

# Kentucky Lepidopterist

Newsletter of the Society of Kentucky Lepidopterists

Volume 25, Number 3 August 1999

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### At Large Members

**Dr. James K. Adams**

**Jessica Huttli**

**Eric Metzler**

**Reed Watkins**

## President's Message DUES

Just a gentle reminder that:

Dues for 1999 are now payable, and are to be sent to me (1119 Hubbard Ave., Middleton, WI 53562) for processing.

Check your mailing label. The number after your name indicates the year through which you are paid. Please bring any discrepancies to my attention, as well as any errors or changes in name or address.

Les Ferge

## September 3-6 Fall Field Trip

The Fall Field Trip is scheduled for Labor Day Weekend to take advantage of the long weekend. Bill Black has planned a full weekend with visits to new locations and some previous visited ones including the Zip Track Site, Paducah in hopes of finding Duke's Skipper and Great Purple Hairstreak in their prime. As usual, there will be night mothing so bring your light traps and bait traps.

**Schedule:** Details of the Field Trip are on page 16

**Friday, September 3** - 7:00 p.m. Visit at Bill Black's and show specimens.

I-24 Exit 4, turn east onto I-24 Downtown Loop, turn rt. at 32nd Street, turn rt. at end, turn rt. onto Friedman Ave. (1st street on rt.), house is across from Clark School.

**Saturday, September 4**, 8:30 a.m. CDT

Breakfast at Denny's Restaurant located one tenth of a mile west of I-24 Exit 4.

**Sunday, September 5** - 9:00 a.m. CDT Meet at Bill Black's house

**Monday, September 6** - 9:00 a.m. CDT Meet at Bill Black's house

As it is the Labor Day Weekend, it is suggested that you make your reservations early.

**Lodging: I-24 Exit 4:** Best Inn 1-800-BEST INN; Comfort Suites 1-800-228-5150; Drury Inn and Drury Suites, 1-800 325-8300; Pear Tree Inn 1-800-282-8733; Holiday Inn Express 1-800- HOLIDAY.

**I-24 Exit 3:** Comfort Inn 1-800-228-5150; Ramada Suites 1-800-2-RAMADA

**Campground: I-24 Exit 3**, turn west - Fern Lake Campground 1-270-444-7939.

**Downtown:** J. R.s Executive Inn 1-800-866-3636 (I-24 Downtown Loop)

What's happening in Paducah **1-800-PADUCAH.** The Mall has expanded since last fall, more panels have been added to the floodwall mural, the Museum of American Quilters' Society traveling shows are fascinating. Southern Illinois' Shawnee Forest and Land Between the Lakes (you can approach from I-24, Exits 23 & 25, and US 68) are great sites to visit.

# Moths Donated to U of L Collection

by Dr. Charles V. Covell

In May, Dr. George Uetz at the University of Cincinnati donated a drawer containing 75 common microlepidoptera to the University of Louisville collection. The drawer had been apparently set up and given to the University of Cincinnati Biology Dept. in the early 1900s by the late Dr. Annette F. Braun, who received her Ph.D. there.

The moths were pinned in columns with handwritten identification tags pinned to the pinning bottom beneath each single or pair of specimens. Family labels were also pinned down above each family grouping.

All specimens were from "Cincinnati, O" collected by Annette F. Braun, except for two from New Jersey, one from California, and the oldest, labeled "6.N.94 Tenn."

The most recent dates are Mills College, Ca., VI.7.08 G.R. Pilate" and a Cincinnati specimen dated "V.15.08." The specimens are mostly in good spread condition and show little sign of disturbance over the years; however they are quite faded. The collection will be kept intact for your inspection when you attend the annual meeting in November.

# 26th Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the Society of Kentucky Lepidopterists will be held Friday, November 19, and Saturday, November 20. Charlie said that the schedule was 'as usual'.

Friday, members will gather 7:30 p.m. EDT, at the home of Charlie and Betty Covell, 2333 Brighton Dr., Louisville, KY 40205. E-mail or phone (502) 456-6122 for directions.

Saturday, 9:00 a.m.. Room 321, Entomology Lab, Life Sciences building, University of Louisville. Members are encouraged to browse through the specimens and share with others what they have brought.

9:00 a.m. Executive Committee

Meeting in Charlie Covell's office

Noon - Lunch on your own

1:00-5:00 p.m. Program

Special guest speaker - not finalized; but we hope to have a program on the identification and biology of Azure Blue butterflies of Eastern North America, since much has been recently published to change our concepts of species composition in this group - the genus (*Celastrina*).

Dinner at Masterson's Restaurant

As usual, bring items for drawing and, of course, your "what is it's or "look what I found"

New members and young people are especially urged to come and participate.

For more information contact Dr. Charles V. Covell

Make plans now to attend

## Fall Field Trip Schedule

### Friday, September 3

Visit and show specimens at Bill Black's house - see directions on page 15

Set traps at nearby sites

### Saturday, September 4\*

8:30 a.m. Meet at Denny's Restaurant - see directions on page 15

9:30 a.m. Massac Creek site, pick up moth traps

1:30 p.m. Old railroad yard

2:30 p.m. Zip Track site

7:00 p.m. Set moth traps

### Sunday, September 5\*

9:00 a.m. meet at Bill Black's house

9:30 a.m. Mayfield Creek site; Sandy Branch and Forked Lake, Carlisle Co. (cane, woods, cypress); Moth traps

### Monday, September 6

9:00 a.m. Meet at Bill Black's House, return to best sites, check out other sites

\* lunch and dinner are mobile to save time for collecting

## NEW BOOKS

Lepidoptera books by KYLEPS members:

**"Michigan Butterflies and Skippers - A Field Guide and reference" by "Mo" Nielsen, 1999.**

This is a color illustrated, 252-page field guide to Michigan diurnal Lepidoptera by the "Dean of Michigan lepidopterists."

The softcover book is available from MSU Bulletin Office, 10-b Agriculture Hall, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI.48824. Make the check payable to Michigan State University for \$19.95.

They also accept Visa and Mastercard, if you send the number and a signature, along with card expiration date.

**"Systematics of Western North American Butterflies" edited by Thomas C. Emmel.**

This long-awaited treatise with 73 chapters authored by 22 specialists. There are 878 pages, 207 plates (51 in color) including pictures of all historic type material from California. Two new species and 210 new subspecies (gulp!) are described. \$75.00 plus \$4.95 s/h.

Order from Mariposa Press, Inc., 1717 N.W. 45th Ave., Gainesville, FL 32605 USA.

### Update:

**"The Butterflies and Moths of Kentucky: An Annotated Checklist" by Charlie Covell.**

Ellis Lauder milk of the Kentucky State Nature Preserves Commission is working on the final publication duties for this book which will cover all known (except 7 additions this summer) Lepidoptera from Kentucky.

On July 7, he informed Charlie that he has acquired the ISBN number and has a printer, Gateway in Lexington, KY, lined up to print it. He says "it looks like we will be able to sell it for \$17 (price includes shipping and handling)." That's good news, since a new "Geometrid Moths of the World" edited by Malcolm J. Scoble published in Australia is priced at \$295 US!

## New Members

**David and Marcia Dorman**, 2113 Starmont Rd., Louisville, KY 40207. Phone: (502)897-2122.

They are old friends of Betty and Charlie who attended the July 4th Butterfly Count this year. On their application they wrote "We are novice lepidopterists but do have butterfly bushes and coneflowers in our yard that attract many butterflies. We are interested in identifying these butterflies."

## JULY 4th COUNT

### Held on July 3

Horner Wildlife Sanctuary\*, Oldham Co., Ky.

by Charlie Covell

Saturday, July 3, was clear early, then partly cloudy; very hot and humid; still; high 92, low 75. The 15th annual July 4th Butterfly Count was held in Oldham Co. along the dirt road into the Horner Wildlife Refuge and the Refuge itself.

An excellent turnout (but no other Society members!) included Diane Heilenman, Louisville's Courier-Journal garden editor, Brandon Klako (who rode with me), and 23 others including two small girls. No press coverage this time, though good advance announcement in the Courier-Journal accounted for the turnout. I spent a lot of the time "teaching" about butterflies; so the counting was not as productive in numbers as in past years.

The count resulted in the following:

seven *E. clarus*, seven *E. baptisiae*, 10 *E. horatius*, two *E. icelus*, two *Wallengrenia egeremet*, five *Pompeius verna*, one *Polites themistocles*, two *Polites origenes*, 10 *Polites peckius*, 13 *Battus philenor*, two *Pterourus troilus*, 23 *Pieris rapae*, 19 *Colias eurytheme*, 16 *Colias philodice*, two *Satyrium edwardsii*, one *Callophrys grynea* (on giant milkweed blossom), six *Strymon melinus*, two *Celastrina neglecta*, 43 *Everes comyntas*, one *Calephelis borealis* (worn), one *Libytheana carinenta*, three *Polygonia interrogationis*, 33 *Speyeria cybele*, three *Boloria bellona*, 50 *Phyciodes tharos*, two *Euptoieta claudia*, one *Asterocampa celtis* (worn), two *Asterocampa clyton*, 75 *Megisto cymela*, 22 *Cercyonis pegala*, one *Cyllopsis gemma*, and one *Danaus plexippus* (on *Asclepias tuberosa* blooms).

Moths seen included: *Hemaris diffinis*, *Haploa clymene*, other *Haploa spp.*, and *Melilla xanthometata*.

Total butterfly species - 32. Total individual butterflies - 368. Dominant flowers out: orange and giant milkweed (very sparse), ox-eye daisy, daisy fleabane, white sweet-clover, thistle, and bergamot.

Those registering at the 4th count were:

Bill Phillips, Marion Uterhart, Mike and Jean Flynn, Doug and Carson Haynes, Martin and Jane Williams, Clara Esstel Wieland, Mary Carol Cooper, Diane Heilenman, Fred Mansmith, Wayne Davis, Amy and Jessica Berry, Helga Schutte, Dave and Marcia Dorman, Janet Aylward, and Kathleen Staples.

\*(Directions: Exit 14, I-71 (20 miles from downtown Louisville), turn north, the entrance is .8 miles from the interstate.)

# Eric Quinter's Field Trip Notes

In the last issue of the newsletter, the Field Trip Notes of Eric Quinter (accompanied by Bill Black and Jim Wiker) were published. They covered his visit May 10-18 to Western Kentucky. On that trip the three were in search of the Nearctic NOCTUIDAE larvae specializing on *Arundinaria*. In June, Quinter returned to Western Kentucky, this time in search of adults.

*Field Notes* - Eric Quinter, Bill Black, and Jim Wiker Western Kentucky June 14-18, 1999

## Adults in *Arundinaria* Sites

Location and Number found

	K1	K2	K3	K4	K5	K6	K7	IL-1
<i>Papaipema</i> n. sp. #4*	0	0					30*	0*
New Genus #1, n. sp. #1	5	0					1	2
New Genus #2, n. sp. #1	1	0					45	0
<i>Argillophora furcilla</i>	1	0					7	6
<i>Apamea</i> n. sp.	3	0					0	12

### Adult cane butterflies

*Enodia portlandia missarkae* one female at bait trap at K1

**Sites:** K1 - Sandy Branch, Carlisle Co, KY; K2 - Massac Creek, McCracken Co., KY; K3 - Willingham Bottoms, Fulton Co., KY; K4 - Reelfoot Lake, Fulton Co., KY; K5 - Boaz, Graves Co., KY; K6 - Burna, Livingston Co., KY; K7 - Stovall Creek, Ballard Co., KY; IL-1 Tamms, Alexander Co., IL.

Sites K3, K4, K5, and K6 were not visited.

K2 - By the time they visited this site, it was beginning to cool, and they did not find anything.

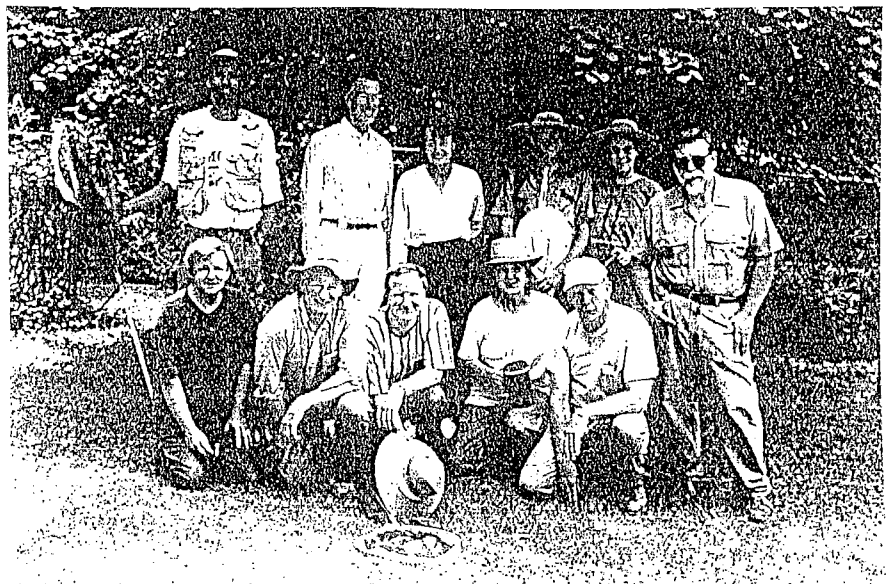
\* - Larvae

## Field Trip - June 24-27

Standing from left to right:  
Ron King, Dr. Roland Giradet,  
Jeannine Giradet, Charles Wright,  
Mary Wright, and Les Estep

Kneeling from left to right:  
Al Smith, Reed Watkins,  
Rick Ruggles, Joan Carr,  
and Loran Gibson

Photo by Bill Black



## June 25-27 Field Trip

We had a good visit over the weekend of 25-27 June in South Williamson with Joan Carr and Les Estep. Those present on Friday evening, in addition to our hosts, were Bill Black, Paducah; Charles Wright and his wife Mary Hamilton, Frankfort; Al Smith, Morehead; Rick Ruggles, Dayton, OH; Ron King, Owensboro; and me, Loran Gibson from Florence.

We talked, ate some excellent food prepared by our hosts, and put out light and bait traps on Les and Joan's property.

On Saturday morning we met at our hosts' house and walked their property looking for butterflies and generally observing the natural setting. Ron King's light trap provided some nice moths, Charles Wright's beetle traps produced some beetles, but bait traps were not attractive to nocturnal fliers.

Reed Watkins from Dayton Ohio and Dr. and Mrs. Roland Giradet from Louisville joined the group on Saturday morning. Only a few butterflies and skippers were seen. No *Speyeria diana* were found...not even on the fragrant Common Milkweed plants in the garden.

In the afternoon we visited a natural area in West Virginia known as Miller's Creek. There we saw many fresh *Battus philenor*, one *Amblyscirtes hegon*, and a few other species but diversity was still low.

Later the group broke up. Dr. and Mrs. Giradet, Al Smith, and Ron King went home. Rick Ruggles and Mary Hamilton retired to their accommodations.

The remaining six: Joan, Les, Reed, Charles, Bill and I headed for a remote area in Mingo County, West Virginia across the Tug Fork River from the most eastern section of Kentucky. Our hosts had located a canebrake there that Bill wanted to inspect for moths associated with *Arundinaria*.

Much of the drive was difficult gravel paralleling a railroad track. The trip took nearly two hours at slow speeds. At least three male *S. diana* were spotted along the way, one on Common Milkweed, and two on Orange Butterfly Weed. One of these cooperated with picture takers; and after that, none felt compelled to collect the fine specimen. Upon arriving at the canebrake we scouted the area and made paths to follow after dark. Reed set up a sheet light and I put a light trap at the edge of the railroad right-of-way, overlooking the cane.

At dusk we ate some watermelon that Joan had brought along for hot, sweaty folks. It was great!

Bill and I entered the canebrake to look for moths resting on or flying near Cane plants. It wasn't long before we located the first specimens of a Cane feeding species, *Argillophora furcilla* Grote. This success brought Les and Reed into the search. By 8:00 PM EST we had collected three specimens on the wing in the cane.

By 11:30 PM I had collected an additional three specimens in the light trap, for an evening total of six *Argillophora furcilla*. At 8:30 PM, by flashlight, I spotted and collected one specimen of what we believe to be one of Eric Quinter's new species, sitting on a cane leaf. (Bill believes it may be Quinter's New genus #1, New species #2.) At 11:30 PM, with thunder and lightning approaching, Bill collected two worn specimens on the wing in the cane. (Bill believes these specimens are Quinter's New genus #1, New species #1, or New genus #1, New species #2.) We will have to get Eric himself to resolve the identity of these three specimens.

We were all happy with the results of this venture even though the efforts required to pull it off were considerable.

Early on Sunday afternoon we got together again at Les and Joan's to sort specimens, share data, and to say good byes.

The interesting variety of flora and fauna observed and the wonderful hospitality of our hosts made this a field trip long to be remembered.

Loran D. Gibson

p.s. A list of moths from the canebrake site collected in the light trap will follow when completed.

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## CORRECTION:

**Volume 25, No. 3, June 1999**  
**Neartic NOCTUIDAE specializing on *Arundinaria***

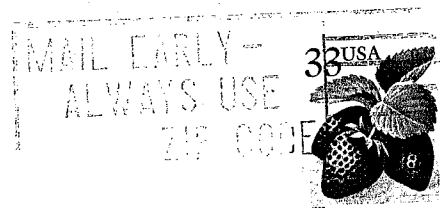
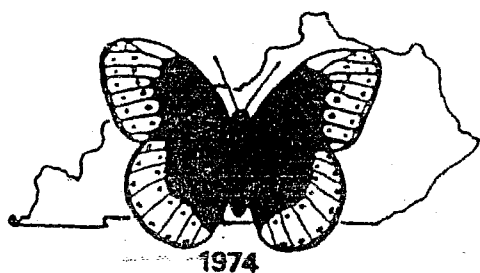
Charlie Covell sent the following: " *Leucania* sp. on p. 10 should be spelled *callidior*. (It was spelled 'calidior'.)"

By the way, that is another new state record, as well as the *Luperina trigona* mentioned in the article."

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

## Dates to Remember

September 3-6 Fall Field Trip  
November 19-20 Annual Meeting



**Society of Kentucky Lepidopterists**  
2015 LONE OAK ROAD, PADUCAH, KY 42003

Loran & Pat Gibson      pd1999  
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"jadams@carpet.dalton.peachnet.edu" <jadams@carpet.dalton.peachnet.edu>,ron king <brendaking@occ-uky.cam  
Date: Tue, 24 Aug 1999 17:58:43 -0500  
Subject: Re: calidior, etc.  
Message-ID: <37C323A1.1244@athena.louisville.edu>  
References: <199908241747.NAA12348@science.amnh.org>  
X-Status: Read  
X-Mailer: Mozilla 3.01 (Macintosh; I; PPC)

Eric: Great news you will come to give our featured talk at the Ky.  
Leps. meeting Nov. 19-20. Please give me a title for the talk. We'll  
spread the word. More soon. Eric L. Quinter wrote:

>  
> Hi, Charlie!  
>  
> >Eric: Good to hear from you. Thanks for the info on the spelling. I  
did  
> not get an answer from Bill Black when I asked for your phone number.  
>  
> My number here at the office is: (212) 769-5605. That's a  
direct  
> line, so you'll either get me or my machine (24 hours).  
>  
> >I want to invite you to be our special guest speaker at the annual  
meeting  
> of the Ky. Lepidopterists on Fri.-Sat. Nov. 19-20. We pay plane fare  
and you  
> stay at my place or other if you prefer. What say?  
>  
> Why, I'd be delighted! If I come down there and get ALL the KY  
> lepidopterists fired up, who KNOWS what the collective result might  
be?!!  
> (Oughta' be good for at LEAST a couple more new species, ultimately!)  
> [Already there seems to be considerable enthusiasm among those of you  
with  
> whom I have had recent contact.]  
>  
> Would be happy to stay with you. Presumably, I'd fly down  
there  
> sometime earlier in the day on Friday, and fly back to NY sometime on  
> Sunday? I'm sure I could put on a program that would make attendance  
> worthwhile; might even lure a few in from other states! (Wiker,  
Nielsen,  
> Adams, etc.??) Would plan on augmenting the talk/slide show with  
abundant,  
> choice, reared specimens of all cane taxa, larvae, genitalia slides,  
etc.  
> Could do some kind of workshop, if schedule permits. Can do the whole  
nine  
> yards, or any subset of it; just let me know!  
>  
> I noted another error (page 18) in "Kentucky Lepidopterist."  
It's an  
> error of transcription -- could be either Bill's or mine. In the

table, the

- > 30 larvae of *Papaipema n. sp. #4* attributed to the K7 site should appear in
- > the K1 column. That place is a gem! Doesn't appear to have changed much
- > since the Devonian!!

>

- > Let me hear from you regarding details, as time permits.

Cheers!

>

- > Eric

>

>

- > Eric L. Quinter

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Cheers, Charlie

--

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Louisville, KY 40292-0001 PHONE: (502) 852-6771 (office)

(502) 852-0725 (FAX); (502) 456-6122 (home). "So many bugs..."