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LEPIDOPTERISTS

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with an interest in the Lepidoptera
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Membership dues are annual:
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Euphyes dion
Photo by Tony Merkle
13 September 2009

Western Kentucky Field Trip Report

by Tony Merkle

The late summer field meeting for 2009 was held in western Kentucky on the 11th, 12th and 13th of September. It included visits to some old familiar sites as well as some new ones. Those attending were Bill Black, Gerald Burnett, Loran Gibson, Richard Henderson, David Iftner, Leroy Koehn, Kevin, Craig and Ian Segebarth, Todd Wiley, Charles Wright and myself. Eileen Segebarth also joined us for the traditional get-together on Friday evening at Bill and Nancy Black's house.

For Loran, Charles and myself the trip began with a visit on Friday to Shipping Port Island on the Ohio River in Louisville followed by visits to other sites along the river in Hancock and Union Counties as we made our way to Paducah to meet with the rest of the group. Butterfly species diversity at these sites was

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relatively low but certain species were present in good numbers including the Checkered White (*Pontia protodice*) which was seen at all of the sites visited. Also of interest were populations of the Dainty Sulphur (*Nanthalis iole*) and the Southern Dogface (*Zerene cesonia*) that we observed at the Union County site.

Upon arriving in Paducah, we proceeded directly to the Days Inn on US 60 where we planned to stay. Here we met Richard Henderson who had just arrived as well. After checking into our rooms the four of us went to a nearby barbecue restaurant for dinner before heading to Bill and Nancy Black's house to meet the rest of the group.

At the Black's house we spent time talking and consuming the various treats that Nancy had prepared for the occasion. Unfortunately, she was unable to join us due to a babysitting commitment she had with some of her grandchildren. Her presence was missed but her culinary efforts were greatly appreciated. Also of great enjoyment was a slide show given by Ian Segebarth of photos he has taken on trips abroad that included areas such as Papua New Guinea, the Solomon Islands, Panama and Madagascar. We were treated to many spectacular images of lepidopteran subjects as well as some of the other life forms he has encountered in his travels. As usual it was a good time for meeting friends, making new acquaintances and generally enjoying each other's company.

Saturday began with the group convening for breakfast at the Days Inn where many of us were staying. From there we went to a swampy wooded area located in the Littleville section of the city. (Group photo at left by Ian Segebarth) These woods have perennially been a good place to observe the Duke's Skipper (*Euphyes dukesi*) and the Appalachian Brown Butterfly (*Lethe appalachia*). This year was no exception as many individuals of both species were seen throughout the woods. We spent some time observing and photographing them and anything else the site had to offer.

From the Littleville site we went to the Doug Travis Wildlife Management Area in Carlisle County. Here we spent some time walking along an area that had been cleared for a roadway to allow vehicle access into the management area. This was a new site for a field meeting. Several species of butterflies were observed and recorded however nothing particularly unusual was found.

From there we went to another site in Carlisle County near the Mississippi River where there was a large bare sandy area at the edge of a soybean field. This spot had been located by Charles Wright while the rest of the group was at the Doug Travis WMA. For those of you who are not aware of it, Charles concentrates his efforts on the collection and study of beetles. He had secured some specimens of the Big Sand Tiger Beetle (*Cicindella formosa generosa*) at the site. This was a county record for that species. The group spent some time observing, collecting and photographing this large, attractive species of tiger beetle. (Photo at right by Tony Merkle)

Our next stop was to another site in Carlisle County on a bluff overlooking the Mississippi River valley where Gerald Burnett has been using a freezer trap to survey the area for moths and other insects. The trap is located on the porch of a small building facing the river valley. A roof overhead protects it from precipitation in the case of inclement weather. It consists of a small chest freezer unit with a hole cut into the top of it

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with a black light and fins positioned over the top of the hole. Insects that fly to the black light hit the fins and drop into fitted trays in the freezer where they are killed by the freezing cold temperature of the unit. Members of the group watched in fixed anticipation as Gerald removed the trays from the unit to reveal the insects that had been trapped over the course of the previous few days. Many apparently good specimens were observed some of which could not be readily identified. Several members of the group expressed interest in the prospect of adopting specimens in order to give them good homes. Gerald reluctantly denied the requests explaining that the trapping efforts were being conducted as part of an official survey of the site and therefore required that the specimens be retained until identified and cataloged. This led to some playful chiding being directed toward him by some members of the group as they expressed their disappointment. As more and more interesting specimens were observed, Gerald's popularity seemed to steadily decline. No amount of apologizing on his part could sooth the apparent hurt feelings. The chiding would continue throughout the remainder of the day and into the following morning at which time all was forgiven and Gerald regained his stature as a loved and respected member of the group.

Our next stop on Saturday was at a site on the Mississippi River near the Bunge Corporation facility in the town of Hickman in Fulton County. Due to its high diversity of species this site has become a traditional favorite for visiting during this meeting. Unfortunately, diversity was lower than usual this year although certain species such as the Dainty Sulphur (*Nanthalis iole*) and the Checkered White (*Pontia protodice*) (right, by Tony Merkle) were extremely common. This site has also been a focal point for locating hybrids of the Viceroy (*Limenitis archippus*) and Red-spotted Purple (*Limenitis arthemis astyanax*). These two species generally occur here in good numbers and hybrids between them have been documented from the site on several occasions however this year the numbers of both species were quite low and no hybrids were observed.



From the Hickman site the group split up with some going farther south to a spot along the Mississippi River at French Point and others going to various places to set out moth traps; however, no additional species of butterflies were reported from any of these sites. The group then reconvened for dinner at Luke's Restaurant in Arlington in Carlisle County. This has become a favorite dinner spot for the Western Kentucky field meetings, especially for catfish enthusiasts in the group. We spent some time eating, conversing and laughing before heading back to our respective accommodations to turn in for the evening. The group decided that no collecting sheet would be put up that evening. This decision was attributed largely to the ravages of age catching up with many of us since we now seemed to tire much more easily than we had in our younger days.

On Sunday morning the group again met for breakfast at the Days Inn. From there we traveled to the Ballard Wildlife Management Area in Ballard County. Two sites were visited within the management area where some interesting discoveries were made including sightings of the Dion Skipper (*Euphyes dion*) and the Duke's Skipper (*Euphyes dukesi*). Two interesting caterpillars were also observed at these sites including a late instar specimen of the White-lined Sphinx Moth (*Hyles lineata*) and an unidentified species (left, by Tony Merkle) that was apparently feeding on Buttonbush (*Cephalanthus occidentalis*). Hopefully, with more research its identity will be able to be determined.



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Our last stop of the day was to a boat ramp/beach area along the Ohio River in Ballard County. The highlight of this stop was again the discovery of the Big Sand Tiger Beetle (*Cicindella formosa generosa*), which was another county record for that species.

At this point, since it was getting somewhat late in the day and some of the participants had long drives home, the group disbanded and headed their separate ways.

It was generally agreed that species diversity for the meeting was lower this year than it had been in previous ones. A total of forty species of butterflies and skippers were observed including: Silver-spotted Skipper (*Epargyreus clarus*), Common Sootywing (*Pholisora catullus*), Wild Indigo Duskywing (*Erynnis baptisiae*), Common Checkered-skipper (*Pyrgus communis*), Least Skipper (*Ancyloxypha numitor*), Fiery Skipper (*Hylephila phyleus*), Tawny-edged Skipper (*Polites themistocles*), Sachem (*Atalopedes campestris*), Dion Skipper (*Euphyes dion*), Duke's Skipper (*Euphyes dukesi*), Pipevine Swallowtail (*Battus philenor*), Zebra Swallowtail (*Eurytides marcellus*), Tiger Swallowtail (*Papilio glaucus*), Spicebush Swallowtail (*Papilio troilus*), Dainty Sulphur (*Nanthalis iole*), Little Yellow (*Pyrisitia lisa*), Clouded Sulphur (*Colias philodice*), Orange Sulphur (*Colias eurytheme*), Southern Dogface (*Zerene cesonia*), Cloudless Sulphur (*Phoebis sennae*), Cabbage White (*Pieris rapae*), Checkered White (*Pontia protodice*), Gray Hairstreak (*Strymon melinus*), Eastern Tailed-blue (*Cupido comyntas*), Summer Azure (*Celastrina neglecta*), American Snout (*Libytheana carineta*), Monarch (*Danaus plexippus*), Red-spotted Purple (*Limenitis arthemis astyanax*), Viceroy (*Limenitis archippus*), Variegated Fritillary (*Euptoieta claudia*), Hackberry Emperor (*Asterocampa celtis*), Tawny Emperor (*Asterocampa clyton*), Painted Lady (*Vanessa cardui*), Red Admiral (*Vanessa atalanta*), Question Mark (*Polygonia interrogationis*), Eastern Comma (*Polygonia comma*), Common Buckeye (*Junonia coenia*), Pearl Crescent (*Phyciodes tharos*), Appalachian Brown (*Lethe appalachia*) and Gemmed Satyr (*Cyllopsis gemma*).

As usual, it was an enjoyable time with many opportunities to observe not only the butterflies and moths but also many other aspects of the natural history and ecology of the western Kentucky region. Furthermore, the opportunity to meet with good friends and interact with a great group of people is always welcome. I look forward with eager anticipation to the next field meeting.

A 2009 Spring Field Trip Rockcastle, Jackson, Laurel, and Pulaski Counties

By Loran D. Gibson

On 17 April 2009, members of the Society of Kentucky Lepidopterists began to travel towards London, Kentucky, the site of the group's spring field trip for 2009. Tony Merkle and I drove south to Lexington together from northern KY where we met up with Richard Henderson from Louisville. From Lexington, the three of us made our way farther south into part of the Daniel Boone National Forest in Rockcastle County. Weather was excellent and as the morning progressed, we began to see several spring butterflies in fairly good numbers. *Erynnis juvenalis*, *E. brizo*, *Battus philenor*, *Papilio glaucus*, *P. troilus*, *Eurytides marcellus*, *Colias eurytheme*, *Pieris virginiensis*, *Feniseca tarquinius*, *Callophrys henrici*, *Cupido comyntas*, *Celastrina ladon*, *Glaucopsyche lygdamus*, *Polygonia comma*, and *Cyllopsis gemma* were all seen in Rockcastle County. Diurnal moths seen in the same area included *Psychomorpha epimenis*, and the thyridid *Thyris sepulchralis*.

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In late morning we moved east into Jackson County to a spot along State Route 89 near the Rockcastle River. Here we observed many of the species seen earlier, and added *Colias philodice*, *Anthocharis midea*, and a few early *Phyciodes tharos*. Notably absent from our lists for the area was *Celastrina nigra*. This species is usually present here in April, but none were seen on this day.

In afternoon, on our way to London, we explored a few locations to search for tiger beetles for the Kentucky Tiger Beetle Survey. We found *Cicindela sexguttata* commonly in Rockcastle, Jackson, and Laurel Counties. Along a dry sandy ridgetop near the historic Wildcat Mountain Battlefield in Rockcastle County we located a few individuals each of *C. patruela* and *C. splendida* flying together. Both were new county records of these rare and handsome species.

While the three of us were making our way towards London from the north, Bill Black, Gerald Burnett and Kevin Segebarth were driving east from the Paducah area and Charles Wright had come down from Frankfort. We all met in London around 5:00 p.m. and after checking in at the Budget Host Motel, we had an enjoyable dinner together at a roadhouse style restaurant nearby. After dinner we drove west along KY Rt. 192 into the Daniel Boone National Forest once again. Along Marsh Branch Road we deployed light traps and north of the power-line cut on the east side of the road we set up Richard's moth sheet and light, powered by a gasoline (*skillfully procured from Bill's car, right*) generator. This turned out to be one of those rare spring nights when the atmosphere becomes amazingly stable. There was no wind and there was hardly a cloud in the sky. Seeing the stars from this dark location was a memorable experience! Moths were numerous and diverse. Good numbers of many species commonly seen in southeastern Kentucky during spring were present. A small, undescribed *Cydia* species was especially numerous. As we were taking the sheet down for the night, a large sphinx moth appeared and began to fly around the mercury vapor light. The sheet had already been dismantled, so the moth had nowhere to alight. After several failed attempts to capture the moth, it flew away! We got a good look at the mysterious creature which had orange hindwings and a black striped, gray abdomen. It appeared to be an *Erinnyis ello*, but if so, the April date would be very early for a subtropical influx species! I guess we will never know.



On Saturday morning we collected the light traps. More nice moths were found. A good number of the green, eastern hemlock feeding noctuid, *Feralia comstocki* were collected and Gerald had a nice *Orthosia revicta* for a third known Kentucky location.

During the day on Saturday we collected and recorded butterflies at two locations in Daniel Boone

National Forest in Laurel County. We saw *Erynnis juvenalis*, *E. brizo*, *Battus philenor*, *Papilio glaucus*, *P. troilus*, *Eurytides marcellus*, *Colius eurytheme*, *Anthocharis midea*, *Pieris virginiensis*, *Callophrys augustinus*, *C. henrici*, *Celastrina ladon*, another *Celastrina* that remains a mystery so far, *Vanessa virginensis*, *Nymphalis antiopa*, *Polygona comma*, *Anaea andria*, and *Cyllopsis gemma*. We also recorded tiger beetles *Cicindela repanda*, *C. duodecimguttata* and *C. sexguttata*.

(left, overlooking the Rockcastle River, by the editor)

As Saturday night approached, we migrated west a bit farther into Pulaski County. We found an opening under a power-line in Daniel Boone National Forest south of Mount Victory, KY. Light traps were set out in a one or two mile perimeter and Richard's sheet light was erected near the north edge of power-line easement. Moths came in good numbers once again and several good species were identified. The

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undescribed *Cydia* was common once again and the little noctuid, *Elaphria georgei*, which is usually fairly scarce, was quite common. Luna moths and tulip tree silk moths were common. A couple of early *Antheraea polyphemus* showed up at the light as did a female *Callosamia promethea*. Earlier in the day we saw a few male *promethea* flying in the power-line cut. The presence of the female would explain their showing. As midnight approached, the group of "buggers" sat together on a large downed tree in the edge of the woods, too tired to stand at the sheet!

When we awoke back in London on Sunday morning, it was raining. After breakfast at the Waffle House, those of us who had not set out traps departed for home. Bill and Gerald still had to bring in traps from the Pulaski County location. By the time they reached the spot, rain had stopped, so they did not get drenched.

It was a good weekend of camaraderie with old friends.

From the Spring Field Meeting 2009



The photographer: Tony Merkle



The result: "Swallowtail Butterfly Assemblage"

Report from Big Black Mountain - June 27, 2009

John Hyatt (Kingsport, TN) and Richard Hesterberg (Moreland, KY) visited Big Black Mountain (Harlan Co.) and the surrounding foothills in Wise County, VA on June 26. It proved to be about the most disappointing day of collecting either could call to mind. It appears that all the power line cuts atop Big Black Mountain near the radar station and the fire tower have been sprayed via helicopter, and the scene is one of brown desolation. No milkweed, no fleabane daisy, no nothing! Aside from a number of *Nymphalis antiopa* seen in the road, butterflies were almost totally absent - a couple of *Speyeria cybele* (no *aphrodite*) and one *Colias eurytheme* were the total seen at the summit.

The surrounding lowlands toward Appalachia, VA were not much more productive. A couple or three male *S. diana* and a fair number of *S. cybele* made up the bulk of our observations. A long walk on a dirt road revealed about 2-3 *Battus philenor*; neither *Papilio glaucus* nor *P. troilus* were seen. One *Eurytides marcellus* put in an appearance.

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The lack of summer brood butterflies in this area mirrors that at Hyatt's home in Sullivan Co., TN, where an abundance of *N. antiopa* and *S. cybele*, and an average number of *S. diana*, have been flying. But all the other summer things (*Papilio*, *Limenitis*, *Polygonia*, *Asterocampa*, *Colias*, etc., etc.) seem to be almost totally absent. Particularly striking is the lack of *philenor*, *troilus*, and *glaucus*.

Hyatt notes that spring butterflies in Sullivan Co., TN seemed about normal this year, but a string of unusually cold, wet days with temperatures near freezing occurred in late April/early May.

- Submitted by John Hyatt



The 2009 Oldham County Butterfly Count

The annual butterfly count at Horner Sanctuary and Horner farm, Brownsboro, Oldham Co., took place on Saturday June 27. The high was 91 degrees, low 74; mostly sunny, wind 5 mph from west. Present were: Bill Black, Loran Gibson, Charlie Covell, Marcia Jumblatt, David and Megan McCarty, Eddie Huber, Ellen Ballard, Francie Kamer, Catherine Fargen, Alexandria Bryant, Bruce Franciskey, Margarette Perkins, Bill Pearson, Madeline Laye (3 years old), Bob and Nancy Trabue, Gary, Nikki, Grant and Clay Bockhorst, Richard Henderson Sr., Richard Henderson Jr., William Perry Henderson, Dave Svetich, Mike Flynn, and Charles Wright. Also 3 of Richard Henderson's grandchildren, who did not sign in. We began at 10:15 and ended the count at 3:15.

Totals: 42 species, 2,099 individuals

Moths seen included *Amphion floridensis* (Sphingidae) and *Haematopsis grataria* (Geometridae).

A reporter from the Oldham Era attended for a short while and a short article about the account was in that paper the following Thursday, along with a photo of a Great Spangled Fritillary on a thistle blossom.

- Submitted by Charlie Covell

- 1 *Epargyreus clarus*
- 1 *Thorybes pylades*
- 52 *Erynnis baptisiae*
- 2 *Nastra lherminier*
- 7 *Polites themistocles*
- 1 *Polites origenes*
- 3 *Wallengrenia egeremet*
- 4 *Pompeius verna*
- 4 *Anatrytone logan*
- 5 *Euphyes ruricola metacoment*
- 11 *Battus philenor*
- 10 *Eurytides marcellus*
- 11 *Papilio polyxenes asterius*
- 6 *Papilio troilus*
- 66 *Pieris rapae*
- 29 *Colias philodice*
- 381 *Colias eurytheme*
- 3 *Phoebis sennae*
- 24 *Satyrrium edwardsii*
- 1 *Satyrrium caryaevorum*
- 1 *Satyrrium calanus falaceer*
- 1 *Calycopis cecrops*
- 1 *Strymon melinus*
- 1,203 *Everes comyntas*
- 4 *Celastrina neglecta*
- 1 *Fenesica tarquinius*
- 2 *Euptoieta claudia*
- 109 *Speyeria cybele*
- 3 *Polygonia interrogationis*
- 4 *Polygonia comma*
- 1 *Nymphalis antiopa*
- 1 *Vanessa atalanta*
- 49 *Phyciodes tharos*
- 1 *Limenitis arthemis astyanax*
- 1 *Anaca andria*
- 3 *Asterocampa celtis*
- 2 *Asterocampa clyton*
- 3 *Enodia anthedon*
- 4 *Cyllopsis gemma*
- 1 *Hermeuptychia sosybius*
- 36 *Megisto cymela*
- 46 *Cercyonis pegala*

PAPAIPEMA MOTHS IN THE BUCKLE OF THE CORN BELT

By Leroy Koehn

I relocated to Watseka, Illinois from Winterville, NC in July of 2007. My first visit however was in August of 2006 to meet with the Company that would soon employ me. A short description of Watseka, Illinois, "The Buckle of the Corn Belt": No matter where you drive throughout Iroquois County and all of the surrounding areas and bordering counties there are thousands upon thousands of acres of corn. And when it is not corn, it is thousands upon thousands of acres of soybeans or a combination of the two. I found nowhere to collect during my first several months. I began to believe that this part of the world was agriculturally sterile. I thought that all I would find were crop pests.

During the winter of 2007/2008 my wife and I would drive through the countryside on Sundays to learn more about the area in general. One of these drives took us into Indiana where we saw the construction of a Wind Mill Field to produce electricity. Another drive would take us to the Iroquois County State Wildlife Area (ICSWA) in the northeast corner of Iroquois County. Here I found Wet and Dry Sand Prairies, Upland Oak Forests, Oak Savanna, Tree Covered Dunes, and old fields. I applied for a research permit to study the Lepidoptera at the Iroquois County State Wildlife Area (ICSWA) from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. I received the permit in March of 2008. I also received permission to collect on two private hunting club properties and several pieces of private property. During the winter exploration I also found numerous remnant prairies. The majority of these were found between railroad track right-of-ways and major US highways (US52 & US24) in Iroquois County, Illinois and Newton and Jasper counties in Indiana. One of the better remnant prairies was where the Kankakee, Beaverville & Southern Railroad crossed CR3300N in Iroquois County. This location extended almost 3 miles south along the railroad tracks, and in places was 50 to 200 feet wide.

I began my field work on 7 July 2008. I visited the Iroquois County State Wildlife Area (ICSWA) three times weekly. Two to six Light Traps were used three times a week. Eleven locations were established for Light Traps and eight locations for Bait Traps. Nine other location were used only once for light traps. Sixteen additional locations for Bait Traps and Pheromone Traps were used for less than a week. Three Light Traps used on 6 November 2008 ended my field work for the year 2008.

I also operated Light Traps on private property adjacent to or within one mile of the ICSWA. These locations included the Pine Wood Hunt Club, with permission from Wayne DeYoung, and the Kankakee Beaverville & Southern Railroad property where the right-of-way crossed 3300N Road .875 miles west of ICSWA, with permission from the Railroad. I also collected on Dr. Woody Collins' property to the east of ICSWA in Newton County, Indiana. I selected these locations based on habitat and plant communities. The Railroad Site on 3300N Road west of ICSWA contained a large plant population of the common Prairie Dock (*Silphium terebinthicum*) and Stoneroot (*Collinsonia canadensis*) that supported populations of the moths *Papaipema duplicata* and *Papaipema silphi* (Fig 1). I used light traps once a week in early August and increased to twice a week by mid September. The site produced some species of Lepidoptera that I did not find at any other site.

Collecting the remnant prairies along the highways was not easy. Although I never lost a trap nor had them tampered with, I was concerned about theft. Finding a safe place to pull off was another problem as these US routes have considerable truck traffic. However, one morning at day break, while I was retrieving a trap along US52 north of Sheldon, Illinois, a State Trooper stopped to see what I was doing. After a quick explanation he told me he had seen my lights numerous times. After a short conversation about illegally parking along the side of the road, I agreed to do a show-and-tell at his son's grade school. In return for this service, I received police protection for my traps.

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I encountered *Speyeria idalia* (Threatened/endangered species in Illinois) on a number of occasions on the ICSWA and several locations on property adjacent to or within 5 miles of the ICSWA. I recorded a total of 27 locations where individuals were observed.

I recorded several very unusual species of butterflies. *Leptotes marina* was found on four occasions and three individuals were collected, including a female in the attempt to rear the species. The female died less than an hour after being enclosed with host plants.

I collected two males of *Problema byssus*. Although previously reported from ICSWA, this may be the northern limit for the species. It has been recorded a number of times from various locations in and around ICSWA.

I found small areas with populations of *Lyceana helloides*. These included the Pine Wood Hunt Club property. There was also an area along CR3300N approximately 1.3 miles west of ICSWA where I found another population of *L. helloides*. This is a road-side drainage ditch that has a constant water flow. This wet ditch produced several specimens of *Euphyes bimacula* and *Poanes viator*. The larval host plants for both species were growing in the ditch. I found several pupae of *P. viator* within the leaves of the larval host plant *Zizania aquatic*.

On private property to the east of the ICSWA, near the Kakankee Sand Prairie Preserve, I found a single specimen of the pretty little moth *Derrima stellata*. This is a rather rare species that is seldom encountered. However, as I began to work again on another project that I had stopped in 2005, I found several large cultivated fields (almost 490 acres) of Alfalfa (*Medicago sativa*) and Red Clover (*Trifolium pratensis*). Two species of butterflies, *Colias philodice* and *C. eurytheme* were visiting the flowers and the females of *C. eurytheme* were ovipositing on their larval host plants, Alfalfa (*Medicago sativa*) and Red Clover (*Trifolium pratensis*). While searching for females of both species of *Colias*, I noticed a brightly colored moth flying quickly and visiting flowers. I collected several of the small moths which I identified as *D. stellata*. All were males. I waited several days in anticipation of finding females before returning to these fields only to find that they were harvested. I visited these fields a number of times in August and early September but never encountered *D. stellata* again.

Of all the families of Noctuid moths that I was able to collect, the Genus *Papaipema* was the most exciting. I recorded 20 species in ICSWA and 4 more species within 1½ miles of ICSWA. I recorded my first species, *Papaipema baptisiae* on 27 July 2008. I recorded 18 species by 1 October and a total of 24 by 7 October 2008. The remnant prairies along the road sides contained limited
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Fig. 1 - *P. silphii*Fig. 2 - *P. beeriana*Fig. 3 - *P. cerina*Fig. 4 - *P. rutila*Fig. 5 - *P. sciata*

species. The most numerous were *P. silphii* (Fig. 1), *P. beeriana* (Fig. 2), *P. necopina*, and *P. impecuniosa*. The Railroad Site on 3300N Road, west of ICSWA, contained a large plant population of the common Prairie Dock (*Silphium terebinthicum*) and Stoneroot (*Collinsonia canadensis*) that supported populations of the moths *P. duplicata* and *P. silphii* (Fig. 1). There is a two-track road that accessed farmers' fields which was parallel to the railroad track for about a mile. I found a large stand of Gayfeather/Blazingstar (*Liatris spicata*), and here I would take several specimens of *P. beeriana* (Fig. 2). I also took my first specimen of *P. cerina* (Fig. 3) at this location. I would find several more specimens of *P. cerina* on the south side of the ICSWA near the remnant dunes. I think this is one of the most striking of the *Papaipema* moths. Every time I set out my light traps, there was always a sense of "what will I take now" as I retrieved the traps in the morning.

In a wet prairie/old field area on the south side of the ICSWA, I found *P. cerina*, *P. rutila* (Fig. 4), *P. sciata* (Fig. 5), and *P. limpida* (Fig. 6). In another area on the west side of ICSWA I would find more *P. cerina*, along with *P. nepheloptina* (Fig. 7) and *P. unimoda* (Fig. 8).

It was a great summer and a much better fall as the *Papaipema* moths are one of my favorites.

I wish to thank James Vargo for the use of his photographs of the *Papaipema* moths for this article.

The list below is all of the species that I recorded in Illinois in 2008:

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| 1. 9464 <i>Papaipema cerina</i> | 13. 9492 <i>Papaipema marginidens</i> |
| 2. 9466 <i>Papaipema cataphracta</i> | 14. 9495 <i>Papaipema furcata</i> |
| 3. 9471 <i>Papaipema arctivorens</i> | 15. 9496 <i>Papaipema nebris</i> |
| 4. 9473 <i>Papaipema impecuniosa</i> | 16. 9497 <i>Papaipema necopina</i> |
| 5. 9479 <i>Papaipema lysimchae</i> | 17. 9498 <i>Papaipema silphii</i> |
| 6. 9480 <i>Papaipema pterisii</i> | 18. 9499 <i>Papaipema duplicata</i> |
| 7. 9482 <i>Papaipema speciosissima</i> | 19. 9501 <i>Papaipema eupatorii</i> |
| 8. 9483 <i>Papaipema inquaesita</i> | 20. 9503 <i>Papaipema rigida</i> |
| 9. 9484 <i>Papaipema rutila</i> | 21. 9505 <i>Papaipema cerussata</i> |
| 10. 9485 <i>Papaipema baptisiae</i> | 22. 9506 <i>Papaipema sciata</i> |
| 11. 9486 <i>Papaipema birdi</i> | 23. 9508 <i>Papaipema beeriana</i> |
| 12. 9490 <i>Papaipema nepheloptena</i> | 24. 9509 <i>Papaipema unimoda</i> |



Fig. 6 - *P. limpida*



Fig. 7 - *P. nepheloptina*



Fig. 8 - *P. unimoda*

Annual Meeting - 2009

November 13 - 14

FRIDAY NIGHT GET TOGETHER

You are invited to the home of Betty and Leroy Koehn for the "Friday Night Get Together", beginning at 6PM and ending when the last person leaves. Betty will serve a delightful spread from her kitchen. All diets are off for the night. Come enjoy great food, lively conversation, and good company. You may even wish a look at Leroy's humble collection.

Directions to the Koehn's:

From I-64: Exit 66 turn north (Coming west from Lexington turn Right, from Louisville turn Left) on Midway Road. Travel 2.2 miles on Midway Rd. until it "T"s with Iron Works Pike. Turn left on Iron Works Pike and travel 0.2 miles to Soards Road. Turn right on Soards Road and travel 1.2 mile to US 460 (Frankfort Road). Turn Left on US 460 and travel 0.4 miles to Fairway Drive (2nd road on the right). A light trap will be mark the road under the Longview Estates sign. Turn right onto Fairway Drive travel 500 feet and bear to the left onto Fairway Court. The Koehn's home is the first house on the right. Another light trap will light up the drive way to the Koehn's home.

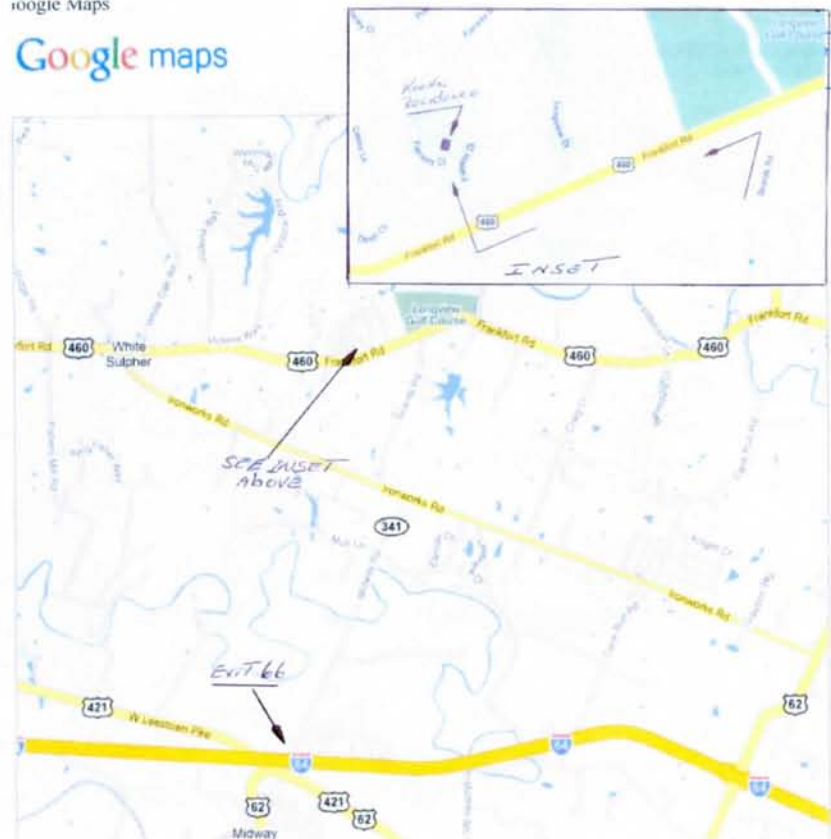
If you have a GPS guidance system, good luck. The above directions provide the best route. If you get lost, please call Leroy at: 219-331-9302. Someone will come rescue the lost.

See you there.....

Leroy & Betty Koehn
3000 Fairway Court
Georgetown, KY 40324
Home: 502-370-4259
Leroy's cell: 219-331-9302
Email: Leptraps@aol.com

roogie maps

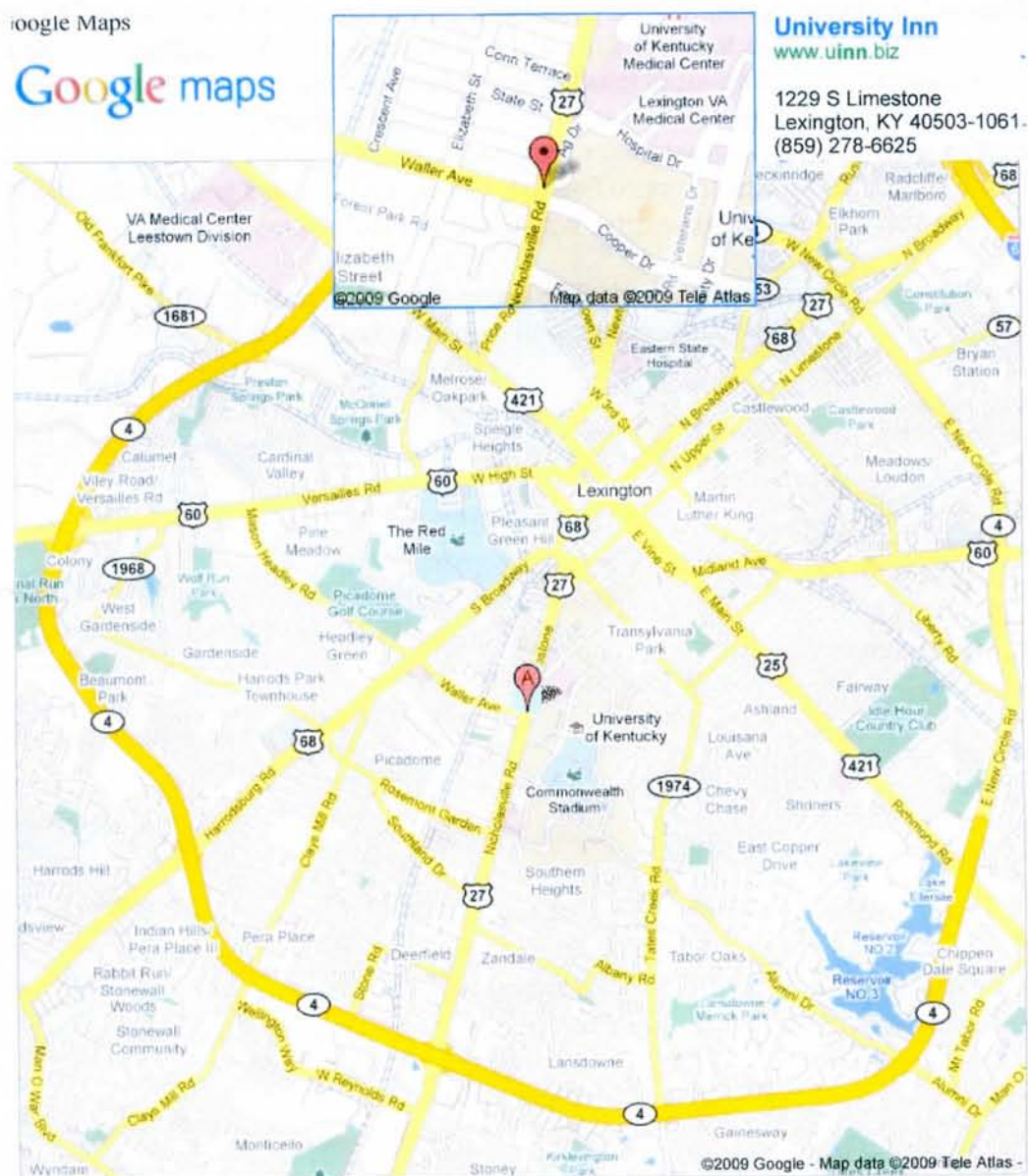
Google maps



MOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS - 2009 Annual Meeting

Once again we have made arrangements for meeting attendees to stay at the University Inn in Lexington, KY. The University Inn is directly across the street from the Agriculture building where the meeting will be held. A block of 10 rooms has been reserved until 2 November 2009 at a rate of \$85.00 per night. After 2 November the rooms will become available on a first come first serve basis.

The Google Map indicates the location of the Inn. Exiting I-64/75 at Exit 110 turn east on US 60 (Winchester Rd.). West on US60 to New Circle Rd (Rt. 4). Turn left onto New Circle Rd. and travel south on New Circle Rd to Alumni Drive. Turn right on Alumni Drive travel to Nicholasville Rd. Turn right on Nicholasville Rd. travel two blocks to Waller Avenue and the University Inn will be on the NW corner of Waller Ave. & Nicholasville Rd. (Actually, once you cross the Waller Avenue intersection, Nicholasville Rd becomes South Limestone Ave.)



FEATURED SPEAKER - 2009 Annual Meeting

JOHN SHUEY, Ph.D.

ADDRESS: The Nature Conservancy, Indiana Field Office
1330 West 38th Street, Indianapolis, IN 46208
(317) 923-7547

EDUCATION:

B.S., Zoology, Ohio University, Athens, Ohio, 1980

M.S., Zoology (Ecology, Behavior and Evolution), Ohio University, Athens, Ohio, 1982. Thesis: Aspects of diving behavior in pupal mosquitoes.

Ph.D., Entomology, The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, 1986. Dissertation: The ecology and evolution of wetland butterflies with emphasis on the genus *Euphyes* (Lepidoptera: Hesperiiidae).

BioSketch - As Director of Conservation Science for the Indiana Chapter of The Nature Conservancy, John is responsible for developing site-based conservation strategies across the state. John guides the Indiana Chapter's efforts connected with scientific research, ecoregional planning, conservation site planning, and large-scale restoration planning, including the 8,000 acre Efrogmson Restoration at Kankakee Sands. He also leads the effort to develop climate change adaptation strategies for the Chapters preserves totaling over 28,000 acres, designing sites and strategies to weather impending change. John has been with the Conservancy since 1993, when he joined the Indiana Chapter as Director of Conservation Biology. He served as Director of Conservation and Science for three years, and led a statewide team of over 25 conservation professionals. Prior to joining the Indiana Chapter, he was a Research Scientist at Battelle Memorial Institute, focusing on aquatic resource issues throughout the eastern US.

John has conducted extensive fieldwork throughout the Midwest, and in northern Central America and the Caribbean. For the last few years he has focused extensive attention on Belize, where he is documenting the butterfly fauna relative to specialized habitats and conservation areas. This work will eventually allow John to produce the first complete treatment of all butterflies in a Central American country as well as an assessment of the conservation effectiveness of the country's reserves relative to insect conservation.

John has published over two dozen scientific papers on a variety of topics, primarily focused on insect ecology and conservation, habitat management and ecological restoration. He has described new species of butterflies from the United States and Central America, and co-authored monographs detailing Ohio's butterfly fauna and prairie restricted Lepidoptera.

"I'll talk about conservation strategies of sand prairie and barrens in NW Indiana (these support pretty cool lep communities such as Karner Blues, Regal Frits and other prairie species) and the way we approach managing individual species, sites and landscapes.... The goal is to have systems that retain all their species into the foreseeable future."

- John

SCHEDULE - 2009 Annual Meeting**36th Annual Meeting of The Society of Kentucky Lepidopterists****Friday, November 13, 2009 Schedule**

Dimock Animal Pathology Building, 1081 V.A. Drive, (Bldg. #76, University of Kentucky-Campus Map, UK Website)

7:00 AM - 4:00 PM. Collection open for viewing.

This recently restored space, which we toured with Dr, Michael J. Sharkey last year, is the new home of the Kentucky Lepidoptera Collection. It was amassed and curated over a period of 40 years by Dr. Charles V. Covell, Jr. in tandem with recording data and writing his checklist, The Butterflies and Moths (Lepidoptera) of Kentucky. Most members have contributed specimens over the years. The University has moved the collection to its new quarters for us. It remains for us to rearrange it. During the week, parking on campus is restricted. Friday we should park in the University Hospital Parking Garage No. 8, 110 Transcript Ave at the 900 block of S. Limestone (Bldg. # 601 on the University of Kentucky-Campus Map on the UK Website). Buses run continuously from the parking garage to the UK Chandler Hospital, to shorten the walk to Dimock Animal Pathology Building.

6:00 PM. Friday Night Get Together.

Leroy and Betty Koehn's new home.

3000 Fairway Court.

Georgetown, KY 40324

Saturday, November 14, 2009 Schedule

Dimock Animal Pathology Building, 1081 V.A. Drive (Bldg # 76, University of Kentucky-Campus Map, UK Website)

9:00 AM - 12:00 Noon. Collection open for viewing.

10:40 AM. Board Meeting.

Agricultural Science Center North, Lecture Hall # N-12, 1100 S. Limestone, (Bldg. # 91, University of Kentucky-Campus Map, UK Website)

1:00 PM-2:00 PM. Business Meeting.

2:00 PM-2:45 PM. Featured Speaker: Dr. John A. Shuey, Director of Conservation Science, The Nature Conservancy, Indiana Field Office, will talk about conservation strategies of sand prairie and barrens of NW Indiana. John Shuey currently serves as President of The Lepidopterists' Society, and is a long-time member of The Society of Kentucky Lepidopterists.

2:45 PM-3:00 PM. Break.

3:00 PM-5:00 PM. Contributed Talks and Papers, Door Prize Drawings, and Award Presentation. Anyone wishing to present should call Bill Black (270) 442-9587.

6:00 PM. Dinner at Bangkok House, 375 Avenue of Champions (E. Euclid Ave.)

Miscellany



Above and left:
Dr. Charles Covell in the field, on an Expedition Travel collecting trip to Panama earlier this year. It appears the local youth are as interested in him as he is in catch.
Photos by Ian Segebarth



Above and right:
Satyrium titus and *Speyeria cybele*
Photos taken in late June, 2009, on Clack Mountain Road in Rowan County by Ian Segebarth.

A *PAPAIPEMA* CHALLENGE from Leroy Koehn

During the 2008 annual meeting I had brought several specimens of *Papaipema* moths that I collected in Illinois to get them identified. I thought I would use the Kentucky Collection. However, when I went to the drawers containing the *Papaipema* moths, I was surprised how few specimens there were and the few species that were represented. I have thought often how many members of the Society of Kentucky Lepidopterists have an interest in the *Papaipema* moths. The Society also has an annual event every fall - *The Great Papaipema Chase* - with an emphasis on collecting *Papaipema* moths and reporting the efforts in the newsletter. You would think that the collection would contain every species found in Kentucky.

Here is a challenge! I will donate to the Kentucky Collection at least 10 species of *Papaipema* moths that I have collected both in Kentucky and Illinois. This will include new species numbers 4 and 5, of which there are no specimens in the collection.

How many will you contribute??

How about some *Papaipema spesiosissima* ?

Dues Reminder

Please refer to your address label and make sure your dues are up to date.

From the Editor

This will be my last issue as editor, and I would like to say thank you to all who have faithfully and consistently provided material for this newsletter. Somehow, the right articles and photos always seemed to trickle in just in time to put together the next installment. (I suppose it is every editor's dream to have a back-log of stuff to choose from, but I suspect that this is rarely the case.) The editorship will be passing back to the able hands of Leroy Koehn. I'm sure he will be most grateful for any and all contributions - short or long, humorous or serious, words or photos. Please consider sharing with us your latest lepidopteran pursuits and/or experiences. We will all be encouraged and will benefit from it.

- Kevin

Send all material for the newsletter to:

Leroy Koehn
3000 Fairway Court
Georgetown, KY 40324
Home: 502-370-4259
Leroy's cell: 219-331-9302
Email: Leptraps@aol.com