

NABA News and Notes

7th NABA Biennial Members Meeting

The seventh Biennial Members Meeting is tentatively scheduled to be held June 22 through June 26, 2006 in Kernville, in the southern California Sierra. Meet old friends, meet new ones. Seek specialties such as Veined Blue, San Emigdio Blue and Arachne Checkerspot. Save the dates!

Memorial Day/Victoria Day Butterfly Counts

This year's dates for the annual Memorial Day/Victoria Day Counts are Saturday, May 21 through Monday, May 30. Unlike the 4th of July, 1st of July and 16th of September Counts, these counts are free-form. Simply visit your favorite butterflying location(s), tally what you see, and send in the results to NABA's Butterflies I've Seen website.

NABA Sales Office

The NABA Sales Office continues to increase the variety of its offerings. Find your favorite butterfly-related items — while supporting NABA and the cause of butterfly conservation. As a special benefit of NABA membership, NABA members receive a 10% discount on all items at the Sales Office, including optics. Simply enter in the code "NABA" when prompted as you complete a purchase. You can get to NABA Sales by going to the NABA home page, www.naba.org, or directly by going to www.butterflybuzz.com.

Dues

We would like to remind NABA members that because NABA is classed as a non-profit organization by the Internal Revenue Service, all contributions to NABA, including membership dues, are fully tax-deductible.

NABA Wedding

On Saturday, March 12, 2005, Alana Edwards, a co-founder of the NABA Atala chapter, a co-organizer of the 4th NABA Biennial Meeting, a coordinator of the NABA South Florida Survey



Emily Peyton

and the current president of the Atala chapter, married Rick Nevulis, a hydrologist with the South Florida Water District and an avid fisherman, at Fern Forest Park in Brevard County, Florida. Twenty species of butterflies, including many Ruddy Daggerwings, were spotted at the park the morning of the wedding. En route to their honeymoon destination, the newlyweds visited the Jacksonville, Florida area to search for Frosted Elfin! Everyone at NABA wishes this wonderful couple a terrific butterfly-filled life together and all the happiness in the world.

NABA Art Contest

Artists interested in entering the 6th NABA Art Contest should submit 35mm slide transparencies (maximum of 3) or high quality digital images (submitted on a CDR, CDW or DVD — attempted

(continued on inside back cover)

Cover photograph, by Rita Venable, is of NABA members butterflying at La Estanzuela Park, Nuevo Leon, Mexico on the post-meeting trip to northern Mexico. See the article about the NABA Biennial Members Meeting on page 12.

Readers Write

Meeting Madness

I had a GREAT time at the NABA meeting in Mission. It was my first time butterflying in the Lower Rio Grande Valley and it was incredible — tons of new bugs and some not too shabby photos with my new camera.
Lynn Jackson, Philadelphia, PA

We very much enjoyed the meeting and saw some great butterflies but, in the event, I found the locality more interesting than all the rest. I do not recall ever being anywhere so flat or devoid of natural features. I was astonished at the number of butterflies that were attracted to the few oases of wildflowers in that huge expanse of farm and township. The house that we all visited in Mission with its tiny garden and over 100 species logged in just one year will always stay with me. I imagine what it must once have been like.

Tony Hoare, Leatherhead, England

Jumping in with Moth Feet

Your publications are superb. The one on moths came just at the right time, as I was preparing a program on "moths" and it was most helpful. Continue your good work!
Margaret Dye, Vergennes, VT

A Winning Streak

My compliments to the contributors, staff and all involved in publishing *American Butterflies* and *Butterfly Gardener*. The fall 2004 issue of *American Butterflies* was especially enjoyable. Ann Swengel's "Butterflies and Ecosystem Management" and Patti Murray's "Ooing Over Ova" would each constitute a worthy chapter in a primer on butterflies. Please do check on one identification: on page 9, the butterfly indicated to be an Edwards' Hairstreak is surely an Acadian Hairstreak.

Ernest Spainhower, Cortland, NY

The Satyrium Hairstreaks, including Edwards' and Acadian Hairstreak, can be quite tricky. But, on the photo on page 9, note that there is no orange over the

blue spot near the HW outer angle (Acadian Hairstreak has orange there) and that the ground color is brown-gray, not gray-white as in Acadian Hairstreak. Ed.

A Blue Norther

The Fiery Skipper on the cover of the Winter 2004 *American Butterflies* took my breath away! I looked into our backyard, the snow pile up to the windowsill, and held that skipper. The blue of the flowers melted into the cold blue sky and we just stood there — the Fiery Skipper and I!

As if the snow didn't matter!

As if all life were possible!

Thank you *so* much for all your work, dedication and love of butterflies. And for bringing warmth and color to a cold, white Minnesota day.

Pat Thomas, Duluth, MN

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(Continued from inside front cover)

submission via email will result in disqualification) of original two-dimensional color "paintings," in any medium. If realistic, the painting should depict species found in Mexico, the United States or Canada. If sending slides, please send duplicates as slides will not be returned. In your cover letter, please indicate the dimensions of the original work, give a description of the medium of the work, and provide a release granting to NABA the one-time right to copy and publish the image. Please include a telephone number where you can be reached. Submissions need to be **received** by not later than May 1, 2005. Winning artist will receive a prize of \$150, 2nd place winner will receive \$50 and winners will have their works published in color in the Fall 2005 issue of *American Butterflies*. All decisions of the judges are final.