

Badger Butterfly

The e-Newsletter of the Southern Wisconsin Butterfly Association **APRIL, 2010**

WEB SITE: <http://www.naba.org/chapters/nabawba/>

1 ANNUAL SWBA MEETING ON TUESDAY, APRIL 27, 2010

Meet at 7:00 p.m. in Madison at the **Warner Park Community Recreation Center**, 1625 Northport Drive.

At the April meeting, educator and photographer **Mike Reese** will give a presentation on the **Butterflies of Southern Wisconsin**, including how to recognize them and where to find them. He will also discuss his new butterfly guide application for iPod Touch and iPhone! We will have election of SWBA officers and then our 3rd annual Butterfly Photo Show and Tell.

Everyone is welcome to attend this free program. The meeting will last from 7:00 p.m. to 8:45 p.m. We will have door prizes, displays, books, handouts and plenty of time afterwards to enjoy refreshments and talk with our speaker Mike Reese and butterfly, photography, and butterfly gardening enthusiasts.

DIRECTIONS: On Madison's north side, from the intersection of Sherman Avenue and Northport Drive (= Hwy 113) go west on Northport Drive for about 1/4 mile, then turn south into Warner Park. Turn immediately right into the Community Center parking lot. When you enter the Community Recreation Center, we will be in the meeting room on the left.

Photo Show and Tell

Share some of your favorite butterfly, moth or caterpillar photos at the April meeting and enjoy the photos of others. You are welcome to briefly comment about your photos. Please email up to 8 photos (as TIF or JPG files) to Mike Reese at mikereese@wisconsinbutterflies.org. File size preferred is under 3 megabytes and preferably in a

format of 1024 x 768 pixels (but if you prefer, we can crop and resize the file for you). Or bring digital photos to the meeting either on a CD or USB flash drive. Prints are OK but if you want to show slides let us know ahead of time by contacting Karl Legler at (608) 643-4926 or karlndot@charter.net

Election of Officers

If you are interested in serving as an officer of SWBA for the next year, or would like to nominate someone else, contact the Nominating Committee Chairperson Tod Highsmith at (608) 242-1168 or at todhighsmith@sbc.global.net

2 NEXT FIELD TRIP 2010

Monday, May 17: Butterflies of Bauer Brockway Barrens (Jackson Co.)

The best place in the state to look for early butterflies in May is Jackson County. Mike Reese will lead us in finding and observing many scarce and unusual species. We expect to find various Elfins including the very rare Frosted Elfin. We should find Olympia Marble, Gorgone Checkerspot, Cobweb Skipper, Dreamy and Sleepy Duskywings, etc. 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



Cobweb Skipper

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recommended. This is a joint trip with the Madison Audubon Society.

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 east on Hwy 54 approximately five miles to Brockway Road. Turn right on Brockway and drive 2.5 miles south to West Bauer Road. This area is about 2 hours or so northwest of Madison. **Participants must PRE-REGISTER** for this trip by calling Mike at (920) 787-2341 (so we can contact you in case of cancellation due to weather).

3 SUMMARY OF WISCONSIN NABA BUTTERFLY COUNTS 2009

COUNT	Species	Individuals	COUNT	Species	Individuals
Baraboo	52	473	Riveredge Nature Center	35	381
Beaver Creek Reserve	29	856	Sandhill/Seneca	36	441
Cornucopia	43	483	Sister Bay	28	499
Crex Meadows	39	336	South Bayfield Co.	33	1773
Gilmanton	32	296	Trempealeau	37	201
Madison	32	319	Wazee (spring)	16	180
Mud Lake	18	118	Wazee (summer)	40	575
North. Kettle Moraine	31	194	Wehr Nature Center	20	106
Pederson's Gardens	7	129			

Each year some 463 butterfly counts are conducted in North America by the North American Butterfly Association (NABA). The report on these counts, NABA Butterfly Counts 2009 Report, has now been published. It contains details on all the counts including numbers for each species for each count, hours of counting, number and names of observers, weather conditions, etc.

Seventeen NABA counts were conducted in Wisconsin in 2009. Ninety observers found, identified and counted a total of 7,360 butterflies. In spite of 2009 being overall the poorest butterfly year in decades, Ann and Scott Swengel had excellent results on their Bababoo count!

NORTH AMERICAN HIGHS

Some of our Wisconsin counts found a species in the highest numbers for any North American 2009 Count!

In the table below the numbers are individuals, representing the highest for any 2009 count in North America. Those numbers in bold and underlined are not merely the highest for 2009 but are a new North American Record High Count!

This year we will have a field trip to these two interesting areas:
Bauer Brockway Barrens (in the Wazee-spring count circle) on Monday, May 17.
Sandhill Wildlife Area on Sunday, July 11.

Wazee (spring)

Olympia Marble	<u>55</u>
E. Pine Elfin	12
Sleepy Duskywing	6
Cobweb Skipper	<u>23</u>

Riveredge

Swamp Metalmark	3
South Bayfield Co.	
Aphrodite Fritillary	72
Baraboo	
Compton Tortoiseshell	<u>145</u>

Crex Meadows

Mottled Duskywing	14
Sandhill/Seneca	
Two-spotted Skipper	7

If you would like a copy of the report it may be ordered from the address below. The cost is \$7 for NABA members and \$11 for non-NABA members.

**NABA Butterfly Count
 4 Delaware Rd.
 Morristown, NJ 07960**

4 RECENT BUTTERFLY SIGHTINGS AT

www.wisconsinbutterflies.org

We've had a lot of above average temperatures since the beginning of March. This is one of our earliest springs. That's more-or-less good for butterflies! Butterflies have been active early, and whereas last year the cold spring gave Wisconsin only 10 species flying by April 20, this year there have been 26 species seen by April 20! The table below lists, in order, the first date of sighting for the 26 species seen so far this spring.



Compton Tortoiseshell	March 3		
Eastern Comma	March 14	Red Admiral	April 15
Mourning Cloak	March 14	Hoary Elfin*	April 17
Milbert's Tortoiseshell	March 15	Frosted Elfin*	April 17
Cabbage White	March 17	American Lady	April 17
Gray Comma	March 28	Dreamy Duskywing	April 17
Spring Azure	April 1	Juvenal's Duskywing	April 17
Satyr Comma*	April 2	West Virginia White*	April 18
Brown Elfin	April 4	Eastern Tiger Swallowtail	April 20
Green Comma*	April 5	Silvery Blue	April 20
Olympia Marble	April 5	Clouded Sulphur	April 20
Eastern Pine Elfin	April 10	Henry's Elfin*	April 20
Mustard White*	April 12	Persius Duskywing*	April 20
Freija Fritillary*	April 14		

* = species that rarely or never occur in southern Wisconsin, but occur further north in the state.

5 FIND OUT WHAT'S BEING SEEN, AND REPORT YOUR SIGHTINGS TO

www.wisconsinbutterflies.org

SWBA member Mike Reese's award-winning Web site on butterflies provides an outstanding photographic guide to butterflies of Wisconsin. When you get the home page on this Web site, click on Sightings to access the sightings page. You can see what others are finding and easily view many excellent photos taken by observers. And you can report your own sightings (and include a photo if you want). You can also create an account that will keep track of your own sightings! So be sure to regularly visit this fabulous website to watch the exciting progress of the butterfly season!

6 SWBA FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE FOR 2010

Details will be available on our Web site in early May.

Butterflies of Bauer-Brockway Barrens (Jackson Co.)	Monday, May 17	Mike Reese
Butterflies of Cherokee Marsh	Saturday, June 19	Kathy Kirk
Madison Butterfly Count	Saturday, July 3	Karl and Dorothy Legler
Butterflies, Dragonflies & Picnic at Swamp-Lovers	Monday, July 5	Leglers, Tod Highsmith
Flowers, Butterflies and Birds of Schurch-Thomson	Saturday, July 10	Rich Henderson & Ann Thering
Moths: Denizens of Darkness	Saturday eve., July 10	Mark Evans
Butterflies and Dragonflies of Sandhill Wildlife Area	Sunday, July 11	Ron Arnold
Pretty Things with Wings (Lakeshore Preserve)	Saturday, July 17	Edgar Spalding
Butterflies at Avoca and Lower Wisconsin Riverway	Saturday, August 14	Mike Reese
Butterflies and Blossoms at Pheasant Branch	Saturday, August 28	Dreux Watermolen
Magnificent Monarchs at Olbrich Botanical Garden	Sunday, August 29	Karl Legler & Joan Braune
Grasshoppers!	Saturday, September 4	Kathy Kirk

**The Badger ButterFlyer flits to you every month (every other month in winter).
The next issue will be in MAY.**

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SWBA

The Southern Wisconsin Butterfly Association (SWBA) is a non-profit Wisconsin chapter of the North American Butterfly Association (NABA) which is the largest organization of people interested in butterflies. SWBA promotes public awareness, conservation and the enjoyment of butterflies through observation with close-focusing binoculars, chapter field trips, educational meetings, photography, butterfly gardening, monitoring and travel. SWBA's events are open to the public.

To become a member of SWBA simply join NABA. Membership benefits include 2 color quarterly magazines "American Butterflies" and "Butterfly Gardening". Please use the membership form on the SWBA Web site at <http://www.naba.org/chapters/nabawba/>

Our e-Newsletter, the Badger ButterFlyer, will be published monthly in spring to fall, and every other month in winter. Send any news notes to the editor, Karl Legler, at karlndot@charter.net

To stop receiving this e-Newsletter simply send an email to the above editor's address.