

Mylon pelopidas: New to AZ and U.S.

Imbibing Butterflies: a drinking problem?

2005 Mtg Group Photo

LeConte? Leconte? Lecompte? Le Conte!

Papalotzin: the flight of the royal butterfly

Report: 10<sup>th</sup> Annual TX Butterfly Festival

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...and more!





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Reminder...

## 2006 Annual Meeting

The 57th Annual Meeting of the Lepidopterists' Society will be co-hosted by The Southern Lepidopterists' Society and the Association for Tropical Lepidoptera. The Meeting will be held from June 14-18, 2006 at the McGuire Center in Gainesville, FL. See the center insert in this issue of the News!

#### **Front Cover:**

A Crimson Patch (*Chlosyne janais*, Nymphalidae) thrilled attendees at the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Texas Butterfly Festival in Mission by posing for photos and just being admired in the garden immediately adjacent to festival headquarters. See the report beginning on pp. 126. Photo by Phil Schappert.

# Mylon pelopidas: A New Record for Arizona and the United States with notes on its history, distribution, biology and identification

Kim Davis, Mike Stangeland and Andrew D. Warren

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On September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2005, the senior authors (Kim Davis and Mike Stangeland) were searching for butterflies in Sycamore Canyon, Atascosa Mts., Santa Cruz Co., Arizona (31° 21.469' north, 111° 11.707' west, ca. 4000' or 1219 m). At about 12:00 noon, they found themselves on the Sycamore Canyon trail, about four thousand feet SW of the trailhead, in an area marked by an old gate next to the streambed, and numerous blooming Baccharis plants. It was sunny, about 85° F. windless and calm. Mike, who had not carried a net into the field in 30 years, decided to bring his net along that day, in case something unusual was encountered. Suddenly, Kim noticed an unfamiliar skipper on some Baccharis flowers, approached it, and immediately started taking photos (Fig. 1, pp. 104). After a few photos were taken, Kim shouted "Mike, get that net over here NOW!" and a few short moments later, the skipper had been netted and was vouchered (Fig. 2, pp. 104). Kim and Mike knew they had never seen anything quite like this butterfly, at any time during their travels in the USA.

At the end of the day, the senior authors posted a note to the SoWestLep and TILS-leps-talk listservs, with hyperlinks to images of the mystery skipper, in order to get some kind of determination. After reviewing distributional information of related species (see below), the junior author (Andrew Warren) answered their query very shortly thereafter, and noted that this skipper was apparently Mylon pelopidas (Fabricius, 1793) (Pyrginae). Charles Bordelon and Ed Knudson Eudamidas under Mylon, acts that

answered the request for information shortly after the junior author, with the same tentative identification of Mylon pelopidas. The specimen was mailed to the junior author three days later. Upon receipt of the voucher specimen, and examination its genitalia, the junior author confirmed it to be a male Mylon pelopidas, representing a genus and species previously unreported from the United States, and a new State Record for Arizona. For now, the voucher specimen (Figs. 3-4, pp. 104) is housed in the collection of the junior author (Castle Rock, Colorado).

Hesperia pelopidas was described by Fabricius (1793) from the "Indiis." Fabricius applied the term "Indiis" to tropical New World material for which no precise collection locality data was known (see Zimsen 1964), a practice that often led to subsequent confusion. Perhaps because of uncertainty regarding the true identity of Fabricius' Hesperia pelopidas, Butler (1870) described Achlyodes ozema, from Nicaragua, Honduras and Brazil. Godman & Salvin (1885) described the genera Mylon and Eudamidas, and included *ozema* in *Eudamidas*. They made no mention of the name pelopidas. Mabille (1903-1904) followed Godman and Salvin's arrangement, placing ozema in Eudamidas, but placed pelopidas in the genus Mylon. For many decades, the species was generally known as Eudamidas ozema, and the identity of Mylon pelopidas was unclear (e.g. Draudt 1917-1924). Evans (1953) synonymized the name ozema under Mylon pelopidas, and synonomized

served to eliminate the confusion caused by having two names in use for the same species, in two different genera. Since Evans (1953), the species has been known as Mylon pelopidas by all subsequent authors (e.g., Bridges 1993, Austin 2000, Mielke 2004, also see below). Warren and Llorente (1999) called Mylon pelopidas the "Pale Mylon."

The most recent review of the genus Mylon was by Austin (2000), who placed six remarkably similar species, almost half of the fifteen described Mylon species (Mielke 2004), in a "pelopidas Group," including M. pelopidas, M. jason (Ehrmann, 1907), M. exstincta Mabille & Boullet, 1917, M. simplex Austin, 2000, M. argonautarum Austin, 2000 and M. cristata Austin, 2000. Austin defined the pelopidas Group primarily on the basis of unique genitalic characters of both sexes, and figured adults and genitalia of both sexes for all six species. While Austin noted some external wing characters that can be used to separate these six species, genitalia usually must be examined for a positive identification, and in areas where more than one species occur in sympatry, it is doubtful that these species can be reliably identified by sight, or in photographic images. Of these six taxa, Mylon *pelopidas* has the most distinctive male genitalia, with, long, slender harpes, as figured by Godman and Salvin (1885), Holland (1927), Hayward (1933), all as *Eudamidas ozema*, and by Evans (1933) and Austin (2000). In fact, the valvae of *M. pelopidas* are so distinctive that,

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Arizona, 12 September 2005, Kim Davis and Mike Stangeland. **Fig. 1**) Feeding at *Baccharis*, showing dorsal surface; **Fig. 2**) immediately after being vouchered, showing ventral surface; **Fig. 3**) pinned specimen, dorsal; **Fig. 4**) pinned specimen, ventral. Specimen photos by Andrew D. Warren. See the article beginning on pp. xx.



## **Drinking Butterflies...**

1 & 2. Gulf Fritillary, Agraulis vanillae (L.), Nymphalidae: Heliconiinae) in southeast Louisiana, siphoning water from recently hose-sprinkled gravel in a sunny butterfly garden; 3. Regal Fritillary, Speyeria idalia (Drury), Nymphalidae: Heliconiinae) in southwest Missouri, imbibing morning dew coating ground thatch in semi-shaded meadows; 4. Monarch, Danaus plexippus (Linnaeus), Nymphalidae: Danainae) in southwest Louisiana, siphoning water from a sunny, sandy beach bordering the Gulf of Mexico. Photos by Gary Noel Ross. See the article beginning on pp. 107.

## More 2005 Meeting Photos...

A) Anthony Thomas pulls outgoing Prez James Adams' Leg (or something);
B) Bob Behrstock, intrepid Odonate trip leader looks for some participants (any participants);
C) Stanley Gorodenski and Deborah Mathews-Lott;
D) Vazrik Nazari poses by an impromptu poster for his book, the Butterflies of Iran. Photos by Ranger Steve Mueller.



#### Mylon...continued from pp. 103

with practice, they can be evaluated in hand, in the field, without magnification. None of the other species in the *Mylon pelopidas* Group are easily confused with *M. pelopidas* once male genitalia are examined, but all the remaining species have confusingly similar male genitalia (see Austin 2000). While Austin did not comment on the type material of *pelopidas*, according to Olaf Mielke (pers. comm. 2005), if extant, syntypes of *pelopidas* might be in the Drury collection at the University of Sydney, Australia.

Mylon pelopidas is distributed in most tropical parts of Mexico, and has been reported from the states of Campeche (Hoffmann 1941-as ozema, Pozo et al. 2003), Chiapas (Hoffmann 1941-as ozema, de la Maza & de la Maza 1993). Colima (Holland 1927, Hoffmann 1941-both as ozema, Warren et al. 1998), Durango (Stanford & Opler 1993), Guerrero (Godman & Salvin 1885—as ozema), Jalisco (Godman & Salvin 1895-as ozema, Comstock & Vazquez 1961, Vargas et al. 1996). Michoacán (Salinas 2003, Salinas et al. in press), Morelos (Freeman unpublished), Nayarit (Llorente et al. 2004), Oaxaca (Luis et al. 2004), San Luis Potosí (de la Maza & White 1990), Sinaloa (Stanford & Opler 1993), Tabasco (Hoffmann 1941—as ozema). Veracruz (Godman & Salvin 1885, Holland 1927, Hoffmann 1941-all as ozema) and Yucatán (Hoffmann 1941as ozema). Ironically, Mylon pelopidas has not yet been reported from Sonora, the Mexican state situated directly to the south of Arizona, and no verified records exist from Tamaulipas.

South of Mexico, *M. pelopidas* is known from Guatemala (Godman & Salvin 1885, Holland 1927—both as *ozema*, Evans, 1953, Austin et al. 1996), Belize (Shuey *et al.* unpublished), Honduras (Butler 1870, Godman & Salvin 1885, Holland 1927—all as *ozema*, Evans 1953), El Salvador (Evans 1953, Steinhauser 1975), Nicaragua (Butler 1870, Godman & Salvin 1885, Holland 1927—all as *ozema*, Evans 1953, Maes

et al. 1998), Costa Rica (Godman & Salvin 1885, Holland 1927-both as ozema, Evans 1953, Janzen & Hallwachs 2005), Panama, Colombia (Godman & Salvin 1885, Holland 1927both as ozema, Evans 1953), Venezuela (Holland 1927-as ozema, Evans 1953), Trinidad (Kaye 1904, 1921-as ozema, Evans 1953, Cock 1982a,b, 1998), Guyana (Evans 1953-as British Guiana), Ecuador (Holland 1927-as ozema), Peru (Robbins et al. 1996), Brazil (Butler 1870, Godman & Salvin 1885, Holland 1927-all as ozema, Evans 1953, Brown & Mielke 1967, Miekle 1968, Biezanko & Mielke 1973, Mielke & Casagrande 1992, 1997, 1998), Paraguay (Holland 1927-as ozema, Evans 1953), Bolivia (Holland 1927as ozema) and Misiones, Argentina (Hayward 1933—as ozema).

In dry-forest habitats at lower elevations in western Mexico, Mylon pelo*pidas* is a frequently seen species that may become seasonally abundant. Comstock & Vazquez (1961) noted that M. pelopidas was one of the most frequently encountered skipper species in Puerto Vallarta, Jalisco, during the summer of 1957. Vargas et al. (1996) reported M. pelopidas from five localities in Jalisco, ranging from sealevel to about 600 m., with records from January, March, June, July, September and November. Warren et al. (1998) reported M. pelopidas from seven localities in the state of Colima, also ranging from near sea-level to about 600 m (1970'), with records from January, April through October, and December. In Nayarit, M. pelopidas is known from six localities, ranging from sea-level to almost 1000 m (3281'), with records from January, July through September, and December (Llorente et al. 2004). Thus, Mylon pelopidas appears to fly essentially year-round in western Mexico, where it is usually found at elevations below 1000 m. Based on this, its appearance in southeastern Arizona is rather unexpected, and the male found in Sycamore Canyon is considered to represent a stray. As noted by Austin (2000), M. pelopidas is known to fly during most

months of the year in Rondônia, Brazil (it was recorded all months except June, August and September), but it was found to be an uncommon species there.

To date, life history information for M. pelopidas is available only from Trinidad and Costa Rica. Cock (1998) noted that M. pelopidas had been reared in Trinidad on the vine Combretum fruticosum (Loefl.) Stuntz (Combretaceae), and described the larvae as follows: "head chordate, light brown, with the vertex dark brown and five streaks, one centrally, and two laterally, angled inwards towards mouth parts; the body ground colour is green, but an overlay of fine vellow dots renders the overall effect yellow-green; thin yellow lateral line." According to Janzen and Hallwachs (2005), the sole larval foodplant of M. pelopidas in Area de Conservacion de Guanacaste (ACG), Costa Rica, is Combretum farinosum Kunth, based on 69 rearings reported to date. According to Janzen (pers. comm. 2005), C. farinosum occurs in the ACG only in dryforest habitats. Various late-instar larvae of M. pelopidas from Guanacaste were figured by Janzen and Hallwachs (2005). No Combretum species are known to occur naturally in the United States (Kartesz 1999).

In areas where Mylon pelopidas flies in sympatry with other members of the pelopidas Group, great care must be taken when making species-level determinations. Unfortunately, these areas include most of the range of Mylon pelopidas. To date, considering all members of the *pelopidas* Group, only M. pelopidas is known from western Mexico, north of Oaxaca. However, M. cristata (described from Guatemala) occurs with M. pelopidas in eastern Mexico, at least in Chiapas and Campeche (pers. obs. 2002; the basis for its listing in Warren 2002), and probably in other states as well. As noted by Austin (2000), due to past confusion over the true identity of M. jason, and the recent description of M. cristata from Guatemala, all reports of

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# **A Time To Drink**

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Most entomologists accept the paradigm that adult butterflies equipped with "soda-straw" mouthparts are restricted to liquid diets. As might be expected, water is the chief constituent of such diets (for example, nectars contain as much as 80 percent water) (Scott, 1986). Those butterflies that are classified as "frugivorous," that is, exhibit a diet derived from plant exudates such as fermenting fruits and saps, aphid honeydew, wood fluids, dissolved pollen, as well as animal based products such as dung, carrion, urine, blood, perspiration, and even tears, receive a considerable amount of water from their seemingly "solid" diets (DeVries, 1987; Uehara-Prado, et al., 2005). Consequently, rank and file butterflies do not normally drink-a behavior commonly understood to be a supplementation of diet with more or less pure water. Even "puddling," the phenomenon in which male butterflies congregate at damp spots on the ground. is now understood to be a behavior for procuring specific minerals, salts, and nitrogenous compounds that are in solution within damp soil at a particular location because of seepage, pooling, spillage or animal excretion/defecation (Boggs, 1998; Ross, 1998; 2001a, 2001b; Schappert, 2004; Scott, 1986), and not an attempt to gather water per se.

However, with the discovery of the overwintering sites of the monarch butterfly (*Danaus plexippus* Linnaeus) (Nymphalidae: Danainae) in the highlands of central Mexico, researchers have learned that many monarchs do indeed drink water when they become physiologically stressed due to dehydration (Masters, *et al.*, 1988; Schappert, 2004). The water restores the butterflies' internal hydraulic systems and maintains crucial metabolic processes. Between 1995 and 2002, I was able to document 29 individual butterflies representing five species procuring water. These are:

1. Diana fritillary—*Speyeria diana* (Cramer), Nymphalidae: Heliconiinae) in northwest Arkansas (four females).

2. Great spangled fritillary—S. cybele (Fabr.), Nymphalidae: Heliconiinae) in northwest Arkansas (five females).

3. Regal fritillary—*S. idalia* (Drury), Nymphalidae: Heliconiinae) in southwest Missouri (one male, five females).

4. Gulf fritillary—*Agraulis vanillae* (L.), Nymphalidae: Heliconiinae) in southeast Louisiana (one male, four females).

5. Monarch—*Danaus plexippus* (L.), Nymphalidae: Danainae) in southwest Louisiana (two males, seven females).

Of these 29 individuals, 14 individuals of the three species of *Speyeria* were imbibing morning dew coating ground thatch in semi-shaded meadows; one female *S. idalia* was siphoning from damp sand along a semi-shaded creek; all five individuals of *Agraulis* were siphoning from recently hose-sprinkled gravel in a sunny butterfly garden; and the nine individuals of *Danaus* were siphoning from a sunny, sandy beach bordering the Gulf of Mexico.

All observations occurred between mid September and early October, during morning hours (900-1030 CDT), on cloudless days, with daytime temperatures between 22-24° C (72-75° F), nighttime temperatures between 10-13° C (50-55° F), low relative humidity (20– 30%), mild northeast breezes, and with high air pressure dominating. These weather conditions resulted from the passage of a strong, dry cold front one to two days prior to the observations. Although the temperature and relative humidity readings are not extreme for some parts of the U.S., they are below normal for the lower Mid West and Gulf South for early autumn.

In an effort to explain these phenomena, I offer here my experiences with A. vanillae in my personal butterfly garden in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. At approximately 700 CDT on the morning of September 15, 1999, I noticed that many of the plants in my butterfly garden had wilted. This was due to the city experiencing an exceptionally long draught, compounded by the recent passage of a dry cold front that dropped the relative humidity to almost unheard of figures for southern Louisiana. (For example, on September 15, the 600 CDT weather report for Baton Rouge cited a relative humidity of 47 percent, which decreased to a record-setting 26 percent by 1800 CDT.) Consequently, at approximately 900 CDT I hosed down the garden-including the gravel walkways. At approximately 1000 CDT the ambient temperature had climbed to 20° C (68° F). During a walk through the garden I noticed three females of A. vanillae basking on the gravel walkways. The butterflies were very worn in appearance, and each had its proboscis extended as if siphoning remnant traces of water. By noon the butterflies had given up their drinking behavior and had relocated to flowers to feed on nectars. The following day was equally dry, and so I repeated the early morning watering. By mid morning a single female and a single male, both worn, were drinking from the moisture-rich gravel. But by the third day, temperatures and relative humidity

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Volume 47, Number 4

## Meeting of the Lepidopterists' Society and the Southeastern Arizona Chapter of NABA Sierra Vista, AZ, August 2-7, 2005

## Key:

1. Tom Emmel; 2. Sarah Garrett (?); 3. Marjorie Thomas; 4. Raymond Thomas; 5. Esperanza Kral; 6. Thomas Kral; 7. Jim Brock; 8. Bob Borth; 9. Doug Rendell; 10. John Roberts; 11. Sarah Arnold; 12. Rick Gillmore; 13. Scott Smedley; 14. Barbara Ribble; 15. Eric Metzler; 16. Pat Metzler; 17. Brandon Kalthoff; 18. Stephanie Kelley; 19. Scott Kelley; 20. Susan Kelley; 21. Krushnameg Kunte; 22. Eleaner Adams; 23. James Adams; 24. Sonia Ortiz; 25. Peter Hubble; 26. Paul Opler; 27. Kenelm Philip; 28. Jeanne Leuschner; 29. Susan Weller; 30. Betty Anne Philip; 31. Doris Brown & "Willow": 32. Joy Anne Cohen; 33. Ed Cohen; 34. Karolis Bagdonas; 35. Sue Anderson; 36. Carol (from N.Y.); 37. Albert Thurman; 38. Hank Brodkin; 39. April Day; 40. Priscilla Brodkin; 41. Ken Davenport; 42. Sarah Burns; 43. Bob Iveson; 44. MaryHelen Quinn; 45. John Burns; 46. Kim Garwood; 47. Deborah Matthews Lott; 48. Patricia Price; 49. Annie Lott; 50. William Howe; 51. Bob Pyle; 52. Thea Pyle; 53. Robert Brewer; 54. Robert Ekin; 55. Louise Fall; 56. Ron Hodges; 57. Elaine Hodges; 58. Don Stillwaugh; 59. Edward Barrows; 60. Richard Funk; 61. John Peacock; 62. Mike Collins; 63. Michael Klein; 64. Carmen Pozo; 65. Jose-Luis Salinas-Gutierrez; 66. Manuel Lara-Balcazar; 67. Charlie Covell; 68. Armando Luis-Martinez; 69. Nancy Brewer: 70. Vazrick Nazari; 71. Karl Gardener; 72. Rebecca Simmons; 73. Mary Klinkel; 74. Marie Diernaes; 75. June Preston; 76. John Lill; 77. Floyd Preston; 78. Mike Singer; 79. Stanley Gorodenski; 80. Pamela Mowbrae-Graeme; 81. John Calhoun; 82. Davin Bagdonas; 83. Helena-Maija Bagdonas; 84. Wanda Dameron; 85. William Patterson; 86. Alex Jordan; 87. Kit Stanford; 88. Kilian Roever; 89. Dave Lawrie; 90. (?); 91. Bill Bouton; 92. Carrie Siems (?); 93. Peter Jump; 94. Deanne Bowers; 95. Michelle daCosta; 96. Mike Nelson; 97. Bob Behrstock; 98. Jadranka Rota; 99. (?); 100. Kim Davis; 101. Mike Stangeland; 102. Jennifer Zaspel; 103. Yuri Caspi; 104. Mike Toliver; 105. Paul Goldstein; 106. Markku Savela; 107. Paul Johnson; 108. Mike Quinn; 109. Bruce Wiley; 110. Caitlin LaBar; 111. Wavne Whaley; 112. Reed Watkins; 113. Fred Heath; 114. Ray Nagle; 115. Gary Gier; 116. (?); 117. Steve Kohler; 118. Gunnar Brehm; 119. Dan Papaj; 120. Hugh McGuiness; 121. Ernest Williams; 122. Emilie Snell-Rood: 123. Emily Saarinen: 124. Todd Gilligan: 125. Steve Spomer: 126. Mike Gilligan: 127. John Shuey: 128. Joseph Scheer: 129. Amanda Roe: 130. Dave Ritland; 131. Jeff Slotten; 132. Craig Rudolph; 133. Burr Satterfield; 134. Sally Warren; 135. Ron Leuschner; 136. Kelly Richers; 137. Akemi Hatakeyama; 138. David Powell; 139. Fred Stehr; 140. Jerry Powell; 141. Sarah E. Garrett; 142A. Bruce Webb; 142B. (?); 143A. Mike Overton; 143B. Jim Dunford; 144. (?); 145. Don Rolfs; 146. John Acorn; 147. Felix Sperling; 148. Ray Stanford; 149. James Hayden; 150. Ron Gatrelle; 151. Andy Brower; 152. Vernon Covlin; 153. Richard Brown; 154. "Ranger" Steve Mueller; 155. (?); 156. Jonathan Pelham; 157. (?); 158. Todd Stout; 159. (?): 160. Andy Warren: 161. Brian Scholtens: 162. Jim Danzenbaker: 163. Jackie Miller: 164. John Snyder: 165. Christian Schmidt: 166. Thomas Simonsen; 167. Gary Anweiler; 168. Andre Sourakov; 169. John Masters; 170. John Lane; 171. Cristina Francois; 172. Jim Taylor; 173. George Ballogh: 174. Carrie Siems (?): 175. (?): 176. Jennifer Matos: 177. Sue Perry: 178. Lee Miller: 179. Mike Fisher.

#### Not pictured or not ID'd:

Jim Anderson; Charles Bordelon; Tony Thomas; Morina Thomas; Akito Kawahara; Kara Anderson; Robert Nuelle III; Ken Bliss; Robert Thacker; Valeriu Albu; Rosemarie Seidler; Thomas Smith; Mary Shepherd; DeAnne Rushall; Grace Boender; Ronald Boender; Liz Parzych; Sarah Bach; Don Hahn; John Gruber; Claude Edwards; Val Albu; Dennis Currutt; Alma Solis; Bill Swisher; Vinetta Swisher...and more.

#### Notes:

There are 182 of the 276 registered (including cancellations) attendees in the group picture. Paul Opler and Evi Buckner-Opler would like to thank Albert Thurman for his organizational skills and efforts, without which there would not have been a group photo at all. Evi sent her own version of the photo (seen here) so that Albert would also be in the photo (#37). Paul & Evi also request that if you know any of the unidentifieds ((?) or find or can clarify any errors that you let them know as soon as possible at *paulevi@webaccess.net*.

#### Mylon...continued from pp. 106

M. jason from Mexico (e.g., Hoffmann 1941, Llorente *et al.* 1990, Warren 2000) must be reevaluated, although it is likely that it also occurs in eastern Mexico, since it is known from nearby in Guatemala. Therefore, it is important that all individuals in the *Mylon pelopidas* Group from eastern Mexico are determined through genitalic examination, and not by superficial external phenotypes, in order to clarify the distributions of these three species in Mexico.

#### Acknowledgements

ADW thanks Daniel Janzen for discussions regarding immatures of Costa Rican skippers in general, and Mylon in particular. We also thank Jim Brock for discussions and information, and Olaf Mielke and Jonathan Pelham for comments on an early draft of this paper, and for copies of important literature. Thanks also to Ted Edwards and Michael Braby for information on the Drury collection in Sydney, Australia.

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#### Drink....continued from page 107

were more typical (higher), and I observed no butterflies on the gravel; many however, were feeding on flowers. I think it important to note that during the two inordinately dry days, butterfly activity within my garden was exceptionally high—I logged in 22 species and approximately 60 individuals. In fact, even though the garden became shaded by late afternoon, individuals of seven species—Hermeuptychia hermes (Fabr.) (Nymphalidae: Satyrinae), Junonia coenia Hub. (Nymphalidae: Nymphalinae), Calycopis cecrops (Fabr.) (Lycaenidae: Theclinae), Epargyreus clarus (Cramer) (Hesperiidae: Pyrginae), Hylephila phyleus (Drury) (Hesperiidae: Hesperiinae), Atalopedes campestris (Boisd.) (Hesperiidae: Hesperiinae), and A. vanillae-continued to nectar on Vernonia altissima Nutt. (Asteraceae) and Lantana camara L. (Verbenaceae) until the unprecedented late hour of 1830 CDT. It was as if the butterflies were exploiting the last possible moments of daylight to secure nourishment.

I was initially tempted to interpret my observations as nothing more than examples of puddling behavior. However, the vast majority of individuals were females, not males as is typical with puddling. Additionally, past experiences in Louisiana over my lifetime indicated that on those autumn days when relative humidity is exceptionally low and air pressure is unusually high (descending air), butterflies in general are hyperactive and remain airborne beyond their typical flight period for the season. Unfortunately, my observations did not include an intensive search for drinking behavior elsewhere. But the butterflies' general behavior within my garden is, I think, still relevant.

Therefore, I offer the following as a plausible explanation for my observations. As with virtually all biological species, butterflies are superbly adapted to their particular niches and ecosystems. Under normal circumstances, a butterfly's liquid diet is sufficient to supply all metabolic demands for water. But when an unusual ambient condition arises—a day when humidity is extremely low and temperatures warm or even exceptionally high-body moisture is lost at a rate far greater than it can be replenished by normal feeding activity. Since egg production utilizes considerable quantities of water and oviposition behavior consumes extensive energy, females are particularly vulnerable to dehydration. In an effort to replenish depleted reserves, females are more prone than males to drink. And so, butterfly gardenerseven those in the Deep South-should pay close attention to weather conditions, especially during the fall season. Then, the creation of simple watering stations such as wet sand, gravel, or soil, may at times be more important to scaly-winged visitors than any particular offering of flower nectars.

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The Lepidoptera Research Foundation Announces...

# The Hovanitz Memorial Award Program For Student Research Grants

#### Initiation

During the recent meeting of ELEN at Contact Rudi Mattoni (mattoni@ Campinas, Brazil, three board members members, Konrad Fiedler, Rudi Mattoni and Andy Warren met and discussed issues regarding the future of the Lepidoptera Research Foundation and the Journal of Research on the Lepidoptera (JRL). A decision was reached and subsequently endorsed by remaining board members Dan Rubinoff and Jeremiah George to establish an award program that will provide funding to students worldwide to support their study projects. The initiative was inspired by the high quality of work presented by young lepidopterists at the meeting as well as the enthusiasm exhibited by the hundred or so students in attendance. Recognition of difficulty for funding among students of the less developed nations was an emphatic issue.

#### Level of support

Because the current financial situation of the Foundation is strong, the board has made the decision to allocate an initial \$5,000 for an annual grant program to students at all academic levels engaged in studies of Lepidoptera. The grants should not exceed \$1000 each with applicants in non-wealthy countries given highest priority. Consideration will be given applicants with special hardships in wealthy countries.

#### Eligibility

Applicants must be enrolled students at accredited Universities or Colleges. There is no age limit. Preference is for graduate level research, but is not restricted to graduate level. Postdoctoral research is not included.

#### Application

ucla.edu) for an application. Applicants must submit a maximum 500 word description of their project, including a description of its significance. Where appropriate there must be a clear statement of hypothesis to be tested. A separate literature citation should be appended. A brief vita, stating academic status and at least one letter of recommendation must be included. There must be a budget. The entire submission will be electronic, preferably using Word with 12 point Times Roman type, right margin not justified.

#### Scope

Any aspect of research concerning Lepidoptera is suitable. Evolutionary and conservation aspects should be emphasized, as we recognize "natural history" approaches as valuable in the politically popular molecular biology of today. Strong statistical backgrounds will be rewarded.

#### **Evaluation**

An international panel of professionals will evaluate all proposals. Should the total of meritorious proposals exceed funding available, grant amounts may be proportionately reduced to distribute some funding to all acceptable submissions.

#### Reports

A brief final report will be expected from all awardees. Further details will be provided.

#### **Submission**

Applications are now acceptable and will be open until further notice.. They should be transmitted to Rudi Mattoni (mattoni@ucla.edu).

We believe this program will have significant impact on the future development of the study of Lepidoptera. We strongly feel there is no better way to use our funding resources. We will further actively seek expanded membership and contributions to expand the awards program.

#### **Further Annoucements**

1) The foundation will be directed by a four person board (Konrad Fiedler (U. Vienna), Dan Rubinoff (U. Hawaii), Jeremiah George (U. California/Riverside), and Rudi Mattoni).

2) Andrew Warren (Oregon State U.) will become editor of the Journal of Research on the Lepidoptera (JRL). He will be responsible for all editorial matters, but will not be available full time until early 2006. The editor is an ex officio member of the board.

3) The foundation will continue to provide a venue for publication of special monographic works. We have accepted for review the manuscript by Jon Pelham, Catalogue of the Butterflies and Skippers of the United States and Canada. Every effort will be made to publish this work by year-end.

4) We welcome your membership in the foundation. This will not only support the JRL, but also assure continuation of a strong awards program. Note that all past JRL issues are available at www.doylegroup.harvard.edu/ ~carlo/JRL/jrl.html. Click on contents for access to our 5000 page archive as pdf files. Data on foundation organization is not up-to-date.

5) To receive an application email mattoni@ucla.edu. Note that we plan our own website to provide all pertinent information in one place.

# The Lepidopterists' Society Standing Committees

James Adams,

Past-President

While I was president (2005-2006), I received a request from John Masters to make both the committees and membership on them a bit more widely publicized than they apparently are—I agreed to do so. As the committees clearly work (or should be working) for you (the membership) then there is no doubt that you should be able to find out who is on the committees.

Additionally, John suggested that there are some of you out there who would like to know how to become a member of one (or more) of the committees. As such, if becoming more involved interests you, be sure to contact me or current president, Felix Sperling, and we will be happy to see what we can do.

Last but not least, if you see your name on one of the committees and you no longer wish to be on that committee, also be sure to contact either me or Felix. What follows is a list of committees and committee members as of the meetings in Sierra Vista, AZ in August of 2005. As far as I know, the composition of the committees has not changed since. There is not a precise number requirement for each committee.

#### **Budget & Publications Committee**

2007

2006 2007 2007

Carla Penz, Chair
Kelly Richers, Treasurer
Andy Brower
Ron Rutowski
Bo Sullivan

#### **Membership Committee**

Gary Anweiler, Chair
John Acorn
Akito Kawahara
John Masters
Eric Runquist
Brian Scholtens
Dave Wagner
Wayne Wehling

#### **Meetings Committee**

Astrid Caldas, Chair	2007
Susan Weller	2006

(Jackie Miller is the arrangements coordinator for the upcoming meeting in 2006 at the McGuire Center in Gainesville, Florida)

#### **Education Committee**

Bill Conner, Chair	2007
James Adams (Web Committee re	ep.)
Dave Ahrenholz	2007
Mandy Heddle	2006
John Lane	2007
Jackie Miller	2007
Bob Pyle	2007
Byron Weber	2006
Martha Weiss	2006
Ernest Williams	2007

#### Awards Committee

Becky Simmons, Chair	2006
Charlie Covell	2006
Sybil Bucheli	2007
Amanda Roe	2007
Susan Weller	2007

#### **Records (Archives) Committee**

Marc Epstein, Chair	2007
Ernest Williams, Secretary	7
Charlie Covell	2007
Julian Donahue, Asst. Sec	./Librarian
Ron Leuschner, Back Issu	es Mgr.
Dave Lohman	2007
Web and Technology Co	mmittee

	John Snyder, Chair (Web Ed	ditor)		
	James Adams	2006		
2007	Larry Gall	2006		
2006	Dave Lohman	2007		
2006	Additional ad hoc committe	es may he		
2006	established as other needs arise, with			
2006	the chair of these committees			
2007	by the president and the m	* *		
2006	chosen by the chair/presiden	*		
2007	chosen by the chall/presider			

John Masters also asked me one more pertinent question—(paraphrasing) "How is the nominating committee chosen?" The nominating committee is the committee responsible for finding potential candidates (which you vote on) for the Lep Soc officers in a given year. John correctly pointed out that there is nothing formal in writing that states how the nominating committee is established each year.

I found out, as I am the chair of the nominating committee for the 2007-2008 slate, that the tradition of the Lepidopterists' Society is that the former president chairs the nominating committee to select candidates for the term one year removed from their terms. As such, the slate of candidates you will be selecting from for next year (2006-2007) will have been compiled by Susan Weller and her committee. The rest of the committee, who aid the chair in finding willing candidates, is selected by the chair.

I find this tradition to be an efficacious way to guarantee a nominating committee in place and on time, though if you have any problems with this process, don't hesitate to contact me or Felix with anything constructive you want to share.



#### Errata...

## News 47(3) Corrections

Ranger Steve Mueller writes that he labeled one of his photos incorrectly. On pp. 93, the photo 9 caption should read: "Todd Stout" (not "Doug Stout").

Also, I misidentified the subject of photo 4 on the same page, which should be a Golden-headed Scallopwing (*Staphylus ceos*) and not a Common Sootywing (*Pholisora catullus*).





The Society has learned of the deaths of the following member. Our condolences to his family...

## John H. Fales

of Ocean Pines, Maryland, on 27 October 2005. A native of Washington, DC, in 1972 Fales retired from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, Agricultural Research Center, Bureau of Entomology, where he had been employed since 1938. His work included research on new pesticides and application methods, and was a member of a three-man team that developed aerosol insecticides. In later years he became interested in Lepidoptera, especially those of Maryland, and birds. He was a member of The Lepidopterists' Society from 1951 until his death. He is survived by his wife of 66 years, Betty Fales, a son, two grandchildren, and a great-granddaughter. [from a published obituary submitted by Robert K. Robbins]

# A Signature Worth A Thousand Words

#### John Calhoun

977 Wicks Drive, Palm Harbor, Florida 34684, John.Calhoun@SempermedUSA.com

There continues to be much debate about the surname of early American naturalist John Eatton Le Conte, Jr. (1784-1860). Published variations of his name include "Leconte", "LeConte", "Le Conte", and even "LeCompte". French lepidopterist Jean B. A. D. de Boisduval spelled it "Leconte" on the title page of the book they co-authored on Lepidoptera (Boisduval & Le Conte 1829-[1837]). Rehn (1954) insisted that the family preferred "Leconte," but Cowan (1969) argued that this was the version used by earlier Huguenot family members before they fled France (perhaps explaining Boisduval's spelling). In Calhoun (2003) I discussed this issue and noted that librarians of the American Philosophical Society, where many of John Eatton's documents are deposited, consider "Le Conte" to be the correct version.

John E. Le Conte's signature was reproduced on the frontispiece of the second volume of Scudder (1888-1889). To show that he consistently spelled his name "Le Conte," I present three more of his signatures, reproduced from letters written to entomologist Thaddeus W. Harris in 1829, 1830, and 1840 (Harris correspondence, Ernst Mayr Library of the Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University; microfilm copies at the American Philosophical Society). Despite the published variations, he obviously considered his name to be "John Le Conte."

#### Acknowledgements

Thanks to the librarians of the American Philosophical Society, Philadelphia, for allowing access to materials during my visit. Thanks also to Robert Young and Dana Fisher of the Ernst Mayr Library of the Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University, for permission to reproduce the signatures.

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hu Le 2 3

John Eatton Le Conte signatures from letters to T. W. Harris. 1, Dec. 7, 1829. 2, March 12, 1830. 3, July 13, 140.

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# 2006 Meeting of the Lepidopterists' Society co-hosted with the Southern Lepidopterists' Society and the Association for Tropical Lepidoptera

## McGuire Center for Lepidoptera & Biodiversity, Gainesville, Florida. June 14-18, 2006

The McGuire Center and the University of Florida invite preceding the meetings. Information for this workshop will you to the 57<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Lepidopterists' Society in conjunction with the Southern Lepidopterists' Society and the Association for Tropical Lepidoptera. It is now time to prepare for these joint meetings of the above societies at the Hilton University of Florida Conference Center in Gainesville, a city noted for its green canopy of magnolias, oaks, and pines in north-central Florida. The meeting will be one day longer than the usual to accommodate the many special events scheduled during these meetings.

The tentative schedule will include separate field trips for photographers/watchers and collectors on June 13th and 14th, and a potential moth field trip on the evening of June 15<sup>th</sup>. Please note that the number of participants associated with each field trip will be limited. On June 14th, there will be a late afternoon reception and a visit to Butterfly Rain Forest at the McGuire Center, and slide-fest (limit of seven slides/ person) that evening. The formal presentations and poster sessions will run June 15th through the morning of June 18th and an author's book signing on the afternoon of June 17<sup>th</sup>. Other special events will include a barbecue on June 16<sup>th</sup>, banquet on June 17<sup>th</sup>, and the business meeting on June 18<sup>th</sup>. In addition to the above events, 4-H leaders and teachers are invited to participate in a special workshop sponsored by the Education Committee of the Lepidopterists' Society in conjunction with the Project Wings on Tuesday, June 13th,

appear the McGuire and Lepidopterists' Society websites. So we recommend that you register and sign up for these meetings early!

Registration information and further updates will be available on the Lepidopterists' Society website (www.lepsoc.org) and also on the following pages of this issue of the News, the Southern Lepidopterists' News, Lepidoptera News (ATL), and various list serves. Rooms have been reserved at four hotel/motels within or near to the Hilton University of Florida Conference Center. Please see the list and associated amenities provided under housing below. Please note that registrants should make room reservations as early as possible directly with these firms, and all room blocks will be released prior to the dates of the meetings.

Individuals interested in the formal program should contact either Drs. Thomas C. Emmel (*tcemmel@flmnh.ufl.edu*) or Jacqueline Y. Miller (jmiller@flmnh.ufl.edu). For local arrangements, please contact Jacqueline Miller. Plans have been made for pre- and post-meeting trips for local collecting. In addition, post-meeting trips to Madagascar and Costa Rica are also planned.

We look forward to seeing you in Gainesville in June 2006!

Thomas C. Emmel and Jacqueline Y. Miller

## **Local Arrangements:**

#### **Travel:**

Gainesville is located approximately 82 mi. southwest of Jacksonville, 110 mi. northwest of Orlando, and 120 mi. northeast of Tampa. Gainesville does have a local airport and if arriving by air, we suggest that you check the options for less expensive flights, especially for international flights. There are Gainesville airport shuttles for two of the host hotels, and please make arrangements directly with the hotel in advance. Airport shuttle service is available from Orlando. Please contact Lake Limo (1 800 448 2808; www.lakelimo.net). Also check the car rental costs for comparative prices.

Directions to the Hilton University of Florida Conference Center: Take Exit 384 (Archer Road) off I-75 and go east to 34th street. Turn left off Archer. Go north and turn left at the third stoplight. The Hilton Hotel and Conference Center Complex is on your left. For those coming from the south, take Exit 382 (Williston Road) to the stoplight, turn left to the next stoplight (34th St.). Turn left and go north until 34th crosses Archer Road and follow directions listed above. The Hilton University of Florida Hotel and Conference Center is located at 1714 SW 34th Street. The McGuire Center for Lepidoptera and Biodiversity is located to the east (right) off Hull Road in the Cultural Plaza. There is ample free parking at the Conference Center. All formal sessions will take place at the Hilton Hotel Conference Center.

continued on pp. 118

## Registration

#### for 2006 Joint Meetings of the Lepidopterists' Society, Southern Lepidopterists' Society, and the Association for Tropical Lepidoptera

#### Hilton University of Florida Conference Center and the McGuire Center for Lepidoptera and Biodiversity, Gainesville, Florida 14-18 June 2006

Last name:	, First name and initial	
	amily/group members	
	P. O. Box:	
	State/province and postal code:Country	
e-mail	Phone	
Institution or affil	iation for name tag:	
	ionWill require shuttle to meeting events	
Registration fee in	ludes breaks, program, and other registration materials.	
1) Number of per-	ons x \$95 (before May 15, 2006; after May 15 <sup>th</sup> , \$110)\$\$	
2) Number of stud	ents x \$70 (before May 15, 2006; after May 15 <sup>th</sup> , \$85)	
	ue, Friday evening, includes dinner and non-alcoholic beverage, reservations (Deadline June 1 <sup>st</sup> )\$\$	
	t includes tax and gratuity, buffet with vegetarian options, (Deadline, June 1 <sup>st</sup> )\$\$	
Payment for banqu	et and barbecue due no later than June $1^{st}$	
Field trips, \$6 for 1	unch and beverage per person. Limited space\$\$	
Total enclosed		

Make check payable to: LepSoc2006 Conference and mail to Dr. Jacqueline Miller, LepSoc2006, McGuire Center for Lepidoptera and Biodiversity, Florida Museum of Natural History, University of Florida, P. O. Box 112710, Gainesville, FL 32611-2710. Registration cancellations after 1 June will be subject to a \$25 cancellation fee; otherwise, refunds will be considered on an individual basis. NOTE: At the time of the conference, registration capability will be limited to the formal sessions only. Event tickets, if any, may be limited.

## **Field Trip Registration**

Last name:	, First name and initial		
City:	State/province and postal code:Country		
e-mail			
	ee pp. 118) is required for all field trip participants (see below)		
I (we) plan to attend a field trip on J	ne 13 <sup>th</sup> (box lunch \$6 per person)\$_		
I (we) plan to attend a field trip on J	ne 14 <sup>th</sup> (box lunch \$6 per person)		
I (we) plan to attend a field trip follo I am interested in a trip where collect			

I am interesting in a trip where photography/observation is the main activity \_\_\_\_

There is no charge for the above field trips. A box or bag lunch and beverage will be available for \$6. Mail completed form and check to LepSoc2006, Dr. Jacqueline Miller, McGuire Center for Lepidoptera and Biodiversity, University of Florida, P. O. Box 112710, Gainesville, FL 32611-2710. Participants will be asked to car-pool in their own vehicles. Current plans for local collection thus far include a trip to the area in Apopka close to the University IFAS Station, the Ordway Research Station northeast of the University, and the Goethe Forest west of Gainesville. Other opportunities for local collecting are under investigation.

## **Call for Contributed Papers**

#### 2006 Joint Meetings of the Lepidopterists' Society, Southern Lepidopterists' Society, and the Association for Tropical Lepidoptera

#### 14-18 June 2006

#### Hilton University of Florida Conference Center and the McGuire Center for Lepidoptera and Biodiversity, Gainesville, Florida

Name:				
Address or P. O. Box:				
Phone:	Fax:		email:	
Please check :Poster	Student Paper	Powerpoint	35 mm Projector	
Please type both title and abs	tract, and limit the abs	stract to 125 word	s or less	
Title:				

Abstract:

Due to the anticipated heavy attendance at these meetings, only one Contributed Paper may be submitted per person. Each Contributed Paper is limited to a total of 15 minutes (12 minutes for the formal presentation and three minutes for questions). The deadline is 1 May 2006 for Contributed Papers, and this completed form, including the title and abstract must be received by the deadline for inclusion in the printed program. To expedite this process, please send and email a Word or Text file of your title/abstract to Jacqueline Miller (*jmiller@flmnh.ufl.edu*) when you send this completed form to:

Dr. Jacqueline Miller, LepSoc2006, McGuire Center for Lepidoptera & Biodiversity, University of Florida, P. O. Box 112710, Gainesville, FL 32611-2710.

Contributed Papers are scheduled for 15-18 June 2006 with most of these scheduled 15-17 June. We hope to have a preliminary schedule of the presentations available on the LepSoc website on or before 1 June. All formal presentation sessions will be held at the Hilton University of Florida Conference Center with posters set up in a separate room. Other activities will occur at the McGuire Center for Lepidoptera and Biodiversity across the street.

In addition to LCD and 35 mm slide projectors, an overhead transparency projector can be made available. Arrangements for the latter and other special equipment should be made well in advance of the meetings in order to keep equipment costs to a minimum.

#### Local Arrangements...continued from pp. 115

Arrangements have been made shuttle transport to the Conference Center for the selected off-site hotels. Buses will run one hour prior to the start of the formal sessions in the morning, and then again one hour following the meetings in the evening. The shuttle will also be available for transport to the evening barbecue.

#### **Housing & Food:**

Approximately 50 + rooms have blocked at the Hilton and three other hotels/motels are located conveniently on SW 40<sup>th</sup> Boulevard, north of Archer Road. Since all events will be held at the Hilton Conference Center, we recommend that registrants stay there, where a block of rooms at a special rate has been arranged. Please note the cut-off dates for each, and registrants should make all reservations directly with the selected hotels. Please check below for amenities included.

Please fill in the space on the registration form where you plan to stay during the meetings. Since registrants will be staying in several hotels, it will be easier to locate you in case of an emergency or if another registrant wants to contact you.

Lunches and two evening meals are not included in the registration fee. Albert's Restaurant is available in the Hilton, and there is a restaurant on the lower level of the Harn Museum in the Cultural Plaza across the street. There are number of small restaurants within walking distance and off of Archer Road. A list of local restaurants will also be provided.

#### **Campgrounds:**

There are several campgrounds in the area, but none directly in Gainesville. Please check the website (*www.lepsoc.org*) for additional information.

#### **Field trips**

Field trips are planned for Tuesday and Wednesday (June 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>). A post meeting local trip is planned if there is sufficient interest. The trips will include trips for observation and photography as well as collecting, and please check the Lep. Soc. website for additional information. Registration for the trips is listed on a separate form and includes a liability release that must be submitted no later than May 20<sup>th</sup>. These trips will be on a first-come basis, and we cannot guarantee that there will sufficient space for everyone. Box lunches will be available at the cost of \$6 for all field participants, but participants are responsible for their own sunscreen, raingear, and water. Florida is noted for high humidity and warm temperatures. We suggest that attendees plan accordingly.

Two other post-meeting trips are planned to Madagascar and Costa Rica. Please contact Expedition Travel, Inc., and call Court Whelan at (352) 871 2710 for further information.

#### Local Attractions:

There are many local attractions on campus. The Florida Museum of Natural History at Powell Hall, Harn Museum of Art, and the McGuire Center for Lepidoptera and Biodiversity are located in the UF Cultural Plaza. In addition, there are many natural sites including the Devil's Millhopper, Payne's Prairie, and San Felasco Hammock nearby as well as many historical sites in Gainesville proper. Additional information is available on the Gainesville Visitor Bureau website (www.visitgainesville.net) and will be available in the registration packet.

#### **McGuire Collections**

Those who wish to examine specimens for research projects should make arrangements three weeks in advance of these meetings with George Austin (gaustin@flmnh.ufl.edu). Please indicate which groups or surveys you would like to examine so that we can organize the locations of these specimens.

#### **Release from liability**

I release the Lepidopterists' Society, the Southern Lepidopterists' Society, and the Association for Tropical Lepidoptera, their officers, and the field trip leaders from any liability that may result from my participation in field trips connected with the 2006 combined meetings of the above societies at the University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida. I understand that I may be driven in a private vehicle and that there are potential hazards on any field trip. I assume all responsibility, personal and financial, for any accidents or other personal injury or loss on any field trip in which I participate.

Name (printed) \_\_\_\_ Date

Signature

# Membership Update...

Julian Donahue

This update includes all changes received by 11 November 2005.

#### **New and Reinstated Members**

members who have joined/renewed/been found/or rescinded their request to be omitted since publication of the 2004 Membership Directory (not included in the 2004 Membership Directory; all in U.S.A. unless noted otherwise)

Betros, Betsy: 5310 Woodson Road, Mission, KS 66202-1927.

**Braune**, **Joan** (Ms.): [address omitted by request]

Chapman, Mike: 129 Seminole Road, Brunswick, GA 31525-8567.

Daniels, Jaret C. (Ph.D.): 9861 SW 55<sup>th</sup> Road, Gainesville, FL 32608-4336. **Ekin, Robert J.:** 6833 Freemont

Street, Boise, ID 83704-8626. Flannery, Roderick: 317 Wesley Drive, Chapel Hill, NC 27516-1520.

Francois, Cristina: 1244 DeSoto Street, Placentia, CA 92870-3903.

**Garrett, Sarah** (Miss): 678 Irving Street, Apt. 1, Winston Salem, NC 27103-3755.

**Garris, Heath:** Box 29131, Furman University, 3300 Poinsett Highway, Greenville, SC 29613-1000.

Halbedel, Elaine M.: HC 2, Box 7520, Sells, AZ 85634-9740.

Harris, Cardice: 5201 Wailea Drive, Bakersfield, CA 93312-8269.

Harris, Lowell N. (M.D.): 3092 Nelson Drive, Lakewood, CO 80215-7155.

Jordan, Alex: 5006 Lawndale Drive, Unit K, Greensboro, NC 27455-2252. McDermott, James (Ed. D.): 15478

FM 2860, Kaufman, TX 75142-7927. Pelham, Jonathan P: 5106 238<sup>th</sup>

Place SW, Mountlake Terrace, WA 98043-5339.

**Pocewicz, Amy:** 710 Mabelle Street, Moscow, ID 83843-3523.

Sharp, Millard H.: 2304 Ivylgail Drive East, Jacksonville, FL 32225-2010.

Tenney, Chris: 1430 Manor Place, Monterey, CA 93940-4911.

**Thayer, Jim:** 6327 South 72<sup>nd</sup> East Place, Tulsa, OK 74133-1118.

Thomas, Pat (Ph.D.): 6219 East Superior Street, Duluth, MN 55804-2543.

**Tyler, John:** 4102 West Greenwood Place, Denver, CO 80236-2441.

**Wildman, Ann E.** (Ms.): 3102 SW 125<sup>th</sup> Street, Archer, FL 32618-2111.

#### Address Changes

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

**Casdorph, David G.:** P.O. Box 419, Middlesex, NJ 08846-0419.

Cassel, William S. (M.D.): 7501 NorthNebo Road, Muncie, IN 47304-9068.

**Chilcote, Charley A.:** 8731 Wintergreen Street, Lansing, MI 48917-8802.

**De Swarte, David H.:** 1542 Murphy Circle SW #526B, Atlanta, GA 30310-5117.

**Fothergill, Kent:** PMB 159, 780 Twin Falls Avenue, Twin Falls, ID 83301-3316.

Misquitta, Lisa Vice: 2142 Ridgeview Road, Columbus, OH 43221-2768.

**Mueller, S.J.,** Director: Howard Christensen Nature Center, 2930 Knapp Street NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49525-4518.

**Orwig, Timothy T.:** 409 Common Street, Walpole, MA 02081-3307.

**Pfeiler, Edward J.** (Dr.): CIAD, A.C., Apartado Postal 284, Guaymas, Sonora, C.P. 85480, **Mexico.** 

Reed, Chip: P.O. Box 336, Lundbreck, Alberta T0K 1H0, Canada.

Severns, Paul: 242 North 15<sup>th</sup> Street, Philomath, OR 97370-9415.

Van Buskirk, Michael D.: P.O. Box 1590, Helotes, TX 78023-1590.

Wiedemann, Hal: 501 Lake Shore Drive, Apt. 204, Lake Park, FL 33403-3516.

**Zebold, Roger A.:** 354 Wendy Lane, Waverly, OH 45690-1559.

#### Announcement...

### 2006 Meeting of the Pacific Slope Section of The Lepidopterists' Society

The 2006 Pacific Slope Section meeting of The Lepidopterists' Society will be hosted by the Utah Lepidopterists' Society at the Great Basin Environmental Education Center, GBEEC, near the top of Ephraim Canyon, Sanpete County, Utah. The meeting will be held from Friday, 21 July 2006 through Sunday, 23 July 2006.

Papers submitted by ULS members will address the theme of "Aspects of Lepidoptera in Utah" where we will introduce the state on historic, physiographic, climatological, biological, and lepidoptera bases. Naturally, submitted papers outside of this theme will be highly appreciated as well.

A preview of Utah's biogeographical butterfly habitats is currently available online at *www.utahlepsociety.org/ habitat.html* 

Good collecting and observing are anticipated in the area of the camp, located in a forested basin at 8600 feet in elevation. There is also a nice diversity of butterflies and moths located in the nearby Wasatch Plateau, as well as at other nearby habitats.

Members of The Lepidopterists' Society living in the western U.S. will be contacted about the meeting. Others interested may contact Todd L. Stout, 1456 North General Drive, Salt Lake City, UT 84116; by phone at 801-322-2049; todd stout29@hotmail.com

Clyde F. Gillette & Todd L. Stout

ULS President & Vice President www.utahlepsociety.org

# The Marketplace

## **IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS:** If the number following your advertisement is "472" then you must renew your advertisement before the next issue! Remember that all revisions are required in writing.

#### **Books/Videos**

Now available direct from the author: Charlie Covell's **Field Guide to Moths of Eastern North America**. Slightly revised (improved black and white plates; introductory updating chapter added). Republished 2005 by Virginia Museum of Natural History. \$40.00 postpaid (media mail) in North America. Contact Charlie at: 207 NE 9th Ave., Gainesville, FL 32601-4378. (352) 846-2000, ext. 251, covell@louisville.edu

For Sale: Field Guide of Cuban-West Indies Butterflies by L. R: Hernández, 2004. 389 pages. + 31 color plates. Line drawings, maps, checklist. Softcover. \$59. Butterflies of Iran by V. Nazari. 2003. 564 pages incl. 74 color plates. Maps. Text figs. Text in Farsi. Scientific names for all species. Hardback. \$145. Butterflies of West Africa by T. B. Larsen. Publication Oct. 2005. Approx.

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**.

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. 900 pages incl. 130 color plates depicting 3905 specimens of nearly 1500 species. 2 hardback volumes. \$225. Color brochure available. Prices are excl. postage. Peder Skou, Kirkeby Sand 19, DK-5771 Stenstrup, Denmark, *apollobooks@vip.cybercity.dk* 472

#### Livestock

For Sale: Cocoons/ova of *Hyalophora cecropia*. Send SASE to Alan M. Vosefski, 3320 Old Kirkwood Dr., Virginia Beach, VA 23452. Enquiries may be made to 757-498-3168 or avosefski@vahoo.com. 473

For Sale (USA only): Cocoons/ova of Antheraea polyphemus, Callosamia promethea and Hyalophora cecropia. Send SASE to Karl Ploran, 110 Route 20, Chester, MA 01011-9642, or call 413-354-7852 any evening, 6-9 pm, Eastern Time. 473

#### Note: All advertisements must be renewed before the deadline of the third issue follwing initial placement 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. *Renew it Now!* 

Advertisements <u>must</u> 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. Eggs/Cocoons of northeastern North American Saturniidae, available at various times. Actias luna, Automeris io, Antheraea polyphemus, Callosamia angulifera, Callosamia promethea, Citheronia regalis, Hyalophora cecropia, Hyalophora columbia, Samia cynthia and various butterflies and Sphingidae. Bill Oehlke, Box 476, Mointague, PEI, COA 1R0, Canada, (902) 835-3455, **oehlkew@islandtelecom.com** 471

#### **Specimens**

Collection for Sale. About 146,000 butterflies, mostly North American, (about 38,000 mounted, 108,000 papered, including 1000+ paratypes), plus 2864 alcohol vials of immatures, 9000 slides, 414 drawers, 77 cabinets, 2000 pressed plants, etc. Offers wanted. Foreigners welcome. A three-way arrangement would work (rich patron buys collection for wholesale price and donates to museum for tax deduction).

Disputes arising from such notices must be resolved 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 Society, given adequate indication of dishonest activity.

Buyers, sellers, and traders are advised to contact your state department of agriculture and/ or PPQAPHIS, 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. French insect's dealer for 40 years look for Material from North America Buy or exchange Don't hesitate to contact me

> Richard SOUCIOU B.P. 11 79500 MELLE – FRANCE tél/fax : 549.27.16.08 email : souciou@club-internet.fr

James Scott, 60 Estes St., Lakewood, Colorado 80226-1254. 471

Wanted: A-1 papered Nymphalis antiopa f. hygiaea, Vanessa cardui f. elymi, Euphydryas rubicunda f. foxi, and any other semi-melanic "abberrants" of Lepidoptera. Unusual Papilio also wanted, esp. "smeary" types, mosaics, etc. Fred Bower, 288 Willow St., Spt. 53, Lockport, NY 14094. 471

Rich variety of Nymphalidae, Papilionidae from Africa available. List on request. Wanted: *Prepona* from South America. Giancarlo Veronese, Viale Venezia 138, 33100 Udine (Italia). *gc.veronese@virgilio.it*, FAX: ++39-0432-343654. 471

For Sale or Exchange: Rare Chinese swallowtails such as *Papilio syfanius*, *P. krishna*, *Bhutanitis* sp. List on request. Pan Zhimin, 2-603 Dong Xia Zincun, Quanzhou Fujian, 362000 China, *Coin\_flyin@sina.com*. 471

#### Equipment

Lepidoptera books and supplies (nets, spreading boards, envelopes, Cal Academy unit trays, pins, etc.). Send SASE to Dr. Eugene J. Gerberg, 5819 NW 57<sup>th</sup> Way, Gainesville, FL 23653 or email request for list to **genejg2**@ **aol.com** 

Light Traps, 12 volt DC or 110 volt AC with 18 inch length (15 & 25 Watt) and 24 inch length (20 & 40 Watt). All with 365 Quantum black light bulbs. Also available with ballast enclosed in weather tight cast aluminum enclosure and flourescent bulbs in clear shatter proof tube. Rigid vane assembly of stainless steel, aluminum or plexiglass. Portable, easy to use, with rain drains and beetle screens to protect specimens. For info contact; Leroy C. Koehn, 202 Redding Road, Georgetown, KY 40324-2622; Tel: 502-570-9123; Leptraps@ aol.com 471

Bait Traps, 15" Diameter, 36" tall collapsible traps with cloth top and plastic coated nylon screen and supported with 3/16 steel rings. A plywood platform is suspended with eye bolts and S-hooks. The bait container is held in place by a retainer. Three types are available: Flat Bottom, Invert funnel and Tropical. For info contact; Leroy C. Koehn, 202 Redding Road, Georgetown, KY 40324-2622; Tel: 502-570-9123; *Leptraps@aol.com* 471

#### **Help Offered**

Wish to collect legally in Costa Rica? I can help you obtain your Official Collecting Permit for the time of your stay. You would be allowed to collect anywhere (except National Parks). In Costa Rica you may collect species, in addition to residents, coming from the north (Mexico) and the south (South America). Moth collectors: we can rent you a portable generator. Eduardo Chumpitasi P.O.Box 1106-2150 Moravia, San Jose, Costa Rica or phone (506) 268-2768, *echumpi@racsa.co.cr* 471

#### **Research Notices**

I am looking for papered specimens with complete collection data for the following species of Precis and Junonia for an undergraduate project studying the species relationships and color pattern evolution in these genera: cervne, cuama, antilope, pelarga, rauana, tugela, milonia, coelestina, archesia, limnoria, genoveva, evarete (from localities other than Florida), nigrosuffusa, hadrope, artaxia, sophia, chorimene, adulatrix, intermedia, touhilimasa, vestina, ansorgei, cymodoce and goudoti. Specimens need not be A1 perfect, and we do have some funds available to pay for specimens and shipping. Please contact: Jeffrey Marcus, Department of Biology, Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green KY 42101, USA. (270) 745-2043, jeffrey.marcus@wku.edu 472

I have been authorized to write the section of the *Lepidopterous Catalogus*, on the Papilionidae. The most comprehensive, analytical, authoritative, detailed text and plates of the birdwings to date is a book by: Onya, Takashi; 1983. *Birdwing Butterflies*. It is **most** important that I find an English translation, either partial or complete. Am willing to pay for single pages or \$200 for a complete copy. Kent H. Wilson, P.O. Box 1097; Edmond OK, USA 73083-1097; 405-341-6696. *471* 







News of the Lepidopterists' Society



#### \_30\_

## 9 Years: What a Long, Strange Trip It's Been!

I don't know how Mark and Maria that there is—meeting fellow members Minno found out that I had been face-to-face. The '96 meeting in Housdelving into desktop publishing (DTP), ton was a watershed event for me—I but find out they did.

It must have been during the Houston meeting in 1996 (which just adds to the importance of that particular meeting for me) but the next thing I know I get an email asking if I'd be interested in "doing" the News. Trepidatious, to be sure, I nonetheless jumped at the chance because being a not-so-young but freshly-eclosed Canadian lepidopterist in academia was lonely.

Here was my chance to hobnob with the "high and mighty" amongst Lepidopterists! I knew all of the names from their publications, had even met a few at meetings, but who knew me? I had no publication record, no credentials, but I did have skills. Therein lies part of the truth behind apparent altruism...doing the News was a way to get my name out there, to be somebody, to grasp at my "fifteen minutes of fame."

Proof came in the evening phone call from Bob Robbins, at the time Chair of the Publications Committee, wanting to check on my qualifications and commitment. Anyone steeped in the butterfly literature as I was knew who Bob was, and here he was *calling me!* What a way to begin a trip, but I'm getting ahead of myself (as per usual).

The Houston meeting was my  $2^{nd}$  (the  $1^{st}$  was East Lansing, MI in 1992) and it was both an eye-opener and a lifechanging experience. Meetings are one of the best things that the Society does. If you've never been to one, then you're missing the best benefit of membership that there is—meeting fellow members face-to-face. The '96 meeting in Houston was a watershed event for me—I took home the Clench Award that year and met Larry Gilbert and cajoled him (though I hope he didn't really need a lot of convincing) into asking me down to post-doc.

So, shortly after I took over the News, about half way through Vol. 39, Pat and I undertook the biggest change of venue possible...moving from Canada to Texas, from what I thought of at the time as lepidopterological obscurity to the center of the butterfly (or at least the *Heliconius*, *Passiflora* and cyanogenesis center) universe. At that time UT had Gilbert, Mike Singer, Robert Dudley and Peng Chai and all of their grad students. Going from being the lonely lepidopterist at York U in Toronto to being one of a veritable crowd of them at UT was heaven.

Editing and producing the News was a part of that because it added even more lepidopterists to the pot. I corresponded with folks that I had dreamed of meeting, knowing and working with and it truly became a labor of love. I've always liked working with computers so the DTP stuff came relatively easily and was fun to do but the real joy was in the correspondence and in reading the submissions before anyone else got to see them.

I've tried to be impartial and open, succeeding, I think, more often than not (but your mileage may vary). Only twice, in 35 issues, have I climbed on a soapbox and voiced my opinions (and the last time nearly got me lynched!). I'll just say this...there's value in considering both sides of an argument. If you don't think there's another side then you haven't considered it closely enough.

So, don't get me wrong, it hasn't been a complete cakewalk. There is work involved, more so now than ever because I pushed the EC so hard to implement color in every issue. Eventually, it wasn't the work that got to me, it was the time commitment necessary. It just detracted from too many other things that were happening in my life and that have been becoming more and more important to me. Over the past 9 years I've also written and published 2 books, have been "building" a field station (almost literally from the ground up), teaching, and mentoring young biologists conducting their first research.

From here I'm committed to at least 3 more books in the next few years and am entering the recording studio to record 2 CDs worth of music that I've had bubbling on the back burner for as long as I've been doing the News (even the music, in titles such as "Elfin Flight" and "Glide Path," has been influenced by butterfly-ology). We're planning on staying in Texas for at least another 5 years or so and then who knows? We feel the road beckoning and contemplate becoming trailer trash!

I'd love to take the time and space to list, individually, every author that has submitted work to the News during my tenure but it would (as they're no doubt aware) make for some pretty boring reading. Suffice to say that the News is what *you* made it (and will make of it in the future), not anything that I did (though I do take responsibility for all the errors).

I'd also like to publicly acknowledge my wife, Pat, who proof-read all 35 issues of the News before they went to the printer—trust me when I say that there would've been many, many (many!) more errors with-out the benefit of her careful reading. We have all benefited from due diligence.

#### Winter 2005

As I said in the last issue, I'm not going away, just fading away into the general membership. I have a backlog of items that I'd like to publish in the News and couldn't bring myself to do under my own editorship (as large as my ego may be, I do draw the line at selfaggrandizing). Now that Dale is taking over the reins (did a pretty good job on this issue, no?) I plan on being one of his regular contributors.

First, and with apologies to Bob Robbins for not letting him know ahead of time, I'm going to resurrect the "Tales and Tails" column about butterflies and butterflyers. Actually, I think Bob will be glad to hand it off.

Anyway, I'll be around. Drop me a line or stop by the field station. I'm always happy to meet and greet a fellow lepidopterist!



Announcement...

### Basic Techniques for Observing and Studying Moths & Butterflies

#### by William D. Winter.

Lep. Soc. Memoir #5 is a 350-page book (with 82 pages of Appendices) packed with information for study of Lepidoptera. Both beginners and experienced students of Lepidoptera will find this book to be a valuable reference.

To get your copy, send Check/Money Order for \$29.00 (Members), \$44.00 (Non-members), postpaid (Canada and Mexico add \$6.00; others add \$10.00), made payable to "The Lepidopterists' Society," to:



Ken Bliss, Publications Mgr. 28 DuPont Ave. Piscataway, NJ 08854

## Get in the Swing of Things with a Society T-Shirt!

High Quality, 100% cotton, generous length, pre-shrunk, proudly displaying a 7-inch (18cm) diameter Society logo on the front. Have you noticed that the butterfly design of the logo is a pair of mirror-imaged stylized initials ("LS") of our Society?

Available in four adult sizes (small, medium, large and extra large) in either *Papilio glaucus* yellow (with black logo) or *Melanchroia chephise* (navy) blue (with white logo) for only \$10 each, plus postage (\$4 for first shirt, \$2 for each additional shirt within the U.S. or to Canada).

Please indicate quantity, color and size desired and send, along with your check drawn on a U.S. Bank, in U.S. funds, to:

Kelly Richers,

Phil

Treasurer, The Lepidopterists' Society 9417 Carvalho Court, Bakersfield, CA 93311-1846 U.S.A.





## **Periodicals Post for News Approved (Finally)**

Julian P. Donahue, Assistant Secretary

Our Journal has mailed at Periodicals Rate for many years. While mailing the News at this lower rate has been the subject of perennial discussion by the Executive Council, it wasn't until we coerced, cajoled, and browbeat Phil Schappert into doing something about it that it finally happened.

On 21 April 2004 (yes, 2004) Phil resubmitted a formal application to the U.S. Postal Service. Then the fun *really* began. Since our "official" office of publication is here in Los Angeles, I became the point man for shepherding the application through the approval process.

Ernest Williams had to provide official original documentation of our 501(c)(3) non-profit status, incorporation docu-

ments, and an official EC determination and statement on how much of each member's dues are allocated to the cost of the subscription to the News.

Treasurer Kelly Richers had to resurrect bank deposit slips and monthly statements that proved the actual payment of dues for the 100 members selected at random from the complete list of recipients I had compiled. (The audit was initially for only 10 names; USPS personnel and rule changes subsequently required 90 more.)

Ron Leuschner provided some of Kelly's data that he had on hand, and also created a tally showing the disposition of every single copy of the issue being audited, Vol. 46, No. 1 (2004).

continued on pp. 127...

# The Flight of the "Royal Butterfly"

#### Phil Schappert

Stengl "Lost Pines" Biological Station, University of Texas at Austin, 401 Old Antioch Rd., Smithville, TX 78957, philjs@mail.utexas.edu

The local Smithville-Crawford Airport had an unusual long-distance visitor this fall. Mexican pilot Francisco "Vico" Gutierrez and his wife, Nane, arrived in their Papalotzin ultralight on Tuesday, October 4<sup>th</sup> at almost precisely 6 pm. Papalotzin translates as "royal butterfly" in the ancient language of the Toltec, the native people of Mexico. What made their visit noteworthy was not that they arrived on time but that their plane is painted, above and below, with a rather large representation of a Monarch butterfly and the fact that this Mexican plane and pilot arrived not from the south but from the northfrom Canada to be exact—because they are flying along the migration route of the Monarch.

Vico is not only the pilot of the plane but is also the driving force behind the "Papalotzin Project," a journey from Canada to Mexico following the migration of the Monarch butterfly. The objective of the project is to document the flight and increase public awareness of the remarkable challenges that the Monarch butterfly faces during their astounding migration. Funded by World Wildlife Fund (Mexico), the State of Michoacan, TelCel (a Mexican cell private company), phone and donations, the project is being filmed for a documentary. For info. about the project visit www.papalotzin.com.

As most everyone knows, the eastern North American population of the Monarch migrates from the northeastern and north central US and Canada to their overwintering grounds in the mountains of central Mexico. By experiencing some of the challenges for example, bad weather and contrary winds—that the butterflies face during their journey and meeting some of the people that study the migration phen-

omenon they hope to educate people to the unique qualities of the Monarch butterfly migration and the problems they face on their southward flight.

Their four-person ground and film crew, which is following the flight and filming a documentary of the journey, arrived a couple of hours later and joined my wife, Pat, and I and Vico and Nane at one of the local restaurants, La Cabaña, for dinner. We offered to put them and the film crew up at the Wyer Residential Laboratory building at the Stengl "Lost Pines" Biological Station and they gratefully accepted.

Knowing that their lives had been "ordered" for quite some time—since mid-August they had been in almost constant motion, from Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto and Windsor in Canada through upstate New York to New York City, Washington DC, Virginia, Tennessee, Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma and Dallas—Mike Quinn, invertebrate biologist at Texas Parks and Wildlife, and the administrator of Texas Monarch Watch, and I chose to forgo the usual media frenzy and instead opted to have them tell us how active they wanted to be.

Tired from the whirlwind of activity that had been their lot since the end of August, it was no surprise that they were pleased to have a couple of days to relax and unwind. So they spent a quiet couple of days in the Smithville and central Texas area. Vico and his wife spent some of Wednesday in Austin shopping for camping and other necessary supplies for their continuing journey. In the meantime, the film crew had time for a much needed afternoon siesta (!) before interviewing Mike Quinn about the specific problems that face the Monarch in Texas.

Texas is an important stopover for the migrating butterflies because virtually the entire population, that had once spanned two countries from the corn belt of Middle America through to Canada and the far northeast, is funneled through the state on their journey south. The resources that the butterflies find here are some of the last that they will encounter before the final push to their overwintering roosts.

On Thursday morning, just before a strong cold front came through, I was thrilled to have Vico take me up in the Papalotzin ultralight. It was fun and terrifying at the same time-how can being 2000 feet up and having nothing surrounding you but lap and shoulder belts be anything but terrifying to someone who's afraid to climb too high on a ladder? Still, it was exhilarating and eye-opening. Without a doubt, it's a different world up there. Vico flew me north to fly over the station so that I could get some aerial photographs of the UT property. If this is what a Monarch butterfly "sees" as they fly over the central Texas countryside then I'm in even more awe of them now then I was before. How do they manage to do it?

On Thursday afternoon the film crew and I walked out to the pond where they interviewed me about my recent book and my unique perspective—being a Canadian biologist in the Texas landscape—about the Monarch, its migration and the problems which face this endangered phenomenon. Later that afternoon, Mike Quinn and Smithville Times Editor Mark Gwin joined us for a final look at the plane at Smithville airport. Vico took Mark up for a short flight towards town and over the Colorado River valley before returning to the airport. It was quite

continued on pp.127...

2





## Papalotzin, the "Royal Butterfly"

 The Papalotzin ultralight at the Smithville-Crawford Airport. Vico had flown the 2-seater ultralight from Ottawa, Canada on August 22<sup>nd</sup> and they will arrive at the Monarch butterfly overwintering sites in time for *Dia de los Muertos*, the Day of the Dead, November 2<sup>nd</sup>. 2) The Papalotzin ultralight in flight reveals that the underside of the wings, like the wings of Monarchs, are less colorful. 3) The Papalotzin Project and Documentary Film Crew at the Stengl "Lost Pines" Biological Station. From left: Gregory Allen (producer/camera), Pat Schappert, Tania Colazo (production assistant), Andrew Donaldson (camera/sound), Phil Schappert, Mike Quinn (Texas Parks & Wildlife), Luis Jimenez (still photographer/2<sup>nd</sup> pilot) and Nane and Vico Gutierrez (pilot and project leader).
 The west end of the Stengl "Lost Pines" Biological Station property from



about 2000 feet (610 m). **5)** A migrating Monarch butterfly roosts on a Mustang Grape leaf on the evening of October 5<sup>th</sup> at the Stengl "Lost Pines" Biological Station. The Papalotzin crew was able to see and photograph a number of Monarchs and a Monarch caterpillar during their stay. Photos by Phil Schappert.



Meeting Report...

# The IO<sup>th</sup> Annual Texas Butterfly Festival

#### Phil Schappert

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Of the 780 or so butterfly species known from North America north of the Mexican border—a list that is growing all the time—almost 2/3 of them can be seen in Texas. Of the 450-490 or so species (source dependent) known from Texas, a fairly large percentage (about 40%) can only, or best, be seen within 50 miles of the Mexican border in the Lower Rio Grande Valley of the deep south. Where better to hold a butterfly festival?

The Texas Butterfly Festival celebrated its 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this past October, meeting from October 20<sup>th</sup> through the 23<sup>rd</sup>, in Mission, TX. For the past couple of years I've participated on trips, gone to a few of the lectures (when they didn't conflict with side trips to places that I otherwise wouldn't get to visit!), and the mixers and BBQ receptions and must say that, as fun as the talks and meals are, the trips are, without doubt, the best part of the festival. Still, this year's "plenary" talk was Bob Pyle and that is a highlight of any trip anywhere.

Last year, I stayed in Brownsville (quite a hike from Mission) to facilitate some research I was doing at the TNC's Southmost Preserve but managed to do the Eastern Valley (Sabal Palm Audubon Sanctuary and the Los Ebanos Sanctuary) and Bentsen-Rio Grande State Park-NABA Park trips. This year I augmented those experiences with trips to the Gulf Coast (Laguna Atascosa NWR), the new Edinburg Wetland complex, including the incredible 4+ acres of butterfly gardens there, and the "hot spots" trip to the Valley Nature Center in Weslaco.

I arrived in the valley, about a 6 hr. drive from the field station, two days early with the intent of taking Sue Sill, the director of the NABA Butterfly Park, out to Starr Co. to "acquire" some Damiana (*Turnera diffusa*, the south TX host of the Mexican Fritillary, *Euptoieta hegesia*) for the Park. It also gave me a chance to visit my former study sites and see how they were doing. Man, it was dry! It also gave me a half day to explore on my own, though I have to admit that I didn't have to go far.

I stayed in our *Casita* (a small travel trailer which—with apologies to the Prestons—has been likewise dubbed "Phil's Portable Pad and Lepidopterology Lab") at the Bentsen Palm Village RV Park within easy walking distance from the gardens at the new World Birding Center Headquarters (WBC) at the entrance to Bentsen-Rio Grande State Park. Little did I know that the new garden plantings at the RV Park would be as wonderfully productive as the nearby WBC gardens!

That first evening and the following morning I added four life butterflies to my "list," Guava Skippers (*Phocides palemon*), the first ever Yellow-Angled Sulphur (*Anteos maerula*) that I've seen in nature, Red-Bordered Metalmark (*Caria ino*) and Tropical Buckeye (*Junonia genoveva*). On top of that, I got my first good photos of a Giant White (*Ganyra josephina*), found larvae of Theona Checkerspots (*Thessalia theona*) and more Emperors, Queens and Sulphurs than you could count.

The first organized trip, to Laguna Atascosa NWR, started badly for me but ended up being one of the best trips ever. At the Festival headquarter, just 25 minutes before the buses were to leave, I realized that I had left the trailer in my sandals! Stupid, stupid, stupid! So, I hightailed it back to the RV park, changed into the far more appropriate hiking boots, and drove way too fast back to the bus loop, but, yep, you guessed it—I missed the bus.

So, feeling resigned to a disappointing day, I approached Betty Muro of the Mission Chamber of Commerce (hosts of the Festival) to verify that I had, in fact, committed the mortal sin of missing my bus. As it turned out, Kim Garwood, one of the authors of the Butterflies of Mexico field guide, had also hoped to make that trip and had likewise missed this bus. So I asked Betty where their first stop was and suggested to Kim "let's drive it and meet them there." In all honesty, if Kim hadn't been there I probably just would have gone to Santa Ana or maybe the NABA park and called it a day, but I'm sure glad that we were able to join the rest of the trip.

Laguna Atascosa was wonderful. First, about 80% of all of the Danaids were Soldiers (Danaus eresimus) rather than Queens (D. gilippus), the exact opposite of just about everywhere else in the valley. Second, there were Blue Metalmarks (Lasaia sula), Pale-Rayed and Obscure Skippers (Vidius perigenes and Panoquina panoquinoides), Julia Longwings (Dryas julia), Great Southern Whites (Ascia monuste), and Mestras (Mestra amymone). Need I say more? The sheer number of butterflies was stunning. We followed that up, believe it or not, with a side trip to get up close and personal with Xami Hairstreaks (Callophrys xami). What more can you ask of a day?

I thought it couldn't get better than this, but, as is usual when I get cocky,

#### Winter 2005

I was wrong. The following day, under the able leadership of Jim Brock (yes, I was actually able to make my bus), we ventured out to the Edinburg Wetlands complex, a World Birding Center site. This place has an absolutely mind-boggling 4+ acres of butterfly gardens, thanks to Richard Lehman (the "other" author of the **Butterflies of Mexico** field guide). A plus was that Bob Behrstock was along for the ride and was able to ID the dragonflies for us.

Here I saw my first ever Brown-Banded Skipper (*Timochares ruptifasciatus*), Clytie Ministreak (*Ministrymon clytie*), Purple-Washed Skipper (*Panoquina sylvicola*), and Pixie (*Melanis pixe*) and was able to get up close and photographically personal with a female Laviana White Skipper (*Helioptes laviana*) laying eggs (it sure helps to be out with a guy that wrote the butterfly caterpillars field guide, eh?), and more Queens and Western Pygmy Blues (*Brephidium exile*) than I thought it possible to see in a day.

On our way back to the Festival HQ, we stopped at a well-known Guamuchil tree behind the Burger King on the "off-chance" that there might be one or two Pixies there to see. We hit the jackpot with better than 2 dozen or more adults, plus 2 or 3 instars of caterpillars and a pupa or two. How can you top a day like this? Well, back at the HQ garden, a fresh Crimson Patch (*Chlosyne janais*) could stop by, astound everyone and pose for photos! Another lifer, eh?

#### Mail...continued from pp. 123

As a consequence of staff reductions and changes at the USPS Los Angeles Business Mail Entry office, I dealt with three (count 'em) different persons handling our application; the application was finally submitted to the New York office, with recommendation for approval, where yet another person requested yet more information (*i.e.*, a letter stating that we were indeed the same The Lepidopterists' Society as the one organized in 1947, and an explanaOn Saturday morning, the "hot spots" trip, under the leadership of Mike Quinn and Derek Mushalek, visited the Frontera Audubon Center in Weslaco. Turns out that it was a hot spot! Mexican Fritillaries (*Euptoieta hegesia*), Tropi-cal Leafwings (*Anaea aidea*), another Pixie or two (how soon we get jaded!), and more Mestras, Queens, Soldiers and Skippers galore were seen.

Rarities included the Pale-Banded Crescents (Anathassa tulcis), , a Polydamus Swallowtail (Battus polydamus), and a fresh Lantana Scrub Hairstreak (Strymon bazochii), but the highlight of the day, was a rare Tailed Aguna (Aguna metophis) that magically appeared just long enough for everyone to get a good look. Personally, I got one photo of the beast but the fun was in watching the watchers agog at the sighting!

The Saturday night BBQ was excellent, as usual, and for the second year in a row, John Acorn gave an excellent, musically-interlaced, program that does its level best to introduce watchers to the rich history of Lepidoptery.

All too soon, however, it was time to call it a Festival and head home. I know of at least one or two that had seen 115 sp. or more (my list (not that I'm a lister you understand) topped out at 85 sp. for 3+ days of sheer enjoyment. You'll find photos of some of the interesting and exciting species I saw on the cover, pp. 124, 125 and the back cover.

If you get the chance, bookmark the 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend in October next year for a week in butterfly paradise...

tion of why our 501(c)(3) authorization AND our article of incorporation were both filed in Washington, D.C.).

I faxed that final information on 5 October 2005, and on 7 October, 17-1/2 months after the original application was submitted, our application was approved.

With a huge sigh of relief, I say "Thank you" to all who helped make this happen.

#### Papalotzin...cont'd from pp. 124

breezy now that the front had completed its passage through the area and Vico was worried about their flight to San Antonio, then Boerne, the next day.

Friday, of course, dawned gray, dreary and overcast with sustained winds of up to 20 mph and the threat of rain between Smithville and Boerne. They had all laughed when I told them the bit about "if you don't like the weather in Texas, wait five minutes" but now they knew it was true. Vico and the crew reluctantly decided that it would not be a good day for flying so they left to visit Vico's nephew in San Antonio with plans to fly back to Smithville on Saturday morning, after dropping Nane off at ABIA for her return flight home, to move the Papalotzin ultralight to its next appointment in Boerne.

The last Pat and I saw of Vico was when he dipped his wings over the station on a beautiful sunny Saturday morning. From Boerne they are headed to Eagle Pass, Del Rio and then home to Mexico. Their eventual destination is the same as the Monarchs-the high central plateau of the mountains of Michoacan near the town of Angangueo and Vico's home of Valle de Bravo. Their day of arrival, again carefully coordinated with that of the migrating butterflies, is Dia de los Muertos, the Mexican "Day of the Dead," November 2<sup>nd</sup>. This is not inconsequential since the locals consider la mariposa Monarca to be the souls or spirits of departed relatives. Another name used for the Monarchs, las palomas, literally "the doves," are seen as the souls of lost children.

Either way, they'll be home.





## **IOth Annual Texas Butterfly Festival...**

1) Female Laviana White Skipper (*Helioptes laviana*, Hesperiidae) oviposits on *Abutilon* (10/21/05, Edinburg Wetlands Garden, EWG); 2) Yellow-Angled Sulphur (*Anteos maerula*, Pieridae) resting in a *Duranta* shrub (10/18/05, Bentsen Palm Village RV Park, BPVRV); 3) A Giant White (*Ganyra josephina*, Pieridae), with symmetrical hindwing damage, likely evidence of a failed predator attack, nectars at *Lantana* (10/19/05, World Birding Center, Mission, WBC); 4) Theona Checkerspot (*Thessalia theona*, Nymphalidae), were common (10/19/05, WBC; 5) Vesta Crescent (*Phyciodes graphica*, Nymphalidae) (10/23/05, NABA Butterfly Park, Mission); 6) A perched male Xami Hairstreak (*Callophrys xami*, Lycaenidae) surveys his territory (10/20/05, Brownsville); 7) Female Lyside Sulphur (*Kricogonia lyside*, Pieridae) rejecting the courtship of an off-camera male (10/18/05, BPVRV); 8) A Clytie Ministreak (*Ministrymon clytie*, Lycaenidae) on goldenrod



A fresh Gemmed Satyr (*Cyllopsis gemma*) posed for photos while I was waiting for other species to return to the baits (10/23/05, NABA Butterfly Park, Mission). More photos on back cover...

## Membership

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:

Kelly Richers, Assistant Treasurer, The Lepidopterists' Society 9417 Carvalho Court Bakersfield, CA 93311

#### **Dues Rate**

Active (regular)	\$ 45.00
Affiliate (same address)	10.00
Student	20.00
Sustaining	60.00
Contributor	100.00
Institutional Subscription	60.00
Air Mail Postage for News	15.00

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).

## **Change of Address?**

Please send permanent changes of address, telephone numbers, areas of interest, or e-mail addresses to:

Julian P. Donahue, Assistant Secretary, The Lepidopterists' Society, Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, 900 Exposition Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90007-4057. Julian@donahue.net

## **Our Mailing List?**

Contact Julian Donahue for information on mailing list rental.

# Missed or Defective Issue?

Requests for missed or defective issues should be directed to: Ron Leuschner (1900 John Street, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266-2608, (310) 545-9415, **ron** *leusch@aol.com*). Please be certain that you've really missed an issue by waiting for a subsequent issue to arrive.

## Memoirs

**Requests for** Memoirs of the Society should be sent to Publications Manager, Ken Bliss (address opposite).

**Submissions of** potential new Memoirs should be sent to:

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## Journal of the Lepidopterists' Society

Send inquiries to:

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Send book reviews or new book releases for the **Journal** to:

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Send book reviews or new book releases for the **News** to the News Editor.

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# Submission Guidelines for the News

Submissions are always welcome! Preference is given to articles written for a non-technical but knowledgable audience, illustrated and succinct (under 1,000 words). Please submit in one of the following formats (in order of preference):

1. Electronically transmitted file and graphics—in some acceptable format —*via* e-mail.

2. Article (and graphics) on diskette, CD or Zip disk in any of the popular formats/platforms. Indicate what format(s) your disk/article/graphics are in, and call or email if in doubt. Include printed hardcopies of both articles and graphics, a copy of the article file in ASCII or RTF (just in case), and alternate graphics formats. Media will be returned on request.

3. Color and B+W graphics should be good quality photos or slides suitable for scanning or—preferably—electronic files in TIFF or JPEG format at least 1200 x 1500 pixels for interior use, 1800 x 2100 for covers. Photos or slides will be returned.

4. Typed copy, double-spaced suitable for scanning aand optical character recognition. Original artwork/maps should be line drawings in pen and ink or good, clean photocopies. Color originals are preferred.

## **Submission Deadlines**

Material for Volume **48** must reach the Editor by the following dates:

Issue	Date Due	
1 Spring	Feb. 17, 2006	
2 Summer	May 12, 2006	
3 Autumn	Aug. 11, 2006	
4 Winter	Oct. 27, 2006	

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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Refer to Season Summary for Zone coverage details.

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#### News of the Lepidopterists' Society

Volume 47, Number 4









## IOth Annual Texas Butterfly Festival...

(continued from pp. 129) **15**) Female "smoky-grey" form of Great Southern White (Ascia monuste, Pieridae) nectaring on Eupatorium (10/20/05, Laguna Atascosa); **16**) Fatal Metalmark (Calephelis nemesis, Riodinidae) (10/22/05; WBC); **17**) A fresh Brown-Banded Skipper (Timochares ruptifasciatus, Hesperiidae) poses for photos while nectaring on Eupatorium (10/21/05, Edinburg Wetlands Garden); **18**) A diminutive Western Pygmy-Blue (Brephidium exile, Lycaenidae) shares flowers with an ant (10/22/05; World Birding Center, Mission); **19**) Common Mestra (Mestra amymone, Nymphalidae) basks in the morning sun (10/22/ 05, Frontera Audubon Center, Weslaco). See the article beginning on pp. 126. Photos by Phil Schappert.

