



NEWS

of the LEPIDOPTERISTS' SOCIETY

No. 4 July/Aug 1981

Dave Winter, Editor
257 Common Street
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USA

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RIPPLES: Jo Brewer

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- 2 Jon Shepard
- 3 Ray Stanford
- 4 Hugh Freeman

- 5 Mo Nielsen
- 6 Dave Baggett
- 7 Dave Winter

- 8 Kenelm Philip
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 - 10 Boyce Drummond
 - 11 Quimby Hess
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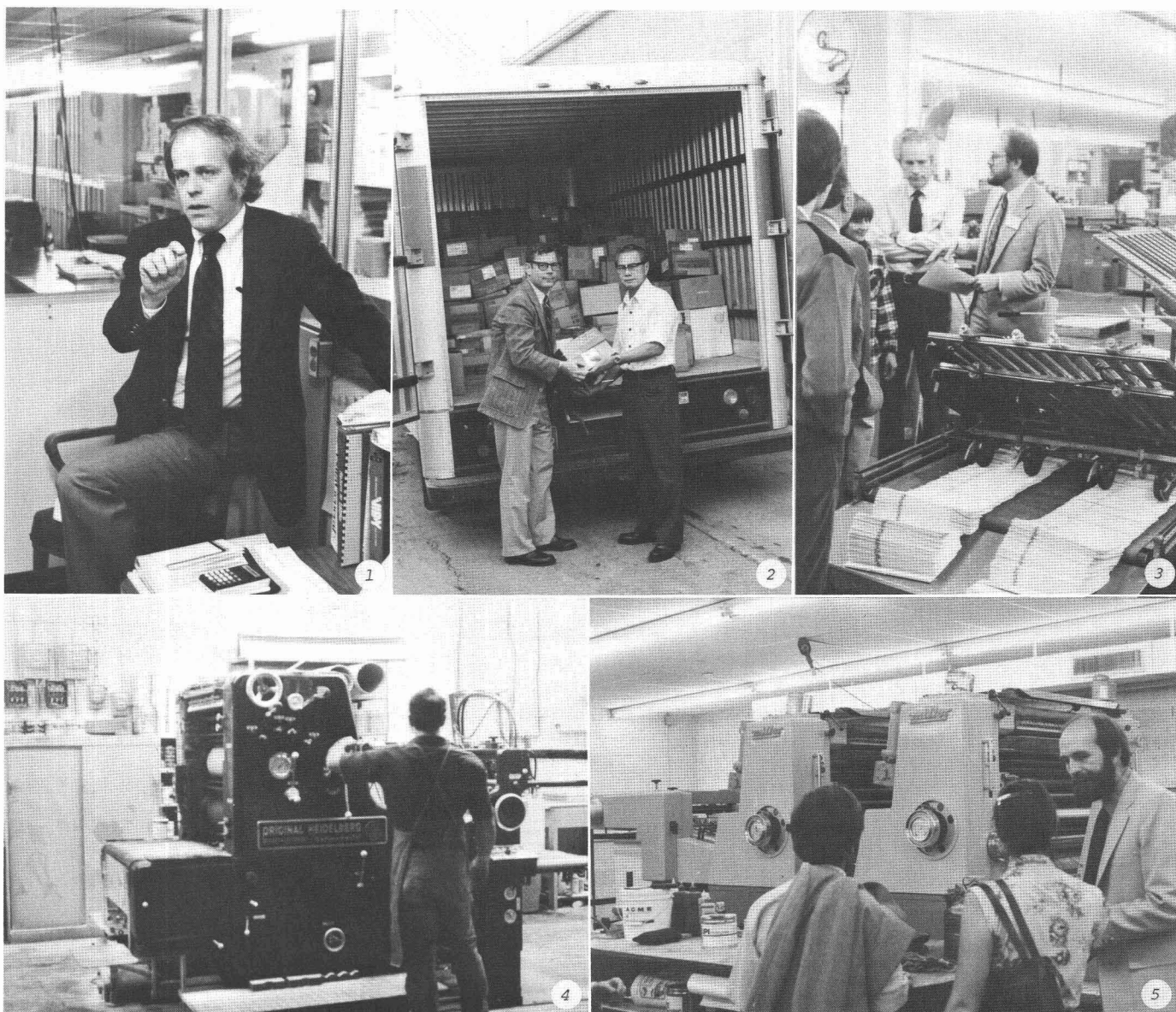
A VISIT TO THE ALLEN PRESS

In April 1975 the stocks of back issues of the Society's publications arrived in Louisville from Yale University where, since early in the Society's history, they had been stored and distributed through the volunteer services of the late Sid Hessel. At that time, Dale Schweitzer packed up all the materials and shipped them to Charlie Covell, who since then has been doing the distributing job. Working along with Treasurer Ron Leuschner, and John Snider and Stan Nicolay before him, he sent out current year publications to new and reinstated members, redirected mail that was returned with new address or "address unknown", sent replacements to members who had missed deliveries, and filled orders for back issues of Journal and News, and for the Memoirs and Commemorative Volume. For a while he had some paid help, then volunteer assistance from Mr. Carl Cornett, who had to discontinue last year because of ill health. With turnover in help or lack of it, Charlie usually did much of the packing, mailing, and billing himself. Sometimes delays occurred, and the correspondence involved took a lot of time. So this spring, with the agreement of the Executive Council, the stored publications were transferred to Allen Press, our publisher, in Lawrence, Kansas. Allen Press will store the back issues free, and will promptly fill orders. The only change is that now members will have to pay for packing and postage, which was not necessary before. That cost should not be unreasonable, and the more efficient handling at Allen Press should make it worth the price.

The move exemplified the cooperative and volunteer effort that keeps the Society going. With a bit of dickering, Charlie acquired a cut-rate U-haul, inspired students to help him load 300 cubic feet of boxed publications, and on 19 May drove the twelve hours to Lawrence Kansas (where the U. of Louisville had already funded him to attend a meeting of the Association of Systematics collections), and next morning had the cargo unloaded by Bill Bong and crew at the Allen Press. The whole operation cost the Society only \$445.87, largely for truck rental, insurance, and gasoline.

The Allen Press, with its staff of about 60, now specializes in scientific periodical literature, publishing about 120 different journals. Founded in the 1930's by Harold Allen and now managed by his son Arly, The Press has been printing the Journal since 1965 and the News since 1979. Our primary contact, with whom both editors work closely, is Guy Dresser, in charge of estimates and customer service; he has been very helpful in recommending cost-cutting procedures.

The steps in publishing an issue of the Journal are varied and include a number of people and machines. After copy is received from our editor, the manuscripts are listed and numbered (logged in); then illustrative material is separated out of each article and sent to the camera for photographing. A worker then codes each manuscript to indicate what kind of type will be used for different parts of the article. Next,



ALLEN PRESS: (1) Arly Allen, General Manager. (2) Charlie Covell unloading back issues of *NEWS* and *JOURNAL* under direction of Bob Bong, Shipping Manager. (3) Folding machine being explained to group from Association of Systematic Collections. (4) Heidelberg press, used for printing covers. (5) Guy Dresser explaining Miller "Perfection" press, which prints both sides of text pages at once. Photos by C. Covell.

typists at home with IBM typewriters re-type each article on special paper, after which the pages are fed into an OCR (Optical Character Recognition) Scanner to read the type and transmit it into the computer. The computer then sends the information to the typesetter, and in so doing sets format, justifies margins, hyphenates, etc. The typesetters used until recently were Mergenthaler VIPs; recently Allen Press has put on line a new AutoLogic APS Micro Muc-5 "third generation" typesetter. Whereas the VIPs set eighty lines per minute, the new AutoLogic can set 1,250 lines per minute!

After this step, proof-readers check the printed proof for errors, then make corrections on the computer and get a revised proof. This is sent to authors and editor. When all proofs are returned, necessary changes are again made, and cutting and pasting may be done to rearrange lines of type. The results are again proof-read there, and returned to the editor for a final check. When he gives the word, the actual printing can begin.

The covers and text are printed on separate presses (Heidelberg for covers; Miller "perfector" press for text, with capability of printing both sides of the large

sheets at once). Next, the signatures are folded, gathered, and bound. Most of our *Journal* issues are saddle-stapled, but thicker ones like the Clench Memorial Issue (Volume 34, No. 2, 1980) are side-bound with a new gluing process that is stronger and cheaper than the older methods. Then the issues are packed, addressed, and mailed from Bob Bong's shipping department.

Production of an issue of the *Journal* is complicated, but it is clear that our publication dollars are appropriately spent, and that we have the services of a printing company that appreciates our needs for special symbols, high grade photo reproduction, etc. Getting the back-issue handling of Society publications under the same roof is a welcome development. (Article and related photos are from material submitted by C. Covell.)

PUBLICATION OF THE *NEWS*.....

Lest anyone be misled (and Allen Press be maligned), steps leading to publication of the *NEWS* are considerably less sophisticated than those outlined above for the *JOUR-*

NAL.

All copy is typed in Dedham on an IBM-mimic by an amateur (with the exception of the Season Summary, which is contracted out to a professional typist), in single columns, which are then proof-read by the editor (more or less!), cut and pasted up in final form, camera ready, and dispatched to Kansas. There the sheets are photographically reduced to 73% of original size, printed, stapled, and mailed. The process from receipt at Allen Press to mailing requires about three weeks, after which your copy is at the mercy of the U. S. Snail.

Illustrations take several routes: b/w line drawings are pasted up with the typed copy; color transparencies are converted (in Dedham) to b/w glossy prints by a Polaroid device so ancient it is no longer identifiable; these and any submitted glossies are held separate for screening and appropriate reduction.

Note: we are no longer accepting color prints for use in the NEWS. Too much is lost in converting them to the necessary b/w prints (detail and money, to be specific!). However, we can photograph your specimens, if you wish (all specimens will be returned).

Also, by mischance (I forgot to change the type-ball) this entire issue is done in Courier type, usually limited to cover and Ripples, instead of the sans-serif Letter Gothic normally used. If readers have any clear feeling that one or the other type style is eminently more readable, I should like to hear about it. Ed.

MEMOIRS UPDATE.....

Memoir #2 (The Butterfly List) is at last at the printer (not Allen Press), with the expectation that the paperbacks will reach Louisville in July for prompt mailing. The hard covered edition is expected to be received

about 1 month later.

The offer of the Commemorative Issue for \$5, when ordered with Memoir #2, still stands.

These publications may be obtained from Charlie Covell: see details on page 11, NEWS for Jan/Feb 1981.

BACK ISSUE ORDERS.....

As indicated in the article about Allen Press, back issues of the JOURNAL and the NEWS and will soon be able to be ordered from there.

At the moment, the details of the ordering and handling procedure are in the process of being worked out between our Treasurer and Allen Press.

It would be helpful if you would hold your requests for back issues for a month or two, until specific instructions for ordering can be printed in a forthcoming issue of the NEWS.

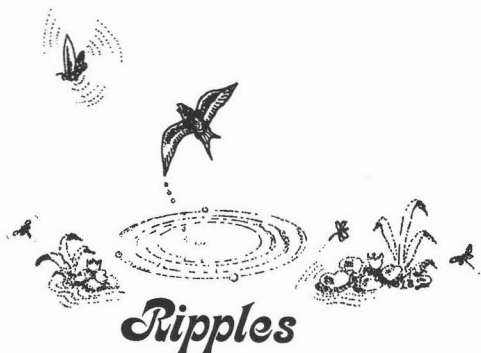
MISSING PUBLICATIONS.....

Did you fail to receive a recent issue of the NEWS or the JOURNAL, or receive one with an aberration, such as missing pages?

Problems of this sort should now, and in the future, be dealt with directly by contacting Mr. Guy Dresser, Allen Press, Box 368, Lawrence, KS 66044.

But don't be too quick to conclude that overdue issues have passed you by. Despite the best of intentions, editors often experience obstacles in getting final copy to the printer on time, and everybody's issue is overdue.

AND NOW, TO RETURN TO LEPIDOPTERA.....



Dear Editor of the Lepid. NEWS or of RIPPLES (or whoever is in charge of the matter below):

The disappearance of species (lepidopterous and otherwise) seems to be a world-wide phenomenon, and more and more restrictions on collecting are placed in increasing numbers of countries. The reaction of collectors and the position of most collectors' societies is that destruction of habitats and biotopes is the true cause for the deplorable situation, and that collecting may have an effect only in cases of isolated small colonies.

In general I fully agree with this position and our society has done its admonishing and explaining. However, NEWS No. 1 of 1981 on page 10 shows an offer reading in part: "SALE OR EXCHANGE..... wild collected E. imperialis, C. regalis, A. luna.....and dozens more of Sat., Sping., Cith. in quantities of 1000 or more per species....."

If someone goes out collecting, brings home a few females, persuades them to deposit ova, and then slaves rearing the larvae by bringing in carloads of twigs, and is lucky enough not to lose the broods from any infectionwell, he deserves 1000 or more specimens and has them, having taken fewer females from nature than one

500 watt porch light would have brought to destruction.

But the ad refers clearly to "Wild collected 1000 per species". Unless there is a mix-up in the number of zeros (and I certainly hope so) the above expounded position on "collecting" loses much if not all of its ground and provides large amounts of ammunition for the "anti-collecting camp".

Incidentally, the issue containing the ad elaborates at length on the policy of advertising and the difference between collectors and dealers. As everything becomes more and more commercialized one may be forced to "sell" in order to "buy". While in the past exchange led directly to acquisition, now one has to go the less desirable path out of necessity, and may do so without too bad a feeling about being involved in "commercialism". But with "1000 or more per species" there is little question whether the line has been crossed or not.

Sincerely,

Hermann Flaschka
2318 Hunting Valley Drive
Decatur, Georgia 30033

(Ed. note: the figure on the submitted copy of the ad was a clear and legible 1000. J.B.)

Dear Jo:

My PA report for Celastrina ladon "rarely seen nectaring" was obviously inaccurate, as pointed out in Mr. Williams' letter. Both sexes freely visit flowers like most of the Plebejinae. The quote was not in my original correspondence and I am not sure how it got into print. In PA and NJ the following nectaring plants have been recorded: white vervain (Verbena urticifolia), Joe Pye weed (Eupatorium purpureum), common strawberry (Fragaria virginiana), angelica (Angelica atropurpurea), spicebush (Lindera benzoin), early blueberry (Vaccinium vacillans), white clover (Trifolium repens), as well as blossoms of rose, peach, thistle, mint, plum, willow, and choke-cherry.

The early spring individuals are normally very nervous nectarers and quick to depart when approached. During hot summer weather C. ladon becomes a sluggish, lethargic nectarer. On occasional August days (90° F. or above) I have observed persistent slow nectaring on a single plant for periods of 30 minutes or longer. Very often, touching their wings or antennae will fail to elicit an escape response. I predict that C. ladon, like most biological entities, has an optimal temperature range for its activities, but above or below this range its behavior is drastically modified. One such modification may be persistent nectaring at excessively high temperature. Tiny animals have a very high body surface-to-volume ratio which places them at a disadvantage during hot weather due to excessive fluid loss.

Dr. David M. Wright
124 Heartwood Drive
Lansdale, PA 19446

Dear Ripples:

In the recent article by Bitzer & Shaw, "Territorial Behavior of the Red Admiral Vanessa atalanta (L.)", J. Res. Lepid. 18: 36-49, 1979, the authors state that "V. atalanta's response to foreign objects . . . suggests they become familiar with visual features of their territories." If this is true for inanimate objects (rocks, bare patches of ground, bushes), is there any reason why a territorial butterfly cannot become "familiar" with another butterfly in the same or neighboring territory?

On hilltops in the Ventura, California, area, one or more individuals of Vanessa atalanta rubria, V. annabella, V. virginensis, and V. cardui may all be present at once. Considering that they spend from three to six hours on the same hilltop together, a good deal of which time is spent with the same individuals chasing each other, there seems to be ample opportunity for the butterflies to become familiar with each other. If "becoming familiar with" is the same as "learning to recognize", then the butterflies have learned to recognize both their physical surroundings and each other.

Now, if the butterflies recognize each other as the same individuals they have been chasing all afternoon, what is their purpose in engaging in still more chases with these same individuals? Obviously once a butterfly has recognized a cohort as a co-resident and not a territorial threat, there is no need to chase for the sake of territorial defense. Do the chases provide the butterflies with a means of expending excess energy? (Excess energy build-up would have been eliminated in the evolutionary process by behavioral or physiological modifications.) Or do they serve to dissipate excess heat acquired from sunning? (Butterflies avoid excess heat build-up by closing their wings while perching on the ground, or by sitting in the shade.)

Or is it remotely possible that butterflies enjoy chasing each other? But "enjoyment" of an activity does not seem to be characteristic of lower animal behavior. Do any readers have opinions on "chasing for the sake of chasing"? Or is it a repeated territorial challenge by an insect relating instinctively to its environment, and incapable of learning about it?

Thomas Dimmock
111 Stevens Circle
Ventura, CA 93303

(Ed. Note: An article by the present Ripples Editor asking similar questions was published in the NEWS 15 May 1973. J.B.)

Dear Jo "Ripples" Brewer:

Following in the footsteps of my good friend Ed Reid, who wrote last year re those who refuse to answer letters, I'd like to "lash out" with my own butterfly net at those scores of collectors I've written to over the past few years and never heard from.

C'mon, people. How long does it take to write a short note saying "Sorry, can't help you", "Not interested", etc.? Two minutes?

I spend about \$50 (plus) every year on postage stamps and post cards, and if I get one response out of thirty, I am lucky. I've even requested price lists from several dealers (who had solicited new customers) and never heard from them! I'm beginning to get paranoid, thinking that someone might be intercepting my mail. Or maybe all those people are deceased. But if that were the case, my letters would be returned, right?

Really, how about a little more cooperation? Thank you!

Bruce E. Ellis
3817 Schiller Ave.
Cleveland, OH 44109 USA

Ed. note: Here's a shoe from the other foot from Benjamin D. Williams, Groton, MA, written after his return from a six-month sabbatical spent in butterflying across the United States.

"Needless to say, the trip was a fascinating, exciting, and rewarding experience. Collecting was made more productive and the entire experience more satisfying thanks to the hospitality, encouragement, and advice given by many members of the Lepidopterists' Society whom we contacted along the way.

"Some of these individuals I had corresponded with for periods of up to fifteen years. To meet them in person was a joy, and the kindnesses they extended will not be forgotten. It seems to me that cooperation of this sort is one of the chief benefits of membership in our association, and I hope very much that my experience has been and will continue to be shared by others."

Dear Ripple:

I am enclosing a drawing made by Mr. Kenneth J. Faneli of what I assume to be a Papilio polyxenes var. calverley taken by me in fields west of Elgin, Kane County, Illinois, 27 August 1978. I believe the insect is a male. It was showing typical hill-topping behavior when I took it. Polyxenes is quite common at this locality, the males being found on hill-tops, the females among the grasses where we have seen them ovipositing. I must admit that this "butterfly with an identity crisis" caught my attention immediately. It was the only thing I caught on a particularly spastic afternoon.



I hope this goes some way to clearing up the identity of the insect portrayed on the mysterious slide.

John Schwartz
801 Fairlawn #4
Laurel, MD 20810

Dear Jo:

Regarding the melanic aberrant Speyeria taken in the Black Hills, S.D., illustrated in the NEWS Jan/Feb 1981, I would say that it is probably an edwardsii as he believes.

The problem of identifying aberrant Speyeria can be very sticky, especially if specimens are taken out of context, as with museum oddities. Usually a field collector

who is lucky enough to take a black aberration is in a position to make a shrewd guess as to identity, merely by knowing what species are flying, how they behave, and by being familiar with the local scene. Of course, if in some hideous place where parallels are notorious, one can't expect to be sure of the aberrations when the normals are producing headaches!

Fortunately this is a situation (alas, all too rare) in which Mr. Marrone can make a positive identification by doing a bit of work with a small, stiff brush, a needle, and a strong hand lens. By careful brushing and stroking, the tip of the abdomen can be denuded of the hairy vestiture, exposing the valves and uncus. By looking closely at one of the valves, a dark structure near the upper edge, shaped rather like a finger (hence the term digitus) can be noted to be considerably longer than wide. This prolonged digitus is found in edwardsii, and in no other species. The others are all short and chunky. In the unlikely event that this specimen should pan out not to be edwardsii, I can only suggest aspirin, or perhaps Excedren.

Paul Grey
Rt. 1, Box 216
Lincoln, Maine 04457

To Ripples:

On 18 June 1980 in Erie, PA, a robin was observed capturing an adult Danaus plexippus, which was in turn stolen and devoured by a house sparrow.

Gerald M. MacWilliams
Odell Street
Union City, PA 16438

(The writer did not say how the sparrow enjoyed its lunch.)

Dear Jo:

Last summer while skydiving over the Wyoming County Parachute Center in Arcade, Wyoming Co., NY, I saw, while under an open parachute canopy at 1500' above the ground (2900' above sea level), a medium sized yellow butterfly which I assume was Colias philodice. I have not previously seen any lepidoptera at anything approaching that altitude.

Gene Sprada
110 Terrace Road
West Seneca, NY 14224

Dear ~~Abbey~~ Ripple:

Last summer on my vacation I went to Ecuador to catch butterflies. I went to Limoncocha, where Stan Nicolay says they have over fifty species of hairstreaks.

I caught one hairstreak (only ONE - 29 June). Bob Robbins says it is Strymon melinus. What am I doing wrong?

Dave Winter

Dear Dave:

Don't complain. As a moth man, you had to start somewhere. Rip.



ALLYN COLLECTION, GIFT TO THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA.....

In March 1981, the University of Florida announced the receipt of a gift of momentous import to the future of Lepidopterology. About 20 years ago, Mr. Arthur C. Allyn, Jr. became fascinated with both the beauty and the

scientific value of well-curated private collections of butterflies. Realizing the importance of maintaining the integrity of individual collections, Mr. Allyn not only began selectively purchasing those of greatest scientific value, but also created out of his own resources the Allyn Museum of Entomology in Sarasota, Florida. Over the past two decades, Mr. Allyn's interest in butterflies grew along with his museum, which now houses more than three-quarters of a million superbly curated specimens, including especially valuable assemblages of Neotropical Ithomiids, Riodinids, Indomalaysian Danaids and Papilionids, and a large number of Castaniids, Neotropical day-flying moths.

Over the years, the Allyn Museum has increasingly become a major focal point for research on tropical butterflies and has attracted numerous specialists from both the new and old worlds. Mr. Allyn's curiosity and interest in butterflies has led him to become one of the true masters of the phenomenal new science of scanning electron microscopy. A recent publication in the Bulletin of the Allyn Museum (61: 1-29) by Professor J. C. Downey and A. C. Allyn is a delicious sample of keen intellect, artistic appreciation, and mastery of useful new technology which has characterized Mr. Allyn's endeavours throughout his highly successful career.

The Allyn Museum Collection will remain in Sarasota in the immediate future but will eventually be transferred into a new building which is being planned as an addition to the Zoology Department and the Florida State Museum at the University of Florida in Gainesville. At that point in time, the University of Florida will become one of the major world centers for the study of Lepidoptera. This will have been largely due to the perspicacity and generosity of one of America's finest Lepidopterists.

Lincoln P. Brower
Thomas C. Emmel
Department of Zoology
University of Florida

DOS PASSOS LIBRARY, GIFT TO WITTENBERG UNIVERSITY.....

The Thomas Library at Wittenberg University, Springfield, Ohio, has received the library of Dr. Cyril F. dos Passos, Mendham, New Jersey. The collection of more than 3000 volumes has been called "one of the most important entomological libraries in private hands". The working library of a distinguished scientist, it also includes a number of rare and historically important works. Among them are: Clercki Teones' Insectorum, 1759; Smith's Natural History of...Lepidopterous Insects of Georgia, 1797; Hubner's Sammlung Exotische Schmetterlinge, and an extensive collection of early editions of Carl Linnaeus.

Dr. dos Passos collection of Nearctic specimens (over 1000 boxes) and Palearctic butterflies has been donated to the American Museum of Natural History, New York.

Bob Lee Mowery
Director University Libraries
Wittenberg University

INTRODUCING THE CURATOR OF THE CARNEGIE MUSEUM, SECTION OF ENTOMOLOGY.....

With the retirement last year of Dr. George Wallace after many years of devoted service to the Carnegie Museum of Natural History in Pittsburgh, a new Curator of the Section of Entomology has been appointed, in the person of Dr. Ginter Ekis.

A coleopterist concentrating on the Cleroidea, especially the checkered beetles, he admits to the recent development of a lepidopterical itch, occasioned by furtive looks into drawers of Parnassians!

Dr. Ekis is particularly interested in having the lepidoptera collections used for research, both at the museum and by means of loans. Accordingly, he has set up revised procedures for obtaining specimens on loan, the

details of which are obtainable from him on request (address is in the following notice).

The space allocation for the Museum's nearly 2.5 million specimens of Lepidoptera (including more than 5000 types) is being nearly doubled currently, with the help of a \$300,000 NSF facility grant for physical renovation. The Curator cordially invites Lep Soc members to come in for a visit.

POSITION AVAILABLE, CARNEGIE MUSEUM.....

Post Doctoral Systematist-Lepidopterist: 50% research, 50% curatorial work. Begin 1 September 1981. 10-12K/year contract, extension possible. Research project must be relevant to strengths of CMNH collection. Send resume, brief summary of research interest, and reprints of publications to Dr. Ginter Eklis, Section of Entomology, Carnegie Museum of Natural History, 4400 Forbes Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15213 (Tel. 412-622-3259).

SEASON SUMMARY CORRECTIONS, ZONE 6.....

From time to time, by design or otherwise, things creep into the NEWS which serve to test whether anyone actually reads it (see also item below). For four years now, the typing of the Season Summary has been done by a young lady from Germany, Ursula Dafeldecker, an extremely skillful typist with no entomological background. However, after striking the keys some 632,965 times in our behalf, she has developed a "feel" for lepidopteral names and even spots errors we have overlooked. Quite reasonably then, on page 24 of the 1980 Season Summary (NEWS No. 2, 1981, Florida) she converted "B. Tribunella", a collector, into "B. tribunella", a putative micro, and we, also quite reasonably, we feel, overlooked it in proofing. Our sincerest apologies to Mr. Tribunella!

Dave Baggett also advises us of (1) an addition: Phyciodes tharos type B (STATE), 25 June 1980, east of Todd Lake, Augusta Co., VA (P. Opler); and (2) Catocala dulcicola was not a new state record, having been taken before near Blacksburg, Montgomery Co., VA, by David West 3 July 1976, 30 June, 3, 5, 13 July 1977, with a Robinson trap.

THE "SLEEPER" PHENOMENON IS AN OLD ONE.....

C. Covell, who is beginning to get caught up on his reading, notes that in NEWS #3, 1960, p.15, line 13 "Muller notes the growing abundance of melanin forms, especially Acronycta (sic) and Catocala." (Possibly NJ Catocala are fiercer than those most of us encounter.)

COLOR SLIDES SOLICITED.....

For a book to be published in Spanish on the Rhopalocera of the world, I require a few top-quality color slides of specimens photographed in nature. The following families are needed: Morphidae, Brassolidae, Danaidae, Ithomiidae, Heliconiidae, Amathusidae, Riodinidae, Lycaenidae (Theclinae), Megathymidae, and Papilionidae (Troides, Trogonoptera, and Ornithoptera only). Slides of early stages of the above groups are also solicited.

Sources will be acknowledged, and a free copy of the book, planned to have approximately 250 pages, 1000 color plates and drawings, will be presented to every photographic contributor. M. R. Gómez Bustillo, Torre de Madrid 5-12, Madrid (13), SPAIN.

BUTTERFLIES OF THE NEOTROPICAL REGION, Part 1, Papilionidae and Pieridae, by D'Abrera, is to be printed this fall. It will be 208 pages, in the same format as the previous volumes, and will sell for \$185 US, through Classey, ERS, and BioQuip, among others.

Those wishing to purchase a copy should order now (but send no money; billing later), to assist in determining the size of the printing run.

MONARCHS AT RISK.....

In mid-March 1981 Jo and I had the privilege of accompanying Dr. Lincoln Brower on a visit to the monarch butterfly overwintering sites in the mountains of southwest Mexico. The trip was timed in an effort to coincide with the start of the northward spring migration; the timing was perfect.

At that season the bulk of the butterflies, which had been on location since the preceding November, were still "hung up" in large masses on the middle branches of the tall fir trees, growing densely in steep-sided, narrow canyons at altitudes between 10,000 and 11,000 feet. The canyons are oriented in a more-or-less southwesterly direction and have small streams in the bottom, on which the butterflies depend for hydration. The density of the forest and the orientation of the canyons result in reduction of temperature fluctuations, giving a relatively stable cool, but not sub-freezing, situation throughout most of the four month "holding" period of semi-dormancy.

By mid-March the sun is getting high overhead, and even at 10,000 feet the air in the forest is warming; the insects are moving about in large numbers in mid-day, sunning on shrubs and exposed branches, watering on the moist ground at seeps and brook edges, and "tanking up" with nectar. Predominant flowers are large numbers of the composite blossoms of Senecio, a varied genus ranging from low herbs with magenta blooms, to medium or large shrubs in white or yellow. The temperature drop when a cloud obscures the sun sets the basking butterflies into instant flight, to maintain temperature until the sun returns and they can resume basking.

We approached one site from below on a beautiful sunny morning. Monarchs were floating over the fields in considerable numbers, and the available flowers were well patronized. As we got higher, near the bottom of the canyon, the numbers increased, and the down-hill direction of the outflow became more consistent. And on reaching the forest, the outflow became a torrent, reminiscent of bats leaving Carlsbad (but more stately and colorful!).

Within the canyon, the moist paths were paved with watering butterflies, which flushed in clouds as we progressed. Flowers were bent down by their numbers. And with the termination of their six-month sexual diapause, mating was progressing with all degrees of fervor and ineptness. The numbers were such that one could only be thankful that monarchs are not a predacious species.

In order to seek out further colonies, Lincoln had been given the use of a helicopter by Governor Cardenas of Michoacan. As we flew over the three known colonies, their location was heralded by an increase in the number of flying butterflies, and marked by a brownish-purple color made by several acres of monarchs sunning on the gray-green firs. No additional colonies were located.

And from this the potential plight of the species becomes apparent. Dependent as they are upon heavy forest with the right altitude and right exposure, and relatively fixed in location from year to year (one old man recalled rolling in dead monarch wings under those same trees sixty years ago as a child), logging could obviously destroy the sites — and logging has progressed to within a few hundred yards of one of them. While the trees grow rapidly — ring counts of the largest stumps showed ages of 60-70 years — any thinning of the forest allows increased temperature fluctuation and reduces the suitability of the area. Tourism is a secondary hazard, and sight-seers as well as biology classes are beginning to visit.

So the battle is on. The Mexican government has made various decrees with regard to the sites, but implementation lags. Governor Cardenas has visited the sites and is most interested in protecting the area. And the International Union for Conservation of Nature, the World Wildlife Fund, and other interested organizations and individuals are working to acquaint government officials, and the public world-wide, with the realities of the situation.

Those are your monarchs down there.

Dave Winter.

RESEARCH REQUESTS.....

❖ WANTED: Information on larval habits of North and South American Hepialidae, primarily on tunnel characteristics and feeding niche: whether roots, stems, or foliage. Particular interest in Sthenopis species, for which I also require distribution records and larvae. Information required for evaluation of southern hemisphere arboreal species as part of a study on Aenetus virescens (Doubleday) in New Zealand. Any information gratefully received and acknowledged if included in publications. I may be able to provide help of reciprocal nature if required by interested persons. John Grehan, Zoology Department, Victoria University of Wellington, Private Bag, Wellington, New Zealand.

❖ WANTED: Coenonympha, for a revision of the genus. R. E. Gray, Aux RR #2, Enfield, NH 03748.



NEW MEMBERS.....

ALDERSON, KEN: 636 Edwards, Apt. 3-S, West Dundee, IL 60118
 BIZARRO, JORGE MANUEL: Rua Tristo Vaz, 3-2^o Esqueras, 1400 Lisboa, PORTUGAL
 BORCHELT, RICK: 4319 Rowalt Dr., No. 302, College Park, MD 20740
 DAVIS, ROBERT ALANI: Rt. 1, Box 265-B, Wadmalow Isl., SC 29487
 EWING, ROBERT, III: 1750 St. Charles Ave., Apt. 326, New Orleans, LA 70130
 FLEMING, CHARLES G.: #6 Timber Ridge Park, Rt. 1, Chapel Hill, NC 27514
 FORBES, MARY: 7936 Altavan Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90045
 ISAAC, Mr./Mrs.SAMUEL N.: 303B Wellington Ct., Tampa, FL 33609
 JAMIESON, DAVID F.: 325 N.W. 134th St., Miami, FL 33168
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ADDRESS CHANGES.....

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 ELLIS, SIMON: Transworld Butterfly Co., Apartado 7911, 1.000 San Jose, COSTA RICA, C.A.
 GILBERT, JEFFREY G.: P.O.Box 108, Mt. Holly Springs, PA 17065
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 WALKER, DAVIS: 27 Rivercrest, St. Catharines, Ontario, CANADA L2T 2P3
 WILKENING, ALAN JAMES: USDA-SEA-AR, Insects Affect. Lab., 1600 SW 23rd Dr., Gainesville, FL 32602

BUY, SELL, EXCHANGE.....

Items submitted for inclusion in this section are dealt with in the manner explained on page 9 of the 1981 NEWS (Jan/Feb issue). Please note that it was decided several years ago to exclude prices from the published notices, except for the prices of lists and printed matter. "SASE" calls for self-addressed stamped envelope. Notices will be inserted once, unless entry in two (Maximum) successive issues is requested.

FOR SALE: Extensive personal collection of Clo Wind Carroll, plus all inventory of an entomological equipment business. Inquiry welcomed. For a complete copy of the inventory send \$10.00. Morrie Carroll, Clo Wind Co., 827 Congress Ave., Pacific Grove, CA 93950.

WANTED: old microscopes in good condition, perfect functioning; e.g., full brass microscopes, any brand. Offering in exchange rare species of paleartic and exotic butterflies. Please send offer including polaroid photo and price if possible. Dr. T. Balzázs, Grüttenstr. 8, D-8901, Merching, WEST GERMANY.

WANTED: A-1 pair of Neophasia terlooiti (papered). Will purchase, or trade for other North American butterflies. Mark Meyers, 4703 W. Parker, Chicago, IL 60639.

WANTED: specimens of Q. uhleri, Q. alberta, and C. gorgone from all parts of their ranges for comparison with Peace River material. Ted Pike, P.O.Box 1231, Fairview, Alberta, CANADA T0H 1L0

EXCHANGE: moths from Alberta for identifications and/or butterflies. Ted Pike, address above.

FOR SALE: Surplus butterflies from Ontario, Manitoba, Alberta, British Columbia, Yukon, and Alaska. List on request. Norm Tremblay, Shadow Lake Rd. 9, Norland, Ontario, CANADA K0M 2L0

FOR SALE: male and female Ornithoptera priamus poseidon (as a pair only); Graphium weiskei from New Guinea; and Trogonoptera brookiana. For information send SASE to Janice Logan, Rt. 1. Box 236, Fayetteville TN 37334.

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DEADLINES: Material submitted for inclusion in a particular issue of the NEWS should reach the NEWS EDITOR no later than the 15th of the preceding even-numbered month. Reports for the SEASON SUMMARY must reach the ZONE COORDINATORS (listed on front cover) no later than 31 January.

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INFORMATION ABOUT THE SOCIETY.....

Membership in the Lepidopterists' Society is open to all persons interested in any aspect of Lepidopterology. Prospective members should send the TREASURER the full dues for the current year (\$18.00 US), together with mailing address and a note on areas of interest in Lepidoptera; student membership (must be certified) \$12; sustaining membership \$25. Remittances must be in US dollars, payable to the Lepidopterists' Society. All members will receive the JOURNAL (published quarterly) and the NEWS (published bimonthly). A biennial membership list will comprise the last issue of the NEWS in even-numbered years.

Information on membership may be obtained from the TREASURER, Ron Leuschner, 1900 John St., Manhattan Beach, CA 90266, USA. Changes of address must be sent to the TREASURER, and only when the changes are permanent or long-term.

Other information about the Society may be obtained from the SECRETARY, Julian P. Donahue, Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, 900 Exposition Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90007, USA. Please notify him of any additions or changes of interest for publication in the membership list.

Manuscripts submitted for publication in the JOURNAL are to be sent to the JOURNAL EDITOR, Dr. Thomas D. Eichlin, JOURNAL of the Lepidopterists' Society, Insect Taxonomy Laboratory, 1220 N Street, Sacramento, CA 95814, USA. See the inside back cover of a recent issue of the JOURNAL for editorial policies.

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AVAILABLE PUBLICATIONS OF THE SOCIETY.....

CATALOGUE-CHECKLIST OF THE BUTTERFLIES OF NORTH AMERICA NORTH OF MEXICO (Memoir No. 2): includes references to original descriptions and locations of type specimens. Members and subscribers, \$10 cloth, \$5 paper; non-members \$17 cloth, \$8.50 paper, postpaid.

COMMEMORATIVE VOLUME, 1947-1972: a 25-year review of the Society's organization, personnel, and activities; biographical sketches; JOURNAL indices by author, subject, and taxon; clothbound. Members and subscribers \$6, non-members \$10, postpaid.

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