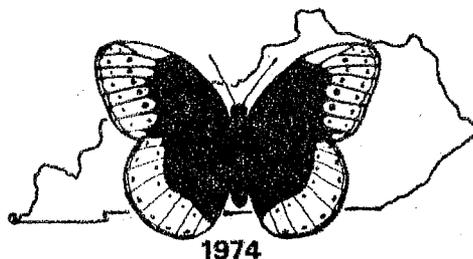


KENTUCKY LEPIDOPTERIST

NEWSLETTER OF
*The Society of
Kentucky Lepidopterists*



VOL. 4, No. 2

C. V. COVELL JR., EDITOR

JUNE, 1978

LEPIDOPTERISTS' SOCIETY TO HOLD ITS ANNUAL MEETING IN LOUISVILLE, JULY 6 - 9.

Most of you will receive with this issue of "Kentucky Lepidopterist" a packet of information concerning the ANNUAL MEETING OF THE LEPIDOPTERISTS' SOCIETY.

The meeting sessions will be held in the Life Sciences Bldg., University of Louisville, beginning at 9:00 A.M. on Friday, July 7. However, all of you are invited to attend an OPEN HOUSE at the Covells', at 8:00 P.M. on Thursday, July 6. IF YOU ARE COMING TO THE OPEN HOUSE, please let Covell know at least a couple of days before the 6th, so we can know how many to expect.

Dr. Lincoln Brower of Amherst College, Mass., long known for his research on mimicry, chemical protection in butterflies, and also film-making, will give a symposium with 2 colleagues on the Monarch, and will present his latest film at the banquet on Sat. night of the meeting. A symposium on state Lepidoptera faunal studies will also be featured.

THIS MEETING IS ALSO GOING TO INCLUDE THE FIRST WORKSHOPS KNOWN TO BE GIVEN IN THE 29 YEARS OF MEETINGS. Dr. J. F. G. Clarke of the Smithsonian Institution will conduct a workshop on genitalia dissection; and professional Smithsonian artists Elaine Hodges and George Venable will conduct one on scientific illustration of Lepidoptera (especially genitalia). AS MICROSCOPES AND MATERIALS FOR THESE

(Cont'd., pg. 2)

FAMED POVERTY HOLLOW IN VIRGINIA TO BE SITE OF AUGUST FIELD MEETING

Leroy Koehn has invited the Society of Kentucky Lepidopterists members to a field meeting in western Virginia beginning Friday, August 11 at his home for a hamburger cookout. Exact plans for collecting Saturday in Poverty Hollow and other local spots will be made then.

Poverty Hollow was the favorite haunt of a number of us who have lived around Blacksburg, Va. Prof. Ellison A. Smyth, the only entomologist at Virginia Tech in the latter years of the 1800's and first quarter of the 1900's, put it on the map with many fine butterfly and moth captures. Speyeria diana females should be right in season there at the time of the projected meeting.

Leroy asks anyone who wishes to attend to write or phone him before July 28. He will send maps, information on lodging, etc.

Contact Leroy as follows:

Leroy C. Koehn
Rt. #1, 38 Southern Drive
Dublin, Virginia 24084

Phone: (703) - 674-4851



(Lepid. Soc. Meeting, cont.)

SESSIONS ARE LIMITED, PEOPLE WILL BE ASKED TO SIGN UP FOR THEM AT REGISTRATION, OR NOTIFY C. V. COVELL BEFORE THE MEETING.

Other information regarding the meeting can be found on the enclosed sheets.

FIELD TRIPS planned in conjunction with the meeting: short trip to University Farm in Oldham Co., and trip to Big Black Mtn. in Harlan Co. after the meeting ends. More information on this will be available at the time of the meeting.

SPRING FIELD MEETING A WASHOUT (ALMOST); BUT MEMBERS HAVE GREAT SUCCESS IN FLORIDA

Loran Gibson visited Big Black Mountain the weekend before the planned Ky. Lepidopterist visit there April 21. On the 14th he saw 2 Erora laeta, plus Nymphalis antiopa, Incisalia henrici, and Pieris virginiensis. Anthocharis midea was seen at the western base of the mountain. In Kingdom Come State Park, in nearby Cumberland, he recorded I. henrici, augustinus, & niphon; A. midea, D. plexippus, Boloria bellona, Vanessa virginiensis, Celastrina argiolus, Erynnis brizo and juvenalis, Battus philenor, Graphium marcellus, and Papilio asterias, glaucus and troilus.

Then came the weekend of 21 April, and the weather was turbulent, cloudy, rainy, cool. But Loran and Richard Henderson made rendezvous, and went to the top of Big Black Mountain. There they found SNOW, but managed to find a few Celastrina ebenina near the western base, and plenty of Pieris virginiensis on the way up. At the summit they recorded Colias eurytheme, C. argiolus, and Glaucopsyche lygdamus (the last mentioned a new county record). No E. laeta this time.

At Kingdom Come State Park they collected Hesperia metea, another new county record, plus G. marcellus, A. midea, I. henrici, and I. augustinus.

Jim Merritt was there, too, on Big Black Mountain, but the rendezvous misfired. Loran thought he saw Jim going up the mountain as he and Richard were driving down. Jim got a taste of C. ebenina there, too.

(next column)

So, again, the spring field meeting was not too successful.

As mentioned in Vol. 4, no. 1, Covell took a class to Florida May 9 - 20. There were 9 students, and we went down via Gainesville, where Dr. Howard Weems gave a Cook's tour of the Florida Collection of Arthropods. He is a most enthusiastic and energetic curator, and, despite some recent fiscal setbacks, has put together one of the finest insect collections in the nation. Then we visited the Allyn Museum of Entomology in Sarasota, where Lee and Jackie Miller showed us the biggest and finest private butterfly collection in the U.S. Next we spent 2 nights in Ft. Myers with Dr. Ernest "Del" Del Fosse, former U. of Louisville student, who is working in Water Hyacinth Control there. He took us to some interesting spots on Sanibel Island and in the Ft. Myers area, and he and his wife Janet kindly put us all up and fed us. Then we crossed the Tamiami Trail, bumping into member Forrest "Duffy" Bledsoe and wife Patty, who encountered us as they returned from Marco Island to Miami (where Duffy is doing a Master's in Business Administration).

We spent 5 nights in Camp Owaissa Bauer just North of Homestead, using the bunkhouses and dining room facilities there. In addition to the 9 students and Covell, others who shared our "digs" were Dr. Douglas C. Ferguson of the U. S. National Museum, Leroy Koehn (Dublin, Va.), Denny Currett (Cleveland, Ohio), and Dave Baggett (Jacksonville, Fla.). Loran and Pat Gibson were there, too; and we saw a little of Homestead collector, Terry Dickel. We collected in the area, and the class spent some time on field trips to Everglades Nat. Park, Biscayne National Monument (where 2 P. aristodemus ponceanus and 26 other butterfly species were recorded, with hospitality provided by Jim Tilmant of the National Park Service), and the keys all the way down to Key West. We enjoyed meeting Dr. Paul Tuskes at Plantation Key on the way.

The best butterfly collecting was done by Koehn, Currett, Gibson, and Baggett while in the area. Leroy wrote that they recorded 92 butterfly species during the trip, including Chloristrymon simaethis and maesites, Siproeta stelenes, Papilio a. ponceanus & androgeus (both sighted), Phyciodes texana

(to page 3)

seminole, Eunica tatila tatilista, Marpesia petreus, Precis evarete zonalis, Phyciodes frisia, Atlides haesus, Pantheides m-album, Euristrymon favonius, Satyrion liparops liparops, S. calanus calanus, Strymon columella, acis bartrami, and martialis; Calephelis virginensis, Euptychia areolata, Brephidium pseudofea, Eurema dina and daira, Phocides pigmalion okeechobee, Urbanus proteus and dorantes, Polygonus leo, Epargyreus leo, Cymaenes tripunctus, Copaeodes minima, Polites baracoa, Hesperia meskei and attalus, Wallengrenia otho, Euphyes berryi, vestris metacomet, and arpa; Lerodea eufala, Lerema accius, Panoquina ocola and panoquin, and Calpodis ethlius. And some lesser lights.

At Camp Owaissa Bauer Ferguson, Covell, and Baggett did quite a bit of moth collecting, and found the numbers and variety generally good. Actually, the first night there, 14 May, was the best. Black Witches, Erebus odorata, came readily to sugar bait, and some fresh ones were taken. Sphingids were sparse, except for numerous Cautethia grotei. Baggett got a few Xylophanes pluto on flowers on Key Largo. Moth prizes included Eupseudosoma involutum floridum, Calidota strigosa and Eucereon carolina (Arctiidae); Eacles imperialis (Saturniidae); Seirarctiaecho (Arct.); Catocala muliercula, Phytometra ernestinana, Diastema tigris and many other Noctuidae, Epimecia detexta and matronaria, Amatris nitocris, and a possible new N. American record in the Geometridae, and many lovely micros.

The trip was a fine mix of learning, collecting, and fellowship. I hope we can try it again; and Camp Owaissa Bauer was a fine base of operations.

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following to our group:

BENNETT, Robert 3831 Blythewood Circle,
Powder Springs, Georgia
30073

DIRIG, Robert 807 East State St.
Ithaca, N.Y. 14850

(Bob is recent past editor and chief writer of Atala, magazine of the Xerxes Society, and the Society's recent Executive Director. He has been instrumental in efforts to preserve a unique butterfly habitat, the Karner Pine

Bush area near Albany, N. Y., home of the blue butterfly, Lycaeides melissa samuelis. He is also interested in butterflies of the Catskills and Long Island, conservation, autecological studies of L. melissa samuelis, Lepidoptera in general, and botany, including lichens.)

BODNER, Frank R.D. #2, Apollo, PA.
15613

ROMAN, Steve 117 Masters Blvd., Win-
ter Park, FLA. 32792

TAYLOR, Edmund R. Jr.
6230 Westshore Rd.
Columbia, S. C. 29206

ZEIGER, Charles F.
3751 Sommers St.
Jacksonville, FLA. 32205

NEWS, NOTES, AND NOTICES

Brett Barrett graduated June 9th from Warren Central High School in Bowling Green area of Kentucky. Congratulations, Brett!

On 27 May, Loran Gibson & Richard Henderson were in SW Kentucky looking for skippers. A bit early for E. dion, they found Lethe creola and eurydice in Fulton Co., and Lycaena hyllus (=thoe) in Hickman, by the flood wall.

Susan Reigler, Humphrey Scholarship student at Oxford Univ., England, writes of her studies in Biology there, plus her work in the University Museum. She plays cricket for her college (Somerville), and may make the University women's team soon to meet Cambridge. She has a summer job as a curatorial assistant at the British Museum in London.

Treasurer's Report: May 31 balance: \$276.69.

WANTED: Collection data of Noctuidae from OHIO. To be used in forthcoming faunal list of Ohio's moths. Data for other families will be solicited later. All replies will be acknowledged. The authors may wish to verify some records. Reply to: Eric H. Metzler, 1241 Kildale Square North, Columbus, OHIO 43229. Thank you.

NEWS, NOTES, AND NOTICES

Amos Showalter reported recently on some spring collecting. In Warren Co., Ky., 6 Apr. 1978, he got: I. henrici (abundant), C. argiolus, A. andria, P. comma, V. atalanta, and Strymon melinus. On 7 Apr. at a spot 12 miles N. of Pikeville, Tenn. (Bledsoe Co.), he got Pieris virginiensis, I. henrici, A. andria, C. argiolus, and Erynnis juvenalis; same day, Fall Creek Falls St. Park, Van Buren Co., Tenn. he got C. argiolus and I. augustinus; and on 8 Apr., Old Fort Mtn. St. Park, Van Buren Co., Tenn.: P. glaucus and polyxenes asterias, G. marcellus, A. midea, Pieris virginiensis, C. argiolus, I. henrici, E. brizo & juvenalis.

OBITUARY

WE ARE SORRY TO REPORT THE TRAGIC DEATH OF CLIFF HOPKINS OF ROANOKE, VIRGINIA, THIS PAST MAY. HE WAS AN ARDENT FIELD COLLECTOR AND A JOVIAL, GENEROUS FRIEND. HIS FRIENDS SORELY MISS HIM.

PARTING SHOT

I hope most of you living anywhere near Louisville will be attending the Lepidopterists' Society Annual Meeting. Some of you are giving papers, or helping with arrangements. Further volunteers for guides, drivers, equipment operators, etc., will be welcome. It will be a bit frantic here for a while, but it looks as though we have a good number coming. The talks and workshops should be informative and provocative; the banquet should be very enjoyable. Door prizes are being promised, so the sharing of good things will occur, too. I would like to see more swapping and fellowship time at these meetings, as well as more chances for amateurs to learn from the "pros." That is how knowledge of Lepidoptera and techniques of collecting and researching them can be done under optimum conditions. Finally, these meetings are chances to get to know personally those friends we have known via the mails or by reputation only. So, if you can make it, please come to the meeting! In the meantime, GOOD HUNTING.

-CVC
6-7-1978

Kentucky Lepidopterist
Society of Kentucky Lepidopterists
Dept. of Biology
University of Louisville
Louisville, Ky. 40208 U.S.A.

FIRST CLASS MAIL