 1968, New York: Dover, 479 pp., 48 plates.

Knudson, E. & C. Bordelon 1999. *Texas Lepidoptera Survey, Checklist of the Lepidoptera of Texas* (2000 edit.).

Sargent, T. D. 1976, *Legion of Night: The Underwing Moths.* Amherst Univ. Mass. Press.

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

****

"THAT'S REAL FAME"

Many critics considered Vladimir Nabokov an American literary giant. However, he himself took more pride in his accomplishments as a lepidopterist. For instance when Alfred Appel Jr., a friend, a former student, a literary and cultural critic, and professor at Stanford University visited him in 1966, Nabokov referred to a section of the butterfly book by Alexander B. Klots, *"A Field Guide to the Butterflies of North America, East of the Great Plains"* (1951), that was on the *Genus Lycaeides* Scudder: the Orange Margined Blues. The statement in the *Field Guide* that Nabokov was especially proud of was *"The recent work of Nabokov has entirely rearranged the classification of this genus"* (page 164). Nabokov exclaimed *"That's real fame"*.

[Nabokov's Butterflies, Edited and Annotated by Brian Boyd and Robert Michael Pyle, Beacon Press, Boston (2000), pages 641-642,739.]

****

****

****

HYPHANTRIA CUNEA (DRURY) IN LOUISIANA

BY
VERNON ANTOINE BROU JR.

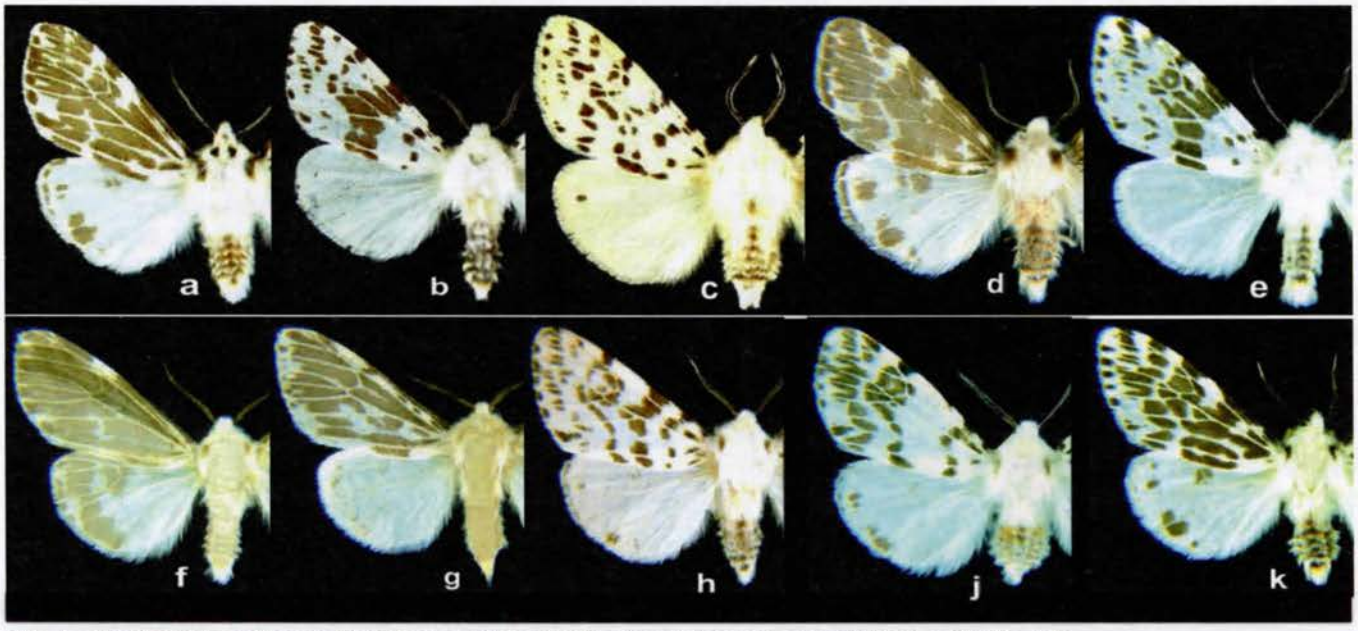


Fig. 1. ***Hyphantria cunea*** adults from Louisiana illustrating varied wing maculation: male fig. a-k.

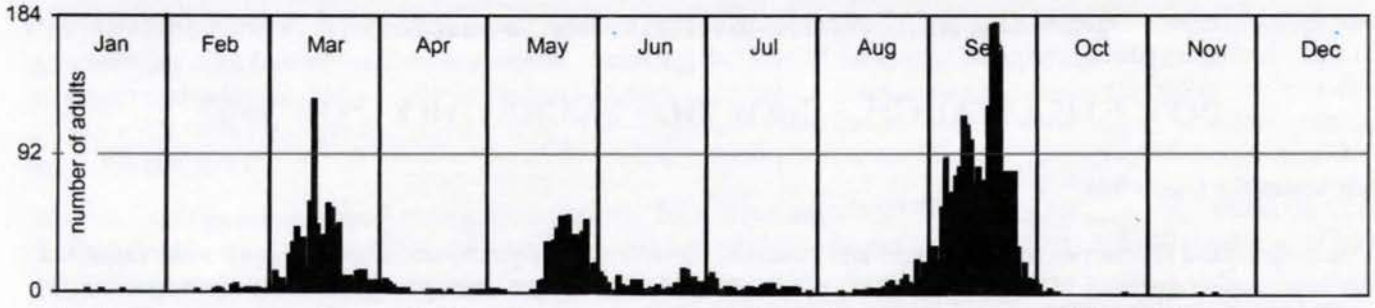


Fig. 2. ***H. cunea*** captured at sec.24T6SR12E, 4.2 miles NE of Abita Springs, St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana. n = 4077.

I make note of the puzzling statement *"wings are white with no other markings"* by Miller & Hammond (2000) concerning the common Arctiidae moth ***Hyphantria cunea*** (Drury) (Fig. 1). They also say this species flies in mid-summer, despite acknowledging the common name *"fall webworm"*. Apparently white phenotypes occur in the northerly areas of ***cunea's*** range.

Wagner, *et al.* (1997), report over 100 hardwoods as larval foodplants and two or more generations in the south. Often referred to as the fall webworm, in Louisiana, this major pest species is most often completely white on the upper surface, especially so in the second through fourth broods. More often adult males appearing in the first brood have varied black, gray or brownish markings on a whitish ground color, where females exhibit far less extremes in maculation in all broods. Examples of some of the varied maculation in Louisiana are illustrated in Fig. 1. Covell (1984) states ***cunea*** has two broods southward and one in the north. Heppner (2003) lists over one hundred foodplant species for ***cunea***. In Louisiana, I have taken adult ***cunea*** in all months except December. The largest population of the four annual broods occurs in September (Fig. 2) and accounts for 57% of the total sample size depicted. Specimens representing a June-July third brood consistently appear each year, but account for less than one percent of the sample shown here (Fig. 2). Wagner (2005) reports over 400 woody foodplants for ***cunea*** and two broods in New Jersey and four broods in parts of Florida.

Though I have not recorded all the many locations I have encountered ***cunea*** in Louisiana, I have shown in Fig. 3 the

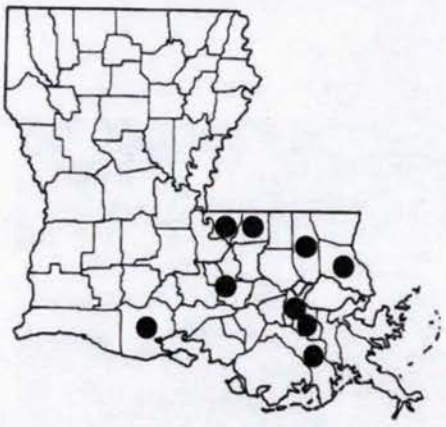


Fig. 3. Parish records by this author.

parishes in southeast Louisiana for which I have specimens on hand before me.

Heitzman & Heitzman (1987) reports ***cunea*** is multibrooded in all regions of Missouri, April to September. They also mention great variation in brown markings on wings and that most specimens are totally white.

Literature Cited

Covell, Jr., C.V. 1984. *A Field Guide to the Moths of Eastern North America.* The Peterson Field Guide Series No. 30. Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston. xv + 469pp., 64 plates.

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

Heppner, J.B. 2003. *Arthropods of Florida and Neighboring Land Areas*, vol. 17: Lepidoptera of Florida, Div. Plant Industry, Fla. Dept. Agr. & Consum. Serv., Gainesville. x + 670 pp., 55 plates.

Miller, J. C. & P. C. Hammond 2000. *Macromoths of Northwest Forest and Woodlands*, USDA, Forest Health Technology Enterprise Team, 133 pp.

Wagner, D. L. 2005. *Caterpillars of Eastern North America*, Princeton Field Guides, Princeton University Press, 512 pp.

Wagner, D. L., V. Giles, R. C. Reardon, M. L. McManus 1997. *Caterpillars of Eastern Forests.* USDA, Forest Health Technology Enterprise Team, 113 pp.

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

****

DON STILLWAUGH - NEW SLS SECRETARY FOR 2007

Don writes the following:

"I've been a field researcher, land manager and educator for over twenty years, initially studying a wide variety of insects as well as reptiles and amphibians on the prairies and savannas of the Chicago region. After moving to central Florida some eight years ago, I began working with rare plants on the Lake Wales Ridge. Then after a two and a half year stint with the Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission working on the Gopher Tortoise Mitigation Parks, I landed with Pinellas County's Environmental Lands Division where I currently work in the Research Section investigating plants, shorebirds and invertebrates." [Photograph of Don on page 104.]

****

2007 MEETING - MARK YOUR CALENDAR

The Annual Meetings of the Southern Lepidopterists' Society and the Association for Tropical Lepidoptera will be held jointly in Gainesville, Florida, on October 4 – 7, 2007, at the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Doyle Conner Building. Registration forms will be printed in the spring 2007 issue of the News. We are planning a pre-conference collecting trip to Osceola National Forest in Northern Florida. Dr. John Heppner with ATL is organizing a post-conference collecting trip, perhaps to Puerto Rico. Please contact Dr. Heppner [heppnej@doacs.state.fl.us] if you are interesting in attending a post-conference trip.

****

****

****

****

MY (VERY BRIEF) *"CAREER"* AS A LEPIDOPTERIST

BY
ALWYNELLE (NELL) AHL

My college career began in 1957 and my heart was set on becoming an invertebrate biologist, hopefully on some distant rocky shore. Women in those days were not often found in graduate school and an opportunity to study blind cave crawfish was dashed when the professor discovered I was female (he said my first name did not give him a proper clue to my gender). So women wanting to be biologists in those days took what they could find. I took a MS in ecology and a PhD in vertebrate biology/biochemistry and taught undergraduates for 20 years when there came an opportunity to return to school. With our children nearly grown, it was the right time to shift course; four years later, DVM was added to my credentials. My veterinary career took me to work for USDA where ultimately I trained to become a risk analyst, and in the process helped invent the field of agricultural import risk analysis. Risk analysis is a fascinating field, but it is abstract, policy-driven, and takes one far away from the natural world I had so enjoyed as a student.

We lived in the Washington, DC suburbs for 15 years before retiring and longed for a quiet country place where we could enjoy the natural world, a garden, and generally *"get away from it all"*. We found our haven in an old livestock farm in the hill country of western Middle Tennessee. The 86 acres had mature forests and meadows, springs, streams, and a creek, also flat land, hollers, and a wonderful wetland by the creek. As a reviving biologist, I had an ambitious goal of cataloging all the fauna on our farm, on film, and the flora too as time permitted. Probably I had lived in sterile cities with managed ecosystems too long and forgotten about the burgeoning life that one finds in unmanaged rural areas. At any rate, it took only a few months to realize what a foolish endeavor I had contemplated. Still I was looking for a naturalist hobby and a way to focus my lifelong curiosity about animals.

One morning in early spring less than a year after we moved to our Valhalla, I found a large piece of bright pink and gold birthday cake frosting on the door screen. Thinking that one of the grandchildren or great-grands had come to visit with party frosting still on sticky fingers, I quickly grabbed a damp sponge to remove it before the ants did. All the while, under my breath, I was thinking of what gentle but memorable things I would say to the offender when he or she was found.

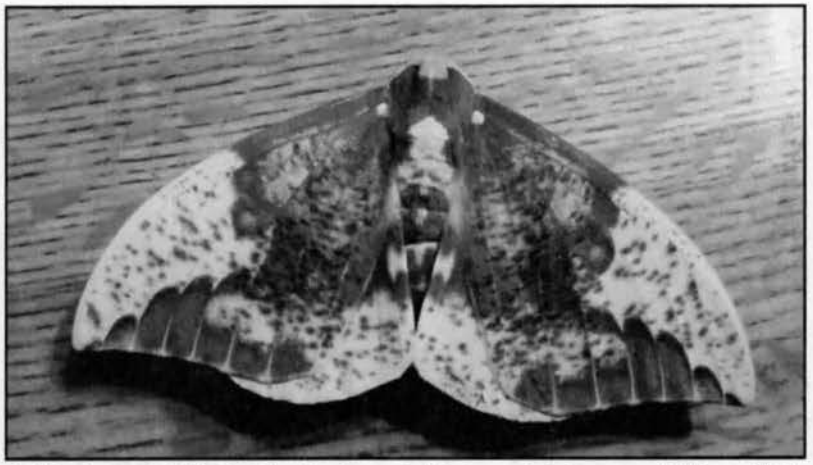
When the sponge touched the frosting, it flew away. Boy, was I surprised! Watching the *"frosting"* flutter away, I realized it was a moth. A moth? Good heavens, moths are little gray brown creatures that eat wool sweaters. Moths are nothing so large and colorful as the *"frosting"* on my screen door. It became a mystery to check out! After some research, I realized that all my studies in vertebrate biology left me woefully ignorant about that other (and much larger) part of the animal kingdom, that of the invertebrates. Some research on the web and magazine articles in the *Tennessee Conservationist* and *National Geographic* showed how much more there was to learn. I took a photograph of the next frosting-like moth that came to my screen, sent it off to a lepidopterist whose e-mail address I found in my internet searches. [Many thanks to Dr. John Snyder of Furman University (Greenville, SC) and Dr. James Adams of Dalton State College (Dalton, GA) who have been patient mentors in helping me identify or confirm identity of specimens.] He identified my *"cake frosting"* as the *Dryocampa rubicunda*, or the rosy maple moth. Eager for information, I learned that this rosy moth ate the leaves of maples and oaks, trees that exist in some abundance around our home.

Once sensitized to looking, I continued to find more large and beautiful moths on my door screen, stuck in the pea fence in the garden, and fluttering around the outdoor lights at night. I was hooked. Purchasing the essentials of a killing jar, a pinning board and a copy of Covell's *Moths,* I have moved slowly into this hobby. It turns out that no one (that I can discover) has ever studied the moths in Hickman County, TN, or indeed, in the neighboring counties. Thus, I can make a small contribution to science and natural history while enjoying the jewel-like colors of some of these creatures of the evening. It would be great, however, to find a person who is cataloging the moths of Tennessee so records from Hickman County could be included.

My moth collection grows slowly as retirement is a busier time than most folks think (that is, until they retire). The small gray and brown moths have begun to catch my interest as well. And I am still trying to find another of the huge bodied moths that got stuck in my pea fence before a camera was available to record its existence.

This is the *"birthday cake frosting"* which led to my initial fascination with moths. This rosy maple moth (*Dryocampa rubicunda*) is a very intensely colored specimen; many are a paler pink and yellow.

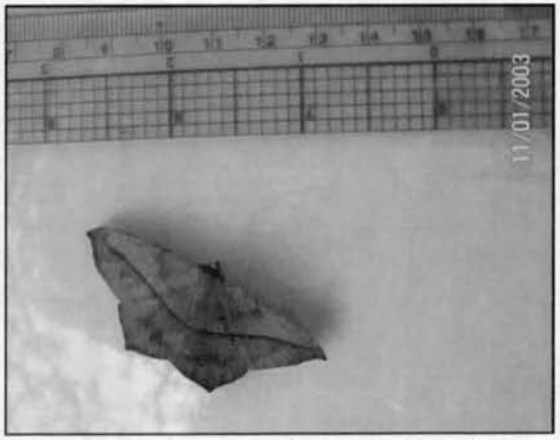
This one is *Epimecis hortaria* with no common name I could find, but he looks so much like the lichen infested bark so common on trees around here that my *"pet"* name for it is the *"bark moth"*. With many poplar and tulip trees all around, the larval form has plenty of food.



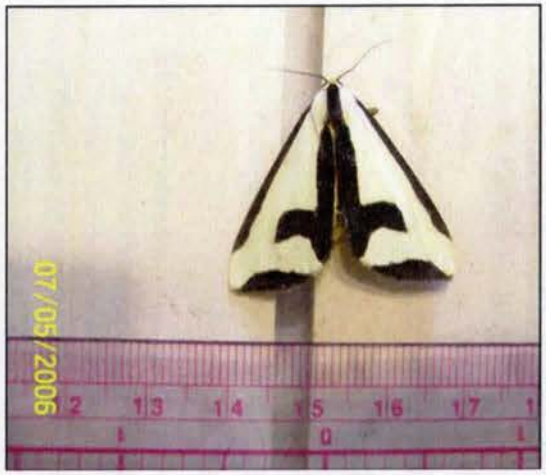
This Imperial Moth (*Eacles imperialis*) is certainly eye catching. This specimen was caught and photographed before I had mastered the technique of relaxing the muscle so the wings can be stretched out. This was also before I learned the importance of having a ruler in every picture.

This *Paonias excaecatus* didn't catch my eye at first for I thought it another bit of tree detritus, but when I finally looked closely and realized it was a moth, in came the specimen for the obligatory picture. Then came the surprise.

This moth is really quite colorful. It is almost a caricature of a big eared owl.



This specimen was clinging to my window after a fall storm and for all the world it looked like a leaf torn from a tree and plastered on my window. Surprise! This Geometrid is the large maple spanworm moth (*Prochoerodes transversata*).



This *Haploa clymene* has an interesting geometric pattern when wings are folded.

Opening the wings shows a very colorful moth. Oaks, peaches, willows and other plants feed the caterpillar of this species which is active day or night.

This dot-lined white (*Artace cribraria*) is well named for the regular lines of black dots lined in almost perfect parallel fashion across its front wings. Its hind wings may have a tiny dot of black here or there but are almost perfectly white. This side view of the moth in repose gives a clear picture of his *"hairy"* legs and body, almost the perfect picture of a horrible arctic inhabiting horror movies. This species prefers oaks, but will eat *Prunus* and roses.

The regal moth (sometimes called the royal walnut moth) larvae eats practically anything: ash, cotton, gums, hickories, lilacs, persimmon, sumac, sycamore, walnut. A Saturniidae (*Citheronia regalis*) showed up early in my "moth career" before I had pinning board, relaxing chamber or other study aids. His large size (more than 8 cm. wingspan) and brilliant colors (note the orange wing veins) helped. You can even see the antenna are bipectinate. Though not shown in this picture, the body has an interesting pattern of orange and gold.

This Io moth (*Automeris io*) almost escaped my interest because there was a male Io in my collection and this one was so dull. But thinking to improve my skill in identification, I brought this specimen in to check. Good grief, this was a big surprise!

The anomalous wing structure is apparent from the bottom side of this specimen.

Surprises abound. Just recently I found an *Automeris io,* the Io moth. A bright yellow version is already in my catalog but this one was a darker gold-brown color. I thought to ignore it, but stopped, wanting to make sure it was the Io. Checking, yes, the bright yellow Io is a male and the recently found one is female. The female's right hind wing was mostly normal with its one "bulls-eye", but the left hind wing was covered with 3 *"bulls-eyes"*. In addition, the LHW was creased in three places and could not be teased apart even after 24 hours in a humidifying chamber. [You can see this sporty Io on the Lepidopterists' Society website (http://facweb.furman.edu/~snyderjohn/lepsoc/unkn.htm)]. Now my curiosity about genetics and development of moths is developing.

Surprises continue. We have a window wall on the back of our house and this has become one of my favorite places to find moths each morning. Though there were many there earlier in the spring, by summer there were very few. While pondering why no more moths were coming to the window, a bird hit the window. Worried that there was a casualty that could use some first-aid, I went out to look for the injured bird only to find none. Bird hits on the window became more common in the ensuing weeks, but no injured birds were ever found. Slowly the light dawned: the eastern king bird (*Tyrannus tyrannus)* was having a breakfast of moths! Now, to retrieve good moth specimens, I have to get up early before the king birds.

Studying moths that live around our farm has become a satisfying hobby. I love sharing my pictures of these beauties with friends who are always surprised to know that moths come in gorgeous colors and patterns just as do butterflies. It's also fun to point out plant-like structures on the side of a house and show neighbors that they are really moths masquerading as tree bark, leaves, twigs and other plant parts. Somehow life has come full circle. My original fascination with invertebrates has become a hobby offering great satisfaction in retirement.

[Alwynelle (Nell) Ahl, PhD, DVM - 9026 South Tatum Creek Rd., Lyles, TN 37098)]

****

"THE BUTTERFLY COUNTS NOT MONTHS BUT MOMENTS, AND HAS TIME ENOUGH."

Rabindranath Tagore (1861-1941). Mr. Tagore won the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1913 and is considered one of the greatest writers of modern Indian literature. Mr. Tagore, Bengali poet and novelist, was also an educator and a vehement supporter of Independence for India from England. In 1915, Mr. Tagore was knighted for his accomplishments in literature, but relinquished his title in 1919 after British troops massacred ~400 Indian demonstrators - the incident became known as the *"Massacre of Amritsar"*. He was considered a mystic, a reformer and a severe critic of colonialism. Mr. Rabindranath Tagore's influence over Mahatma Gandhi and many of the founders of modern India have been largely ignored in the West.

****

QUOTES OF YOGI BERRA (NOTHING TO DO ABOUT LEPIDOPTERA)

"You can't think and hit at the same time"

"The other team could make trouble for us if they win."

"We made too many wrong mistakes."

"If I didn't wake up I'd still be sleeping."

"It gets late early out here."

****

SOUTHERN LEPIDOPTERISTS' SOCIETY T-SHIRTS AVAILABLE

Debbie Lott has developed digital SLS T-Shirt designs and has found a web-based company to print the shirts. The shirts feature either our current logo of a Tiger Swallowtail or the old logo of a Schaus Swallowtail and Nessus Sphinx together with a map of the SLS states. Prices range from $8.99 to $16.99 plus shipping, depending on the type of shirt. To view the shirts and order, just log onto the Café Press web page (http://www.cafepress.com/slepsoc) and follow the instructions. The shirts are sold exclusively by Café Press. Neither the SLS, any members of SLS, or relatives of SLS members receive any profits from the sales. The shirts are simply for your enjoyment. Great job Debbie!

****

LOGO DISTORTION

I am surprised that a SLS member has not noticed, and mentioned to me, that our swallowtail logo on the cover page of the NEWS has through the years of my editorship become distorted. Unfortunately, or fortunately, this is one of the options that digital photography can accomplish these days. (Note - Katie Couric's recent loss of weight in the September issue of Watch compared to the original official photograph of Ms. Couric which was taken in May.)

In the present issue of the NEWS (September 2006) I have *"stretched"* the logo to assume its original shape (*before JBL) and hopefully to appear more like a true swallowtail - [The Editor].

Logo before JBL.

Logo after JBL.

(*before JBL = before JB Lombardini's editorship)

****

NOTICE

There are a number of excess and unwanted boxes and drawers that McGuire Center has available. These are rejects that often are damaged or odd sizes, but much of them are useable.

Contact Dr. Andrei Sourakov for information: asourakov@flmnh.ufl.edu

****
****
****

REPORTS OF STATE COORDINATORS

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

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

David Rupe sends in the following report: Boone Road near Bryant, Saline County, AR September 19, 2006: *Argaulis vanillae, Heliconius charithonia* !!, *Calycopsis cecrops* (>100), and *Asterocampa clyton*. *Heliconius charithonia* was lazily flying through a narrow field that was bordered by bottomland hardwood forest to the east and west. Certainly made my day.

Florida: Charles V. Covell Jr., 207 NE 9th Ave, Gainesville, FL 32601, E-Mail: covell@louisville.edu

Charlie sends this report. First records of butterfly species in the Covell yard, Gainesville, FL, 2006. Butterfly numbers seem almost up to normal now after being very sparse in Gainesville from spring into August. A very dry spring and early summer may provide an answer as to why this was the case:

1. *Phoebis sennae eubule*	January 28, on Pentas
2. *Papilio glaucus*	March 2, flying in front yard
3. *Danaus plexippus*	March 13, flying around pond
4. *Parhassius m-album*	March 18, flying and resting in back yard
5. *Atlides halesus*	March 19, nectaring high in Viburnum tree
6. *Heliconius charithonius*	March 20, flying across back lawn
7. *Vanessa atalanta*	March 21, on Viburnum tree
8. *Epargyreus clarus*	March 21, sitting on lemon tree branch
9. *Junonia coenia*	March 31, nectaring in Viburnum tree
10. *Agraulis vanillae*	March 31, flying in back yard
11. *Libytheana carinenta*	March 31, on hedge in back yard.
12. *Asterocampa celtis*	April 16, on windowsill behind computer window
13. *Erynnis horatius*	April 19, female sitting on Lantana
14. *Calycopis cecrops*	May 13, on hedge in back yard
15. *Heraclides cresphontes*	May 18, flying around lemon tree in front yard
16. *Papilio polyxenes asterius*	May 25, flying in our front yard near Lantana
17. *Battus polydamus*	June 15, flying in back yard
18. *Urbanus proteus*	June 16, near front yard Lantana
19. *Danaus gilippus berenice*	August 6, flying in back yard near milkweed
20. *Phoebis philea*	August 31, male visiting back yard Pentas
21. *Asbolis capucinus*	August 31, on Lantana in front yard

Jeff Slotten sends the following report for one of his collecting trips with other colleagues. Moth species collected at Black Prong off 337 at Goethe State Forest Levy County, Florida on June 15th, 2006:

Acronicta tritona
Grammia phyllira
Hypoprepia fucosa
Lacosoma chiridota
Automeris io
Actias luna
Eacles imperialis
Lapara coniferarum
Telea polyphemus
Paonias myops
Darapsa myron
Cossula magnifica
Dryocampa rubicunda
Artace cribraria
Cisseps fulvicollis
Cisthene plumbea
Cisthene packardii
Cisthene subjecta
Halysidota tessellaris
Hyphantria cunea
Holomelina laeta
Grammia arge
Xanthopastis timais
Polygrammate hebraeicum
Agriopodes fallax
Eudryas unio
Elaphria chalcedonia
Spodoptera dolichos
Eutelia pulcherrima
Catocala jair
Catocala amica
Catocala ilia
Catocala micronympha
Catocala muliercula
Argyrostrotis quadrifilaris
Diptherа festiva
Panopoda repanda
Hypsoropha hormos
Nadata gibbosa
Heterocampa guttivitta
Anacamptodes vellivolata
Euclea delphinii

Ben Williams sends the following report. Collecting took place at Fort Clinch State Park, Amelia Island, Nassau County, and Little Talbot State Park, Duval County between February, 2006 and April 2006.

The following species were collected at Fort Clinch State Park:

MICRO LEPIDOPTERA

Urodus parvula
Lactura pupula

MIMALLONIDAE

Tolype notialis

SATURNIIDAE

Automeris io f. *lillith*
Antherea polyphemus

SPHINGIDAE

Darapsa myron
Xylophanes tersa

ARCTIIDAE

Cisthene plumbea
Cisthene subjecta
Cosmosoma myrodora
Holomolina aurantiaca
Hypercombe scribonia
Pygarctia abdominalis
Spilosomia dubia

NOCTUIDAE

Acheroda feraria
Calopistria cordata
Derrima stellata
Doryodes bistrialis
Melipotis jacunda

The following species were collected at Little Talbor State Park.

SATURNIIDAE

Antherea polyphemus
Automeris io f. *lillith*

ARCTIIDAE

Cisthene subjecta

Opportunities to collect at Little Talbot turned out to be limited. Target species such as *Apypia wittfeldii* and *Psychomorpha euryrhoda* were observed but not collected. At Fort Clinch and Little Talbot, park personnel were interested, pleasant, cooperative and helpful. Hopefully there will be additional collecting opportunities granted in 2007.

All specimens will be incorporated into the collections at the University of Connecticut.

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

Records are from many contributors this month. Abbreviations are as follows: James Adams (JA or no notation), Irving Finkelstein (IF), Eleaner Adams (ERA), Jeff Slotten (JS). Other contributors names spelled out with the appropriate records. Most records presented here represent new or interesting records (range extensions, unusual dates, uncommon species, county records, *etc.*) or records for newly investigated areas. Known County and State records are indicated. All dates listed below are 2006 unless otherwise specified. There were several nice new northern moth STATE records from trips to the higher elevations of N. GA, and a few more southern STATE records during a trip to the coastal plain over Labor Day weekend.

Continuing with the theme from the spring/early summer report, the Swallowtail numbers remain high in north Georgia. During a trip to the Crockford-Pigeon Mountain WMA on the west side of Pigeon Mountain (Walker Co.) on Sept. 10, 2008, I encountered more Giant Swallowtails (*Papilio [Heraclides] cresphontes*) there than I ever recall having encountered during a single day in GA. Jeffrey Belth visited the area the following weekend, and the Giant's were still numerous. Tiger Swallowtails remained plentiful throughout the summer. Dainty Sulphurs (*Nathalis iole*) and Checkered Whites (*Pontia protodice*) were recorded in numbers more than once. Additionally, I shared a simply marvelous couple of days on a butterfly count in Rabun Co. with Mike Chapman, Gene Keferl, Francis Michael Stiteler and the ever present Irving Finkelstein. The results are included below.

Calhoun, Gordon Co.:
EREBIDAE: *Catocala angusi*,, Sept. 4. **NOCTUIDAE**: *Enigmogramma basigera*, June 29. **GEOMETRIDAE**: *Exelis pyrolaria*, several, late June-early July; *Heterophleps triguttaria*, July 1 (COUNTY).

Hale Ridge Rd., east of jtn. with Bald Mtn. Rd, just S of NC, Rabun Co., July 7-8, 2006, JA & IF:
NYMPHALIDAE: *Speyeria aphrodite*. **LASIOCAMPIDAE**: *Tolype "laricis"*. **EREBIDAE**: *Zaclognatha* near *lituralis*. **NOCTUIDAE**: *Amphipoea velata*. **GEOMETRIDAE**: *Cepphis armataria*.

Rabun Bald, NW slopes off end of Kelsey Mtn. Rd., Rabun Co., 3600'-3800', July 7-8, 2006, JA & IF:
EREBIDAE: *Idia laurenti, Zanclognatha gypsalis* (**STATE**), *Z.* near *lituralis, Z. laevigata, Hypena edictalis*, (Few in STATE), *H. deceptalis, Catocala blandula*. **NOCTUIDAE**: *Diachrysia aeroides* (**STATE**), *Eosphoropteryx thyatiroides* (**STATE**), *Acronicta innotata, A. spinigera, A. fragilis, Amphipoea americana, A. velata, Polia nimbosa* (**COUNTY**, second location in STATE [see Brasstown Bald], though abundant at both locations), *Lycophotia phyllophora* (few in STATE), *Eueretagrotis sigmoides* (**COUNTY**). **GEOMETRIDAE**: *Cepphis armataria, Lambdina fiscellaria* (?; very yellow), *Eugonobapta nivosaria, Eulithis atricolorata, Xanthorhoe ferrugata, Venusia compataria, Hydrelia "inornata", Heterophleps refusaria, Trichodezia albovittata*.

Dillard, Rabun Co., July 7-8, JA & IF:
EREBIDAE: *Zanclognatha "deceptricalis", Catocala ilia, C. ultronia*. **NOCTUIDAE**: *Eosphoropteryx thyatiroides* (**STATE,** see above), *Argillophora furcilla* (**COUNTY**).

Black Rock Mtn. State Park, Rabun Co.:
Jim Flynn and Earl Horn, July 16:
LYCAENIDAE: *Satyrium kingi*.
BUTTERFLY COUNT (includes some records from Clayton and a couple of other Rabun Co. locations) – Mike Chapman, Gene Keferl, Francis Michael Stiteler, JA & IF; July 8, 2006:
HESPERIIDAE: *Epargyreus clarus* (48+), *Pholisora catullus* (1), *Lerema accius* (1), *Ancyloxypha numitor* (2), *Hylephila phyleus* (4), *Polites coras* (1), *Wallengrenia egeremet* (1), *Atalopedes campestris* (1), *Pompeius verna* (1), *Euphyes vestris* (1). **PAPILIONIDAE**: *Papilio glaucus* (7). **PIERIDAE**: *Pieris (Artogeia) rapae* (2), *Colias philodice* (1), *C. eurytheme* (3), *Phoebis sennae* (3), *Eurema lisa* (1). **NYMPHALIDAE**: *Euptoieta claudia* (9), Speyeria diana (1), S. cybele (2), S. aphrodite (1), Boloria bellona (15+; most in Clayton, largest one day count for GA), *Phyciodes tharos* (19), *Junonia coenia* (1). **LYCAENIDAE**: *Atlides halesus* (1), *Parhassius m-album* (2), *Strymon melinus* (2), *Celastrina neglecta* (45+), *Everes comyntas* (56+).

Brasstown Bald, Towns Co. July 8-10, JA & IF:
SATURNIIDAE: *Automeris io.* **SPHINGIDAE**: *Amorpha juglandis, Paonias excaecatus, P. astylus* (**COUNTY**), *Darapsa myron, D. pholus.* **EREBIDAE**: *Idia laurenti* (**COUNTY**), *Zanclognatha* nr. *lituralis, Z. laevigata,* Zanclognatha (undescribed -- dark brown), Catocala ultronia, C. blandula, **NOCTUIDAE**: Diachrysia aeroides (**COUNTY**; second in STATE [see Rabun Bald, above]), *Acronicta. fragilis, A. spinigera, Leuconycta lepidula* (**COUNTY**), *Polia nimbosa.* **GEOMETRIDAE**: *Macaria subcessaria* (**COUNTY**, second in STATE), *M. ulsterata, Homochlodes disconventa, Trigrammia* near *quadrinotaria, Pero morrisonaria, Cepphis armataria, Antepione thisoaria, Xanthorhoe ferrugata* (**COUNTY**), *X. lacustrata, Acasis viridata* (**STATE**), *Hydrelia inornata, Venusia* sp., *Eupithecia "regina"* (**STATE**). **LIMACODIDAE**: *Packardia elegans* (**COUNTY**, second location in STATE). **PYRALIDAE**: *Pyrausta niveicilialis.*

State Hwy. 348, 3 mi. NW of White/Union Co. line, Union Co., May 26-27, JA & IF:
SPHINGIDAE: *Dolba hyloeus, Paonias astylus.* **EREBIDAE**: *Lomanaltes eductalis, Catocala pretiosa* (**COUNTY**). **GEOMETRIDAE**: *Eugonobapta nivosaria* (**COUNTY**).

Blood Mountain Cabins, Lumpkin Co., .25 miles SW of crest of Appalachian Trail at Neel's Gap (Union/Lumpkin Co. line), Lumpkin Co., 3000, July 8-10, 2006, JA & IF:
EREBIDAE: *Catocala sordida.* **NOCTUIDAE**: *Chrysanympha formosa* (LATE), *Pyrrhia exprimens.* **GEOMETRIDAE**: *Eulithis atricolorata.* **SESSIIDAE**: *Alcathoe caudata.*

Carbondale, Whitfield Co.:
EREBIDAE: *Hypocala andremona*, Aug. 30 (second for COUNTY). **NOCTUIDAE**: *Harrismemna trisignata*, Aug. 19; *Basilodes pepita*, Sept. 5; *Schinia bifascia*, Sept. 5.

Mill Creek Community, west side of Rocky Face Ridgeline, Whifield Co., Sept. 8:
NOCTUIDAE: *Raphia abrupta, Plagiomimicus pityochromus* (**COUNTY**). **GEOMETRIDAE**: *Glena plumosaria.*

Taylor's Ridge, Walker Co., 5 mi W of Villanow, July 2, JA and IF:
ARCTIIDAE: *Cycnia inopinatus* (**COUNTY**, second location in state). **EREBIDAE**: *Zale confusa, Z. bethunei* (LATE; second brood?), *Catocala judith* (**COUNTY**), *C. miranda* (**COUNTY**). **NOCTUIDAE**: *Acronicta tritona, A. lithospila.* **LIMACODIDAE**: 14 species, second best one night species total for north GA – *Phobetron pithecium, Adoneta spinuloides, Lithacodes fasciola, Isochaetes beutenmuelleri, Apoda biguttata, A. y-inversum, Isa textula, Prolimacodes badia, Natada nasoni, Euclea delphinii, Parasa chloris, P. indetermina, Monoleuca semifascia, Acharia stimulea.* **SESSIIDAE**: 10+ specimens of a not immediately identifiable *Synanthedon.*

Pleasant Valley Hunting Club, Bartow Co., July 3, with Chris Warren:
SATURNIIDAE: *Anisota stigma, Automeris io.* **SPHINGIDAE**: *Paonias myops.* **ARCTIIDAE**: *Cisthene packardi, C. plumbea, Clemensia albata, Spilosoma congrua, Halysidota tesselaris.* **NOLIDAE**: *Meganola phylla.* **NOTODONTIDAE**: *Datana angusi, Nadata gibbosa, Schizura ipomoeae.* **EREBIDAE**: *Idia rotundalis, Chytolita petrealis, Palthis angulalis, Tetanolita mynesalis, Ledaea perditalis, Arugisa latiorella, Dysgonia smithi, Ptichoidis bistrigata, Catocala ilia, C. praeclara* (**COUNTY**), *C. micronympha, C. amica.* **NOCTUIDAE**: *Hyperstrotia secta, H. pervertens, Thioptera nigrofimbria, Lithacodia muscosula, Spragueia leo, Homophoberia apicosa, Acronicta ovata, Polygrammate hebraeicum, Callopistria cordata* (**COUNTY**), *Balsa malana, Archanara oblonga* (**COUNTY**), *Ogdonconta cinereola, Spodoptera ornithogalli.* **GEOMETRIDAE**: *Macaria bicolorata, M. granitata, Exelis pyrolaria, Glenoides texanaria, Melanolophia canadaria, Lomographa vestaliata, Euchlaena deductaria (=pectinaria), Plagodis fervidaria, Probole amicaria, Lambdina athasaria, Nemoria bistriaria, Dichorda iridaria, Idaea obfusaria, Cyclophora packardi, Eulithis diversilineata, Costaconvexa centrostrigaria, Eupithecia miserulata.* **EPIPLEMIDAE**: *Calledapteryx dryopterata.* **LIMACODIDAE**: *Isochaetes beutenmulleri, Lithacodes fasciola, Natada nasoni, Isa textula, Adoneta spinuloides, Monoleuca semifascia, Parasa chloris, Euclea delphinii.* **MEGALOPYGIDAE**: *Megalopyge crispata.* **PYRALIDAE**: *Desmia funeralis, Diasemioides janasialis, Vaxi auratella, Peoria approximella.* **OECOPHORIDAE**: *Antaeotricha leucilliana.*

Crockford-Pigeon Mtn. WMA, west side of Pigeon Mountain, Walker CO., Sept. 16-17, 2006, Jeffrey Belth:
HESPERIIDAE: *Amblyscirtes aesculapius* (COUNTY). **PAPILIONIDAE**: *Papilio (Heraclides) cresphontes*

(abundant), *Papilio polyxenes*. **NYMPHALIDAE**: *Chlosyne nycteis* (LATE), *Cyllopsis gemma* (LATE). **LYCAENIDAE**: *Atlides halesus* (several), *Panthiades m-album* (several).

5 miles ESE of Fairmount, NE corner of Bartow Co., Salacoa Rd. at Salacoa Creek:

July 15-16:

ARCTIIDAE: *Crambidia* near *casta* (many). **EREBIDAE**: *Idia majoralis* (**COUNTY**, few in STATE), *Zanclognatha* near *lituralis* (not the same species as from Brasstown Bald/Rabun Bald), *Gabara subnivosella*. **NOCTUIDAE**: *Tripudia flavofasciata* (**COUNTY**), *Argillophora furcilla, Acronicta betulae, Colocasia flavicornis* (very few locations in STATE). **COSSIDAE**: *Cossula magnifica*.

August 19-20:

EREBIDAE: *Zanclognatha minoralis* (**COUNTY**, farthest north record). **NOCTUIDAE**: *Acronicta dactylina, Cirrhophanus triangulifer, Basilodes pepita*. **GEOMETRIDAE**: *Cepphis decoloraria,* (**COUNTY**, third location in STATE).

Sept. 16-17:

NOCTUIDAE: *Papaipema polymniae* (this huge population still going strong), *P. furcata, Oligia fractilinea* (?; **COUNTY**), *Leucania callidior, Dichagyris* (formerly *Loxagrotis*) *grotei* (**COUNTY,** fourth location in STATE).

Brandon Farms & Taff Rds.,Bartow Co., Earl Horn and Jim Flynn, Sept. 4:
PIERIDAE: Checkered White, *Pontia protodice* ("in great numbers"!).

Arrowhead WMA, Floyd Co., Nelson Dobbs, June 17:
HESPERIIDAE: *Euphyes dion*.

Macon, (Talbot, and Upson Cos. for P.oileus), Terry Johnson, Linda Guy and Rose & Jerry Payne, late June (butterflies on Heliotropium amplexicaule and Sida rhombifolia):
HESPERIIDAE: *Pholisora catullus, Poanes zabulon, Pyrgus oileus* (Talbot and Upson Cos. as well). **LYCAENIDAE**: *Atlides halesus*.

Ohoopee Dunes Tract 2, 7 mi. W. of Swainsboro, along Hwy. 80, Emanuel Co., Sept. 3-4, (JA, ERA, IF, JS):
NOTODONTIDAE: *Datana ranaeceps, D. ministra, Nadata gibbosa, Heterocampa gutivitta, H. obliqua, Lochmaeus manteo, Hyperaeschra georgica, Symmerista sp., Schizura ipomoeae*. **ARCTIIDAE**: *Cisthene subjecta*. **EREBIDAE**: *Idia americalis, I. rotundalis, I. diminuendis, Zanclognatha minoralis* (**COUNTY**), *Chytolita petrealis, Renia sobrialis, R. fraternalis, Bleptina caradrinalis, B. inferior, Hemeroplanis near obliqualis, Phyprosopus callitrichoides, Hypsoropha hormos, Pangrapta decoralis, Lesmone detrahens, Argyrostrotis sylvarum, A. deleta, Drasteria grandirena, Panopoda rufimargo, Paectes abrostoloides*. **NOCTUIDAE**: *Autographa precationis, Hyperstrotia flaviguttata, H. nana, Thioptera nigrofimbria, Acronicta ovata, Spodoptera frugiperda, S. exigua, Helicoverpa zea, Schinia scissoides*. **GEOMETRIDAE**: *Macaria bisignata, M. bicolorata, M. distribuaria, Digrammia eremiata, Narraga georgiana, Anavitrinella pampinaria, Iridopsis vellivolata, Hypomecis* sp., *Melanolophia canadaria, Euchlaena madusaria, Disclisioprocta stellata*. **MEGALOPYGIDAE**: *Megalopyge crispata*. **LIMACODIDAE**: *Apoda biguttata*. **PYRALIDAE**: *Uresephita reversalis, Dioryctria amatella*. **COSMOPTERIGIDAE**: *Euclemensia bassettella*.

Ohoopee Dunes Tract 3, 8 mi. WSW of Swainsboro, along Hall's Bridge Rd., near Little Ohoopee River, Emanuel Co., Sept. 3-4, (JA, ERA, IF, JS):
SATURNIIDAE: *Anisota stigma, Eacles imperialis*. **APATELODIDAE**: *Olceclostera "indistincta"*. **NOTODONTIDAE**: *Datana integerrima, D. ministra, Nadata gibbosa, Heterocampa gutivitta, H. obliqua, Peridea angulosa, Lochmaeus manteo, Symmerista sp., Schizura ipomoeae*. **ARCTIIDAE**: *Cisthene subjecta, Hypoprepia miniata, H. fucosa*. **EREBIDAE**: *Idia americalis, I. rotundalis, I. diminuendis, Renia sobrialis, Renia fraternalis, Bleptina inferior, Hemeroplanis near obliqualis, Metalectra tantillus, Pangrapta decoralis, Arugisa latiorella, Ledaea perditalis, Scolecocampa liburna, Argyrostrotis flavistriaria, Ptichodis herbarum, Panopoda careneicosta, Dysgonia consobrina*. **NOCTUIDAE**: *Hyperstrotia nana, Thioptera nigrofimbria, Tripudia flavofasciata* (**COUNTY**), *Polygrammate hebraeicum, Cerma cerintha, Condica vecors, Chytonix palliatricula, Spodoptera frugiperda, S. exigua, Schinia scissoides*. **GEOMETRIDAE**: *Macaria bisignata, M. bicolorata, M. distribuaria, Digrammia eremiata, Anavitrinella pampinaria, Iridopsis vellivolata, Melanolophia canadaria, Glenoides cribrataria, Epimecis*

hortaria, Pero ancetaria, Euchlaena amoenaria, E. obtusaria, Scopula limboundata, S. lautaria (**COUNTY**), *Eulithis diversilineata.* **LIMACODIDAE**: *Isa textula.* **PYRALIDAE**: *Lepidomys irrenosa, Aglossa* sp. **URODIDAE**: *Urodus parvula.* **COSMOPTERIGIDAE**: *Euclemensia bassettella.*

Ohoopee Dunes Tract 4 (the Covena Tract) 9 miles SW. of Swainsboro, S of Hwy. 56, W of Stage Coach Rd., Emanuel Co., Sept. 3-4, (JA, ERA, IF, JS):
HESPERIIDAE: *Megathymus yuccae* (tent) on *Yucca filamentosa.* **SATURNIIDAE**: *Anisota stigma, Eacles imperialis, Actias luna, Callosamia angulifera.* **SPHINGIDAE**: *Enyo lugubris, Eumorpha pandora, Darapsa myron.* **NOTODONTIDAE**: *Datana perspicua, Heterocampa obliqua, Lochmaeus manteo, Hyperaeschra georgica, Nadata gibbosa, Hyparpax aurora, Symmerista sp., Schizura concinna, S. ipomoeae.* **ARCTIIDAE**: *Crambidia pallida, Cisthene subjecta, Hypoprepia fucosa, H. miniata, Holomelina opella, Spilosoma congrua, Halysidota tesselaris.* **EREBIDAE**: *Idia americalis, I. rotundalis, Zanclognatha minoralis, Renia nemoralis, R. fraternalis, R. flavipunctalis, Redectis vitrea, Nigetia formosalis, Hypena baltimoralis, Phyprosopus callitrichoides, Hypsoropha hormos, Hemeroplanis scopulepes, H. near obliqualis, Pangrapta decoralis, Ledaea perditalis, Arugisa latiorella, Metalectra tantillus, Scolecocampa liburna, Argyrostrotis flavistriaria, A. anilis, Caenurgina chloropha, Anticarsia gemmatilis, Paectes abrostoloides, Marathyssa inficita.* **NOCTUIDAE**: *Ctenoplusia oxygramma, Autographa precationis, Oruza albocostaliata, Thioptera nigrofimbria, Tarachidia erastrioides, Acronicta ovata, Polygrammate hebraeicum, Balsa labecula, Condica vecors, C. videns, Phosphila turbulenta, Helicoverpa zea, Schinia sordida, S. lynx, S. rivulosa, S. arefacta* (**STATE**), *S. scissoides, S. trifascia, Elaphria versicolor, Spodoptera ornithogalli, S. dolichos, S. exigua, Mythimna unipuncta, Anicla infecta, Agrotis malefida.* **GEOMETRIDAE**: *Eumacaria latiferrugata, Anavitrinella pampinaria, Hypomecis sp., Exelis pyrolaria, Melanolophia candaria, Pero ancetaria, Euchlaena obtusaria, E. madusaria, Plagodis phlogosaria, Prochoerodes transversata, Chlorochlamys chloroleucaria, Lobocleta ossularia, Idaea violacea, I. tacturata, Disclisioprocta stellata.* **LIMACODIDAE**: *Apoda y-inversum, Lithacodes near gracea, Isochaetes beutenmulleri, Euclea nanina* (**COUNTY**). **PYRALIDAE**: Uresephita reversalis, Diasemioides jannasialis, Euzophora ostricolorella. **TORTRICIDAE**: Eucosma robinsonana, *E. quinquemaculana.* **URODIDAE**: *Urodus parvula.* **PSYCHIDAE**: *Thyridopteryx ephemaeriformis.* **COSMOPTERIGIDAE**: *Euclemensia bassettella.*

Statesboro, Bulloch Co., Lance Durden, Aug. 11, 2004:
NOCTUIDAE: *Bagisara brouana* Ferguson (**STATE**).

Glennville, Tatnall Co., Sept. 3:
NOCTUIDAE: *Diphthera festiva*

Ludowici, Long Co., JA & ERA, Sept. 2:
NOCTUIDAE: *Bagisara repanda* (**COUNTY**).

Griffin Ridge WMA, Long Co., Sept. 2-3, 2006, with IF and ERA:
SATURNIIDAE: *Anisota stigma, A. virginiensis, Eacles imperialis, Automeris io, Actias luna.* **LASIOCAMPIDAE**: *Artace cribraria.* **SPHINGIDAE**: *Lapara coniferarum, Darapsa myron.* **ARCTIIDAE**: *Cisthene subjecta, Hypoprepia fucosa, H. miniata, Crambidia uniformis, Apantesis nais, Halysidota tesselaris.* **NOTODONTIDAE**: *Nadata gibbosa, Datana ranaceps, D. ministra, D.* spp., *Heterocampa astarte, H. obliqua, Lochmaeus manteo, Symmerista sp., Schizura ipomoeae.* **LYMANTRIIDAE**: *Dasychira meridionalis.* **EREBIDAE**: *Idia americalis, I. aemula, Idia julia, I. diminuendis, Zanclognatha minoralis* (**COUNTY**), *Zanclognatha* sp., *Renia fraternalis, Renia* sp., *Bleptina inferior, Hypena palparia, Hypsoropha hormos, Phyprosopus callitrichoides, Phytometra rhodarialis, Hemeroplanis* near *obliqualis, Ledaea perditalis, Arugisa latiorella, Gabara* sp., *Pangrapta decoralis, Scolecocampa liburna, Cutina distincta, C. albopunctella, C. aluticolor, C. arcuata, Metalectra tantillus, Argyrostrotis sylvarum, A. flavistriaria, A. deleta, Allotria elonympha, Panopoda rufimargo, P. repanda, Metria amella, Zale declarans, Zale* sp., *Paectes occulatrix, P. abrostoloides.* **NOCTUIDAE**: *Anagrapha precationis, Acronicta brumosa, A. tritona, A. ovata, A. retardata, Polygrammate hebraeicum, Cryphia cynanympha* (**COUNTY**, few in STATE), *Emarginea percara, Thioptera nigrofimbria, Hyperstrotia nana, H. flaviguttata, Iodopepla u-album, Chytonix palliatricula, Phosphila miseloides, Condica videns, Spodoptera exigua, Elaphria festivoides.* **GEOMETRIDAE**: *Eumacaria latiferrugata, Macaria aemulataria, M. bisignata, M. bicolorata, Tornos scolopacinarius, Anavitrinella pampinaria, Iridopsis defectaria, Melanolophia canadaria, Hypagyrtis unipunctata, H. esther, Pero ancetaria, Euchlaena*

obtusaria, E. amoenaria, Eutrapela clemataria, Besma quercivoraria, Nematocampa baggetaria, Nemoria sp., *Idaea demissaria, I. tacturata, Lobocleta labeculata, Cyclophora packardi.* **PYRALIDAE/CRAMBIDAE**: *Dioryctria amella, Palpita illibalis, Desmia funeralis, Herculia olinalis, Diacme elealis, Tetralopha asperatella, Urola nivalis, Crambus* sp. (large, with silver bands), *C. agitatellus, Carectocultus perstrialis* (COUNTY), *Peoria* (all red). **MEGALOPYGIDAE**: *Megalopyge opercularis.* **LIMACODIDAE**: *Isa textula, Adoneta spinuloides, Apoda biguttata, A. y-inversum, Isochaetes beutenmulleri, Lithacodes* sp., *Prolimacodes badia, Parasa chloris, Euclea delphinii.* **COSSIDAE**: *Givera francesca.* **COSMOPTERIGIDAE**: *Euclemensia bassettella.* **PSYCHIDAE**: Two species. **OECOPHORIDAE**: *Antaeotricha leucilliana, Machimia* sp., *Inga sparciella, Inga* sp. **SESIIDAE**: Two species.

Waycross, Ware Co., IF and ERA, Sept. 1-2, 2006:
NOTODONTIDAE: *Datana ranaeceps.* **NOCTUIDAE**: *Acronicta* sp., *Diphthera festiva, Bagisara repanda* (**COUNTY**), *Spodoptera ornithogalli, S. exigua, Anicla lubricans.*

Dixon Memorial Forest WMA, N side Hwy. 1, ESE of Waycross, Ware Co., JA, ERA & IF, Sept. 1 - 2:
Swamp area, along Sharon Rd., between Hwys. 1 & 177:
HESPERIIDAE: *Wallengrenia egeremet, Oligoria maculata.* **SATURNIIDAE**: *Dryocampa rubicunda, Anisota virginiensis, Eacles imperialis, Automeris io, Actias luna.* **SPHINGIDAE**: *Dolba hyloeus, Isoparce cupressi, Lapara coniferarum, Paonias excaecatus, Darpasa myron.* **ARCTIIDAE**: *Cisthene subjecta, Crambidia pallida, Holomelina* sp., *Holomelina laeta.* **NOTODONTIDAE**: *Datana ranaeceps, Heterocampa obliqua.* **EREBIDAE**: *Idia americalis, I. aemula, Idia julia, Hypenula cacuminalis* (**COUNTY**), *Phytometra rhodarialis, Pangrapta decoralis, Cutina albopunctella, Argyrostrotis flavostriaria, A. sylvarum, A. deleta, Panopoda rufimargo, Mocis marcida, Allotria elonympha.* **NOCTUIDAE**: *Acronicta americana, Iodopepla u-album.* **GEOMETRIDAE**: *Macaria* sp., Unidentified gray species, *Epimecis hortaria, Euchlaena obtusaria, Nemoria* sp. **LIMACODIDAE**: *Lithacodia* sp., *Phobetron pithecium.* **COSSIDAE**: *Givera francesca.* **CRAMBIDAE**: *Crambus* sp. (large, with silver bands). **PSYCHIDAE**: Little gray sp.
Woods/edge habitats just east of Laura Walker SP, north of Lee Rd.:
SATURNIIDAE: *Dryocampa rubicunda, Anisota virginiensis, Eacles imperialis, Automeris io, Antheraea polyphemus.* **LASIOCAMPIDAE**: *Artace cribraria.* **SPHINGIDAE**: *Manduca sexta.* **ARCTIIDAE**: *Crambidia pallida, Cisthene subjecta, Holomelina* sp., *Holomelina laeta, Halysidota tesselaris.* **NOTODONTIDAE**: *Datana ranaeceps, Heterocampa obliqua.* **EREBIDAE**: *Argyrostrotis flavostriaria, A. sylvarum, A. deleta, Epidromia fergusoni* (**COUNTY**). **NOCTUIDAE**: *Acronicta tritona, Schinia rivulosa, Agrotis* sp. **GEOMETRIDAE**: *Idaea tacturata.* **LIMACODIDAE**: *Euclea delphinii, Prolimacodes badia.* **CRAMBIDAE**: *Crambus* sp. (large, with silver bands). **PSYCHIDAE**: Unidentified little gray sp.

Skidaway Island, Chatham Co., Sept. 19, 2006, Russ Wigh:
NYMPHALIDAE: White Peacock, *Anartia jatrophae* (second record for COUNTY).

Jekyll Island Causeway, Glynn Co.:
Michael Boehm July 26, 2006:
PIERIDAE: Checkered Whites, *Pontia protodice* (MANY); Dainty Sulphurs, *Nathalis iole* (MANY)
Mike and Kathy Chapman and Gene Keferl, Aug. 1, 2006.
PIERIDAE: Mike and Gene confirmed the continued presence of the Checkered Whites and Dainty Sulphurs reported by Michael in July. They also saw several Great Southern Whites (*Ascia monuste*). Interestingly, they found none of the *P. protodice* or *N. iole* on Jekyll Island proper - only on the Causeway.

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

Brian Scholtens reports that Rosemary Seidler from Centenary photographed a white-striped Longtail (*Chiodes catillus*) in Vernon Parish, Louisiana, along Hwy 111 on September 1, 2006. This is a state record.

Mississippi: Ricky Patterson, 400 Winona Rd., Vicksburg, MS 39180, E-Mail: rpatte42@aol.com

The following Mississippi records are reported by Ricky Patterson:

June 23, 2006, Magna Vista, Issaquena County, *Asterocampa celtis celtis* (county).

August 6, 2006, Vicksburg, Warren County, *Feniseca tarquinius tarquinius, Catocala nebulosa, Catocala amatrix, Catocala vidua, Catocala maestosa* and *Catocala insolabilis*.

September 6, 2006 at the Chickasaw County Wildlife Management Area, Chickasaw county, *Euptoieta claudia* (county).

September 4, 2006, Vicksburg, Warren County, *Urbanus proteus*.

May 4, 2006, Pinkston Hill, T5N, R9E, Sec. 17, Scott Co., Jackson Prairie, *Compacta capitalis* (Grt.) (Crambidae) 1 male, 1 female. Only one specimen in Mississippi Entomological Museum previously collected in MS, from Lowndes Co, Black Belt Prairie. Bryant Mather did not have any record of this species.

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.

A new species was added to the state list this season, and there were a number of other highlights. On the other hand, the northward flight of southern migrant species was again very poor, probably owing to drought conditions in Florida, Georgia, and southern South Carolina during the first half of the year. *Vanessa cardui* reports were very scarce, with only 3-4 sightings. Fortunately, reports of *Danaus plexippus* were above those of the past few summers.

Records are from June - August 2006.

PAPILIONIDAE:
Papilio cresphontes, very rare mountains reports were of one seen by James Coman at his farm near Piney Creek in Alleghany on August 6 and 13, and another seen by Bob and Nancy Baldwin in their Yancey yard on August 25-26.

PIERIDAE:
Pontia protodice, TW photographed a female on August 2 in Ashe **(COUNTY)** for a very rare mountain record, and one of just two state reports for the species through August.

Eurema lisa, very rare in the mountains, especially for 2006, was one seen in Buncombe on July 8 by JP and WC.

LYCAENIDAE:
Satyrium edwardsii, two new colonies were discovered in Hoke; JP found six individuals at Fort Bragg on June 4, and HL saw eight at another site close to the base on June 7.

NYMPHALIDAE:
Phyciodes phaon, a very good total for the northern half of the coast was 73 noted by Scott Baron in the Cape Hatteras area of Dare on July 31.

Enodia portlandia, Ralph Preston photographed one in Macon on June 20. The species is very rare and poorly known in the mountains, owing to confusion with *E. anthedon*.

Enodia anthedon, a first record for the state's Coastal Plain was a colony of at least eight seen by HL near the Roanoke River in Northampton **(COUNTY)** on August 16. Both *Arundinaria* and *Microstegium* (the likely hostplant) are present at the site; however, no other *Enodia* species were seen.

Enodia creola, one was photographed in Macon **(COUNTY)** on June 15 by Ralph Preston, for a very rare mountain

record. *Arundinaria* is present in the vicinity of both this and the *E. portlandia* records.

Satyrodes appalachia, very rare in the Coastal Plain was a colony found by HL in Northampton **(COUNTY)** on August 16.

HESPERIIDAE:
Urbanus proteus, a very early Piedmont report was one photographed by JP in Orange on June 6; the species is rare before August.

Autochton cellus, the only state report for the year was one photographed in Buncombe **(COUNTY)** on July 8 by Derb Carter, JP, and WC. Why the species is so rare is a complete mystery, as the host plant (*Amphicarpa bracteata*) is abundant in the mountains and Piedmont.

Hesperia leonardus, TW photographed a fresh male in Ashe on August 26, one of the very few recent reports for the mountain region.

Polites mystic, TW and WC discovered a colony, of at least 18 individuals (!), on June 18 in Alleghany **(STATE)**. They provided many photographs; most were worn males and medium-wear females, implying that the flight began about two weeks earlier. A return visit to the wetland on July 1 yielded only a single individual (JP, JD). This site extends the range southward by roughly 60 air miles, from western Virginia.

Problema bulenta, the first state report since 1999 was made by JP and John Dole, who waded into marshes along the Cape Fear River at a known site in Brunswick on August 13. They photographed four individuals, mainly medium-wear males. Needless to say, this species is difficult to find without expending some effort in their freshwater marsh habitat.

Euphyes berryi, at one of just a few known sites in the state, JP, WC, and JD photographed one individual in a wet powerline clearing in Craven on August 27.

Euphyes bimacula, at the same wetland where the *Polites mystic* were found, TW and WC counted and photographed a remarkable 16 individuals on June 18. This Alleghany **(COUNTY)** locale is a first record for the state's mountain region, though it isn't completely unexpected because the species occurs in a handful of western Virginia counties. There are records for many Coastal Plain counties, though it is rare in that province. JP and JD counted 20 individuals at this site on July 1, a state record one-day total. TW found two *other* locales after the big discovery on June 18. On June 22 he found one at New River State Park in Alleghany, and he saw and photographed two on June 25 in neighboring Ashe **(COUNTY)**.

Calpodes ethlius, the only report for the season was of a few individuals at a *Canna* patch in Duck, on the Dare Outer Banks, as noted by Tom Stock on August 15-16.

South Carolina: Brian Scholtens, College of Charleston, Charleston, SC 29424, E-Mail: scholtensb@cofc.edu

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

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

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

George Thompson Wildlife Management Area, Lake Thompson area on east slope of Blue Mountain, near Markham, Fauquier County (all observations Harry Pavulaan).

Numerous trips made throughout the 2006 season, indicated by dates (surveys conducted through September 15, 2006, as of this report). Numbers in parentheses following date indicate species count on that date. All records

variously identified by sight or net, with vouchers obtained as necessary to document butterfly fauna for continuing survey of Blue Mountain. Only more interesting *"choice"* species or date records are indicated here (a full site list will be published as a report in The Taxonomic Report in 2007).

Pterourus glaucus - August 5. During irruption of over 200+ on this date, two females were observed imbibing moisture from damp earth along the lakeshore. This is unusual behavior in *glaucus* females, seldom observed.

Pterourus appalachiensis - May 13 (10+), May 20 (10), June 9 (1), June 24 (1). Interestingly, an irruption of males seemed to be occurring on May 20 along the east bank of the Shenandoah River along Route 638 between Howellsville (Warren Co.) and Berrys (Clarke Co.) - hundreds sighted along highway with many roadkills. Attesting to the elusive nature of the females of this butterfly, only one single female was recorded this year - a rare (very worn) black form female was observed for a few moments but eluded capture and flew away over the lake. Interestingly, the wings of another black female, also worn, were found laying on one of the trails near the lake, obviously a victim of a predator attack.

Pieris virginiensis - April 13 (30+), April 15 (2), April 24 (20+), April 29 (26), May 5 (8), May 13 (3). Interesting rebound in numbers, despite steady decline over the past few years. Garlic Mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*), which is toxic to *virginiensis* larvae, is fully established in woodlands, thus putting this colony at risk.

Phoebis sennae - May 20 (2), August 5 (1), September 15 (1). Two additional sightings on May 20 near Blue Mtn. summit along Freezeland Road north of Linden (one on Fauquier Co. side, another on Warren Co. side).

Eurema nicippe - April 15 (8), April 24 (13+), April 29 (2), May 20 (1), July 1 (1), July 15 (1), August 5 (1). April dates are all reddish-ventered winter forms, freshly emerged. Yellow-ventered summer forms occurred in subsequent months. Interesting localized irruption. Hostplants not found in Lake Thompson area but present in nearby Sky Meadows State Park. A colony of these was found at the fishing pond in Sky Meadows State Park on September 15, with at least 12 adults counted. One large-leaved *Cassia* was located in the area.

Deciduphagus henrici [known better as megagenus "*Callophrys*" to some] - April 13 (1), April 29 (1). Rarely found at this site, but always very closely-associated with Eastern Redbud (*Cercis canadensis*).

Parrhasius m-album - April 13 (1), April 15 (10+), April 24 (9), April 29 (1). Interesting localized irruption in spring.

Celastrina neglecta "spring form" - This taxon is tentatively determined to be a spring form of *C. neglecta* as indicated by some of our rearing studies (Wright & Pavulaan, unpublished). However, some field observations and breeding results indicate that more than one taxon might be involved. It is unclear at this time, whether the Blue Mountain spring population is part of multivoltine *C. neglecta* or a separate univoltine population. [Note: *C. ladon*, formerly common at this site, has been extirpated here for several years now, due to the disappearance of its primary host, Flowering Dogwood (*Cornus florida*) caused by *Anthracnose* fungal blight. Continued monitoring of spring *Celastrina* flights have turned up only *C. neglecta*, now believed to have fully replaced the springtime niche formerly occupied by *C. ladon*.] March 11 (5), April 2 (100+), April 13 (100+), April 15 100+), April 24 (4), April 29 (20+), May 5 (8), May 13 (2), May 20 (1).

Celastrina neglecta "summer form" - June 9 (200+). First observation of the summer form in 2006. This was apparently the day of emergence for the vast majority of these, as indicated by large damp-earth parties along shores of Lake Thompson by "day-one" fresh males, some with wings still relatively soft. One "*marginata*" form was located, very unusual in *C. neglecta*.

Celastrina neglectamajor - April 24 (early date at this site) (5), April 29 (20+), May 5 (3), May 13 (5) May 20 (5).

Celastrina lucia - Very rare at this site, no doubt coming in from an undiscovered colony somewhere on the mountain or nearby ridges. April 13 (1).

Phyciodes tharos (only black-antenna males) - April 15 (2), April 24 (2), April 29 (5), May 5 (3), May 13 (6), May

20 (10), June 9 (3), June 24 (2), July 1 (3), July 15 (5), August 5 (11+), September 15 (30+). [All 2006 dates listed for our Phyciodologists!!]

Polygonia comma - Jan. 28 (1). Interesting winter date, otherwise regularly common throughout the season.

Danaus plexippus - April 24, April 29 (1). Very worn (almost translucent wings) female identified, searching diligently for host Milkweeds. This same female (identified by distinct wing damage) was found in the exact same spot on these two dates (not kept down by rains)! The extremely worn state of this female leads me to believe she migrated straight up from Mexico.

Amblyscirtes hegon - May 5 (1).

Shenandoah Mountain, Rockingham County, May 4, 2006 (all observations Harry, Sandra and Brittany Pavulaan).

Pterourus appalachiensis - 30+ freshly-emerged males observed mainly along lower reaches of route 924 between Briery Branch and Shenandoah Mountain summit. These were confirmed by net and by observation of puddling adults. Many additional large "Tigers" observed in area including up on the ridge summit, some technically within West Virginia (Pendleton Co.), at Briery Branch Gap.

Pterourus glaucus - Only one single worn male netted and confirmed along lower reaches of route 924 between Briery Branch and Shenandoah Mountain summit.

Pieris rapae - 50+ observed in woodlands mainly along route 924 between Briery Branch and Shenandoah Mountain summit. These were randomly confirmed by net. The point of this observation is that *rapae* seems to be well-adapted as a woodland insect in this part of the Appalachians.

Eurema nicippe - 3 observed flying uphill (northwestward) along upper reaches of route 924 just below Shenandoah Mountain summit. Two netted for positive I.D. Both freshly-emerged spring forms with reddish venters. 3 additonal adults observed at Briery Branch Gap on summit, plus one on the W.V. side (Pendleton Co.).

Phoebis sennae - 3 observed flying uphill (northwestward) along route 924 between Briery Branch and Shenandoah Mountain summit. One worn male netted for positive I.D. 3 additonal adults observed along summit ridge road north of Briery Branch Gap, plus one netted on the W.V. side (Pendleton Co.) at Briery Branch Gap.

Celastrina "lucia" - Two fairly fresh *Celastrina* netted while in courtship(?) flight along the summit ridge road north of Briery Branch Gap. One additional (worn) female netted along upper reaches of route 924 between Briery Branch and Shenandoah Mountain summit. The latter female was kept in confinement on budding branches of locally-obtained Blueberry (*Vaccinium*) sp. upon which several eggs were obtained. Larvae fed on buds but were transferred to Black Cherry (*Prunus serotina*) flowers, then fruit and leaves to complete development. Two adults ultimately emerged (in June) - a false second generation identified as *lucia*. Four additional pupae desiccated prior to refrigeration. These are tentatively identified as being part of the "*lucia*" guild of the *Celastrina* pending further taxonomic research. NO other *Celastrina* were recorded anywhere during this trip! [Note: *Celastrina ladon* has apparently become extirpated from broad regions of the Appalachians in northern Virginia, possibly in response to decimation of the primary host, Flowering Dogwood (*Cornus florida*) due to fungal blight.]

Glaucopsyche lygdamus nittanyensis - 3 netted for positive I.D. in shale-barren habitat along upper reaches of route 924 just below Shenandoah Mountain summit, and one additional male netted along the summit ridge road north of Briery Branch Gap. Host *Vicia caroliniana* common along roadsides. [Taxonomic note: these identified as typical Appalachian *lygdamus* (*nittanyensis*), unlike nominotypical *lygdamus* identified by Ron Gatrelle from coastal plain area of South Carolina].

Clossiana bellona - 15 observed (random confirmation by net) along summit ridge road north of Briery Branch Gap, plus one netted on the W.V. side (Pendleton Co.) at Briery Branch Gap. Interesting ridgetop woodland habitat for this butterfly!

Additional species recorded (all counts from Virginia side of ridge, mainly along route 924, identify of questionable species verified by net or random netting): *B. philenor* (50+), *P. troilus* (20+), *A. midea annickae* (2), *Colias eurytheme* (50+), *Colias philodice* (25+ only along summit ridge road!), *P. tharos* black-antenna males (100+), *P. interrogationis* (2), *P. comma* (1), *V. virginiensis* (1), *E. juvenalis* (100+), *E. icelus* (50+) and *E. brizo* (1).

****
****

SLS MEMBERS - PLEASE SEND ME

ARTICLES

BOOK REPORTS

FIELD EVENTS

COMMENTS

CONTROVERSIES (BUTTERFLIES / MOTHS)

ETC.

ANYTHING THAT YOU THINK MIGHT BE OF

INTEREST TO

YOUR

COLLEAGUES

[THE EDITOR]

****
****
****
****
****
****
****
****
**
*

Ray and Kit Stanford showing specimens from the Ray Stanford Butterfly Collection. Paul Opler is in the background.

Front Row: Ray and Kit Stanford, Paul Opler, and Julie Karbula, Office of Development and Advancement. Back Row: Marc Johnson, Dean of College of Agricultural Sciences, Tom Holtzer, Chairman, Department of Bioagricultural Sciences, and Boris Kondratieff, Director of the Gillette Museum.

Ray and Kit Stanford and Paul Opler looking at a drawer of specimens from the Ray Stanford Butterfly Collection.

These 3 photographs (above and left) should have accompanied the article by Paul Opler entitled *"Lepidoptera at the Gillette Museum of Arthropod Diversity"* which appeared in the June issue of the NEWS [Volume 28 NO. 2 (2006), PG. 55.]

****

Don Stillwaugh, Secretary (2007)

****

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 Paul Milner, Membership Coordinator, 272 Skye Drive, Pisgah Forest, NC 28768, and dues may be sent to Jeffrey R. Slotten, Treasurer, 5421 NW 69th Lane, Gainesville, FL 32653.

****

SOUTHERN LEPIDOPTERISTS' SOCIETY
c/o J. BARRY LOMBARDINI, THE EDITOR, 3507 41st Street, Lubbock, Texas 79413