

# Contributors



**Linda F. Cooper** became interested in butterflies at the time NABA was formed. Together with husband Buck, who shares the same interest, they have traveled throughout Florida to see and photograph almost all of its 167 species. They spent 13 years at

Street/Audubon Nature Center in Winter Haven, FL before retiring in 1998 in order to pursue their interest in butterflies. They are currently the Central Florida coordinators for a Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission Grant to collect data on the current distribution of Florida's rare butterflies. Linda writes about butterflies for the Florida Native Plant Society and Lake Region Audubon society newsletters. She hosts the web site LEPSrUS to share Florida butterfly information. She has currently entered more than 18,000 species sightings into the NABA Butterflies I've Seen database, temporarily overloading the system!



**Dan Hardy** is the program chairman for the Austin Butterfly Forum in Austin, Texas and gives butterfly talks around Central Texas. He enjoys butterfly identification, photography, and raising caterpillars. Growing up in Houston, Texas, he was an avid

birdwatcher long before butterflies caught his fancy. A trip to Mexico in 2003 kindled his passion for the country, the people and the butterflies, thanks to a glimpse of a Magnificent Swallowtail. When he's not working as a pathologist he's trying to improve his Spanish or listening to the latest Teaching Company tape.

**Jeffrey Glassberg's** brief biographical sketch appeared in the Fall 2008 issue.

**Mike Reese's** brief biographical sketch appeared in the Spring 2009 issue.

**Mary Ritch** is the Executive Director of the National Butterfly Center (NBC). Mary was born in the Lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas, then, when she was 5 years old, moved to Washington State with her migrant worker parents. As a child, she worked in the fields and orchards. While in high school, she took a job with Pacific Northwest Bell. That job led to a 32 year career with the company. In 2003, Mary moved back to the Lower Rio Grande Valley to help take care of her ailing father and in 2004 joined the National Butterfly Center (NBC) as office manager. Never having known much about butterflies, she entered an exciting new world, learning about butterflies, caterpillars and native plants. In October, 2008 she became Executive Director of the NBC.



**Ann Swengel's** brief biographical sketch appeared in the Winter 2008 issue.

**Sharon and Wade Wander** are charter members of NABA. They are self-employed environmental consultants who investigate wetlands and do many surveys for



Threatened and Endangered species. They have long been active New Jersey naturalists, interested in birds, herptiles, plants, and of course, butterflies (as well as moths and other insects). They frequently lead field trips and present programs for the North Jersey Butterfly Club chapter of NABA, and have compiled the Springdale, NJ, Fourth of July count since 1992. They are especially proud of their Fredon Township, NJ, butterfly garden, which has attracted 84 species to date. Sharon is editor of the annual NABA Butterfly Counts Report, and Wade serves on the New Jersey state committee that evaluates the status of New Jersey butterflies.