Southern Lepidopterists' NEWS

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THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE SOUTHERN LEPIDOPTERISTS' SOCIETY ORGANIZED TO PROMOTE SCIENTIFIC INTEREST AND KNOWLEDGE RELATED TO UNDERSTANDING THE LEPIDOPTERA FAUNA OF THE SOUTHERN REGION OF THE UNITED STATES (WEBSITE: www.southernlepsoc.org/)

J. BARRY LOMBARDINI: EDITOR

ELFIN MAGIC: A NEW FLORIDA STATE BUTTERFLY RECORD

BY

JOHN V. CALHOUN

MARYANN FREIDMAN

JEFFREY R. SLOTTEN

New state records don't come along every day. Consequently, they cause quite a stir, especially if the species is an overlooked resident. This was the case on 13 March 2009 when MaryAnn Friedman was exploring a portion of Blackwater River State Forest (BRSF) in Okaloosa County of the western Florida panhandle. She observed what appeared to be two unusual Henry's Elfins, *Callophrys henrici* (Grote & Robinson), flying near the ground in a heavily wooded creek forest. The butterflies were photographed and the images were forwarded to JVC, who immediately confirmed their identity as Brown Elfins, *Callophrys augustinus* (Westwood) (Fig. 1). We were flabbergasted that this species was found in Florida. After all, with the exception of a single record from central Georgia, the closest known populations of this species are in northern Georgia and northern Alabama, over 200 miles to the north. MaryAnn subsequently found an egg and a larva of *C. augustinus* on flower buds of mountain laurel, *Kalmia latifolia* L. (Ericaceae). She continued to observe adults in the area until 3 April.

Fig. 1. Adult *C. augustinus*, 17-III-2009, Blackwater River S.F., Okaloosa County (MAF).

Armed with information about the discovery in BRSF, Jeff Slotten found adults and a larva of *C. augustinus* in association with *K. latifolia* on 21 March in the Apalachicola National Forest of Liberty County, Florida. This area is located in the central panhandle, about 100 mi east of BRSF. We

were again surprised on 16 April when MaryAnn's husband, Norm, inadvertently found another larva of *C. augustinus* on *K. latifolia* near Baker, Okaloosa County. This site is located about 5 mi east of the BRSF population. Over a century of Lepidoptera research in Florida failed to reveal the presence of this species. Honestly, no one even thought to look for it!

We hope this discovery will encourage others to search stands of *K. latifolia* for the presence of *C. augustinus*. It won't require elfin magic, just a little knowledge and a warm, sunny spring day. More information about this discovery, including additional photos, will be published in the summer 2009 issue of the News of the Lepidopterists' Society (vol. 51, no. 2).

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2009 ANNUAL MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

The 2009 Annual Meeting will take place in Gainesville, Florida, from September 25-27 and will be held at the McGuire Center. The ATL is planning to hold a joint meeting with the SLS. A tentative schedule will be posted on the SLS website (www.southernlepsoc.org/) soon. Please see registration form and call for papers included with this issue. Deborah Matthews Lott and Jacqueline Y. Miller have volunteered to serve as meeting coordinators for the SLS.

The SLS Board Members have agreed to go forward with the applications required for the organization to become tax exempt. I am in the process of filing documents with the IRS and hope to have this in place by the end of the year. This would save much needed funds that are presently going to the State of Texas with every publication of the news letter. The cost for the news letter continues to increase due to taxes, printing and postage.

The Board has decided not to go forward with the John Abbot Award for 2009 as no additional candidates were selected. If you have someone in mind for 2010 please contact a Board Member or make a motion during the 2009 Business Meeting. Two additional candidates are needed to meet the constitutional requirement.

Charlie Covell, Debbie Lott, Terry Lott and Bret Boyd agreed to serve on the Nominating Committee to select a slate of candidates for the 2010 SLS Board Member openings. The following people have agreed to serve the organization if elected:

Brian G. Scholtens: Chairman
Jeffrey R. Slotten: Treasurer
Donald M. Stillwaugh: Secretary
Marc Minno: Membership Coordinator
Tom Neal: Member-at-Large
Dave Morgan: Website manager
J. Barry Lombardini: Editor

Marc Minno has updated the membership application form which should now be available on the website. Thanks to Debbie and Terry Lott and Dave Morgan we now have additional newsletter scans from the 80's posted on the web. Welcome to all new members. I hope to meet you at the 2009 Annual Meeting.

Joe Riddlebarger

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REMINDER

Just a reminder if you have not paid your 2009 dues. Please check your address label and if you are current in your dues it should read "2009" to the right of your name. If not, please send your dues to Jeffery Slotten, Treasurer, 5421 NW 69th Lane, Gainesville, FL 32653.

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

Regular	$20.00
Student	$15.00
Sustaining	$30.00
Contributor	$50.00
Benefactor	$70.00

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/

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DEFINITIONS:

Caudex - the persistent stem of a perennial plant; the axis or stem of a woody plant; the central stalk of an Agave plant.

Chaparral - a dense thicket of shrubs, thorny bushes; a typical chaparral plant community consists of densely-growing evergreen scrub oaks and drought-resistant shrubs.[1]

Pyriform - pear-shaped; shaped like a pear.

Source

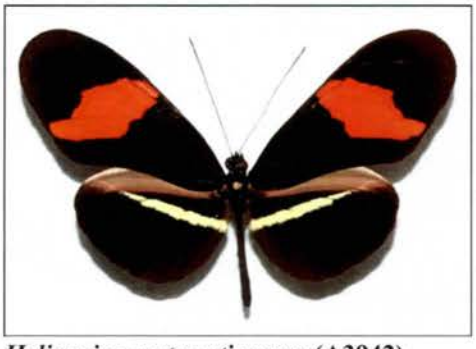
1) http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/chaparral

LOST IN COSTA RICA

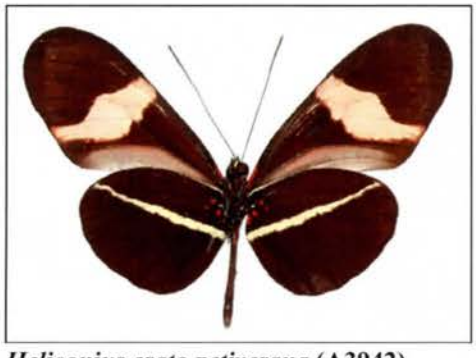
BY
GARY NOEL ROSS

Being lost can be a terrifying experience. And when one is alone and in an unfamiliar wilderness, well, things can get downright dangerous—very, dangerous.

I know those feelings quite well. You see, during my lifetime of pursuing butterflies, I have been lost on more than one occasion. And although I obviously survived those experiences, now decades later, each is still etched into my memory.



***Heliconius erato petiverana* (A3942), male, dorsal [Nanciyaga (near Catemaco), VER, MX], 1-VIII-1989; © 2006 Kim Davis & Mike Stangeland.**



***Heliconius erato petiverana* (A3942), male, ventral [Nanciyaga (near Catemaco), VER, MX], 1-VIII-1989; © 2006 Kim Davis & Mike Stangeland.**

My first *"lost trauma"* occurred far back in the summer of 1967. Barely 27 and having just received my doctoral degree in entomology from Louisiana State University, I participated in a summer course of TROPICAL BIOLOGY: AN ECOLOGICAL APPROACH sponsored by the fledgling ORGANIZATION FOR TROPICAL STUDIES in Costa Rica. [OTS was chartered in 1963 as a consortium of universities and research institutes *"to provide leadership in education, research, and the responsible use of natural resources in the tropics."*] The course was directed by Thomas C. Emmel, who had just received his doctoral degree (Stanford), also.

The course was an introduction to the ecosystems of Costa Rica. Although I had extensive field experience in tropical Mexico, I enjoyed this new adventure with two-dozen or so persons of kindred minds, particularly several participants who like me were especially interested in butterflies. Too, Costa Rica at this time had not been *"discovered"* by the tourist industry and so we were about the only *"gringos"* traveling the quaint and pristine countryside. One such excursion took us to Volcán Poás, a periodically active volcano reaching a height of 8871 feet (2704 meters). The volcano rises from the central valley and is located only about 35 miles northwest of the capital city, San José.

Our trip to Poás was our first extended outing. Because we were in the midst of the rainy season, we departed at dawn to try to out-time the inevitable afternoon showers. Our class of 25 was easily accommodated by a yellow school bus provided by the University of Costa Rica. Since this was one of those adrenaline-laced days, we oohed and aahed at the mosaic of coffee fincas (plantations), pasturelands, and exotic forest that whisked past our windows. As we gained some elevation, the air became noticeably cooler. Now the landscape was dominated by what technically is referred to as *"Cloud Forest."* The trees were tall, buttressed, and cloaked in epiphytes such as mosses, lichens, bromeliads, and orchids. Lots of rope-like vines called *lianas*, too. Since there was little traffic, we stopped occasionally to take photos. Lush ravines contained titan-leaved (4-5 feet in diameter) *Gunnera* plants called "*sombrilla de pobre*" (poor man's umbrella). Although we couldn't dilly-dally, we nonetheless managed to observe several characteristic butterflies, including: a longwing (*Heliconius clysonymus*), a species with narrow yellow banded forewings and broad red banded hindwings—reverse patterns from *H. erato* and *melpomene* more common at lower elevations; a clearwing (*Dircenna relata*); a narrow-winged pierid (*Dismorphia*); and two individuals of *Morpho peleides* sporting their resonant blue iridescence.

By and by, disturbed cloud forest gave way to a vegetation type that included smaller, twisted trees draped extensively with shaggy gray-green lichens. Termed *"Elfin Woodland"* or *"Elfin Forest"* and unique to high, cool, misty, and windswept elevations within tropical zones, this vegetation is composed of dwarfed, twisted trees massed together so densely as to seem impenetrable. The *"bonsai-esque"* appearance seemed bewitching, enigmatic —evoking images of a mystical fairyland. Ten AM we reached out destination, a graveled parking lot near the volcano's crater.

***Papillio garamas* (C7863), male (NW Mexican segregate), [MEXICO, NAY, La Yerba], 09-1X-1980 (MZFC), © 2009 Andrew Warren.**

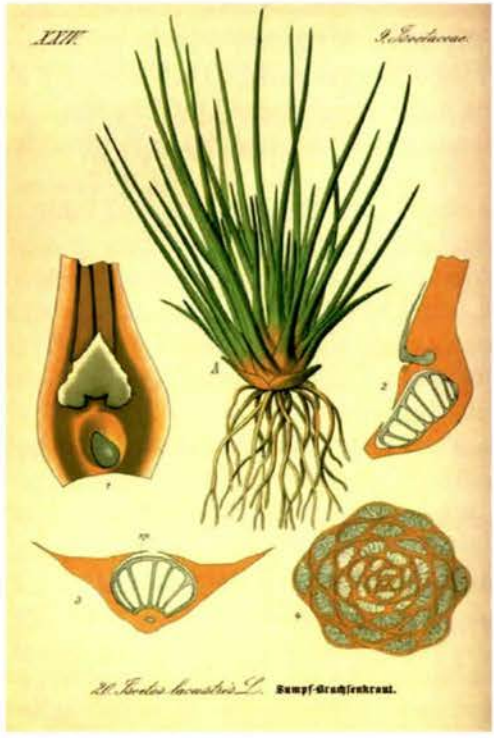
***Papillio garamas* (C7858), female (NW Mexican segregate), [MEXICO, SINALOA, Palmito, Concordia], 02-VII-1988 (MZFC), © 2009 Andrew Warren.**

Volcán Poás is distinguished as one of the world's largest active craters. The primary cone is a full one-mile across and about 1000 feet (310 meters) deep. At its bottom lies a turquoise, thermo-mineral lake that gurgles and belches sulfurous smoke and geysers. Because of the acrid air, the constant strong winds, and the frequent subfreezing temperatures, the area immediately fringing the crater is devoid of all vegetation. From a parking lot, visitors are able to walk right up to the southern edge of the crater to peer in (a wooden guard rail prevents mishap).

***Pedaliodes dejecta* (A3585)(Typical segregate), male, dorsal, [Metates, OAX, MX], 26-V-1990, © 2006 Kim Davis & Mike Stangeland.**

***Pedaliodes dejecta* (A3584)(Typical segregate), male, ventral, [Metates, OAX, MX], 26-V-1990, © 2006 Kim Davis & Mike Stangeland.**

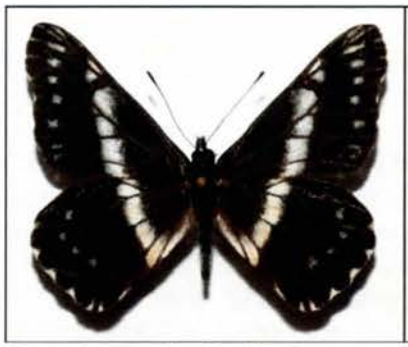
Our arrival time was perfect. That is to say, the sky was still clear except for a few billowy clouds beginning to waft overhead. Although the temperature was no more than 60 degrees, three Mexican silverspots (*Dione moneta*) were pirouetting on micro-thermals rising from the spellbinding crater, pausing occasionally to bask on the black basaltic gravel. After taking photographs, we backtracked a bit to a primitive trail that entered the congested greenery covering one of the knolls slightly distant to the crater. The trail was narrow, steep, and snaked uphill totally shielded by the Elfin Woodland.



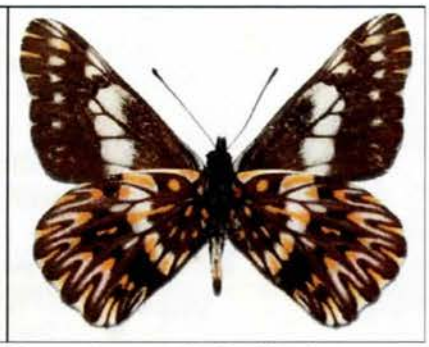
***Isoetes lacustris* (Quillwort), Prof. Dr. Otto Wilhelm Thomé [1].**

After about 20 minutes we topped a ridge. Then the trail began a descent, so steep that at times we were forced to sprint. After another 15 minutes or so, the oppressive forest gave way to the openness of a body of water known as *"Laguna Botos"* (Botos Lagoon or Lake). This is an ancient crater of Poás, currently is positioned 160 feet above and east of the active cone. The lagoon is approximately 1300 feet (400 meters) across and filled with clear, bluish water; the shores are narrow and bordered by impressive hills (one of which we had just descended) supporting dwarf forest. As we stood admiring this paintable lake we got a good view of the gigantic swallowtail *Papilio garamas*, which was sailing gracefully along the forest edge. In addition, two *Pedaliodes dejecta*, a small dark satyr, were skipping about in the grass bordering the lake, and a single *Catasticta teutila*, a medium-sized pierid, dark with grayish fore- and hindwing bands, glided above. Although enthralling, these butterfly vignettes were not our primary targets. Rather, we had come to observe a rare plant known as quillworts.

[Quillworts or *Isoetes* are often termed *"living fossils"* since they are related to the ancient fossil *Lepidodendron* or *"scale tree"* (note the Greek prefix *"lepi"* used also in *"lepidoptera"*) common in the Carboniferous Period, the coal-forming time line. Taxonomically, quillworts are vascular plants placed within their own class, order,

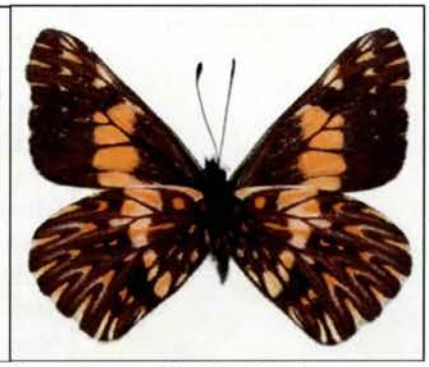


***Catasticta teutila flavifasciata*, (A3219), male, dorsal, [Vista Hermosa, OAX, MX], 15-X-1992, © 2005 Kim Davis & Mike Stangeland.**



***Catastaicta teutila flavifasciata* (A3216), male, ventral, [Vista Hermosa, OAX, MX], 15-X-1992, © 2005 Kim Davis & Mike Stangeland.**

***Catastaicta teutila flavifasciata* (A3217), female, dorsal, [La Esperanza, OAX, MX], 24-VIII-1990, © 2005 Kim Davis & Mike Stangeland.**



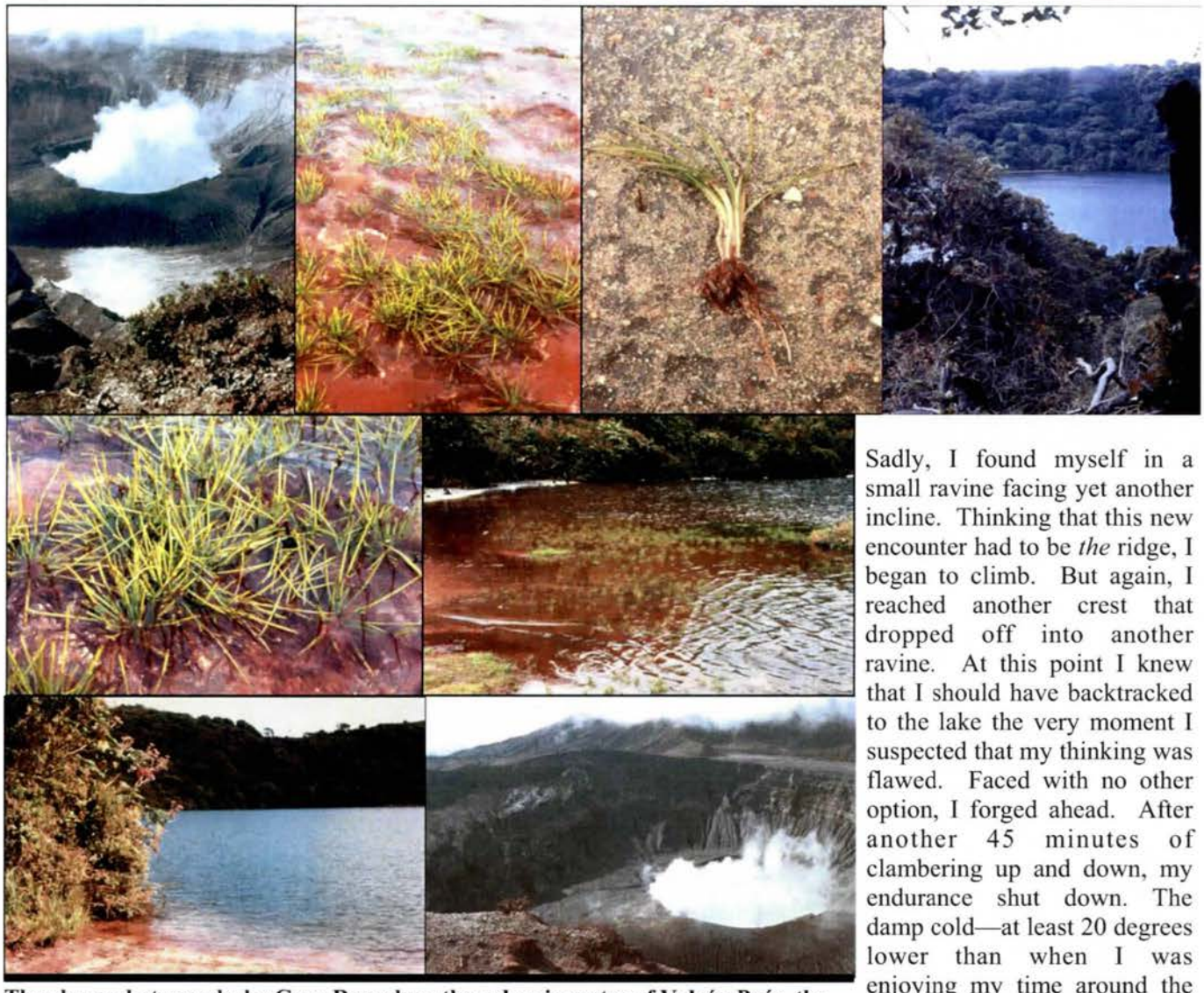
***Catasticta teutila flavifasciata* (A3218), female, ventral, [La Experanza, OAX, MX], 24-VIII-1990, © 2005 Kim Davis & Mike Stangeland.**

family, and genus although closely related to horsetails or *Equisetum*. Quillworts are seedless; the plants reproduce by spores generated in specialized structures called sporangia. Although found throughout the cooler parts of North America and Eurasia, quillworts are usually rare. [One species, *I. louisianensis* occurs in only a handful of isolated locations in Alabama, Louisiana and Mississippi. Because of this limited distribution, *I. louisianensis* is listed as an *"endangered species."*]. The leaves of quillworts are sedge-like in appearance, usually average about a foot in length, and are hollow—hence their name. These leaves arise from a round swollen base that houses the reproductive organs. All species are either aquatic or semi-aquatic and are considered to be indicators of good water quality.]

Surprisingly, the unusual quillworts were common in Laguna Botos, growing partially submerged as colonies in the shallow shoreline waters. Ever since freshman biology, I have harbored a special interest in primitive plants such as horsetails (Equisetaceae), club mosses (Lycopodiaceae), and spikemosses (Selaginellaceae). Since this was my first encounter with *Isoetes*, I shot photo after photo, slowly making my way around the lake. Meanwhile, the weather began to deteriorate. Clouds began to darken the sky. As this escalated, a cold mist descended. Then I realized that the other class members had already departed for return to the parked bus. Alone and becoming uncomfortable in the cold, prudence dictated that I should begin retracing my footsteps, too. As I hurried beside the mist-shrouded shore, I spotted what I took to be a small path hacked into the forest and ascending one of the hills surrounding the lake. Imagining this to be a shortcut to the main trail, I opted to enter.

A cardinal mistake! After only a few hundred feet, the track simply petered out. While confused, I remained convinced that the main trail or even the parking lot lay directly above me; and so I decided to continue to climb. But *"climb"* was only a euphemism. Lacking tools for hacking vegetation, I had to slowly, painstakingly squeeze and worm my way through the mass of tangles that was the framework of the Elfin Forest (at this point I wish I were an elf!). Every trunk and limb was sheathed in epiphytic greenery, especially the beardlike lichens—all dripping and slippery because of the permeating mist. Worst of all, there was no visible ground *per se.* Instead, the forest floor consisted of juxtaposed roots covered in spongy mosses, spikemosses, and liverworts and that formed a labyrinth that required me a moment of decision before each step. Nevertheless, I frequently miscalculated and my foot became temporarily snared between roots; other times when the trail was particularly steep, I had to grasp a root or two to pull myself upward. With such a gauntlet, I stumbled repeatedly, scratching and bruising myself. And as if to add insult to injury, the thin oxygen at the nearly 9000-foot elevation severely taxed my breathing. All in all, the forest that I had initially romanticized as an *"Enchanted Wood,"* had metamorphosed into a nightmarish *"Thicket from Hell."*

I persevered. After approximately 20 minutes, I reached the crest. Alas, my spirit sank. The mist prevented any panoramic view and the ground before me sloped downward into the ubiquitous soupy woods. Concluding that I had been climbing a minor rise in front of the primary ridge separating the lake and parking lot, I resolutely tackled this immediate obstacle.



The above photographs by Gary Ross show the volcanic crater of Volcán Poás, the lake or lagoon known as Laguna Botos, and quillwort plants.

Sadly, I found myself in a small ravine facing yet another incline. Thinking that this new encounter had to be *the* ridge, I began to climb. But again, I reached another crest that dropped off into another ravine. At this point I knew that I should have backtracked to the lake the very moment I suspected that my thinking was flawed. Faced with no other option, I forged ahead. After another 45 minutes of clambering up and down, my endurance shut down. The damp cold—at least 20 degrees lower than when I was enjoying my time around the lake—had penetrated my core causing mild hypothermia with its waxing shivers. Spotting a relatively sizable trunk on the crest, I leaned back onto it, my body quaking from cold, exhaustion, and freight. I had no compass. I couldn't see the sun. I couldn't see the horizon. In truth, I had no way of determining the direction in which I should proceed (remember, the year was 1967—long before the advent of GPS and cellular phone). If I were to set off blindly, odds were that (1) I would exit onto the treacherously rocky and deadly sulfurous rim of the active crater with no way of accessing the parking lot, or (2) be trapped within extensive wilderness for days without water, food, dry clothing, and medical supplies before I would intersect some fingerprint of humanity. No answers, only choices—all fraught with dangerous risks. A specter of doom welled up from my gut. Time stood still. In abject despair, my mind registered only one word: *"LOST!"*

Then an epiphany. It began with a sound—a barely perceptible sound—like a low-pitched movement of wind through distant trees. But the decibels slowly increased. At this same time the wispy lichens on the trees began to wave and a bitterly cold breeze wafted across my face. This change was so dramatic that it jolted me back into the world of the living. Then, in the blink of an eye, the engulfing mist vanished, the ambient light brightened. As if a tableau curtain had lifted on the stage of a grand opera house, a new scene was revealed: Above, a dome of blue sky, and below—through a peephole in the twisted twigs and strands of lichens—the plaintive waters of Botos Lagoon no more than 500 feet away.

"I must be hallucinating," I thought. So I began blinking to test my perception. But the image of the lake remained. As my befuddled mind tried to make some sense of the moment, I concluded that I had become

disoriented in the creepy woods. Instead of walking in a trajectory perpendicular to the lake, I had in fact been meandering blindly between the frontal ridge and several back knolls. Per chance, in my repetitive ascents and descents I managed to complete a circle. Ergo, I currently was standing on the exact ridge I had initially climbed above the lake.

And then, as quickly as my curtain of opportunity had risen, it fell, returning me to darkness and obscurity. But mist or no mist, I felt empowered by relief and hope. All I had to do to reach the lakeshore was to beeline down the slope. Once there I would circle until I located the established trail leading to my salvation.

I lickety-split with no heed to possible mishap (in truth, I did more slipping, sliding and bouncing than walking). Sure enough, within minutes I was standing on water's edge. Within minutes I had located the original trail. Just in time, too. The clouds began a full assault by releasing stinging rain, sleet, and marble-sized hail. While the trail was partially protected by the surrounding forest, the weather was causing an additional problem. With so much rain, the steep trail was acting as a trough, funneling rivulets of slippery, liquid mud that caused me to fall continually—and that further taxed my sore muscles and oxygen-starved lungs.

Then a turning point. During a respite, I spied what appeared to be a silhouette of a human figure standing just yards above me. At first, I questioned: *"Is this an apparition? Am I hallucinating?"* After all, I was exhausted and the dreary forest severely reduced my visibility. As I inched forward I confirmed that this was no wry mind-trick. I summoned my last remaining grit and sprinted upward. There, no more than 8 feet away, stood a fellow classmate—Gary Hartshorn—outfitted in rain gear, his face frozen in disbelief. Gary must have seen the seriousness of my distress because he immediately lunged forward, grasping me at the very moment I collapsed into unconsciousness. Within seconds, however, I recovered, and Gary explained from his perspective just what had been transpiring during the last few hours. Turns out, once my absence became evident the bus driver began honking the horn while the participants individually fanned out to search. But having no success and with inclement weather settling in, everyone was forced to give up. The driver suggested that if I did not surface within the next hour, the group should leave to seek an outpost with a telephone in order to notify authorities. In the meantime, he (Gary H.) had volunteered to track down to the lake for one final reconnoiter.

We namesakes continued—slipping and falling time and time again into the slush—although the rain had ceased. Gary, who was a bit smaller than I, nonetheless graciously shouldered some of my weight. By brute determination (and I dare suggest even Divine intervention), we eventually reached the bus. Zombie-like, tottering, and with clothing soaked and covered with mud and plant debris, we must have been quite a sight. Everyone, of course, burst into cheers, their saucier-sized eyes riveted upon us. I, however, could only mutter: *"I was lost."* My ordeal mercifully over, I sank into a vacant seat, closed my eyes, and let the world turn without me.

During these intervening years I occasionally have been haunted by what my fate might have been if that singular, incredulous revelation had not occurred. Or, if at that precise time I had been in a venue unable to take advantage of the momentary mist-free vista. Or, if Gary H. had not returned to the trail to assist me in that final climb to the parking lot. Would I have ever been rescued?

Whenever these thoughts rekindle, however, I quickly tuck them away. Life seems better that way.

Sources

1) Original book source: Prof. Dr. Otto Wilhelm Thomé, *Flora von Deutschland, Osterreich und der Schweiz*, 1885, Gera, Germany; <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Iso%C3%ABtes>

Acknowlegements

The Southern Lepidopteists' Society thanks Andrew Warren, Kim Davis and Mike Stangeland, and Butterflies of America <http://butterfliesofamerica.com/> for their permission to reprint the photographs of the butterflies shown in this article - The Editor.

(Gary Noel Ross, 6095 Stratford Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70808; E-Mail: GNR-butterfly-evangelist@juno.com)

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A FEMALE MIMIC *HYPOLIMNAS MISIPPUS* (LINNAEUS, 1764) (NYMPHALIDAE: NYMPHALINAE) IN KEY WEST, FLORIDA, WITH NOTES ON THIS SAME SPECIES IN THE UNITED STATES

BY

DAVID M. WRIGHT

A female Mimic *Hypolimnas misippus* was observed for nearly an hour on October 26, 2008, at Trumbo Point in Key West, Monroe County, Florida (24° 33' 57.63" N, 81° 47' 44.26" W). The butterfly was first noticed at 1:33 PM (EST) in a weedy roadside habitat, near the bridge to Fleming Key, in the company of *Pyrgus oileus*, *Ascia monuste*, *Eurema daira*, *Strymon melinus*, *S. istapa*, *Leptotes cassius*, *Hemiargus ceraunus*, *Agraulis vanillae*, *Danaus gilippus*, and *D. plexippus* (migrant & resident individuals). The butterfly nectared intermittently on flowers of Snow Squarestem *Melanthera nivea*, but during most of the observation period she rested on the ground in overcast skies. Twenty-eight photos were obtained between 2:21 and 2:29 PM. Shortly thereafter she disappeared and was not seen again. Her condition was excellent except for slight wear on the dorsal wing surfaces (Figs. 1 & 2).

***Hypolimnas misippus* (October 26, 2008; Trumbo Point in Key West, Monroe County, Florida)**

***Hypolimnas misippus* (October 26, 2008; Trumbo Point in Key West, Monroe County, Florida)**

To investigate the possibility of an escape from the Key West Butterfly and Nature Conservatory, I consulted their Ph.D. entomologist and chief scientific advisor. The facility occasionally receives small shipments of the Mimic from Asia and displays them in the conservatory. The Key West conservatory meets or exceeds all of the USDA containment guidelines for exotic Lepidoptera, and has been inspected by USDA representatives on many occasions. The vigilant staff also adheres to strict standard operating procedures to check for continued containment. The Mimic isn't one of the long-lived species in their experience. An escape is highly unlikely. The October 26th observation at Trumbo Point is considered to be a natural event.

The appearance of the Mimic in the United States has been listed as casual, occasional, or rare; the butterfly itself has been called a straggler, visitor, stray, vagrant, immigrant, and migrant. A compilation of U.S. records [1-18], documented by a collected specimen, photo, or detailed description, is presented in Table 1. Sight records, unverified records, and misidentifications are excluded.[7,10,13-15] Notably few events exist, the majority being from the late summer through the fall. *H. misippus* was first captured in the United States by William Wittfeld at his home near Georgiana, Florida, on November 11, 1880. Seven years later, Wittfeld's daughter noted a female *misippus* ovipositing on purslane (*Portulaca* sp.) at Georgiana and managed to obtain 74 eggs after confining the butterfly with the same plant. A temporary breeding population likely existed in the Brevard County region during the latter 19th century. Many of Whittfeld's eggs were reared to adult and today some of the specimens survive in U.S. museums. Others were presented for sale for $1.25/single or $2.00/pair. This event spurred a few unscrupulous dealers to offer *H. misippus* from foreign lands as being from Florida. These *"records"* have been discounted. During the past century, the Mimic has appeared in the country only periodically. Curiously, there is just one additional account of *misippus* immatures (again on purslane).

Table 1.

				Ref. No.
FLORIDA				
Brevard Co.	♂	1880	Nov	1
Brevard Co.	♂, ♀	1884	-	3
Brevard Co.	♀	1887	Oct	3
Brevard Co.	♀	1887	Nov	2-5
Brevard Co.	-	1895	Dec	6
Volusia Co.	♂	1916	Sep	7, 8
Miami-Dade Co.	-	1932	Apr	9
Miami-Dade Co.	♂	1934	May	10
Monroe Co.	-	1960	Nov	7
Monroe Co.	♀	1986	Nov	11
Palm Beach Co.	♂	2003	Fall	12
Monroe Co.	♂	2006	Nov	13
St. John's Co.	♂	2008	Aug	14
Monroe Co.	♀	2008	Oct	present
NORTH CAROLINA				
Craven Co.	♀	1975	Nov	16
Chatham Co.	♀	2004	Sep	16
MISSISSIPPI				
Hancock Co.	♀	1970	Aug	17
TEXAS				
Cameron Co.	♂	2001	Aug	18

The presence of the Mimic in the New World is somewhat of a mystery. The polymorphic nymphalid butterfly is common in the Old World tropics (Africa, Asia, Oceania, Australia) where the female mimics a distasteful danaid butterfly.[19] The female looks so much like the African Monarch *Danaus chrysippus* (L.) that even the small white dots on the head and thorax are imitated. There are no similar danaid models in the New World, yielding the conclusion that *misippus* evolved in the Old World as a Batesian mimic of *D. chrysippus*.

Linaeaus originally described *Papilio misippus* in 1764 from *"America"*.[20] Only just recently have taxonomists designated a *misippus* type specimen (lectotype), which is assumed to be of Javanese origin. Some experts still believe the original type locality might have been Surinam or the Virgin Islands.[21] This is supported by late 18th century and early 19th century writers who listed the butterfly from Surinam and all the West Indies.[22,23] There is also mention of Carolina and New York under *misippus*, but these old accounts are considered incorrect, since a few authors misapplied the name *misippus* to the Viceroy *Limenitis archippus*.[24,25]

The Mimic's distribution in the Caribbean is extensive,[26-48] yet everything I have been able to find suggests it is currently uncommon or rare in most places, including Cuba only 90 miles away from Key West. It may be established in the Guianas on the northeastern coast of South America and in Venezuela and a few Windward Islands, but there are no population studies verifying this claim. Some authors have proposed that humans unintentionally introduced the butterfly during the African slave trade. While theoretically possible, this conjecture does not fully explain the butterfly's perpetual scarcity. All too often artificial introductions result in explosive populations. It seems equally feasible that natural causes may be the reason for its occurrence in the New World. The butterfly has been found at sea on many occasions[49-52], and has stayed on ships at sea for up to two weeks.[49] It has reached outposts in remote islands of the South Atlantic[53], and it seems inherently capable of reaching the New World *via* trans-Atlantic flights. Facilitating winds originating off the coast of West Africa may help in transit. Significant numbers of Mimics have been reported on at least one Caribbean island following violent winds. Coincidentally, the majority of reports of Mimics in the United States occur in the hurricane season. No one has meticulously compared the records of *misippus* in the New World with the history of these storms. It is simply possible there is no direct correlation with hurricanes. The impulse to migrate in late summer and fall could explain the majority of records during this season.

The internal drive to migrate likely contributes to its inability to amass large local colonies. Colonization seems to be short-lived when it occurs, as successive generations of individuals disperse throughout the Caribbean as migrants. Where the butterfly is considered very rare, as it is in Panama and neighboring Costa Rica[54,55], small migrations have been observed. It was recently reported for the first time in Mexico from the Yucatan Peninsula.[56] To reach this spot the butterfly must fly either through Central America or off the southwest coast of Cuba. Most individuals reaching the United States likely come from or through Cuba. Wherever it flies, urban development and a shifting landscape will limit its opportunity for temporary colonization.

In summary, this butterfly remains one of the rarest butterflies in United States and always has been. On our soil it is properly designated an *"immigrant"*.[57]

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Appendix

There is an interesting specimen of *Hypolimnas misippus* at the AMNH in New York, NY, with a label indicating it was collected at Conway Bay, Indefatigable Island, in the Galapagos on March 15, 1935, by the Templeton Crocker Expedition. A recent Galapagos checklist considers this to be a doubtful record, but holds out that it might be a migrant individual to the islands.[59] Andrew Neild's recent research on Venezuelan butterflies indicates that *H. missippus* is likely arriving as a trans-Atlantic migrant.[60] Slow colonization of Venezuelan coastal areas may be in process, but these vulnerable coastal colonies possibly need migratory recruits.

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THE BUTTERFLIES OF CADDO PARISH, LOUISIANA

BY

JEFF TRAHAN

Caddo Parish has an area of 937 square miles and is located in the extreme northwestern corner of Louisiana. It is adjacent to Texas on the west, Arkansas on the north, and the Red River on the east. The southern border is somewhat irregular and not easily defined. The largest city in the parish is Shreveport which is situated on the Red River. The terrain can be crudely divided into two different habitats: upland and bottomland areas. The bottomland is comprised mainly of the flood plain of the Red River. This area is rather flat and used mainly for agricultural purposes. Typical bottomland trees are hackberry, cottonwood, willow, sycamore, and ash. Upland areas are hilly and sustain pine and hardwood forests. In recent years many of the deciduous forests have been replaced by pine plantations. The parish has a total of 31 lakes, three of which are fairly large and many smaller ones which together occupy about 55 square miles of the parish area. There are many streams and creeks which are usually called *"bayous."* Thus, the parish has many different habitats in which to find butterflies.

I became seriously interested in butterflies in the year 2000 and have kept an accurate record of my observations since 2002. I decided to write this article about the butterflies of Caddo Parish because there is a paucity of butterfly information from this part of Louisiana and I live here and this is where most of my records originate. My database of butterfly records for the parish contains approximately 8,500 records which includes many contributions from Rosemary Seidler and Terry Davis, who are both very good butterfliers and accurate record keepers. We have attempted to gather data from many different habitats and from different parts of the parish.

I displayed the data of flight times and abundance of butterflies in the parish as a bar chart because this format seems to most readily convey the information to the reader. Butterflies are listed in taxonomic order and each butterfly species occupies a single horizontal line. The horizontal axis indicates time of year, and the thickness of the horizontal bar along this line shows abundance at that time of year. The resulting chart can be seen in Appendix 1 (pgs. 56-59). Many subjective decisions must be made in creating a chart such as this; however, every effort has been made to accurately reflect the data. Another interest of mine is photography. I have been very careful to get photographs of as many of the species of adult butterflies, eggs, larvae, and pupae in the parish as possible. Photographs of almost all of the butterflies in this chart can be found on my website at http://www.jtrahan.com/butterflies/index.htm.

Ninety-seven species have been found in the parish since 2002. One of these, the Dusky Roadside Skipper (*Amblyscirtes alternata*), was reported to the Lepidopterists', Society Season Summary by Michael Israel. There are many species that I expected to find here, but haven't been able to locate. These are species whose range maps show that they should be found in the parish. They include Cabbage White (*Pieris rapae*), King's Hairstreak (*Satyrium kingi*), Northern Oak Hairstreak (*Satyrium favonius ontario*), Gorgone Checkerspot (*Chlosyne gorgone*), Georgia Satyr (*Neonympha areolata*), Common Wood-Nymph (*Cercyonis pegala*), Creole Pearly-Eye (*Enodia creola*), Sleepy Duskywing (*Erynnis brizo*), Wild Indigo Duskywing (*Erynnis baptisiae*), Mottled Duskywing (*Erynnis martialis*), Crossline Skipper (*Polites origenes*), Delaware Skipper (*Atrytone logan*), Dusted Skipper (*Atrytonopsis hianna*), Common Roadside Skipper (*Amblyscirtes vialis*), and Yucca Giant-Skipper (*Megathymus yuccae*). I have found Georgia Satyr, Common Wood-Nymph, Sleepy Duskywing, Wild Indigo Duskywing and Dusted Skipper in nearby parishes, but not in Caddo.

Fig. 1. Mexican Yellow (*Eurema mexicana*). Found and photographed by Jeff Trahan, Caddo Lake Dam, Caddo Parish, December 1, 2007.

Fall is the best time of the year to see vagrants in Caddo Parish. We often have very strong southwest winds blowing for long periods at this time of year. These winds blow directly from south Texas perhaps carrying vagrants from south Texas to northwestern Louisiana. We have seen Great Southern White (*Ascia monuste*),

Fig. 2. Mallow Scrub-Hairstreak (*Strymon columella*) Found and photographed by Jeff Trahan in his backyard in Shreveport, November 18, 2007.

Fig. 3. Marine Blue (*Leptotes marina*). Found and photographed by Rosemary Seidler in her yard in Shreveport, October 5, 2006.

Fig. 4. Common Mestra (*Mestra amymone*). Found by Terry Davis and photographed by Jeff Trahan in the Highland area of Shreveport, October 19, 2007.

Fig. 5. White-striped Longtail (*Chiodes catillus*). Found and photographed by Rosemary Seidler in her backyard in Shreveport, November 9, 2007.

Orange-barred Sulphur (*Phoebis philea*), Large Orange Sulphur (*Phoebis agarithe*), Mexican Yellow (*Eurema mexicana*), Mallow Scrub-Hairstreak (*Strymon columella*), Marine Blue (*Leptotes marina*), Ceraunus Blue (*Hemiargus ceraunus*), Reakirt's Blue (*Hemiargus isola*), Common Mestra (*Mestra amymone*), Queen (*Danaus gilippus*), White-striped Longtail (*Chiodes catillus*), and Dorantes Longtail (*Urbanus dorantes*). We have also found Lyside Sulphur (*Kricogonia lyside*), and Texan Crescent (*Phyciodes texana*) in adjacent Bossier Parish. We have photos of all of these except the Orange-barred Sulphur, the Texan Crescent and the Ceraunus Blue. However, a large colony of Ceraunus Blues was found and photographed in Bossier Parish. Photographs of the rarer of these Caddo Parish vagrants are shown in Figs. 1 through 5.

Publicly accessible places to find butterflies in Caddo Parish are the many parks maintained by Caddo Parish and the City of Shreveport. The best of these are C. Bickham Dickson Park, Eddie D. Jones Park, and Walter B. Jacobs Nature Park. C. Bickham Dickson Park is located at 2283 Bert Kouns Industrial Loop in southeast Shreveport. It is operated by Shreveport Parks and Recreation and has an area of 585 acres. It is situated on Old River Lake in the flood plain of the Red River and is open from dawn to dusk. The entire park is accessible to the public. Eddie D. Jones Park is maintained by the Parish of Caddo Parks and Recreation Department and is located on state Highway 789 in southwest Caddo Parish. It is an adventure park with over 10 miles of rugged mountain biking trails, over five miles of horseback riding trails, and a 1½ mile hiking trail. You may hike on any of these trails. A park ranger is on duty during open hours to help orient visitors and provide assistance. Restrooms and a small visitor center are available. The park is in the upland area of the parish and has open fields, large wooded areas, and two small lakes. Walter B. Jacobs Nature Park is located in an upland area three miles west of Blanchard, Louisiana, on Blanchard Furrh Road. The 160-acre nature park contains a pine-oak-

hickory forest accessible by five miles of nature trails. The park has an interpretive building, a pavilion with restrooms, a handicapped accessible trail, and several naturalists who provide information and interpretation to park visitors. Both Eddie D. Jones Park and Walter B. Jacobs Nature Park are closed on Monday, Tuesday and Sunday morning.

Rosemary Seidler, Terry Davis and I have done extensive fieldwork in Caddo Parish. We have determined the abundance and flight times of many of the species in the parish and I have developed a chart visually displaying this information. We have enjoyed doing this and encourage you to visit the parish and look for butterflies.

Appendix 1 Chart of the Seasonal Occurrences of Butterflies in Caddo Parish, Louisiana

The following chart depicts the seasonal occurrences of butterflies in Caddo Parish, Louisiana. It is based on approximately 8,500 records accumulated mainly by me, Rosemary Seidler and Terry Davis since 2002. Many subjective decisions are made creating a chart such as this. However, every effort has been made to accurately reflect the data. The species listed are those that have been observed in Caddo Parish.

▪ ▪ Individual Sightings

▪▪▪▪▪▪▪▪▪▪▪▪ Rare, but found occasionally

——— Found regularly

▬▬▬ Common to abundant

19 ——— The numbers are dates showing the day of the month in that column.

Frequency of Occurrence (Fr) This column in the table below is an overall characterization of the frequency of occurrence.

A Abundant
C Common
U Uncommon
R Rare
LC Locally Common
V Vagrant

Species		Fr	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Pipevine Swallowtail	*Battus philenor*	C			24								20	
Zebra Swallowtail	*Eurytides marcellus*	C			10						19			
Black Swallowtail	*Papilio polyxenes*	C							25				6	
Giant Swallowtail	*Papilio cresphontes*	C			12							8		
Eastern Tiger Swallowtail	*Papilio glaucus*	C			3							8		
Spicebush Swallowtail	*Papilio troilus*	C			12							9		
Palamedes Swallowtail	*Papilio palamedes*	R						24						
Checkered White	*Pontia protodice*	R												
Great Southern White	*Ascia monuste*	V												
Falcate Orangetip	*Anthocharis midea*	A		24		9								
Orange Sulfur	*Colias eurytheme*	A												
Southern Dogface	*Colias cesonia*	U			16		16			10			22	
Cloudless Sulfur	*Phoebis sennae*	A												19
Orange-barred Sulphur	*Phoebis philea*	V												

Species		Fr	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Large Orange Sulphur	*Phoebis agarithe*	V									▪▪▪▪▪		▪	
Mexican Yellow	*Eurema mexicana*	V											20▪ ▪1	
Little Yellow	*Eurema lisa*	A	▪ ▪		▪	17 ▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪
Sleepy Orange	*Eurema nicippe*	U	▪		2 ▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	9
Dainty Sulphur	*Nathalis iole*	C	29 ▪	15▪			▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪		▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	
Harvester	*Feniseca tarquinius*	R					4 ▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	29					
Great Purple Hairstreak	*Atlides halesus*	U			▪▪ ▪				▪▪	▪	▪	▪	▪	
Banded Hairstreak	*Satyrium calanus*	R					7▪▪▪ 17							
Striped Hairstreak	*Satyrium liparops*	R					▪▪							
Frosted Elfin	*Callophrys irus*	U			4 ▪▪▪▪▪	11								
Henry's Elfin	*Callophrys henrici*	U			11▪▪16									
Eastern Pine Elfin	*Callophrys niphon*	U			11▪▪▪▪▪	5								
Juniper Hairstreak	*Callophrys gryneus*	LC			▪▪▪▪	23			▪23					
White M Hairstreak	*Parrhasius m-album*	U			▪▪	▪		▪	▪	▪ ▪			▪ ▪	
Gray Hairstreak	*Strymon melinus*	C			4▪▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪16	
Mallow Scrub-Hairstreak	*Strymon columella*	V											▪ ▪	
Red-banded Hairstreak	*Calycopis cecrops*	C		26 ▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	24	
Dusky-blue Groundstreak	*Calycopis isobeon*	R									▪			
Marine Blue	*Leptotes marina*	V									▪	▪		
Ceraunus Blue	*Hemiargus ceraunus*	V								▪				
Reakirt's Blue	*Hemiargus isola*	V											15▪▪16	
Eastern Tailed-Blue	*Everes comyntas*	C			3 ▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	18		
Summer Azure	*Celastrina ladon neglecta*	U		▪▪▪▪		16 ▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	18		
American Snout	*Libytheana carinenta*	C	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	20
Gulf Fritillary	*Agraulis vanillae*	A	▪▪▪		▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪
Variegated Fritillary	*Euptoieta claudia*	C	29 ▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	17
Silvery Checkerspot	*Chlosyne nycteis*	C			25 ▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	24		
Phaon Crescent	*Phyciodes phaon*	A	▪ ▪		▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	9
Pearl Crescent	*Phyciodes tharos*	A	▪		▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	7
Question Mark	*Polygonia interrogationis*	C	8▪	21 ▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	9
Eastern Comma	*Polygonia comma*	U		25 ▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	1	▪							
Mourning Cloak	*Nymphalis antiopa*	U			▪ ▪▪					▪	▪	▪		
American Lady	*Vanessa virginiensis*	C		17 ▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	▪▪▪▪	13		▪		▪▪▪▪	1

Species		Fr	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Painted Lady	*Vanessa cardui*	C								12				3
Red Admiral	*Vanessa atalanta*	C			2									5
Common Buckeye	*Junonia coenia*	A												
Red-spotted Purple	*Limenitis arthemis*	C				5							18	
Viceroy	*Limenitis archippus*	C				9							14	
Common Mestra	*Mestra amymone*	V										19		
Goatweed Leafwing	*Anaea andria*	C											24	
Hackberry Emperor	*Asterocampa celtis*	C				20						28		
Tawny Emperor	*Asterocampa clyton*	U				17							10	
Southern Pearly-Eye	*Enodia portlandia*	C			18									19
Gemmed Satyr	*Cyllopsis gemma*	U		28									21	
Carolina Satyr	*Hermeuptychia sosybius*	A			25								14	
Little Wood-Satyr	*Megisto cymela*	A			24									
Monarch	*Danaus plexippus*	A			12			18						
Queen	*Danaus gilippus*	V												
Silver-spotted Skipper	*Epargyreus clarus*	C			8								14	
White-striped Longtail	*Chiodes catillus*	V											9	
Long-tailed Skipper	*Urbanus proteus*	C								15				
Dorantes Longtail	*Urbanus dorantes*	V												
Hoary Edge	*Achalarus lyciades*	C				5					23			
Northern Cloudywing	*Thorybes bathyllus*	C			26	6	25							
Southern Cloudywing	*Thorybes pylades*	U												
Confused Cloudywing	*Thorybes confusis*	U												
Hayhurst's Scallopwing	*Staphylus hayhurstii*	R												
Juvenal's Duskywing	*Erynnis juvenalis*	C			5	9								
Horace's Duskywing	*Erynnis horatius*	A		26								7		
Funereal Duskywing	*Erynnis funeralis*	C			9	30						21		
Common Checkered-Skipper	*Pyrgus communis*	C	17											8
Tropical Checkered Skipper	*Pyrgus oileus*	U											18	
Swarthy Skipper	*Nastra lherminier*	U												
Clouded Skipper	*Lerema accius*	A			8	28								6
Least Skipper	*Ancyloxypha numitor*	C										22		
Southern Skipperling	*Copaeodes minimus*	C					19						17	

Species		Fr	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Fiery Skipper	*Hylephila phyleus*	A				5							20	
Tawny-edged Skipper	*Polites themistocles*	U												
Whirlabout	*Polites vibex*	U												
Southern Broken-Dash	*Wallengrenia otho*	C					9		7	26		11		
Northern Broken-Dash	*Wallengrenia egeremet*	U					5		3		4	11		
Little Glassywing	*Pompeius verna*	U					8							
Sachem	*Atalopedes campestris*	C					25						19	
Zabulon Skipper	*Poanes zabulon*	R												
Yehl Skipper	*Poanes yehl*	U					17	20			6	18		
Broad-winged Skipper	*Poanes viator*	C					8					22		
Dun Skipper	*Euphyes vestris*	C				5						24		
Pepper and Salt Skipper	*Amblyscirtes hegon*	U			17	16								
Lace-winged Roadside-Skip.	*Amblyscirtes aesculapius*	U			18		25				11	11		
Dusky Roadside-Skipper	*Amblyscirtes alternata*	R				2								
Eufala Skipper	*Lerodea eufala*	C							7				9	
Brazilian Skipper	*Calpodes ethlius*	U												
Ocola Skipper	*Panoquina ocola*	A							3					

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TWO US CITIZENS ARRESTED IN AUSTRALIA FOR BEETLE SMUGGLING

BY

VERNON ANTOINE BROU JR.

The men, who were not identified for legal reasons before their first court appearance, each face fines of up to $93,000 and a maximum of 10 years in prison. They were arrested at the Australian Perth airport in April, 2008, for attempting to smuggle 1350 rare dead beetles out of the country as they were about to board a flight to the United States.

The two individuals were only identified as by their age: one, 62 years old from Naples, Florida, and the other, 63 years old from Cambridge, Massachusetts. They were charged with exporting a regulated native species without a permit. Australian Customs officers acted on a tip from the public and stopped the men from boarding a flight to the United States. Customs officials allegedly found 1350 mostly native tiger beetles in glass vials of alcohol, concealed in empty plastic yogurt containers in the men's luggage.

A similar incident occurred in December 2002. Customs officials stopped two men from Nara Prefecture, Japan, aged 48 and 33, in an attempt to smuggle more than more than 600 rare stag beetles and 400 other insects out of Australia in cereal boxes and biscuit packets. The incident occurred at Sydney's Kingsford Smith Airport as the men attempted to board a flight to Thailand. About two-thirds of the specimens were alive. The men were charged with matters relating to the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999. Under this law, the maximum penalty for such offences is A $110,000.00 (US $61,589.00) or 10 years' jail or both. The beetles and larvae were taken from Lord Howe Island, a World Heritage Protection Area. The stag beetles were identified as *Lamprima insularis*, a rare and protected species found only on Lord Howe Island. The stag beetles found on the smugglers may have represented half the total known population of that species. The beetles were assumed destined for Japanese pet shops and collectors. The two Japanese individuals were identified as a high school biology teacher and the pet shop owner.

Environmentalists have sounded an alarm over the popular hobby involving beetle collecting in Japan. Large live beetles to keep as pets have even been available to the public in vending machines. Non-governmental groups issued a report in 2002, warning that the unmonitored influx of foreign beetles for the pet trade poses a risk to Japan's insect ecosystem. As the number of domestic varieties lessens, Japanese collectors have turned to foreign fauna, especially big stag beetles. Nearly 700,000 beetles were imported in 2001 alone to Japan. Urban developers are destroying the beetles' woodland habitat and stag beetles are considered threatened around the world. Some Japanese consider foreign beetles more desirable because they are bigger than native species. Male beetles greater than 10 centimeters can easily fetch tens of thousands of dollars. One Tokyo insect dealer told Kyoto's news service that he regularly travels to China on clandestine beetle smuggling services. *"Getting out of China with a panda would be impossible,"* he said. *"But smuggling stag beetles in your luggage is a cinch."*

Though not insect related, I found this report most amusing. In 2002, a Californian faced up to 5 years in prison after he smuggled 3 Fiji Island Banded Iguanas inside his false leg. Prosecutors said J. James stole the banded iguanas while on a visit to the South Pacific island in 2002. He was alleged to have constructed a special compartment inside his prosthetic limb to move the reptiles.

In another similar smuggling incident occurring October 2007, Dutch customs officers found 100 dead beetles stuffed with cocaine while examining a parcel from Peru. The little drug couriers' bodies had been slit open and filled with a total of 300 grams of cocaine, with an estimated street-value of 8,000 Euros (US $11,270.00). *"This is a very striking method of smuggling. We have never seen anything like this before,"* said a government spokesman.

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NACOPHORA QUERNARIA (J. E. SMITH, 1797) (LEPIDOPTERA: GEOMETRIDAE) IN LOUISIANA

BY

VERNON ANTOINE BROU JR.

Fig. 1. Louisiana phenotypes of ***Nacophora quernaria***: males (**a-f**), females (**g-n**).

The geometrid moth ***Nacophora quernaria*** (J. E. Smith) (Fig. 1) was previously reported for Louisiana by von Reizenstein (1863). This species has been placed in several other genera in the over 200 years since its description, including: ***Amphidasis, Biston, Eubyja, Phaeoura,*** **and** ***Phalaena***. Initially, the female of the species was described as ***quernaria***. Apparently because of the great dissimilarity in appearance of the sexes, the male was described 67 years later as ***Amphidasis cupidaria*** Grote (1864). Packard (1876) mentions the possibility of ***cupidaria*** being the male of ***quernaria***.

Within Louisiana, adults of this large species have two annual broods, the first brood peaking about mid-March. A second very minimally populated brood peaks during the third week of May and accounts for approximately

5% total annual population (Fig. 2).

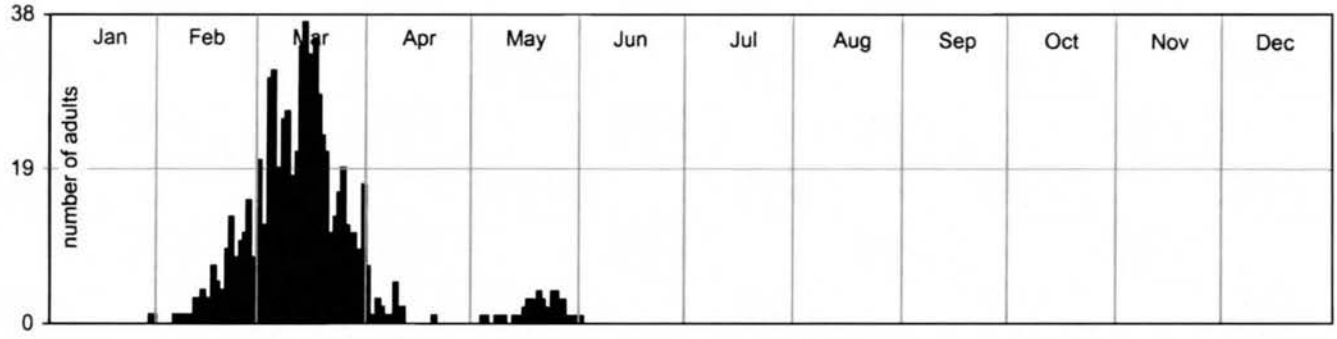

Fig. 2. Adults of ***Nacophora quernaria*** captured in Louisiana. n = 819.

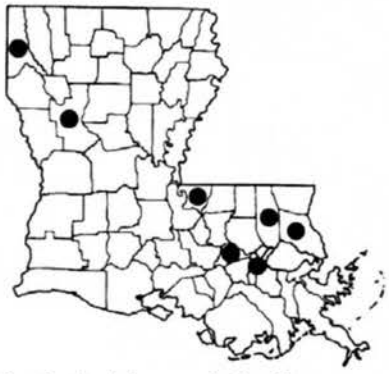

Fig. 3. Parish records for ***N. quernaria***.

Covell (1984) reported ***quernaria*** as common throughout eastern North America from March to October, and foodplants to include: balsam, basswood, hawthorn, quaking aspen, wild cherry, willow, white birch, and white elm.

Heppner (2003) reported the range of ***quernaria*** to include Nova Scotia to Florida, west to Wisconsin and Texas, with dates of January through March and May. Kutis and Heppner (1990) reported and pictured a bilateral gynandromorph of ***quernaria*** captured in Florida. The Louisiana parish records are illustrated in Fig. 3.

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BERKS COUNTY PENNSYLVANIA MAN FINED $5,000 FOR ILLEGALLY IMPORTING BEETLES

BY

VERNON ANTOINE BROU JR.

In April, 2009, Marc T. Dilullo age 36 who is single, illegally imported 25 giant live beetles in 2008 from Taiwan and was fined $5,000 in U.S. District Court in Allentown. Mr. Dilullo pleaded guilty in January to unauthorized movement of plant pests under the federal Plant Protection Act. Mr. Dilullo did not have a U.S. Department of Agriculture permit to import live beetles, a law intended to protect agriculture by preventing the introduction of exotic insects. U.S. Magistrate Henry S. Perkin also placed Dilullo on probation for three years.

Officials with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement opened the package and found beetles, including the Hercules, Rhinoceros and Goliath species. Federal officials claimed some of the insects were as large as a child's

hand and, if released, could have reproduced and caused extensive damage to crops and trees. Agencies involved in the matter included: the U. S. Department of Agriculture, The U. S. Postal Inspection Service, and the U. S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

Dilullo's attorney, Kurt B. Geishauser of Reading, said Dilullo intended to breed the beetles and they were not a threat to plants or wildlife because they would die if released into the wild. The case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Joan E. Barnes.

The matter came to light after a clerk in the Mohnton Post Office became suspicious when she heard scratching sounds coming from a package from Taiwan, addressed to Dilullo, which was labeled, "*toys, gifts and jellies*".

Mr. Dilullo has for a number of recent years corresponded and exchanged specimens with numerous other collectors and breeders of lepidoptera and other insects here in the U. S. as well as abroad. His attorney said Dilullo plans to get rid of all his beetles and bugs and *"begin with a fresh start."* Mr. Dilullo has put his home up for sale and plans to move to Iowa, due to his interest in whitetail deer. He told U.S. Magistrate Judge Henry S. Perkin at his sentencing. *"I want to get this past me and move on with my life."*

Stay tuned – you can keep the beetle from the man, but you can't keep the man from the beetle.

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***Phanaeus vindex* MacLeay.**

Vernon Brou sends this photograph of one of the *"showier specimens"* of dung beetles (*Phanaeus vindex* MacLeay) that he has collected on his property in Abita Springs, Louisiana. Also photographs of his dung beetle traps are shown.

Simple trap - quart container with water and dixie cup with bait.

In ground mounted water cup with dixie cup (containing bait) above.

"ON THE BORDER" WITH THE NORTHERN METALMARK – A YANKEE IN OUR MIDST

BY

CRAIG W. MARKS

A few years ago, as I was evaluating dates for the Butterfly Count at Rick Evans/Grandview WMA (See SL News Vol. 30 No. 4), I began to investigate other butterflies that I might be able to see in Arkansas that I could not see in Louisiana. I was particularly interested in determining what northern species I might be able to find. One of the species that attracted my interest was the Northern Metalmark (*Calephelis borealis*).

Northern Metalmark, ventral view, female.

Northern Metalmark, dorsal view, female.

Northern Metalmark, dorsal view, male.

With a little investigation I learned that several colonies of *borealis* were known to exist in Arkansas. I also learned from Ed Knudson and Mike Rickard of a colony in Leflore County, Oklahoma, on the Arkansas border that they had encountered on 8/31/85, 20 years earlier. Specifically, Mike described a location near Big Cedar on Highway 259 at a bridge where that highway crosses the Kiamichi River. Ed and Mike reported this bug has two broods, the first in June/July and a second in late August. With that information, I set the Rick Evans Count for August 28, 2005 and planned to drive to LeFlore County the day before.

Limited to habitat in the Transition and Upper Austral Zones, the Northern Metalmark has three major and disjunct population clusters: (1) northwest Connecticut to northwestern New Jersey (extant in Sussex and Warren Counties in New York); (2) Appalachia from central Pennsylvania through West Virginia then northwest into Ohio-Indiana; and (3) the Ozark region including southwest Missouri, northern Arkansas and extreme eastern Oklahoma [Opler (1992); Scott (1986)]. Of course, my experiences with this *"Yankee"* bug have involved this third population along the Arkansas-Oklahoma and Arkansas-Missouri borders in the lower limits of the Upper Austral Zone.

According to Heitzman (1987), the Northern Metalmark is only *"known"* in Missouri from Barry County. It is somewhat more common in Arkansas, although common is probably not the right word to describe its occurrence in this region. Herschel Raney has an excellent website on Arkansas butterflies which has pictures and data, including a listing of counties and locations where *borealis* has been reported within that state. Spencer (2006) lists it at Gaston's White River Resort in Baxter County and Bell Slough WMA near Mayflower, Arkansas.

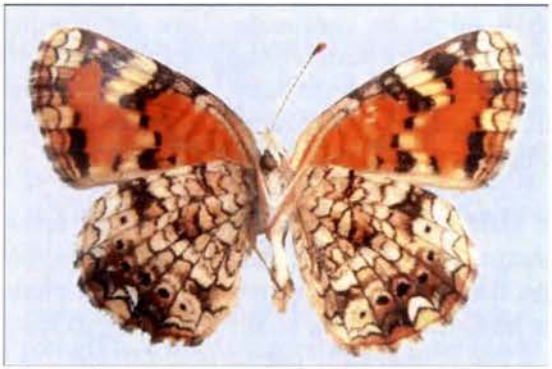
Some sources suggest the favored habitat is drier hillsides [Klots (1951)] or dry hilly meadows [Pyle (1981)], and that may very well be in the eastern part of its range, but that has not been my experience. These sources [and many others including Opler (1992), Glassberg (1999) and Kaufman/Brock (2003)] state this insect is single brooded, but, again, that does not appear to be true in Oklahoma, Arkansas and Missouri. I do agree with the Douglas' (2005) book that this butterfly prefers habitats with streams in open woodlands as well as near man-made clearings associated with power lines, roads, bridges and campgrounds. Other areas reported to be favored by this bug are wooded areas close to ponds or lakes.

David Rupe presented an article in 2004 addressing three colonies of *borealis* in Arkansas wherein he described

Pearl Crescent, dorsal view.

Pearl Crescent, ventral view.

Phaon Crescent, dorsal view.



Phaon Crescent, ventral view.

this bug's habitat as upland forest. He differentiates *borealis* from *C. multica* in several ways including habitat, identifying *multica's* chosen habitat as lowland or wetland areas. I'm not sure the distinction is that easily described.

While, generally, the two areas in which I have found *borealis* are both *"upland"* and *"forest"*, within that habitat the bug prefers lower areas near water. This general habitat is virtually identical to *multica's* preferred habitat in the Ozark part of that bug's range. Locations in Missouri where *multica* is known to exist such as St. Francois State Park and Victoria Glade present the same general environment as Roaring River and/or Laflore County. Within this general ecosystem both bugs prefer areas of open woods and limestone soil around water [see Homeyer (2007)]. The precise distinction, then, between habitat for these two closely related metalmarks in Arkansas and Missouri is murky and potentially the subject of further discussion by someone more qualified than this writer.

The best way to find Northern Metalmarks is to find its one known host plant, roundleaf ragwort (*Senecio olovatus)*. A member of the aster family (*Asteraceae*), round-leaf ragwort is a rosette-forming perennial with several runner-like stolons terminated by similar rosettes. It is also known as squaw-weed. When in bloom, this perennial has a flat-topped cluster of small yellow-rayed flowers, with slender flowering stems standing 1 ½ to 3 feet tall. Each head contains as many as 8 to 12 aster-like flowers with a yellow central disk, the yellow flower heads occurring on slender pedicels. The typical native habitat is calcareous rocks, slopes & rich, wooded banks. It usually grows in limestone soil and is common in the Edwards Plateau to North Central Texas, preferring moist, humus-rich soils, well-drained loam and clay. Its native distribution is south from Vermont to Florida, west to Kansas & Texas; rare northward, common southward. Like the butterfly that feeds on it, round-leaf ragwort prefers part shade to full shade.

Getting back to my initial search for this *"Yankee"* in our midst, LeFlore County borders Arkansas in southeastern Oklahoma. It was once a part of the Choctaw Nation, Indian Territory. Major highways in this county are US 59, US 259, US 271, and SH 63. Poteau is the county seat.

The Ouachita National Forest encompasses nearly 1.8 million acres in central Arkansas and southeast Oklahoma. It covers much of the southern part of the county. Established by President Theodore Roosevelt in 1907, Ouachita (pronounced wash-i-tah) is the French spelling of a Native American word meaning *"good hunting ground."* The forest is managed for multiple uses including timber and wood production, watershed protection and improvement, habitat for wildlife and fish species, wilderness area management, minerals leasing, and outdoor recreation. The Ouachita has 5 District Clusters: Caddo and Womble; Oklahoma (Choctaw, Kiamichi, Tiak); Cold Springs and Poteau; Fourche, Jessieville and Winona; and Mena and Oden. LeFlore County is in the Oklahoma district.

Harvester, dorsal view.

The physical environment of LeFlore County varies. It is covered with forests, including pine and cedar and is consistently mountainous. The Winding Stair Mountains and the Kiamichi Mountains (part of the Ouachita Mountains), dominate the county's southern half, while peaks such as Sugar Loaf and Cavanal mountains stand more independently in the north. The Kiamichi River in the southern portion drains into the Red River.

If you approach the bridge over the Kiamichi River coming from the south on Highway 259 there is a dirt road on the right. This road is less than a quarter of a mile south of the bridge and is a good place to park. As you walk north along the shoulder of the highway toward the bridge, watch for Spicebush Swallowtails (*Papilio troilus),* Red Spotted Purples (*Limenitis arthemis)* and Summer Azures (*Celastrina ladon neglecta).* At the bridge walk down underneath it almost to the river, then step into the open woods to the immediate right. As you step in, the river will be on your left with a small ridge to your front, leading away to the southeast. There at the base of this ridge is a small drainage creek with multiple stands of round-leaf ragwort.

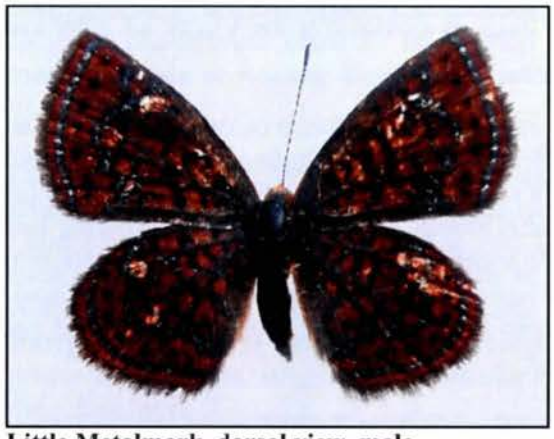
At this bridge, the first Northern Metalmark I encountered was almost directly below the bridge. At the time I was there multiple species of wild flower were growing from the base of the bridge to the river, including a species of *Rudbeckia* with smallish flowers. This first Northern, a female, was nectaring on one of those flowers. Ultimately, I saw a total of eight. The others were seen in the area of the host plant within the open woods to the right of the bridge. Most were between the small ridge and the creek, flying slightly above and alighting on the host plant. Others were seen while walking the ridge and the area between it and the river. As an aside, there is a colony of Northern Pearly-eyes, (*Enodia anthedon)* along the river to the left of the bridge.

This metalmark's flight is weak, fluttery and rarely flies for any length of time. In flight, it can easily be mistaken for a day-flying moth. Adults do not typically stray far from the larval food plant. Even when disturbed, they tend to alight quickly on nearby ragwort leaves, sometimes under the leaves, other times on top. Like other metalmarks, the Northern Metalmark is a perching butterfly, always resting with its wings held horizontally. Easily overlooked, adults can be flushed from their perch, and thereby more easily discovered. You can walk through the stands of the hostplant and the surrounding habitat and gently sweep the plant tops with your hand or net-handle.

Other butterflies seen in Laflore County at the Kiamichi River Bridge on 8/27/05 included Giant (*P. cresphontes*), Tiger (*P. glaucus*), and Spicebush Swallowtails, Cloudless Sulphurs (*Phoebus sennae*), Sleepy Oranges (*Eurema nicippe*), Little Yellows (*E. lisa*), Red-banded (*Calcopis cecrops*) and Gray (*Strymon melinus*) Hairstreaks, Eastern Tailed Blues (*Everes comyntas*), Summer Azures, Great Spangled Fritillaries *(Speyeria cybele*), Pearl Crescents (*Phyciodes tharos*), Silvery Checkerspots (*Chlosyne nycteis*), Red Spotted Purples, an anglewing of unknown species, Carolina (*Hermeuptychia sosybius*) and Gemmed (*Cyllopsis gemma*) Satyrs and many Northern Pearly Eyes.

Within its habitat, there are a couple of butterflies with which it might be confused. Like the Northern Metalmark, both the Pearl Crescent and Phaon Crescent (*P. phaon)* (pg. 65), are smallish and present as primarily orange in flight. Both fly low to the ground. Both perch with their wings held horizontally. However, both are larger than the Northern. Neither is moth-like in flight, but flies in a *"flap and glide"* manner. As the following pictures reflect, once alighted, clearly detectable differences can be noted.

Perhaps the butterfly most easily confused with *borealis* is the Harvester (*Feniseca tarquinius*). It resides throughout the Northern Metalmark's range in Arkansas, Oklahoma and Missouri, and frequents the same deciduous habitat near water, has similar coloring (an overall orange, darker dorsally, lighter ventrally, see picture above) and is the same size. Many sources report the Harvester can be found perching on the sun-splashed leaves of lower tree branches. However, my experience with Harvesters is that it frequently can be found flying low to the ground or perching on moist ground, including wet roads and streambeds. The flight is moth-like but more frenetic, and when it finally lands, the wings are held over its back rather than horizontal.



Little Metalmark, dorsal view, male.

Little Metalmark, ventral view, male.

Little Metalmark, dorsal view, female.

The Little Metalmark (*C. virginiensis*) not only looks very similar but also possesses similar flight and perching patterns as the Northern Metalmark. It is also moth-like in flight. I have found the Little Metalmark flies lower to the ground than its cousin. Also, it flies in more open, pine flats as opposed to the deciduous woods preferred by its cousin. Like *borealis*, the best way to locate Little Metalmarks is to find areas of suitable habitat with large stands of its larval host plant, yellow thistle (*Cirsium horridulum*).

Glassberg states the range of the two don't overlap, and because of distinct preferred habitat differences, his statement appears true although the two are close in extreme eastern Oklahoma [Dole (2004)]. Also, Herschel Raney has stated on his website that he expects to find the Little Metalmark in Arkansas, and if it is present in western Arkansas, then there is the potential of some range overlap.

My next encounter with this *"Northerner"* was on the Arkansas-Missouri border. My father is a military history buff, with a particular interest in American military history, so we try to plan trips to places that combine historical interest with different butterfly habitats. With this goal in mind, in 2007 we planned a trip to the Civil War battlefield at Pea Ridge in extreme northwest Arkansas. The Battle of Pea Ridge took place in March of 1862. The clash involved Confederate Troops from Texas, Louisiana, Arkansas and Missouri, along with 800 Cherokee Indians from Oklahoma, which engaged an invading Union force primarily comprised of soldiers from Indiana, Illinois, Ohio and Missouri.

Once that location had been identified I started looking for sites in the area where *borealis'* cousin, *mutica,* might be found. I was also looking for the Ozark Swallowtail (*Papilio joanae*). Suggestions out of Missouri pointed to Roaring River State Forest within the Ozark Highlands.

The Ozark Highlands are located across southern Missouri and northern Arkansas. Here, upland oak hardwood common in the East and pine forests of the South meet the drier western bluestem prairie of the Great Plains. This landscape is characterized by springs, numerous caves, rocky glades, volcanic mountains, cold-water streams, open grassy woodlands and savannas. Other characteristics of this area include deep hollows, narrow ridge tops, steep slopes and secluded pastures, all which add to the allure of this unique region.

Roaring River State Forest is located seven miles south of Cassville on State Highway 112 in Barry County. It was purchased in 1928 and its total acreage is 4,093.38 acres. Of this, Roaring River Hills Wild Area holds 2045 acres. With its narrow valley, rugged, mountain-like terrain and deep blue spring, Roaring River State Forest is an interesting place to explore not just for butterflies but other wildlife unique to this area. For example, while I was there Roaring River was full of people trout fishing. If you don't fish, you may still enjoy feeding and watching the fish in the spring pool or taking a tour of the trout hatchery. Other park features include a swimming pool, shaded picnic area and store.

Remnants of the original Ozark Highlands ecosystem are preserved at Roaring River. Specifically, the Roaring River Hills Wild Area presents an example of this nearly lost natural landscape which is the White River drainage ecosystem. Within the Roaring River Cove Hardwood Natural Area, you can find a virgin old growth oak and hickory forest. Chute Ridge Glade in the southwest portion of the park is an example of a *"cedar glades,"* a type

of remnant natural grassland found here. A good map, including trails, is available at the Visitor's Center and I would strongly recommend one be obtained.

Roaring River has seven trails totaling over 10 miles. One of two trails on which I found colonies of *borealis* was the Pibern trail, 1.5 miles in length, covering a variety of different habitats, including both dry and moist limestone forests. Tall bluffs, north- and south-facing slopes, and a small Ozark stream are traversed by this trail. The second trail is the eagle's Nest Trail, 2.3 miles long. This trail is located on the south side of Roaring River near Campground 2 and follows the river for some distance before ascending to one of the highest points in the park. A third trail I hope to explore further some day is the Fire Tower Trail, 3.5 miles long. The entire trail is located in Roaring River Hills Wild Area. This trail offers rugged terrain, dense hardwood forests and open dolomite glades.

My father and I spent our first day at Roaring River exploring the Eagle's Nest Trail. Despite rain and cloudy conditions early, we saw three Northern Metalmarks along the river, just before that trail turns, starts to climb up and begins to circle back. Although the first I saw was actually beside the trail, the other two Northerns were flushed after I moved off the trail toward the river. As noted previously, the best way to detect this bug is to softly rustle the taller stands of grass and ragwort as you walk. Good stands of the host plant exist all along the lower section of the trail (along the river) so Northerns are possible all along that part of the trail.

I've learned Swamp Metalmarks have not been seen at Roaring River in recent years. The only area I investigated where I found thistle is the large field just beyond where the Eagle's Nest Trail turns to start up and back. This area is obviously mowed regularly, but toward the opposite end of this open area (it is quite large) along the river, the habitat seems right for this bug. Having said that, if Swamp Metalmarks still reside in Roaring River, my suspicion is they will be found along the Fire Tower Trail, in some of the moist glades along the south and east sections of that trail.

We returned to Roaring River the next morning and walked the Pibern Trail, entering that trail at the north end of Campground 1. This trail starts along a wide creek bed and proceeds into a densely forested area. Probably no more than a quarter mile in, the trail crosses the creek bed and starts climbing upward with the creek bed (which was mostly dry) continuing to the left of the trail at an almost perpendicular angle. There were good stands of ragwort mostly along the right side of the creek bed, so we walked that creek bed rather than take the trail. Over the next 400 yards nine Northerns were seen, most perching directly on the host plant in and along the creek bed. Two were seen in the open, wooded *"bottom"* where ragwort also grew between the creek and a ridge to the east.

Not successful in my quest to see a Swamp Metalmark and running out of time, we went looking for Ozark Swallowtails. We left Roaring River and headed back toward Arkansas and the Pea Ridge Battlefield. We entered Missouri's only national forest, the Mark Twain National Forest which encompasses roughly 1.5 million acres, mostly within the Ozark Highlands. Mark Twain National Forest, established in 1939, includes seven federally designated wildernesses and numerous historical and archaeological sites. There are six Ranger Districts for the forest with offices in Ava/Cassville/Willow Springs, Doniphan, Winona, Fredericktown, Houston, Van Buren, Salem, Potosi, Poplar Bluff, Rolla and Cedar Creek. The Ava/Cassville/Willow Springs District abuts Roaring River on the south and east.

Within Mark Twain National Forest, between Roaring River and the state-line, there are several hunting roads off of Highway 112. We drove several of these roads, stopping at stands of tall thistle (*C. altissimum*) at which we saw numerous swallowtails, primarily Spicebush and Pipevine, along with Great Spangled Fritillaries and Cloudless Sulphurs. Finally, at a spot with numerous tall thistle stands along with other wildflowers, she came out of the dense underbrush, a fresh female Ozark Swallowtail. She fed at various thistle blooms about five minutes, very skittish, never allowing me to approach closely, always nervously moving to another thistle stand. Then she abruptly disappeared back into the thick surrounding forest not to reappear. But that was fine as I had seen her clearly, my goal achieved.

Other butterflies seen at Roaring River between on August 25 and 26, 2007, included Spicebush & Pipevine Swallowtails (*Battus philenor*), Cloudless and Orange Sulphurs (*Colias eurytheme*), Checkered Whites (*Pontia protodice*), Gray Hairstreaks, Eastern Tailed Blues, Summer Azures, Great Spangled Fritillaries, Pearl Crescents, Common Buckeyes (*Junonia coenia*), Red Admirals (*Vanessa atalanta*), Red Spotted Purples, Question Marks (*Polygonia interrogationis*), Eastern Commas (*P. comma*), Goatweed Leafwings (*Anaea andria*), Hackberry

Emperors (*Asterocampa celtis*), Carolina and Gemmed Satyrs, Monarchs (*Danaus plexippus*) and Silver-spotted Skippers (*Epargyreus clarus*). In addition to the one Ozark Swallowtail and along with many of the same butterflies seen at Roaring River, one Eastern Tiger Swallowtail was seen in Mark Twain National Forest on 8/26/07.

Later that day, as my father and I toured Pea Ridge, while trying to follow and appreciate the movements of the Union and Confederate Armies at places with names such as Elkhorn Tavern, Telegraph Road and Oberson's Field a unique connection occurred to me. Today, as in 1862, a *"northern"* presence, more expected in places such as Indiana, Illinois and Ohio, can be found in and along the borders of extreme southwest Missouri, Northwest Arkansas and Eastern Oklahoma. However, unlike the situation in 1862, this *"Yankee"* exists almost surreptitiously in the shadows of its remote, wooded habitat, and must be actively sought to appreciate its presence. I, for one, am glad this particular Northerner has invaded these southern states. The region is certainly the richer for it.

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JAMES' CHALLENGE CONTINUES

In the March 2009 issue, James Adams said that he would donate $35 for the articles that met his criteria in the categories of *"Dangers of Lepping"* and *"First Encounters"*. The articles at $10 each were: 1) *"My Scariest Moment in the Field"* by Gary Noel Ross, 2) *"Finding Cath"* by Paul Smith, and 3) *"Dangers of Lepping: The One Billy Goat Gruff"* by Paulette Haywood Ogard and Sara Bright.

James commented that a fourth article *"Synopsis of Recent and Older USA Record Butterflies From the Lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas"* by Ed Knudson & Mike Rickard deserved at least $5 for describing *"...all sorts of neat tropical butterflies for the first time..."*. However, the article by Vernon Brou on *"A 2008 Report of Illegal Insect Collecting by Visitors in India"* did not meet James' criteria in that he believes (and this is his prerogative) *"...SELF-INFLICTED danger of lepping..."*, *i.e.,* going to jail, does not qualify. The Society thanks James for his generosity.

In the present June issue, there are four articles that should (?) qualify for $10.00 each: *Elfin Magic: New Florida State Butterfly Record* by John V. Calhoun, MaryAnn Freidman, & Jeffrey R. Slotten (page 41), *Lost In Costa Rica* by Gary Noel Ross (page 44), *A Female Mimic Hypolimna misippus (Linnaeus, 1764)(Nymphalidae: Nymphalinae) In Key West, Florida, With Notes On This Same Species In The United States* by David M. Wright (page 49), and *Glutophrissa drusilla tenuis (Lamas, 1981) in Dickens County, Texas* by J. Barry Lombardini (page 77).

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EPIGLAEA APIATA (GROTE, 1874) (LEPIDOPTERA: NOCTUIDAE) IN LOUISIANA

BY

VERNON ANTOINE BROU JR.

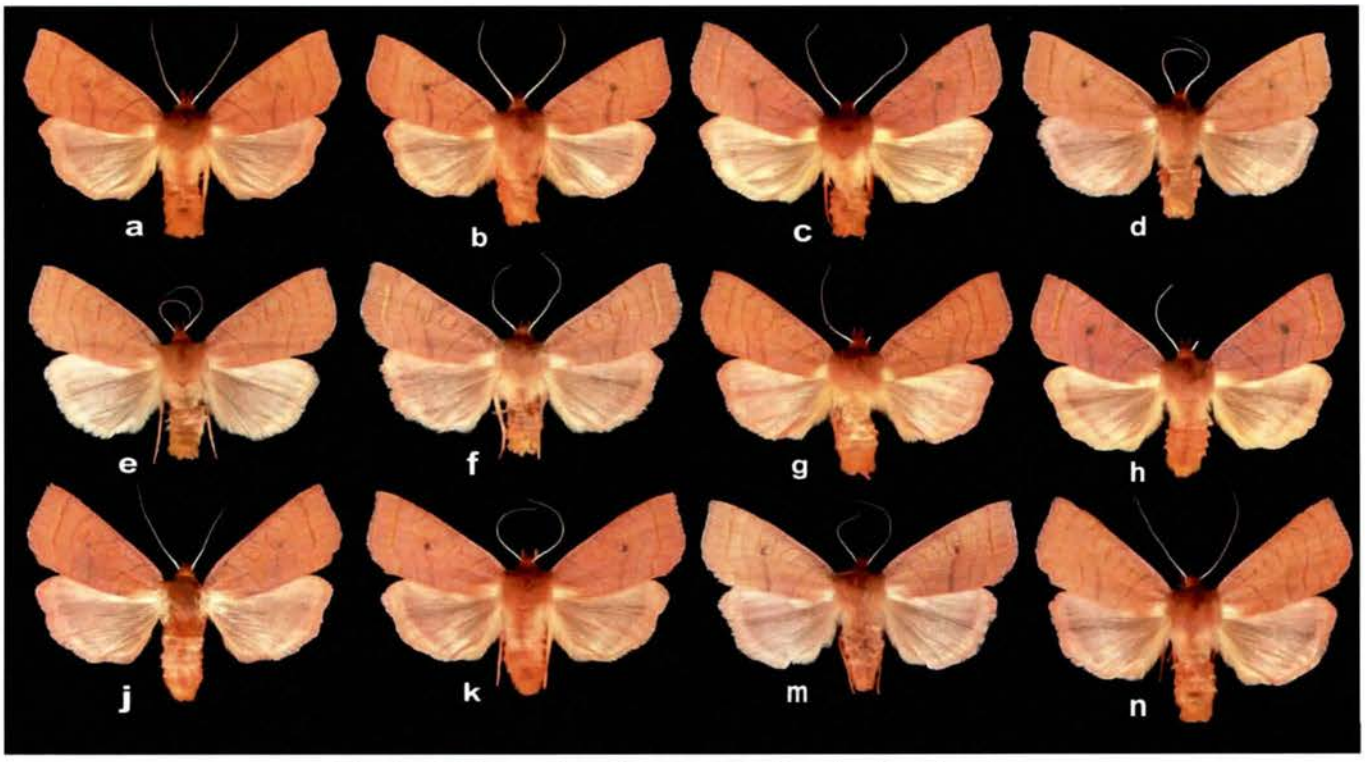

Fig. 1. *Epiglaea apiata* phenotypes: (**a-h**) males, (**j-n**) females.

The noctuid moth ***Epiglaea apiata*** (Grote) (Fig. 1) has not been previously recorded for Louisiana, although I have taken a few specimens at the Abita Springs study site (Fig. 2) each of the past 26 years in the late fall.

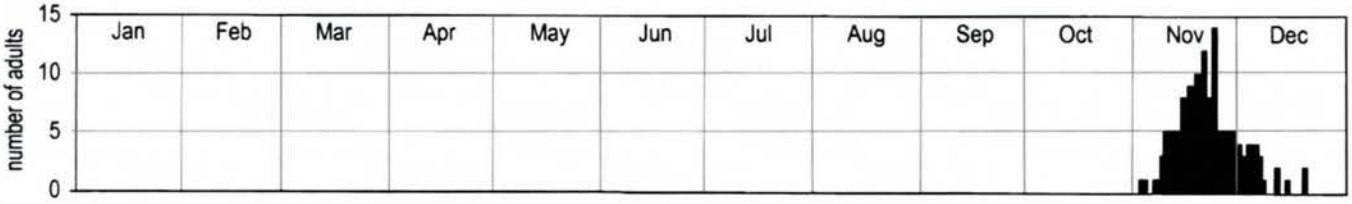

Fig. 2. Adult ***Epiglaea apiata*** captured at sec.24T6SR12E, 4.2 mi. NE of Abita Springs, Louisiana. n = 165.

Fig. 3. Parish records for ***E. apiata.***

There is only one annual brood peaking in late November. In Louisiana, I have taken ***apiata*** only at this one Abita Springs, St. Tammany Parish location (Fig. 3), despite light trapping across Louisiana for the past 39 years. Adults were captured only in ultraviolet light traps and none were taken in fermenting fruit bait traps which were operated at the same time and in the same area.

Zhang and Polavarapu (2003) state the cranberry blossom worm, ***Epiglaea apiata*** is a major pest of cranberries in New Jersey. These authors also identified the female sex pheromone for this moth.

Forbes (1954) listed the range of ***apiata*** in Canada: Nova Scotia west to British Columbia; in the United States: Maine south to Washington D.C., west to Illinois, abundant at Lakehurst, New

Jersey, and on bogs in western New York. Forbes stated larvae feed on cranberries and blueberries, adults occurring August to November.

Adults of ***apiata*** taken during this study have tawny to light dull leather forewing coloration, and some specimens exhibit a faint rosy or purplish hue. In the far northern states and Canada there is also a dark brown form that is common but never a majority. The dark brown form is not confined to the far north of the range, it is abundant in southern New Jersey which is about mid range, and probably more similar faunally to Louisiana than Nova Scotia (per. comm. D.F. Schweitzer). J.K. Adams (per. comm) captured two specimens in Georgia, one of which is very dark brown as found in the far north of ***apiata's*** range. The Louisiana adults can also be quite variable in maculation, as I illustrate by providing 12 examples (Fig. 1). Southern specimens of ***apiata*** also tend to be larger, a trend that probably starts in New Jersey (D. Schweitzer, per. comm.).

This species was not listed by Chapin & Callahan (1967) in their study of the noctuidae in Louisiana. Schweitzer (1974) reported ***apiata*** was mostly limited to the Pine Barrens in the Delaware Valley Region of the states Pennsylvania and New Jersey, but ranges in the coastal plain south to North Carolina. Rockburne & Lafontaine (1976) listed ***apiata*** from Ontario and Quebec in Canada and illustrated the dark phenotype of this species. Covell (1984) listed the range of ***apiata*** to include Nova Scotia to South Carolina, west across Canada, south to Wisconsin, and in Massachusetts and New Jersey as a pest. Rings *et al.* (1992) listed ***apiata*** as an endangered bog species in Ohio. ***E. apiata*** is not listed by Knudson & Bordelon (1999) for Texas, nor by Heppner (2003) as occurring in the state of Florida. H. Kons Jr. and Robert J. Borth (2006 and per. comm) report taking ***apiata*** in northern Florida and they report this species in Wisconsin is locally common in bogs and sedge meadows in northern, eastern, and central parts of the state. Richard L. Brown (per. comm.) reports two specimens of ***apiata*** collected in Harrison County, Mississippi, by Rick Kergosien.

Possible foodplants for ***apiata*** in Louisiana are members of the genus ***Vaccinium***, in which both blueberries and cranberries are now placed. The most common of these plants at the Abita Springs study site is ***Vaccinium arboreum***, commonly known as tree huckleberry (sparkleberry), and according to my Louisiana literature (Brown, 1945), there are other huckleberries: ***Polycodium stramineum, Gayplussacia dumosa, G. hirtella, G. frondosa*** and ***Vaccinium elliottii, V. darrowi***, and perhaps 6 or more additional ***Vaccinium*** species across the state, west and north. Schweitzer (per. comm) suggest that the actual foodplant is very likely something low to the ground like the known foodplants in the north and not the very abundant tree huckleberry found at the precise location that these Louisiana ***apiata*** were collected. I agree with Schweitzer's assessment because ***apiata*** has never been common at the Abita Springs study site, averaging only a very few specimens at most each year despite continuously operating five to eight light traps, which suggests the moths are coming from some distance.

I thank the following individuals who reviewed this investigation and provided information on this interesting species: James K. Adams, Richard L. Brown, Dale F. Schweitzer, Jeffrey R. Slotten, Hugo L. Kons Jr., Robert J. Borth.

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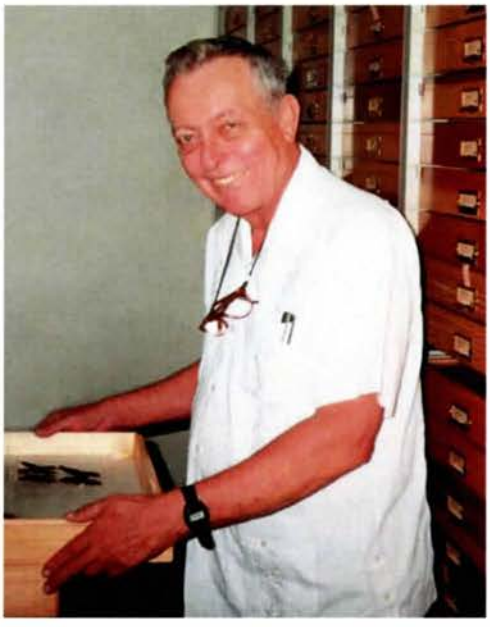
OBITUARY: LEE DENMAR MILLER

JUNE 1, 1935 – APRIL 5, 2008



Dr. Lee D. Miller passed away on April 5, 2008, following a long illness, at the age of 72. He is survived by his wife, Dr. Jacqueline Y. Miller, and two daughters, Kathryn Lee Angeli, and Laura Sue Langford, and a granddaughter, Rowan Langford.

Lee Denmar Miller was born in Des Moines, Iowa on June 1, 1935, and grew up in that area. His father, Guy Denmar (Denny) Miller, was an attorney in Des Moines, and he and his wife, Anabel Lee, introduced Lee to the natural world at an early age through birding and fishing in the environs around the city. At the age of five, Denny showed Lee how to collect butterflies and moths and prepare specimens. Lee and his father started an Iowa collection part of which was eventually donated to the local grade school. However, Lee maintained his own special collection and that was later donated to Carnegie Museum in 1963.

Dr. Miller attended Iowa State University where Dr. Jean L. Laffoon sparked his interest in entomology as a possible career. Lee eventually transferred to the University of Iowa to complete his B. Sc. in Biology in 1960. Lee also did a short stint working as a plant inspector for the U. S. Department of Agriculture in Meadville, PA (1960-61). During this period, he began to visit the Carnegie Museum of Natural History in Pittsburgh on a regular basis. Lee began graduate school in the Dept. of Biological Sciences at the University of Pittsburgh in 1961, and received his M.S. and Ph.D., respectively, in 1963 and 1965. Dr. Richard M. Fox, Curator of Lepidoptera at Carnegie Museum of Natural History, served as his major advisor and chair. Lee served as Research Assistant Professor and then as Assistant Professor of Biology at Catholic University of America, Washington, D. C., (1965-1968). When an opportunity became available to work as a curator of the private collection of Mr. Arthur C. Allyn, owner of the Chicago White Sox, both he and his wife, Jackie, went to Chicago, Illinois, in July, 1968. The explicit goal was to develop an exceptional worldwide collection of Lepidoptera, and the position was to last for seven years. However, this began a much longer term working relationship. The collection continued to expand and was moved to Sarasota, Florida, in November, 1969, where Allyn eventually built a separate facility to house it and provide additional space for the growing library and special equipment. In 1981, Mr. Allyn made a major decision concerning a final repository for the collection by donating the collection, facilities, and the building along with property to the University of Florida Foundation, Inc. and associated it with the Florida State Museum (now Florida Museum of Natural History). The collection was moved to the new McGuire Center for Lepidoptera and Biodiversity in June 2004. By then, the collection had increased from the original 100,000 to 1.2 million specimens, and through the efforts of Allyn and Lee and Jackie Miller, it had become a major scientific research resource.

Lee served as an Allyn Curator for Lepidoptera at the McGuire Center and as an Adjunct Professor in the Department of Entomology and Nematology at the University of Florida (1995-2008). He also was as a Visiting Associate Professor, Dept. of Biology, University of South Florida, Tampa (1973-1977), and a Research Scholar, Adjunct Faculty, New College (State Honors College), Sarasota, FL (1995-2004). He was a recognized expert on the systematics, taxonomy and biogeography of Lepidoptera worldwide, especially on tropical Hesperioidea, Nymphalidae, and Lycaenidae. Over the years, he made several scientific contributions and published more than 148 research papers, 13 major monographs, books and/or chapters in books along with 18 reviews.

Lee was also a Research Associate of the Carnegie Museum of Natural History, and an active member in 13 professional societies, including the Southern Lepidopterists' Society. He received the John Abbot Award from the Southern Lepidopterists' Society in 2005. In the Lepidopterists' Society, he served as a member of the Executive Council and as member of various Editorial Committees (1971-1995), Secretary of the Lepidopterists' Society (1972-1976), and President (1983-1984). Lee was also an avid golfer and sportsman and enjoyed fishing and hunting. He was a member of the American Orchid Society, an Orchid Judge (1977-2006), and a member of several Florida Orchid societies.

While dedicated to students and training of the next generation of systematists and biogeographers on Lepidoptera, Lee also had a special affinity and kinship for the amateur lepidopterist. He always felt that amateurs had the time and passion to pursue special field projects, including rearing and studying the life history of butterflies or moths that had not been published in detail, or could provide special insight on foodplants or behavior that would distinguish closely related species. For his many contributions and dedication to the study of Lepidoptera and providing assistance and encouragement to amateurs, students, and professionals, among many other things, Lee will be sorely missed.

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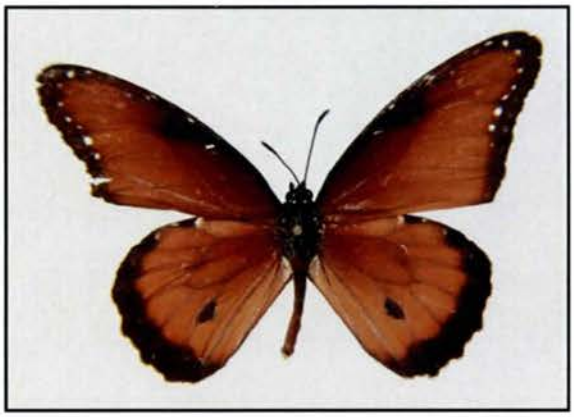
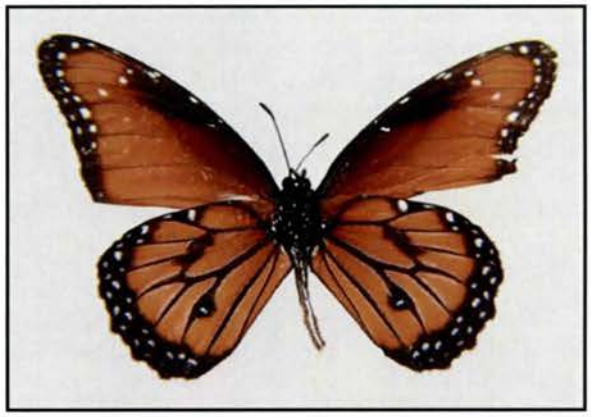
ABERRANT *DANAUS GILIPPUS THERSIPPUS*

BY

JOSEPH F. "*TERRY*" DOYLE



***Danaus gilippus thersippus*, male, ab. (dorsal), 18 Oct. 1988, U.S. 83, 5.5 mi. w. of Roma, TX, Starr Co. (*leg.* J. F. Doyle).**



***Danaus gilippus thersippus* (ventral).**

Depicted are photographs of an aberrant *Danaus gilippus thersippus* that was collected over twenty years ago when looking for specimens for the *Butterflies of Bexar County* (Texas).

This specimen is very close to the *Danaus berenice* aberrant *"Kerri"* (J. A. Comstock 1925), shown in *Butterflies of America* that was collected in Blythe, California, Riverside County. Assumed collected by Comstock but not known for sure.

Reference

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DEFINITION:

Relict - a plant or animal species living on in isolation in a small local area as a survival from an earlier period or a remnant of an almost extinct group; a ***relict*** is an organism that at an earlier time was abundant in a large area but now occurs at only one or a few small areas; the distribution of a relict plant or animal is characterized as endemic [(1)].

Source

1) http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Relict

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THE SUNDEW PLUME MOTH, *BUCKLERIA PARVULUS* (BARNES & LINDSEY) (LEPIDOPTERA: PTEROPHORIDAE)

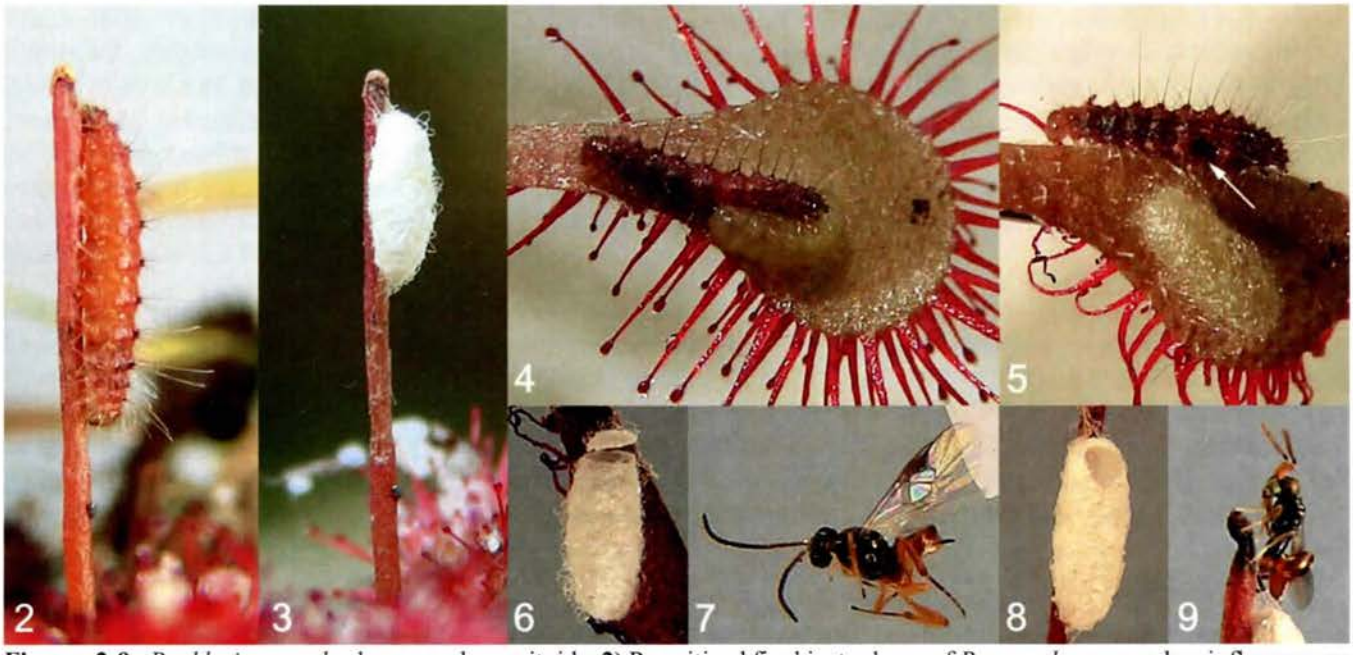
BY

D. L. MATTHEWS

The sundew plume moth, *Buckleria parvulus* (Barnes and Lindsey, 1921) (Fig. 1), is one of the most fascinating plume moths in the southeastern United States because the larva (Fig. 2) feeds on the carnivorous plant genus *Drosera* Linnaeus (Droseraceae). These plants have glandular trichomes that ordinarily trap small insects. Reaching only 8 mm in length, the tiny plume moth larvae feed on the trichomes, first ingesting the sticky fluid at the tips. The larva clears away a patch of these hairs before feeding on the rest of a leaf. Feeding mostly at night, in addition to leaves, larvae will also eat dead insects trapped by the leaves and crawl up the inflorescence stalks to feed on sundew flower buds. Larvae may be found resting on the undersurface of the leaves or on the inflorescence stalks during the day but are usually difficult to spot because their reddish color, especially in younger larvae, blends in with the plants. The larvae, as in related genera, *Dejongia* Gielis and *Megalorhipida* Amsel, have glandular dorsal setae with swollen tips that exude a sticky secretion. Larval and pupal morphology and chaetotaxy of these genera as well as *Buckleria* Tutt and other Nearctic pterophorids are described in detail by Matthews (2006).

Figure 1. *Buckleria parvulus* adult male. Florida: Franklin Co. Apalachicola N.F. vic. Hickory Landing FR 101 18.viii.1991 D. Matthews & T.A. Lott *ex.* larva on lvs. of *Drosera filaformis*.

While successfully avoiding the peril of the sundew's sticky traps, larvae frequently fall prey to a species of *Cotesia* wasp (Braconidae) (Fig. 7). A single wasp larva emerges from the final instar of the pterophorid larva



Figures 2-9. *Buckleria parvulus* larvae and parasitoids: **2)** Parasitized final instar larva of *B. parvulus* on sundew inflorescence stalk; **3)** cocoon of *Cotesia* wasp from same individual; **4)** *Cotesia* larva (greenish) after emerging from pterophorid larva (red); **5)** same individuals 23 minutes later showing nearly complete parasitoid cocoon and pterophorid larva with exit wound (arrow) from emerging parasitoid; **6)** cocoon after emergence of *Cotesia* wasp showing *"escape hatch"* exit; **7)** *Cotesia* sp. (Braconidae); **8)** *Cotesia* cocoon after emergence of chalcid wasp hyperparasite; **9)** chalcid wasp.

and immediately spins its cocoon (Figs. 4, 5), leaving the pterophorid crawling around for hours before it finally expires. In contrast to the moth larvae, the white cocoons of the parasitoid larvae (Figs. 3, 6, 8) are easily spotted on the *Drosera* leaves or inflorescences, and persist long after the wasp emerges after a pupal stage of about 6 days. Several spent cocoons may be found on a single plant. In some populations more than half the pterophorid larvae are parasitized. The braconid wasp emerges by chewing a circular *"escape hatch"* at one end of the cocoon (Fig. 6). Cocoons found with holes off to one side (Fig. 8) are the result of a hyperparasite, a chalcid wasp (Fig. 9) which feeds on the braconid.

Figures 10-11. *Buckleria parvulus*: **10)** pupa on inflorescence stalk 12 hours before emergence; **11)** newly emerged adult of the same individual perching on pupal skin (note a larva can be seen hiding under the leaf on the right).

The plume moth larvae that manage to avoid the wasps pupate on the inflorescence stalks or on nearby blades of grass and in this particular genus, are always positioned with the head facing down (Fig. 10). The pupa is light green, changing to yellowish-tan and brown before emerging after up to 11 days. The newly emerged moth clings to the pupal skin while the wings, at first drooping at an angle, expand and are held fully erect, perpendicular to the body (Fig. 11). Adults have a wingspan of 8.5 to 11.5 mm. Adult *Buckleria* can be distinguished from *Megalorhipida* and *Dejongia* by the absence of the dark scale tooth in the hindwing third lobe (see Matthews 2008).

Buckleria parvulus was described from a single female collected in Vernon parish Louisiana (Barnes & Lindsey, 1921). It has also been recorded from Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Texas. While *Drosera* occurs in most of the country (Schnell 2003; USDA plants, http://plants.usda.gov/), the actual county records for both moth and host (Fig. 12) have a corresponding coastal plain and Mississippi embayment distribution. The distribution also extends into South Florida, with a population even present on Big Pine Key as evidenced by preserved flight trap samples (D.H. Habeck collection). The hostplants grow in damp areas of pine flatwoods, bogs, lake shores, seasonal ponds, and drainage ditches with nutrient poor soil. The most common host, the tiny round-leaved sundew, *Drosera brevifolia* Pursh, occurs over most of the range but the moth also uses the thread-leaved sundews, *Drosera filaformis* Rafinesque, varieties *filaformis* and *tracyi* Diels in

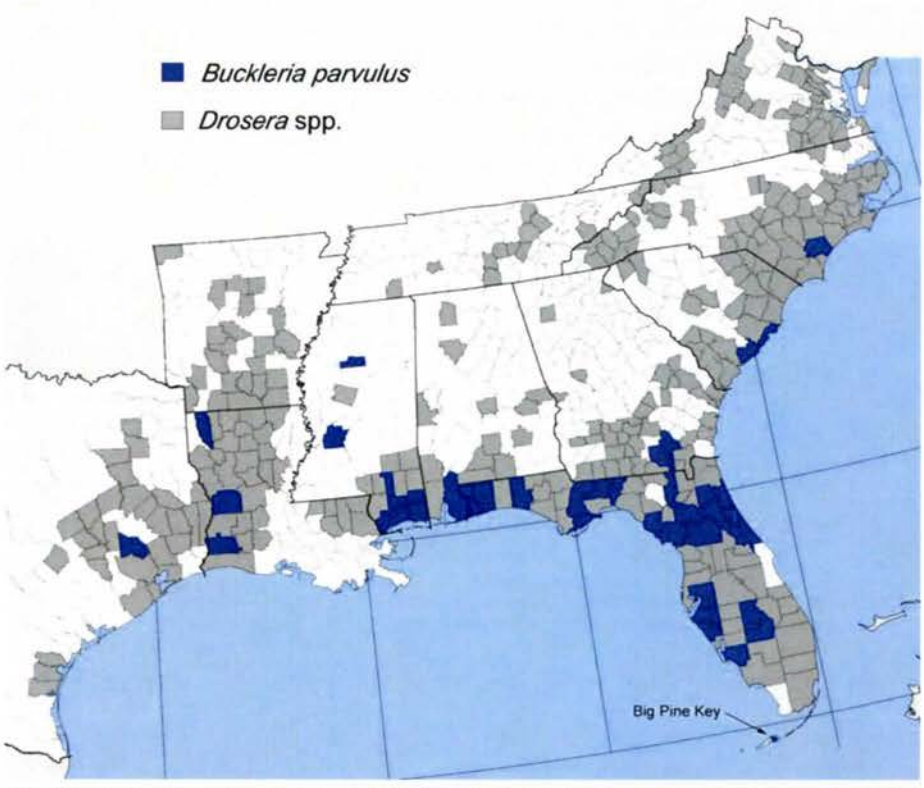


Figure 12. Distribution of *Buckleria parvulus* (blue) and hostplants *Drosera*, spp. (gray) in the southeastern United States. Hostplant county records according to data available on the USDA plants website.

the Florida panhandle, Mississippi and Alabama.

The life history of the European sundew moth, *Buckleria paludum* (Zeller), well known for just over a century, was first reported by Chapman (1906). The European species is double brooded. The second instar larvae of the fall generation tend to feed near the central heart of the plants and overwinter in cocoons. The life history of *B. parvulus* in Florida was studied in the 1960s by Eisner at Archbold Biological Station (Eisner & Sheppard 1965, Eisner 1967, 2003) and by Matthews (1989) in North Florida. In Florida, larvae have been collected from May to October and distinct broods are not apparent. The plants tend to die off through the winter and in many cases sporadically disappear with changing water levels and drying seasonal ponds. It is not known how the moth populations overwinter or survive dry cycles.

In addition to *B. parvulus* from the Nearctic Region and *B. paludum* from the Palearctic and Oriental Regions, there are four other *Buckleria* species worldwide: *B. girardi* Gibeaux, *B. madecassea* Gibeaux, and *B. vanderwolfi* Gielis, from the Ethiopian Region, and *B. brasilia* Gielis from the Neotropical Region (Gielis 2003, 2008).

There is much more to be learned about the life history, phenology, and distribution of these tiny moths. I encourage our readers to look for these moths and send in records to our state coordinators for inclusion in the *News*.

Acknowledgments

I thank Terry A. Lott and Judy Gillmore for assistance in the field, and Dale H. Habeck for support during graduate studies. Terry A. Lott and Jacqueline Y. Miller provided helpful comments on the text.

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GLUTOPHRISSA DRUSILLA TENUIS (LAMAS, 1981) IN DICKENS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY

J. BARRY LOMBARDINI

Florida White (*Glutophrissa drusilla tenuis*).

This female Florida White (*Appias drusilla tenuis*) was captured while nectaring on Lantana at Dickens County Springs Park, Texas, on 17-VII-2008. The Florida White frequently visits coastal Texas and it is known to stray as far as Nebraska and Colorado thus it is not greatly unusual to be this far north. However, I believe that this may be a record for Dickens County, Texas. My thanks to Charles Bordelon for determining the subspecies. Charles also mentioned in our correspondence that *"...in the US, you generally don't see this form in TX. It is a migratory phase."*

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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

Mack sends in the following two reports from David Rupe. Lycaenidae: *Callophrys irus hadros* - worn, tattered male; Texarkana near Sugar Hill Road, Miller County, AR, 7- April 2009; *Celastrina ladon*, 10 - Feb. - 2009, Nola, Scott County, AR.

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

Charlie sends the following report from Florida:

With three major freeze episodes in early 2009, butterflies have been more scarce than in the previous four years. Below are first dates of record in my Gainesville, FL, yard for 15 butterfly species. By comparison, by May 17,

2008, I had 23 species recorded! Drought conditions have contributed to the low butterfly numbers as well as cold, I believe.

1. *Phoebis philea*	January 4, female on Pentas and Cassia
2. *Phoebis sennae*	January 10, flying in our front yard
3. *Atlides halesus*	March 19, nectaring on Viburnum
4. *Parhassius m-album*	March 26, nectaring on Virbunum
5. *Epargyreus clarus*	March 29, resting on holly bush
6. *Papilio troilus*	March 29, nectaring on Pentas
7. *Battus polydamas*	March 29, nectaring on Pentas
8. *Vanessa atalanta*	March 29, nectaring on Viburnum
9. *Papilio polyxenes asterius*	March 29, flying in front yard
10. *Junonia coenia*	March 30, nectaring on Viburnum
11. *Danaus plexippus*	April 27, flying over our back yard
12. *Papilio glaucus*	April 27, flying over our back yard
13. *Heraclides cresphontes*	May 10, flying over our back yard
14. *Agraulis vanillae*	May 10, flying over driveway
15. *Leptotes cassius*	May 17, flying in our front yard

Other Gainesville records are as follows:

Urbanus proteus	April 21
Polites vibex	April 17
Hylephila phyleus	March 17, 21, April 28
Pyrgus communis (complex)	March 17, April 17, April 28
Ancyloxipha numitor	April 3
Battus philenor	March 25
Papilio polyxenes asterius	February 8, 13, March 29, April 21
Papilio glaucus	April 7, 27
Papilio troilus	March 14, 21
Papilio palamedes	March 7, April 8, 22
Heraclides cresphontes	March 20, 21,
Phoebis sennae	January 4, 6, 9, 10, 24, 28, February 8, 10, 11, 13, 22, 25, 28, March 6, 7, 9, 11, 14, 15, 17, 18, 20, 22, 29, 30, April 2, 4, 8, 17, 22
Eurema nicippi	February 11, March 13, 20
Eurema lisa	April 17
Eurema daira	April 17
Atlides halesus	March 22
Parhassium m-album	April 17 (on white sweet-clover), 21
Strymon melinus	April 17 (on white sweet-clover)
Feniseca tarquinius	April 17
Libytheana carinenta	March 30
Limenitis archippus	April 3, 8
Polygonia interrogationis	April 21
Vanessa atalanta	March 4, 22, 25
Vanessa virginiensis	March 6, April 8, 17, 21, 22
Vanessa cardui	April 2
Junonia coenia	March 30, April 3, 4, 8, 17, 21, 22, 26, 28
Agraulis vanillae	March 14, April 8, 17, 21
Heliconius charithonia	January 5, 6, 8
Asterocampa celtis	April 8
Asterocampa clyton	April 8
Danaus plexippus	January 4, 5, February 10, April 21, 27

Beverly Hills, Citrus Co., March 8, *Phoebis sennae*

Cedar Key, Levy Co., March 15: *Phoebis sennae*

At Camp Weed near Houston, Suwannee Co.: *Papilio troilus, Phoebis sennae, Limenitis arthemis astyanax* male, *Megisto cymela* and *Hermeuptychia sosybius*

Jacksonville, Duval Co., April 25, *P. sennae*

Rt. 301, Clay Co., April 25, *P. sennae*

April 30. David Auth and Eric Anderson and I took off in my car down Rt. 24 toward Cedar Key. The phlox was gorgeous along the roadside. We stopped at the pickerel weed spot about 2.5 miles west of Otter Creek in Levy Co., and recorded the following in and around the nicely blooming pickerel weed: *A. logan* (common), *Polites vibex, P. themistocles, E. vestris, O. maculata, A. numitor, Euphyes vestris, Nastra* sp. (*lherminier* or *neamathla*), *P. palamedes, P. polyxenes asterius* (fresh female), *E. marcellus* (Eric saw but not I), *Zerene caesonia* (took a female, and saw a male), *V. atalanta, V. virginiensis, J. coenia, P. tharos, P. phaon, L. archippus*, and *A. vanillae*. We continued on, turning right into the Lower Suwannee Wildlife Management Area. We walked in and found Sparkleberry blooming, and recorded the following species: *P. palamedes* (common), *P. troilus* (a couple of worn males), *P. m-album* (Eric), several *S. favonius* (on sparkleberry), *E. nicippe, V. virginiensis* (common on Sparkleberry), *J. coenia, A. vanillae* (on prickly pear blossoms), *Megisto cymela viola* (very worn), and *D. gilippus berenice*. Eric took a male *Z. cesonia* and a *Leptostales laevitaria* (Geometridae) along CR 347 as we drove into the Lower Suwannee Wildlife Area. He took a male *Pontia protodice* and saw a *B. philenor* on phlox along Rt. 24, the former about 2 miles west of the Alachua Co. line, and the latter about a mile into Alachua Co. from the Levy Co. line.

Moths: Gainesville, March 21: *Metarranthis obfirmaria* (Geometridae); Camp Weed near Houston, Suwannee Co., March 27: *A. luna, D. rubicunda, N. quernaria, Macaria distribuaria, P. hebraecum, Agriopodes fallax.*

Submitted by Rick Gillmore: Terry Moore and I, at Ozello, Citrus Co., on March 14, 2009, found the Eastern Pygmy Blue (*Brephidium isophthalma pseudofea*) along the roadside where the host plant was common. Later we drove north to the *"Across Florida Barge Canal"*. This time we did tap and a mating pair of *Mitoura gryneus sweadneri* flew out and landed on the ground. After several pictures were taken, we tapped more red cedar trees. This method worked and we saw between 12 to 14 individuals.

Dan Hyman drove to Gulf Hammock, Levy Co., to the famous twenty-four hour convenient store on Hwy 19 and collected several *sweadneri* several days after the 14th of March.

Next important record is collecting *Hyalophora cecropia* in Seminole County, Florida. Bob Belmont and I have a walk-in light trap that I built years ago. It is kept next to Bob's Lepidoptera lab and we share the insects that come to this trap. Three males have been collected so far this year. One each night stating on March 28, 2009, through March 30, 2009. Even though this trap has been in place for several years, this is the first time that *H. cecropia* has been found – the sole record of *H. cecropia* that we know for Seminole County. Over twenty years ago a male was collected on Disney World property by a friend of Woody Dow (reported in the *Southern Lepidopterist's News* by Dave Baggett).

On April 4, Dan Hyman and I stopped at a convenience store in Levy County - *"It was cold outside"*. Saw many specimens of the Spanish Moth (*Xanthopastis timais*), seven male Waved Sphinx (*Ceratomia undulosa*), several male Giant Leopard Moth (*Ecpantheria scribonia*), one female Luna Moth, *Aconicta americana, Aconicta morula*, several male Eastern Tent Caterpillar Moth (*Malacosoma americanum*), and one male *Datana major.*

Then we drove to Crystal River, Florida, to eat early breakfast at the Denny's. It was still dark as we drove back to Gulf Hammock. Just before Inglis, Florida, we stopped at a convenience store. There was a fresh White-Lined Sphinx (*Hyles lineata*) and a male *Charadra deridens.*

In the morning we checked a spot behind the convenience store and along the road named Markham Rd. (326). There were many *Euptychia cymela viola*, several skippers including one Silver Spotted Skipper (*Epargyreus clarus*) and Zabulon Skipper (*Poanes zabulon*), Question Mark (*Polygonia interrogationis*), several Palamedes

Swallowtail (*P. palamedes*), Phaon Crescent (*Phyciodes phaon*), and several Sweadner's Hairstreak (*Mitoura gryneus sweadneri*). My big catch was one fresh male *Schinia mitis* on false dandelion.

Also from Rick: Two fresh female *Amorpha labrusca* were collected in December 2008 in Seminole County.

On April 24, 2009, Saturday, Terry Moore and Rick drove to McKethan Lake, Hernando County. They saw *Fixsenia favonius, Satyrium liparops,* and *Satyrium calanus*. At the corner of Hwy 41 and CR 476 they saw *Mitoura gryneus sweadneri* flying along some large cedar trees.

Then Terry and Rick drove to Mile 11 south on Stage Coach Rd. (CR 480) in Citrus County. They saw the same three hairstreaks plus *Zerene cesonia*. Rick noticed many of the small hickory trees were eaten by *Catocala consors* and *Catocala epione* larvae. Also, the leadplant trees were eaten by *Catocala amestris* larvae. Near McKethan Lake, Rick saw hundreds of tiny sassafras trees. This is not a tree commonly seen this from south. He could not locate a parent tree.

They then drove to Hudson, Pasco County. At the end of State Hwy 52 west of Hwy 19, they found a new State Park being constructed. The name on the sign said Gulf Islands Geopark, telephone number 727-469-5942. They found 11 *Brephidium isohtalma pseudofea* adults flying around their hostplant. This is a record for Pasco County. On the way back to the Orlando area we stopped at the Little Withlacoochee River south of State Road 50 on County Road 471. In the woods to the east we saw four large satyrs (undetermined). Since there is no cane and the grass (sedge) that *Satyrodes appalachia* uses as a larval hostplant is common, Rick expects to return to identify this satyr.

Jeff Slotten reported that *Poanes aaroni, Panoquina panoquin, P. panoquin*, and *Mitoura gryneus sweadneri* were seen in good numbers at Yankeetown, on April 4, 2009.

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/).

The contributors include James Adams (JA or no notation), Irving Finkelstein (IF), and Eleaner Adams (ERA). Other contributors are 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 more complete lists for new locations/new times of year. All dates listed below are 2009 unless otherwise specified.

Feb. 9 marked the beginning of the emergence of early spring noctuids, with the typical earliest species being *Psaphida grandis*. By the next night, however, several more noctuids had joined the flight, including *Psaphida rolandi, Phoberia atomaris*, and *Orthosia alurina*, which clearly heralded the arrival of spring. *Sympystis* (formerly *Lepipolys*) *perscripta*, which had only been taken once in GA before, was taken at three different locations this spring. The early summer flight has been pretty slow so far, though there have been a few good things.

8 mi. WNW of Ellijay, along Gates Chapel Rd., Gilmer Co. (IF):
NOCTUIDAE: *Feralia jocosa*, Mar. 8/9 (3); *Lithophane lepida adipel*, Feb. 13 (**COUNTY**). GEOMETRIDAE: *Lytrosis sinuosa*, May 29/30; *Lytrosis permagnaria*, May 29/30. **TORTRICIDAE**: *Chimoptesis pennsylvaniana*, Mar. 8/9. **ACROLOPHIDAE**: *Acrolophus variabilis*, Mar. 8/9. **HEPIALIDAE**: *Sthenopis auratus*, May 28/29, 2nd STATE record (from same locality; first female).

Calhoun, Gordon Co. (JA residence):
NOCTUIDAE: *Phoberia atomaris*, Feb. 10 and later; *Alypia octomaculata* (daytime and **COUNTY**), April 2; Lithophane viridipallens, Feb. 10; *Psaphida grandis*, Feb. 9/10, done by the 20th; *P. rolandi*, Feb. 10 and later; *Orthosia alurina*, Feb. 10 and later; *O. garmani*, Feb. 14 and later.

Dalton (Dalton State College campus), Whitfield Co.:
GEOMETRIDAE: A number of wingless female *Phigalea* were taken from Feb. 7 through Feb. 12.

Sonoraville, Gordon Co. (June 5/6 with IF):
NOTODONTIDAE: *Ellida caniplaga*, June 5/6. **NOCTUIDAE**: *Melanomma auricinctaria* (COUNTY), June

5/6; *Scoliopteryx libatrix*, May 30/31; *Argillophora furcilla*, May 30/31; *Apamea cariosa*, May 30/31 7 June 5/6; *Achatodes zeae*, June 5/6. **CRAMBIDAE**: *Conchylodes ovulalis*, June 5/6. **LACTURIDAE**: *Lactura pupula*, June 5/6.

Pickens Co., Oct. 16, 2008:
ELACHISTIDAE: *Agonepterix flavicomella* (**STATE** record).

Carbondale, Whitfield Co., exit 326 at I-75:
SATURNIIDAE: *Hyalophora cecropia*, April 30. **NOCTUIDAE**: *Feralia major*, Jan. 12 (first for 2009 in N. GA); *Orthosia hibisci*, Feb. 25. **GEOMETRIDAE**: *Paleacrita merricata*, Jan. 5 (EARLY), Feb. 25; *Lytrosis permagnaria*, May 19.

McDunnough, Henry Co., Doug Hughes; July 24, 2008:
CRAMBIDAE: *Terastria meticulosalis* (**COUNTY**; far NORTH).

Ludowici, Long Co., Dec. 17, 2008:
SATURNIIDAE: *Anisota virginiensis*, male (LATE; and unusual for males, which typically fly midday). **SPHINGIDAE**: *Enyo lugubris*. **NOCTUIDAE**: *Feralia major* (**EARLIEST** record for GA); *Metaxaglaea viatica*. **PYRALIDAE**: *Dioryctria ebeli*.

Griffin Ridge WMA, Long Co., Dec. 17-18, 2008:
NOCTUIDAE: *Bleptina inferior, Arugisa latiorella, Egira alternans* (**EARLY**!), *Sericaglaea signata, Chaetaglaea tremula, C. sericea, Epiglaea apiata* (**COUNTY**; southern *"type"*; second in STATE).

Waycross, Ware Co., at lights, Dec. 18, 2008:
NOCTUIDAE: *Meropleon cosmion* (**COUNTY**), *Chaetaglaea sericea, Elaphria nucicolora, Leucania incognita*. **GEOMETRIDAE**: *Cyclophora myrtaria*.

Dixon Memorial Forest WMA, nr. Laura Walker State Park, Ware Co. Dec. 18-19, 2008:
NOCTUIDAE: *Metaxaglaea violacea* (**COUNTY**), *M. australis* (**COUNTY**), *Xestia* sp. (*dilucida* or *youngii*).

Turner Co. I-75 Rest Area, SE of Sycamore, Dec. 19, 2008:
NOCTUIDAE: *Meropleon cosmion* (COUNTY).

Salt marshes around Brunswick, Glynn Co., Jan 10, Harry Pavulaan:
LYCAENIDAE: *Brephidium pseudofea insularus*, common (clearly a winter bug in coastal Georgia!).

Ohoopee Dunes, Tattnall Co., Handy Kennedy Rd., N of Hwy. 152, E of Ohoopee River, April 3/4 (JA, ERA, IF):
MIMALLONIDAE: *Lacosoma chiridota*. **NOTODONTIDAE**: *Hyperaeschra georgica*. **NOCTUIDAE (ARCTIINAE):** *Cisthene subjecta, Virbia fergusoni, Hyphantria cunea*. **NOCTUIDAE**: *Hypsoropha monilis, Lesmone detrahens, Dysgonia similis, Zale declarans, Melipotis jucunda, Panopoda repanda, Argyrostrotis carolina, Acronicta brumosa, A. longa, A. tritona, Eudryas unio, Ulolonche modesta, Sympystis* (formerly *Lepipolys*) *perscripta* (**COUNTY**, 2nd location in STATE), *Phosphila miselioides, P. turbulenta, Feltia* (*Trichosilia*) *manifesta* (**COUNTY**), *Agrotis subterranean*. **GEOMETRIDAE:** *Fernaldella georgiana* (April brood in full swing), *Hypomecis umbrosaria, Episemasia solitaria, Euchlaena madusaria, Besma quercivoraria*. **CRAMBIDAE:** *Anageshna primordialis, Pyrausta phoenicialis, Eudonia heterosalis*. **TORTRICIDAE:** *Eucosma robinsonana*. **GELECHIIDAE**: *Aroga trialbamaculella*.

Along U.S. 441, Douglas, Coffee Co., April 4(IF):
NOCTUIDAE (ARCTIINAE): *Hyphantria cunea*. **PYRALIDAE:** *Galleria mellonella*.

Just SE of Waycross, church on U.S. 1, Ware Co., April 4, (JA, ERA, IF):
NOCTUIDAE (ARCTIINAE): *Estigmene acrea*. **GEOMETRIDAE:** *Macaria varadaria* (**COUNTY**).

Dixon Memorial Forest WMA; just E of Laura Walker SP, Brantley Co., dry scrub, April 4/5, (JA, ERA, IF):

NOTODONTIDAE: *Hyparpax perophoroides* (**COUNTY**, very few in STATE). **NOCTUIDAE (ARCTIINAE)**: *Virbia fergusoni*. **NOCTUIDAE:** *Hypsoropha hormos, Cutina albopunctella, Argyrostrotis sylvarum, Panopoda repanda, Drasteria graphica, Zale declarans, Acronicta tritona, Nola* sp. nov., *Eudryas unio, Amolita fessa, Sideridis vindemialis* (**COUNTY**, third location in STATE). **GEOMETRIDAE:** *Glena cognataria, Iridopsis vellivolata, Episemasia solitaria* (including one very DARK morph), *Metarranthis homuraria*. **CRAMBIDAE:** *Munroessa gyralis*. **COSSIDAE:** *Prionoxystus robiniae*. **LIMACODIDAE**: *Euclea delphinii*.

Dixon Memorial Forest WMA; just NE of Laura Walker SP, Ware Co., dry forest, April 4/5, (JA, ERA, IF):
MIMALLONIDAE: *Lacosoma chiridota*. **NOCTUIDAE:** *Argyrostrotis erasa, A. quadrifilaris, Charadra deridens, Acronicta tritona, A. brumosa, A. longa, Comachara cadburyi, Sympistis* (formerly *Lepipolys*) *perscripta* (**COUNTY**, 3rd location in STATE). **GEOMETRIDAE:** *Caripeta aretaria*. **GELECHIIDAE:** *Aroga trialbamaculella*.

Dixon Memorial Forest WMA; just NE of Laura Walker SP, Ware Co., dry forest, April 4/5, (JA, ERA, IF):
PAPILIONIDAE: *Papilio palamedes*. **SPHINGIDAE:** *Isoparce cupressi*. **NOTODONTIDAE:** *Hyperaeschra georgica*. **NOCTUIDAE (ARCTIINAE):** *Virbia fergusoni, Spilosoma dubia*. **NOCTUIDAE:** *Dyspyralis nigella* (**COUNTY**), *Phyprosopus callitrichoides, Argyrostrotis erasa, Acronicta perblanda* (**COUNTY,** first specimen I've seen from STATE), *Fagitana littera, Callopistria cordata*. **GEOMETRIDAE:** *Glena cognataria, Nemoria elfa* (**COUNTY**).

Statesboro, Bulloch Co., Lance Durden:
NOCTUIDAE: *Diastema tigris*, May 2; *Sympistis* (formerly *Lepipolys*) *perscripta* (COUNTY, 4th location in STATE), April 14 (student capture).

½ mile from entrance to "Orange Trail-Wormsloe State Historic Site, Chatham County, app 31 57 49 N & 81 04 29 W, May 22, Anthony Zukoff and Fitz Clarke:
LYCAENIDAE: King's Hairstreak, (*Satyrium kingi*), perched on its host plant, Sweetleaf, *Symplocos tinctoria*. *S. kingi* had apparently not been seen in this region of GA for many years.

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

Michael Lockwood sends in the following report for Louisiana:

These are sight records from Craig Marks, Kisatchie National Forest, Grant Parish, Louisiana 03/09/2008:

> *Papilio glaucus, Strymon melinus, Parrhasius m-album, Calycopis cecrops, Callophrys niphon, Atlides halesus, Agraulis vanillae, Phyciodes tharos, Vanessa atalanta, Erynnis horatius.*

These are sight records from Craig Marks, Kisatchie National Forest, Grant Parish, Louisiana, 04/12/2008:

> *Papilio glaucus, Battus philenor, Papilio troilus, Papilio palamedes, Phoebis sennae, Colias eurytheme, Callophrys nipho, Calycopis cecrops, Strymon melinus, Everes comyntas, Libytheana bachmanii, Euptoieta claudia, Phyciodes tharos, Chlosyne nycteis, Limenitis astyanax, Vanessa atalanta, Vanessa cardui, Vanessa virginiensis, Junonia coenia, Anaea andria, Megisto cymela, Hermeuptychia sosybis, Danaus plexippus, Epargyreus clarus, Achalarus lyciades, Pyrgus oileus, Polites vibex.*

These are sight records from Craig Marks, Weyanoke, Louisiana, 04/19/2008:

> *Papilio glaucus, Papilio cresphontes, Eurytides marcellus, Papilio troilus, Phoebis sennae, Calycopis cecrops, Strymon melinus, Celastrina melinus, Phyciodes tharos, Libytheana bachmanii, Junonia coenia, Vanessa virginiensis, Vanessa atalanta, Limenitis astyanax, Asterocampa celtis, Enodia portlandia, Megisto cymela, Hrmeuptychia sosybis, Lerema accius, Polites vibex, Amblyscirtes aesculapius.*

These are sight records from Craig Marks, Indian Bayou Wildlife Management Area, Saint Martin Parish, Louisiana, 05/17/2008:

Papilio glaucus, Papilio polyxenes, Calycopis cecrops, Euptoieta claudia, Phyciodes tharos, Phyciodes phaon, Libytheana bachmanii, Polygonia interrogationis, Limenitis archippus, Vanessa atalanta, Junonia coenia, Asterocampa celtis, Hermeuptychia sosybis, Erynnis horatius, Euphyes vestries, Pyrgus oileus.

These are sight records from Craig Marks, Thistlewaite Wildlife Management Area, Louisiana, 06/29/2008:

Papilio cresphontes, Papilio glaucus, Papilio polyxenes, Papilio troilus, Colias eurytheme, Calycopis cecrops, Polygonia interrogationis, Junonia coenia, Limenitis astyanax, Asterocampa clytia, Enodia portlandia, Hermeuptychia sosybis, Erynnis horatius, Copaeodes minimus, Hylephilia phyleus, Lerema accius, Panoquina ocola.

These are sight records from Craig Marks, Indian Bayou Wildlife Management Area, Saint Martin Parish, Louisiana, 07/13/2008:

Papilio glaucus, Papilio cresphontes, Calcopis cecrops, Strymon melinus, Libytheana bachmanii, Phyciodes tharos, Limenitis archippus, Limenitis astyanax, Asterocampa celtis, Hermeuptychia sosybis, Eporgyreus clarus, Pyrgus communis, Pyrgus oileus, Erynnis horatius, Stophylus hayhurtsii, Aneyloxypha numitor.

These are sight records from Craig Marks, Kisatchie National Forest, Grant Parish, Louisiana, 07/19/2008:

Battus philenor, Papilio troilus, Phoebis sennae, Eurema lisa, Eurema nicippe, Strymon melinus, Phyciodes tharos, Agraulis vanillae, Junonia coenia, Hermeuptychia sosybis, Achalarus lyciades, Erynnis baptisiae, Erynnis horatius, Wallengrenia otho, Thorbyes pylades, Thorybbes confuses, Hylephilia phyles, Polites vibex, Pyrgus communis, Wallengrenia otho, Nastra iherminier, Copacodes minimus, Euphyes vestries.

These are sight records from Craig Marks, Lafayette, Lafayette Parish, Louisiana, 7/27/2008:

Papilio glaucus, Papilio cresphontes, Parrhasius m-album, Calycopis cecrops, Agraulis vanillae, Danaus plexippus, Erynnis horatius, Aneyloxypha numitor, Hylephilia phyles, Panoquina ocola.

These are sight records from Craig Marks, Thistlewaite Wildlife Management Area, Louisiana, 08/02/2008:

Papilio glaucus, Papilio cresphontes, Papilio troilus, Papilio polyxenes, Calycopis cecrops, Agraulis vanillae, Euptoieta claudia, Hermeuptychia sosybis, Erynnis horatius, Pyrgus oileus, Hylephilia phyleus, Euphyes vestris, Lerema accius, Aneyloxypha otho, Panoquina ocola.

This is a sight record from Jeff Trahan and Terry Davis, Kisatchie National Forest, Winn Parish, Louisiana, 09/30, 2008:

Anteos chlorinde.

These are sight records from Craig Marks, Kisatchie National Forest, Grant Parish, Louisiana, 10/26/2008:

Colias eurytheme, Phoebis sennae, Eurema nicippe, Eurema lisa, Calycopis cecrops, Everes comyntas, Agraulis vanillae, Euptoieta claudia, Phyciodes tharos, Phyciodes phaon, Junonia coenia, Vanessa cardui, Hermeuptychia sosybis, Danaus plexippus, Hylephilia phyleus, Polites vibex, Nastra iherminier, Wallengrenia otho, Pyrgus oileus, Pyrgus communis, Atalopedes campestris, Greta oto, Euphyes vestries.

These are sight records from Craig Marks, Kisatchie National Forest, Louisiana (no date provide):

Papilio glaucus, Papilio palamedes, Battus philenor, Eurytides marcellus, Phoebis sennae, Anthocaris midea, Callophrys irus, Callophrys henrici, Callophrys nipho, Calycopis cecrops, Strymon melinus, Celastrina ladon, Everes comyntas, Phyciodes tharos, Vanessa atalanta, Anaea andria, Enodia portlandia, Hermeuptychia sosybis, Danaus plexippus.

These are sight records from Craig Marks, Catahoula Butterfly Garden, Louisiana (no date provided):

Papilio troilus, Battus philenor, Phoebis sennae, Colias eurytheme, Eurema nicippe, Calycopis cecrops, Callophrys henrici, Callophrys irus, Calycopis cecrops, Celastrina ladon, Agraulis vanillae, Euptoieta claudia, Phyciodes tharos, Junonia coenia, Anaea andria, Danaus plexippus, Erynnis horatius.

These are sight records from Craig Marks, Kisatchie Natinal Forest, Louisiana (no date provided):

Papilio glaucus, Eurytides marcellus, Battus philenor, Papilio palamedes, Phoebis sennae, Eurema nicippe, Callophrys henrici, Callophrys nipho, Celastrina melinus, Phyciodes tharos, Phyciodes phaon, Libytheana bachmanii, Polygonia interrogationis, Vanessa atalanta, Anaea andria.

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

The following Mississippi records are reported by Ricky Patterson:

22 March 2009, Chickasaw County Wildlife Management Area, Chickasaw County, *leg.* Mark Walker, *Callophrys niphon niphon, Callophrys henrici turneri, Nymphalis antiopa.*

24 April 2009, BSA Camp Warren Hood, *leg.* Ricky Patterson, *Satyrium ontario ontario* (common), *Satyrium liparops strigosum, Polites vibex vibex, Eurema daira daira* (COUNTY).

20 April 2009, Tishomingo State Park, Tishomingo County, *leg.* Mark Walker and Ricky Patterson, *Feniseca tarquinius, Amblyscirtes vialis.*

20 April 2009, Woodall Mountain, Tishomingo County, *leg.* Mark Walker and Ricky Patterson, *Amblyscirtes vialis, Amblyscirtes hegon, Anaea andria, Cyllopsis gemma.*

20 April 2009, Bloody Springs, Tishomingo County, *leg.* Mark Walker and Ricky Patterson, *Amblyscirtes alternata.*

21 April 2009, Benton County, *leg.* Mark Walker, *Amblyscirtes vialis, Amblyscirtes hegon, Anaea andria, Charidryas nycteis nycteis, Poanes zabulon.*

21 May 2009, Tishomingo State Park, Tishomingo County, *leg.* Kilian Roever, *Euphydryas phaeton ozarkae* **(county record).**

26 May 2009, Natchez Trace Parkway mile marker 252, Lee County, *leg.* Ricky Patterson, *Lytrosis unitaria, Erynnis martialis, Ceratomia undulosa, Ceratomia hageni, Darapsa pholus.*

5 June 2009, Magna Vista, Issaquena County, *leg.* Ricky Patterson, *Papilio polyxenes asterius* **(county record)**, *Celastrina neglecta.*

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

Steve sends in this report - The following noteworthy butterfly records were submitted by Harry LeGrand. Place names refer to counties unless otherwise stated, and records are not new county reports unless indicated. Records are all from March - May 2009.

LYCAENIDAE:

Feniseca tarquinius, normally rather scarce, the species was remarkably numerous this spring, being reported from17 counties. New **COUNTY** reports were from Catawba and Johnston.

Atlides halesus, Simon Thompson photographed one on April 25, at Tulula Bog in Graham **(COUNTY)**, only the third county record for the mountain region.

Satyrium kingi, a record early date for this species was made by Johnny Wilson on Fort Bragg in Hoke, where he

saw one on May 20. The previous early date for the state was June 1.

Satyrium favonius ontario, always a good find in the state, there were two records (with photos) this season: one noted in Scotland **(COUNTY)** on May 14 by Steve Hall and another seen in Lake Norman State Park in Iredell **(COUNTY)** on May 20 by Beth Brinson. The latter represents only the third state record for the western half of the state.

Callophrys niphon, very rare in the mountains, this species was found at Stone Mountain State Park in Alleghany **(COUNTY)** on April 18 by Ted Wilcox and in Yancey **(COUNTY)** on May 10 by Nancy Baldwin.

Erora laeta, the earliest record ever for the state was one seen by Edmund Taylor in Madison **(COUNTY)** on April 1; the previous early date for this rarity – seldom reported more than once a year – was April 10.

NYMPHALIDAE:

Vanessa cardui, A handful of worn adults was seen this spring, with five records, but none were noted after April. Considering the reports of a banner late winter/spring in Mexico and the southwestern US, this seems like a poor showing in the state.

Neonympha helicta, Johnny Wilson photographed 8-9 individuals of the *N. areolata* complex, believed to be the *helicta* form based on shape of the hindwing eyespots as well as geographic location, on Fort Bragg in Hoke on May 28. Records of *"Georgia Satyrs"* away from savannas in the lower Coastal Plain have become increasingly rare, though the frequent fires on the military base still provide high quality wet grassland habitat.

HESPERIIDAE:

Erynnis icelus, very rare and local east of the foothills, one was a good find by Harry LeGrand in Caswell – where previously known from Caswell Game Land – on May 18.

Hesperia metea, Harry LeGrand saw two in a dry powerline clearing in Chatham on April 9, for the only spring report for the state.

Amblyscirtes vialis, Ted Wilcox reported a few in Wilkes, where previously known, and he saw another at Stone Mountain State Park in adjacent Alleghany **(COUNTY)** on May 1. Harry LeGrand saw two on May 7 in Caswell **(COUNTY)**.

Panoquina ocola, a record early state date was one seen by Dennis Burnette in Guilford on April 26; the previous early date was May 24.

The following noteworthy moth records were submitted by Bo Sullivan, obtained from a collecting trip he made to Lumber River State Park in Robeson County (sampling was done with permission from the NC Division of Parks and Recreation) on May 23-24. Habitat consisted of aeolian sand ridges interspersed between deep swamp forest.

GEOMETRIDAE

Idaea hilliata (**STATE**). This is a southern species previously known primarily from Florida. Any information on its distribution, abundance, and habitat associations would be welcome.

Idaea scintillularia (**COUNTY**). Previously collected in North Carolina along the Roanoke River in the northern Coastal Plain and from along the Uwharrie River in Montgomery County and along Dutch Buffalo Creek in Cabarrus County, both in the southern Piedmont.

Nematocampa baggetaria (**COUNTY**). Previously collected in North Carolina from the Fall-Line Sandhills (Fort Bragg) and several sites in the southern Coastal Plain. Virtually all collection localities are located within or near swamp forests.

The following noteworthy moth records were obtained by Steve Hall on a sampling trip to Scotland County in the Fall-Line Sandhills. Two collecting sites were sampled, both located within fairly extensive stands of streamhead swamp forest, consisting of a mixture of Atlantic white cedar, swamp black gum, red maples, and tuliptrees in the canopy and a dense thicket of pocosin species in the shrub layer.

GEOMETRIDAE

Hypagyrtis brendae (**COUNTY**). Several specimens were collected at both sites. This species has been collected several times elsewhere in the Fall-Line Sandhills (Fort Bragg) and more abundantly in the northern and southern Coastal Plain regions of the state. Except for a single specimen, all have been taken at sites with significant amounts of Atlantic white cedar; conversely, none have yet been taken at sites with any

amount of red cedar. Consequently, we believe that within North Carolina, at least, this species is an obligate feeder on white cedar. Since this tree does not occur west of the Appalachians, some other host plant must be used in the region – Kentucky, Arkansas, and Missouri – from which R. Heitzman (*J. Res. Lep.* 13:43-48) originally described it. Like the cedar generalists *Glena plumosaria* and *Macaria multilineata* – both of which were collected at these same sites – this species is marked with a series of dark brown and tan streaks that likely help it blend in with the streaky bark of its host plant.

Metarranthis n. sp. 1 (**COUNTY**). One specimen of this pocosin associate – it feeds on several types of pocosin shrubs in the lab (Dale Schweitzer, pers comm.) – was collected, one of only about three specimens that have now been taken in the Fall-Line Sandhills. Most of our records for this species come from the vast peat-dome pocosins of the Outer Coastal Plain.

NOCTUIDAE

Morrisonia triangula (**COUNTY**). One specimen was collected of this freshly described species (Sullivan and Adams, 2009. *J. Lep. Soc.* 63(1): 21–26). North Carolina records come from nearly all parts of the state and we have yet to detect a clear pattern of habitat association.

Nola n. sp. (**COUNTY**). A dozen specimens were obtained of this small, white and dark gray species. We have collected it at several sites in the Fall-Line Sandhills (Fort Bragg and Camp Mackall), all either from beaver pond complexes or streamhead swamp forest.

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

John sends in the following report: Southern Pink Moth, *Pyrausta inornatalis*. May 9-11, 2009. Kentucky Manor, 5211 Kentucky Avenue, Nashville, Davidson Co., TN 360934N (36.15944) and 0865102W (-86.85055). Michael Lee Bierly *leg.*

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

Ed sends in the following report for January - June, 2009:

Butterflies

Hidalgo Co., TX, Mission area, January 1 - June 9, CWB (Charles Bordelon), MR2 (Mike Rickard). © = specimen collected, LRGV = Lower Rio Grande Valley.

Papilio thoas, 27 March 2009, CWB ©
Papilio ornythion, 20 April 2009, MR2
Anthanassa argentea, 12 January 2009, MR2 - Bentsen State Park
Memphis pithyusa, 22 February 2009, CWB ©; Several others seen 11 February, MR2, 23 February, D. & J. Dauphin
Memphis forreri, worn male, 18 February 2009, CWB ©; one female seen , 27 February, MR2
Memphis glycerium, fresh female, 19 February 2009, CWB ©; one other seen, February 23, D. & J. Dauphin
Dione moneta, 11 February 2009, MR2
Dynamine postverta, 25 April 2009, CWB
Emesis emesia, 11 February 2009, MR2
Parhassius m-album, 25 February 2009, MR2 ©; first authentic record from LRGV
Strymon bebrycia, 1 March 2009, CWB ©; others seen by MR2, 10 June 2009
Ministrymon azia, 29 March - 4 April 2009, CWB ©
Callophrys xami, 29 March 2009, MR2
Cyanophrys miserabilis, 9 June 2009, MR2
Chlorostrymon telea, 9 June 2009, MR2
Electrostrymon hugon, 9 June 2009, MR2
Zizula cyna, 12 January 2009, 1 June 2009, MR2
Gorgythion begga, 11 February 2009, MR2

Astraptes alector, 6 March 2009, D. & J. Dauphin
Astraptes anaphus, 2 April 2009, CWB
Codatractus alcaeus, 7 March 2009, CWB
Carrhenes canescens, 22 February 2009, CWB ©

Moths

Catocala agrippina, 21 May 2009, MR2 ©; first record of the genus from LRGV, probably on introduced Pecan
Acontia new sp. near *dacia*, 29 May 2009, CWB ©
Xylophanes pluto, 27 February 2009, 4 June 2009, MR2 ©
Synanthedon exitiosa, 15 April 2009, CWB ©; new for LRGV

Houston area (Spring Valley Village):

Not much action until May. Wet in early to mid spring, dry late spring & early summer. By June 1 *Battus polydamas* abundant in Spring Valley. *Celastrina neglecta* unusually common. One *Ministrymon azia* seen by CWB on June 8. *Phoebis philea* fairly common.

Ro Wauer sends in the following report - Goliad Butterfly Survey, June 12, 2009:

From 8:30am to 3:30pm, Betty and I, with help from Bill Farnsworth and Tammy Zellner, surveyed the butterflies at and around Goliad State Park, Goliad Co., TX. The day was warm (77-95 F.) with scattered clouds and a slight breeze at times. Recent rains had not produced many wildflowers; the exception was numerous areas of frog fruit. We recorded the following butterflies:

1. Pipevine Swallowtail (*Battus philenor*): 24
2. Black Swallowtail (*Papilio polyxenes*): 2
3. Giant Swallowtail (*P. cresphontes*): 5
4. Checkered White (*Pontia protodice*): 65
5. Orange Sulphur (*Colias eurytheme*): 2

6. Southern Dogface (*Zerene cesonia*): 4
7. Large Orange Sulphur (*Phoebis agarithe*): 8
8. Lyside Sulphur (*Kricogonia lyside*): 2
9. Little Yellow (*Pyrisitia lisa*): 100+
10. Mimosa Yellow (*P. nise*): 1

11. Sleepy Orange (*Abaeis nicippe*): 2
12. Dainty Sulphur (*Nathalis iole*): 15
13. Gray Hairstreak (*Strymon melinus*): 5
14. Ceraunus Blue (*Hemiargus ceraunus*): 1
15. Reakirt's Blue (*Echinargus isola*): 60+

16. Fatal Metalmark (*Calephelis nemesis*): 8
17. Rounded Metalmark (*C. perditalis*): 55
18. Gulf Fritillary (*Agraulis vanillae*): 4
19. Variegated Fritillary (*Euptoieta claudia*): 18
20. Bordered Patch (*Chlosyne licinia*): 12

21. Texan Crescent (*Anthanassa texana*): 30
22. Vesta Crescent (*Phyciodes graphica*): 17
23. Phaon Crescent (*P. phaon*): 32
24. Pearl Crescent (*P. tharos*): 20
25. Question Mark (*Polygonia interrogationis*): 1

26. White Peacock (*Anartia jatrophae*): 2
27. Viceroy (*Limenitis archippus*): 2
28. Goatweed Leafwing (*Anaea andria*): 1
29. Tawny Emperor (*Asterocampa clyton*): 1
30. Queen (*Danaus gilippus*): 6

31. White-striped Longtail (*Chioides albofasciatus*): 3
32. Coyote Cloudywing (*Achalarus toxeus*): 1
33. Mazans Scallopwing (*Staphylus mazans*): 1
34. Horace's Duskywing (*Erynnis horatius*): 1
35. Common/White Checkered-Skipper (*Pyrgus communis/albescens*): 150+

36. Tropical Checkered-Skipper (*P. philetas*): 2
37. Desert Checkered-Skipper (*P. oileus*): 1
38. Turk's-cap White-Skipper (*Heliopetes macaira*): 6
39. Clouded Skipper (*Lerema accius*): 2
40. Southern Skipperling (*Copaeodes minimus*): 6

41. Fiery Skipper (*Hylephila phyleus*): 4
42. Whirlabout (*Polites vibex*): 3
43. Sachem (*Atalopedes campestris*): 2
44. Dun Skipper (*Euphyes vestris*): 1
45. Eufala Skipper (*Lerodea eufala*): 2

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

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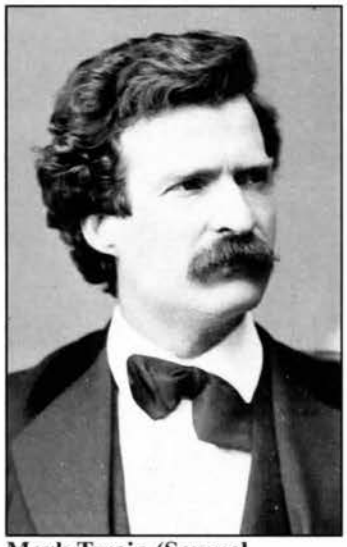
REFERENCE TO *"BUTTERFLY"* IN CLASSICAL LITERATURE *"ROUGHING IT"*

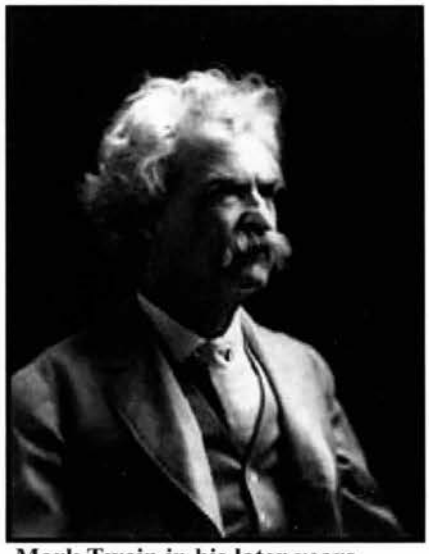
BY

MARK TWAIN [1]



Mark Twain (Samuel Langhorne Clemens at age 35) (b. 1835 - d. 1910)

Chapter LVIII



Mark Twain in his later years

"For a few months I enjoyed what to me was an entirely new phase of existence – a butterfly idleness; nothing to do, nobody to be responsible to, and untroubled with financial uneasiness. I fell in love with the most cordial and sociable city in the Union. After the sage-brush and alkali deserts of Washoe, San Francisco was Paradise to me. I lived at the best hotel, exhibited my clothes in the most conspicuous places, infested the opera, and learned to seem enraptured with music which oftener afflicted my ignorant ear than enchanted it, if I had the vulgar honesty to confess it. However, I suppose I was not greatly worse than the most of my countrymen in that. I had longed to be a butterfly, and I was one at last. I attended private parties in sumptuous evening dress, simpered and aired my graces like a born beau, and polkad and schottisched with a step peculiar to myself – and the kangaroo. In a word, I kept the due state of a man worth a hundred thousand dollars (prospectively,) and likely to reach absolute affluence when that silver- mine sale should be ultimately achieved in the East. I spent money with a free hand, and meantime watched the stock sales with an interested eye and looked to see what might happen in Nevada."

In his autobiography, Mark Twain in 1872 refers to his position in life at that temporal moment as ***"a butterfly idleness"*** - kind of a neat phrase meaning *"with nothing to do"*. Samuel Clemens alias Mark Twain was in San Francisco in the Spring of 1864. He was hoping to strike it rich having bought stock in a number of silver mines. Thus his leisurely life style of *"a butterfly idleness"*. Unfortunately, it was not to be as his stock crashed (similar to many of the stock today) and he had to go to work. He took a job at the San Francisco Morning Call as a beat reporter which covered a wide range of subjects from police reports to musical events. *"It was fearful, soulless drudgery,"* he wrote in his Autobiography. *"We raked the town from end to end, gathering such material as we might, wherewith to fill our required columns – and if there were no fires to report, we started some."* [2]

Sources

1) http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mark_Twain
2) http://www.shapingsf.org/ezine/lit/twain.html

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The Southern Lepidopterists' News is published four times annually. Membership dues are $20.00 annually. The organization is open to anyone, especially those with an interest in the Lepidoptera of the southern United States. Information about the Society may be obtained from Marc Minno, Membership Coordinator, 600 NW 34 Terrace, Gainesville, FL 32607, E-Mail: mminno@bellsouth.net, and dues may be sent to Jeffrey R. Slotten, Treasurer, 5421 NW 69th Lane, Gainesville, FL 32653.

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