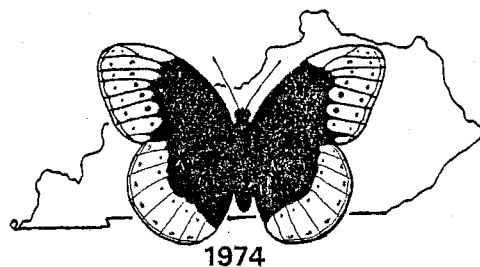


KENTUCKY LEPIDOPTERIST

NEWSLETTER OF

The Society of

Kentucky Lepidopterists



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C. V. COVELL JR., EDITOR
R. H. HENDERSON, ASSOC. EDITOR

OCTOBER, 1979

ANNUAL MEETING NOV. 9 - 10 TO FEATURE MO NIELSEN, & ALASKA SLIDES BY C. V. COVELL JR. & J. R. MERRITT.

The 6th Annual Meeting of the Society, marking the 5th Anniversary of its founding, will be held in Louisville, Ky., on Friday evening, Nov. 9, and on Saturday, Nov. 10. Our featured speaker will be Mo Nielsen, who will talk and show slides. His subject is "Collecting in Michigan - especially the Upper Peninsula." Also, Covell and Merritt will show slides taken at the Annual Meeting of the Lepidopterists' Society and subsequent field trips to Eagle Summit and the Brooks Range, Alaska, June 26 - July 11, 1979. Some butterflies from the trip will also be on display.

Schedule of events:

Friday, Nov. 9: Party and gab-fest at home of Dr. James R. Merritt and Mrs. Mary Lou Merritt, 1729 South 3rd St., Louisville, Ky. 40208. Phone: AC 502 - 637-3098. Begins 8 P.M., but come when you can before midnight. Jim's house is very close to the University, 1 block north of Masterson's restaurant. Drinks & snacks will be served. Jim's collection may be examined. Call if you need further directions. Parking on street.

Saturday, Nov. 10: 9:30 A.M.-noon: Examine collections and general assistance, swapping-session, and get-together. Room 334, Life Science
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FALL FIELD TRIP NETS NEW STATE BUTTERFLY RECORD & 45 OTHER SPECIES.

It was a small but keenly enthusiastic segment of the Society that converged at the Ray Black farm on Clinton Rd. outside Paducah, McCracken Co., Ky., on the evening of Friday, Sept. 14, 1979. Carl Cornett spent some time talking with our hosts, Bill and Nancy Black, and Jim and Mary Lou Merritt. Work delayed the departure of Covell, Nordin, and Henderson from Louisville, so it was late when they finally got there. Leroy Koehn drove all the way from Cleveland in time for the fray on Saturday morning. A full moon and chilly temperatures made mothing negligible; so our big hope was for success with the butterflies.

Raymond Athey, Paducah's crackerjack botanist, came over to give us some help locating likely spots for sedge-feeding skippers. He led us on our first leg, to the Thomas Bell farm in Graves Co., Ky., near Kaler. In a large, partly wetfield full of fall flowers such as goldenrod and ironweed, Leroy Koehn gave the hue and cry: "Dion!" Then followed a mad hunt by all hands, resulting in a good catch of Euphyes dion for all. This was the second record of the species for Ky. (see J. Lepid. Soc. 33(3): 189-191 when it comes out). Leroy also recorded a single U. proteus, another "second," and among us we recorded a total of 33 species there. G. marcellus, L. appalachia, A. delaware, W. egeremet, H. hyllus (=thoe), V. cardui,
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MEETING SCHEDULE (continued)

Bldg. on University of Louisville campus. Help will be given in identifying specimens, if you need it. Write for directions if you need them (to Covell).

12 - 1: Lunch, in group, or on own.

1:30: Business meeting, 321 Life Science Bldg. (Entomology Lab), Leland Martin, President, presiding. Should take less than an hour. Break after, with coffee & donuts.

2:30 (or thereabouts): Program begins. Time will be allotted each member present to give slide show, talk on some subject, or show off interesting specimens. Discussion where appropriate. Mo Nielsen's presentation will be last on the program.

6:00 Those who wish to can join to eat together at Masterson's as an informal "banquet," like last year.

SO... Please plan to attend. Bring some slides or specimens to show, and maybe plan on some exchanging. Phone Covell for any needed assistance: AC 502-588-5942 (office), or 456-6122 (home). Motels: La Quinta, near University, 317 Warnock St., 637-9716; Continental Inn, also near Univ., 1620 Arthur, 636-3781; Motel 6, near Covells', 3304 Bardstown Rd., 458-3201 (\$10.95 single).

DUES REMINDER: Many of you have remitted dues for 1979, using the wrapper on your last issue of the the "Kentucky Lepidopterist." If you have forgotten to do so, please send your dues to Society of Kentucky Lepidopterists, c/o Dept. of Biology, Univ. of Louisville, Louisville, Ky. 40208. Dues are \$3 yearly for Regular members, \$1.50 annually for Associate members (no voting or office-holding privileges). Soon a new MEMBERSHIP LIST will be made up from the list of those paid through 1979. Also, please keep me posted of any changes in your address. Finally, send some NEWS or short ARTICLES for this newsletter! It is entirely too one-sided, and needs your active participation and support! - CVC

QUOTE: Loran Gibson, having just caught a moth Covell & Henderson wanted: "HE WHO SNOOZES LOSES!"

FALL FIELD MEETING RESULTS (cont.)

L. archippus (common), L. arthemis astyanax, E. lisa, and P. sennae were some of the more interesting catches.

From that spot we moved toward Fulton Co., stopping at a spot in Hickman Co. near Water Valley (4 miles north, on rt. 1283). E. lisa was common, and many P. sennae were observed or taken. Leroy got 1 E. nicippe. This was a quick stop.

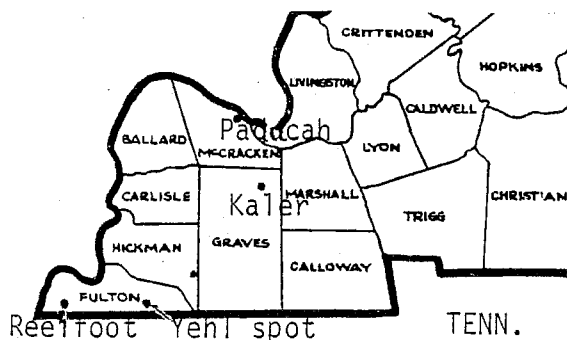
Finally we got to the spot in Fulton Co. where Rt. 94 passes over Little Bayou de Chien, 2½ miles east of Cayce. Some of us worked in a marshy field/wood-edge on the north side of the road; others in the deep woods on the south side. I was in the latter area, walking carefully because dense vegetation covered the ground where one could not tell if he was putting his foot down in water, on dry ground, or on a slipper branch or log left by loggers. I soon focused attention on a vine-like composite with bountiful white flowers in clearings in the woods, where butterflies were gathering. At one spot I saw the orange wedge of a "neat" skipper out of the corner of my eye while trying to get my footing. Then it was gone. I moved along, and found a gaggle of Lethe appalachia that occupied me for a while. Shouts of others in the group reached me from a distance from time to time; I went deeper into the swamp. Soon I saw another big mass of the white-flowered vine (later found to be Climbing Hempweed, Mikania scandens Linnaeus) just beyond a big log. I moved toward it, then blued the air with unprintable words as my trick left knee went out from under me and I crashed into the wet ground, collecting bag and camera akimbo. As I went down, I saw a brownish wedge with whitish hindwing spots sitting low in the Hempweed. A female Poanes yehl! Again, it was gone before I could gather myself together. Disgust, panic, and pain from the knee hit me all together. I got going again, and soon came out into a clear area with sparse trees and patches of Hempweed. Soon - another orange wedge; and no goofs this time. In a moment I had a male yehl jarred, and gave out a loud, happy yehl. Everyone else was far away. I went on,
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FALL FIELD MEETING (concluded)

and caught several other species on the Hempweed (V. atalanta, V. cardui, L. archippus, L. arthemis astyanax, L. bachmanii, and W. egeremet, plus plenty of D. plexippus come to mind). And more P. yehl. At about 5:30 I came out to rendezvous with the other collectors, and found Leroy had found yehl on the other side of the road, as well as plenty of E. dion and an A. delaware. Other species already mentioned were taken as well. We sped back to Bill Black's, and decided we HAD to stay and collect Sunday. Leroy had to return to Cleveland, but the rest of us got ready for another day in the swamp.

We got back to Little Bayou de Chien at about 10:00 A.M. Sunday, and headed right to the good spots. On the south side of the road, no yehl. We looked and looked. Rich Henderson stayed there, and I went over to "Leroy's side" with Jim and Bill Black. We got a good supply of E. dion and other good species, including E. vestris metacommet. No yehl there, either. Finally, back on the south side after noon, Rich, John Nordin, and I took more P. yehl. Lethe portlandia missarkae was also taken there - the second record of this subspecies from Kentucky.

Finally, we drove west to the soybean fields off State Road 1282 in the Reelfoot National Wildlife Refuge almost in Tennessee. There, late in the afternoon, we took a few L. portlandia missarkae (mostly "ragged out"), E. dion, and, yes, Poanes yehl. The latter were resting on vegetation low to the ground and I took one on Ironweed blossoms. We also enjoyed a tree with oozing sap where P. comma, P. interrogationis, N. antiopa, V. atalanta, and A. celtis were feasting. We drove to Paducah late, and the Louisville contingent got home tired but happy at 2:30 Monday morning. WE MISSED THE REST OF YOU!



OBITUARY

Greg Florence died at his parents' home in Bardstown on September 10, 1979, at the age of 27. He had suffered for about 7 years with an incurable disease of the intestine called Crohn's Disease. He is survived by his parents and wife, Jevetta.

Greg got into entomology through the 4-H program, and rapidly rose to become the top 4-H entomology project participant in Kentucky during his high school years. He spent a lot of his time helping young 4-H'ers learn to collect insects, and collections from Nelson County soon dominated the display at the State Fair, taking many blue ribbons. No other county has ever had such heavy representation in 4-H entomology, thanks to Greg.

An avid collector of butterflies and the larger moths, Greg attended the University of Kentucky, graduating in 1974. He worked part-time in the insect collection at U. of Ky., and during the summer of 1971 at the University of Louisville, helping put the Lovell Bee collection in order. He contributed many records to the Kentucky Lepidoptera Survey, some of them "firsts" for the state.

In 1976 Greg received his MS in Agricultural Education from U. of Ky. in 1976, and taught at Cumberland High School. This fall he began a new job in Elizabethtown, Hardin Co., not far from Bardstown.

During the 1978 Annual Meeting of the Lepidopterists' Society, of which he was a member, Greg and Jevetta helped lead members to good collecting on Big Black Mountain near Cumberland, where memorable collecting of Erora laeta and Speyeria diana was enjoyed by many members throughout the country. Greg achieved a great deal in his short but busy life. We will miss him.

- CVC

NEW ADDRESSES: William E. Sieker, 510 Merrill Crest Dr., Madison, WI. 53705
Tom Carr, 10430 Airport Highway, Lot 184, Swanton, Ohio 43558
Bob Dirig, Pine Bush Historic Preservation Project, Inc., Box 22820, 1400 Washington Ave., Albany, N. Y. 12222.

NEWS, NOTES, AND SOFORTH

John Hyatt reports a terrible collecting year in the Kingsport, Tenn., area. Too much RAIN. He did not find any E. laeta in 4 trips to Big Black Mountain. He will have some Florida collecting slides to show at the Annual Meeting.

Philip Kean has asked me to inform any of you who also collect BEETLES that he would like to correspond with you, and perhaps arrange an exchange or some similar arrangement. He is especially interested in Lucanus elephus, Pseudolucanus placidus, and Dorcus parallelus (Lucanidae); Strataegus antaeus, Phanaeus vindeus, and Dynastes tityus (Scarabaeidae); Ceraspheus cinctus, Goes spp., Romaleum spp., Glycobius speciosus, Saperda spp., and Plectrodera scalator (Cerambycidae). Tom Johnson here in Louisville is a good prospect, Philip.

Carl Cook, who has a world-class collection of Odonata (Dragonflies and Damselflies), wrote recently. We'll keep trying to get him back into the fold; he caught Ky.'s first Erora laeta back in the '40s, and many of his specimens have been used in revisionary studies in museum collections.

Dick Klopshinske had a pretty good year in Colo., and other areas. His highlights included Euptychia mitchellii in Michigan and Speyeria nokomis nokomis in Utah.

Carl Cornett made a number of trips to collect in state parks in Kentucky this past summer. While much of the material, donated to the University of Louisville collection, has not yet been identified, one new state record in the Geometridae came to light: Lytrosis permagnaria (Packard) from Pine Mtn. St. Park, 6-6-79. According to a revision of the genus by F. H. Rindge, the species was known only from Mo., Miss., and Tenn. before this time.

Leland Martin and Denny Currutt swung nets together a bit in '79. They visited northern Portage Co., Ohio, in early June, taking E. phaeton and M. harrisii liggettii; and in early Aug. there Denny found colonies of P. viator, and they both got E. dion, E. conspicua, H. hyllus, and S. idalia. P. cresphontes

was seen in Ohio in good numbers. Leland took a larva on Sept. 30, 1979, on prickly ash.

The Ohio Lepidopterists elected officers recently: Pres., Carl Albrecht; Dr. Roy Rings, V. Pres.; and Eric Metzler, Sec./Treasurer.

Dave Hess took B. bellona in Charlestown, Ind., on Apr. 20, 1979, and reports it well established in McDonough Co., Ill. He reported Ill. captures of the following excellent species: H. metea, A. hianna, G. lygdamus, C. ebenina, E. olympia, A. andria, S. idalia, E. martialis, E. nicippe, H. isola, E. phaeton ozarkae, E. ontario (sighting), M. gryneus, and E. dion.

From the Editor: Species descriptions and legend pages for Field Guide to Moths now done. Ky. Survey is at 1,872 species. New Checklist of Lepid. of Amer. N. of Mexico should be out early in '80, and has over 11,200 species. I plan to attend Annual Meeting of Entomological Soc. of America in Denver Nov. 25-28.

NEW MEMBERS: We welcome the following to the fold:

Kenneth A. Bloem, Dept. of Entomology, U. of Ky., Lexington, Ky. 40506. Interested in butterflies - esp. N. American Papilionidae. Ken is a graduate student in entomology.

Allyson T. Copenhaver, Box 1478, Dublin, Va. 24084. A butterfly collector friend of Leroy Koehn's, just getting started - in a big way.

David K. Faulkner, Box 1390, San Diego, Ca. 92112. Interested in insects in general and butterflies in particular. Dave is the lepidopterist at the San Diego Museum.

Barry Howard, Pine Mountain State Park, Pineville, Ky. 40977. Barry is the naturalist at the Park.

Tom Johnson, 3222 Richard Ave., Louisville, Ky. 40206. Interests: Butterflies & beetles.

Glenn R. Smith, Box 851, Palmer, Alaska 99645. Interests: All Lepidoptera, but moths esp.

John Wilkie, 822 Biddle Ave., Apt. 17, Wyandotte, Mich. 48192. A photographer specializing in live shots of Mich. butterflies.

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