

Thanks

NABA has thousands of members and hundreds of volunteers working toward NABA's mission of increasing public awareness and conservation of North American butterflies.

During this past year, the NABA Board of Directors (see page 1 for list) have spent untold hours dealing with a number of complicated issues of critical importance to NABA. Board members receive no financial compensation for their efforts nor are they reimbursed for out-of-pocket expenses, such as travel expenses. Many of them have made significant financial contributions to NABA.

NABA VP Jim Springer, NABA's webmaster, oversees increasing activity at NABA's website and is involved with many other NABA activities. Jane V. Scott, NABA secretary/treasurer, spends around twenty hours each week on NABA's financial records, contracts, personnel matters and too many other important tasks to list!

Butterfly Gardener is produced by Karen Hillson. This publication, an important source of NABA chapter information and, of course, about butterfly gardening, complements *American Butterflies* and keeps getting better and better.

NABA's Butterfly Count Program is a large-scale effort. With Sharon Wander, as Count Editor, and Jane Hurwitz as Count Administrator, the program continues to improve. Thanks also to Mark Fairbrother who each year produces the amazing Table 2 of the Count Report, and to the regional editors, compilers and thousands of Count participants for making this program a valuable resource for scientists and butterfly conservation. This year, in a major step forward, we have developed an online data entry system that streamlines the workflow and flows the data directly into a database. Thanks to Sharon Wander, Jane Hurwitz and Jim Springer, who put in many hours on this project, and especially to the folks at Redshift Technologies, including Matt Scott, Will Mitchell and Zi Jin Chen who did a great job of developing the underlying software.

The NABA on-line store is run by Sue Anderson. Thanks, Sue for providing a great resource for NABA members and making NABA more widely known.

The work at NABA HQ requires the concerted efforts of a team of people. Members of the team include Jane Hurwitz, who focuses on management

of the Butterfly Count Program and implementing a major revision of the Program for Butterfly Gardens and Habitats; and office manager Lisa Lewis, who focuses on membership services, chapter relations and financial record-keeping. Thanks to both Jane and Lisa and also to our excellent and responsive accountant, Ralph Fylstra.

The Biennial Members Meeting, held in June in Kernville, CA, was a HUGE success. Thanks to the great number of people who helped with this major endeavor, but especially to Bob Barnes, the meeting organizer, who put in uncountable hours of work to create an unforgettable experience for hundreds of NABA members.

Thanks also to the many NABA chapter officers and volunteers who help us to help butterflies and butterflyers, by leading field trips, creating butterfly gardens, and by giving talks and helping with educational outreach activities.

American Butterflies depends entirely upon the generosity of authors and photographers who contribute their work free of charge. For their great volume 16 articles we thank Bill Benner, John Emmel, Tristram Lafranchis, Gordon Pratt, Mike Reese, Leslie Ries, Mark Salvato, Jim Snyder, Ann Swengel, James Utter, Bill Wallace and Harry Zirlin.

Clearly, the photographs that accompany the articles add immeasurably to their impact. Thanks to all the photographers who donated the use of their photos to us, including the authors listed above and Greg R. Ballmer, Ahmet Baytas, Sara Bright, Lucie Bruce, Christopher L. Christie, T.H. Collins, G.A. Cooper, Jim Cummings, Gary A. Monroe, Tom Murray, Abbey Paulson, Gil Quintanilla, Don Robertson, Al Schneider, M.G. Smith, Dean William Taylor, Ann Thering, Cat Traylor and Charles Webber.

Thanks to this year's photo contest judges, Rick Cech and Peter Post (and myself). Thanks also to John Mueller and all the folks at Johnson Press who physically print this magazine, for ensuring its high quality, and to our consistent advertiser, Sunstreak Tours, for helping to make this publication possible.