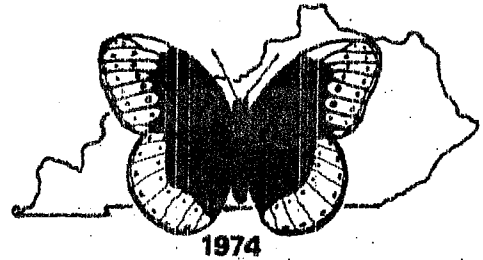


KENTUCKY LEPIDOPTERIST

NEWSLETTER OF THE

*The Society of
Kentucky Lepidopterists*



VOL. 4, No. 3

C. V. COVELL JR., EDITOR

OCTOBER, 1978

COME TO THE ANNUAL MEETING!

The 5th Annual Meeting of our Society will convene in Room 321 Life Sciences Building, University of Louisville, at 1:00 P.M. on Saturday, November 18. As in the past, we will have a short business meeting, followed by a series of informal presentations by any of you who are willing to share your experiences, research, or ideas relating to any aspect of Lepidopterology. We also hope to have a "main speaker," but these plans are not yet firmed up. After the meeting will be a fellowship period during which the collections will be open for inspection and use in identifying "U.F.O.'s."

Below are some particulars:

Registration Fee: \$0.00

Length of Meeting: Long as it takes

Dinner: Together at Masterson's after meeting, if you want to attend

Bring: part of your collection to show others, esp. interesting species

Also bring: species you want to identify

Parking: anywhere on campus on Saturday afternoon; in morning, get permit from Covell

How to get here: directions & maps will be sent upon request

OTHER INFORMATION: Write Covell

In the past, I have not known who is coming in many cases until the last minute. This is nerve-wracking. PLEASE LET ME KNOW AS SOON AS YOU CAN IF YOU ARE COMING, OR MAY BE COMING. I will send you information. PLEASE PLAN TO GIVE A SHORT TALK OR DEMONSTRATION, AND LET ME KNOW ABOUT IT! -CVC

LEPIDOPTERISTS' SOCIETY MEETING AT LOUISVILLE A BIG SUCCESS WITH 110

The 29th Annual Meeting of the Lepidopterists' Society was held at the University of Louisville from 6 to 9 July, 1978. There were about 110 registered members, plus a number of family, guests, and "floaters" (members who attended briefly but did not register or participate much in the proceedings. At the banquet Sat. night there were 130 people, and 42 door prizes were raffled off. The two workshops on genitalia preparation (conducted by Dr. J. F. G. Clarke assisted by Al Brownell) and on scientific illustration of Lepidoptera (conducted by Elaine Hodges and George Venable of the U.S. National Museum, and with "demonstrating artists" Bill Howe and Yin-Red Hicks) were well attended and very successful, although more time was needed for both. There were many fine talks, with a splendid symposium on the Monarch butterfly ecology conducted by Dr. Lincoln P. Brower, with papers contributed by Drs. Paul M. Tuskes and William H. Calvert. Those who attended the banquet will enjoy recalling the fine film on the Monarch made and introduced by Brower, and the slides of Madagascar presented by Karl Jordan Medal awardee, Dr. P. E. L. Viette of the Paris Museum. From my end of it, there were only 2 program hitches (one speaker's slides did not arrive in time; another could not come because of impending paternity), and all went smoothly largely because a number of you helped me in many ways - everything from some welcome libations brought to the Open House, to errands in all directions by Al Brownell, Blaine Early, Barb Zamelka,

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(Lepidopterists' Society Meeting, continued)

Jan Rohn, Carl Cornett and Leroy Isaacs. The Field Trips were a success, and I am very grateful for the efforts of Leroy Koehn, Richard Henderson, Greg Florence, and Blaine for their hard work in that area. Most of those who went to Big Black Mountain for Erora laeta and S. diana were, I understand, rewarded with success; a number of visiting collectors had the thrill of seeing these two favorite species in nature, and catching a sample. And Loran Gibson commemorated the meeting by collecting a second specimen of the soon-to-be described black hindwing aberration of Catocala micronympha at Otter Creek Park on the night of 6 July.

I also want to take this opportunity to thank Fred Crawford for the splendid signs he made for the meeting. Some of them are still up in the Life Sciences Bldg., where people still need directions to Room 335!

Bill Black brought the famous Kentucky Lepidopterists sign his brother painted for our 1975 field meeting at Black Farm near Paducah and cut it out. We have it here now, and will display it at each meeting.

All in all, I enjoyed the meeting tremendously and hope those of you who made it did likewise. I have some extra programs, and if you send a stamped envelope I will mail you one.

The next meeting of the Lepidopterists' Soc. will be at Fairbanks, Alaska, with Dr. Kenelm Philip hosting. So save your \$\$ and polish your mukluks. As butterfly collecting alternates up there between "on" and "off" years, next summer will be the former. Date of the meeting: 28 June - 1 July. The 1980 meeting will be held in Gainesville, Fla.

-CVC

TREASURER'S REPORT

As of the last bank statement in Sept. our account showed a balance of \$394.00. Thank you all for paying your dues. We expect to discuss possible projects for use of some of our funds at the Annual Meeting in November.



NEWS AND NOTES FROM MEMBERS

Al Brownell, the new father of a fine baby girl as of July, is now working for Shedd Foods in Louisville after a summer doing mosquito control work for the local Health Dept. He caught a new county record mosquito species, Aedes atropalpus, a second state record, and first for old tires as a breeding site.

Gibson and Henderson continue their fine teamwork to add state records. They got Catocala sappho, C. mira, and a second state record of C. agrippina this summer, as well as the first Ky. records of Lethe portlandia missarkae, this in Fulton Co. along with numerous L. creola. Mike McInnis took a male Leptotes marina (Reakirt), the Marine Blue, off I-71 at Mockingbird Valley Rd. in Louisville on 31 July. The butterflies will be formally reported as new state records in a paper in J. Lepid. Soc. in the near future, along with 4 other species we have informally reported in these pages in the last two years.

Denny Currutt and Dave Baggett collected together in Florida during the first few days of September, and visited the Keys and other spots in Dade and Collier counties. While not great, the collecting did yield some desirable species such as Euphyes berryi, Problema byssus, and the Sphingid, Protambulyx carteri. Denny also swung a net with Leland Martin and found a colony of Poanes viator in Ohio in August.

Dave Baggett has written twice since the last issue and has had a very active summer. In addition to the trip reported above, he collected Catocala heavily with Florida colleagues and had 29 species as of mid-June. He has reared 19 Fla. Catocala species, including 3 with no previous host records. The tree-tapping technique he and Rick Gilmore have been using there has been tried successfully in Ky. by Gibson and Henderson. Dave also collected in the Savannah River Wildlife

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(NEWS AND NOTES, continued)

Refuge in Jasper Co., S. C. prior to Aug. 24, along with Ron Gattelle, Jeff Slotten and John Watts. They took Problema bulenta and Poanes viator, among other things. At another spot near the Ashpoo River in Colleton Co. they missed E. dukesi, which had been taken there before, but got some Problema byssus, Poanes saroni howardi, and P. viator. Another trip he reported (no date given) was to Cooper's Creek, n. Georgia, where E. laeta has been taken. No laeta this time, but they did take S. diana, S. cybele, Polygonia faunus smythi, Amblyscirtes hegon, Pompeius verna, Satyrium calanus falacer, and S. liparops strigosa.

Dave says plans are being made for an organization meeting this month (Oct.) of a new Florida-Georgia lepidopterists' club like ours. I hope their efforts are successful, and that they will continue to participate in the "Kentucky Leps" since Dave and the rest of the Florida crowd have enriched the experience of the rest of us by joining us in the field and communicating their interests and experiences by letter and phone for inclusion in this newsletter.

Susan Reigler was back in Louisville from Oxford, England, after a summer working at the British Museum (Natural History) in London. She has been working on some interesting Hymenoptera, and may pursue graduate work in that area later. We wish her well as she returns for her second year at Oxford.

The Kentucky Lepidoptera Survey rolls on, with 5 new species of Eupithecia added by Roger Meitzman, who specializes in that genus of Geometridae, and who is now working on his Ph.D. at the Univ. of Florida. Other moths have been added, many by my learning more about moths as I write the Field Guide to Moths and realize that we have mixed series in our collection here. A recent example: we now have Feralia jocosa and F. comstocki in addition to F. major; and what

I thought was Lacinipolia laudabilis in our collection turned out to be L. implicata; and in researching that, I found records in the literature of L. explicata. So we lost 1 but gained 2 species in our records. As of this writing, we have 1,846 species on file from Kentucky.

Richard Klopshinske reported in July from western Colorado that they were having "better than normal conditions" with wetter spring and greater variety of species. Pieris callidice occidentalis "has been more common this year than P. rapae is in the East;" he found 80 - 100 at one wet spot on the ground. Papilio eurymedon & multicaudatus were fairly numerous in spring, and Richard took his first P. gothica. Euptoieta claudia and Euphydryas eurytion, and various crescents and blues, were also common. His big catch was Attilides haesus coreorani.

David Hess wrote a fine report of the Big Black Mountain field trip of July 10, with moth records for Tennessee at Cumberland Gap (A. luna, C. angulifera, A. polyphemus, C. regalis, and several Sphingidae and Catocala spp.). From his and other reports, the butterflies recorded at Big Black Mtn. AND Kingdom Come State Park, both Harlan Co., July 10, include: P. verna, A. numitor, E. clarus, P. asterias, glaucus, troilus, B. philenor, P. virginensis (?), P. rapae, C. philodice, P. sennae eubule, S. calanus falacer, caryaevorus, S. melinus, E. laeta, C. argiolus pseudargiolus, E. comyntas, F. tarquinius, L. arthemis astyanax, V. atalanta, N. antiope, P. interrogationis & comma, C. nycteis, P. tharos, B. bellona, S. diana, aphrodite & cybele, E. claudia, A. celtis, L. appalachia, E. hermes sosybius, D. plexippus. (Did I leave any out? Let me know.)

THE AUGUST FIELD MEETING IN VIRGINIA

Leroy Koehn graciously hosted the August meeting of the Society with the purpose of collecting S. diana and other species in Poverty Hollow and other sites in the Mont-

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(August Field Meeting, cont.)

gomery/Giles county areas of western Virginia. Andy Beck, Pat Purdy, Fred Bichelman, John Hyatt, Reed Watkins, and Jim Merritt were on hand. The diana collecting was not too good, the host snagging the only two females! Other catches were P. tarquinius, Thorybes spp., E. bimacula, A. cellus, A. celtis, L. portlandia (or anthedon?), A. delaware, N. lherminier, W. egeremet, B. philenor, P. troilus & glaucus, and C. pasala carolina. The collecting was done in Poverty Hollow, Montgomery Co., and in Green Valley, Giles Co.

NEW MEMBERS

British Museum (Natural History) Library
Cromwell Rd., London SW7 5BD, ENGLAND.

ENTRICAN, Ray 1502 Melody Lane, Louisville, KY. 40214.

Interests: buying butterflies & moths; selling.

IFTNER, David C. 2719 Hafton Rd., Columbus, OHIO 43204. David is a graduate research assistant at Ohio St. U. in entomology, and is interested in all aspects of N. American butterflies & Catocala.

KEAN, Phillip J. 1215 Stella Dr., Baltimore, MD. 21207. Phillip is interested in all Lep-

(NEW MEMBERS, cont.)

idoptera, and attended the Lepid. Soc. meeting in July.

KORFHAGE, Harriet A. 3303 7th St. Rd., Louisville, KY. 40216. A well-known botanist and teacher, and very active in the Ky. Society of Natural History.

NORDIN, John S. 3828 Hopemont Dr., Lexington, KY, 40503. John has just moved here from Pa., and has a collection strong in Noctuidae and Geometridae.

PLATT, Austin P. (Bob) Dept. of Biological Sciences, U. of Md. Baltimore Co., 5401 Wilkins Av., Catonsville, MD. 21228. Bob is Editor of Journal of the Lepid. Soc., and specializes in genetics of Limenitis.

PRESCOTT, Edward 3229 Norcross Rd., Erie, PA. 16510. Ed is interested in Rhopalocera.

WILKIE, John 822 Biddle Ave., Apt. 17, Wyandotte, MICH. 48192. A nature photographer, John has photographed about 2/3 of Michigan's butterflies.

NEW ADDRESS: Lee Ferge: 2530 Commonwealth Ave., Madison, WISC. 53711.

KENTUCKY LEPIDOPTERIST
PUBLISHED BY THE
SOCIETY OF KENTUCKY LEPIDOPTERISTS
DEPT. OF BIOLOGY, UNIV. OF LOUISVILLE
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY, 40208, U.S.A.

FIRST CLASS



Loran D. Gibson
30 Russell St.
Florence, KY 41042