

# Kentucky Lepidopterist

Newsletter of the Society of Kentucky Lepidopterists

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# THE SOCIETY OF KENTUCKY LEPIDOPTERISTS

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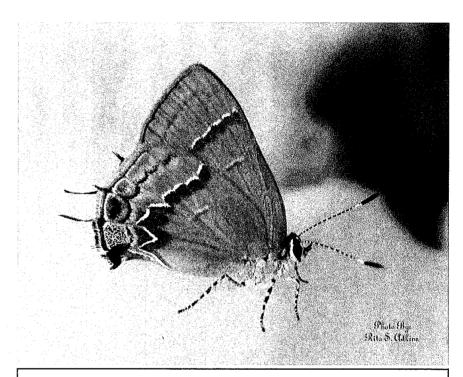
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The Society of Kentucky
Lepidopterists is open to anyone
with an interest in the Lepidoptera
of the State of Kentucky.
Membership dues are annual:
\$12.00, and can be sent to the
Treasurer: Les Ferge, (see above).



Calycopis cecrops
Red Banded Hairstreak
Photo by Rita S. Adkins

# KY Leps Member has Great Summer of Photography

Member Rita Adkins, of Frenchburg, KY reports having had a very productive summer of photographing Lepidoptera. Since studying butterflies for a school project in the 1960s, she says she had not paid much attention to them again until she became aware of the Society of KY Lepidopterist website. Rita says she noticed that several butterflies that she knew were in Menifee County were not listed and decided to "set out on a personal mission to find and photograph" the species not yet listed from her county. "I figured I would find at least 50 species...to my surprise I have photographed 63 species, just in and around my back yard."

The above photo of *Calycopis cecrops* is one of her favorites from this summer. The butterfly was photographed naturally on tall bearded iris. (See more of Rita's photos on page 25)

### 25th Annual July 4th Butterfly Count

The 25th annual July 4th Butterfly Count was held in the usual area of Oldham Co., KY, off Zaring Road near Brownsboro on Saturday, July 5, 2008. The property visited was the farm of Mr. Bob Horner, and the University of Louisville's Horner Wildlife Sanctuary. The high this day was 84; low 71; mostly cloudy but dry, with west winds about 5-10mph. Present were C.V. Covell Jr. (compiler), William R. Black Jr., Loran D. Gibson, Richard A. Henderson, Marcia Jumblatt, Richard Healy, Ed Huber, Wayne Willis, David & Megan McCarty, Margarette Perkins Dan Ochs, Martin & Jane Williams, Dominic Ventura, Elizabeth Mason, Whitney Henderson. Mason, Trevon Henderson, and newspaper reporters Antwon Pinkston (Courier-Journal) and Laura Hagan (Oldham Era).

Species recorded were as follow: 47 Battus philenor, 18 Eurytides marcellus, 25 Papilio polyxenes asterius, 12 Papilio glaucus, 5 Papilio troilus, 156 Pieris rapae, 52 philodice, 182 Colias eurutheme. Colias Eurema nicippe, 3 Strymon melinus, 1061 Everes comyntas, 7 Celastrina neglecta, 2 Libytheana carinenta, 75 Phyciodes tharos, 48 Speyeria cybele, 3 Vanessa virginiensis, 5 Vanessa cardui, 1 Vanessa atalanta, 11 Junonia coenia, 6 Limenitis arthemis astyanax, 10 Asterocampa celtis, 1 Asterocampa clyton, 5 Enodia anthedon, 5 Cyllopsis gemma, 2 Hermeuptychia sosybius, 118 Megisto cymela, 84 Cercyonis pegala, 2 Danaus plexippus, 4 Epargyreus clarus, 2 Erynnis horatius, 70 Erynnis baptisiae, 4 Polites themistocles, 3 Wallengrenia egeremet, 3 Pompeius verna, 1 Anatrytone logan, and 3 Also 1 Polygonia, unidentified Euphyes vestris. species. Totals: 37 species and 2,042 individuals. Moths seen included Haploa clymene (Arctiidae), Hemaris thysbe (Sphingidae) and Melilla xanthometata (Geometridae). Conditions were excellent, especially in that Bob Horner had not cut his hayfields and there were plenty of nectar plants such as thistle, white sweet clover and daisy fleabane in bloom. A photographic article appeared in the July 6 Louisville Courier-Journal.

-- C.V. Covell Jr.

## Kentucky Lepidopterists' Late **Summer Field Trip**

5-7 September 2008

By Loran D. Gibson

The Kentucky Lepidopterists' late summer field trip was once again hosted by Bill and Nancy Black of Paducah. The meeting began with a gathering of the members at the Black's house on Friday evening, 5 September. Nancy provided a delectable buffet of snacks and deserts that were well received by those present, including: Jeff Marcus, Gerald Burnett, Loran Gibson, John (Tony) Merkle, Kevin Segebarth, and Charles Wright. The conversation and off-thecuff presentations on recently encountered butterflies and moths were lively and diverse and lasted well into the evening.

Saturday's activities began with breakfast at the Paducah Days Inn. From there we caravanned to the Streetman's farm, along Massac Creek, on Paducah's west side. The farm has some nice habitats including: low meadows with lots of late summer wild flowers, wooded areas with canebrakes, open pasture, and a sandy/pebbly stream bottom along Massac Creek. We began by walking across an open pasture and climbing the farm gate into another pasture, which is the realm of Valentino, a large white bull, and his herd of cows, calves, and heifers. Some of the herd members were curious and came up to the fence, but Charles succeeded in scaring them away with a steely look!



The group at Streetman's farm. L to R: Charles Wright, Kevin Segebarth (front), Loran Gibson, Gerald Burnett, Bill Black, Tony Merkel, Jeff Marcus Photo by Tony Merkel

Butterflies were out in good numbers, but diversity was not as great as usual. The following species were logged at Streetman's Farm: Epargyreus clarus, Thorybes bathyllus, Lerema accius, Ancyloxypha numitor, Hylephila phyleus, Polites themistocles, Wallengrenia egeremet, Atalopedes campestris, Poanes zabulon, Euphyes vestris metacomet, Papilio glaucus, Pavilio troilus, Phoebis sennae, Strymon melinus, Cupido Celastrina neglecta, Euptoieta comyntas, claudia, Speyeria cybele, Polygonia interrogationis, Vanessa atalanta, Junonia coenia, Phyciodes tharos, Chlosyne nycteis, Limenitis arthemis astyanax, Limenitis archippus, Asterocampa celtis, Enodia anthedon. Cyllopsis gemma, Hermeuptychia sosybius, Cercyonis pegala alope, Danaus plexippus.

In early afternoon, we left Paducah and moved south along U.S. Rt. 62 into Carlisle County. With Bill Black leading, we all stopped for snacks and drinks at Huck's store at the corner of U.S. Rts. 62 and 51 in Bardwell. Tony and I were last in line, and as we drove into Huck's parking lot, we saw Bill park his truck and jump out quickly as if he was on a more urgent mission than buying a Coke and a candy bar. We parked and walked to where most of our group had congregated around Bill and a large moth that was resting on the southeast wall of Huck's building. As we approached I could see what I thought was a Black Witch moth sitting on the wall. Right away, Bill remarked that it was a White Witch (Thysania zenobia) and that it was only the second state record of the species from Kentucky! What a find! This was by far the most exciting discovery of our field trip! I wondered how Bill recognized this rare tropical American species so readily. It was because Bill was the lepidopterist who had discovered the first Kentucky White Witch in Paducah on 23 August 1974! Thirty-four years earlier! We were all envious! After the excitement at Huck's we moved west to a sandy, Mississippi River bank in Carlisle County, near the Laketon Boat Ramp. This was a new spot for the group. It was chosen because in addition to good butterfly possibilities, there is also good tiger beetle habitat on the sandy beach area. Unfortunately, tiger beetles were not doing well on the sand. Only one species (Cicindela repanda) was recorded and it was not abundant. The area is being used extensively by four-wheeler enthusiasts. Such activities disturb the sand to the point that tiger beetles have trouble surviving.

Butterflies were out in good numbers on the riverbank and along the dirt road. Several new-for-the-day species were reported. Here is a complete

list: Epargyreus clarus, Staphylus hayhurstii, Ancyloxypha numitor, Atalopedes campestris, Poanes zabulon, Euphyes vestris metacomet, Battus philenor. Papilio glaucus, Papilio troilus, Zerene cesonia, Phoebis sennae, Pyrisitia lisa, Strymon melinus, Cuvido comuntas, Libytheana carinenta, Euptoieta claudia, Polygonia interrogationis, Polygonia comma, Vanessa cardui, Vanessa atalanta, Junonia coenia, Phyciodes tharos, Chlosyne nycteis, Limenitis arthemis astyanax, Limenitis archippus, Asterocampa celtis, Asterocampas clyton, Lethe anthedon, Danaus plexippus. In addition to these, Gerald Burnett reported Papilio polyxenes asterius from the town of Berkley, also in Carlisle

From Carlisle County we continued south a short distance in late afternoon into Hickman County. On the west side of Drew Road, just north of the town of Columbus, we set out a couple of blacklight traps along the loess bluffs overlooking the Mississippi River floodplain. After deploying the light traps we were ready for dinner. We decided to dine together again at Luke's Restaurant in Arlington, KY. This was our second Society dinner at the establishment. Earlier this year, during our August Catocala weekend in the area, we ate at Luke's. Again, as before, we stuffed ourselves with catfish, shrimp, hushpuppies, and all of the trimmings, and washed it all down with tea and iced water. This time some of us still had room for homemade pie. It was gooood!

On Sunday morning Jeff Marcus, Bill Black, Loran Gibson, Tony Merkle, Charles Wright and wife Mary Hamilton met for breakfast at Day's Inn. From there we all proceeded to the loess bluffs in Hickman County to retrieve the light traps. That did not take a lot of time. The trap pans were put into zip-lock bags and were then placed on ice in a cooler. The traps were sorted later. Few species of interest were found.

From the loess bluffs we traveled to southern Hickman County to a swampy area along Bayou du Chien and Rt. 239 where there is a substantial growth of Marsh Millet (*Zizaniopsis milaceae*). This plant is the host of the local populations of *Poanes viator*. We spent enough time in the swampy area to count a dozen or more *viator* in order to confirm that the population is still in good shape.

We then continued south and west and arrived at the Mississippi River levee west of Hickman, in Fulton County. This is the location where our group has encountered a few *Limenitis archippus / arthemis astyanax* hybrids over the years. Bill had baited the (continued on page 21)

area thoroughly on Friday (5 September), so there were many nymphalid butterflies in the area. According to Bill, the bait traps had not captured as many *Limenitis* as usual, and we encountered no hybrids. The bait traps did attract greater numbers of underwing moths (*Catocala* species) than usual, including: *C. maestosa, C. amatrix, C. lacrymosa, C. vidua*, and one *C. nuptialis*. The latter was a first county record.

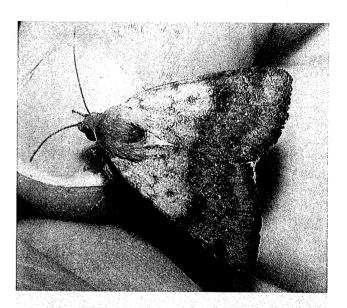
By mid-afternoon it was time for Jeff to head for home. We said our good-byes, and those remaining traveled a few miles southwest to another spot west of the levee known as French Point. Charles had collected a tiger beetle there a few years ago that we wanted to check on. The road to the spot was not obvious, so we "bushwacked" through some huge giant ragweed, poison ivy, and other weedy vegetation. Bill Black led the way through the thicket with Charles, Tony, and I following. After considerable effort, the riverbank came into view. Unfortunately, we arrived up-stream from the target locality, so we had to make our way down stream on the rip-rap stones that had been placed there to control river bank erosion. Walking on rip-rap is challenging! After a good workout the French Point sands came into view. We saw three people fishing along the river, but the sand looked undisturbed! Right away, we began to see large numbers of the very common tiger beetle, Cicindela repanda. After a few minutes the first individual of the big sand tiger beetle (Cicindela formosa generosa) appeared. was the species that we had come to see. collected four specimens and saw approximately a dozen. Tony and Charles took several photos of this handsome beetle. Our success made the difficulty reaching the spot worthwhile. The return trip was much easier. Bill located the old road, which led us directly to our cars.

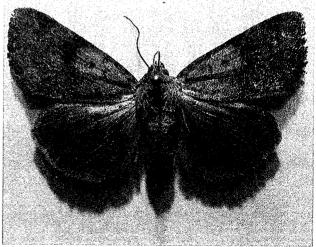
Butterflies seen in Fulton County on 7 September were: **Epargyreus** clarus, Pholisora catullus, Ancyloxypha numitor, Hylephila phyleus, Atalopedes campestris, Poanes zabulon, Battus philenor, Papilio glaucus, Pontia protodice, Pieris rapae, Colias eurytheme, Phoebis sennae, Pyrisitia lisa, Abaeis nicippe, Cupido comyntas, Libytheana carineta, Agraulis vanillae (this on a thistle flower along Rt. 94, east of Hickman), Polygonia interrogationis, Polygonia comma, Vanessa cardui, Junonia coenia, Phyciodes tharos, Limenitis arthemis astyanax, Limenitis archippus, Asterocampa celtis, and Danaus plexippus.

Total butterfly species recorded during the weekend, 47.

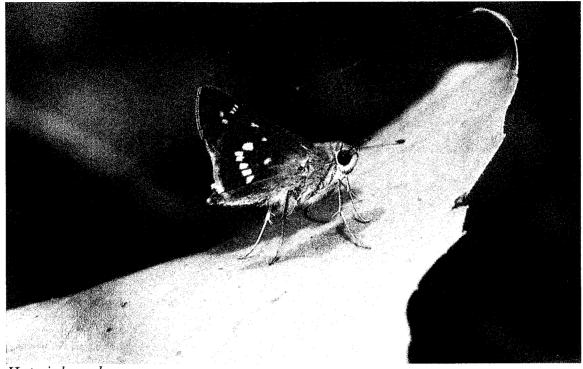
Butterfly names follow Jonathan Pelham's new Catalogue of the Butterflies of the United States and Canada, published 2008. BioQuip sells this great volume for \$25.00. I highly recommend it!

# Heliothis turbatus Collected by Richard Healy Hart County, KY, 27 July 2008





Photos by Richard Healy



Hesperia leonardus Photo by Loran D. Gibson

## Revised List of Kentucky Butterflies and Skippers

By

#### Loran D. Gibson

Recently I acquired a copy of Jonathan Pelham's new Catalogue of the Butterflies of the United States and Canada. After perusing this large, thoroughly researched volume, it became clear that the taxonomy currently in use for our Kentucky butterflies and skippers is a bit out-of-date. Following is a revised list of Kentucky species that hopefully, will reflect all the pertinent taxonomic changes and the arrangement of names found in Pelham, 2008.

Some explanation of the list's construction follows. Preceding each name in the list is a number. These are the catalogue numbers used in Pelham, 2008. They were included to better show the arrangement and relationships of the species. After the catalogue numbers come generic and specific names. A few specific names are followed by subspecific names. After specific or subspecific names are the names of the authors. These are followed by common names which, for the most part, follow Glassberg, 1999. These were included in an effort to better associate scientific and common names.

#### Kentucky Butterflies and Skippers

#### HESPERIIDAE

- 6 Epargyreus clarus (Cramer), Silver-spotted Skipper
- 22 Urbanus proteus (L.), Long-tailed Skipper
- 37 Autochton cellus (Bdv. & Le Conte), Gold-banded Skipper
- 40 Achalarus lyciades (Geyer), Hoary Edge
- 46 Thorybes bathyllus (J. E. Smith), Southern Cloudywing
- 47 Thorybes pylades (Scudder), Northern Cloudywing
- 48 Thorybes confusis E. Bell, Confused Cloudywing
- 70 Staphylus hayhurstii (W. H. Edwards ), Hayhurst's Scallopwing
- 71 Pholisora catullus (F.), Common Sootywing
- 86 Erynnis icelus (Scudder & Burgess), Dreamy Duskywing
- 87 Erynnis brizo (Bdv. & Le Conte), Sleepy Duskywing
- 88 Erynnis juvenalis (F.), Juvenal's Duskywing
- 93 Erynnis horatius (Scudder & Burgess), Horace's Duskywing
- 95 Erynnis martialis (Scudder), Mottled Duskywing
- 97 Erynnis zarucco (Lucas), Zarucco Duskywing
- 98 Erynnis funeralis (Scudder & Burgess), Funeral Duskywing
- 99 Erynnis baptistae (W. Forbes), Wild Indigo Duskywing
- 100 Erynnis lucilius (Scudder & Burgess), Columbine Duskywing
- 113 Pyrgus centaureae wyandot (W. H. Edwards), Grizzled Skipper
- 117 Pyrgus communis (Grote), Common Checkered Skipper
- 144 Megathymus yuccae (Bdv. & Le Conte), Yucca Giant-Skinner
- 151 Ancyloxypha numitor (F.), Least Skipper
- 159 Thymelicus lineola (Ochsenheimer), European Skipper
- 164 Panoquina ocola (W. H. Edwards), Ocola Skipper
- 178 Amblyscirtes hegon (Scudder), Pepper and Salt Skipper
- 182 Amblyscirtes aesculapius (F.), Lace-winged Roadside Skipper
- 186 Amblyscirtes vialis (W. H. Edwards), Common Roadside-Skipper
- 189 Amblyscirtes belli H. Freeman, Bell's Roadside-Skipper
- 195 Nastra lherminier (Latreille), Swarthy Skipper
- 200 Lerodea eufala (W. H. Edwards), Eufala Skipper
- 202 Lerema accius (J. E. Smith), Clouded Skipper
- 209 Hylephila phyleus (Drury), Fiery Skipper
- 218 Hesperia leonardus T. Harris, Leonard's Skipper
- 221 Hesperia metea Scudder, Cobweb Skipper
- 227 Hesperia sassacus T. Harris, Indian Skipper
- 232 Polites peckius (W. Kirby), Peck's Skipper
- 236 Polites themistocles (Latreille), Tawny-edged Skipper
- 238 Polites origines (F.), Crossline Skipper
- 242 Wallengrenia otho (J. E. Smith), Southern Broken-Dash
- 243 Wallengrenia egeremet (Scudder), Northern Broken-Dash
- 244 Pompeius verna (W. H. Edwards), Little Glassywing
- 245 Atalopedes campestris (Boisduval), Sachem
- 249 Poanes hobomok (T. Harris), Hobomok Skipper
- 250 Poanes zabulon (Bdv. & Le Conte), Zabulon Skipper
- 253 Poanes viator (W. H. Edwards), Broad-winged Skipper
- 255 Poanes yehl (Skinner), Yehl Skipper
- 262 Anatrytone logan (W. H. Edwards), Delaware Skipper
- 269 Euphyes dion (W. H. Edwards), Dion Skipper
- 271 Euphyes dukesi (Lindsey), Dukes' Skipper
- 274 Euphyes vestris metacomet (T. Harris), Dun Skipper
- 276 Atrytonopsis hianna (Scudder), Dusted Skipper

#### **PAPILIONIDAE**

- 294 Battus philenor (L.), Pipevine Swallowtail
- 295 Battus polydamus (L.), Polydamus Swallowtail
- 296 Eurytides marcellus (Cramer), Zebra Swallowtail

- 300 Papilio joanae J. Heitzman, Ozark Swallowtail
- 301 Papilio polyxenes asterius (Stoll), Black Swallowtail
- 306 Papilio cresphontes Cramer, Giant Swallowtail
- 315 Papilio appalachiensis (Pavulaan & D. Wright),

#### Appalachian Swallowtail

- 316 Papilio glaucus L., Eastern Tiger Swallowtail
- 324 Papilio troilus L., Spicebush Swallowtail
- 325 Papilio palamedes Drury, Palamedes Swallowtail

#### PIERIDAE

- 327 Kricogonia lyside (Godart), Lyside Sulphur
- 328 Nathalis iole Boisduval, Dainty Sulphur
- 331 Eurema mexicana (Boisduval), Mexican Yellow
- 336 Pyrisitia lisa (Bdv. & Le Conte), Little Sulphur
- 339 Abaeis nicippe (Cramer), Sleepy Orange
- 340 Colias philodice Godart, Clouded Sulphur
- 341 Colias eurytheme Boisduval, Orange Sulphur
- 358 Zerene cesonia (Stoll), Southern Dogface
- 362 Phoebis sennae (L.), Cloudless Sulphur
- 364 Phoebis agarithe (Boisduval), LargeOrangeSulphur
- 365 Phoebis philea (L.), Orange-barred Sulphur
- 371 Anthocaris midea (Hübner), Falcate Orangetip
- 375 Euchloe olympia (W. H. Edwards), Olympia Marble
- 391 Pieris virginiensis W. H. Edwards, West Virginia White
- 392 Pieris rapae (L.), Cabbage White
- 394 Pontia protodice (Bdv. & Le Conte), Checkered White

#### LYCAENIDAE

- 400 Feniseca tarquinius (F.), Harvester
- 401 Lyceana phlaeas hypophlaeas (Boisduval), American Copper
- 411 Lycaena hyllus (Cramer), Bronze Copper
- 422 Atlides halesus (Cramer), Great Purple Hairstreak
- 429 Satyrium acadica (W. H. Edwards), Acadian Hairstreak
- 432 Satyrium titus titus (F.), Coral Hairstreak
- 433 Satyrium edwardsii (Grote & Rob.), Edwards' Hairstreak
- 434 Satyrium calanus falacer (Hübner), Banded Hairstreak
- 435 Satyrium caryaevorus (McDunnough), Hickory Hairstreak
- 437 Satyrium liparops strigosa (T. Harris), Striped Hairstreak
- 441 Satyrium favonius ontario (W. H. Edwards), Northern Hairstreak
- 456 Callophrys gryneus (Hübner), Olive Hairstreak
- 464 Callophrys augustinus (Westwood), Brown Elfin
- 468 Callophrys irus (Godart), Frosted Elfin
- 469 Callophrys henrici (Grote & Rob.), Henry's Elfin
- 471 Callophrys niphon (Hübner), Pine Elfin
- 478 Calycopis cecrops (F.), Red-banded Hairstreak
- 480 Strymon melinus (Hübner), Gray Hairstreak
- 500 Parrhasius m-album (Bdv. & Le Conte), White M Hairstreak
- 502 Erora laeta (W. H. Edwards), Early Hairstreak
- 506 Leptotes marina (Reakirt), Marine Blue
- 510 Cupido comyntas (Godart), Eastern Tailed-blue
- 514 Celastrina ladon (Cramer), Spring Azure
- 517 Celastrina neglecta (W. H. Edwards), Summer Azure
- 519 Celastrina neglectamajor Opler & Krizek, Appalachian Azure
- 520 Celastrina nigra (W. Forbes), Dusky Azure
- 540 Glaucopsyche lygdamus (E. Doubleday), Silvery Blue

#### Kentucky Butterflies and Skippers

#### RIODINIDAE

- 558 Calephelus borealis (Grote & Rob.), Northern Metalmark
- 559 Calephelis muticum (McAlpine), Swamp Metalmark

#### **NYMPHALIDAE**

- 586 Libytheana carineta (Cramer), Snout
- 588 Danaus plexippus (L.), Monarch
- 589 Danaus gilippus berenice (Cramer), Queen
- 593 Limenitis arthemis arthemis (Drury), White Admiral
- 59c Limenitis arthemis astvanax (F.), Red-spotted Purple
- 596 Limenitis archippus (Cramer), Viceroy
- 602 Agraulis vanillae (L.), Gulf Fritillary
- \*\*\* Heliconius ismenius Latreille, Tiger Longwing
- 608 Euptoieta claudia (Cramer), Verigated Fritillary
- 612 Boloria selene myrina (Cramer), Silver-bordered Fritillary
- 613 Boloria bellona (F.), Meadow Fritillary
- 624 Speyeria diana (Cramer), Diana Fritillary
- 625 Speyeria cybele (F.), Great Spangled Fritillary
- 626 Speyeria aphrodite (F.), Aphrodite Fritillary
- 627 Speyeria idalia (Drury), Regal Fritillary
- 640 Asterocampa celtis (Bdv. & Le Conte), Hackberry Emperor
- 642 Asterocampa clyton (Bdv. & Le Conte), Tawny Emperor
- 672 Vanessa virginiensis (Drury), American Lady
- 673 Vanessa cardui (L.), Painted Lady
- 675 Vanessa atalanta (L.), Red Admiral
- 677 Aglais milberti (Godart), Milbert's Tortoiseshell

- 678 Nymphalis l-album (Esper), Compton's Tortoiseshell
- 680 Nymphalis antiopa (L.), Mourning Cloak
- 681 Polygonia interrogationis (F.), Question Mark
- 682 Polygonia comma (T. Harris), Eastern Commn
- 684 Polygonia progne (Cramer), Gray Comma
- 687 Polygonia faunus (W. H Edwards), Green Comma
- 688 Anartia jatrophae (L.), White Peacock
- 693 Junonia coenia Hübner, Buckeye
- 699 Euphydryas phaeton (Drury), Baltimore Checkerspot
- 715 Chlosyne nycteis (E. Doubleday), Silvery Checkerspot
- 716 Chlosyne gorgone (Hübner), Gorgone Checkerspot
- 741 Phyciodes tharos (Drury), Pearl Crescent
- 742 Phyciodes cocyta incognitus Gatrelle, No common name
- 743 Phyciodes batesii (Reakirt), Tawny Crescent
- 747 Anaea andria Scudder, Goatweed Leafwing

#### **SATYRINAE**

- 752 Lethe portlandia missarkae (J. Heitzman & dos Passos), Southern Pearly-eve
- 753 Lethe anthedon A. Clark, Northern Pearly-eye
- 754 Lethe creola (Skinner), Creole Pearly-eve
- 756 Lethe appalachia R. Chermock, Appalachian Brown
- 761 Cyllopsis gemma (Hübner), Gemmed Satyr
- 763 Hermeuptychia sosybius (F.), Carolina Satyr
- 768 Megisto cymela (Cramer), Little Wood-Satyr
- 770 Cercyonis pegala alope (F.), Common Wood-Nymph

**Annotations**: \*\*\* indicates that *Heliconius ismenius* has no catalogue number and is not considered to be part of the fauna of the United States and Canada.

Abbreviations: Bdv. = Boisduval, F = Fabricius, L. = Linneaus, Rob. = Robinson

#### Literature cited:

Glassberg, J. 1999. <u>Butterflies through Binoculars the East</u> (A field guide to the butterflies of eastern North America). Oxford University Press, New York. 246pp.

Pelham, J. P. 2008. A catalogue of the butterflies of the United States and Canada with a complete bibliography of the descriptive and systematic literature. J. Res. Lepid., Vol. 40

## MY INTRODUCTION TO KENTUCKY

#### By Charles Covell

It was July 1959, and I was a newlywed living in Norfolk, VA, teaching in a boys' day school. I was also a member of the U.S. Army Reserve, and was obliged to spend two weeks at summer camp for training at Ft. Knox, KY. I had never been to Kentucky before, and I was lucky enough to receive "TPA," which stood for an allowance to drive my car to camp. By this time my interest in collecting butterflies was again strong, after several years of hiatus. I had a part-time job that summer at the Norfolk Museum, and was surveying Virginia counties to see what I could find to add to Austin & Leila Clark's book, Butterflies of Virginia (1952). In that book I read that the Northern Metalmark, Calephelis borealis, was known from a locality just west of Blacksburg called "Poverty Hollow." That was a butterfly I had never seen in nature, so I planned my trip so as to overnight in Blacksburg. Having spent a night at the old Colonial Hotel there, I went to the VPI (Virginia Tech) campus and found the Biology Department. I was directed to invertebrate zoology professor, Dr. Perry Holt. After hearing of my query, he sent me to Dr. James M. Grayson, head of the brand new Entomology Department. I received a warm welcome, the desired directions, and an invitation to become an entomologist by attending VPI and working toward a Master's degree. The missing science courses (I had majored in English at UNC-Chapel Hill) could be made up as I went along. Dr. Grayson wanted me to curate the department's insect collection, since I had been building a Lepidoptera collection for almost ten years at that point. Thus was planted the seed that led me to VPI for both the MS and PhD, doing my research mainly under the tutelage of Dr. Ed Todd at the U.S. National Museum in Washington, DC, where I had been visiting since 1950.

After leaving Dr. Grayson's office, I drove westward and spent a couple of hours in the area of Poverty Hollow, collecting some nice butterflies but not seeing any Northern Metalmarks. They would be found later, though, when I went to VPI the next year to pursue my graduate studies.

After getting hot and tired in Poverty Hollow, I followed U.S. Route 460 Westward through the mountains of Virginia, then West Virginia. The drive seemed endless. I was due at Ft. Knox the next day, so I plowed on until at last I emerged in Kentucky for the first time – in Pikeville. It was well after dark by then, and near the highway there was a county fair going on, and a hamburger stand with bright fluorescent lights around the small building. I collected my first Kentucky moths there, and also a misguided Red-banded Hairstreak, Calycopis cecrops, that was perched on the white walls of the building. I then

found a very cheap hotel in the downtown, and climbed creaking steps to a room that had a tilted floor. It cost \$2.50. I was sweltering hot, tired and anxious about reaching Ft. Knox on schedule. I tried to sleep, but sleep would not come. So after about an hour I got up and left, driving on, winding deeper into Kentucky. Exhausted by about 5 AM, I pulled off the road next to a wooden fence, opened the window, and fell asleep. I awoke to the presence of a cow's head close to mine, I was so close to the fence. I drove on and managed to find a back road into the military reservation. However, it was not the correct entrance, and I found myself with my 1953 Chevy parked amidst tanks, trucks and scurrying soldiers, engaged in a field exercise. I got directions and drove to the main post, and participated in the two weeks' training. My car was allowed on the trip (the bulk of our unit went by train from Norfolk) because they wanted us to have access to Louisville and its one time stopping at a small pond near Ft. Knox in Meade County where I recorded a Red Admiral, Vanessa atalanta. We enjoyed downtown attractions - now mostly gone. Little did I know that 5 years later Betty and I would move to Louisville for what turned out to be a wonderful 40 years of life and Lepidoptera in Louisville and the 120 counties of Kentucky!

#### Correction

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The Great Papaipema Chase 2007, article by Bill black, Jr. Vol. 34, No. 2, Kentucky Lepidopterist

I apologize to the US Forest Service for wrongly blaming them in the destruction of remnant prairies along Hwy 1274 in Rowan Co., KY. One site was inside a US Forest Service gate. But the gated road was actually an access road, through private prairie lands; to adjacent US Forest Service property. These private lands have never been owned by the US Forest Service, and it would not have known of their impending destruction.

Before sending my article to the editor, I sent the fourth draft to Dr. Jonathan Smith of Morehead, asking him to review my text for accuracy. Jonathan caught my mistake, explaining to me that the US Forest Service had never owned the land in question. I appreciated the lesson in writers' need to check facts. I actually rewrote the erroneous part, entered it into the final draft, but then mistakenly emailed the uncorrected fourth draft to the editor. I was chagrined to discover my mistake when I read the published newsletter!

My apology to all, Bill Black, Jr.

## 2008 Annual Meeting at the University of Kentucky

The 2008 Annual Meeting of the Society of Kentucky Lepidopterists, hosted once again by Dr. Michael Sharkey, will take place October 31-November 1, on the campus of the University of Kentucky in conjunction with the Annual Meeting of the Kentucky Academy of Science (KAS). The oral presentations of our meeting on Saturday afternoon will be in the same venue as the KAS meeting and participants from either meeting will be able to attend the presentations of the other. Following is a brief outline of the weekend's agenda along with additional pertinent information:

Friday 31 October

10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

**Identification Day** 

Entomology Dept., Agriculture Science Center North Bldg.

The collection will be open for viewing and identification. Please bring specimens of special interest, UFOs to be identified, and any records to be

added to the database.

7:00 PM

Reception

E.S. Good Barn

This will be an informal gathering hosted by Dr. Sharkey. A slide projector will be available and time set aside for the sharing of photos and/or stories from the field. Please consider bringing snacks or

desserts to share.

Saturday 1 November

Entomology Department, Agriculture Science Center North Building

9:00 AM to Noon

Collection open for viewing Coffee, donuts, and fellowship

(White Hall Classroom Building -- KAS Meeting Site)

1:00 PM to 2:00 PM 2:00 PM to 5:00 PM **Business Meeting** 

**Featured Speaker:** Dr. Tony Frankino, from the University of Houston will be giving a presentation entitled "The evolution and development of wing morphologies in butterflies"

**Contributed Talks and Papers** 

Please advise Dr. Jeffrey Marcus 270-745-2043 (Office) or 270-303-2639 (Cell), jeffrey.marcus@wku.edu if you have something that you would like to present.

As has been our tradition, we will end the meeting with a **door prize drawing**. Please consider bringing Lepidoptera-related items to contribute to the drawing.

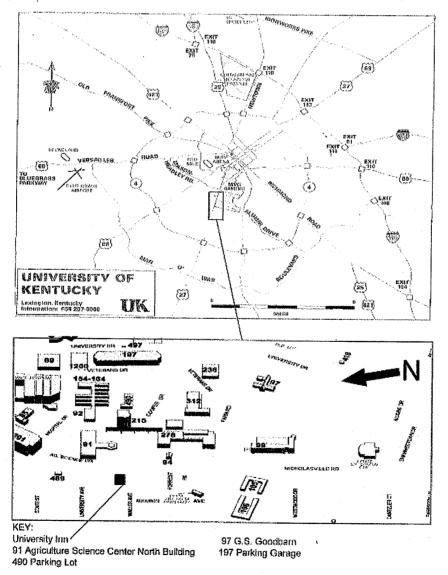
**EVENING** 

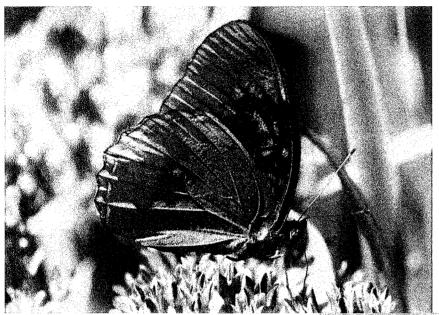
Dinner at a local restaurant.

**LODGING:** Ten rooms are being held at the University Inn (across the street from the Ag. Science Center North Building). Reservations must be made by October 24. Group rates before tax are: \$105 for a double room. For reservations call 866-881-9676 and specify that you are with the Society of Kentucky Lepidopterists.

**PARKING:** Those staying at the University Inn may park there and walk across the street to the meeting. There is a parking lot directly behind the Ag. Science Center North Building and a parking garage at the corner of Cooper Dr. and University Dr. Parking permits will be required for Friday only and may be obtained from Dr. Sharkey upon arrival. You may park in front of the building for 15 minutes while securing your permit. If there are any problems, contact Dr. Sharkey @ 859-257-9364. On Saturday afternoon, free parking is available at the visitor's parking lot across the street from the Student Center, near the White Hall Classroom Building. Just say to the parking attendant that you are with "KAS" and they will let you park without charge.

**DIRECTIONS:** A map page showing the University Inn and meeting locations is included below:



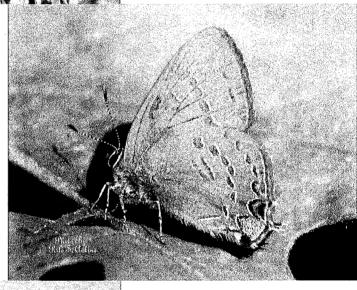


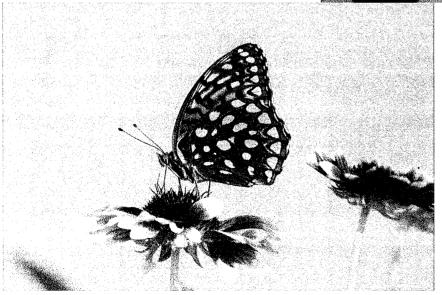
# Speyeria diana **Diana**

Photographed 11 July, 2008 by Rita Adkins

## Satyrium calanus falacer **Banded Hairstreak**

Photographed 24 June, 2008 by Rita Adkins





# Speyeria aphrodite Aphrodite Fritillary

Photographed 13 June, 2008 By Rita Adkins