



Kentucky Lepidopterist

Newsletter of the Society of the Kentucky Lepidopterists

Volume 26 Number 4 October 2000

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Dr. James K. Adams - 2000*
Eric Metzler - 2001*
George Balogh - 2002*
* term expires

27th Annual Meeting

Friday, November 10

Annual Party at the Covells', 2333 Brighton Dr., Louisville, KY.
Phone numbers: (502) 852-5942 (office) and 456-6122 (home).
From I-264 take the Exit Bardstown Road. Turn toward town. Turn right at the third traffic light, counting the one at the base of the ramps onto Bardstown Road. We are at the fourth intersection on your left, and we'll have a net out for you!

Saturday, November 11

Same Time, Same Place for 26 years!

9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. EDT

321 Life Sciences Building, University of Louisville

9:00 a.m.-noon Informal Session

Executive Committee Meeting

1:00-2:00 p.m. Business Meeting

2:00 p.m. - Featured Speaker Dave Wagner

This year we are fortunate to have one of the most entertaining professional lepidopterists: Dave Wagner, University of Connecticut, will present "The Joys of Vermification: Confessions of a Caterpillar Collector." He will have some dynamite slides to show us, and raise our consciousness about life history studies.

Others will speak as well, and we have room for our usual short talks, slide shows and "show-and-tell." As of now James K. Adams and John Hyatt are on the program.

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So many bugs...SO little time!

Ask me about how to order my new book "Butterflies & Moths of KY..."

Dues Reminder

Dues (still on ly \$10) are payable at or before the annual meeting. Enclosed is an envelope for your use should you not be able to attend. Past dues will be gladly received, as well. The dues are still only \$10.

President's Letter

Today, as I write the summer comes to an end, with temperatures due to drop in the next 24 hours.

In looking back, I would like to summarize some of the activities and high points from my perspective. There is much more to be said, and I hope some of you will report on your experiences with Kentucky Lepidoptera during this year.

Three days ago I checked by Leroy Koehn original bait trap (you know, the one pictured in the "Field Guide to Moths") and found a sphingid, something new to my experience. That's not all that was unusual: it was the Mournful Sphinx, *Enyo lugubris*, the third state record as far as I know.

That capped a rather disappointing year in the Covell garden, as I recorded only 28 species of butterflies this year, and no "star appearances" such as the White M Hairstreak in 1999 and the Long-tailed Skipper in 1998. I had more flowers, and this year added a number of native plants such as blazing-stars, aster varieties, Joe-pye Weed, coneflowers and others. If anyone is interested in knowing where to get some of these, let me know, as I can give information about the Shooting Star Nursery in Frankfort, KY, where they grow and sell many kinds of native plants.

The highlight of the year for me was the Fall Field Trip, September 1 - 3 to Paducah and several other sites in the Jackson Purchase, arranged and hosted by Bill Black. These included our old Willingham Bottoms and Hickman sites in Fulton Co., and the Terrapin Creek State Nature Preserve in Graves Co. The latter was a special focus because the biologists at the Kentucky State Nature Preserves Commission wanted us to survey the four parcels of land in that Preserve for Lepidoptera.

We recorded 43 butterfly species, the most interesting, or important, were the Dusted Skipper, *Lerema accius* (more common than normal everywhere this year); Yehl Skipper, *Poanes yehl*; the migrant Ocola Skipper, *Panoquina ocola*; Harvester, *Fenesica tarquinius*; Bronze Copper, *Hylolycaena hyllus*; and six satyrs: Southern Pearlyeye, *Enodia portlandia missarkae*; Northern Pearlyeye, *Enodia anthedon*; Creole Pearlyeye, *Enodia creola*; Appalachian Brown, *Satyrodes appalachia*; Gemmed Satyr, *Cylopsis gemma*; and Carolina Satyr, *Hermeuptychia sosybius*. Moths are being prepared and identified for a later report to the Commission.

In addition to these 43 species, Loran Gibson sampled the Pennyrile Forest State Park site and found Leonard's Skipper, *Hesperia leonardus*, and the Great Spangled Fritillary, *Speyeria cybele* and a number of species found at Terrapin Creek and Paducah and Fulton County, as well.

At Massac Creek Bottoms in Paducah we found the Ocola Skipper again, the Lace-winged Roadside Skipper, *Amblyscirtes aesculapius*; and the Gulf Fritillary (and also seen at Bill's "Zip Track Site"). An addition at the latter spot were the Wild Indigo Duskywing, *Erynnis baptisiae* and the Southern Dogface, *Zerene cesonia*. Loran added the Dun Skipper, *Euphyes vestris metacomet* and the Dion Skipper, *Euphyes dion* to the total from Willingham Bottoms.

Finally, we added the Checkered White, *Pontia protodice*, and Dainty Sulphur, *Nathalis iole* to the list at the Bunge Corp. site in Hickman late on Sunday afternoon. This made a fine weekend total of 53 species reported.

In addition, Loran and I continued adding species to our photo archives in preparation for the color-illustrated book on Kentucky butterflies and also a poster with about 30 species to be produced by Jeff Hohman, East Kentucky Power Cooperatives.

Another bit of news is that the anticipated appearance of the European import, *Noctua pronuba*, was first recorded recently by Al Smith in Morehead. He found this addition to the state record on August 30, 2000 on his back porch. Congratulations, Al!

There are other matters to cover, such as a seasonal butterfly "house" proposed recently to me by the Director of the Louisville Zoo, the need to survey for rare and endangered Lepidoptera especially the Regal Fritillary, and outreach projects involving butterfly gardening, photography, listing, and overall enjoyment in our areas. More later.

Oh, and welcome back to Kentucky, Rozenna Carr and Leroy Koehn!

Cheers, Charlie
So many bugs.....

MONARCHS' TAGS

First three Kentucky-tagged Monarchs reported by Monarch Watch for 1999-2000.

In the Summer 2000 issue (No. 8) of "Monarch Watch" magazine there are listed 751 monarchs recovered with tags on them from the Fall 1999 tagging season. These include three from Kentucky, tagged by three different people.

I think these are the first ever "Kentucky" monarchs ever recovered. One was tagged by Kelsey Johnson at Butler (either Franklin or Pendleton Co.), KY on an unrecorded date, and reported from Cerro Pelon, Mexico on Jan. 29, 2000.

The second was tagged by Sondra Cabell at Geneva, KY (Henderson or Lincoln Co.) on September 18, 1999, and recovered at El Rosario, Mexico (the main overwintering site) on January 29, 2000.

Amy Newman tagged the third at Henderson, KY on Sept. 8, 1999. It was found at El Rosario on February 21, 2000. Congratulations to these taggers!

I tagged 65 last fall, but only about 25 this year. I hope more Kentucky monarchs will be found during the coming winter.

For information on Monarch Watch, email Dr. Orley Taylor at monarch@ukans.edu, or visit this website: WWW.MonarchWatch.org. -CVC

Ohio Lepidopterists ID Day

Saturday, 9 December 2000,

Doors open at 9:00 a.m. edt

Ohio State University Museum of
Biological Diversity (West Campus)
Columbus, Ohio

These times to get together, compare notes about the previous season's activities, and obtain identifications for UFO's are a very popular annual event for The Ohio Lepidopterists.

Enthusiasts from Ohio, Kentucky, Indiana, Michigan, Indiana, and Illinois regularly bring many specimens for others to examine.

The ID days are a self-help activity, calling on the expertise of the members and the collections at The Ohio State University. Come on over to learn more about our favorite subject.

Eric Metzler

Lepidopterists' Society publishes

BASIC TECHNIQUES FOR OBSERVING AND STUDYING MOTHS AND BUTTERFLIES

Just published is this work, paperbound and about 1 1/4 inch thick, this *Memoir #5* of the Lepidopterists' Society. The next NEWS of the Lepidopterists' Society will announce it and give ordering information.

The author is the late Dr. William D. "Dave" Winter, who died in 1998 from the complications of Legionnaire's Disease. Before contracting this debilitating illness Dave took on this monumental project, which has 444 pages on diverse topics for anyone interested in moths and butterflies.

He kept at it to the last, and had it nearly done. *Memoirs* Editor, Dr. Bill Miller, saw it to completion and through the editing and printing process. The book consists of 12 chapters, 15 appendices, and a glossary. Chapters cover Observing, Photography, Identification, Gardening, Rearing, Collecting adults, Preparing specimens, Preparing genitalia, Hazards, Interactions, regulations & transactions, Collecting guidelines, and Disposition of collections.

Contact Charlie Covell if you are not a member of the Lepidopterists' Society and wish to order a copy of the book. His address, etc. is on the front page.

2001 Annual Winter Meeting

Saturday, 13 January 2001

9:00 a.m. EDT

Ohio Lepidopterists

Ohio State University Museum of Biological
Diversity (West Campus) Columbus, Ohio

The Lepidopterists from across the midwest will gather and shake off the midwinter blues. The speaker this year will be Robert K. Robbins from the Smithsonian Institution.

Bob is the immediate past Chair of the Smithsonian's Department of Entomology, and he is the President of the international The Lepidopterists' Society. Bob's expertise is hairstreaks - especially from tropical America.

We hope to see you there. Eric Metzler

Kentucky Lepidopterist newsletter is published quarterly – January, June, August, and October. Members who wish to submit article, should do so a full month prior to publication.

MEMBERSHIP Dues are \$10 annually and are payable by the annual meeting in November.

If the date after you name is highlighted, dues are still payable. The list is updated quarterly. If you have paid since that date, please ignore the notation.

Enclosed is an envelope for you to send in dues.

The Society of the Kentucky Lepidopterists is open to all interested in Lepidoptera.

Dates to Remember:

November 10-11 KyLEPS Annual Meeting (see front page for more information)

December 9 Ohio Leps ID Day

January 13 Ohio Leps Annual Meeting



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