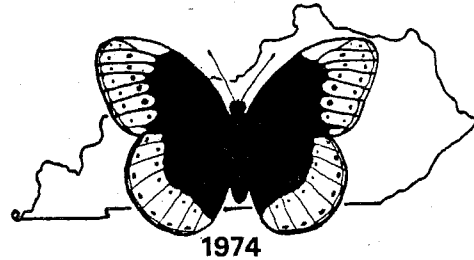


KENTUCKY LEPIDOPTERIST

NEWSLETTER OF

The Society of Kentucky Lepidopterists



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M. L. McInnis, Editor

April, 1988

SPRING FIELD TRIP

Our Spring Field Trip will be held at the Red River Gorge, Menifee County, Kentucky on May 20-22, 1988. The target species will be Autochton cellus, Amblyscirtes aesculapius, and Enodia creola. In addition, there should be excellent general butterfly diversity for those of you that are primarily interested in swallowtails and nymphalids.

We had planned a trip to the Pennyrile Forest at the Annual Meeting. However, conflicts with the Ohio Lepidopterists' field trip scheduled for May 14-16, 1988 have pushed us past the optimum period to visit Pennyrile.

For details on accommodations, meeting spots and maps, please contact our Field Trip Coordinator, Loran Gibson.

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NEWS AND NOTES

C. V. Covell, Jr.

Spring has come to Kentucky, and we already have reports from the field of butterflies on the wing in late March and early April. The winter was

not severe in the Louisville area, the lowest temperature being 4 degrees above zero. Precipitation was moderate, but in light of an autumn drought, the ground water level is low, and regular rainfall will be needed throughout 1988 for normal development of plants and animals. On April 8, I visited the spot in Bullitt County off Bear Camp Road, which was logged over in the summer of 1987. My daughter, Elizabeth Katherine (10), collected her first Eurytides marcellus, Pieris virginiensis, Anthocharis midea, and Celastrina ebenina (or nigra, if you follow Jim Scott's treatment). E. marcellus was quite common along the ridge; and we photographed a pair in copula. I took a miniature Papilio glaucus, its size perhaps reflecting the drought of late 1987. Erynnis juvenalis, E. brizo, Colias eurytheme, Polygonia comma, Incisalia henrici, and Celastrina ladon were also recorded. Earlier at that spot, Barry Nichols saw pretty much the same, plus several Anaea andria. Regarding Pieris virginiensis, Burt Monroe reported that his son Mark had found that species flying around their home in Anchorage, where Burt has lived since childhood - and not recorded P. virginiensis. How many virginensis have been shrugged off as P. rapae by lepidopterists over the years?

I am also proud to report that Mark Monroe recently won the Kentucky Society of Natural History's annual

junior naturalist award for his project on systematics and distribution of the Erynnis persius complex of butterflies that he and his dad have been collecting throughout the state. The award was given in conjunction with 1988 Kentucky Junior Science Symposium held in Louisville the week of March 21. Congratulations, Mark! Keep up the good work!

Congratulations are also in order for Blaine Early, who has just completed his Ph.D. degree under Covell's supervision at the University of Louisville. His dissertation is entitled "Flower Visitation by the Pearl Crescent Butterfly, Phyciodes tharos (Drury) (Lepidoptera, Nymphalidae): Effects of Floral Visual Characteristics and Floral Abundance." This is probably the first doctoral dissertation involving a butterfly for the state of Kentucky.

And speaking of firsts, the first butterfly park in North America, BUTTERFLY WORLD, is opening April 21 at Tradewinds Park (South), 3600 West Sample Road, Coconut Creek, Florida 33073 (near Fort Lauderdale). I hope some of you will be visiting there soon, and will report to us on what you see.

After paying the bills for the "Kentucky Lepidopterist" vol. 14, no. 1, our bank account stands at \$444.00. Many thanks to those of you who responded to our plea for 1988 dues. The disappointing part is that 61 people have not sent dues in over a year, and so will be dropped from membership until such time as I hear from them. Part of the reason we are in pretty good shape is that many of you sent more than the minimum \$3, and some back issues have been sold. Also, our President made a substantial gift, for which we are deeply grateful. I think we have enough to carry us through the year now, including some funds to pay travel expenses for a speaker (yet to be selected) for our annual meeting in November. Suggestions for a good guest speaker will be most welcome.

I will be conducting a "moth week" at the Pikes Peak Research Station, Florissant, Colorado, June 15-21, along with Boyce Drummond and Tom Emmel. The Xerces Society meeting follows. The group signed up the "Moth Week" is small, but not too much so. Since we will be collecting butterflies as well as moths each day, it should be a many-splendored feast. So join us if you can.

Here are some interesting and valuable new publications on Lepidoptera:

D'Abrera, B. 1987. Butterflies of the Neotropical Region, Part IV (Nymphalidae, part.). pp. 527-678. Includes Catonephele (not in order of D. Jenkins' recent revision), Eunica, Epiphyle (note that D'Abrera remarks that Jenkins' "Phylogeny" section of his revision of this genus is "speculative nonsense"), Perisama, Callicore, Agrias, Prepona, Dynamine, Adelpha, et al. Available from BioQuip Products (\$180.00, including postage).

Friedlander, Tim 1988. Taxonomy, phylogeny, and biogeography of Asterocampa Rober 1916 (Lepidoptera, Nymphalidae, Apaturinae). J. Res. Lepid. 25 (4): 215-338, 22 pls. This is Tim's long-awaited doctoral dissertation, and the longest single issue of J. Res. Lepid. yet published. Plates 18-22 are in color. Three N. American species are recognized: A. celtis (Bdv. & Leconte), divided into 3 subspecies; A. leilia (W. H. Edw.); and A. Clyton (Bdv. & Leconte), (divided into 4 subspecies). A fourth species, A. idyja (Geyer) from the Greater Antilles and Cent. America is also treated. Thus the ten species of the Miller-Brown and Hodges checklists are reduced to three.

Miller, James S. 1987. Phylogenetic studies in the Papilionidae (Lepidoptera: Papilionidae). Bull. Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist., 186 (4): 365-512, 186 figs., 6 tables. New York. \$12.50. Excellent electron

photomicrographs illustrate this cladistic analysis.

Here's wishing each of you a happy and successful year in the field.

CALENDAR OF MEETINGS

Michigan Entomological Society

Annual Meeting
June 10, 1988
Big Rapids, Michigan
(at Ferris State Univ.)

Biology of Moths Workshop

June 16-21
Colorado Springs, Colorado
(at Pikes Peak Research Station)

Xerces Society Annual Meeting

June 22-25
Colorado Springs, Colorado
(at Pikes Peak Research Station)

Biology of Butterflies Workshop

July 1-6
Colorado Springs, Colorado
(at Pikes Peak Research Station)

Pacific Slope Section Annual Meeting

July 7-10
Colorado Springs, Colorado
(at Pikes Peak Research Station)

Lepidopterists' Society Annual Meeting

July 14-17
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
(at Carnegie Museum)

ADDITIONS TO THE KENTUCKY FAUNAL LIST

C. V. Covell, Jr.

The Kentucky list of Lepidoptera now stands at 2,209 species. The following species have recently been added to our list.

Depressaria pastinice (Duponchel)
OECOPHORIDAE 8399.1
922

Montgomery Co., U.S. Hy 460 near Mt. Sterling, May 24, 1987, as larvae on Zizia aurea (Koch) flowerhead, pupated June 1, 1987, emergence "late June, 1987" B. S. Nichols, det. J.F.G. Clarke.

Prochoreutis extrincicella (Dyer)

CHOREUTIDAE 8651
2632

Woodford Co., along Kentucky River one mile west of Hy. 68, 650 ft elev., June 2, 1983, J. S. Nordin, det. C. V. Covell, Jr.

Aterpia approximana (Heinrich)

TORTRICIDAE 6633
2748

Menifee Co., Red River Gorge, May 13, 1981, L. D. Gibson, det. Clarke & Covell.

Olethreutes furfurana (McD)

TORTRICIDAE 6596
2776

Trigg Co., Land Between the Lakes, July 10, 1965, C. V. Covell, Jr.

Eucosma sombreana (Kearfott)

TORTRICIDAE 6982
3127

Henderson Co., Frank Sauerheber Wildlife Refuge, Sloughs Wildlife Mgmt. Area, August 12, 1982, L. D. Gibson. There have been subsequent captures in Christian Co. and Menifee Co. by Gibson and J. S. Nordin, respectively.

Ancylis fuscociliana (Clemens)

TORTRICIDAE 7188
3369

Menifee Co., Red River Gorge, Rd. 9B, Indian East Fork of Kelley Branch, elev. 720 ft., May 17-18, 1986, J. S. Nordin, det. C. V. Covell, Jr.

Pammene felicitana (Heinrich)

TORTRICIDAE

3419

Jefferson Co., Louisville, June 7,
1981, R. A. Henderson, det. J.F. G.
Clarke.

Grapholita packardi (Zeller)
TORTRICIDAE 7244
3428

Boone Co., Boone Cliffs Nature Preserve,
August 15, 1984, L. D. Gibson, det.
J.F.G. Clarke.

Argyrotaenia pinatubana (Kearfott)
TORTRICIDAE 7445
3602

Jefferson Co., Louisville, June 24,
1981, R. A. Henderson, det. Clarke and
Covell.

Phalonia aurorana (Kearfott)
COCHYLIDAE 7561
3812

Menifee Co., Red River Gorge, August 25,
1984, L. D. Gibson, det. M. G. Pogue.

Phalonia gunniana (Busck)
COCHYLIDAE 7554
3827

Owsley Co., 5 miles NE Booneville, July
24, 1982, L. D. Gibson, det. M. G.
Pogue, det. Poole.

Elasmopalpus lignosellus (Zeller)
PYRALIDAE 6231
5896

Jefferson Co., Jeffersontown, September
2, 1983, R. A. Henderson, det. D. C.
Ferguson.

Eupithecia chlorofaciata (Dietze)
GEOMETRIDAE 4266.1
7475

Menifee Co., Red River Gorge, N of Slade
along Indian Creek, May 2, 1979, J. S.
Nordin, det. provisionally by D. C.
Ferguson.

Eupithecia grata (Taylor)
GEOMETRIDAE 4326
7525

Woodford Co., 1 mile west of Hy. 68,
elev. 650 ft., July 24, 1979, J. S.
Nordin, det. D. C. Ferguson.

Dasychira plagiata (Wlk.)
LYMANTRIIDAE 3961
8304

Rowan Co., Morehead, August 24, 1962,
T. N. Freeman (Specimen in Canadian
Nat. Coll.), det. D. C. Ferguson.

Elaphria agrotina (Goenee)
NOCTUIDAE 2644
9677

Meade Co., Otter Creek Park, October
11, 1986, B. S. Nichols, det. Poole.

ISLA MARGARITA

Bob Robbins recently returned from
a trip to Isla Margarita, Venezuela.
He was impressed by the uncut dry
forest that he encountered in the
mountains, above 400 meters. Although
hairstreak diversity was less than
expected, several interesting species
were sighted and Bob was able to make
some interesting behavioral
observations.

Males of "Thecla" rustan and
Electrostrymon cyphara exhibited
territorial behavior in perching on
hilltops. As previously observed in
Panama, T. rustan frequented hilltops
during late afternoon (1600 hours) and
E. cyphara confined its hilltop visits
to early morning (before 0930 hours).
Bob also noted that Pseudolycaena
marsyas (Editors assumption - Bob
didn't specify whether the species was
P. marsyas or P. damo) males set up
mating territories at the tops of trees
in late afternoon.

The island also provided Bob with
a "snake story" that should stay fresh
in his mind for some time.

NEW MEMBERS

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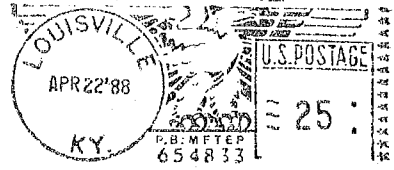
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"Egad! It's a taxonomist--what genus is the tiger swallowtail in this week?"

[THE FAR SIDE

By Gary Larson]
(caption added)



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FIRST CLASS

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