

**2018 FIELD TRIPS
OF THE
SOUTHERN WISCONSIN BUTTERFLY ASSOCIATION**

(For the latest updates on field trip details see the [current newsletter](#) on the SWBA website.)

BUTTERFLIES OF BAUER-BROCKWAY BARRENS (Jackson Co.)

Saturday, May 19

10:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

The best place in the state to look for early butterflies in May is Jackson County. **Douglas Buege** will lead us in finding and observing many scarce and unusual species, many that only fly in May! We hope to find all 5 of the state's Elfins, including the very rare (and State Threatened) Frosted Elfin. We should find Olympia Marble, Gorgone Checkerspot, Cobweb Skipper, Dreamy and Sleepy Duskywings, etc. Over the past 9 years we have averaged 21 species. Bring binoculars if you have them, close-focusing ones work best. (A few extra pairs of binoculars are available.) Also, bring a bag lunch and water. A hat, long pants and long sleeves are recommended.

Meet in Jackson Co. at 10:30 a.m. at the corner of West Bauer Road and Brockway Road. We will butterfly until 3:00 p.m.

DIRECTIONS: From the intersection of I-94 and Hwy 54 in Black River Falls, go north on Hwy 54 approximately 0.4 miles and turn right on West Bauer Road. Drive 3.8 miles to the intersection with North Brockway Road. Park at the intersection. (This area is about 2 hours, or so, northwest of Madison via I-94.)

Participants must PRE-REGISTER for this trip by either calling Karl Legler at 608 228-0743, or include your phone number in an email to karlindot@charter.net (so we can contact you in case of postponement or cancellation due to weather).

**BUTTERFLIES AND WILDFLOWERS OF PLEASANT VALLEY
CONSERVANCY**

Saturday, June 16, 2018

10 a.m.– Noon.

Pleasant Valley Conservancy is a beautiful state natural area situated in the Driftless Area, with steep goat prairies, oak savanna, and a large, high quality marsh. This time of year we hope to see Baltimore Checkerspots and perhaps some wetland skippers. Other possible butterfly species include swallowtails, Silvery Checkerspot, fritillaries, and blues. All of these butterflies will have many wonderful native plants to nectar on this time of year. Led by **Ann Thering** and **Tom and Kathy Brock**. Long pants, a hat, water, and hiking shoes are recommended. Bring binoculars—the closer they focus, the better! (We have a few extra binoculars.) If you would like, bring along a bag lunch for after the field trip. (This is a joint trip of SWBA with Madison Audubon and The Prairie Enthusiasts.) Contact leaders only if you have a question about the trip: Ann at (608) 836-1097 or Tom at (608) 238-5050 or tdbrock@charter.net

DIRECTIONS: (4554 Pleasant Valley Road, Black Earth) Heading south into downtown Black Earth follow County Hwy F as it turns right (west). After a mile or so, F turns left (south). Continue on F for another 3 3/4 miles turning left onto Pleasant Valley Road. Drive 3/4 mile (past the buildings on the right) to the state natural area sign. Park off the road.

BUTTERFLIES OF CHEROKEE MARSH

Saturday, June 23

10:00 a.m. to Noon

On this morning walk we'll observe and learn about butterflies, those small but exquisitely beautiful creatures that dance around us in summer. **Karl and Dorothy Legler and Janet Battista will lead** this 2 hour walk at Cherokee Marsh on the northeast side of Madison. We will observe a variety of

butterflies as they take nectar from wildflowers, and learn about their identification, behavior, and lifestyle. Bring binoculars if you have them — close-focusing ones work best. We have a few extra pairs of binoculars. It's best to wear long pants and a hat for protection from the sun.

This is a joint trip of the Southern Wisconsin Butterfly Association, with Madison Audubon Society, and Friends of Cherokee Marsh. Meet at 10:00 a.m. **DIRECTIONS:** On the north side of Madison take Northport Drive (Highway 113) then turn north on Sherman Ave. Meet at the Cherokee Marsh parking lot at the north end of Sherman Ave. (6098 N Sherman Ave, Madison, WI.) Call Karl at (608) 643-4926 or email karlindot@charter.net, only if you have a question about the trip.

BUTTERFLIES AND DRAGONFLIES OF SWAMP-LOVERS PRESERVE

Wednesday, July 4

9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Celebrate July 4th at this beautiful private preserve that consists of remnant and restored wetlands, remnant bluff prairie, restored tall grass prairie, and dry hilly oak-hickory woodland. In past years, we have observed an impressive variety of dragonflies and butterflies as we explored the different habitats. Bring binoculars (close-focusing ones work best). (We will have a few extra binoculars.) Bring your own lunch and beverages to enjoy when we finish the trip by driving up to the bluff-top picnic shelter. Leaders are **Tod Highsmith, Karl and Dorothy Legler**. This is a joint trip of SWBA and The Prairie Enthusiasts.

DIRECTIONS: Meet at 9:30 a.m. Travel west from Cross Plains on Hwy 14. Just outside town take County KP to the right (north), go about 1.3 miles and turn left at the Swamp Lovers sign. Call Karl Legler at (608) 643-4926 or cell (608) 228-0743 only if you have a question about the trip or if the weather is questionable.

BUTTERFLIES OF SANDHILL STATE WILDLIFE AREA (Wood Co.)

Saturday, July 7

10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

This could be the best trip of the year! The Sandhill State Wildlife Area, in Wood County, covers more than 14 square miles and is an outstanding area for butterflies. Sandhill has large marshes and many flowages, interspersed with low sandy uplands, pine and oak barrens and restored prairies. Butterfly expert **Ron Arnold** will lead us in finding such beauties as Acadian and Coral Hairstreaks, Aphrodite Fritillary, the rare Two-spotted Skipper, Bronze Copper, Eyed Brown, Northern Pearly-eye, White Admiral and many others. Skippers will include Black Dash, Broad-winged, Dion, Long Dash and many others. We may see the beautiful Baltimore Checkerspot, Harris' Checkerspot and the Federally Endangered Karner Blue. Bring binoculars, the closer they focus the better. (We will have a few extra pairs of binoculars.) Also bring insect repellent to protect against mosquitoes and ticks. A hat, long sleeves and long pants are recommended. Bring a bag lunch and water.

Meet at 10:00 a.m. at the Sandhill Headquarters parking lot.

DIRECTIONS: Take I-90/94 up to the New Lisbon area in Juneau Co. and take Hwy 80 north. In Wood County, just 1/3 mile before Babcock, turn left onto County X. Go 1 1/4 mile on X to the Sandhill entrance. (1715 County Road X, Babcock, WI.) Allow at least 1 hour and 45 minutes for travel. Call Ron at (715) 424-2996 only if you have a question about the trip. On the day of the trip, Ron will have his cell phone on: (715) 741-0052. (If rain threatens, call Ron to see if the trip must be cancelled due to weather.)

MADISON NABA BUTTERFLY COUNT

Sunday, July 8

9:00 - Noon

This is our 28th annual Madison butterfly count! Each year, butterfly enthusiasts all over North America participate in more than 450 censuses of butterfly species. Each count is similar to a Christmas Bird Count. These censuses help to monitor the health of our butterfly populations and the results are published in an annual report for North America. If you can identify butterflies, or can help spot butterflies, or just want to see and learn about butterflies, join us on this 3 hour count/field trip. Bring binoculars, the closer they focus the better. (We have a few extra binoculars.) Dress for protection from the heat and sun, a hat is recommended. Leaders are **Karl and Dorothy Legler**. The North American Butterfly Association (NABA) requires a **\$3.00 fee** from each participant to help cover publishing costs. Meet at 9 a.m. at the parking lot for the Grady Tract in the UW Arboretum.

DIRECTIONS: Heading west on the Beltline (Hwy 12), take the Seminole Hwy exit and then turn left (south) on Seminole Hwy driving across the bridge over the Beltline, turning immediately into the parking lot for the Grady Tract. If you have a question about the butterfly count, contact leaders Karl and Dorothy Legler at (608) 643-4926 or karlndot@charter.net

BUTTERFLIES AND FLOWERS OF SHEA PRAIRIE

Saturday, July 21

10:00 a.m. to noon.

We will visit Shea Prairie, located in Iowa County. It is a unit of The Prairie Enthusiasts' 570-acre Mounds View Grassland Preserve. The Shea unit covers 102 acres consisting of dry and dry-mesic remnant prairie, new prairie plantings, a cold-water trout stream, ground-water feed wetland restorations, fen seeps, and ephemeral ponds. These and adjacent properties form a complex of remnant prairie and CRP grasslands that are rich with grassland birds and other prairie animals. Summer flowers will be in bloom, and we hope to see the rare, beautiful, and endangered **Regal Fritillary** and other butterflies, as well as dragonflies. Bring binoculars for butterfly viewing (the closer they can focus the better--we will have some extra binoculars). This trip is co-sponsored by The Prairie Enthusiasts. The leaders are **Karl and Dorothy Legler** and **Rich Henderson**. (Call Karl and Dorothy at (608) 643-4926 only if you have a question about the trip.)

Meet at 10:00 AM at the parking area.

Directions: From US Highway 18/151, a mile and a half west of Blue Mounds, turn south on Mounds View Road. Proceed on Mounds View for 2.5 miles to where it joins briefly with Prairie Grove Rd. Stay with Mounds View and go another 0.8 miles. Look for the preserve kiosk and parking on the left (east) side of the road. There are both gravel and grass parking areas off road.

BUTTERFLIES OF THE AVOCA / BLUE RIVER AREA

Saturday, August 4

10:30 a.m.- 4 p.m.

In some years this can be the best butterfly trip of the year! This trip will highlight several areas in the **Lower Wisconsin State Riverway**, including Avoca Prairie and Savanna State Natural Area in Iowa County, and Blue River unit in Grant County. **Leader will be butterfly expert Mike Reese**. We expect to see late butterflies and several unusual southern immigrants. A hat and long pants are recommended. Bring water, a lunch, and binoculars (the closer they focus the better). A few extra binoculars are available.

Meet at 10:30 a.m. Allow 50 minute travel time from Middleton.

NEW DIRECTIONS: (The traditional parking lot is now closed!) Take Hwy 14 west to Lone Rock, south on Hwy 130, then turn right on Hwy 133. Go west about 8.1 miles to the intersection with hwy 80. Continue straight ahead (west) on 133 for 0.6 mile, taking the first right (north) turn. Call Mike at (920) 787-2341 only if you have a question about the trip.