

Kentucky Lepidopterist

Newsletter of the Society of Kentucky Lepidopterists

Volume 32 Number 4 4 November 2006

2006 Annual Meeting at the University of Kentucky

**Featured Speaker: Dr. Andrew V. Z. Brower,
Middle Tennessee State University**

The 2006 Annual Meeting of the Society of Kentucky Lepidopterists, hosted once again by Dr. Michael Sharkey, will take place December 1-2 on the campus of the University of Kentucky. We are very lucky to have Andy Brower, who recently moved to Middle Tennessee State University from the University of Oregon, as our Keynote Speaker. Andy is an expert on butterfly molecular phylogenetics (family trees based on DNA sequences) and has been an important contributor to the Lepidoptera branch of the international Tree of Life Project (<http://www.tolweb.org>). Following is a brief outline of the weekend's agenda along with additional pertinent information:

Friday 1 December

10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Identification Day

*Entomology Dept., Agriculture Science Center
North Building.*

The collection will be open for viewing and identification. Please bring specimens of special interest, UFOs to be identified, and any records to be added to the database.

7:00 PM

Reception

E.S. Good Barn

This will be an informal gathering hosted by Dr. Sharkey. A slide projector will be available and time set aside for the sharing of photos and/or stories from the field. Please consider bringing snacks or desserts to share.

Saturday 2 December

Entomology Department, Agriculture Science Center North Building

9:00 AM to Noon

Collection open for viewing

Coffee, donuts, and fellowship

1:00 PM to 3:00 PM

Business Meeting

Keynote address by Dr. Andrew Brower

"Phylogenetic relationships of Satyrinae"

**Presentation by James Adams: "The genus
Papaipema, what all the fuss is about",
and other contributed Talks and Papers**

3:20 PM to 5:00 PM

Please advise Dr. Jeffrey Marcus 270-745-2043, jeffrey.marcus@wku.edu if you have something that you would like to present.

EVENING

Dinner at a local restaurant.

THE SOCIETY OF KENTUCKY LEPIDOPTERISTS

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Loran Gibson - 2008*
Richard Henderson - 2008*
* 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: \$12.00, and can be sent to the Treasurer: Les Ferge, (see above).

(Continued on pg #2)

LODGING: Twelve rooms are being held at the University Inn (across the street from the Ag. Science Center North Building). Reservations must be made by November 15. Group rates before tax are: \$62.10 for a single, \$72.20 for a king, and \$76.50 for a double. For reservations call 866-881-9676 and specify that you are with the Society of Kentucky Lepidopterists.

PARKING: Those staying at the University Inn may park there and walk across the street to the meeting. There is a parking lot directly behind the Ag. Science Center North Building and a parking garage at the corner of Cooper Dr. and University Dr. Parking permits will be required for Friday only and may be obtained from Dr. Sharkey upon arrival. You may park in front of the building for 15 minutes while securing your permit. If there are any problems, contact Dr. Sharkey @ 859-257-9364.

DIRECTIONS: Maps showing the University Inn and meeting locations are on page #6.

Lepidoptera Blitz 2006: Great Smoky Mountain National Park

By Marcia Jumblatt

Students, scientists and amateurs (like me) gathered at the Sugarlands Training Center in the Great Smoky Mountain National Park on August 12 for several days of collecting and identifying a wide assortment of Lepidoptera. The blitz was organized by Brian Scholtens and included teams focusing on microleps, macros, larvae and DNA barcoding. As in the past, the Lep Blitz was sponsored by the Discover Life in America (DLIA) as part of its All Taxa Biodiversity Index (ATBI). <http://www.dlia.org/>

The first morning (Sunday, after trapping on Saturday night), Brian said I could help by sorting the Geometrids and Noctuids, presumably so others could key out the less common moths. I said "Sure" – although I wasn't – and a huge pile was immediately dumped on the table in front of me. Hmm... Geo, geo, noc, geo, noc, sphinx (easy!). Anyhow you get the idea. About an hour later Luma and Sam showed up and asked for geos. With some trepidation, I gave them my pile and after another hour they came back with the reassuring news that I had made only two mistakes. Well, once the big stuff was out, Jadranka came over for micros. About an hour later, I could spot Pyralids as long as she was there. We joined up with everyone else for dinner and brews at No Way Jose, where we managed to confound the waiter when the checks came due. More night trapping followed.

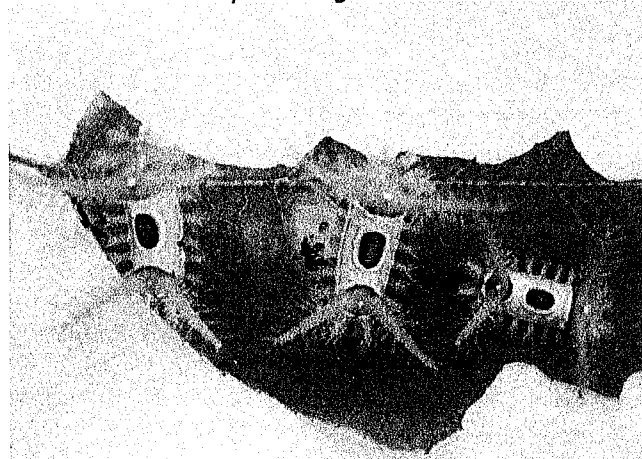
I spent Monday with the caterpillar team, headed up by Dave Wagner. After literally beating the bushes at the Chimneys sites with Jess and Rene, we gathered vial upon vial of tiny caterpillars along with samples of their foodplants for delivery to the lab and subsequent identification. The champion collector was an eleven year-old named Cameron who seemed to effortlessly locate all kinds of slug caterpillars and anything else Dave sent him off to find. Some of the caterpillars were positively identified using Dave's excellent book, and these, after being photographed by Rene, were, for the most part, destined to become caterpillar goo for the extraction of DNA. Other larvae went back to Connecticut to be reared and identified as adults.

The DNA project, under the direction of Paul Hebert's lab added a new twist this year. As in the past, numerous adults were vouchered and photographed by Jeremy and Eric, who then removed a single leg for analysis of the cytochrome oxidase I gene sequence (aka: the barcode). For the first time, vouchered larvae were also photographed and submitted for DNA analysis. Barcoding should easily link adults and juveniles of the same species and the ability to barcode vouchered larvae provides a simple test for this hypothesis.

<http://www.barcodinglife.org/views/login.php>

Monday was also PR day and we set up a shelter with the good people from the ATBI/DLIA to explain to the general public what we were doing. A number of interested adults and kids viewed our display of live moths and butterflies, with a few caterpillars thrown in for good measure. The ATBI/DLIA people also treated us to dinner, cooked out at the Greenbrier picnic shelter. After another night at the Cosby Campground house, I drove back to Louisville on Wednesday. Others stayed to finish up and clean up. I wished I was with them.

We are all anxiously awaiting the results of the blitz!



Acharia stimulea caterpillars



Top R 2 L: Loran Gibson, Charlie Covell, Bill Black, Todd Wiley, Jeff Marcus, Richard Henderson, Ian Segebarth
 Bottom R 2 L: Kevin Segebarth, J. B. Scott, Tony Merkle, Gerald Burnett, Ellis Laudermilk
 Photo at the Zip Track site in Paducah. Also in attendance, but not in the picture was Annie Segebarth.

Report of the Fall Field Trip to Western KY

By Charlie Covell

September 8th, my sister Alice and I drove to Paducah, KY for the Fall Field Meeting. On the way we stopped at the old bridge and field site at the back of Pennyriple State Resort Park, Christian Co. There I recorded the following species: *E. clarus*, *A. campestris*, *P. glaucus*, *P. troilus*, *P. sennae*, *E. lisa*, *S. melinus*, *E. comyntas*, *C. neglecta*, *S. cybele* (several, on thistle blossoms), *P. tharos*, *L. arthemis astyanax*, *L. archippus*, *A. clyton*, and *H. sosybius*. We arrived at Bill Black's house before 6 PM, and I took Alice to the Whaler's Catch restaurant for dinner. Around 8:00 p.m. we had a gathering at Bill's, with pictures shown by Jeff Marcus, Ian Segebarth and Richard Henderson. Earlier that day, Bill and the Segebarths went to the Bunge Corp. loading facility on the Mississippi River at Hickman, Fulton Co., and recorded the following species: *E. clarus*, *S. hayhurstii*, *P. catullus*, *L. accius*, *A. numitor*, *H. phyleus*, *A. campestris*, *P. zabulon*, *B. philenor*, *P. glaucus*, *P. troilus*, *P. protodice*, *P. rapae*, *C. eurytheme*, *Z. cesonia*, *P. sennae*, *E. lisa*, *E.*

nicippe, *C. cecrops*, *S. melinus*, *E. comyntas*, *L. carinenta*, *E. claudia*, *P. interrogationis*, *V. cardui*, *V. atalanta*, *J. coenia*, *P. tharos*, *C. nycteis*, *L. arthemis astyanax*, *L. archippus*, *C. gemma* and *D. plexippus*.

Saturday morning September 9th, we gathered at a local motel in Paducah for the day's field trip while Alice saw some sights with Eileen Segebarth. We went to the "zip track site" first, and recorded the following: *E. clarus*, *E. horatius*, *E. baptisiae*, *P. communis*, *A. numitor*, *H. phyleus*, *P. themistocles*, *W. egeremet*, *A. campestris*, *E. dukesi*, *E. ruricola metacommet*, *P. ocola*, *P. polyxenes asterius*, *P. glaucus*, *C. philodice*, *C. eurytheme*, *P. sennae*, *E. lisa*, *E. nicippe*, *C. cecrops*, *S. melinus*, *E. comyntas*, *L. carinenta*, *P. interrogationis*, *V. atalanta*, *J. coenia*, *P. tharos*, *L. arthemis astyanax*, *L. archippus*, *A. andria*, *A. clyton*, and *D. plexippus*. At about noon we went to the "Littleville site" with wet woods abutting an open field where waste dirt and concrete materials have been continually placed to build up the land. We found *Euphyes dukesi* common in the expected place, and also recorded *E. baptisiae*, *A. numitor* (common),

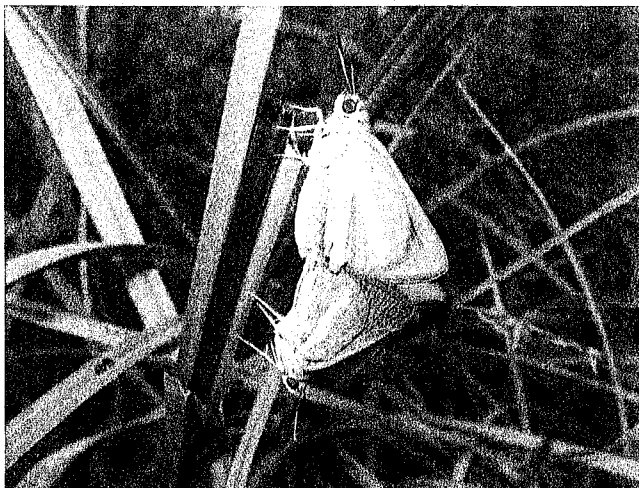
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A. campestris, *P. zabulon*, *P. polyxenes asterius*, *H. crespontes*, *P. sennae*, *C. cecrops*, *S. melinus*, *V. atalanta*, *J. coenia*, *P. tharos*, *L. arthemis astyanax*, *L. archippus*, *S. appalachia*, and *D. plexippus*.

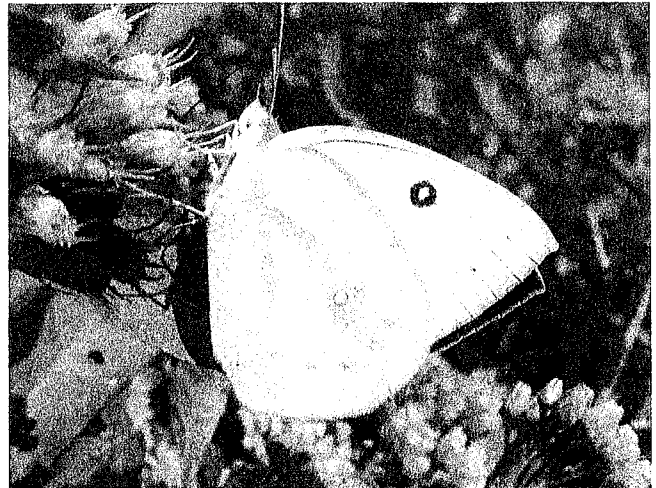


The Littleville site in Paducah

Next we drove to the old railroad yard we have visited in the past, and recorded the following: *E. clarus*, *P. communis*, *L. accius*, *P. peckius*, *A. campestris*, *A. logan*, *P. zabulon*, *E. ruricola metacomet*, *C. eurytheme*, *P. sennae*, *E. lisa*, *E. nicippe*, *C. cecrops*, *E. comyntas*, *C. neglecta*, *L. carinenta*, *A. vanillae* (one male seen), *E. claudia*, *S. cybele*, *P. tharos*, *A. celtis*, *A. clyton*, and *D. plexippus*. About the middle of the afternoon we drove to Yellow Dog Road in Carlisle Co., where we set out U.V. moth traps and recorded *E. clarus*, *P. communis*, *L. accius*, *P. themistocles*, *A. campestris*, *B. philenor*, *P. polyxenes asterius*, *P. troilus*, *C. philodice*, *P. sennae*, *E. comyntas*, *E. claudia*, *J. coenia*, *P. tharos*, *L. arthemis astyanax*, *L. archippus*, and *D. plexippus*. We then returned to Bill Black's house for the night.



Mating pair of *Euphyes dukesi* at the Littleville site
photo by Ian Segebarth



Zerene cesonia at Bunge Corp.
photo by Ian Segebarth

In the morning of September 10th we drove to Carlisle Co. on Rt. 62 to retrieve traps. Along Yellow Dog Road we saw; *A. numitor*, *P. ocola* (pair in copulo), *P. sennae*, *P. tharos*, *P. comma*, *V. atalanta*, *L. arthemis astyanax*, *L. archippus*, *E. anthedon* and *D. plexippus*. At the same spot we visited the evening before we saw *P. sennae*, *P. tharos*, *A. clyton* and *D. plexippus*. We also saw the moths *Eusarca confusaria*, *Cisseps fulvicollis* and *Hyphantria cunea* at this site. We then drove to the marshy place along Rt. 239 in Hickman Co. where we recorded *Poanes viator* amid its foodplant (I took one), plus *E. clarus*, *B. philenor*, *P. senna*, *E. comyntas*, *P. tharos*, and *L. archippus*. We then drove out to the Bunge Corp. loading facility at Hickman, Fulton Co., where Bill Black had put out fruit bait on Friday. There were many *L. archippus* in his traps, plus a couple *L. arthemis astyanax*, *P. interrogationis*, *P. comma*, *A. celtis*, *A. clyton*, a single *N. antiopa*, and *C. gemma*. Some moths were also collected in the U.V. light traps including several species of *Catocala*. Other butterflies recorded there were *Staphylus hayhurstii*, *P. communis*, *P. catullus*, *L. accius*, *H. phyleus*, *P. zabulon*, *P. yehl* (Ian Segebarth took this, the first for this site), *A. vialis* (seen by Richard Henderson), *P. protodice* (more common than I have seen it there before), *P. rapae* (several), *C. eurytheme*, *Z. cesonia* (I have never seen many of them there), *P. sennae*, *E. lisa*, *E. nicippe*, *C. cecrops*, *S. melinus*, *E. comyntas*, *C. neglecta*, *L. carinenta*, *E. claudia*, *V. cardui* (near pond), *J. coenia*, *P. tharos*, *C. nycteis* (several), *H. sosybius*, and *D. plexippus*. No *N. iole* seen this year. Our final stop at Willingham Bottoms along Rt. 94 in Fulton Co. was late in the afternoon. I recorded *A. numitor*, *P. sennae*, *P. comma*, *P. tharos*, *H. sosybius* and *D. plexippus*. The Segebarths recorded a sighting of *E. marcellus* from their vehicle as they approached the spot. (Continued on pg #5)

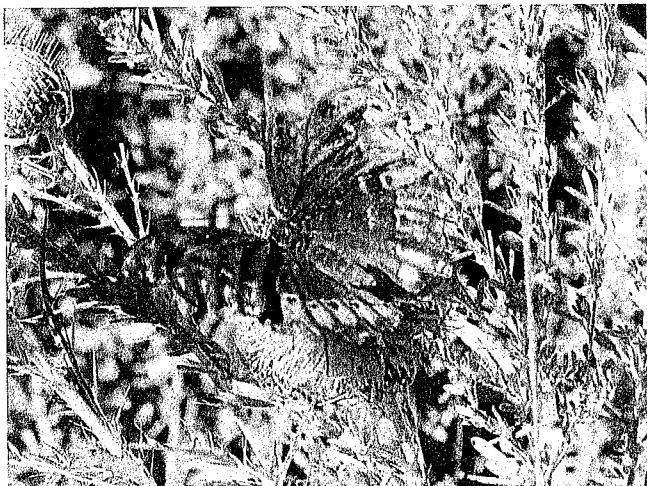
This brought the weekend total to 62 butterfly species recorded.

It was once again a very enjoyable field meeting, wonderfully hosted by Bill and Nancy Black!

A Late Season *Speyeria diana*

By Loran Gibson

On 1 October 2006, while searching for *Papaipema* collecting sites, Bill Black discovered a very worn female *Speyeria diana* nectaring on thistle flowers in a powerline easement in Daniel Boone National Forest in Laurel County, Kentucky. On the following day, 2 October, after collecting light traps from a location nearby, what must surely have been the same individual was observed again on thistle flowers by Bill Black, Richard Henderson, and Loran Gibson. Richard took several photos of the worn-out creature. As you can see, it was so tattered that it could hardly fly. This is not the latest Kentucky record for *diana*. Jeremy Fraser observed another female on 12 October 1997 in a power transmission corridor near the same general area.



Speyeria Diana photo by Richard Henderson

Message from the President

Just a few quick words as the end of the collecting season approaches and as I am preparing for the Annual Meeting in Lexington on December 1-2. I hope that many of you are able to join us this year!

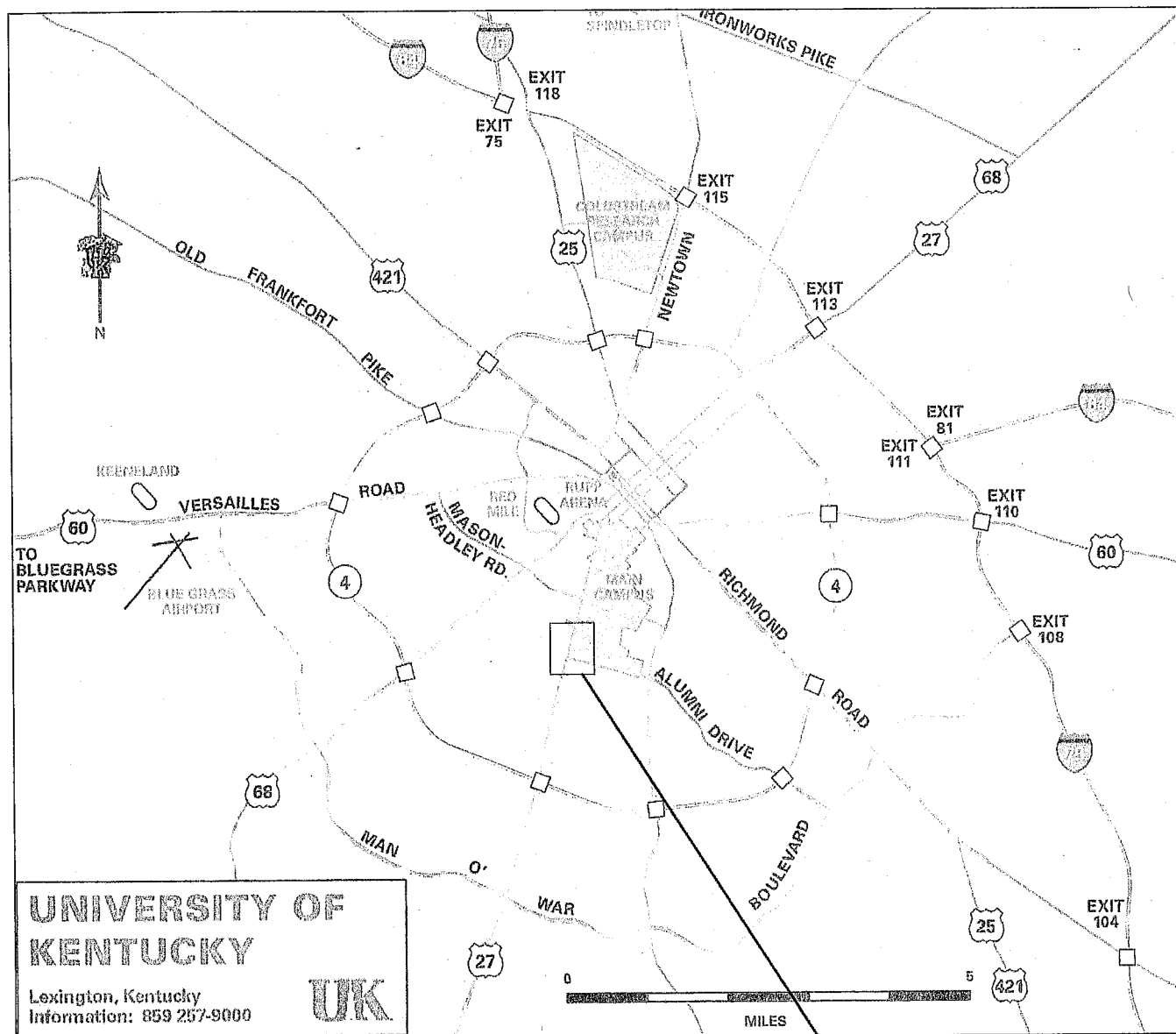
Some highlights of the last few months:

1. I have obtained a better web address for our Society web site. The new address is: <http://www.kylepidopterists.org> The old web address still works, but the newer one is easier to remember.


2. The archive project for the Kentucky Lepidopterist is now complete. All of the back-issues are available on-line as PDF downloads. Many thanks to former Society President Jim Taylor and to Western Kentucky University Interlibrary Loan specialist Selina Langford for helping me track down those last few elusive issues. I have found the online issues to be very useful in tracking down articles I remember reading, but can't find among my piles. I hope that you will, too.

3. The on-line database project is moving along. I have given it a name: The Kentucky Butterfly Net, and it will eventually have the address <http://www.kybutterfly.net> Right now, using that address will just get you to our society home page. I am including a sample of what the output from the database will look like, in this case for records of the swamp metalmark, *Calephelis mutica*. The interface is not yet ready for you to pull up records yourselves, but it should be ready in time for the annual meeting. In the mean time, anyone who is interested in output for a particular species can get in touch with me and I can give you a web link to the output for that species. Charlie Covell stopped actively maintaining the database around 2002, so my students and I are also working to update records since that time. So far, we have entered all of the data from the national Lepidopterists' Society Season summaries since that date (thanks to Al Smith for reporting his collections there!), and we are working through the back-issues of the Kentucky Lepidopterist. So far, we have finished 2003 and are working through 2004. When Charlie Covell and Loran Gibson's article in the Journal of the Kentucky Academy of Science with the new state moth records comes out (we expect in November 2006), those will be added to the database as well. As of this moment, the database includes 47,085 individual records of Lepidoptera. If you have collection records that you feel are noteworthy, please add them to our database! Our knowledge of the distribution of even very common species is often very spotty. This summer, I got a first Warren County record (where my home in Bowling Green is located) for collecting a monarch butterfly (*Danaus plexippus*)—they are so common, nobody had ever bothered to collect one from here before. So please, enter your records! If you don't know how, ask me for help and I will help you. If you are hopeless with computers and can't enter them in yourself, talk to me and I may be able to arrange for a student to enter the records for you.

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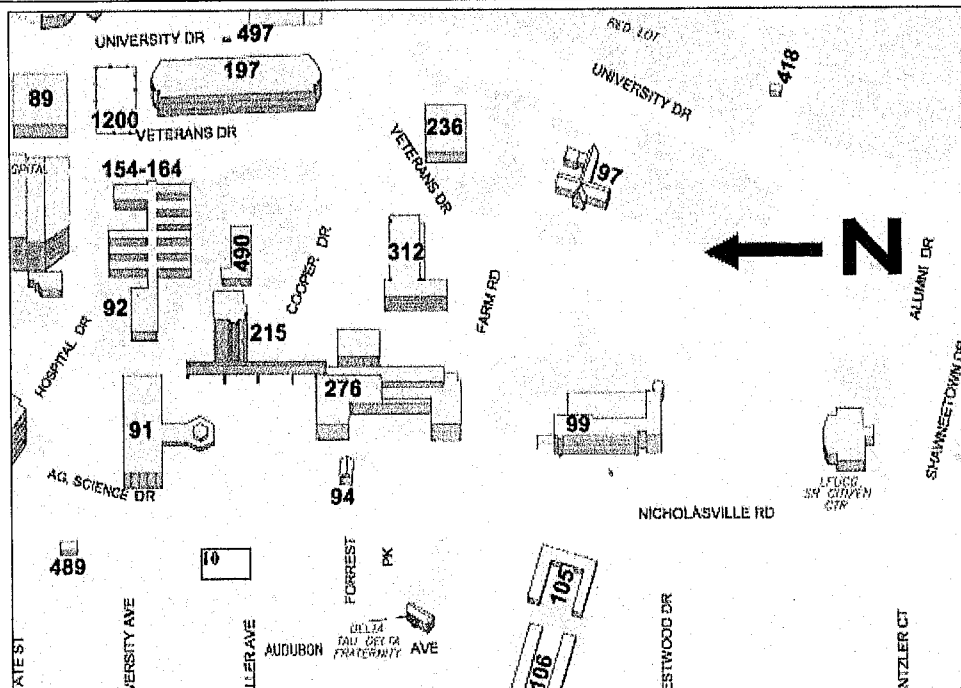


UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY
 Lexington, Kentucky
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KEY:

- 10** University Inn
- 91** Agriculture Science Center North Building
- 97** G.S. Goodbarn
- 197** Parking Garage
- 490** Parking Lot

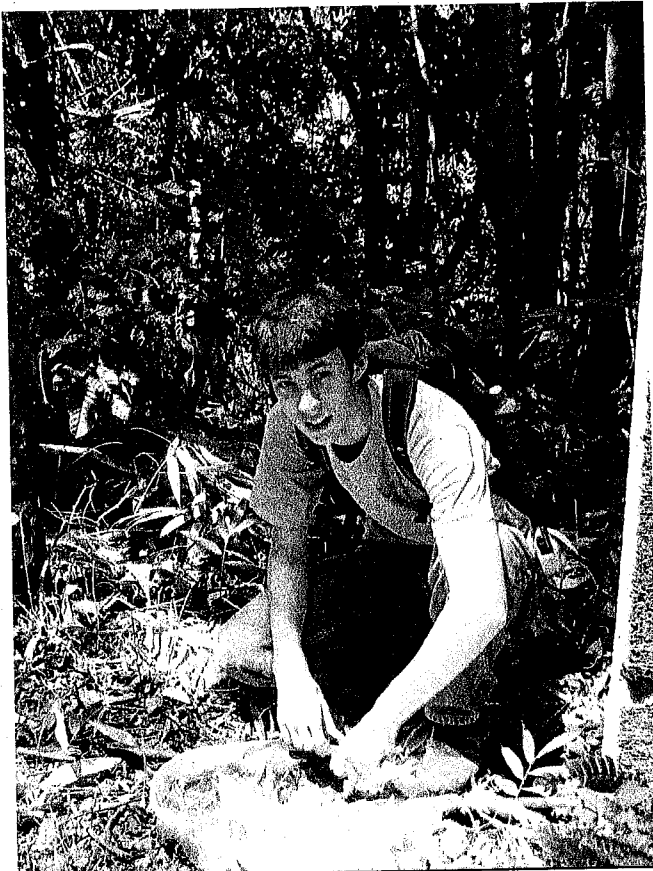


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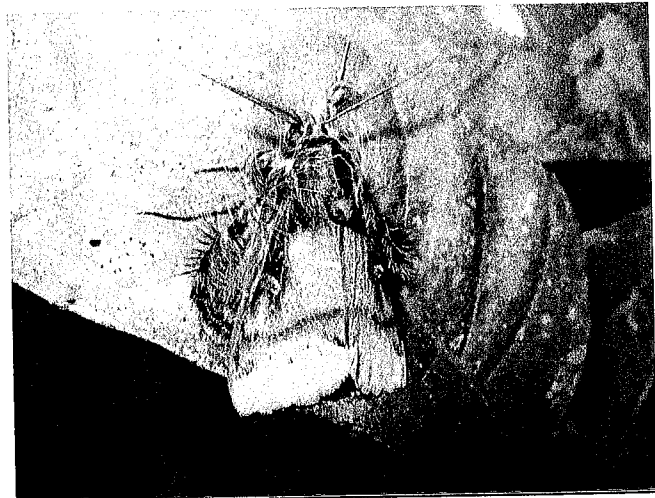
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4. I've even done some collecting before the early frosts shut me down. I promise to tell you all about it—when I see you at the annual meeting.

Best regards,
Jeff Marcus



Ian Segebarth collecting in Colombia this September



One of the many moths that were attracted to the sheet in Colombia in September

Note from the Editor

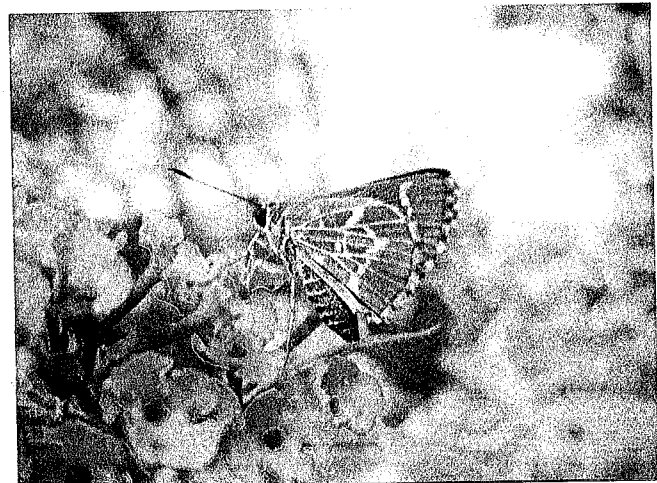
Thank you to all the members that submitted articles for inclusion in the Newsletter! It makes it incredibly easier when there is participation from the membership, and I thank you all for your help.

I look forward to seeing those who can make it to the Annual Meeting in Lexington this December, and hope to see those who can't in the field next year!

Happy Hunting!
Craig Segebarth

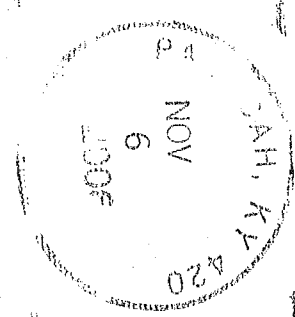
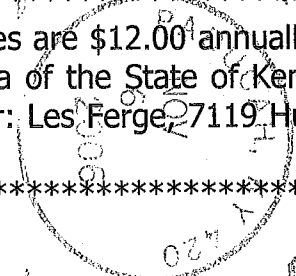
In the Next Issue

Coming in the next issue of the Kentucky Lepidopterist, Ian Segebarth tells about his summer travels and research during his internship at the McGuire Center in Florida.



Amblyscirtes aesculapius in Segebarth backyard
Photo by Ian Segebarth

The Kentucky Lepidopterist is published four times a year, and dues are \$12.00 annually. The organization is open to anyone with an interest in the Lepidoptera of the State of Kentucky. Information can be obtained from, and dues sent to the Treasurer: Les Ferge 27119 Hubbard Avenue, Middleton, WI 53562



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