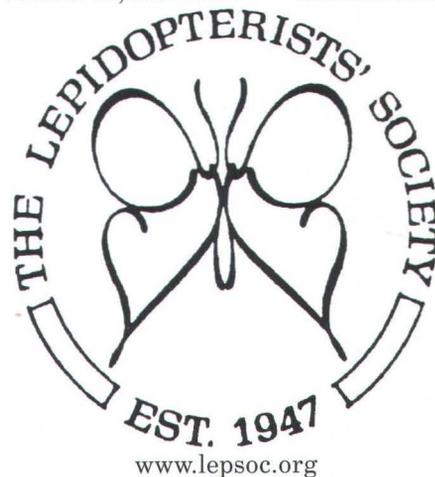


# NEWS

OF THE

# LEPIDOPTERISTS' SOCIETY

Volume 44, Number 3 Autumn 2002



**Inside:** Butterflying Venezuela (Pt 2), Looped Leps, The Holarctic Genus *Everes*, Bernardino Blues, New Smithsonian Collection Facilities, LepSoc 2002 Meeting Photos and Reports, Presidential Profile: Larry Gall, Letters...

...and more!

# NEWS OF THE LEPIDOPTERISTS' SOCIETY

Volume 44, No. 3 Autumn 2002



# Contents

The Lepidopterists' Society is a non-profit educational and scientific organization. The object of the Society, which was formed in May 1947 and formally constituted in December 1950, is "to promote internationally the science of lepidopterology in all its branches; to further the scientifically sound and progressive study of Lepidoptera, to issue periodicals and other publications on Lepidoptera; to facilitate the exchange of specimens and ideas by both the professional worker and the amateur in the field; to compile and distribute information to other organizations and individuals for purposes of education and conservation and appreciation of Lepidoptera; and to secure cooperation in all measures" directed towards these aims. (Article II, Constitution of The Lepidopterists' Society.)

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<b>LepSoc 2002 Annual Meeting Photos.</b> .....	77
Announcement: <b>New Home for Lepidoptera Collection at the NMNH/Smithsonian Institution.</b> <i>John Brown</i> .....	78
<b>A First Visit to the New Lepidoptera Facilities in the Smithsonian Institution.</b> <i>Charlie Covell.</i> .....	79
<b>Mailbag</b> ....	82
<b>News from the Executive Council.</b> <i>Ernest Williams</i> .....	82
Announcement: <b>Member Receives Award</b> ....	82
<b>Minutes of the 2002 LepSoc Business Meeting.</b> <i>Ernest Williams</i> .....	83
<b>The Wedge Collection: a photo and comments.</b> <i>Steve Mueller</i> .....	84
<b>2002 Meeting Resolutions.</b> <i>D. Rubinoff, S. Mullin, A. Roe &amp; E. Zakharov</i> .....	84
<b>Making the LepSoc Web a Rich Resource: a call for help.</b> <i>John Snyder &amp; James Adams.</i> .....	85
Announcement: <b>The Butterflies of Cascadia.</b> .....	85
<b>Membership Update.</b> <i>Julian Donahue</i> .....	88
<b>Charleston Meeting Field Trips.</b> <i>Steve Mueller</i> .....	88
<b>Karl Jordan Medal Award 2002: M. J. Scoble.</b> <i>Jackie Miller</i> .....	89
Presidential Profile: <b>Lawrence F. Gall.</b> .....	90
Tails & Tales: <b>Fruit of the Vine: Looped Leps.</b> <i>Paul M. Thompson</i> .....	91
Classic Collecting Campaigns: <b>The Chiricahua Mtns.</b> <i>K. Richers</i> .....	92
<b>The Marketplace.</b> .....	94
<b>From the Editor's Desk.</b> <i>Phil Schappert</i> .....	96
<b>More 2002 Meeting Photos.</b> .....	97
<b>Field Observations Supporting Bernardino Blues as a Separate Species.</b> <i>Ken Davenport.</i> .....	98
Announcement: <b>Memoir #5, Techniques Manual.</b> .....	99
<b>The Holarctic Genus <i>Everes</i>.</b> <i>George O. Krizek</i> .....	101
<b>Backpages:</b>	
Membership Information, Dues Rates, Journal of the Lepidopterists' Society, Change of Address?, Our Mailing List?, Missed or Defective Issue?, Book Reviews, Submission Guidelines for the News .....	98
<b>Executive Council.</b> .....	99
<b>Season Summary Zone Coordinators.</b> .....	99

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Cover: First, Butterflies, 2001 Photo Contest:  
*Luedorfia japonica*, by Elichi Sato.

# Butterfly Watching in Venezuela with Andrew Neild, Oct/Nov, 2000

Peter Bruce-Jones

18 Old Brickfields, Broadmayne, Dorchester DT2 8UY, U. K.

Although we had to leave Imataca fairly early on the second day to begin the drive south there was much of interest on the way. We found a Snapper turtle on the road, and roadside waterholes gave views of Green Ibis, Wattled Jacana, White-headed Marsh Tyrant and a small crocodile.

## Anaconda Camp

The road that heads south across Eastern Venezuela to Brazil has to climb the Sierra de Lema onto the Gran Sabana. Close to the foot of this climb lies the settlement of "Km 85" where our accommodation, the comfortable Anaconda Camp, is situated. The forest comes right up to it and there were thus plenty of birds to be seen around the camp, including Moriche Oriole, Yellow Warbler, Silver-billed Tanager and Grey-blue Tanager. A couple of Tiny Hawks could also be seen perched on dead trees in the distance.

We explored the same forest track on both our days here. The first day was hard work due to the heat and humidity, but "new" species were being encountered all the time to make it all worthwhile. The leaf-like butterflies *Zaretis itys* and *Consul fabius*, a rare female of *Memphis polycarmes*, vivid green *Nessaea batesii*, orange-barred *Catonephele acontius* and the rare *Caligo suzanna* were attracted by the banana bait. A few dark blue *Hamadryas laodamia* were seen perched on tree trunks. Hardest to spot was the clearwing satyrid *Haetera piera*. It flies deep in the forest shade and is almost

totally transparent, so gives the impression of little more than a ghostly shadow passing. Similarly shade loving was the small yellow Pierid *Moscho-neura pinthous*. We had seen the giant green Heliconiid *Philaethria dido* flying high in the trees in other places but here we got our closest views of this beautiful insect.

The area is not without its Morphos, the most spectacular being the giant *Morpho hecuba* which is orange dorsally rather than blue. Andrew made good use of his long-handled net in finding one to show us. The most beautiful butterfly here however was *Heliconius aoede*, its upperside black with cherry-red and yellow patches. Close to the spot where we found this, a Lineated Woodpecker was drumming. Other wildlife spotted included a stick insect, a termite trail and just before we left, a troop of Capuchin Monkeys. Earlier, a Howler Monkey had been heard.

The modern threats to the forest were brought home to us when we heard the sound of a tree being felled; an unofficial private job by a local family. There is scant real protection for the forest.

Lepidopterist activity was extended into the night here. Some bright lights beside the main road were attracting large numbers of moths, mostly huge Noctuids, but also some spectacular Hawk Moths, one of which looked like a model fighter plane. Whilst we were here a female Rhinoceros Beetle (*Megasoma sp.*) flew in. On the second night the locals, perhaps expecting us, brought out a dead male Rhinoceros Beetle and a dead Goliath Beetle.

## La Escalera

The southbound road which winds its way up the escarpment of the Sierra de Lema round a multitude of bends is known as La Escalera ("The Stairway"). The name comes from the days up until construction of the road in the 1960s, when this was accomplished literally by a series of ladders. The forest surrounding the climb is relatively unexplored and a day was spent here from the Anaconda Camp base. The first stop at a waterfall produced one of the few caterpillars of the trip, and a demonstration that hummingbirds don't only feed at flowers. A Brown Violetear was catching flies for its young.

Reaching the top of the escarpment at just over 1400m we found some remarkably docile *Junonia evarete*; these are normally very flighty. A walk into the cloud forest was interesting but quite difficult underfoot and butterflies were few. We did however find the rare *Antirrhea ulei*, related to the Morphos but quite different in appearance. It is another smelly butterfly; this time the odour is of chocolate. A couple of us also lingered here with Andrew on our way further south the following afternoon and were very excited to join the ranks of the very few people who have seen *Memphis montesino* alive and flying. Andrew informed us that this was only the fifth known individual of this Guianan-highland endemic, and only the second male.

Although our day exploring La Escalera was somewhat reduced by some quite heavy rain, more interest was to come late in the day. A large group compris-

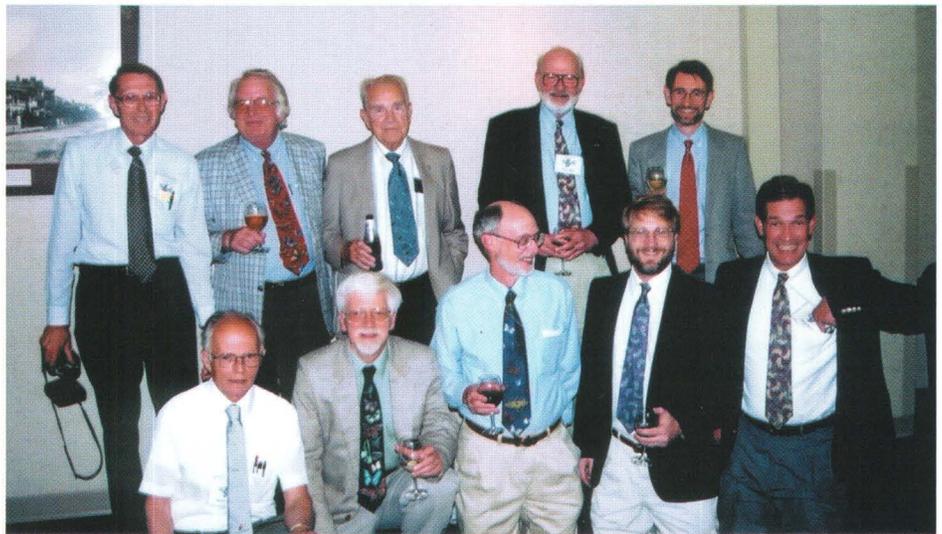
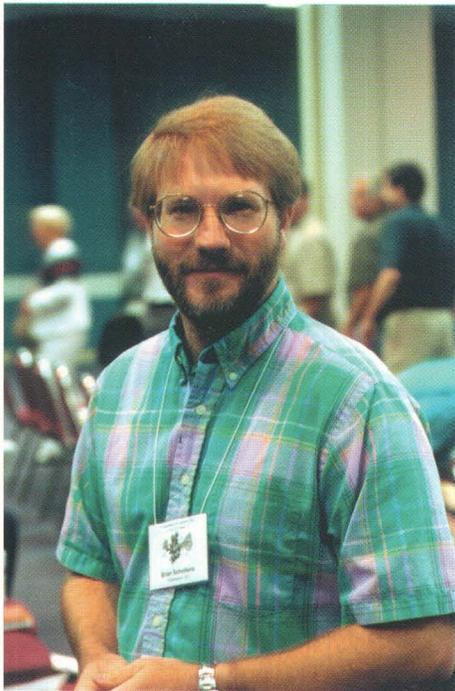
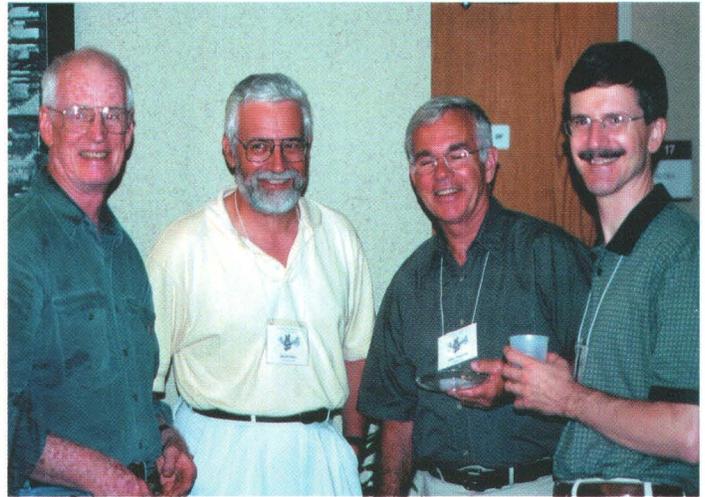
*continued on pp. 86*

**Second of Two Parts.** Continued from the 44(2) issue of the News.



## More Venezuelan Butterflies...

1. *Agrias amydon aurantiaca* female at Jasper Falls; 2. Colourful skippers: *Jemadia gnetus* (left) and *Mysoria thasus*, both males, on dung, Surukun Valley; 3. *Amarynthis meneria* pairing under a leaf, Surukun Valley track; 4. *Morpho helenor* female sunning herself beside Surukun track; 5. *Phoebis rurina rurina* male puddling in the Surukun Valley; 6. *Baotus amazonicus* from the Surukun Valley, SE Venezuela; 7. *Pteronymia asopo* ssp. nov. nectaring at *Eupatorium* at La Escalera, Sierra de Lema. All photos by Peter Bruce-Johns. See the 2<sup>nd</sup> part of the story beginning on pp. 75.



### LepSoc 2002 Annual Meeting Photos...

**Top Left:** Linda Fink and Lincoln Brower; **Top Right:** Reed Watkins, David Horn, John Peacock and Larry Gall; **Left:** 2002 Meeting Host, Brian Scholtens; **Above:** The Annual Tie Brigade...; **Below Left:** 2003 Meeting Host, Felix Sperling; **Below right:** Lee Miller, Jane Ruffin and Charlie Covell. Top right and Left photos by Leroy Koehn, others by Jackie Miller. More photos on pp. 93.



*Announcement:*

## New Home for the Lepidoptera Collection at the National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution

*John W. Brown*

*Systematic Entomology Laboratory, PSI, ARS, USDA, National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC, 20560, USA.*

In 1969 the National Lepidoptera Collection returned to the Natural History Building (National Museum of Natural History) on The Mall in downtown Washington, D.C., after 7 years at an off-site facility on Lamont Street in northwestern Washington. The collection and staff settled "temporarily" in renovated Hall 30, one of several exhibit halls radiating out from the central rotunda with its dominating African elephant. Over the next three decades, the collection grew and expanded considerably.

To accommodate this growth, certain taxonomic groups (e.g., Saturniidae, Sphingidae, Lasiocampidae, Papilionidae, Castniidae, and *Catocala*) were moved to the Museum Support Center (MSC) in Silver Hill, Maryland. The Lepidoptera collection at the MSC currently includes about 2500 drawers in about 100 cabinets. Renovation of the 5<sup>th</sup> floor of the East Wing of the Natural History Museum to house the Lepidoptera, Hemiptera, and Arachnida collections began around 1995. And in October and November of 2001, the Lepidoptera collection was moved from its cramped quarters in Hall 30 to its spacious new home; offices were occupied in late November and December 2001.

The move required the handling of each drawer individually because of the size and weight of the cabinets and because old wood and steel cabinets were replaced with new steel cabinets. The "moving team" included staff from the Smithsonian Institution's Entomology Section of the Department of Systematic Biology, USDA's Systematic Entomology Laboratory, and a number of independent contractors hired specif-

ically for this enormous chore. Prior to the move, the contractors individually transferred almost all of the specimens still in old cork-bottom drawers and unit trays to new foam-bottom trays. The larval collection was transferred from miscellaneous bottles and vials into new standardized bale-top jars for archival level storage. Again, prior to the move, staff developed "schematics" for the future locations of drawers and sequentially numbered drawers to facilitate their accurate placement in the new collection arrangement. The move went off without a hitch—smoothly, efficiently, and with no damage to the collection.

The interior range, shared with Hemiptera, amounts to about 28,000 square feet and supports some 40,000 drawers housed in 1,500 steel (29-drawer) cabinets. Staff offices, with scenic views of the surrounding city, occupy the perimeter of the floor. For the first time, the main Lepidoptera collection is on a single floor in a uniform, linear (somewhat phylogenetic) sequence of families. The new cabinets and drawers provide 30-50% expansion space for the collection. With an eye toward the future, the newly renovated facility includes the possibility of major compactization of the collection. An area of "half-high" cabinets provides a sorting area for incoming and/or unsorted material. An extra-large office provides space and facilities for visitors.

The larval Lepidoptera collection is on the same floor in a fire-proof alcohol storage room that also holds the huge arachnid collection in new Vidmar cabinets. Larvae occupy 29 cabinets with a capacity of 4,700 bale-top jars,

which at present hold an estimated 56,000 vials of larval Lepidoptera. Also on the same floor are the extensive Lepidoptera reprint collection (about 30 file cabinets), the Lepidoptera slide collection (about 100,000 preparations of genitalia and wings), and the Entomology Library, which is stored in a new compactor system.

The Lepidoptera collection is the largest in the Western Hemisphere and one of the most important research collections in the world. It is strongest in New World holdings and progressively less rich in Palearctic, Oceanic, Oriental, Indo-Australian, and African material. Taxonomic groups best represented include primitive Lepidoptera families, Neotropical Pyraloidea, New World Eumaeini (Lycaenidae), Riodinidae, and Hesperidae, and North American Tortricidae, Gelechiidae, Pyraloidea, Geometridae, and Noctuidae.

The combined staff at the National Museum (including Smithsonian Institution's (SI) Department of Systematic Biology and USDA's Systematic Entomology Laboratory personnel) is the largest concentration of lepidopterists in the New World, with a wide range of expertise. The resident staff includes David Adamski, USDA (Coleophoridae: Blastobasinae); John Brown, USDA (Tortricidae); John Burns, SI (Hesperidae); Karolyn Darrow, SI (illustration and technical support); Donald Davis, SI (Monotrypa, Tineoidea and other primitive groups); Marc Epstein, SI (Limacodidae); Douglas Ferguson, retired USDA (Geometridae, Arctiidae, Lymantriidae); Jason Hall, SI Postdoctoral Fellow (Riodinidae); Don Har-

*continued on pp. 81*

# A First Visit to the New Lepidoptera Facilities in the Smithsonian Institution

Charlie Covell

Dept. of Biology, University of Louisville, KY 40292

In the summer of 1950 I visited the Natural History Building, or National Museum of Natural History, to see the Barnes collection of butterflies, which a 1927 **National Geographic** had indicated was deposited there. No butterflies were on display; but a guard hooked me up with William D. Field, curator, and he showed me what I wanted to see—and much more. He gave me a bunch of insect pins, two glass-topped Schmitt boxes, and taught me the importance of data labels (“specimens are scientifically worthless without them”).

Having all grandparents living in the Washington area, I began visiting there often. In 1953-54 I became an informal intern because the boarding school I attended in Alexandria, VA had classes Saturdays but not on Mondays, and I was allowed to bus to the museum to put tropical butterflies from the Ellison A. Smyth collection into the main collection. During the years that followed I visited often, especially when I began graduate studies at VPI in 1960. Dr. E.L. Todd helped me a great deal with both MS and PhD dissertations at a difficult time when for several years the collections were located in a large laundry building on Lamont St., and he and most of the staff lepidopterists assisted me with identifications after 1964 when I began my survey of Kentucky Lepidoptera and the **Field Guide to Moths**. In short, I have made at least one visit to the Lepidoptera collections in each of 52 years. In the case of the first 51 of those years the facilities saw only limited improvement. Last fall the Smithsonian insect collections experienced a quantum leap forward in quality.

Some of the problems both staff and visitors had to suffer for many years included the following: There was acute shortage of space for storage and for working. The “USNM” type drawers were often difficult to remove from old metal-covered wooden cabinets, which had turning fasteners like the old-fashioned window locks in houses. The drawers had slots along the sides and those had to be fit just right onto wooden rails inside the cabinets. You might pull the drawer handle off trying to get a tight drawer loose. Cabinet doors also had metal tabs that turned up to hold doors in place, and some doors were hinged together and had to be swung out carefully. Finally these were stacked so high in aisles so close together that one had to do a juggling act on a ladder to look at, remove and replace drawers, and risk an accident while climbing on the rolling ladder with a drawer.

In much of the collection, until recent years, the drawers could not be looked into easily because of layers of grime on the glass. Lighting was atrocious in the range and work areas outside offices. There were dozens, if not hundreds, of Schmitt boxes with unsorted field-pinned specimens, high on the tops of cabinets or tucked into nooks and crannies. Specimens were pinned into cork bottoms of the drawers, and often weak pins buckled when one tried to return moths to their places after study.

The organization of much of the collection was out of date, and that of some of the exotic holdings had not been touched since the days of Dyar and Schaus (early 1900s). Parts of the collection were in offices of curators, and there was no systematic arrange-

ment of family groups one could count on. The library was some distance away from Hall 30 where the lepidopterists worked. Reprint collections were scattered, too, many being in various offices.

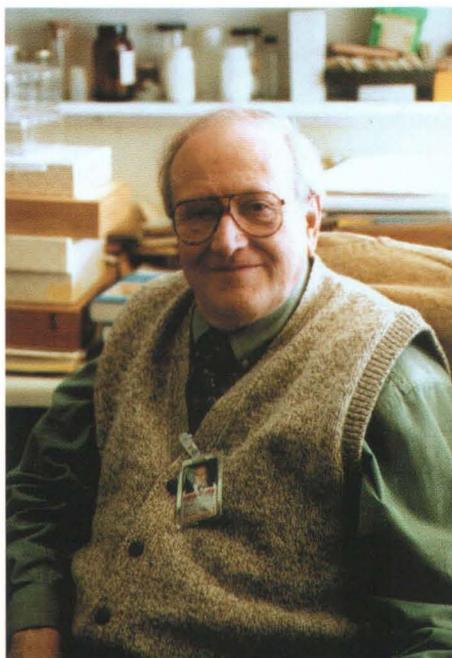
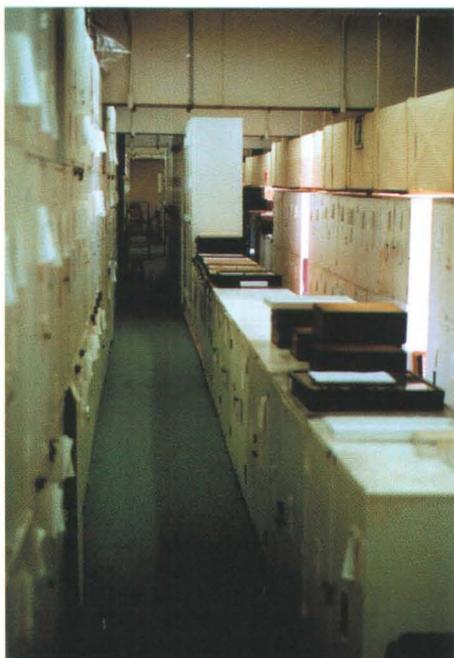
When the collection was returned to the Natural History Building from Lamont Street a “deck” had been added above the offices to provide additional storage area. It had a kind of carpet that created static electricity when one walked along it during winter months. Many is the time I got “zapped” when I touched a metal cabinet, having forgotten to “degauss” myself by touching the metal with a key or coin.

I think the biggest inconvenience of all was that the rest rooms were several halls away, through locked doors, and one risked embarrassment if a visit were too long delayed.

At some point unit pinning trays were introduced, and more recently the foam-lined kind became available. But there were never enough, and curatorial staff had to glue the pinning bottoms into the unit boxes themselves. The move to foam, I think you all will agree, has made handling and storage of pinned specimens much easier.

Over the past dozen years the curators have made great strides in identifying and placing undetermined material (“UFO’s”, as the late Dick Dominick used to call them), and organizing North American specimens in accordance with the Hodges et al. (1983) **Checklist of the Lepidoptera of America North of Mexico** (“MONA checklist”) and more recent revisions. Series of each species in some groups

*continued on pp. 81*



## Memories Old & New of the Smithsonian Lepidoptera Collection

**Top Left:** “The Deck” in the “old” Lepidoptera Storage Cabinets in Hall 30 (1999); **Top Center:** Doug Ferguson in his old office in Hall 30 (1999); **Top Right:** John Burns and Dave Adamski in the new collection range in the East Wing (2002); **Above Left:** “Sorting Party” on Friday, Aug. 16, 2002 with (L to R) Don Davis, Patricia Gentili-Poole, Don Harvey, Reed Watkins (volunteer) and Dave Adamski; **Above Right:** Bob Robbins in his new office in the East Wing of the Natural History Building. All photos by Charlie Covell.

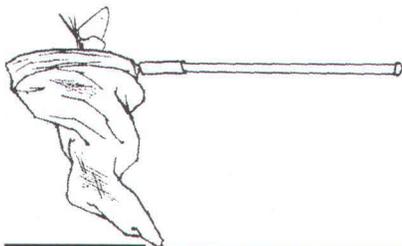


### Efficacy of Saturniid Cages

**Left:** mating Luna moths, *Actias luna*, in a Karl Ploran designed cage (see News 44(1): 5). **Right:** ant-killed (and partially dissected) female *A. luna* showing eggs in her abdomen. Photos by Christopher K. Davis. See letter on pp. 82.







# Mailbag...

## Efficacy of Homemade Breeding Cages for Saturniidae

In News Lepid. Soc. 44(1), Mr. Karl Ploran of Chester, MA described the use of a cage for Saturniid breeding that could be made from everyday materials available at any hardware store. I obtained one of the cages from the author last winter and have had outstanding results with multiple matings of *Actias luna*, *Antheraea polyphemus*, and *Eacles imperialis* with this cage. As of this writing, eggs of three broods of *A. luna* have been laid in this cage with successful rearing of two broods to maturity this season. The preferred foodplant, as per Passoa, V., News Lepid. Soc. 40: 42-43, has been sweetgum, (*Liquidambar styraciflua*, Hammamelidaceae).

Incidentally, I have noted both sexes of *A. luna* reacting to disturbance of their rest by releasing or squirting a green to brown fluid from their genital opening. If any reader knows the nature of this fluid, I would appreciate it if they would let me know. Also, one female did not mate and was killed by ants, which ate part of her abdomen, exposing the ovaries and eggs (see photo on pp. 80).

Christopher K. Davis

267 N. Lakes Dr.,  
Eastman, GA 31023



## Yellow Underwing, *Noctua pronuba*, at The Pas, Manitoba

On September 5, 2000 a very fresh specimen of the Yellow Underwing was

taken at lights here in The Pas, MB. The specimen is a bit small when compared to specimens from Belgium and France that are in the author's collection. Despite its recent introduction to North America, this species has spread rapidly and is now reported from a wide variety of regions. I thought, at the time, that it would be interesting to monitor its spread and further establishment in Canada.

It was, therefore, very interesting to collect a second specimen at incandescent lights exactly two years, to the day, later on September 5, 2002. This second specimen was quite worn and the hindwings were faded. This species is now becoming established in Saskatchewan, west of Manitoba, and this worn specimen may be a migrant. A third specimen appeared at my lights tonight, 10 September 2002.

The first report from the prairie provinces of Canada, according to Rev. Ron Hooper of Qu'Appelle, SK (see Hooper, R. R. & Krivda, W. V., The Blue Jay 59(4). Dec. 2001), was from St. Victor, SK by Daniel Glaske, at sugar bait on July 26, 2000 with another specimen being taken on 29 August 2000. Gary Anweiler collected the first Alberta specimens in Edmonton and there are now records of this species from Vancouver, BC.

At a time when many species are threatened it is remarkable to see *Noctua pronuba* spread so dramatically through North America. After 50 years of general collecting in Manitoba the appearance of a new species, regardless of its source, at my lights is very gratifying.

Walter Krivda

P. O. Box 864, The Pas,  
Manitoba, R9A 1K8, Canada

## News from the Executive Council.

Use of the web has become more and more important for the Society, just as it has for the rest of society. That development suggests that we make some small modifications in our organizational structure. Change in our organization means that we must amend our constitution, however, which requires approval by the general membership. We are alerting you that two constitutional amendments will appear on the ballot this fall:

- A. Adding the Website editor as an additional position on the editorial board; and,
- B. Establishing a standing committee on Web technology.

The Lepidopterists' Society is run by its members, so you get to vote on whether we take these steps or not!

Ernest Williams,  
Secretary



Announcement:

## Member Receives Award...

The Louisiana Wildlife Federation named long-time Lepidopterists' Society member Gary Noel Ross as their Conservation Communicator of the Year for 2001 in the 38<sup>th</sup> annual Governor's Conservation Achievement Recognition Program. Presentation of the award was made March 2<sup>nd</sup> during a special recognition banquet at the LWF's 63<sup>rd</sup> annual convention in Marksville, LA

## Minutes of the 2002 Business Meeting of the Lepidopterists' Society

1. President Don Lafontaine called the annual business meeting to order at 9:03 am on Sunday, June 16, 2002, in Room 224 of the Lightsey Conference Center, College of Charleston, Charleston, South Carolina. He welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. President Lafontaine then made remarks from his perspective as president. He said time is important to all of us, yet within this Society, amateurs and professionals give the gift of time to help each other. This gift creates our sense of community. For example, the journal was behind production schedule last year, but it was the gift of time from Carla Penz, the Journal editor, as well as authors and reviewers that enabled us to bring the Journal back on schedule. The collaborations and goodwill that we generate within the Society are important and help us share our expertise.

3. President Lafontaine next called for a moment of silence in remembrance of members of the Society who have died in the recent past.

4. Secretary Ernest Williams described highlights from Thursday's Executive Council meeting.

a. The Society is healthy financially and in the black for the first time in years. Modifications in the dues structure and change to the larger journal format are the primary factors in this improvement. Furthermore, the techniques manual, *Memoir #5*, is selling well and has passed the break-even point.

b. Future meetings are planned as follows:

2003: July 24-27, Olds, Alberta

2004: College Park, Maryland/Washington, D.C.

2005: TBA

2006: Gainesville, Florida

He added that the E.C. discussed the multiple factors that influence the

choice of dates when the meetings are held but decided to leave that decision to each meeting organizer. We also discussed holding joint meetings with the European society, *Societas Europaea Lepidopterologica*.

c. As you have already heard announced, the Journal is back on schedule. The lag in publication has been a major issue for several years, and we are all delighted that through the efforts of editor Carla Penz, the Journal is caught up again.

d. Secretary Williams alerted the membership to two motions that will appear on the ballot this coming November. Both concern the increasing reliance of most people on electronic communication, and both require changes in our constitution. The first motion would add the website editor as an additional position to the editorial board. The second would establish a new standing committee on web technology.

e. He then described other actions. The E.C. has standardized all appointments to standing committees to be renewable three-year terms, a move that will clarify the commitments for all involved. The E.C. will also set up an ad hoc committee on fund raising. More of the business of the Executive Council is now being accomplished by email communication during the year, not just at the annual meeting.

5. President Lafontaine then opened the floor to comments, questions, and business from the membership.

Jerry Powell pointed out that there were no presentations on Sunday morning, so he suggested offering 20-minute presentation slots to speakers during the contributed sessions instead of the usual 15-minute slots, a move which would extend talks to Sunday morning. Another possibility would be to hold the business meeting during part of an earlier afternoon and then

continue the talks on Sunday morning. Dave Iftner said we could hold the business meeting in conjunction with the banquet, and Don Lafontaine suggested adding the business meeting to the Thursday schedule. These ideas all create additional problems that would substitute for the problems they were designed to solve. Felix Sperling noted that we could continue this discussion by email. Others said we need more time between talks and before the banquet, and Steve Mueller stated that breaks have been squeezed and are now too short. Jerry Powell then added to his earlier comment that 15-minute talks are sometimes mercifully short.

Steve Mueller remarked that Jim Taylor had now finished his *Out of the Net* column in the News (the last column is in issue 44[2]), so he moved that the Society thank Jim for his efforts. With a second from Jackie Miller, the motion was passed unanimously.

6. The Resolutions Committee, in the person of Dan Rubinoff, then rose to offer resolutions about the fine meeting we had just had in Charleston.

7. Incoming President Larry Gall came forward and received the gavel and antennae of office from outgoing President Don Lafontaine. Someone commented that the antennae seemed to resemble those of hickory-feeding *Catocala*. Larry thanked Don, and the membership applauded Don for his fine efforts during the past year.

8. With a motion to adjourn, President Gall ended the business meeting at 9:32 am.

The next meeting of the general membership will be held on Sunday, July 27, 2003, in Olds, Alberta.

*Ernest H. Williams,*  
Secretary

*The Wedge Collection:*

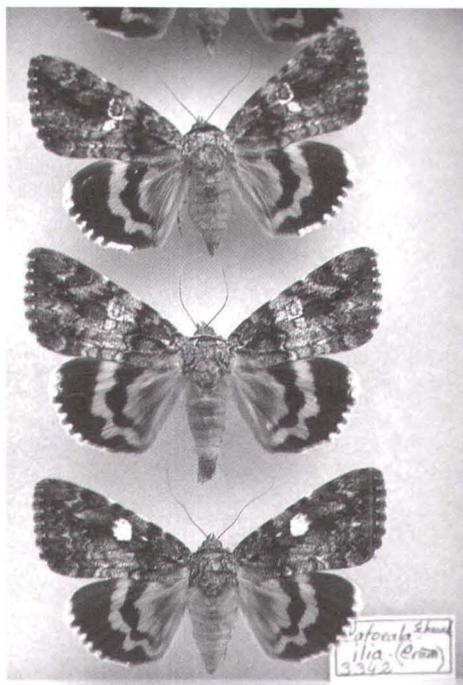
## A Photo and Comments

*Ranger Steve Mueller*

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Kent ISD, 16160 Red Pine Dr., Kent  
City, MI 49330,*

**Stevemueller@kentisd.org**

Richard B. Dominick collected intensively in a limited area of South Carolina on a piece of property known as the Wedge. His Wedge collection is housed on the campus of the University of South Carolina. Many of us are familiar with the Wedge Foundation that made the MONA Series a possibility and reality. Ron Hodges provided a historical account of the Dominick and the Wedge collection at the symposium on Lepidoptera Studies in the SE United States.



*Catocala from the Wedge. Photo by Ranger Steve Mueller.*

At the Oregon Lep Soc meeting, members were invited to make arrangements with Robert A Raguso PhD, Assistant Professor, Dept of

## 2002 Meeting Resolutions

*Dan Rubinoff, Sean Mullin, Amanda Roe, and Eveguini Zakharov*

Be it Resolved that the 'Carolina meeting began with a Social and a warm Southern greeting

Dorms across the street were a major convenience feat though temperatures inside were best for storing raw meat

We related to the Monarch's plight as we suffered our own frozen delight But great talks and conversation soon had us feeling better Or maybe it was the blistering Charleston weather?

Nights in swamp and forest were steamy and hot moths were lacking, but 'gators were not Jerry, Dan and others got lost on both nights, While the other leppers were happy collecting by their blacklights

The next day was filled with more fine presentations Many highlighted conservation issues that face our nations

Geometrids small to large, both stunning and noble were the focus of a fine talk by Jordan and Scoble Scoble brought Jordan from back through the ages To address us all from history's pages

The meeting was chaired by our dear Dr. Brian Who worked day and night with the heart of a lion Things went as planned and the meals were just great Moderators kept us all from running too late

Field trips provided a wealth of surprise led by kind souls both leppers and wise

A fine place, good talks, and old friends made the meeting fantastic It's a tough act to follow-a challenging Didactic The tradition will continue in more Northern climes as we head North 'cross the border for Albertan good times

This verse is the result of Dan, Sean, 'Manda and Eveguini So it's surely no surprise that it came out so ungainly

Biology, Coker Life Sciences Building in Columbia, South Carolina to use the collection. I spent the morning examining the moth and skipper specimens on 12 June prior to the Lep Soc meeting in Charleston. A great benefit of attending the annual meetings is the opportunity to examine specimens in various collections.

Appreciation is extended to Brian Scholtens for coordinating the meeting and facilitating contacts for specimen examinations. I also thank Dr. Raguso

for his hospitality in making the collection accessible.



# Making the LepSoc Web a Rich Resource: Call for Help

John Snyder and James Adams

[john.snyder@furman.edu](mailto:john.snyder@furman.edu) and [jadams@em.daltonstate.edu](mailto:jadams@em.daltonstate.edu)

The web site of The Lepidopterists' Society (at [www.lepsoc.org](http://www.lepsoc.org)) has been visited frequently, by both members and others, over the few years in which it has existed—with over 105,000 logged “hits” as of the end of July 2002.

It does a thorough job of describing the Society: history, current officers, upcoming meetings, how to join, etc. It also has a very extensive list of links to other lepidopteran web sites, including our own Season Summary. However, it has never included much direct information to help a person in the pursuit of the study of butterflies and moths. At the 2002 meeting of the Society, there was agreement that we should now develop the site in this and other ways.

Among the suggested possibilities are:

(1) a page for posting photos of unknowns: those difficult-to-identify animals. The hope would be that some wise person (member or otherwise) would offer at least a tentative identification, which would then be posted beside the photo.

(2) And speaking of photos, perhaps it is now time to begin a gallery of good images submitted by the many expert photographers in our membership. If enough were submitted in electronic format, we could rotate among them, continuously providing fresh examples of the beauty of lepidoptera around the world.

(3) Although there are a number of other web sites that provide basic information about the lives of the lepidoptera (How long does a butterfly live? How can I distinguish between butterflies and moths? What is the function of wing scales?), our Society should probably be one of those sources,

with genuine documented expertise available. It is time for us to develop an FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions) page.

(4) Although the most recent annual meeting did not attract participants, a photo contest has been a popular and eye-catching feature of most meetings. Perhaps such a contest (with modest prizes or simply with public recognition) could become an occasional part of the LepSoc web site.

The goals of such additions would be promoting enthusiasm among novices to the field. The Society always needs an infusion of new members and these features might be enough to tip the balance among young and not-so-young enthusiasts toward becoming contributing members of The Society and the discipline. The webmaster and members of the Education Committee are ready to work with you in this development.

What can you do right now? Three things. *First*, send the webmaster ([john.snyder@furman.edu](mailto:john.snyder@furman.edu)) your suggestions for ways to expand the usefulness of the web site, as well as your opinion of the ideas presented above. *Second*, send electronic versions of your lepidopteran photos, to get a photo gallery started. Provide a reliable identification of each critter. Any images that are used will be fully credited (although there can be no guarantee that users of the web will not copy them for their own use—that's the reality of the web). *Third*, send images of your “unknowns” to get an identification-request page started. With the help of our wonderful membership, we can make the LepSoc web site a more vibrant, attractive, and educational resource.

## Classic...continued from pp. 93

the price. These little furry smell machines have learned that a blacklight means dinner, and have ruined many a trap or sheet for me. I would suggest hanging traps from branches in the lower elevations.

As is evident, every trip to the Chiricahuas is an adventure. Flash floods, lightning, downpours, trap thieves, skunks, unknown large animals, and some of the most fantastic moth collecting in the United States combine to make every trip to the area a memorable one.

## Announcement:

### The Butterflies of Cascadia

The Seattle Audubon Society has recently published **The Butterflies of Cascadia**, a new field guide to the butterflies of Washington, Oregon and the surrounding areas, by Robert Michael Pyle. It is the much anticipated successor to the author's **Watching Washington Butterflies**.

It is a comprehensive resource for identifying the nearly 200 species of butterflies in the northwestern US. Filling 240 pages and containing more than 600 color photos, as well as paintings and spread specimens for almost every species, it also includes insights, remembrances and observations from the author's extensive experience, his years of study and the sheer joy he takes in his work. Each species account includes field marks, variation and varieties, life history, plant associations, flight period, habitat, range and a distribution map.

The layout and design make it easy to use while in the field and it is sized to fit well into a field jacket or back pack.

Available directly from Seattle Audubon Society, 8050 35<sup>th</sup> Ave. NE, Seattle, WA 98115. ISBN 0-914516-13-2, \$29.95 + shipping. See [www.seattleaudubon.org](http://www.seattleaudubon.org) for further information and images from the book.

**Venezuela...contd. from pp. 75**

ing males of several species of Ithomiid butterflies was found nectaring at *Eupatorium* flowers and sucking pyrrolizidine alkaloids (PAs) from the dead stems of a cluster of the same bushes. These included the clearwing types *Pteronymia asopo*, *Dircenna adina*, and an as yet unnamed species of *Oleria*. The males of many Ithomiid species seek and imbibe PAs found in the flowers and woody stems of *Eupatorium* and other similar plants. We found a group comprising 24 of these butterflies on one stem. The PAs serve defensive purposes and are used to produce their pheromones. Females choose the male who smells most strongly of PAs. Could this be another opening for butterflies in the advertising industry, selling aftershave?

La Escalera is home to the Guianan Cock-of-the-Rock and we tried twice to get a glimpse of this spectacular bird, but sadly in vain.

The party regrouped at YaKoo Camp, our home for the next four nights, just outside Santa Elena de Uairen. We found this a very comfortable place indeed despite the periodic power cuts, and it served the best food of the trip.

**Quebrada de Jaspe**

Our first whole day in the south was spent at this picturesque spot. The riverbed at the falls, and of some other rivers in Canaima National Park, consists of red Jasper. The erosion-resistant Jasper strata form a hard flat and smooth bed and when the water is shallow, as on our visit, it can be walked on easily. At one time it was quarried here for French sculptors. The water and partial shade make it comfortably cooler than the surrounding open country. It is an excellent site for butterflies, which can be seen flying in the surrounding trees and drinking on the damp stones. Amongst the latter were our "old friends" from Rio Frio, *Marpesia petreus* and *M. chiron*, plus a variety of colourful skippers including the blue and white *Jemadia gnetus*, purple and gold *Chiomara*

*punctum*, also *Discophellus porcius* and *Sophista aristoteles*. In the trees and flying around were still more colourful Riodinids such as *Methone cecilia*, *Mesosemia phace* and one lucky member of the group found a rare subspecies of *Ancyluris inca* endemic to this area. A dead tree provided the perfect perch for a male *Castnia licoides* to defend its territory and higher up various *Archaeoprepona* were doing the same. The marvellous *Archaeoprepona licomedes* did briefly come to the ground to mud-puddle.

Andrew knew that the much-sought *Agrias* species flew here high in the trees and we would get the occasional glimpse of one in flight. He managed to catch an *Agrias amydon* to show us, also the beautiful *Baeotus amazonicus*. Oscar had by now got really into the butterflies and was helping Andrew to net some high ones. The area was of course baited with bananas, which proved popular with *Morpho helenor*. One banana boasted no less than five of these at one point. *Morpho rhetenor* and *M. telemachus* were here, together with *M. deidamia* which has the most attractive underside of the group. Eventually a couple of *Agrias* were seen visiting the bait and we all managed to photograph a splendid *Agrias claudina*. There were shade-loving Satyrids in the woods beside the falls, contrasting with the sun-loving *Junonia genoveva* on the adjacent scrubland.

Quite apart from the butterflies it was a wonderful place to spend a day. It was especially nice not to be wearing boots and to have ones feet cool! The tiny biting Puri Puri flies about which we were warned didn't really trouble us, but the Tabanid flies and ants were more of a problem. There is a picturesque Indian village above the falls. On our return here in the late afternoon we had superb views of a Yellow-headed Caracara. Otherwise the only bird life were a few hummingbirds down at the falls. Breakfast-time at YaKoo Camp was more productive and I made an early birding session a daily feature. Situated at the boundary

between a small wooded area and scrub, it had quite a variety of species, including the colourful Burnished-buff Tanager and Violaceous Euphonia. Hummingbirds included the Black-throated Mango and the wonderfully named Amethyst Woodstar.

**Surukun Valley**

Here we were close to the border with Brazil. Much of the forest has been cleared close to Santa Elena so it took quite a drive on each of the next two days to reach suitable habitat. Andrew's Venezuelan friend Andrés, who joined us at Km 85, came here the day before whilst we were at the Jasper Falls and placed the usual bait which we now inspected. He also found a giant Tarantula spider larger than an outstretched hand and brought it back to show us. We had great fun photographing it after breakfast.

Both days here followed a similar pattern. Besides the various species of *Morpho*, *Caligo*, *Selenophanes* and *Archaeoprepona* on the overnight bait we found many places with collections of butterflies mud-puddling. On the first day there was a large group of *Melete lycimnia* (a different subspecies from that we had seen at Rio Frio) together with *Marpesia themistocles* and *M. hermione*. Thanks to overnight thunderstorms the ground was damper on the second day and this attracted large numbers of Pierids, especially *Aphrissa statira* and *Phoebis trite*. I was delighted to be able to photograph the giant tailed *Phoebis rurina*, and there were also *Phoebis philea*, *P. argante*, *Appias drusilla* and *Hesperocharis nera*. One group comprised seven different species. Since the early part of the trip we had been using our own urine as bait in addition to the rotting bananas and on this road it really proved its worth. If one could endure the extremely pungent combined smell close to the ground it really paid off photographically!

A tree-roosting group of *Marpesia berania* flew up in a cloud when we accidentally disturbed them, not having known they were there. Colourful

Riodinids such as *Ancyluris meliboeus* and *Amarynthia meneria* were found on the roadside vegetation, but the undisputed star of the show was *Mysoria thasus*, a skipper found on some dung in the road. Black body with yellow patches on the thorax, red spots along the sides of the abdomen and a blood red tail, dark green wings; we called it "Red Bum" or the "Vindaloo Skipper". What understandably excited Andrew most though was finding *Heraclides paeon*, an Andean cloud forest swallowtail previously unknown from Guianan Venezuela. Morphos were again plentiful, including our favourites *M. deidamia* and *M. rhetenor*, of which we were again fortunate to see a female, this time posing for our cameras. A few of us were fortunate to be able to photograph a *Morpho helenor* basking open-winged. Lycaenids had been scarcer than other groups on the whole trip, due to the season, but one spot here seemed to have quite a variety of small ones. Unfortunately just at that moment it began to rain and so we rejoined the vehicles and moved on.

Billy and Oscar cooked barbecue lunches for us, making a change from the earlier packed cold meals. Over lunch on the second day here we finally managed to see a Screaming Piha. Dull-looking though it is, it would have been a shame to have heard it so much but never to have seen it. Delays to our flight north to Canaima gave us a further brief butterflying session here and the Heliconiid *Dione junco* was added to our list of sightings, to compare with the similar *Agraulis vanillae*, all four life stages of which were present at YaKoo Camp. Another species only seen at YaKoo was the transparent-winged skipper *Phanus vitreus*.

### Gran Sabana

We drove across the Gran Sabana from La Escalera to Santa Elena, and crossed it by air returning north. At the top of La Escalera at 1440m the cloud forest ceases abruptly and is replaced by scrub. This area was

originally forest but repeated forest fires have gradually created an extensive savannah landscape, which is studded with the vertical-sided flat-topped mountains known as tepuis. The group was split into two for this journey, the majority travelling with Oscar well ahead of us. Both groups saw snakes, the only live ones of the trip. My party found one rather similar to a grass snake. The earlier group had been busy photographing the tepuis dramatically lit against a dark and stormy sky when a rattlesnake emerged onto the road right at their feet. They were able to photograph it with rattle raised and in full song. Just as this photo-call finished the looming storm cloud discharged the most dramatic pair of vertical lightning bolts they had ever seen. Travelling later, our own views of the tepuis were spoiled by the amount of cloud, but fortunately we didn't get caught by the storm.

We got much better views on the journey back north by air. Misunderstandings with the airline and then an aircraft engine failure prior to departure led to us doing the journey to Canaima in a pair of small Cessnas instead of the expected DC3, as well as giving us the little bit of extra time in the Surukun Valley. We said our farewells to Oscar and Billy and loaded our cases. Amazingly there was room for everything. The Cessnas flew fairly low and gave excellent views of the forest below and of the tepuis as we passed them. A sightseeing trip to Angel Falls was in our itinerary for the following day but when the pilot of our 'plane offered to show it to us we eagerly accepted. It wasn't to be though. Heavy cloud barred our way and we had to change course to skirt the rim of Auyan Tepui towards Canaima. There was a thrill as we burst out of the cloud to the sight of the cliff wall ahead on our right, and flying at about 7500 feet, just above the rim, gave excellent views of the barren top of the tepui.

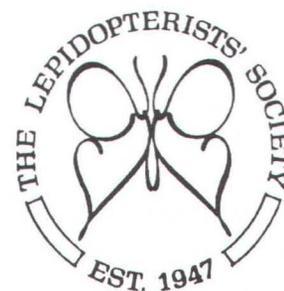
An afternoon walk from the hotel at Canaima produced very few butterflies but there was a land crab and we had

excellent views of a Sooty-capped Hermit hummingbird. There were plenty of birds to see the following morning too. Some of the group took an early morning canoe trip to view the Hacha Falls whilst the rest of us looked for some final butterflies. Nothing new or exciting was encountered until we returned to the hotel when we disturbed a roosting *Thysania agrippina*, the largest moth in the world with a wing span of up to 30cm. Fortunately it settled within view so everyone could get a look. Next came our flight to Angel Falls. Hopes were high as we took off in sunshine but there was cloud up on the mountain and the falls were obscured. Maybe one day...?

### Caracas

The same DC3 then took us to Puerto Ordaz where we caught another flight to Caracas. Earlier flights than expected gave us some of the afternoon in Caracas, which we spent shopping. We had most of the following day free before our various flights home. A sightseeing tour of the historic parts of the city was chosen, not that there are many historic parts since preservation of old buildings is not the custom here. Simon Bolivar's birthplace is one of the few there are, and in addition to the historical interest, it contained a hawk moth and a pupa of *Brassolis sophorae*. A few *Anteos menippe* were also flying about the city centre. These proved to be our last butterflies since very slow lunch service at the hotel denied us the opportunity to visit the Parque del Este. Not to worry; no 'new' species had been expected there anyway.

Farewells made we all now looked forward to seeing our photographs—can we remember what everything is?—and to the planned reunion.



# Membership Update...

Julian Donahue

This update includes all changes received by 9 August 2002.

## New and Reinstated Members:

*members who have joined/renewed/or rescinded their request to be omitted since publication of the 2000 Membership Directory (not included in the 2000 Membership Directory; all in U.S.A. unless noted otherwise)*

**Asai, Juhachi:** Canadian Light Scourge, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, **Canada.**

**Bryant, Robert S.:** 522 Old Orchard Road, Baltimore, MD 21229-2410.

**Canfield, Michael:** 501 Eliot Mail Center, Cambridge, MA 02138-7551.

**Forister, Matthew:** Evolution & Ecology, 2320 Storer Hall, University of California, 1 Shields Avenue, Davis, CA 95616-5224.

**Freitas, André Victor Lucci:** Museu de História, Instituto de Biologia, Universidade Estadual de Campinas, Campinas, São Paulo 13083-970, **Brazil.**

**Greeney, Harold:** Yanayacu Biological Station and Center for Creative Studies, Cosanga, **Ecuador.**

**Gruber, John W.:** 615 Georges Lane, Ardmore, PA 19003-1905.

**Harris, Mary A. (Ph.D.):** 407 Science II, Entomology Department, Iowa State University, Ames, IA 50011-3221.

**Kart, Jon J.:** 207 Archibald Street, #2, Burlington, VT 05401-1623.

**Kempf, Rel:** Retriever Equipment, 211 South Fremont Street, Apt. 301, San Mateo, CA 94401-3364.

**Larue, Elena:** 9661 Goodman Road, Groveport, OH 43125-9621.

**Laudan, Barbara:** 1901 Buttercup Drive, Lynden, WA 98264-9366.

**McAllister, Heather T.:** P.O. Box 246, Wellsburg, WV 26070-0246.

**Mignault, Andre A.:** 3430 Andrew Court, Apt. 101, Laurel, MD 20724-2351.

**Myrup, Alan:** 914 South 1635 West, Orem, UT 84058-5872.

**Pohl, Gregory R.:** 5320 122 Street, Edmonton, Alberta T6H 3S5, **Canada.**

**Spencer, Lori:** 1200 Catherine Park Road, Hot Springs, AR 71913-8716.

## Address Changes

*(all U.S.A. unless noted otherwise)*

**Faulkner, David K.:** 5434 Redland Place, San Diego, CA 92115-2217.

**George, Jeremiah N.:** Department of Entomology, University of California, Riverside, CA 92521-0314.

**Hudgens, Jon K.:** 46917 Briartown Blvd., Chesterfield, MI 48051-3201.

**Kocman, Stanislav (Dipl. Ing.):** O. Sekory 465, 725 25 Ostrava-Polanka, **Czech Republic.**

**Koontz-Siebert, Margaret (Ph.D.):** Honcho 2-13-37, Koganei-shi, Tokyo-to 184-0004, **Japan.**

**Matter, Stephen F. (Ph.D.):** Department of Biological Sciences, University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, OH 45221-0006.

**Mustelin, Tomas M. (M.D., Ph.D.):** 13261 Deer Canyon Place, San Diego, CA 92129-4607.

**Nagaoka, Hisato:** Higashiharamachi 2-6-24, Yamagata City, Yamagata Pref., **Japan.**

**Riley, Thomas J. (Dr.):** 4012 East Gate Road, Rockaway Beach, MO 65740-9776.

# Charleston Meeting Field Trips

Ranger Steve Mueller

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City, MI 49330,

Stevemueller@kentisd.org

At the Charleston, SC 2002 Lepidopterists' Society Meeting several attendees enjoyed collecting or photographing butterflies during the photography and collecting field trips on 13 June. Moth outings were also provided but a list of sightings for moths was not compiled. Field experience is a great way to begin the gathering of amateurs and professionals. It is always a highlight for me to spend time in the field talking with Lepidopterists and to gain from the knowledge and experience of enthusiastic people. Species observed are listed below. For any species omitted, it will be appreciated for members to submit additions in the next Lep Soc News.

## Charleston Area Butterflies Seen, June 2002.

Pipevine Swallowtail, *Battus philenor*; Black Swallowtail, *Papilio polyxenes*; Giant Swallowtail, *Papilio cresphontes*; Eastern Tiger Swallowtail, *Papilio glaucus*; Spicebush Swallowtail, *Papilio troilus*; Palamedes Swallowtail, *Papilio palamedes*.

Orange Sulphur, *Colias eurytheme*; Cloudless Sulphur, *Phoebis sennae*; Little Yellow, *Eurema lisa*; Sleepy Orange, *Eurema nicippe*.

Great Purple Hairstreak, *Atlides haleus*; King's Hairstreak, *Satyrium kingi*; White M Hairstreak, *Parrhasius m-album*; Gray Hairstreak, *Strymon melinus*; Red-banded Hairstreak, *Caly-*

# Karl Jordan Medal Award 2002 to Malcolm J. Scoble

Jacqueline Y. Miller

*Allyn Museum of Entomology, Florida Museum of Natural History, 3621 Bay Shore Road, Sarasota, FL 34234*

The Karl Jordan Committee 2002 recognized Malcolm J. Scoble with this prestigious award during the banquet at the Annual Meeting. Dr. Scoble has had an interesting career thus far. He received a B.Sc. in Zoology from London University in 1972. Upon the completion of his Master's in Philosophy from Portsmouth Polytechnic University, he accepted a position as a Professional Officer, then Senior Officer, in charge of the General Entomology Collections at Transvaal Museum, Pretoria, South Africa. In 1982, he completed his Ph.D. at Rhodes University, Grahamstown, South Africa, and accepted a position as the Assistant/Acting Curator of the Hope Entomological Collections, University Museum, Oxford University. Since 1985, Dr. Scoble has served in various positions in the Department of Entomology at the Natural History Museum, London, and currently is the Head of the Biodiversity Division.

Dr. Scoble has been an active member, held office, and served on various councils and committees of several professional organizations and societies, including the Linnean Society of London, British Entomological and

Natural History Society, Professor Hering Memorial Research Fund, and the Systematics Association. He is a member of the Institute of Biology, the Royal Entomological Society (London), Entomological Society of Southern Africa, and the European Lepidopterists' Society.

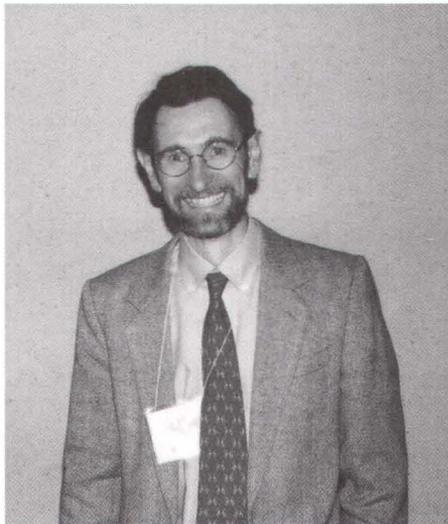


Photo by Jackie Miller.

With more than 72 research and other publications to date, Dr. Scoble has contributed markedly to our knowledge of the biology, morphology, systematics, taxonomy, phylogeny and the bio-

diversity of Lepidoptera. His early efforts concentrated on the primitive moths, especially the Nepticulidae, while his works on the Hedyliidae provided supportive documentation that this group is closely aligned with the butterflies. His general interest in lepidopteran phylogeny and biology resulted in the book, *The Lepidoptera: Form, Function and Diversity*, in 1992. More recently, Dr. Scoble has made significant contributions in the use of natural history collections in assessing biodiversity, especially patterns of species description and the study of regional patterns. He has taken an active role in the development of the European Natural History Specimen Information Network (ENHSIN). In addition to the above, he has continued to produce outstanding detailed studies on the Geometridae, using this group as a taxon model and investigating their systematics, co-evolution, morphology, biology, and phylogeny. It is for his thought-provoking research, especially the excellent systematic revisionary studies on the Geometridae, that Dr. Malcolm J. Scoble is recognized by the Committee and awarded the Karl Jordan Medal.

*copis cecrops*; Summer azure, *Celastrina ladon neglecta*; Little Metalmark, *Calephelis virginianensis*

Variegated Fritillary, *Euptoieta claudia*; Phaon Crescent, *Phyciodes phaon*; Pearl Crescent, *Phyciodes tharos*; Common Buckeye, *Junonia coenia*; Red-spotted Purple, *Limenitis arthemis astyanax*; Viceroy, *Limenitis archippus*.

Southern Pearly-eye, *Enodia portlandia*; Creole Pearly-eye, *Enodia creola*; Appalachian Eyed Brown,

*Satyroides appalachia*; Carolina Satyr, *Hermeuptychia sosybius*; Georgia Satyr, *Neonympha areolata*; Little Wood Satyr, *Megisto cymela*; Common Wood Nymph, *Cercyonis pegala*

Monarch, *Danaus plexippus*

Silver-spotted Skipper, *Epargyreus clarus*; Horace's Duskywing, *Erynnis horatius*; Neamathla Skipper, *Nastra neamathla*; Southern Skipperling, *Copaodes minimus*; Fiery Skipper, *Hylephila phyleus*; Whirlabout, *Polites*

*vibex*; Delaware Skipper, *Atrytone logan*; Byssus Skipper, *Problema byssus*; Aaron's Skipper, *Poanes aaroni*; Yehl Skipper, *Poanes yehl*; Dion Skipper, *Euphyes dion*; Twin-spot Skipper, *Oligoria maculata*; Lace-winged Roadside Skipper, *Amblyscirtes aesculapius*.



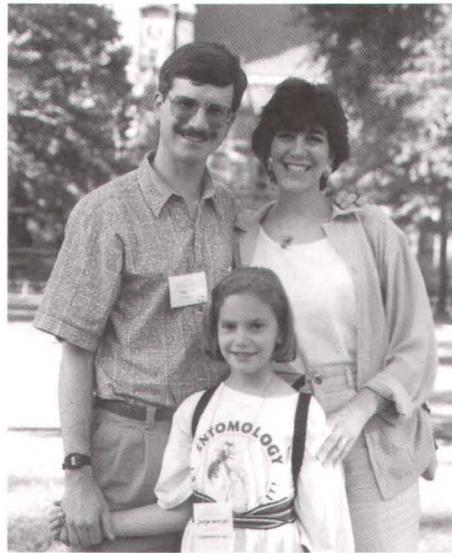
*Presidential Profile***Lawrence F. Gall**

*Computer Systems Office, Peabody Museum of Natural History, P.O. Box 208118,  
Yale University, New Haven, CT 06520-8118 USA, lawrence.gall@yale.edu*

According to my parents, as a pre-schooler in Minneapolis, Minnesota, I basically lived outdoors, trying to catch whatever was within reach. I don't recollect much of this except for caterpillars and the abandoned railroad line nearby that was such a productive stomping ground. I fought the family cat for space as well as for custody of the caterpillars, and annexed our small screen porch as a vivarium. Not surprisingly, many attempts at rearing things from the railroad line didn't succeed. But I did manage to coax a few Monarchs and a Black Swallowtail all the way through, and was there when the chrysalids of both species hatched. That was truly eye-popping, and my first brush with Lepidoptera!

We moved to Connecticut when I was seven years old. For a brief time during 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade, four boys who lived on our street would chase butterflies together. Our foursome made a "collection" using a shoe box, which we paraded from house to house. Wisely, my parents upgraded this endeavor by offering us two black insect boxes and pinning materials from Carolina Biological Supply. They also bought me Klots' *Field Guide to the Butterflies* and Holland's *Moth Book*, which I devoured. So much to learn about butterflies and moths! The foursome gradually disbanded, but the boxes, books and my newly latinized interest all headed to sleepaway camp in western Massachusetts during 1968. That summer, by chance, one of the other 12-year old kids in my cabin proved to be a budding lepidopterist of equal conviction! Jeff Ingraham and I would spend the next six summers together at Camp Becket, negotiating over who had first dibs on different moths at the

camp's bathroom lights, and permanently cementing our respective passions for Lepidoptera.



*Larry Gall & Family at the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Meeting at Yale. Photo by Charlie Covell.*

Jeff and I were fortunate to find mentors early on who were willing to help out two kids with nets. Of all things, Jeff's pediatrician in Dover, Massachusetts happened to be Dave Winter. Dave seemed to know everything about collecting, and could identify everything we couldn't. We were so taken with his backyard UV light trap that we each built replicas of it! I later found that the nearby Peabody Museum at Yale University had several receptive entomologists, including Charles Remington and Kirby Brown (a tenebrionid beetle specialist). I hung out there in high school, pinning specimens. In 1973, when I was 16, I joined The Lepidopterists Society on Charles' suggestion. I remember tearing open my first issue of the *Journal*, 27(3), to see a captivating article by Ted Sargent on bird damage to adult underwing moths. Smitten forever by *Catocala*!

In the fall of 1974 I enrolled at Stanford University in California. As a freshman, I helped out in Paul Ehrlich's labs, and later began an undergraduate honors program with Ward Watt. Ward's field crew traveled each summer to the Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory in Gothic, Colorado, and in 1977 and 1978 I led a brigade of net-swingers there in studying the 'alba' polymorphism and the population biologies of montane *Colias*. At the end of 1978, I renewed my love affair with *Catocala*, returning to do graduate work on these beautiful creatures at Yale University, with Charles Remington. I also fell in love with computers then. To support myself as a grad student in the early 1980s, I worked as a computer consultant in various venues on and off campus. After receiving my doctorate in 1984, I took a position directing Yale's Social Science Statistical Laboratory. The "Statlab," as it was known, was responsible for providing computing help to the social science faculty and students. We experimented with and ran one of the first large personal computer networks on campus. I also taught in the Statistics Department at the same time.

In 1991, I joined the staff at the Peabody Museum to head up their recently formed Computer Systems Office. I've been at the Peabody since, and am responsible for developing the museum's electronic collections management systems, web services, and, most recently, its three scholarly journals devoted to monographic research in biology and anthropology. I've also served as a Curatorial Affiliate in the Peabody's Entomology Division since 1987, and in several capacities in

*continued on pp. 99*



# The Lives of Butterflies: Tails & Tales

Paul M. Thompson

In the fantasy book on butterflies that I have NOT written, butterflies converse with people. Besides the required daily pleasantries, butterflies satisfy the curious lepidopterist with details of how they sense the world and determine which habitat is most to their liking. They "spill the beans" on their various solitary and social behaviors. And most importantly, they expound on how they feel about people, especially nefarious folks like myself who write columns on how to attract and trap them. But "Tails and Tales" deals with the real world, and last time Gary Noel Ross superbly entertained and informed us with his ideas on social butterfly nectaring.

Now, Paul M. Thompson delights us with the story of how he used a human social lubricant (a red wine with soft tanins and mellow nose) to attract and inebriate butterflies, kind of combining the disparate threads of sociality and trapping. I would love to hear the butterfly reaction. Who knows, maybe the fantasy book will not always be a fantasy.

Bob Robbins

## Fruit of the Vine: Looped Leps

This spring in Nicaragua, my friend Hume mentioned that several Morphos had drowned in the red wine he was using in his beetle traps. That got my thinker thinking. Then it got me cooking. One very black half banana and a two tablespoons of red wine in a small container, baked for two hours in a little sunshine and the right locale, and voila: Toasted Morphos. For the red, I chose a Chilean 2001 Concha y Toro "Sunrise" Merlot, 13.5% alcohol

This article continues a series of light-hearted columns about the lives of butterflies (and butterflyers). Contact the author of this installment, Paul M. Thompson at 914 S. Palisade Court, Louisville, CO 80027 or at [pmthomp@aol.com](mailto:pmthomp@aol.com). Contact series editor, Bob Robbins, at the Department of Entomology, NHB 127, NMNH, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC 20560-0127, (202) 357-2353, [robbins.robert@nmnh.si.edu](mailto:robbins.robert@nmnh.si.edu)

by volume. This vintage is a bit dry, not particularly full-bodied, and somewhat fruity.

It worked surprisingly well. I had never before seen seven Morphos come at the same time to a piece of bait. *Caligo*, *Prepona*, *Historis*, *Siderone*, *Memphis*, *Myscelia* and others were attracted also, although in lesser numbers. Had to sort through the Morphos to get to the good stuff. Darn!

I should note that my observations are purely anecdotal, and do not represent a scientifically controlled experiment. In a cloud forest, I had one poor trapping day with bananas and 3 excellent trapping days with bananas and wine. And, in a tropical dry forest in the second week of the rainy season, I had four days of incredible trapping results with bananas and wine—averaging 16.75 *Hamadryas* per trap after two hours of sunshine late one afternoon. This wasn't good science. I was having just too much fun with the butterflies and, er, wine.

Best was the effect of the bait. It rendered those sipping at the trough somewhat insensible, rather sluggish and easy to collect. Happens at frat parties and nightclubs all the time, just I had never seen it in a real jungle. It was quite easy to approach the traps without alarming the butterflies inside (zero loss in two weeks of trapping!). It also severely reduced the amount of flapping against the trap walls once the butterflies were disturbed. It was not too hard to reach inside and pick butterflies off of the trap walls with fingers or forceps without disturbing other butterflies inside.

Besides having to cart a small bottle of wine around the jungle, the only

downside to this method was the number of other bugs coming to the traps. I had to constantly clear the traps of butterflies I didn't want so new ones arriving would have less chance of tattering their wings inside. In addition, good numbers of bees, wasps and flies came to the bait. These tended to die rather quickly (from the effects of the alcohol?) and piled up on the trap floor. Live ones were generally sluggish and hence relatively easy to safely remove using short forceps.

Since I released most of the trapped butterflies, and since individuals were often easy to recognize by their wing tear patterns, I soon realized that some butterflies were making multiple trips to the traps. In fact, upon being released, some would fly back into the trap while I was still clearing it of other butterflies. They were uncontrollable. Because of this, it is probably unwise to infer population figures from this method. My catch and release protocol may merely resample a small subset of the overall lep population—one that has a behavioral or genetic predisposition for alcohol. Indeed, this baiting method may contribute to alcoholism-induced dysfunctionality in entomological family and social structures—insect behavioral psychologists, take note!

In any case, it seems that the fruit of the vine must now include various lepidopteran genera.

Happy trails!



Classic Collecting Campaigns

# The Chiricahua Mountains

Kelly Richers

9417 Carvalho Court, Bakersfield, CA 93311

In the southeast corner of Arizona lies an impressive collection of jagged mountains that rise out of the desert. This range deceptively hides cool streams and forested hillsides behind a veneer of seemingly inaccessible crags and dry hillsides. The mountain range is the Chiricahua range, and it hides several notable collecting locations.

The romantically named locations of Onion Saddle, Rustler Park, Barfoot Park, Pinery Canyon and Cave Creek all lie nestled in the Chiricahua Mountains, once the stronghold of Cochise and the Apache Indians in their last fights with army troops. For the butterfly and moth collector, each name rings with its own special surprises, and not the least is that what is caught in each area is different, though they lie only a few miles apart.

Reaching the area is daunting in itself. The Chiricahuas are not cut by any paved roads, and access is by one of two difficult routes. The western approach is from SR 181 and the eastern approach is through Portal, a small but friendly enclave. If you are a visitor to the area, the best collecting is at the higher elevations, so the good news is that the unpaved roads are usually kept up in good shape. However, during the summer rain season, "usually" means "keep your eyes open for new gulches in the middle of the road".

Once again, as with most of south-eastern Arizona, from the middle of July to the middle of August is often the best time to visit for collecting. The summer monsoon winds from Mexico sweep the range, bringing wild storms and rain across the mountains. This causes adult lepidoptera to appear in great profusion, as well as bringing in other species usually occurring many hundreds of miles south of the area.

Approaching from the west, leave Interstate 10 at Wilcox and take SR 186 southeast. The road runs through Dos Cabelas and eventually you see and take SR 181 due east. The gravel roads at the lower elevations split from the road to Chiricahua National Monument. Go to the right or southeast from this point. The road slowly begins to climb into Pinery Canyon, starting at about 5150' elevation. Butterfly collectors need to look carefully at the plants along the road in this area. The usual situation that exists in many places in the desert west exists here also, where the road acts as a water catcher for the infrequent rains, and the water pools at the edge of the road for the few annual plants that can survive, which then bloom, providing nectaring sources for butterflies. Frequently these places can be swarming with butterflies and might engender frequent car stops as the road climbs through different climate zones. As the road climbs the butterfly species change somewhat.

The road crosses a couple of streams which are mere trickles in midsummer for the most part, but may be worth a short visit from the car to explore. *Amblyscirtes exoteria* and *Emesis ares* can be caught here, and there may be different sulphur species common to the area. As the road climbs look over the bank for the tops of bushes on which *Hypaurotis crysalus* are flying. *Papilio multicaudus*, the huge two-tailed swallowtail, also patrols the dirt road. Driving slowly is a beneficial pursuit, as quick stops may be desired. As the road climbs in a winding fashion, the scenery changes, and previously unseen trees make themselves apparent.

On the left at the 7000' elevation Pinery Canyon Campground sits among the

trees, and provides a good place to camp and collect at blacklight after dark. For those with tents or campers this is an excellent place to collect different species not found on the desert floor below. There is Upper Pinery Campground just uphill from the first entrance.

Continuing up the gravel road, which mysteriously has been dirt, then gravel, then dirt again at various places and begins to seem endless for the first time driver, you rather abruptly turn a corner and are at a small pass, or saddle, as it is called in these here parts. Onion Saddle, to be exact, is the location. A small sign tells you so, and adds that the elevation is 7,600'.

The first time I visited Onion Saddle, which I repeatedly saw in the Moths of North America (MONA) fascicles under the names of species of which I had never heard, I was stunned. Why would anyone stop here? Fortunately I was with more experienced collectors, (thank heavens for that hardy breed) and they proceeded to unpack their moth gear as I stumbled around. Onion Saddle is ugly. No self respecting onion would be caught dead there—or if it was there it would be dead. The area consists of a saddle not more than 40 meters in length of any level ground in any direction, with rock and scrub fighting it out. There are trees all around the bare area, and a road that leads upwards to Rustler Park and Barfoot Park. Other than that, there is nothing there. The total level ground cannot total more than 600 square meters, but that night, the mercury light brought in moths the like of which I had never seen.

Large *Quadrina diazoma*, *Dicogaster coronada* and sphingids such as *Xylophane falco* barreled into the

ground outside the direct circle of light, causing a search and collect to occur, and arctiids, geometrids and noctuids landed on the sheet from seemingly nowhere. Moths of every size and species never before encountered by me made the trip memorable. About 11:00 p.m., a storm blew in suddenly, and lightning split the skies all around, causing the mercury vapor collectors to close up shop and leaving my blacklight alone as the others went to sleep in their trucks. The rain was brief and the collecting continued for at least three more hours when I fell asleep. Also, be aware. Large wild animals prowl the area at night. I saw the eyes of one with my flashlight down the road that sent me into my truck for the night. Instincts sent me there. I still do not know what it was, but it has been fifteen years and the hair still rises on my neck thinking about it.

Another advisory for the collector is that other collectors frequent the area. On one trip I had a trap overturned and the contents removed, then dumped back in by someone who then left the area. The moths were pretty well taken by ants by the time I arrived, and the only logical culprits would be other (potentially beetle) collectors. Animals would not have put the contents back in an overturned bucket trap. Trap thieves are uncommon—this is the only area where I have encountered one.

Taking the uphill road from Onion Saddle will take you to Rustler Park, 8400' elevation or Barfoot Park, 8250' elevation depending on what fork you take further up the road. It is recommended that a night be spent in one or both places if you are a moth collector. You may discover a new species, as several have been discovered here. But during the daytime, stop at the turnout less than a mile from Onion Saddle. The turnout is off to the left, and is grassy with a sizable patch of flowers and lots of butterflies when the sun is shining. *Autochon cellus*, *Poanes taxiles* and *Amblyscirtes fimbriata* fly here. Continue driving and Rustler Park will be up the left fork as the road

to Barfoot is to the right. Heavy forest is the norm here, and old growth pines loom large.

At Rustler Park there is a large parking lot to the left as you reach the camping area. The parking lot is a good place to collect, as are several spots upstream. A small stream flows next to the parking lot, and the upper end of the parking lot borders a small patch of grassy open area. Anywhere that does not disturb other campers is a good spot to blacklight. Again, beware of sudden storms. One night while collecting with Ron Leuschner, a bolt of lightning hit without warning so close that we left part of our collecting equipment behind as we fled the area. A storm blew in within two minutes of the initial lighting, which itself was so close it probably cost us a few years of our life.

Rustler Park may have some of the most unique species of all the areas in southeastern Arizona in which I have been collecting. These are not large gaudy species for the most part, but are geometrids and noctuids of unusual coloring and markings. Several are still awaiting formal description. Others most likely await discovery.

Barfoot Park is similar but contains a large field that Rustler Park does not have. It appears to be just as attractive as Rustler Park, but I have never caught the same variety of moths as at Rustler—the vagaries of the winds, possibly. During the day the butterfly *Ochloides snowi* can be caught here, and the area is beautiful for walking with a family.

Eventually one usually goes down the road on the east side toward Portal, which is a small town at the entrance to Cave Creek Canyon. Approaching from the east, once again Interstate 10 is the best route in. At New Mexico Rt. 80 just before the Arizona border go south, and take Rt. 533 to Portal., crossing into Arizona on the way.

Cave Creek is frequented by bird watchers, and has a paved road partially into it, which quickly degenerates to the gravel and dirt of the

other side. Cave Creek is well studied because of the Southwestern Research Station of the American Museum of Natural History, at 5350' elevation, which is a facility tucked into the canyon. Those affiliated with the AMNH might stay there, and they reportedly occasionally have room for guest researchers, but I have not had that experience. Cave Creek is a nice walk along the unpaved road. Such a walk results in several species of butterflies, such as *Megisto rubricate chenoyorum* which can be gleefully chased as well as possible sightings of the Trogon, a bird much sought after by birders. Species found at lower elevations such as *Antheraea polyphemus oculatea* and *Sphingicampa hubbardi* are found in here by blacklight. Be aware of regulations forbidding blacklighting further up one canyon road which may be due to private land or bird protection. Signs might explain more—they only served to confuse me when I tried to pinpoint where not to set a light trap.

Portal has cabin facilities available through several vendors. I have stayed at Cave Creek Ranch (5100') and had a very enjoyable stay with blacklighting off the porch over the stream bed. Cabins from several companies front the stream, but the barren slopes on the other side proved to be just that for butterflies. Stay in the cabin areas for more luck, such as *Strymon melinus franki* or explore the streambed for puddling butterflies. At blacklight, *Sphingicampa hubbardi*, *Pachysphinx occidentalis* and several sphinx species can be caught.

Now for the interesting part. Cave Creek and the cabin areas contain giant moth eating skunks that are smarter than the collectors. At least my companions and I have never figured out how to chase them away when they show up. Their weaponry is superior to ours, and Ron Leuschner and I have enjoyed more than a few beers watching them while pondering how to get back to our lights. When the skunks arrive, back off. If you don't, be prepared to pay

*continued on pp. 85*

# The Marketplace

**IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS:** If the number following your advertisement is "441" then you must renew your advertisement before the next issue! Remember that all revisions are required in writing.

## Books/Videos

For sale: Books on Lepidoptera and other orders. Have a number of D'Abbrera's books, plus pins, vials, nets, etc. Send SASE to Dr. Eugene J Gerberg, 5819 NW 57<sup>th</sup> Way, Gainesville, FL 32653, [genejg@aol.com](mailto:genejg@aol.com) <sup>443</sup>

Butterflies of the Australian Region (Vol. 1) by B. D'Abbrera. 1971. This edition is out of print. Excellent condition, with marginal discoloration only. \$180 postpaid. Glenn A. Gorelick, Dept. of Biological Sciences, Citrus College, 1000 W. Foothill Blvd., Glendora, CA 91741, e-mail: [ggorelick@citrus.cc.ca.us](mailto:ggorelick@citrus.cc.ca.us) <sup>442</sup>

For sale: Journal of the Lepidopterists' Society, vols. 24 (1970) through 55 (2001), all in excellent condition. Also available: News from 1970 through 2001 complete except #2, 3 of 1996, #5 of 1980 and #3 of 1971. Best offer for all. Balddhard Falk, P.O. Box 315,

The aim of the Marketplace in the **News of the Lepidopterists' Society** is to be consistent with the goals of the Society: "to promote the science of lepidopterology...to facilitate the exchange of specimens and ideas by both the professional worker and the amateur in the field..." Therefore, the Editor will print notices which are deemed to meet the above criteria, *without quoting prices*, except for those of publications or lists.

No mention may be made in any advertisement in the **News** of any species on any federal threatened or endangered species list. For species listed under CITES, advertisers must provide a copy of the export permit from the country of origin to buyers. **Buyers must beware and be aware.** Advertisements for credit, debit, charge cards or similar financial instruments or accounts, insurance policies and those for travel or travel arrangements cannot be accepted because they jeopardize our nonprofit status.

Belvedere, CA 94920-0315, [falktibrn@aol.com](mailto:falktibrn@aol.com) <sup>442</sup>

## Livestock

Cocoons of *Hyalophora cecropia*. Large numbers available for research purposes, US only. Joseph W. Markowicz, 343 Summer St., East Bridgewater, MA 02333, [marko217@attbi.com](mailto:marko217@attbi.com), 508-587-8658 <sup>443</sup>

For Sale (US only): Cocoons of *Antheraea polyphemus* and *Callosamia promethea*. Send SASE to Karl W. Ploran, 110 Route 20, Chester, MA 01011-9642, 413-354-7852 (7-9 pm EST). <sup>443</sup>

Cocoons of *C. angulifera*, \$5.00, and *Samia cynthia*, \$3.00 each, + \$7.50 S & H. Thomas Frey, 364 Oaklyn Rd., Lebanon, PA 17042-5858, [snakes364@lmf.net](mailto:snakes364@lmf.net) <sup>442</sup>

Eggs and cocoons of many northeastern

Only members in good standing may place ads. All advertisements are accepted, in writing, for two (2) issues unless a single issue is specifically requested and must be renewed before the deadline of the following issue to remain in place. All ads contain a code in the lower right corner (eg. 386, 391) which denote the volume and number of the **News** in which the ad. first appeared.

Advertisements must be under 100 words in length, or **they will be returned for editing**. Ads for Lepidoptera or plants must include full latin binomials for all taxa listed in your advertisement.

**Send all advertisements to the Editor of the News.**

The Lepidopterists' Society and the Editor take no responsibility whatsoever for the integrity and legality of any advertiser or advertisement. Disputes arising from such notices must be re-

solved by the parties involved, outside of the structure of The Lepidopterists' Society. Aggrieved members may request information from the Secretary regarding steps which they may take in the event of alleged unsatisfactory business transactions. A member may be expelled from The Lepidopterists' Society, given adequate indication of dishonest activity.

North American Saturniidae available for sale fall 2002: *Actias luna*, *Antheraea polyphemus*, *Automeris io*, *Callosamia promethea*, *Hyalophora cecropia*, *Hyalophora columbia*, *Samia cynthia*. Bill Oehlke, Box 476, Peardon Road, Montague, Prince Edward Island, Canada C0A 1R0, 902-838-3455, [www3.islandtelecom.com/~oehlkew](http://www3.islandtelecom.com/~oehlkew), [oehlkew@islandtelecom.com](mailto:oehlkew@islandtelecom.com) <sup>442</sup>

**For sale or trade:** Diapause cocoons of *Callosamia angulifera*, *Callosamia promethea* and *Samia cynthia*. Please call before 10 pm EST. Thomas Frey, 364 Oaklyn Rd., Lebanon, PA 17042, (717) 272-6597. <sup>441</sup>

**For Sale:** Live pupae of Nymphalidae, Pieridae, Papilionida, *T. maggelanus*, *T. rhadamantus* and other species of Philippine butterflies. Send order to: Leodegario Layron, P.O. Box 4, Boac, Marinduque, Philippines. Tel. 042-332-1558; Fax 0063-423-321-558. <sup>441</sup>

Buyers, sellers, and traders are advised to contact your state department of agriculture and/or PPAAPHIS, Hyattsville, Maryland, regarding US Department of Agriculture or other permits required for transport of live insects or plants. Buyers are responsible for being aware that many countries have laws restricting the possession, collection, import, and export of some insect and plant species. Plant Traders: Check with USDA and local agencies for permits to transport plants. Shipping of agricultural weeds across borders is often restricted.

**Wanted to Buy:** Eggs or pupae of *Rothschildia forbesi*, *Eacles imperialis* and *Citheronia regalis*. Page Don Olhausen at (713) 501-6353 or call (281) 446-8588. 19415 Haude Rd. Spring, TX 77388. 441

### Specimens

**For Exchange:** Oriental Lycaenidae (Thailand, Vietnam, Philippines, Malaysia, Indonesia) in exchange for other lycaenid species worldwide (except South America). Single specimens as well as longer series or lots (with full collecting data) are very welcome. I will also buy. Stefan Schroeder, Auf dem Rosenhügel 15, D-50997 Koeln, Germany, [ste.schroeder@gmx.net](mailto:ste.schroeder@gmx.net) 443

Butterflies, Saturniids and Sphingiids from Latin and South America and the Caribbean Islands, as well as from the palearctic region. Very large selection of rare, hard to obtain species and common butterflies. We also always have a small list of interesting undetermined Beetles from these areas. Please contact us for our list. Robert Westphal, Calle Llimoner 6 (Urb. Pino Alto), E-43892 Miami Playa (Tarragona), SPAIN, Tel/Fax: ++34+977+810787, [Westphal.Ramos@terra.es](mailto:Westphal.Ramos@terra.es) 442

Rich variety of *Charaxes* and Papilionidae from Africa available. List available on request. Wanted: *Charaxes* and Papilionidae from Eastern/Southern Africa. Giancaarl Veronese, Viale Venezia 138-33100 Udine (Italia), Fax: 0432/232654, [gc.veronese@iol.it](mailto:gc.veronese@iol.it) 442

For sale or exchange: Iranian butterflies. Ahmad Karbalaye, P.O. Box 11495-175, Tehran, Iran, Tel/Fax: 0098.21.7531604, [karbalaye@yahoo.com](mailto:karbalaye@yahoo.com) 442

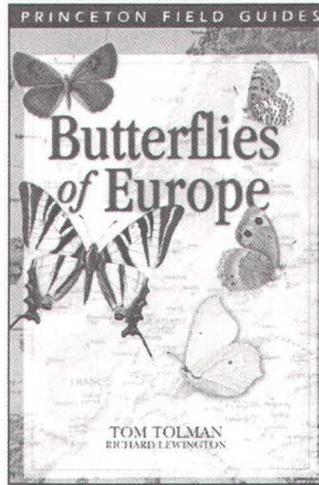
**For exchange:** Eastern North American *Catocala* in exchange for other *Catocala* species worldwide, in particular, those from the Central and Western United States. All inquiries will be answered. Dr. Ken Neil, P. O. Box 410, Canning, Nova Scotia, Canada. B0P 1H0, [irene.neil@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:irene.neil@ns.sympatico.ca) 441

"The identification plates are without equal in any modern field guide to butterflies."

—P. J. de Vries, author of *The Butterflies of Costa Rica and Their Natural History*

## Butterflies of Europe

Tom Tolman and Richard Lewington



This is the most comprehensive field guide to the butterflies of Europe. The magnificent color illustrations and succinct entries cover all 440 species across, and sometimes beyond, the continent. The entries cover taxonomic nomenclature, range, distribution, description, flight period, variation, habitat, life history—including, importantly, larval host plants—and behavior. The 104 color plates feature over 2,000 illustrations, including both genders of each species and lateral views. Distribution maps accompany nearly all entries.

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**For Exchange:** Many species of A1 mounted Noctuidae (Cucullinae, Hadeninae, Amphipyridae, Plusiinae, *Catocala*, etc) and Arctiidae of Japan. Also, large numbers of A1 papered butterflies (Papilionidae, Pieridae, Nymphalidae, Satyridae and Lycaenidae) of Japan. I am interested in A1 mounted Noctuidae (as above with *Perigrapha*) and Arctiidae (*Pararctica*, *Arctia* and various *Grammia*) of North America. Shin-ichi Ohshima, Shimohideya 707-99, Okegawa, Saitama (363-0025) Japan. Fax (81) 48-787-0290, [o\\_shima@nifty.com](mailto:o_shima@nifty.com) 441

### Equipment

**For Sale:** Traps for collecting Lepidoptera. **Light Traps:** 12VDC or 110VAC with 15W or 20W black lights. Traps are portable and easy to use, rain drains and sorting screens protect specimens from damage, straight tube design provides 360° light visibility, stainless steel or plexiglass vanes. **Bait Traps:** 3 types available: tropical, inverted funnel and flat bottom, 25"W x 36"H, nylon coated fiberglass screen with

heavy cloth top, plastic zipper in side for access, plywood platform. Optional shroud/hood provides dark area for moths to hide. For a free color brochure and price list, please contact: Leroy C. Koehn, 202 Redding Rd., Georgetown, KY 40324-2622, 502-570-9123, [lepstraps@aol.com](mailto:lepstraps@aol.com) 443

**For Sale:** Used Light Traps. Several used traps offered, all self-fabricated and in good to excellent condition. For prices and photos, please contact: Leroy C. Koehn, 202 Redding Rd., Georgetown, KY 40324-2622, 502-570-9123, [lepstraps@aol.com](mailto:lepstraps@aol.com) 443

### Miscellaneous

Help! South America in 1986? Does anyone remember participating in a collecting trip to South America during the periods May 3-8 and/or September 25-30, 1986? I have a lot of neotropical papered material with no data except dates, all of which fall into those two periods. There's a decent chance the specimens were collected on a group trip, and if you took part in such an

expedition, please tell me where you went. Any help or clues appreciated! Contact John Hyatt, 423-343-0067 (h) or [jhyatt@eastman.com](mailto:jhyatt@eastman.com) <sup>443</sup>

The "Sphingidae of the Americas" site is an online membership club featuring over one thousand images of Sphingidae from North, South and Central America. Images (adults, larvae, pupae, eggs) are attractively displayed with text giving taxonomies, range, flight times, larval hosts, etc. Visit [www.silkmoths.bizland.com/samplesphinx.htm](http://www.silkmoths.bizland.com/samplesphinx.htm) to see sample files and access registration information and members' comments. Contact Bill Oehlke, Box 476, Peardon Road, Montague, Prince Edward Island, Canada C0A 1R0, 902-838-3455, [www3.islandtelecom.com/~oehlke](http://www3.islandtelecom.com/~oehlke), [oehlke@islandtelecom.com](mailto:oehlke@islandtelecom.com), for more information. <sup>442</sup>



## From the Editor's Desk

Phil Schappert

As you have no doubt surmised by the lateness of this issue of the News (counterbalanced, I hope, by the earlier than usual appearance of the Winter issue—imagine, the Winter issue, before Christmas!), I ran into some difficulties with the production of this issue.

Note, that I said "production" and not "editing." Hell, I rarely have problems editing since I never have to do much more than correct a few grammatical errors (and introduce a few typographical ones so that everything remains balanced—this way they're my errors and not the authors). Of course, it's the production that takes the time.

Articles come in in a wide variety of formats ranging from almost impossible to read penmanship—you do know that not being able to read what someone writes is a pre-requisite to obtaining a doctorate of any kind, don't you?—through the output of every kind of

### Research Requests

*Cyclargus thomasi bethunebakeri* was once an abundant species in south Florida and the Florida Keys. Since 1992, it has all but disappeared. The only know remaining population is at Bahia Honda State Park on Bahia Honda Key. There is currently a recovery effort consisting of Lepidopterists, Watchers, Breeders and Naturalists, to recover *C. t. bethunebakeri*. However, before any females are removed from the Bahia Honda Key population, a thorough search is underway to look in every corner of south Florida and the Florida Keys. To assist this search, we need locations where *C. t. bethunebakeri* has been collected. We just need the location and dates. We need your help. *Cyclargus t. bethunebakeri* needs your help. Send records to: Leroy C. Koehn, 202 Redding Road,

Georgetown, Kentucky, 40324-2622, [Leptraps@aol.com](mailto:Leptraps@aol.com) or David Fine, 2924 Dunlin Rd., Delray Beach, FL 33444, [vladnuts@aol.com](mailto:vladnuts@aol.com) <sup>442</sup>

I am writing a field guide to the butterflies of Nova Scotia. I require any relevant data regarding dates, location, collector, sexes, and numbers of any butterflies collected in this province. Full acknowledgements given to all contributors. All responses would be greatly appreciated. Submit data to Dr. Ken Neil, P.O. Box 410, Canning, Nova Scotia, Canada B0P 1H0. [irene.neil@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:irene.neil@ns.sympatico.ca) <sup>441</sup>



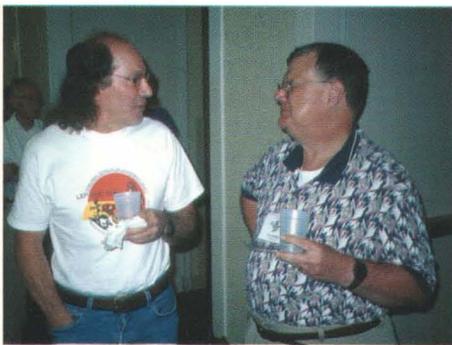
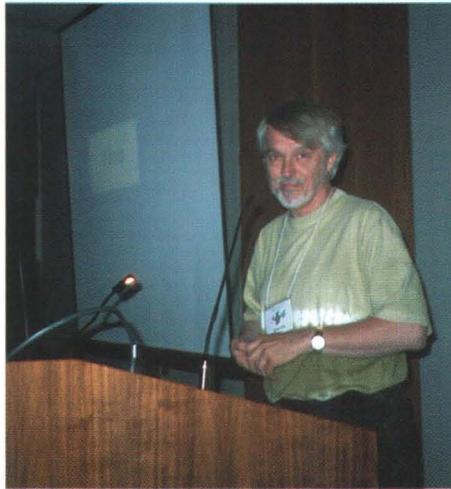
word processor on every known operating system platform, to the oh-so-helpful "let's put everything that's really important in capitals." Ever tried to work with all cap text that's been "rectified" by software into title caps or sentence caps? I thought not. I edit them to "basic" electronic format. No bells or whistles, just average everyday text, single-spaced without extraneous tabs, spaces or blank lines, and with italics but *sans* bold. No underlines, colors, flashing words or any of the other silly thing you can do to make text ugly these days.

After brief—usually very brief—"editing," I tackle whatever graphic material the author has included. Often this is non-existent (News Flash: we're not publishing political exposés here folks, but a color magazine about butterflies and moths!) but if they have provided something then the next step

is scanning photos, slides, *et al* (at 300 dpi and ensuring they're large enough to suit column sizes of 2.38" or 4.88" in width), or taking provided images in almost as many available incoming formats as text and cropping/sizing them to best suit the image while simultaneously trying to balance color, image and page composition, etc., etc.

Once all of the disparate pieces are assembled and cleaned up then I can finally start to put the issue together. Adobe PageMaker, my software of choice for this task, is wonderful—straight-forward, capable and a joy to work with. Not like the software from some other large multinationals that shall remain nameless (although their CEO is a geek with a name like "door" or something like that).

Still, it is a time consuming process and—if you've stuck with me this long—that's why the Fall issue is late!



**More 2002 Meeting Photos...**

**Top Row (left to right):** Lincoln Brower and Michael Collins; Robert Dirig presents; Journal editor Carla Penz (before or after “editor tossing?”). **Center Row (left to right):** John Brown and Eric Metzler; Charlie Covell and Clench (Student Paper) Award Winner Akito Kawahara; Leroy Koehn and James Adams (presumably talking moths). **Bottom Row (left to right):** “Old Guys” (= “Lep Experts”) Charlie Covell, Stan Nicolay, Lee Miller and Ron Hodges; Present and Past Presidents Larry Gall and Don Lafontaine at the passing of the “antennae of power” (aka “deelibobbers”). **Right:** Jordan Medal Award Winner Malcolm Scoble. All photos by “Ranger” Steve Mueller.

# Field Observations Supporting Bernardino Blues as a Separate Species

Ken Davenport

6601 Eucalyptus Dr. #325, Bakersfield, CA. 93306

In 1989, Rudolf Mattoni recognized the Bernardino Blue (*Euphilotes bernardino* Barnes & McDunnough) as a separate species from the Square-spotted Blue (*Euphilotes battoides* Behr). Since then, various authors have recognized many other species in the complex. Some authors have chosen not to recognize other "species" in the complex because of wing characters very difficult to differentiate between similar taxa or based on the "lack of data" supporting the assertions that more than one member of the complex ever occurs together.

In a recent article on Comstock's Blue (*Euphilotes battoides comstocki* Shields) in the News (Davenport 2002), I stated that "comstocki" and the Bernardino Blue (*Euphilotes bernardino*) are sympatric in the Piute Mountains south of Lake Isabella between milepost 6 and 7 of Piute Mountain Rd. (from Bodfish/Havilah summit) in Kern County, CA, where both were found at the same site on their adjacent host plants on 17 VII 2000 by the author. These two closely related members of the *battoides* complex were illustrated in that article (see News 44(1): 33; enlarged and reproduced here on pp. 96) and are usually easy to recognize and differentiate between each other.

The purpose of this article is to provide data to document that both "comstocki" and "bernardino" can occur together on the same day and provide additional distribution records for Comstock's Blue. On 17 VII 2000 the two taxa were found within 50 feet of each other and "bernardino" was rare, ending its flight period, while "comstocki" was very common (over 30 individuals seen). No further observations were made at that site in 2001.

In 2002, I first visited the site on 6 VI. A transect of the site showed "bernardino" emerging above milepost 6 and visiting developing buds of *Eriogonum fasciculatum* Benth. At a point where the road direction changed from overlooking Hooper Hill and Havilah (about milepost 6.4) to overlooking Lake Isabella and the Greenhorn Mountains plant associations and butterflies changed abruptly. The only *Eriogonum* then becomes *umbellatum* Torrey. Not far from Bald Eagle Peak at an elevation of 6180' the road reaches an elevation of about 6300'. The *umbellatum* was not yet in bloom and no "comstocki" were found on this date.

On July 5th two other observers accompanied me to the site: Michael Klein and Claude Edwards. We walked most of the section from milepost 6 to 7. The lower section was characterized by *Eriogonum fasciculatum* and here we took The Bernardino Blue (*Euphilotes bernardino bernardino*) fairly commonly (7 males and 4 females). Abruptly, the *E. fasciculatum* was replaced by *E. umbellatum* and the sagebrush *Artemisia tridentata* Nuttall. "Bernardino Blues" were just as abruptly replaced by Comstock's Blue (*Euphilotes battoides comstocki*: 4 males and 4 females, but adults had yet to reach peak flight as they were common on 17 VII 2000).

One "bernardino" (a fifth female) was collected on the *E. umbellatum* with the "comstocki" perhaps 100 yards from the nearest stand of *E. fasciculatum*. Two of the "bernardino" males may show some "comstocki" characters—smaller than usual black dots. One "comstocki" female taken 200 yards from *E. fasciculatum* may show some "bernardino" characters—including

bolder spots and heavier orange submarginal spots on the HW below. But the replacement of taxa is striking: "Bernardino" (small and heavily spotted underneath) below our parked vehicle and "comstocki" (larger and lightly spotted and dotted) above it.

Similar replacement was noted in the Lupine Blue complex at this location. The Lupine Blue subspecies *argentata* (Emmel, Emmel & Mattoon) utilizes *Eriogonum fasciculatum* along the road below milepost 6.4. Above it, another "lupini" similar to "chlorina" (Skinner) shares the *Eriogonum umbellatum* with "Comstock's Blue." Subspecies *argentata* was very worn on July 5<sup>th</sup>, however, the chlorina-like "lupini" were in full flight and mostly freshly emerged. John F. Emmel and Paul Opler are investigating the relationships between the two "Lupine Blues" and specimens were collected for this purpose.

Comstock's Blue has now been collected on Baker Ridge in the Greenhorn Mountains (7 VII 2002 and on Mt. Pinos near McGill Campground (11 VII 2002), both Kern County, California by the author. James A Scott reports his records of "comstocki" from the southern Sierra of the Kern Plateau of Tulare County as follows: "16.7 mi. up 9-mile rd. from hwy. 395 across from house at high point of road, just SE Big Pine Meadow, Tulare Co., 6 VII 1974 common on *E. umbellatum* var. *furcosum* det. James Reveal. Singleton male taken Big Pine Meadow, 6 VII 1974; one female same date at Rodeo Flat." This was on the same date Jim Brock discovered this butterfly in the Piutes after no one caught "Comstock's Blue" for 56 years!

The Bernardino Blue and Comstock's Blue both occur in the same mountain ranges in much of the southern Sierra including the Kern Plateau, Piute Mountains, Greenhorn Mountains, Tehachapi Mountains and Mt. Pinos (comstocki very rare in the latter two sites). Usually, Comstock's Blue replaces the Bernardino Blue at higher elevations. At these sites, the two butterflies are readily separable. One female "comstocki" taken in the Piutes on 5 VII 2002 has bolder black dots and spotting similar to "bernardino" but it is much larger in size. Two male "bernardino" taken the same day may exhibit "comstocki" traits, somewhat smaller black dots. So some gene flow may be occurring, but the fact that these two butterflies both occur in several mountain ranges on different hostplants and maintain readily recognizable field marks argue that the two are best regarded as separate species as Mattoni believed.

Some may question how determinations of "bernardino" and "comstocki" were made so collections of most specimens taken between milepost 6-7 in the Piutes 5 VII 2002 by Ken Davenport (6 comstocki and 9 bernardino) will be donated to the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County. Material collected by Michael Klein and Claude Edwards will be retained in their respective collections.

An added notes of interest: the Pacific Dotted Blue (*Euphilotes enoptes*) is

sympatric with both "bernardino" and "comstocki" between milepost 6 and 7 along the Piute Mountain Rd., utilizing *Eriogonum nudum* (Dougl. ex Benth) as the hostplant. The rare Verus Skipper (*Ochloides agricola verus* (W. H. Edwards)) and Bright Blue Copper (*Lycaena heteronea clara* (Hy. Edwards)) are also common along this stretch of road in the Piutes.

In conclusion, this is a very good location in the Piute Mountains (GPS coordinates 35 degrees, 31' 55.8"N 118 degrees 26' 43.6"W.) to do further research in observing two members of the *Euphilotes battoides* complex occurring together on the same dates (ranges and flight periods overlapping) along milepost 6-7 along Piute Mountain Road in the Piute Mountains of Kern County, California. While gene exchange cannot be ruled out, the presence of both "comstocki" (variously considered a "battoides" or "intermedia" (Barnes & McDunnough)) and "bernardino" in several mountain ranges in the southern Sierra and Tehachapi Mountains argue that two species are likely involved.

#### Literature Cited:

- Davenport, K. 2002. Field notes on geographic distribution and records of Comstock's Blue in the southern Sierra. *News of the Lepidopterist's Society* Vol. 44(1): 24, 33.
- Mattoni, R. H. T. 1988 (1989). The *Euphilotes battoides* complex: recognition of a species and description of a new subspecies. *Journal of Research on the Lepidoptera*. No. 304, pp. 173-185.

#### Prez...continued from pp. 88

the Lepidopterists' Society, including Editor of the *Journal* and as a Vice-President. Most of my research currently takes place a la carte during evenings and weekends (the leps wrestle for time with my wife, Nancy, and teenage daughter Jennifer). My present interests are the biology and systematics of *Catocala*, the natural history of northeastern US Lepidoptera, and the theory and practice of mark-release-recapture and related census techniques. I also dabble in hairstreak butterflies, run the international LEPS-L listserver and its Connecticut counterpart, CTLEPS-L, and am closely involved in the ongoing Connecticut Butterfly Atlas Project.

It scarcely seems possible that I've been a member of the Lepidopterists' Society for almost 30 years! All along, the Society has been an extended family for me, and I know many, many members who feel similarly. No other society to which I belong has been a greater source of either personal or professional support. I've always felt that what makes the Society special is that we share a *common passion* – no matter where we live or how we make our livelihoods! During the upcoming year, I hope I can offer something back to the Society in return for all it has offered me. It's an honor and pleasure to serve as your President.

#### Announcement...

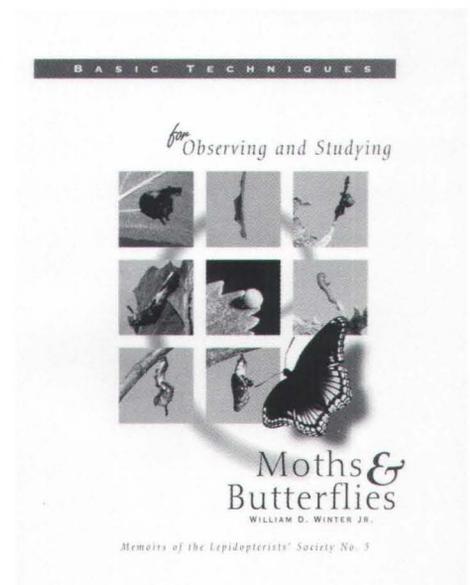
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Ken Bliss, Publications Mgr.  
P. O. Box 1366, Edison, NJ 08817





**Comstock and Bernardino Blues Compared...**

A comparison of Comstock's Blue, *Euphilotes battoides comstocki*, with Bernardino Blue, *E. bernardino*. Photo by Ken Davenport. See article on pp. 94. This is an enlargement of the figure that originally appeared in 44(1): 33.

**The Holarctic Genus *Everes*...**

- 1. *Everes comyntas*, M, July 3, 1994, Fairfax Co., VA. 2. *E. amyntula*, M, July 13, 1993, Ruedi Reservoir, Aspen, CO.
- 3. *E. alcatas*, M. August 1, 1991, Font Romeau, Pyrenees, France, Europe. Photos by George O. Krizek.



## Photo Essay:

# The Holarctic Genus *Everes* (Lycaeinae, Plebejini)

George O. Krizek

2111 Bancroft Place, NW, Washington, DC 20008

I present 5 species of the Holarctic genus *Everes* in photos of living butterflies of two North American and three European species.

The North American species are the Eastern Tailed Blue, *Everes comyntas* (Godart) 1824 and the Western Tailed Blue, *Everes amyntula valerianae* Clench 1944. These two species are quite similar to each other although *E. amyntula* is slightly larger and has a chalky white ground color with reduced ventral pattern. I've chosen photos to try to demonstrate typical coloration and pattern. *Everes comyntas* is one of the most common butterflies of eastern North America.

The European species are the Short Tailed Blue, *Everes argiades* Pallas 1881, the Provençal Short Tailed Blue, *Everes alcetas* Hoffmannsegg 1904, and the Eastern Short Tailed Blue, *Everes decoloratur* Staudinger 1886. *Everes*

*argiades*, originally considered identical with *E. comyntas*, used to be the most common European blue but has recently been protected in Switzerland where its habitats are becoming more and more restricted. The larvae of this species are myrmecophilous and they are known to secrete an ant attracting nectar from the glands on their 10<sup>th</sup> segment.

*Everes alcetas* is a more southern European species and the tails at V2 of the hindwing are much shorter than in *E. argiades*. The under forewing lacks the black discoidal spot typical of *E. decoloratur* and the under hindwing lacks the orange spots in S1c and S2 that are typical of *E. argiades*. *Everes decoloratur* is restricted to southeast Europe and is considered rare. The hindwing tail at V2 is extremely short and there is a pronounced black marginal border about 1mm wide that extends along the veins.



## The Holarctic Genus *Everes*...

4. *E. argiades*, F, July 5, 2002, Bardejovske Kupele, Slovakia, Europe. 5. *E. decoloratur*, M, July 3, 2002, Bardejovske Kupele, Slovakia, Europe. 6. *E. comyntas*, M, June 22, 1989, Difficult Run, VA. 7. *E. amyntula*, M, July 12, 1993, Ashcroft, Aspen, CO. 8. *E. argiades*, M, July 5, 2002, Bardejovske Kupele, Slovakia, Europe. 9. *E. alcetas*, M, August 1, 1991, Font Romeau, Pyrenees, France, Europe. Photos by George O. Krizek.

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The Lepidopterists' Society is open to membership from anyone interested in any aspect of lepidopterology. The only criterion for membership is that you appreciate butterflies or moths! To become a member, please send full dues for the current year, together with your current mailing address and a note about your particular areas of interest in Lepidoptera, to:

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Students must send proof of enrollment. Please add \$ 5.00 to your Student or Active dues if you live outside of the U.S. to cover additional mailing costs. Remittances must be in U.S. dollars, payable to "The Lepidopterists' Society". All members receive the **Journal** and the **News** (each published quarterly). Supplements included in the **News** are the Membership Directory, published in even-numbered years, and the Season Summary, published annually. Additional information on membership and other aspects of the Society can be obtained from the Secretary (see address inside back cover).

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Requests for missed issues should be directed to: Ron Leuschner (1900 John Street, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266-2608, (310) 545-9415, [ronleusch@aol.com](mailto:ronleusch@aol.com)). Defective issues will also be replaced. Please be certain that you've really missed an issue by waiting for a subsequent issue to arrive.

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Send book reviews or new book releases for review, for either the **Journal** or the **News**, to:

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## Submission Guidelines for the News

Submissions are always welcome! When space becomes limiting, preference is given to articles written for a non-technical but knowledgeable audience, illustrated, written succinctly, and under 1,000 words. Please submit your article or item in one of the following formats (in order of preference):

1. Electronically transmitted file in ASCII or other acceptable form *via* e-mail.
2. Article on high-density floppy diskette or Zip disk in any of the popular formats. You may include graphics on disk, too. Indicate what format(s) your article is in, and call if in doubt. Include a printed hardcopy and a backup in ASCII or RTF (just in case). All disks will be returned upon request.
3. Typewritten copy, double-spaced suitable for scanning and optical character recognition. Artwork should be line drawings in pen and ink or good, clean photocopies suitable for scanning. Originals are preferred.
4. Handwritten or printed (very legible, short pieces only please, <500 words).

## Submission Deadlines

Material for Volume 44 must reach the Editor by the following dates:

Issue	Date Due
1 Spring	you missed it!
2 Summer	gone by!
3 Autumn	too late!
<b>4 Winter</b>	<b>Oct. 26, 2001</b>

Reports for Supplement S1, the Season Summary, must reach the respective Zone Coordinator (see most recent Season Summary for your Zone) by Dec. 15. See inside back cover for Zone Coordinator information.

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Lawrence, Kansas



2001 Photo Contest: Moths, 2<sup>nd</sup> place. Pine Emperor Moth, *Imbrasia cytherea*, Leroy Simon.



2001 Photo Contest: Larvae, 3<sup>rd</sup> place. *Automeris egeus*, Leroy Simon.

