
KENTUCKY LEPIDOPTERIST

Newsletter of the Society of Kentucky Lepidopterists

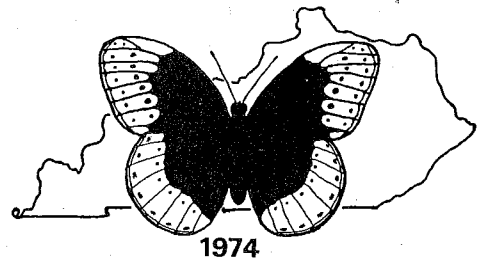
VOLUME 20, NUMBER 1: MARCH 1994

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EDITORS' NOTES

20:4 September 20, 1994.

We are saddened to hear of the death of fellow member Rebecca Hawkins. While driving in early December, her car was hit by a drunk driver. We extend condolences to her family and friends.

The newsletter was the topic of much discussion during the meeting in November. The lack of timely contributions for issues 19:1 and 19:3, and subsequent combination of 19:1&2 and 19:3&4 was first discussed. The need to get the newsletter out on time is important as it is the main method of communicating with the membership. As a result, a number of members promised articles so that we can accomplish this goal. If you have been thinking about writing something for the newsletter, please do! Articles on any aspect of lepidopterology would be welcomed. We have had a few about a member's "first time". How about some more? From the meeting and letters, the following were topics about which people said they would like to see articles: collecting trips and localities, techniques, gardening, photography, important historical collections and collectors in Kentucky, localities in Kentucky from which type specimens were described, rearing techniques, biographies on members, and identification tips. Any announcements, notices, etc. are also requested.

To insure the full four issues, after this issue, the newsletter will be printed immediately after each deadline regardless of input. Rather than cancel an issue and combining it with the next, the issue will contain whatever information I have on file BY THE DEADLINE. This does not cause undue scheduling problems for me and will provide more stable communication for members. If you have articles and such, please do not wait for a deadline to submit what you have. I dream of the day I have a full "hold" file.

The deadlines for the remainder of Volume 20 (1994) are as follows:

20:2 April 20, 1994

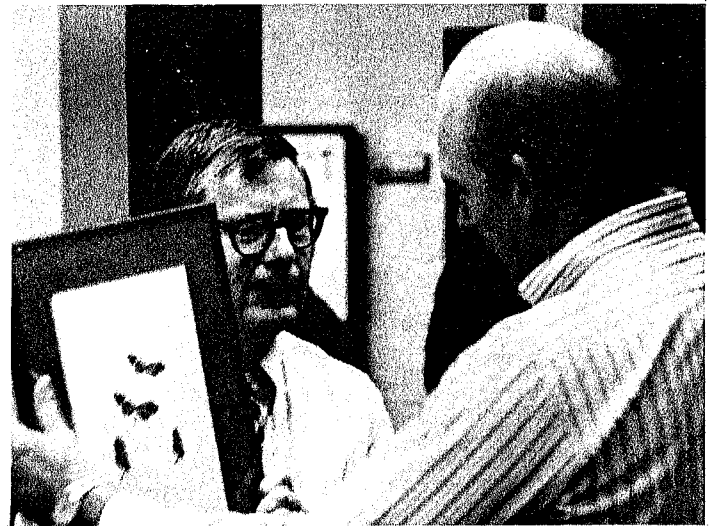
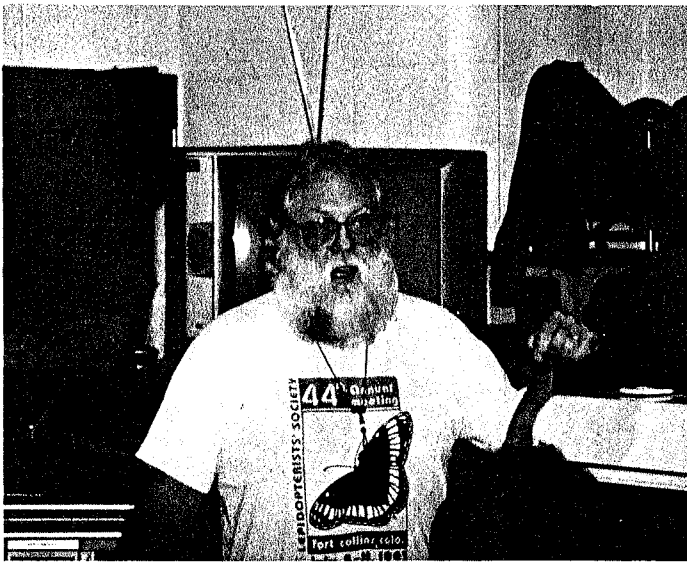
20:3 July 15, 1994

PLEASE WRITE THESE DATES DOWN ON YOUR CALENDAR. When submitting something of a timely nature (field trips, events, etc.), please allow about four weeks after each deadline for newsletter completion. Those of you using computers are asked to submit on disk. All disks will be returned unless you request otherwise. You can also submit via Electronic Mail to the following accounts:

BITNET: BSNICH01@ULKYVM
INTERNET: BSNICH01@ULKYVM.LOUISVILLE.EDU

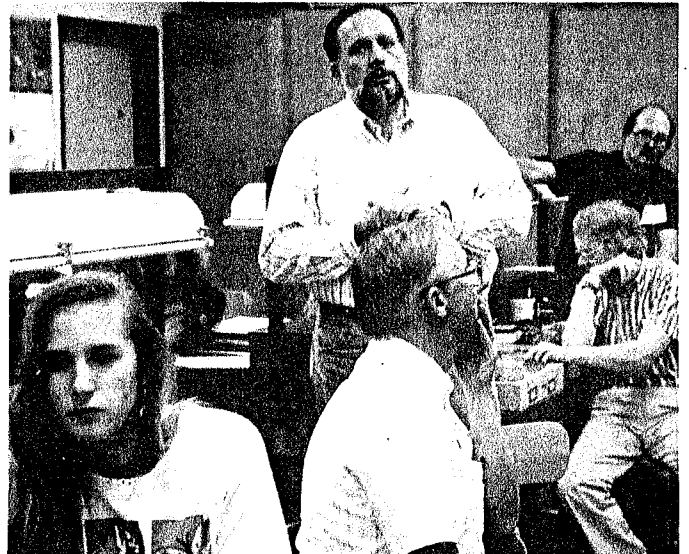
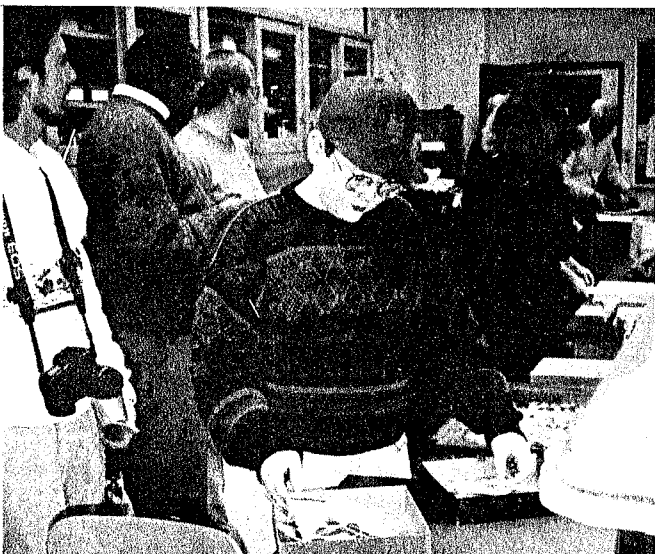
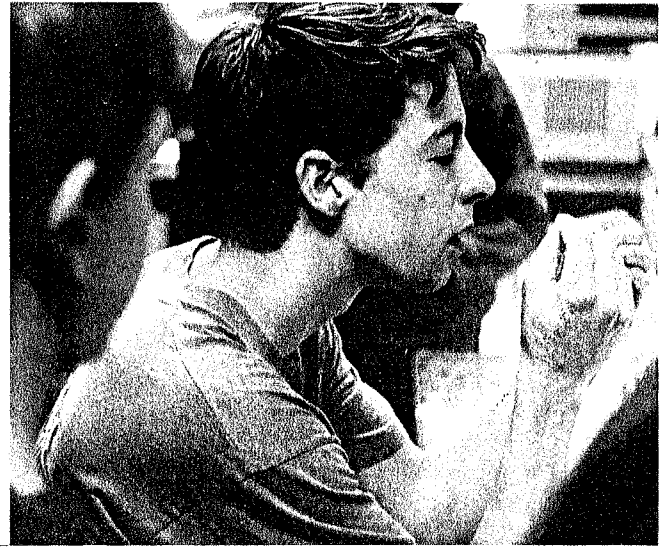
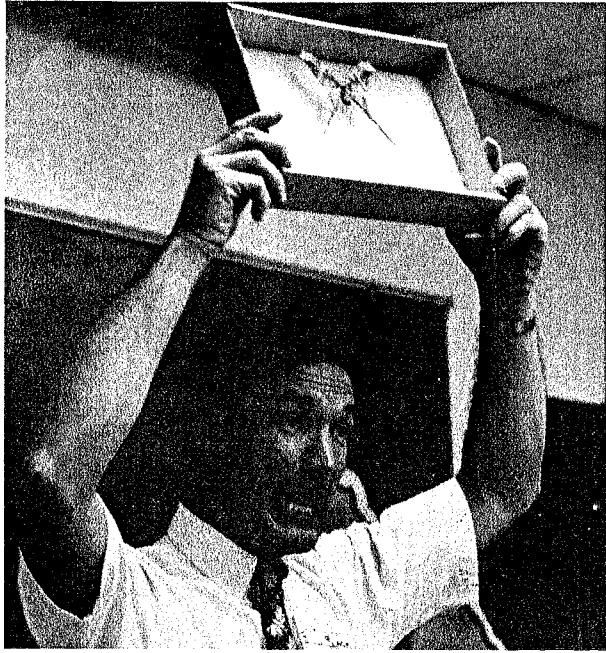
Also discussed at the meeting was the fact that I have had the most response ever, from the generous use of photographs in Volume 19. While this has been very positive, it was also pointed out that the printing of the photographs does cost more. It bears repeating that the newsletter is the main means of communicating with the membership and as such, should be a decent product.

This brings us to the next, rather prickly point. The Society of Kentucky Lepidopterists' (SKL) budget has always been rather low. When I joined SKL ten years ago dues were \$3.00. They had been that price since 1975. At the 14th annual meeting (November 20, 1987) a motion was made to raise dues to \$8.00. There was no second to the motion and it failed. A motion to raise dues to \$5.00 passed unanimously. This would just cover the increasing expenses of the society. Keep in mind that until 1987, the newsletter was being printed gratis through the Biology Department at the University of Louisville. I probably don't have to tell most of you that costs have increased quite a bit. We don't have an extremely large membership on which to spread out the increases. Nor do we receive outside funding. Judging from the success of other organizations, to appeal to the membership, an organization needs to provide worthwhile benefits. These points and others were talked about by many at the meeting Friday and



Photos from the 20th Annual Meeting of the Kentucky Lepidopterists' Society (1993), Louisville, Kentucky, USA. Names in captions follow subjects left to right. All photos by John Enz (JE), Leroy & Betty Koehn (LBK), Vince Lucas (VL) and James M. Taylor (JMT). **TOP LEFT:** Dr. Robert Pyle showing a morphological resemblance with his favorite topic (VL). **TOP RIGHT:** Charles V. Covell Jr. presents Loran Gibson with his award (VL). **MIDDLE LEFT:** Charles V. Covell Jr. presents Jessica Hutti with her award (VL). **MIDDLE RIGHT:** Robert Pyle congratulates award winner Jim Merritt (VL). **BOTTOM LEFT:** President Floyd Preston and Reed Watkins (JMT).

FACING PAGE: **TOP LEFT:** Outgoing President Bill Black and the one that didn't get away (LBK)! **TOP RIGHT:** Todd Payne demonstrates spreading technique (LBK). **MIDDLE LEFT:** James Taylor and June Preston view the collection of Laura Hawkins (JE). **MIDDLE RIGHT:** Rebecca Hawkins, Robert Gregg, June Preston; background - Leroy Koehn, Dave Hawkins, John Hyatt, Charles Watson, Barry Nichols, Richard Henderson (LBK). **BOTTOM LEFT:** Jeff Dembo, Richard Henderson, Vince Lucas, Phillip Sisto in the finest baseball hat one can wear, Betty Koehn, Suzette Slocomb, and Reed Watkins (JE). **BOTTOM RIGHT:** Laura Hawkins, John Hyatt, Leroy Koehn (standing), Charles Watson, and Barry Nichole (background) (LBK).



Saturday. The end result was an increase in dues to \$10.00 effective January 1, 1994. While it is hoped that the increase does not burden the membership, it is needed to insure the health of the SKL.

There was some discussion at the meeting regarding the request made by Carolyn Roof, President of the Garden Clubs of Kentucky (hereafter GCK) for color slides of butterflies from members of SKL. There was much concern over the letter because it stated that the slides would become the copyrighted material of the GCK. It was argued that as such, they could be used to generate revenue for the GCK and that this prospect was inequitable in regards to SKL. It was also pointed out that the Activities Committee would be involved educational programs. Many felt that both the GCK and SKL could jointly sponsor an educational program and that both societies should benefit from any generated revenue. A motion for the Activities Committee to get clarification from the GCK regarding the above and possibly pursuing joint activities passed.

THE 20th ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SOCIETY OF KENTUCKY LEPIDOPTERISTS by Charles V. Covell Jr.

The 20th Annual Meeting The Society of Kentucky Lepidopterists began its 20th year with a meeting on Nov. 12-13, 1993. A total of 45 people registered as attending, including an encouraging number of young people and their parents. Of those attending, the following are also Charter Members of the Society, founded on Nov. 23, 1974: William R. Black Jr., Charles V. Covell Jr., Lorain D. Gibson, Robert V. Gregg, Richard A. Henderson, and James R. Merritt (all from KY). Also attending this time were James Adams (GA); Charles Bloch (KY); Richard Cassell (KY); Heather Corbin (KY); Jeff and Zach Dembo (KY); Paul Florence (KY); Roland Girardet (KY); Dave, Laura and Rebecca Hawkins (OH); Jessica Hutti (KY); John Hyatt (TN); Rudy Klapheke (KY); Andy Kluesener (OH); Betty and Leroy Koehn (OH); Vincent Lucas (OH); John MacGregor (KY); Logan Mahaffey (KY); Barry Nichols (KY); Todd Payne (KY); Floyd and June Preston (KS); Dr. Robert Michael Pyle (our special guest speaker from Gray's River, WA); Philip Sisto (KY); Suzette Slocomb (MO); Kevin Smith (KY); Jim Taylor (GA); Suzanne, Adam, Daniel and Jonathon Tidei (KY); Reed Watkins (OH); Charles Watson (SC); Kathy Wildman (OH); Keith Wood (KY); and Roger Zebold (OH).

Dr. Robert Pyle arrived on Friday, and gave a fine illustrated seminar to the Biology Dept. graduate students and faculty, plus some early arrivals for the meeting. His talk was entitled "Ecogeography and Ecotourism: Two Contemporary Approaches to Conserving Rare Butterflies."

That evening we gathered at the Covell home for the traditional open house, this year expanded to a pot luck supper. Charlie showed some videotape of the September field trip in the cypress swamp habitat in Fulton Co., KY.

The next morning, the Entomology lab at the University of Louisville was opened, as were the cabinets of the Lepidoptera collection. People talked, displayed their collections, had help identifying Lepidoptera, and ate the delicious Heitzman Bakery doughnuts. There were some "freebies", including a new butterfly list for Kentucky, and specimens of Lepidoptera for beginners.

At 1:00 P.M. President Bill Black called the annual business meeting to order. The Treasurer's report by Covell revealed that we had only \$169.79 on hand, but that this was with all bills paid to date, and income expected today (a complete year-end report appears below). Elections were held. Floyd Preston was elected President, and Barry Nichols and Charlie Covell were re-elected Editor and Secretary-Treasurer, respectively.

New business included:

- (1) Program matters were discussed. A motion to form The Activities Committee committee passed. Members who volunteered include the current officers, plus Jessica Hutti, Vince Lucas, Suzette Slocomb, Jim Taylor, and Roger Zebold. [President Preston will find a way to canvass the committee for ideas and work on these long-distance during 1994]
- (2) A motion was made by James Adams to raise annual dues to \$10.00 beginning with 1994 and was seconded by many. The motion passed with two negative votes. If you had already paid for 1994 by January 1, you can escape the raise; but we would appreciate the other \$5.00 if you are inclined to send it!
- (3) Editorial matters were discussed.
- (4) There was an appeal from member Carolyn Roof, President of the Garden Clubs of

Kentucky for color slides you may have of butterflies and would give them. Apparently one gives up rights to the slides if they are donated. [Ed. Note: Many members expressed concern because the letter stated that the slides would become the copyrighted property of the Garden Clubs of Kentucky. See Editors' Notes for more info.]

- (5) James Adams gave a report on the Southern Lepidopterists meeting held recently. Much of the program was given to discussion of collecting restrictions, warrants, subpoenas, and other matters pertaining to legal aspects of collecting. He also offered to arrange a field trip for the Kentucky Lepidopterists in the Dalton, GA area, if we wished to make such a trip. [A good time for that might be during the general time of the Lepidopterists' Society Annual Meeting at Callaway Gardens, GA, Aug. 4-6, 1994.]
- (6) Reed Watkins reminded people of the "Identification Day" planned by the Ohio Lepidopterists for Dec. 4 in Columbus, and the Annual Meeting of the Ohio Lepidopterists Jan. 15, 1994.
- (7) Special Awards were presented to four members for their extraordinary contributions to Kentucky lepidopterology. These were in the form of framed plates from Hubner's *Sammlung Exotischer Schmetterlinge*. Recipients were James R. Merritt and Burt L. Monroe Jr. (in absentia) for their pioneering studies on Kentucky butterflies, Loran D. Gibson for copious new and often unique records of Kentucky moths, and Jessica Hutti for two years of success in Kentucky science fairs with moth research projects.

Bob Pyle gave his slide-illustrated talk to the group, entitled "Birdwings, Blues and Butterfly Trees: Adventures in Butterfly Conservation around the World." He spoke of his studies in England with the late John Heath, learning methods of analyzing geographic distributions of butterflies. He informed us about the development of butterfly farming for birdwings in Papua New Guinea. And he presented other butterfly conservation issues, including the statement that we should remember the importance of responsible collecting - that collecting rarely endangers butterfly populations as does habitat destruction. In founding the Xerces Society, a conscious effort was

made to emphasize this point, and he has kept to it ever since.

James Adams followed with a talk entitled "Life Histories of *Anisota* species, and implications on the Phylogeny of the Genus." Then several others gave short presentations and showed some slides or specimens. Leroy Koehn showed us the latest in light traps. The meeting ended with the traditional door prize drawing, and about 15 of the group dined together at Masterson's Restaurant.

COMMENTS REGARDING "A Banner Year in Kentucky Lepidoptera"

by John W. Peacock

I read Charles Covell's note "A Banner Year for Lepidoptera in Kentucky" in the Kentucky Lepidopterist 19:3&4, and I was particularly interested in his account of the September field trip to the Bayou de Chien area in Fulton County, Kentucky.

What really caught my eye was his comment "One of the most amazing sights discovered was a small american elm tree which was 'bleeding' sap and attracting many butterflies". I had a similar experience back in 1980, which I subsequently reported in the Newsletter of the Ohio Lepidopterists [Vol. 3(2), pp. 1-4], and some of the findings I reported in that article might bear repeating here.

What was remarkable about my experience with a "bleeding" Dutch elm-diseased elm near my home was that over the course of a month and a half or so (28 July to 14 September), I sighted several hundred *Catocala* (20 species) and other moths feeding at the sap exuding from bark beetle feeding wounds on this single tree. If you need more information, you might want to check a copy of my article. I guess the main point I'd like to make is that if moth collectors see butterflies, bees, and wasps feeding at tree sap in the daytime, they should visit that tree after dark. Chances are good, I think, that they would find many moths feeding at the same sap!

[Ed. note: For information on joining the Ohio Lepidopterists or purchasing back issues, contact Eric Metzler, editor at 1241 Kildale Sq. N., Columbus, OH 43229.]

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR 1993

Here is a summary of income and expenditures for 1993:

BALANCE ON HAND, DECEMBER 31, 1992:	\$1,159.01
1993 Income (Dues and contributions):	\$953.00
EXPENDITURES 1993:	
Printing & mailing newsletter:	\$742.09
Awards:	279.39
Expenses for annual party	125.48
Plane fare for meeting speaker*	400.00
Expenses for July 4th butterfly count (to NABA)	24.00
Bank charges	16.40
Total expenditures:	\$1,587.36
Balance on hand, Dec. 31, 1993:	\$524.65

* The Biology Dept. at U. of Louisville has also requisitioned \$200 to reimburse the Society for half of the expense of bringing Dr. Pyle to speak, as he gave a seminar for the Department.

Respectfully submitted,
Charles V. Covell Jr.,

NEWS & NOTES

FIELD TRIP to Bearcamp Road (just off Dixie Highway), Bullitt Co., Kentucky planned for Saturday, April 9, 1994. Emphasis: observing, photographing, and learning to recognize spring butterflies. Plan to leave at 9:30 AM from Life Sciences Bldg., University of Louisville. Bring a lunch! In case of cold or wet weather, it will be rescheduled for the following Saturday, April 16, 1994. Led by Charles Covell. Contact him at the Biology Department, University of Louisville, Louisville, KY 40292 or call (502) 852-6771 (work) or 456-6122 (home). (Charles V. Covell)

Please send our President, Floyd Preston your ideas for improving the program and services of the Society. His address is 832 Sunset Drive, Lawrence, KS 66044-2373. You can also call him at (913) 843-6212. (CVC)

Charles Covell writes, "I want to urge younger or newcomer members to try to participate more in the Society activities, and also to contact me for assistance in learning what you need to know to increase your knowledge and skill in matters lepidopterological. Some of you may be shy about this, thinking that the meetings and field trips are for 'advanced' lepidopterists. But this society exists for the purpose of learning more about Lepidoptera in every way. How can that be done if you don't participate? PLEASE do let me know what I can do to help you -- whether it is collecting, identifying, photographing, gardening, or merely observing butterflies and/or moths! Also, none of our new Lexington area members have contacted me about a program over there. Dr. Paul Freytag did say that he could probably arrange a meeting room in the Entomology Dept. building if you all want to get together." (CVC)

Back issues of the Kentucky Lepidopterist can be purchased. Pricing is as follows:

Volume 1-18 \$1.25 individual issue/\$5.00 per volume
Volume 19-20 \$2.50 individual issue/\$10.00 volume.
All prices are postpaid. (BSN)

REPORT ON THE KENTUCKY LEPIDOPTERA SURVEY

by Charles V. Covell Jr.

The Kentucky Lepidoptera Survey has moved very slowly this past year, but Charles Covell went to the National Museum (The Smithsonian) over the Christmas holidays and identified or had help in identifying a number of specimens. He also sought new records in the collection there. Some new state records that have been added in the last 3 months include the following [Ed. Note: the catalog numbers are those of the Check List of the Lepidoptera of America North of Mexico, hereafter MONA]:

MONA #	SPECIES &
261	<u>Nemapogon acapnopenella</u> (Clem.)(Tineidae). A specimen of this species in the National Museum of Natural History bears the labels "Ky." and "Coll. Aug. Busck."
2248	<u>Anacampsis rhoifruetella</u> (Clem.)(Gelechiidae). Boone Co., Big Bone Lick State Park, larvae collected May 3, 1993, on Viburnum; adults May 15; Loran D. Gibson.

- 2337** Glyphipterix circumscriptella Cham. (Glyphipterigidae). Meade Co., Otter Creek Park, at light, May 3, 1987, Barry S. Nichols
- 4738** Eudonia strigalis (Dyar) (Pyrilidae). Fulton Co., Rt. 94, 2 miles east of Cayce, Sept. 11, 1993, Reed A. Watkins.
- 5331** Mesolia incertella (Zinck.) (Pyrilidae). Specimen found in the National Museum. Collected by Sanborn, a lepidopterist from Massachusetts. Sanborn visited Packard in Kentucky in the late summer (inferred) of 1873 and collected in the the cave area of South-central Kentucky.
- 5690** Acrobasis rubrifasciella Pack. (Pyrilidae). Harlan Co., Kingdom Come State Park, collected May 17, 1993 on alder; adults June 17, 1993. Loran D. Gibson.
- 6091.1** Geina sheppardi B. Landry (Pterophoridae). A recently described species brought to our attention by Reed Watkins. Several KY records.
- 6155** Adaina bipunctata (Mosch.) (Pterophoridae). Fulton Co., State Rd. 94, 2 miles east of Cayce, Sept. 11, 1993, Reed A. Watkins.
- 7851** Enyo lugubris (L.) (Mourning Sphinx; Sphingidae). Harland Co., Pine Mountain Settlement School, Aug. 8, 1992, Larry E. Smith.
- 8642** Hypocala andremona (Cram.) (Noctuidae). Rowan Co., along Rt. 1274, 2 miles west of Rt. 519, Oct. 15, 1993, Loran D. Gibson.

These additions bring the state total known, identified species at 2,335. Still plenty to find! In addition, many interesting records have been added to the manuscript (which is finally being indexed!). One notable capture was 2 Catocala sappho (Sappho Underwing) at Pine Mountain Settlement School by Larry Smith. Another was Roger Zebold's sighting a Clossiana bellona (F.) (4465) (Meadow Fritillary), in Fulton Co. on Sept. 11, 1993. That species has finally made it all the way from east to west across Kentucky. Please be on the lookout for Speyeria idalia (Drury)(4452) (Regal Fritillary), in KY this summer. We have not seen one for many years, and it may be extirpated in the Commonwealth. However, I have heard that a colony of it near Blacksburg, VA was still present this past summer. It may still be in KY, but we need an effort to see if it can be found. Being low in numbers, in my opinion, it should not be collected. (CVC)

MEMBER'S NOTICES

FOR SALE: To the highest bidder (starting at \$400.00) my autographed presentation copy from Dr. Comstock of his special gift edition (200 copies printed) of Butterflies of California -- enhanced by an original cartoon of his inserted inside the front cover. Condition: cover worn but fair, spline broken loose, inside good to excellent, signatures solidly sewn, etc. For more information contact Paul Grey at Rte. 1, Box 216, Lincoln, ME 04457.

FOR SALE: Best offer. INSECTS OF HAWAII by Elrod Zimmerman (1958), Volume 7: Macrolepidoptera, 529 pp. and Volume 8: Pyraloidea, 456 pp. Original paperbacks, pristine condition. Glorious monographs, exhaustive original researches, thickly studded with black and white photos, line drawings of structures, etc. Summaries of all pertinent literature to that date plus a full formal bibliography. Every lepidopterist should get a look at this work too see what can be achieved. It makes MONA look puny. For more information contact Paul Grey at Rte. 1, Box 216, Lincoln, ME 04457.

FOR SALE: Atlas of Western USA Butterflies, Including Adjacent Parts of Canada and Mexico, by Ray E. Stanford and Paul A. Opler, January 1993. 275 pp, over 1000 species mapped by county (USA), spiral-bound, with November 1993 update/insert. Cost \$20.00 including postage and handling. To order, send check to Ray E. Stanford, 720 Fairfax Street, Denver, Colorado 80220-5151.

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