

# Kentucky Lepidopterist

Newsletter of the Society of Kentucky Lepidopterists

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## President's Message

Dear Fellow KYLEPS:

"Society -n. An organized group of persons associated together for religious, benevolent, cultural, scientific, political, patriotic, or other purposes." So says Webster's College Dictionary. The same authority defines

"Participate - v. To take part or have a share, as with others." Another term.

"Parasite - n. A person who receives support or advantage from another without giving any useful or proper return." With these three definitions in mind, consider the plight of The Society of Kentucky Lepidopterists.

Barry Nichols was our Newsletter editor for some six years plus, and was constantly asking the membership for material for the quarterly publication. Indeed, he found it necessary on occasion to combine issues; there simply wasn't enough material to justify the printing and mailing costs. Carolyn Roof, our current editor, is encountering the same problem. Her first two issues contained non-bug oriented messages from me - one on a proposal for a new Society constitution and the other asking the membership to participate in contributing to the Newsletter. Carolyn has not reported being inundated with material since that plea. In fact, you are reading another 'President's Message' because she needed something to publish.

The Society must have officers and certain committees to function. Carolyn Roof, for example, spends endless hours so you may enjoy the quarterly Newsletter. John Enz, our Secretary, among other duties maintains a current membership list. Barry Nichols organizes field trips. Charlie Covell, in addition to keeping track of dues, runs down speakers for the meetings, writes for the Newsletter, ID's bugs, and generally functions as a sparkplug. Etc., etc.

For the last month or so I have been looking for members to serve on the Nominating Committee. I am still looking; I have been turned down twice. I think I will ultimately be successful - but if I am having a problem finding someone willing to serve on the Nominating committee, think how much harder it will be for that Committee to find members willing to be officers!

As a Society, we have banded together to participate in our common interest. without active participation, a member is sort of eaves-dropper who listens but does not share what he knows or carry his share of the burden. With full participation, we have a vigorous Society. Without it, we can't last.

Are we beating a dead horse here? Should we continue? Are YOU willing to contribute to the Newsletter? Would YOU serve on a committee? Be a candidate for one of the offices? If you want to participate, please let me know; we can use you.

Jim Taylor  
President

# Butterfly Pictures

*or rather pictures made of butterfly wings*

by Carolyn Roof

When a friend showed me of a picture that she bought which depicted a woman, of course, I immediately e-mailed Charlie Covell as to what he knew about it. The following is his response:

I saw pictures made with butterfly wing parts on sale at a craft store in Taiwan. They are still being made in parts of Africa, too. I have seen some in people's homes from timeto time, but I do not know much about them. I also have often seen trays, plaques, etc. with designs made of Morpho wings and wings of other Latin American species - but not made into actual images.

Do you know anything about butterfly pictures?

## Books

Hacker Art Books, 45 West 57th Street, New York, NY 10019, 1-212-688-7600, catalog is new to me, so I can not vouch for the selections, but they look as though they are of high quality. Found in the catalog was the following:

The Art of the Butterfly, Ed Marquand, Photographs by Michael Burns, 1990, pp. 120, 130 color illustrations, \$12.95, softbound.

"The butterflies are captured in all their poignant beauty in this superb full color photographs by a noted nature photographer, working at the Butterfly Park in Singapore."

## Editor's notes

by Carolyn Roof

Mac apologies to you for the short and late newsletter. The short version of two weeks of panic is that when the computer was opened there was nothing there except an arrow. It seems as though when he was upgraded no one thought that the computer jack had to be upgraded as well. Fortunately, nothing was lost, it was only hiding. I believe the real trouble was that Mac was jealous of my new color computer and had a temper tantrum.

I am still having fun on the Internet. Have you tried [yahoo.com/text/Science/Biology/Entomolgy/Butterflies?](http://yahoo.com/text/Science/Biology/Entomolgy/Butterflies?)  
or  
[gopher://george.peabody.yale.edu.70/00/main/Entomology/eps/faq.01.www](http://gopher://george.peabody.yale.edu.70/00/main/Entomology/eps/faq.01.www)

Both are interesting.

## More of - Why They are Called Butterflies

by Carolyn Roof

One of the first words I remember in French class was papillon. The teacher said the word sounded like a butterfly. It was with great interest that I read the article "Why are They Called Butterflies".

From Rick Mikula ([butterfly@mgfx.com](mailto:butterfly@mgfx.com)) comes this: "Many cultures feel that when we die our souls go to heaven as butterflies. In France they are 'papillon'. Parking tickets are called 'papillon' too, because they are big pieces of yellow paper. When they are placed under a windshield wiper they flap like a big yellow butterfly."

Do you know of any 'Why's'?

## Butterflies in the Garden

by Carolyn Roof

Claire Hagen Dole has requested information on using native plants in your garden, both larval and nectar plants from our members.

Her request prompted me to survey my yard. Sadly, the caterpillars have ignored the rue, dill, and other herbs planted for their benefit. The willow did not seem to have feed any caterpillars either. Normally, they are eaten to the nub by the caterpillars who then depart. There is no damage to the plants as they grow back without any damage.

This seems to be a biennial event, as this year and in 1995, plants were not eaten at all.

Last fall was mild as was winter with the exception of about two very bitter weeks. Normally, February is our coldest, snowiest weather, and March can't make up its mind whether it is winter or spring with flurries at least two to three times during that month. This year March was cool and rainy, as were April and March, with the exception of early April when it was hot. The result has been an early appearance of butterflies in Western Kentucky the last of March and first of April and then a handful since.

Was it the weather? What was your spring like? Have you experienced the same lack of butterflies? How did your July 4 Butterfly Count compare to last year?

Claire, who is editor of the Butterfly Gardeners' Quarterly, can be contacted at [skipper@scn.org](mailto:skipper@scn.org) or FAX 1-206-783-3924.

# 13th - July 4th Butterfly Count

by Charles Covell

The Kentucky Lepidopterists' 13th July 4th Butterfly Count was held at the Homer Wildlife Sanctuary, Brownsboro, Oldham County, Kentucky (eastern adjoining county to Louisville), on Saturday, June 28 from 10 AM to 3 PM.

There were eight people participating, led by C. V. Covell and Don Miller (Lexington), divided into two teams part of the time. Our count resulted in 36 species and 391 individuals.

The Great Spangled Fritillary was the leader in numbers with 82 sighted. Some of the most interesting records included the Banded Hairstreak (*Satyrium calanus*), Edwards' Hairstreak (*Satyrium edwardsii*), Coral Hairstreak (*Harknclenus titus*), Northern Metalmark (*Calephelis borealis*) and good numbers of the two Emperors - Tawny Emperor (*Asterocampa clyton*), and Hackberry Butterfly (*Asterocampa celtis*) both of which lit in our hats, nets, shirts, etc.

There was press coverage and a color-illustrated article on page one of the Louisville Courier Journal, Metro section on June 30.

Overall, despite a warm sunny day, numbers were a bit down overall, and both flowers and butterflies reflected about a two week late season.

Rudy Klapheke, Patricia Perryman, and Debbie Rountree were other members who participated, along with three other friends.

## The Society of Kentucky Lepidopterists Logo

Jessica Hutti has made an enlarged logo poster of the Society for use at the 50th Anniversary meeting of the Lepidopterists Society, Yale University, July 8-13. New decals have been made and will be free to paid-up members. The new decals look like the previous style, but are made of plastic so they can be removed for reuse. We hope to have them available for new members at the November meeting.



# Fall Field Trip

September 5-6

The Annual Fall Field Trip will be hosted by Bill Black. As has been the custom for the past few years, members who wish to will gather on Friday, September 5, to set out traps in the evening. Saturday, September 6, we will all meet at Pear Tree Inn, Paducah, for breakfast and then off for a full day and evening of counting, catching, photographing, etc. butterflies and moths.

If you have not gone on this Field Trip led by Bill before you are in for a real treat. Rare and unusual are quite often found.

If you have been on the trip you know that the habitats are constantly changing, as a result so do the butterfly populations. You may have visited the sites before but they are never the same. You never know what you may find this year.

Bill would like to know if there are any places that you want to see or things that you want to do? Call him at 1-502-442-9587 (home), 443-3513 (office) or e-mail me at gardener@sunsix.infi.net. His home address is: 201 Friedman Avenue, Paducah, KY 42001.

Room Reservations: Pear Tree Inn, 1-800-282-8733; Drury Suites, 1-502-441-0024; Drury Inn, 1-502-443-3313; Courtyard by Marriott, 1-800-321-2211; all are located at U.S. 60 and Exit 4-I-24.

## Annual Meeting

This preview from Charlie Covell -

The Annual Meeting of the Society of Kentucky Lepidopterists will be:

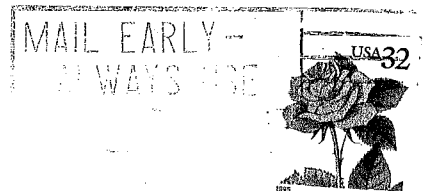
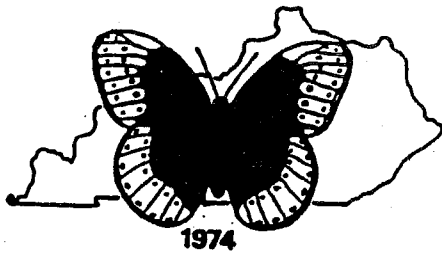
**Friday, evening November 7** - my house for the party and

**Saturday, November 8** - University of Louisville, Room 321 Life Sciences Bldg.

I have not nailed down the speaker position yet, but am working on it. I plan to get a butterfly-oriented person this time, as moths were the feature last year.

I'll let you know as soon as I have someone lined up. (ed. note: The party at Charlie's is more than a party - it is an informal time to compare and share experiences, meet those whose books you have read. The next morning members have the opportunity to look through the large collection of butterflies and moths at U of L. It is an experience not to be missed.)

The Kentucky Lepidopterist Newsletter is published quarterly-January, April, July, and October.  
Membership dues are \$10.00 annually, payable at the Annual Meeting in November.  
The organization is open to all interested in Lepidoptera.



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