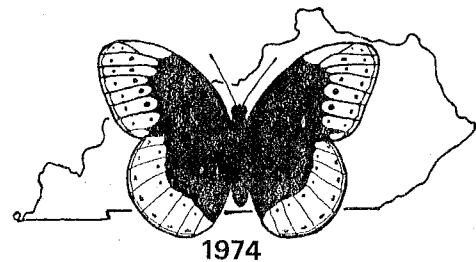


KENTUCKY LEPIDOPTERIST

NEWSLETTER OF

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C. V. COVELL JR., EDITOR
R. A. HENDERSON, ASSOCIATE EDITOR

JUNE, 1982

REPORT OF SPRING FIELD MEETING

The weather was cool and rainy on Friday afternoon, April 16, 1982, when we drove down to Williamsburg, Ky., to try for some new county records of butterflies and moths in Whitley Co. However, there was some hope of improvement, though, as it turned out, we had to wait until Sunday for the sun to make a real appearance. Blaine and Suann Early had made arrangements for the group, and on Friday night we put the blacklights out on Blaine's father's farm at Goldbug. We did catch some moths, but not many. The evening was saved for those in attendance by John Wilkie, who showed slides of butterflies. His pictures were superb, and the program stimulated the interest of all of us who saw them.

Saturday was just plain dreary, with intermittent showers and occasional tantalizing hints of clearing. A couple of the group decided to "pack it in," while a couple of others showed up to replace them. We spent most of the morning in Blaine's lab over at Cumberland College, identifying specimens he has collected. We got a lot of new county records of moths for the Kentucky Lepidoptera Survey in that manner, so the time was not wasted. Then we decided to go collecting in hopes that the weather would improve.

Our main collecting area this trip was along State Road 1363 in McCreary Co. Very little was taken or seen on the wing on Sat., but Christa Anderson and Debbie McInnis each took a specimen of Glaucopsyche Tygdamus along the road on the Carolina Vetch that grew abundantly in a number of places. A few other species were recorded, but nothing that was not seen the next day, when conditions improved. Nothing was nothing on Sat. night.

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THE FLORIDA TRIP, MAY 10-21, 1982

Seven graduate students accompanied Covell to Florida for a course entitled "Subtropical Field Entomology" beginning 10 May. We drove first to Torreya State Park, Liberty Co, in western Florida. We blacklighted that night, recording the following moth species: Catocala orba, C. grynea, C. connubialis, C. clintoni, Catocala sp. undet., Achatodes zaeae, Oxycilla mitographa, Pangrapta decoralis, Bomolocha palparia, Scolecocampa liburna, Epizeuxis lubricalis, Ptichodis herbarum, Protocryphia secta (NOCTUIDAE); A. luna (SATURNIIDAE); Malacosoma disstria (LASTIOCAMPIDAE); Scopula limboundata, Idea demissaria, I. violacearia, I. taturata, Lophosis labeculata, Goniacidalia furciferata, Nemoria lixaria, Pimaphera sparsaria, Melanotopia canadaria, Semiothisa aequiferaria, S. promiscuata, S. transitaria, Besma quercivoraria, Apicia confusaria, Metarranthis hypochraria (?) (GEOMETRIDAE); Halisidota tessellaris, Hypoprepia minians (ARCTIIDAE); Dasychira manto, D. tephra (LYMANTRIIDAE); Herculia intermedialis, Parachma ochracealis, Galasa nigrinodis, Dioryctia disclusa, Herpetogramma aeglealis (PYRALIDAE); Argyrotaenia velutinana (TORTRICIDAE); and Lactura pupula (YPONOMEUTIDAE). These plus some more not yet identified. Butterflies seen included Asterocampa celtis and Megisto cymela. A lovely spot, with interesting historic sights such as a rebuilt plantation home (Gregory House) and a series of Civil War gun emplacements overlooking the Apalachicola River.

We drove next day to Gainesville, via Wakulla Springs, collecting only a few butterflies such as Oligoria maculata on Pickerelweed blossoms along the way. At Gainesville we visited the labs of drs. Lincoln Brower and Tom Emmel to learn of their research.

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SPRING FIELD MEETING REPORT (cont.)

Sunday morning brought the sun and a flurry of preparation for a return to the field. We all seemed to go at different times, and the fruitless trip the day before had at least given us some local knowledge of where to go. A list of butterflies recorded along SR 1363 between its junction with Rt. 92 and the Great Meadows Recreation Area is given below:

Amblyscirtes hegon (several taken in dirt road and environs near Bell Farm)

A. vialis (ditto; truly a "Roadside Skipper" as was hegon)

Hesperia metea - 3 taken near Bell Farm by Lucas and Calhoun

Pyrgus communis - a suspected sighting, although P. centaurae was proposed

Erynnis brizo - common

E. icelus

E. baptisiae (?)

E. juvenalis - common

Epargyreus clarus - 2 seen

Battus philenor

Papilio glaucus

P. troilus

Graphium marcellus (no swallowtails common)

Pieris virginiensis - not many taken, but Loran said they were common early Friday before most of us and the rain arrived)

Colias philodice

Anthocharis midea - very few seen

Incisalia augustinus - common near Bell Farm, though not all of us got this one

I. nippon - common in spots near Bell Farm

Feniseca tarquinius - 2 taken

Everes comyntas

Glaucopsyche lygdamus - mostly females

Celastrina ladon (formerly argiolus)

C. ebenina - 1 male taken by Covell about 2 miles from Rt. 92 on SR 1363

C. neglectamajor (if a good species!) - CVC

Anaea andria - several seen; 1 taken (?)

Vanessa atalanta

V. virginiensis

Nymphalis antiopa

Polygonia comma

P. interrogationis (rag seen by CVC)

Phyciodes tharos

Danaus plexippus (several worn returnees from migration were seen - rather early appearance, we thought)

Cyllopsis gemma

Good moth: Eudeilina herminiata (Gn.) (Drepanidae). Female taken on plant by CVC. Third record from Ky., and first for spring brood.

Those who attended the field meeting included: Christa Anderson and son Roman, John Calhoun, Charlie and Robert Covell, Blaine and Suann Early, Loran Gibson, Leroy Koehn & friend, Vince Lucas, Jim and Mary Lou Merritt, Mike and Debbie McInnis, Paul Pfenninger, Barr Schuler, and John Wilkie. We know some of the group took species they never had before and hope they were happy with the results. We did in fact add a number of species to the McCreary and Whitley county lists, and had a pretty good time together despite the weather.

I would like to thank Loran Gibson for his record-keeping for the trip, and help in planning. Many thanks to Blaine and Suann for their hospitality and assistance.

FLORIDA TRIP (cont.)

After a visit that evening to Lincoln Brower's home for ice cream, we spent the night in a tourist home, stopping next morning for a tour of the Fla. Collection of Arthropods in their new expanded quarters. Frank Meade, Bob Woodruff, and Howard Weems kindly gave us an excellent briefing of their work.

Next we drove to Sarasota, stopping for a home-cooked meal on Terra Ceia Island, Manatee Co., at the home of Mrs. John Leps. A little fossil and insect collecting was possible before an excellent meal. After checking into the Cadillac Motel in Sarasota, we went out to Lido Beach for a little R and R.

The morning of May 14 saw us at the door of the Allyn Museum of Entomology. Lee and Jackie Miller gave us a thorough tour of the magnificent collection, and explained techniques. Lee identified some Calisto spp. from the Dominican Republic for Covell. Then we drove southward, stopping for an interesting tour of Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary in Collier Co., where we recorded the following butterfly spp.: Urbanus dorantes, E. clarus, Papilio glaucus, troilus, cresphontes, asterius, Danaus gilippus berenice, Phyciodes tharos, Marpesia petreus, Limenitis archippus floridensis, Junonia coenia, Calycopis cecrops, Strymon melinus, Parrhasius m-album, and Euptychia sosybius. None were collected.

We spent that night and the next at the Red Lion Motel, Ochopee, and blacklighted the 14th at Collier Seminole State Park. The mosquitoes and many other insects were abundant, but moths scarce.

(Florida trip, cont.)

uring the hot day of 15 May we collected along irt roads 839 and 841 in the Big Cypress Swamp ational Wildlife Preserve, just north of the amiami Trail (Rt. 41) at Ochopee, Collier Co. our editor's first capture of the day-flying asp moth Didasys belae (Kimball, Pl. III, Fig. 3) occurred here where butterflies were generally scarce except for the Southern Metalmark, alephelis virginensis, which was common over lossoms of Bidens and other flowers along the oadside. The Georgia Satyr, Neonympha areolatas, was also common in a few restricted spots. e made a list of butterflies recorded that day, total of 22. Beside the two spp. mentioned bove, we caught or positively identified:

Ancyloxipha numitor
Atalopedes campestris
Lerodea eufala
Papilio polyxenes asterius
P. palamedes (several worn individuals)
Appias drusilla
Ascia monuste
Eurema nicippe
Nathalis iole
Calycopis cecrops
Heliconius charitonius
Agraulis vanillae
Euptoieta claudia
Vanessa atalanta
Junonia coenia
Anartia jatrophae guantanamo
Phyciodes tharos
P. phaon (freshly emerged)
Basilarchia archippus floridensis
Marpesia petreus
Danaus gilippus berenice

Not positively identified: Urbanus proteus
and Papilio cresphontes.

A report was left next morning with the Superintendent, then we drove eastward to Homestead. We established ourselves at Camp Owaisa Bauer, and did some shopping and laundry. When we returned, we were joined by Dave Baggett and John Riggerbach, who shared the spacious quarters there with us for 4 nights. Also, Louisvillian Mike McInnis came down from Miami where he was attending a conference, and collected his first Electrostrymon angelia along with your Editor on Lantana over past the swimming pool. At spare periods during the next 3 hectic days, quite a

bit of time was spent with long-handled nets picking hairstreaks from blossoms in a large leguminoseous tree next to the swimming pool. Baggett, Covell, and McInnis took a good number of E. angelia, Tmolus azia, Parrhasius m-album, Calycopis cecrops (usually ignored!), and S. melinus after extensive peering upward and scaring out the 'streaks. Leptotes cassius abounded, too, often making it tough to pick out the desired species.

On Monday, 17 May, we went down the keys and met amateur collectors Dan Schackman and his daughter Melissa for some netting on Big Pine Key. We took a number of Strymon martialis, S. columella, a couple of S. acis bartrami, Phocides pigmalion, Ephyriades brunnea floridensis, and a few lesser lights, then went on to the old botanical garden on Stock Island, which (contrary to rumor) has not been developed in any way, though the nearby golf course is slated to become a big condo complex before too long. Rain caught us here, and we took little except Epargyreus zestos, L. cassius galore, and a few other expected species. Dave Baggett got there ahead of us and said he saw some Chloristrymon maesites high in the trees. Our group then went to Key West for seafood dinner at the Two Brothers Rest. and a stroll on the dock after sunset.

Tuesday, 18 May, saw us at Homestead Bay-front Park early for the latest installment of "Project Ponceanus." We were to be taken out to Elliott Key in the Biscayne National Park (formerly Monument) to (1) make a general butterfly species count, and (2) assess the population level of the Schaus Swallow-tail, Papilio aristodemus ponceanus (in genus Hericlides in recent works). Naturalist Linda Dye was our leader, and showed much interest in the butterfly. We walked about a mile toward the southern end of the key, and after lunch at the Harbor, Linda and Covell made another walk around the trails there while the students indulged in some snorkeling and marine biology in the clear tropical waters. Overall, we found ponceanus to be "up" in numbers, and well along in its flight period, as males were generally somewhat "ragged out." Several courtship flights between pairs were watched, and 36 sightings of the butterfly were recorded. Other species recorded included U. proteus, Nastra neamathla, W. otho, B. polydamas, A. drusilla, A. monuste, P. sennae eubule, P. agarithe maxima, (to p. 4)

Congratulations to John MacGregor on his fine color shots of moths and article in Ky. Happy Hunting Ground recently! -Ed.



(Florida trip, finally concluded)

Strymon columella, Brephidium isophthalma pseudofea, L. cassius theonus, H. thomasi bethune-bakeri, A. vanillae, D. iulia, H. charitonius, Anthanassa frisia, Junonia evarete zonalis, and Eunica tatila tatilista. Two skipper spp. were seen but not identified. The generally high population level of butterflies may have been due to the good winter and spring rainfall in the area. Mosquitoes were abundant, too. The moth Composia fidelissima was also recorded during this visit to Biscayne Nat. Park.

Our third day in the area was spent collecting around Camp Owaissa Bauer, where we added Eurema dina, E. दौरa (including white HW form), P. agarithe, S. columella, Siproeta stelenes (fresh to very ragged), U. dorantes, P. cresphontes, H. charitonius, D. iulia, Polites baracoa, A. vanillae, E. sosybius, A. monuste, M. petreus, Lerema accius, and several other species to the hairstreaks mentioned earlier. Some of these were taken in the groves abutting the back boundaries of the park. We also visited the Fruit and Spice Park and Everglades National Park for quick looks around; and the Editor enjoyed some time that evening with an old friend, Terry Dickel, and his wife Lucy, at their lovely home adjacent to Fuchs Hammock.

Next day we stocked up on mangoes and headed for home, arriving safely the night of 21 May. A very enjoyable trip.

NEW MEMBERS

Paul L. "Rusty" Stallard, 8625 Wooded Glen Rd., Louisville, KY. 40220. Rusty is a U. of L. grad student, and went on the May Fla. trip.

Dan Woods, 603 South 9th St., Murray, Ky. 42071. Interests: Papilio & large silkworm moths and rearing them.

New subscribers: Entomology Library, U.S. National Museum; and Mexican Entomological Soc.

NEWS AND NOTES

FIELD GUIDE TO MOTHS finally completed and sent in to the publisher. Publication date is set for spring, 1983. Whew! -Ed.

Carl Kaster visited Mammoth Cave Nat. Park Apr. 16-18 and recorded the following: B. philenor, P. glaucus, G. marcellus, F. midea, E. olympia, N. antiopa, P. interrogationis, and D. plexippus (plus undet. Hesperidae).

We note with sadness the passing of our esteemed friends and colleagues, Charles P. Kimball and William E. Sieker. (News Lep. Soc. 1982, no. 2).

JOINT MEETING OF SOUTHERN LEPIDOPTERISTS, OHIO LEPIDOPTERISTS, AND KY. LEPIDOPTERISTS will be held Aug. 14-15 at KINGSFORT, TN., hosted by John Hyatt, Charles Watson, and Bob Cavanaugh. PLEASE ATTEND. There will be collecting for S. diana and other desirable Appalachian spp., and slide presentations, etc. For registration and information, write John at: 439 Forest Hills Dr., Kingsport, TN 37663. DON'T MISS THIS ONE.

Fall Field Meeting is planned for the Henderson Sloughs area around Henderson, Ky., for butterflies similar to those taken in our Fulton Co. meetings. Date: Sept. 10-12. Loran Gibson will be in charge. MORE LATER.

Riley's Butterflies of the West Indies is still available from E.W. Classey Ltd. for about \$12.

PERU TRIP. The Merritts, Earlys, and your Editor are off June 18 to Tingo Maria, Peru, for a little collecting. Wish us luck, and hope we get safely back. CVC back on June 28.

Leroy Koehn (new address: 18204 Hiller Ave., Cleveland, OHIO 44119) is offering his famous bait traps for sale (black nylon screening, with zipper). Write him for details.

Richard Henderson was in Arizona in late April and collected in such famous spots as Oak Creek Canyon and Madeira Can. He took Chiodes albasciatus, Leptotes marina, Texola elada, Anthanassa texana, Erora quaderna, Adelpha bredowii, Zestus adorus, Staphylus eos, and others.

Bob Bryant urgently requests records of Maryland captures of Sphingidae, Arctiidae, Lithosiidae, Nolidae and Agaristidae (now subfamilies of the Noctuidae). Data to include: date, place (nearest town or other landmark, and county). All help will be gratefully acknowledged. Maryland Moth Survey, 522 Old Orchard Rd., Baltimore, MD 21229. Many thanks. -Bob

Loran Gibson recently moved to his new home, and the address is: 5505 Taylor Mill Rd., Taylor Mill, KY 41015. Phone: AC 606, 261-4515. He is enjoying his new "bug room" immensely.

Charlie Covell will be attending the Lepidopterists' Soc. meeting July 15-18, and going on to Los Angeles afterwards. He will also be attending the Southern Leps meeting in Kingsport.

KY. LEPIDOPTERA SURVEY: The manuscript is still being written on IBM Displaywriter by Mrs. Rozenna Carr, and her work is nearly finished. The work has been made possible by a generous gift from Mr. Carl C. Cornett. We hope to have the manuscript finished within the coming year.

PLEASE RESPOND PROMPTLY TO DUES NOTICE, ATTACHED. DUE DATE: JULY 1. THANK YOU. -the management

1982 DUES NOTICE

PLEASE SEND YOUR DUES FOR 1982 TO W. BLAINE EARLY III, DEPT. OF BIOLOGY, CUMBERLAND COLLEGE, WILLIAMSBURG, KY 40769. WE PLAN TO KEEP DUES AT THE PRESENT LOW LEVEL, BUT HOPE EVERYONE WILL SUPPORT US WITH PROMPT PAYMENT OF DUES. THANK YOU, CVC

REGULAR DUES, 1982: \$3.00 _____

ASSOC. DUES, 1982: \$1.50 _____

PAST YEARS' DUES _____

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TOTAL _____

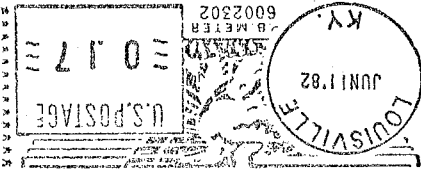
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