



Kentucky Lepidopterist

Newsletter of the Society of Kentucky Lepidopterists

Volume 38 Number 1 March 16, 2012

2011 ANNUAL MEETING REPORT BY WILLIAM BLACK PRESIDENT

Kentucky Lepidopterists gathered in Lexington, KY, last November for the 37th Annual Meeting of the Society.

The University of Kentucky has dedicated a beautiful, restored laboratory in the Dimock Animal Pathology Building to house its Insect Collection. During 2010-2011 Leroy Koehn carried out the integration of the former University of Louisville Lepidoptera Collection into the University of Kentucky Insect Collection, under the direction of UK Entomology Professors Dr. John Obryceki and Dr. Mike Sharkey. The consolidated Lepidoptera Collection is now riding safely in a new compactor storage system, along with the U.K. Insect Collection.

Leroy again handled all of the liaison with the University of Kentucky in preparing for the Annual Meeting of the Kentucky Lepidopterists. He had arranged for access to the Insect Museum on Friday and Saturday as well as the use of the lecture hall in the Agricultural Science Building on Saturday afternoon. And, he brought doughnuts and coffee to the Insect Museum both mornings.



GROUP PHOTOGRAPH OF MEETING ATTENDEES

The featured speaker of the 2011 meeting was professional Lepidopterist Eric L. Quinter, taxonomist and authority on the Noctuid moths. He retired several years ago from the American Museum of Natural History in New York City, where he curated the Lepidoptera collection. Kentucky Lepidopterists have been inspired by Quinter's work on the genus Papaipema, in which he is describing some seven new species.

**THE SOCIETY
OF
KENTUCKY
LEPIDOPTERISTS**

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

Bill Black, Jr.
201 Friedman Avenue
Paducah, KY 42001-4744
E-mail: black8808@bellsouth.net

TREASURER

Les Ferge
7119 Hubbard Avenue
Middleton, WI 53562
E-mail: lesferge@gmail.com

FIELD TRIP COORDINATOR

Gerald Burnett
233 Gray Road
LaCenter, KY 42056-9542
E-mail: gdburnett@brtc.net

EDITOR

Leroy C. Koehn
3000 Fairway Court
Georgetown, KY 40324-9454
E-mail: Leptraps@aol.com

SECRETARY

Tony Merkle
1501 Stephenson Road
Walton, KY 41094
E-mail: jamphoto@juno.com

AT-LARGE MEMBERS

Loran Gibson - 2012*
Richard Henderson - 2014*
James Adams - 2012*
* term expires

**THE SOCIETY OF KENTUCKY
LEPIDOPTERISTS**

is open to anyone with an interest in the Lepidoptera of the State of Kentucky. Membership dues are annual: \$15.00. Dues sent to the Treasurer: Les Ferge, 7119 Hubbard Avenue, Middleton, WI 53562

Enthusiastic Kentucky Lepidopterists kept him so busy in the lab identifying and discussing specimens they had brought, that he (and several of them) missed lunch twice during his visit to UK.

Betty and Leroy Koehn hosted the Friday evening get together, "A Gathering of Lepidopterists" at their home in Georgetown. Leroy marked their driveway with two of his 40-watt light traps (the only ones set in Kentucky on that cold, windy November night). Betty delighted the crowd with her delicious and diverse menu of culinary art. (Chicken & Dumplings with Corn Bread just to mention a few) Science, too, can achieve art qualities. Loran Gibson brought an example Friday night. The container was one of his exquisite, handcrafted Schmitt boxes. The contents were Peruvian butterflies of every shape and color (including clear wings). After dinner, the members congregated in the Koehn's lower level to explore Leroy's extensive collection, where there was a traffic jam of admirers. It was a wonderful evening.

Saturday morning the group reconvened at the University of Kentucky Insect Collection in The Dimock Animal Pathology Building. Several newly arriving members brought additional mysterious specimens for Eric to identify. They continued working in the lab while the Society's board met upstairs.

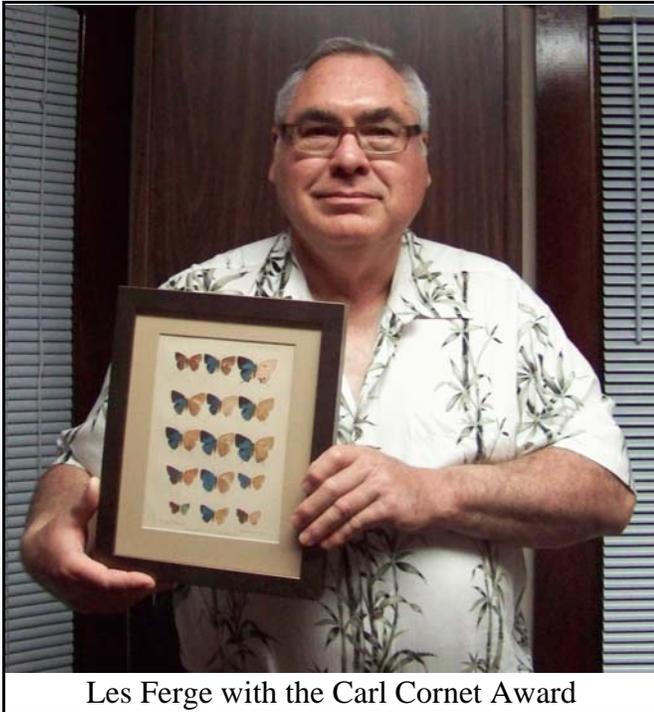
After lunch, all moved to the lecture hall in the Agricultural Science Center to hear Eric Quinter's interesting talk reviewing how taxonomy has changed relative to Noctuidae since he last addressed the Kentucky Lepidopterists in 1999.

He first introduced the three modern schools of Evolutionary study: 1) Evolutionary Taxonomy, 2) Numerical Taxonomy (phenetics), and 3) Phylogenetic Systematics (cladistics). He judges that only phylogenetics achieves the goal of identifying "natural" or monophyletic groups. He then discussed issues surrounding the evolution and classification of Papaipema within the context of the rest of the Apameine Noctuidae. Finally, Eric suggested how everyone can help: 1) life histories (e.g., sp.5 & P. marginidens) and 2) fresh specimens for DNA analysis. This was a privileged inside view of taxonomy, much appreciated by the audience.

Les Ferge, a member of the Kentucky Lepidopterists who lives in Middleton, WI, is unable to attend most events. Nevertheless, he has served the Society as its Treasurer for more than 13 years. At this meeting he received, in absentia, the Carl Cornett Award for service to Kentucky Lepidopterology. Ironically, he had been able to attend the Annual Meeting of 2010. Our timing was off, but our appreciation of his service is on target.

Saturday evening eighteen Kentucky Lepidopterists and spouses gathered at Abuelo's Restaurant in Lexington. There we ate, drank, and made merry in celebration of the science and camaraderie of collecting Lepidoptera.

It was a great meeting!!



Les Ferge with the Carl Cornet Award

**Society of Kentucky Lepidopterists
Board Meeting Minutes
by
Tony Merkle, Secretary**

Present were: Bill Black, Gerald Burnett, Loran Gibson, Richard Henderson, Leroy Koehn and Tony Merkle

The first topic of discussion presented by President Bill Black was the treasurer’s report. Each member present was given a copy. (Treasurers Report on Pg # 5) It was mentioned that the amount of money in the organization’s bank account was down due primarily to some one-time expenses associated with the printing of the newsletter but that we were sound financially. Following some discussion about organization expenses especially regarding those associated with the keynote speakers at annual meetings and those covered by the Carl Cornett Fund through the University of Louisville, a motion was made to accept the report as submitted. It was seconded. All in attendance agreed thereby passing it with no objections.

The second item discussed was the board of officers to serve for the upcoming year. Terms were reviewed. It was determined that the only term due to expire this year was that for the position held by Richard Henderson. Richard agreed to continue for another term. The others present were asked if they were willing to continue in their

positions for another year. All agreed. A desire for change in the position of president for the year following the upcoming one was mentioned. Potential candidates were discussed.

The third item discussed was organization membership. Possible avenues of promotion were discussed including distribution of application forms at related events, the implementation of a child’s and/or family membership and outreach efforts through mailings to individuals of other organizations such as the Lepidopterists Society. No decisions were made regarding this.

The fourth item discussed was season summary reporting for State of Kentucky to the Lepidopterist Society. Responsibilities in getting this done were reviewed and reaffirmed. No changes to the procedures for doing this were made. A brief discussion regarding the compilation of a sensitive species list occurred next. The possibility of using another organization’s list as opposed to compiling one of our own was mentioned. The reasons for having one were also discussed. The discussion of the issue ended with no decisions being made regarding it.

The next item of discussion again involved organization membership. It was mentioned that there had been some concern expressed by some individuals that some long-standing members of the organization who had made significant contributions to it might for one reason or another have difficulty maintaining their membership. A suggestion had been made that such members or those that were otherwise considered worthy of consideration might be awarded honorary memberships. No decision was made regarding the issue.

The discussion next turned to newsletter production. Newsletter Editor Leroy Koehn mentioned that there would be some changes made in order to make the newsletter more economical to print and distribute. He outlined what the changes would be and indicated that they would not affect its appearance significantly.

The final item of discussion was the field meetings to be held for the upcoming year. A visit to Red River Gorge was suggested first. It was agreed that a trip there would probably be best done in the spring or fall. A trip to Sloughs Wildlife Management Area was also suggested for late summer. Possible trips to Land Between the Lakes and Fort Campbell were also mentioned. The final decisions about the destinations and details of the trips would be made later. At this point, the meeting was adjourned.

Society of Kentucky Lepidopterists Business Meeting Minutes

by
Tony Merkle, Secretary

President Bill Black opened the meeting. The first order of business was the presentation of the Carl Cornett Award. It was awarded to Les Ferge who was not present. President Black espoused the contributions that Les had made to the organization over a period of many years particularly as its treasurer. All in attendance were urged to sign the back of the award which was a framed print of butterflies from a classic book on entomology. The award would be sent to Les at a later date.

The second item of consideration was the treasurer's report. It was mentioned that the amount of reserves held by the organization was down by about \$500.00 due primarily to some one-time expenses for equipment necessary for newsletter publication that had arisen during the course of the previous year.

The third item presented was the slate of officers to serve the organization for the upcoming year. It was mentioned that a slate consisting of those individuals currently on the board serving in the positions they currently held had been approved by the board. The slate was as follows:

Bill Black, President
Les Ferge, Treasurer
Leroy Koehn, Editor
Tony Merkle, Secretary
Gerald Burnett, Field Trip Coordinator
Loran Gibson, Member At-large
Richard Henderson, Member At-large
James Adams, Member At-large

The floor was then opened for nominations. None were presented. A motion was made to accept the slate as presented. The motion was seconded. All present agreed with no objections.

During the course of the presentation on the organization's officers, instruction was given regarding season summary reporting to the Lepidopterist Society of significant Lepidoptera discoveries in Kentucky. It was mentioned that pertinent information for the year 2011 should be forwarded to Loran Gibson before the end of the year so that it could ultimately be included in a report that is presented by the Lepidopterist Society in its publication. Leroy Koehn indicated that he could supply a form to individuals suitable for doing this.

A brief mention of sensitive species took place next. President Black suggested that the members give consideration to the issue and the importance of protecting rare and endangered species in our state.

The next item presented was the field trip schedule for the year ahead. The tentative schedule given was for a trip in the spring to the Red River Gorge/Natural Bridge State Park area and in the late summer to Henderson Sloughs Wildlife Management Area. Permit requirements, access concerns and coordination of activities with state park officials were items of concern that were discussed.

Organization promotion was the next item presented. President Black encouraged those present to reach-out to people. Membership numbers were discussed. The current number was reported by Leroy Koehn to be ninety one.

Member Bruce Francisky was introduced next. He gave a report on a display of butterflies and moths at the nature center at the Raven Run Nature Sanctuary in Lexington in which we were invited to take part. He distributed a memorandum to all present and spoke briefly about the need for donations of specimens for the display.

Following Bruce's report President Black talked briefly about opportunities for public outreach. He expressed a desire to compile a list of outreach activities in which members engage. At this time the meeting was adjourned.

The business meeting was preceded by an informal meeting of some of the members where specimens were examined, stories were told and individuals were generally able to enjoy each other's company. It was followed by a presentation by keynote speaker Eric Quinter on the biological relationships and/or evolutionary aspects of some of the moths with particular emphasis on those in the genus *Papaipema*. The day ended with many of the attendees enjoying dinner together at Abuelo's Restaurant.



Jonathan Smith with a box of his moths.

TREASURERS REPORT 2011

Statement of Cash Flow for the Period 30 October 2010 thru 30 October 2011

Balance on 30 October 2010	Checking Account	\$3,551.29
	Petty Cash	<u>\$3.20</u>
	TOTAL	\$3,554.58

Cash Receipts

Dues & contributions deposited in checking acct.	\$1,527.00
Donations at meeting	\$82.00
Dues deposited in petty cash	<u>\$24.00</u>
TOTAL	\$1,633.00

Cash Disbursements

Meeting Expenses	\$289.00
Keynote speaker expenses (3 nits @ Univ. Inn)	\$301.82
New Printer	\$316.00
Dues billing, misc. postage, office supplies	\$30.88
Newsletter Vol. 36 No. 4	\$439.99
Newsletter Vol. 37 No. 1	\$312.62
Newsletter Vol. 37 No. 3	\$268.67
Newsletter Vol. 37 No. 4	\$348.13
TOTAL	\$2,307.11

Balance on 30 October 2011	Checking Account	\$2,857.66
	Petty Cash	\$22.81
	TOTAL	\$2,880.47

Net increase (decrease) (\$674.11)

SUMMARY: The Society membership to 91, a gain of six from 2010.

28 members (approx. 30%) have elected to receive the electronic newsletter only.

Expenses were \$674.00 more than income, partly due to printer problems and the need to buy a new one.

2012 dues will be billed in January.

Les Ferge
Treasurer
Society of Kentucky Lepidopterists

Some Interesting Moths from Meade County, Kentucky by Loran D. Gibson



The photo above illustrates three moths collected 23 August 2011 in Otter Creek Rec. Area (formerly Otter Creek Park) in Meade County, KY. Upper left is Heliocheilus lupatus (Grote), captured in a light trap near a gas line easement near old Camp Sky-Hi. This species has been collected in Kentucky before, but previous specimens may have been misidentified as H. turbatus. The specimen pictured was determined by James Adams. Lower left is Argillophora furcilla Grote, captured in the same location as the moth above. This species is usually very uncommon and when encountered, is usually among or near plants of our native cane or bamboo, Arundinaria gigantea (Walter), upon which the larvae apparently feed. This individual was collected along a very dry ridgetop with limestone outcrops. Cane did not appear to be nearby. The large pyraustine on the right is Ecpyrrhoerrhoe puralis Long. This is a recently introduced species from Asia which feeds on Princess-tree, Paulownia tomentosa (Thunb.), also an Asian introduction. Richard Healy captured the first Kentucky individual of this moth species a couple of years ago in Hart County. It appears that the moth is spreading.



OHIO LEPIDOPTERISTS WINTER MEETING

The Ohio Lepidopterists Society held their winter meeting on 14 January, 2012. Many Society of Kentucky Lepidopterists members attended the annual event in Columbus, Ohio, including your Editor. It was a good meeting but attendance was down from previous years. The following day, Sunday, 15 January 2012, John and Ruth Ann Peacock hosted a get together at their home in Marion, Ohio. The get together was consisted mostly of moth collectors. The food was excellent and the fellowship was great. All those who were present at the Peacock's are in the photograph below. They include Society of Kentucky Lepidopterists members, Tom Carr, James Adams, Loran Gibson, George Balogh, Steve Johnson, John Peacock, Jim Vargo, Mo Nielsen, Robert Borth and Leroy Koehn.



A Gathering of Moth Collectors
at the Peacock's in Marion, OH

John Peacock had obtained a copy of a recently published book entitled : Rare, Declining and Poorly Known Butterflies and Moth of Forest and Woodlands of the Eastern United States by Dale F. Schweitzer, Marc C. Minno and David L. Wagner. The book was out of print shortly after it was published in September 2011. However, a CD of the book can be obtained at no charge. Contact: Dick Reardon, USDA Forest Service, FHTET, 180 Canfield St., Morgantown, WV: 304-285-1563 (ask for Lisa Cress) or email: rreardon@fs.fed.us. (Photo of CD on Pg 7)

CD of Rare, Declining and Poorly Known Butterflies & Moth of Forest & Woodlands of the Eastern United States



Rare, Declining and Poorly Known Butterflies and Moth of Forest and Woodlands of the Eastern United States by Dale F. Schweitzer, Marc C. Minno and David L. Wagner

**SPRING FIELD MEETING
RED RIVER GORGE
APRIL 13, 14 & 15, 2012**

The 2012 Spring Field Meeting will be Friday, Saturday & Sunday, 13, 14 & 15 April to the Red River Gorge, Daniel Boone NF, Powell County, Kentucky. Loran Gibson and Leroy Koehn will be the Field Meeting Leaders. We will meet Friday afternoon at 3:30PM at the rest area at Exit # 33 of the Bret T. Combs Mountain Parkway & Route 11 in Slade, Kentucky. We will set out light traps at various locations and set up lights to collect moths for the evening. We will meet again on Saturday morning at 9AM at the rest area at Exit # 33 of the Bret T. Combs Mountain Parkway & Route 11 in Slade, Kentucky and plan out the days activities. We will be search for spring butterflies, including Celastrina nigra, Glaucoopsyche lygdamus, and Erora laeta.

This is a rather remote area and we suggest you bring food, drinks and snacks for the day. There are several Service stations with convenient stores at Exit # 33 in Slade.

Sunday morning at 9AM at the rest area at Exit # 33 of the Bret T. Combs Mountain Parkway & Route 11 in Slade, Kentucky and plan out the days activities.

Lodging: The Red River Inn ½ mile south of Exit # 33 on Route 11. They have both a Lodge and cabins. The lodge is on Route 11 and is convenient to several restaurants. Rates: Single (One Bed) \$59.00 per night, Double (two Beds) \$69.00. I have reserved 5 rooms for Friday and Saturday night. You must make your reservation by 5PM on Thursday 12 April 2012. After 5PM the rooms will be first come first served.

Abner’s Motel is also ½ mile south of Exit # 33 on Route 11. Rate are \$69.00 per night and up.

**MEETING & EVENT SCHEDULE
FOR 2012**

Spring Field Meeting: April 13, 14 & 15, 2012; Red River Gorge. Trip leaders: Loran Gibson & Leroy Koehn. Details above.

Summer Field Meeting: June 15, 16 & 17, 2012; Yellowbank WMA, Breckinridge County. Trip leader: Leroy C. Koehn. Email: Leptrops@aol.com; Tel: 502-542-7091

Late Summer Field Meeting: August 24, 25 & 26, 2012 Slough WMA, Henderson County. Trip Leaders: Gerald Burnett: Email: gdburnett@brtc.net; Tel: 270-559-8214; & Bill Black: Email: black8898@bellsouth.net; Tel: 270-442-9587.

The Great Papaipema Chase 2012: October 10, 11, 12 & 13, 2012; Locations to be announced; Event Coordinator: Bill Black; Email: black8808@bellsouth.net; Tel: 270-442-9587

Annual Meeting: November 9 & 10, 2012: University of Kentucky, Insect Museum, Lexington, KY. The date is planned around the football schedule. UK football game is away this weekend.

NEWSLETTER UPDATE

I have made a few changes to the format of the newsletter. I have moved the Officers Box from the front page to the second page and eliminated the bluish-gray background. The back ground color change will save on colored print cartridges. As a result I will now use pictures on the front page. I can use some photographs for the front page. We have some outstanding photographers in our group and I am asking them to contribute.

As we begin our activities this year you are encouraged to join us at the field meetings. Red River Gorge is a beautiful location and there are some wonderful species of Lepidoptera to be found. We are returning to the Yellowbank WMA in Breckinridge County again this June. The weather did not fully cooperate last year and the Sunday morning tornado south of Yellowbank WMA caused a small disturbance, although the majority of the attendees had departed on Saturday.

We will visit the Sloghs WMA in Henderson County. We last visited the Sloughs area in 1982.

We also encourage you to participate in the Great Papaipema Chase of 2012. Contact Bill Black for information and locations where we will be collecting.

Come join us. We have a great time!!



Over the shoulder view of Eric Quinter identifying Papaipema moths as Richard Henderson and Loran Gibson look on during the Annual Meeting on Friday.

Leroy C. Koehn
The Editor, Newsletter
Society of Kentucky Lepidopterists
3000 Fairway Court
Georgetown, KY 40324