**Kentucky Lepidopterist**

Newsletter of the Society of Kentucky Lepidopterists

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**THE SOCIETY OF KENTUCKY LEPIDOPTERISTS**

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Leroy Koehn - 2010*
Loran Gibson - 2009*
Richard Henderson - 2009*
* term expires

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**Pyrausta inornatalis**
(Fernald), Hodges #5037

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**New State Record**

By Charles Covell

In January, 2008, I received an email from entomological colleague, Dr. Ken Yeargan, at the University of Kentucky's Department of Entomology, along with an image of a lovely all-pink moth sent to him by a former student. That student, Cynthia Higgs of Lexington, had found the moth in her kitchen on January 21. I could not identify it, though I thought it was a member of the crambid genus *Pyrausta*. I was (Continued on page 2)
not aware at the time, but I had collected this species in Texas a number of years ago. No match was found in the collection of the McGuire Center, where I now work.

Later, another individual of the same species was photographed by Frank Lyne in Logan County near Dot on July 8. He relayed that image to David Roemer, who ran it down among the images on the website www.davesgarden.com. He identified the moth as Pyrausta inornatalis (Fernald). Records of the species were from Florida, Texas, Oklahoma, Mississippi, and Tennessee. I agreed with the identification. Cynthia had a Salvia plant in her kitchen in January, and I suspect that the moth hatched from the plant. There is other evidence that suggests it feeds on Salvia.

Then another specimen, this time outside, was collected and sent to Ken by Cynthia, and Ken sent the moth to me. I spread it, and later placed it in the collection at the University of Kentucky during our fall meeting there. Thus two “non-lepidopterists” were interested enough in a moth to photograph it and seek identification; thus provide us with another state record.

Spring Field Trip Notice

Led by Loran D. Gibson
2727 Running Creek Drive
Florence, KY 41042-8984
e-mail kymothman@fuse.net
Home telephone 859-384-0083
Cell telephone 859-750-6419

EVENT: 2009 spring field trip of The Society of Kentucky Lepidopterists

DATES: 17-19 April 2009 or 24-26 April in case of foul weather earlier

LOCATIONS: Daniel Boone National Forest in the Laurel Lake area including Laurel, Pulaski, Whitley and McCreary Counties. Proposed sites include Rockcastle Recreation Area, Laurel Co.; Bee Rock Recreation Area, along Rockcastle River in Laurel and Pulaski Cos.; Laurel Lake Dam and Holly Bay Camping Area, Laurel and Whitley Cos.; and many miles of Forest Service trails and roads in Laurel, Whitley, and Pulaski Cos. If we have time we will also visit a large natural bridge and an interesting system of deep gorges and sandstone ridges similar to Red River Gorge in northern McCreary Co.

ACCOMMODATIONS: There are many motels along I 75 in London at the intersections of KY Rt. 80, (exit 41) and KY Rt192, (exit 38). These are also the closest location for restaurants. There are a couple of country stores in the Holly Bay area where snacks, drinks and ice are available.

My choice for the best motel value in the area is the Budget Host Motel just west of I 75 along KY Rt. 80 in London. It is not fancy, but in the past, this motel has been clean and well kept, and rooms go for a modest rate. The telephone number of the Budget Host is 606-878-7330. The rate for a room for two persons with two beds is $51.95/night. This includes taxes. Continental breakfast is provided. Several restaurants are nearby.

Camping with full hook-ups is available at Holly Bay Camping Area near Laurel Lake Dam. Primitive camping is allowed at Rockcastle Recreation Area and Bee Rock Recreation Area. At (continued on page 3)
this time, I am not certain of the fee structure for 2009. All are Forest Service facilities. Holly Bay is one of the nicest camping areas in KY! Mothing there can be excellent in spring. With electricity at the campsites, setting up black lights is very easy. Camping is on a first-come-first-served basis.

I have not put together an itinerary for the meeting at this time, but the following should apply. We can plan to collect moths on Friday night. Selecting our location will depend on whether we camp or stay in a motel. On Saturday we can explore several areas in western Laurel and eastern Pulaski Counties for butterflies. Mothing on Saturday night will be in the same area. On Sunday we can explore the natural bridge, deep gorges and sandstone ridges near Parkers Lake in McCreary County.

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The Great *Papaipema* Chase
2008

By Bill Black

For the past ten seasons, a number of Kentucky Lepidopterists have focused their light traps on moths of the genus *Papaipema*. They have been inspired by the leading *Papaipema* expert, Eric L. Quinter. In the late 1990’s he had been traveling through Western Kentucky, Southeast Missouri, and Southern Illinois collecting larvae of cane feeding Noctuidae. Among his targeted prey were two new species of *Papaipema* which he was describing that feed on cane. He needed some more specimens of the adult moths.

For eight seasons *Papaipema* collectors concentrated their efforts on scattered remnant stands of cane to supply para-type specimens to Quinter for his studies of *P. n.s.#4* and *P.n.s.#5*. In 2005, Leroy Koehn suggested to Bill Black that the KY Leps should try an extreme focus on the larger cane sites by massing collectors and light traps during the peak flying dates. He recommended naming this communal effort “The Great *Papaipema* Chase”. Logistics challenge gangs of collectors, but this tactic has proven effective for surveying numerous sites of food plants, spread over an extensive area, during a short flying season. Loran Gibson’s internet data-keeping has enabled the “GPC” to expand its extensive area to include the whole of Kentucky, and some border areas of Illinois and Tennessee. Correspondingly, numbers of collectors in the gangs have decreased. By 2007 Quinter had assembled enough specimens of his two cane feeding species. Coincidentally, the collectors’ interests had grown by then to a generalized appreciation of the whole genus.

Only twice during the “GPC ’08” did collectors gang their light traps. On 10 OCT 08 Kevin Segebarth led Gerald Burnett, Leroy Koehn, and Bill Black to the Dawson Creek Seeps in the eastern edge of Caldwell Co., KY. The Segebarths had discovered a large seep there in 2006. It hosted Sphagnum Moss, Royal Ferns, and Cinnamon Ferns beneath the canopy of a wetland woods. They set one light trap there on 18 OCT 06, but did not find the targeted *P. speciosissima*. No one tried the Dawson Creek Seeps in 2007. However, the four collectors who tested the site on 10 OCT 08 set a total of (10) UV light traps there. Other *Papaipema* species showed up, but not *P. speciosissima*. Segebarth tried once more on 20 OCT 08, setting (3) UV light traps, including (1) set with a deficient battery delivered by Black from his Christian Co. cane sites. Still, no *P. speciosissima*. (continued on page 4)
The second night of ganging traps involved Black and Koehn setting a total of (6) UV light traps. They targeted cane sites along the Blood River at the KY-TN state line. Though Leroy had originated the idea of the “GPC”, he had not been able to participate in the official adventure until 2008. Then he made up for lost time! Setting (4) traps on 11 OCT 08, he collected (22) P. n.s. #5’s! This included (12) in one trap at a new cane site of his own choosing, cane site # P-18 in Henry Co., TN. Also remarkable was his experience at dwindling cane site # 6A., on the very edge of a four foot vertical bank of the Blood River in Calloway Co., KY. Here only 5 or 6 stalks of cane remain. The original cane site #4, forty meters away on the edge of an old oxbow meander, had finally died out after a steady four-year decline. Black felt obligated to explain, as they set Koehn’s trap, that he never would recommend this site except for its statistics. Light traps at site #4, and later at site #4A, almost always had captured a P.n.s. #5, and sometimes two. The next morning Koehn had (6)! (One of these was outside the trap, resting on a vane.) Of the (22) specimens he collected that night, only one was a female.

Leroy Koehn made a major solitary effort in 2008 pursuing Papaipema moths in Illinois prairies. The outcome is so significant that he is being asked to report those results in a separate article.

Black continued to press outward from the Jackson Purchase in an effort to perceive the ranges of the two cane feeding Papaipema species. He tried two new sites of cane on 13 OCT 08 in the south corner of Crittenden Co., KY, finding three other Papaipema species, but only one P. n.s. #4.

After Gerald Burnett discovered P. n.s. #5 in 2007 at the BWMA of Ballard Co., KY, Black scouted the Illinois side of the Ohio River for cane. He found a three-quarter mile series of cane stands along the bank of a dredged creek at Olmsted in Pulaski Co., IL. On 9 OCT 08 he set three light traps along the Eastern half of the cane complex, collecting (16) specimens of P. n.s. #4, but no n.s. #5. Black returned to Pulaski Co., IL, on 18 OCT 08, to continue his earlier search of cane at Olmsted, this time trying three stands of cane in the Western half of the complex. That night turned cold, and only two P. catalapracta showed up to represent their genus.

Black finally was able to try cane along the Little River in Christian Co., KY, on 19 and 20 OCT 08. This cane had allured him for six or seven years, each time he viewed it from I-24 on the way to Nashville. Two nights of trapping (a total of six “trap-nights”) produced three common species, but only one P. n.s. #4.

Loran Gibson had to forego the GPC ’08 in order to collect Lycaenidae with Mike McInnis in a survey expedition to Peru. Dr. Jonathan Smith of Morehead became the sole field representative of the GPC ’08 for Eastern Kentucky. He collected twelve species of Papaipema, four of which no one else collected. (See “2008 Aggregated Data”)

When Segebarth returned to check an uncollected extension of the Dawson Creek Seeps, he spotted numerous stands of cane from US Highway 60. On 21 OCT 08, Black explored the new cane sites in Caldwell Co. related to him by Segebarth, but in three traps he only found (2) P. catalapracta. Black’s last catch of the GPC 08 was an accidental P. catalapracta collected on 23 OCT 08. He found this specimen, and a few other moths, among a crowd of Angle Wing butterflies in a bait trap in Paducah.

Society of Kentucky Lepidopterists
Annual Business Meeting Minutes
November 1, 2008
By Tony Merkle

The meeting was called to order by President Jeff Marcus. Initial discussion involved field trips for 2009. A plan modeled after the one used in 2008 was suggested as being desirable which would include overnight trips in the spring and late in the summer along with the 4th of July Butterfly Count at the Horner Wildlife Sanctuary in Oldham County in late June or early July. It was mentioned that the spring trip would likely take place at a site near Somerset (Pulaski County) or London (Laurel County). The late summer field trip would take place on the weekend immediately preceding or immediately following Labor Day weekend and would be to the Jackson Purchase region of the state based out of Paducah with forays throughout the region. Charlie Covell elaborated on the timing of the 4th of July Butterfly Count and the possibility of conducting it earlier in order to maximize the (continued on page 5)
chances of seeing certain species such as the Northern Metalmark. It was mentioned that holding it earlier might present a conflict with the Lepidopterist Society meeting scheduled for June 16-20. Based on the discussion Charlie proposed that June 27th would be a good day to schedule it and indicated that they would try to have it on that day.

The next item of discussion was the treasurer's report. Jeff presented some details of the report as given to him by Les Ferge. The details include expenditures of $1350.07 and receipts of $1057.00 for a net deficit on the year of $293.07. The deficit was attributed primarily to a significantly large number of long-standing members being in arrears on payment of dues. Those members in arrears who were present were urged to bring dues payment up to date. A plan to notify those who continued to be in arrears with a renewal reminder at a later date was mentioned.

Recruitment methods were then discussed. They included contact and/or interaction with groups such as the Kentucky Academy of Sciences, 4-H, and Boy Scouts. The idea of awarding a free membership to the Society as a prize for outstanding accomplishments in some of these organizations was discussed. Other outreach projects that were discussed included presentations to schools, and collaborative efforts with other societies, national parks and foundations. Specifically mentioned in this regard as potential partners were the Audubon Society, Mammoth Cave National Park and Bernheim Forest. It was further suggested that a newsletter or an informational publication could be supplied for distribution at the visitor centers of national recreation areas such as Land between the Lakes or state parks. Distribution of informational materials to participants of walks at nature preserves such as Raven Run was also mentioned as a possibility. Jeff further indicated that the website would continue to serve as an outreach tool and that he would continue to maintain it.

At this time the discussion turned to the production of Society decals/stickers. The primary items of consideration were the type to be secured, the number that would be needed and the cost that would be incurred. Leroy Koehn indicated that he could do a printing of some. It was suggested that about 100-150 would be needed. Leroy agreed to research the cost of producing them and report back to the president of his findings prior to moving forward with having them printed.

The next item brought before the membership was the election of officers. Those nominated by Jeff to fill vacated offices for the coming year were Bill Black for President, Gerald Burnett for Field Trip Coordinator and Richard Henderson, Loran Gibson and Leroy Koehn for At-large Members. The full slate of officers thus presented for 2009 was as follows:

President – Bill Black
Treasurer – Les Ferge
Field Trip Coordinator – Gerald Brunett
Secretary – Tony Merkle
Editor – Kevin Segeberth
At-large Members – Richard Henderson, Loran Gibson and Leroy Koehn

Charlie Covell moved that the nominations cease and that the slate be accepted. The move was seconded and the motion carried without opposition.

At this time the idea of officially adding the position of Website Coordinator as part of the organization’s board of officers was introduced by James Adams. It was mentioned that, while such a move would probably require an amendment to the constitution, the demands associated with maintaining the site might warrant the change and that it should probably be considered. A brief discussion ensued regarding whether or not the title and duties should be assumed as part of an existing board position or as a newly created position. James suggested that a new position might be desirable given that it would create a board consisting of an (continued on page 6)
odd number of individuals thus lessening the likelihood of a stalemate in instances where an issue required a vote by the members of the board.

The final item brought before the membership was new business. None was presented. A motion was made for adjournment. It was seconded. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned.

The business meeting was followed by presentations from various members and guest speakers, presentation of the 2008 Carl Cornett Award and distribution of door prizes.

Society of Kentucky Lepidopterists
Board Meeting Minutes
November 1, 2008
By Tony Merkle

Present were: Bill Black, Charlie Covell, Loran Gibson, Richard Henderson, Jeff Marcus, Tony Merkle, Kevin Segebarth

President Jeff Marcus brought the meeting to order and opened by presenting for discussion the slate of officers/board members to be proposed later in the day to the full membership at the business meeting. The discussion included the following:

1) Bill Black agreed to being nominated as the new president.
2) Les Ferge agreed to continue in the position as treasurer (based on earlier correspondence to Jeff).
3) Gerald Burnett would be nominated as the new field trip coordinator (based on an earlier discussion between he and Jeff regarding this).
4) Kevin Segebarth agreed to continue in the position as newsletter editor.
5) Tony Merkle agreed to continue in the position as secretary.
6) Loran Gibson and Richard Henderson agreed to continue in their positions as at-large members.
7) Leroy Koehn agreed to being nominated as an at-large member (based on an earlier discussion between he and Jeff regarding this).

Based on this discussion it was agreed that this would be the slate of officers to be proposed to the full membership at the business meeting.

During the discussion on the slate of officers, there was also some discussion regarding the possibility of reducing the number of newsletters printed per year from four, which has been standard practice, to two in order to help simplify the process of its production. Further discussion ensued regarding the notification of members about field trips. It was suggested that this could be done by post card or e-mail message. All present agreed that this could probably be done and should be considered as a possible option.

The next item presented for discussion was the financial report for 2008 as submitted to the officers by treasurer Les Ferge. The primary item of discussion was a shortfall of nearly $300.00 for the year due largely to failure on the part of many long-standing members to renew membership during the course of the year. Methods to encourage membership renewal and recruitment of new members were discussed. Possible avenues for recruitment that were discussed included contact and incentive efforts targeted to 4-H and Boy Scout organizations, presentations to schools and other organizations (i.e. Kentucky Academy of Sciences) and dissemination of materials (i.e. newsletter and application form) to naturalists and/or visitor center operators at state and national park/recreation areas. The state parks and Land between the Lakes were specifically mentioned as possibilities for this during the discussion. Kevin suggested the possibility of e-mailing members in arrears with reminders to renew membership. Jeff indicated that he would send those e-mail messages and that Kevin could later include renewal reminder leaflets in newsletters sent to anyone who did not respond to his e-mail reminder.

New business was then presented as a topic for discussion. Nothing was brought forth. Jeff indicated that he would try to maintain contact with the group even with his anticipated move to Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada and that he would continue to maintain the website through the coming year since it could be administered from there. He also indicated that he would be willing to help in coordination of a field trip or field trips to areas of Canada if the opportunity and interest arises.

The planning of field trips for the coming year was then discussed. Jeff suggested that the previous year's format seemed to work well and proposed that it be followed again in the coming year. Possible sites for trips were discussed including a (continued on page 7)
U.S. Forest Service facility in Laurel County. Based on the discussion it was decided that the schedule would consist of a trip to Pulaski or Laurel County in the spring (probably April), participation in the 4th of July Butterfly Count at the Horner Wildlife Sanctuary in Oldham County and a trip to the Jackson Purchase Region late in the summer either on the weekend immediately preceding or immediately following Labor Day weekend.

At this time the discussion turned back to concerns about production of the newsletter. Kevin indicated that if it was to be produced twice annually that the best months for him to do so would be February and September. The idea of reducing the number of issues from four to two was presented to Charlie Covell. He indicated that he did not think there would be a problem with doing so but that it might be a good idea to bring the matter before the membership at the business meeting. Bill Black suggested that it probably would be good to give notice of the change through the newsletter itself so that members would not expect four issues in a year if only two were to be produced.

Jeff mentioned at this time that James Adams and Charles Wright agreed to serve as board members if needed. Discussion then ensued regarding organization decals/stickers and how these might be ordered or otherwise obtained for dissemination to the members. It was agreed that this should be discussed further at the business meeting.

Meeting adjourned.

**INVITATION FROM A FELLOW NATURALIST**

Barry Nichols, a former member of the Society of Kentucky Lepidopterists, and former editor of our newsletter, is still serving the science of Biology in our state. He is Editor of the Kentucky Naturalist News - newsletter of the Kentucky Society of Natural History.

He invites us to check the website [http://www.ksnh.org](http://www.ksnh.org) for their schedule of activities. Their 2009 Spring Meeting is at Pine Mountain Settlement School, and the Fall Meeting is at Reelfoot Lake. He invited us to attend, present, or lead field trips or Lep workshops.

For questions, or to volunteer, email him at news@ksnh.org

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**Travels with Charlie**

By Jeff Marcus

In February 2009, I had the opportunity to visit with Charlie Covell at the McGuire Center for Lepidoptera and Biodiversity in Gainesville, Florida. This was my first chance to visit there since the 57th Annual Meeting of the Lepidopterists’ Society was held there in June 2006. The official excuse was to give a seminar at the McGuire Center, but it was a good opportunity for me and my wife Joanne Seiff, to visit Charlie, his wife Betty, and their son Rob, who were wonderful hosts.

I also had the opportunity to spend a little bit of time in the collections of the McGuire Center and among other things, was able to determine the something about the range of the Andean buckeye, sometimes called the false painted lady (to which it has some similarity), *Junonia vestina*. The species is found from 2400 m to 4000 m in the Andes, and the species range extends from Argentina to Columbia. Many of the reports I had read had suggested a much narrower distribution. Collections of this species seem to occur from Mid-November to May or June. Good to know, as they say. We also got a chance to visit the butterfly house at the McGuire Center. Temperatures were cool, so not too much was flying, but it was a good opportunity to take some photos.

Also while we were in Florida, Joanne had the opportunity to promote her new knitting book, “Fiber Gathering”, which has just been released from the publisher, John Wiley & Sons. We got a chance to visit a lot of bookstores, which I enjoy doing anyway. It’s a good thing that Charlie likes bookstores, too!

It was a short visit, but very enjoyable. Thanks Charlie!

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**Annual Butterfly Count**

27 June 2009

As usual, we will meet at 9:30 AM at what was the little restaurant in Brownboro, reached from I-71 N by taking Exit 14 and turning left at the bottom of the ramp and going one mile. The parking lot of the business is on the right. Rain date will be next day at the same time. We will count from 10 AM to 3 PM. Bring lunch, water, and bug repellent; and wear long pants and shirt and good hat.
ICE STORM 2009
By Gerald Burnett

You had to be living under a rock to not know that the ice storm was coming. I never really pay that much attention to weather warnings until the day arrives since our forecast is constantly changing day to day. They were right on with this one! The storm that hit West Kentucky on the 26th and the 27th of January 2009 was one that none of us will ever forget.

We all became familiar with generators, gas stoves, linemen, FEMA, disaster aid, utility companies, MREs (meals ready to eat), charity, storm shelters, warming centers, and good neighbors! All of these terms were repeated constantly on newscasts in our area.

I saw my power go out on Tuesday the 27th. The sound of limbs breaking constantly through the night kept me awake and I ended up missing the rest of the week at work because of the trees and limbs blocking virtually every road in the county in the storm's aftermath. I thought I was well prepared for this kind of disaster but I was wrong. I had food and water but my house fell to 39 degrees by Thursday morning. I had spent all day that Wednesday just cutting limbs and trees that were blocking my driveway and I still couldn’t get my car out because the county road was blocked. I had no cell phone service and my nearest neighbor lives about a quarter of a mile away.

I was able to break through the ice on my car door and listen to the local news on Wednesday. Initially I thought this would be a 3 or 4 day ordeal but when I heard how bad it was I knew I had to leave my house. Luckily, my closest neighbor came by Thursday afternoon to check on me. He had driven his tractor through his field as close as he could get to my house and walked the last 300 yards or so. I was so thankful when he volunteered to see if he could find someone close who had a Verizon cell phone (the only company that had working towers immediately after the storm). He drove to a couple of houses within a mile or so and actually found me a ride to Paducah that afternoon. I was on my Mom and Dad’s porch before dark Thursday thanks to two generous neighbors.

My power didn’t get turned back on for 3 weeks. I was fortunate to have a place to stay in the interim, but others weren’t so blessed. Generators were selling like crazy and those who had gas heat or wood burning stoves were at least able to stay warm. Families and neighbors came together during this disaster and I think this event has made us better prepared for similar circumstances.

To give you an idea of the scope of the disaster I contacted Patrick Kerr, a spokesperson for my power company, Jackson Purchase Electrical Cooperative(JPEC) for the following information. I asked him how many of their customers were without power immediately after the storm and he replied “all of them”. Almost 30,000 customers without power at JPEC and that is just one utility company of many in the area. JPEC has so far
replaced 3000 utility poles and 600 miles of utility lines. They have also had over 300 guest workers from virtually every state East of the Mississippi River assisting in the repairs.

My "Storm Story" is not the only one out there. EVERYONE who was here at the time of the storm has a story to tell of their own. Just ask anyone and I'm sure they'll be happy to share their story with you.

Above: Bill Black's house, Jan 28, 2009

Right: The Segebarths' driveway, Jan 28, 2009

Below and Right:
One of the "Brush Mountains" being created by tree casualties collected along state roads in Western KY, this one on I-24 at Exit 11.
President's Letter

It has occurred to me this winter that Lepidoptery can be a good science to be involved with during economic hard times. At the individual’s basic level, tools and techniques are very simple and very cheap. Exceptions that we all long for would be exotic trips overseas. We have even created local expeditions that involve vigorous commuting and considerable fuel costs. The Great Papaipema Chase, for example, has in some years required driving 200 miles per day for three weeks. Traveling heavy and with only one collector in each vehicle can multiply expenses. In August 2007, Richard Henderson and I had intended to drive together in one vehicle from his house in Louisville, KY, to Mo Nielsen's Quonset Hut in Otsego County, MI. When I arrived at Richard’s two hours late, and we discovered both vehicles packed to capacity with equipment, we ended up driving in two vehicles parallel! Planning and discipline can enhance economy. So can creativity. Charlie Covell’s famous backyard butterfly counts come to mind. Economic hard times are no reason to quit thinking, but rather a reason to think more.

Another opportunity hiding in disguise is the 100 year ice storm that devastated Kentucky’s heritage of beautiful trees throughout three-quarters of the Commonwealth in late January 2009. It could be interesting for Kentucky Lepidopterists to pool our data related to tree canopy damage. We could call it “Observations ‘09” and “Observations “10”. I have in mind a whole spectrum of tree species’ vulnerability to ice damage. Two types not native to Western Kentucky seemed most vulnerable – White Birch and Long Leaf Pine. Next most vulnerable were native species Hackberry, Wild Cherry, Water Maple, and Elm. Willow Oaks’ top limbs were very vulnerable, but most oaks were mid-way in the damage spectrum. Exceptionally hardy were Cherry Bark Oaks, and White Oaks. Almost impervious were Post Oaks, Cypress, Walnut, and Hickory trees. Small young trees in general fared well. The surprise champions, suffering no loss of limbs, were the pioneers’ ancient pear trees which dot the feral yards of our countryside.

Considering this spectrum of damage, will the Hackberry Butterfly still be the most common species in our yard? Will we even see a Red Spotted Purple in our neighborhood? What about Paducah’s colony of Great Purple Hairstreaks centered on the Mistletoe concentration in the canopy of Water Maple and Elm of Island Creek? Probably ninety percent of the Mistletoe in our own yard was either stripped off the limbs or fell with the limbs from the two great Elm trees it had infested. I think I’ll wait a few years before trying to start a new colony by transplanting female Great Purple Hairstreaks from Island Creek to our neighborhood. Now, I’m just hoping to observe the survival of the natural colony.

Consider writing up your “Observations ’09”, and email them to Kevin Segebarth to publish in our newsletter. Stay in touch by paying your $12 dues and reading your Kentucky Lepidopterist. Join the crowd at the two KY Lep field trips planned for 2009, and at Charlie Covell’s Fourth of July Butterfly Count. Attend the November meeting at UK. Share your data, and show your specimens. Finally, this year, recruit a fellow traveler or an interested bystander to join the KY Leps.

Bill Black
President
Some changes in the names of Kentucky moths

Recently two publications established changes in the names of some Kentucky moths, and so I thought you all might want to know them if you do not have the publications.

The first is the Moths of North America ("MONA") fascicle 17.2 published posthumously by the late Douglas C. Ferguson. It covers the family Geometridae, subfamily Ennominae, tribe Macariini. This fascicle was released in Dec. 2008, six years after Doug’s death, and is the first fascicle to come hard-bound. While some of the name changes have been in use for a while, other have not. I will list the MONA checklist numbers for reference, give the name used (pp. 99 - 101) in Covell 1999, The Butterflies and Moths (Lepidoptera) of Kentucky, then list the revised name (if changed). The order of Kentucky species of Macariini listed below is the order appearing in Ferguson’s book.

7009 *Nematocampa limbata* (Haw.) now *Nematocampa resistaria* (Herrich-Schäffer), and put before all other Macariini
6270 *Protitame virginalis* (Hult)
6261 *Helliomata cyclogata* Grote & Robinson
6263 *H. inflata* (Grote)
6419 *Enconista dislocaria* (Packard) is now *Isturgia dislocaria* (Packard)
6272 *Eumacaria latiferrugata* (Walker) is now *Eumacaria madopata* (Guenee)
6322 *Melilla xanthometa* (Walker)
6360 *Semiothisa quadrinotaria* (Herrich-Schäffer) is now *Trigrammia quadrinotaria* Herrich-Schäffer.

6303 *Itame subsessaria* (Walker) is now *Speranza subsessaria* (Walker)
6273 *Itame postulata* (Guenee) is *Speranza postulata* (Guenee)
6332 *Semiothisa punctolineata* (Packard) is *Psamatodes abydata* (Guenee)
6326 *Semiothisa aemulataria* (Walker) is *Macaria aemulataria* Walker
6331 *Semiothisa promiscuata* Ferguson is *Macaria promiscuata* (Ferguson)
6335 *Semiothisa aequiferaria* (Walker) is *Macaria aequiferaria* Walker
6342 *Semiothisa bisignata* (Walker) is *Macaria bisignata* (Walker)
6341 *Semiothisa bicolorata* (Fabricius) is *Macaria bicolorata* (Fabricius)
6339 *Semiothisa transistaria* (Walker) is *Macaria transistaria* Walker
6340 *Semiothisa minorata* (Packard) is *Macaria minorata* Packard
6348 *Semiothisa fissinotata* (Walker) is *Macaria fissinotata* (Walker)
6352 *Semiothisa granitata* (Guenee) is *Macaria granitata* Guenee
6353 *Semiothisa multilineata* (Packard) is *Macaria multilineata* Packard
6362 *Semiothisa continua* (Walker) is *Digrammia continua* (Walker)
6386 *Semiothisa ocellinata* (Guenee) is *Digrammia ocellinata* (Guenee)
6357 *Semiothisa eremianta* (Guenee) is *Digrammia eremianta* (Guenee)
6397 *Semiothisa melliuniformata* (Grote) is *Digrammia melliuniformata* (Grote)
6399 *Semiothisa subminiatana* (Packard) is *Digrammia subminiatana* Packard
6405 *Semiothisa gnospharia* (Guenee) is *Digrammia gnospharia* (Guenee)


Charlie Covell
Photos by:
Rita S. Adkins

Baltimore Checkerspot, *Euphydryas phaeton*, 6/10/08

Northern Pearly-Eye, *Enodia anthedon*, 6/19/08

Mourning Cloak, *Nymphalis antiopa*, 8/26/08
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