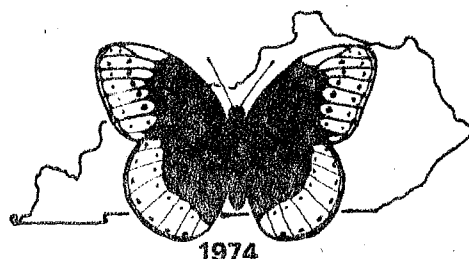


KENTUCKY LEPIDOPTERIST

newsletter of

The Society of Kentucky Lepidopterists



VOLUME 2, Number 1

March, 1976

SPRING FIELD MEETING SHAPING UP

The spring field meeting, to be based at Natural Bridge State Park, should be interesting, in light of the unusually early spring we are having. We decided last fall to time the gathering to coincide with the expected flight times for Celastrina ebena and Pieris virginiensis. Loran Gibson, this year's President of the Society and chairman of the local arrangements committee for the meeting, writes that he took a P. virginiensis, some Glaucopsyche lygdamus, and other spring species in Owsley County and Lee County, 20 - 24 March, 1976. Other species included P. glaucus (extremely abundant), Erynnis species "in swarms," C. argiolus pseudargiolus, C. henrici, and A. luna. We hope our collecting will still be good on April 23 - 25, the date of our meeting.

Jim Ettman has arranged a meeting room for us at Natural Bridge State Park, so anyone with slides or anything to "show and tell" should contact Loran and get on the Friday evening program. Or, he may decide to hold that on Saturday. Permits for collecting will be taken care of, Loran informs me.

The biggest problem there will be accommodations for anyone who did not get reservations in. Some of us will be camping, and camping space is on a first-come, first-served basis. There are motels in the general area which should have room if you get there early.

PLEASE INFORM LORAN IF YOU ARE COMING. He needs to
get an idea of the number to expect. Write: Loran
Gibson, 30 Russell St., Florence, KY. 41042.

Let's hope the weather is cooperative, and that you can break away and attend! CVC

NEW LETTERHEAD PAPER

How do you like our new letterhead? The design with Speyeria diana ♂ was made by Loran Gibson, and the printing was done for us GRATIS by Mr. Woody Boebinger, President of Standard Printing Co. in Louisville. At least, I think he was our anonymous angel. Mr. Boebinger is a staunch supporter of the Kentucky Society of Natural History.

SIEGFRIED SCHOLZ RETURNING TO GERMANY; COLLECTION TO STAY HERE

By a special purchase involving 4 sources, the University of Louisville will purchase the entire collection of Mr. Siegfried Scholz, 76, who has collected moths extensively in southwestern Jefferson County since 1970. The 11,500 specimens will be incorporated into the U. of Louisville collection, and we expect a number of new state records will turn up. The addition will boost the U. of L. Lepidoptera holdings to over 36,000 specimens. Mr. Scholz is to be congratulated for his intensive local collecting - an important contribution to the science of Lepidoptera in Kentucky and the U.S.

NEWS AND NOTES

An interesting Sphinx moth addition to our state faunal list has been reported by Lorran Gibson. This is the wide-spread southern species, Erinnyis ello (Linnaeus), which is known to stray northward as far as Michigan and New York. Rob Campbell took the specimen at the Glencoe exit, Rt. I-71, Gallatin Co., Ky., on Sept. 1, 1975.

Alan Brownell, our Secretary-Treasurer, has been spending increasing amounts of time working on the taxonomy of North American Pterophoridae - the Plume Moths. He has found some interesting problems and discrepancies in the literature, and has been receiving some help from museum specialists at major institutions. He made a visit to Dr. Jerry A. Powell, noted microlepidopterist, while in Berkeley, California, in mid-March. Al expects to work on the micros attacking Hackberry this summer for his MS research.

Fourth of July butterfly counts made by Showalter and Covell were not in the recent issue of Atala (Vol. 3, No. 2), publication of the Xerces Society. However, Bob Pyle informs me that they will appear in a supplement to the First Annual Butterfly Count, to appear in a later Atala. Anyone interested in joining the Xerces Society (dedicated to preserving butterfly habitats) may write: Roger Pasquier, Treasurer; Xerces Society, 235 E. 73rd St., New York, N. Y. 10021.

If anyone is interested in buying butterflies and other insects from Peru, write for a price list to Juan Martinez Vargas, Correo Central, San Ramon Chanchamayo, Peru. He sent the Editor a letter offering sales of specimens. I have not, however, communicated with him so can say nothing about prices, quality, etc.

Paul Pfenniger, one of our members from up in New Castle, Indiana, came by the entomology lab recently to get acquainted. Paul runs an insurance agency, and spends some time in Florida and other places. He is looking forward to a trip to Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, where we hope he will find happy hunting.

*** PLANS FOR OUR JULY MEETING ***

Bill Black reports from Paducah that he has the cooperation of botanist Ray Athey, who knows the western Kentucky flora thoroughly. Bill asks you members to write to him with the names of any particular plants you would like to be guided to on our July field meeting. The exact date of the meeting has not yet been established; but we hope to get into some real "southern" collecting, and hopefully find one or more of the butterfly species (especially skippers) not yet reported from Kentucky, but certainly here. More definite information on this July meeting in the next issue of the "Kentucky Lepidopterist".

WHAT HAPPENED TO THE KENTUCKY STATE INSECT BILL? Senate Bill 39, to make the Monarch butterfly Kentucky's state insect, passed the Kentucky Senate and was sent to the house, where it apparently died in committee. I guess it was just felt not to be important enough. The bill to make the Kentucky Coffee Tree our state tree did pass into law, but had to be resurrected by the Governor. Dr. Tim Cashatt recently informed me that the Monarch is the state insect for Illinois - a fact which I did not know when promoting the mystical migrant as Kentucky's state insect. In Virginia, there were 2 bills regarding state insect: 1 making the Tiger Swallowtail the chosen species, and another

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in favor of "the" praying mantis. The hassle was written up in Time Magazine, with the statement that Senate-House conferees were trying to make a choice. I've not yet heard of the outcome. School children were allowed to speak before the Virginia legislature in favor of their bill honoring the mantis.

The Kentucky Lepidoptera Survey is moving along slowly now, but we do want to report that the total species now stands at 1,621 with a number of "U.F.O.'s" still to be identified, and the Scholz material to be examined. Much of the Univ. of Kentucky Lepidoptera collection still awaits examination here at U. of L. Also, we have begun typing the manuscript of the Kentucky moth and butterfly book, thanks to the generous appropriation of funds from Graduate Dean Alan Johnson. The writing is commencing with the butterflies. Right now I would like any FEBRUARY AND MARCH records of butterfly species, if you wish to include them. I will certainly be acknowledging the help of any of you who contribute information to the Survey. Many of you have been extremely helpful already. THANKS!.

Treasurer Al Brownell reports that the Treasury is now bursting with the tidy sum of \$169, give or take a few \$\$\$. We will be using these funds for supplies, printing, mailing, and other Society expenses; but I hope we will be able to print some materials for your use. One idea is a folding pocket butterfly species list similar to those for birds used by ornithologists when on field trips. When you go on a field trip, you can just tick off the species seen or collected, and date the card and file it as a record. If I can get this done, I will send a supply of these to each member. Any ideas of other things like that we could provide?

INFORMATION AVAILABLE. Write the Editor if you wish to obtain information on booksellers, equipment dealers, sources of specimens and livestock, or a particular problem involving Lepidoptera. We have a fairly extensive library here, and taxonomic information can be looked up for you if the job is not too involved. We would also welcome visits to the University of Louisville insect collection any time any of you can come; but it is best to check first to see if we are on hand. We will also be happy to identify specimens for you to the extent of our abilities and resources.

Your Editor has accepted the position of Associate Editor of Insect World Digest, a color-illustrated bimonthly magazine covering all aspects of entomology but in a more palatable fashion for amateurs. The magazine is published in Louisville by Data Courier, Inc., and subscriptions are \$10 per year. For more information or to subscribe, write Data Courier, Inc., 620 S. Fifth St., Louisville, Ky. 40202.

GET A COPY OF BUTTERFLIES OF ILLINOIS by R. R. Irwin and J. C. Downey (1973) by writing Publications Office, Illinois Natural History Survey, Natural Resources Bldg., Urbana, Illinois 61801. Full title: Annotated Checklist of the Butterflies of Illinois.



DUES NOW DUE, PLEASE!



Please send dues for 1976 membership to Al Brownell, Dept. of Biology, Univ. of Louisville, Louisville, Ky. 40208. REGULAR MEMBERSHIP, \$3.00
ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP, \$1.50
SUSTAINING MEMBERSHIP, \$5.00 or more

If you have joined in 1976, no payment is due until this time in 1977.

PLEASE REMIT BY JULY 1, AFTER WHICH WE WILL ASSUME YOU HAVE DROPPED. Associate Membership differs from regular membership only in that Assoc. Members do not vote nor hold office.

NOTICES BY MEMBERS

WE ARE INTRODUCING THIS FEATURE TO AID IN COMMUNICATION BETWEEN ALL OF US WHO ARE INTERESTED IN THE VARIOUS ASPECTS OF LEPIDOPTEROLOGY. Send any requests you may have for exchanges, buyers, sources of materials, research information, etc. to the Editor. Keep it brief, and indicate how many times you wish the notice to appear.

WANTED: Information (species, dates, localities of capture) of Kentucky moths and butterflies for inclusion in the "Moths and Butterflies of Kentucky." Charles V. Covell Jr., Dept. of Biology, Univ. of Louisville, Lou., Ky. 40208.

NEW MEMBERS

- BROWN, Douglas 821 1/2 Elm St., Delphos, OHIO 45833.
- BULLWINKLE, Thomas E. P.O. Box 75782, Los Angeles, CALIF. 90005.
- BUTLER, Dr. Linda Plant Sciences - Entomology Dept., West Virginia University, Morgantown, W. VA. 26506. Interested in general collecting.
- CONWAY, Patrick J. 4533 Stanley, Downers Grove, ILL. 60515.
- DREES, Bart M. 320 Stewart St., Apt. D, Morgantown, W. VA. 26505. Working on list of West Virginia butterflies; information for this project is requested. Contributors will be gratefully acknowledged.
- HYATT, John A. 439 Forest Hills Drive, Kingsport, TENN. 37663. Collecting, rearing.
- MARTIN, Leland L. P.O. Box 4, Wellington, OHIO 44090. Butterfly collecting.
- METZLER, Eric H. 1241 Kildale Square North, Columbus, OHIO 43229. Noctuidae is specialty; exchanges; studies taxonomy and distribution.
- NIELSEN, Mogens C. 3415 Overlea Dr., Lansing, MICH. 48917. "Mo" specializes in Michigan moths and butterflies, but has an outstanding overall collection.
- PHILLIPS, W. Levi 2835 North 840 East, Provo, UTAH 84601.
- SIEKER, William E. 2633 Stevens St., Madison, WISC. 53705. Moths and butterflies but especially Sphingidae of the world.
- TARTER, Dr. Donald C. Biology Dept., Marshall University, Huntington, W. VA. 25701. General entomology.
- YOUNG, Dr. Frank N. 405 S. Mitchell St., Bloomington, IND. 47401. A widely experienced lepidopterist and general entomologist.
- ZEBOLD, Roger A. 30123 Rock Creek Dr., Southfield, MICH. 48076. Has done some collecting in eastern Kentucky.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

KOEHN, Leroy C. R.R. No. 1, 38 Southern Drive, Sunny Acres, Dublin, VA. 24084.

SPECIAL NOTICE: THOSE OF YOU ATTENDING THE MEETING AT NATURAL BRIDGE STATE PARK, please plan to meet Friday evening, Apr. 23, at 7:00 at the Lodge to sign in and have a short program before we go black-lighting. If you come Saturday, check at the Lodge desk for information.