

NABA News and Notes

National Butterfly Center (NBC)

The October issue of *Texas Parks and Wildlife Magazine* featured an article by Ro Wauer about the many butterfly gardens of the Lower Rio Grande Valley. The National Butterfly Center was characterized as having the greatest diversity of butterflies and the most individual butterflies.

The most recent issue of *Texas Border Business* contains a prominent article about the National Butterfly Center, along with an editorial entitled “Butterfly Center — A Great Place to Visit.” To publicize Texas Border Business’s commitment to the National Butterfly Center, during the next year the front page logo of the publication will include an image of a butterfly.

On October 28, 2010 a ribbon-cutting ceremony, officially opening the Visitors Pavilion at the National Butterfly Center, was attended by many of the NABA members participating in the NABA Members Meeting and by representatives of the cities of Mission and McAllen, Texas, as well as by many residents of the Lower Rio Grande Valley. See the article on page 4 of this issue for more information.

Butterfly Gardener

Karen Hillson is stepping down as editor of Butterfly Gardener after serving as editor for many years. She will continue as editor through the Summer 2011 issue of the magazine. We are looking for someone with an interest in butterfly gardening and a flair for writing and layout to continue the great job that Karen has done. If you are interested, please contact NABA by sending an email to naba@naba.org or calling 973-285-0907.

Members Photo Gallery

If you would like one of your photos to be considered for this feature, please submit no more than two, high resolution, interesting and unusual photos of either adult or immature

butterflies taken of wild, unmanipulated butterflies or immatures in the United States, Canada, or Mexico. Photos should be in digital form, and should be uncropped and unaltered/ minimally altered. Send your entries on a CD to: NABA Members Gallery, 4 Delaware Rd., Morristown, NJ 07960.

Butterfly Gardens and Habitats

NABA’s Butterfly Gardening and Habitat program is continuing its face-lift and expansion. New web pages are emphasizing native plants for butterfly gardens, with photographs, cultural information about garden plants and the butterfly garden certification program.

Experienced butterfly gardeners are invited to participate by providing information on butterfly gardening in their region and/or photographs of butterfly garden plants from their region. We are looking for regional garden specialists, garden photographers who wish to share their work, and gardeners who are passionate about native plants. Interested gardeners should send an email to hurwitz@naba.org requesting more information about the ways that NABA members can participate in spreading the word about butterfly gardening.

Facebook

NABA now has a facebook page! Stay in touch with both national developments and news from the NABA chapters. You can access NABA’s facebook page by going to NABA’s home page, www.naba.org and click on “Find Us on Facebook.”

(Continued on the Inside Back Cover)

Cover photograph of a Malachite was taken on Nov 15, 2010 at the National Butterfly Center by Linda Cooper. See the article about the NABA Members Meeting on page 14.

Readers Write

In the Eyes of the Beholder

In the Fall 2010 issue of *American Butterflies*, please take a look at the photo captions on pages 4 to 13. If you can read them, in normal lighting, you have better vision than I do. They come as close to being unreadable as anything I have seen in print. You are not alone in opting for such poor choices for printed matter. It seems to be the “in” thing, especially among editors of environmental magazines. Audubon magazine very often has the same misdirected artistic philosophy.

Please, in deference to your many senior readers, favor font colors that contrast with their background. If in doubt, I believe that legibility should trump artistic style in every case. If you need an example of good style, examine the captions on pages 17-19. Dick Freshley, Greenacres, FL

Do Butterflies Matter

Your commentary in the Fall 2010 issue of *American Butterflies* expressed so well our impending ecological crisis that I wish I could place it in every newspaper and magazine in the country.

Mary Sue Miller, Santa Barbara, CA

(NABA News and Notes Continued)

Butterfly Buzz

To receive your NABA member’s 10% discount at www.butterflybuzz.com, please enter the code (with the letters in NABA all capitals): NABA410

NABA Art Contest

Artists interested in entering the ninth NABA Art Contest should submit high quality digital images (submitted on a CD or DVD — attempted submission via email will result in disqualification)(maximum of 3 images) of original two-dimensional color “paintings,” in any medium. The digital file name should include the artist’s name. If realistic, the painting should depict species found in Mexico, the United States or Canada. 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 in *American Butterflies* and at its website. Please include a telephone number where you can be reached. Submissions need to be **received** not later than May 1, 2011. 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 2011 issue of *American Butterflies*. All decisions of the judges are final.