

# Badger ButterflyFlyer

The e-Newsletter of the Southern Wisconsin Butterfly Association **MAY, 2013**

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

## 1 NEXT FIELD TRIP Mark your calendar!

**Weather forecast for this field trip looks good!!**

### Saturday, May 18: Butterflies of Bauer Brockway Barrens (Jackson Co.)



Gorgone Checkerspot

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 (and State Threatened) 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 recommended. This is a joint trip of SWBA 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 1/4 hours northwest of Madison via I-94.)

**Participants must PRE-REGISTER** for this trip by either calling Mike at (920) 787-2341, or include your phone number in an email to [mikereese@wisconsinbutterflies.org](mailto:mikereese@wisconsinbutterflies.org) (so we can contact you in case of cancellation due to weather).



Cobweb Skipper

## 2 HIGHLIGHTS OF APRIL SWBA MEETING

Thirty-five butterfly enthusiasts attended the meeting on April 16, 2013.

Larry and Emily Scheunemann provided an extremely interesting program on **Landscaping for Butterflies and other Wildlife**. They discussed the habitat restoration on their farm for Monarchs and discussed a successful roadside planting. Larry's photos were amazing!

Karl Legler (yours truly) gave a presentation on **Dragonflies of Wisconsin** -- ending far afield with the Wandering Glider dragonfly that makes a 10,000 mile round trip migration over the Indian Ocean, traveling between India and East Africa in the course of 4 generations each year.



Persons showing up to 8 photos for **Photo Show and Tell** were Mike Reese, Stan Rehm, Ann Thering, Larry and Emily Scheunemann, Jim Otto, Kate Redmond, Dan Sonnenberg, Karl Legler and Dorothy Legler. **Election of Officers** was held. Karl Legler stepped down as President and took over the Vice-President position. The new President of SWBA is **Dr. Douglas Buege**. Ginny Nelson continues as Treasurer, and Dorothy Legler continues as Secretary.



President Buege

### 3 RESULTS OF 2012 NABA BUTTERFLY COUNTS IN WISCONSIN

COUNT	Species	Individuals	COUNT	Species	Individuals
Avoca (fall)	30	184	North. Kettle Moraine	38	275
Baraboo	57	616	Riveredge Nature Center	32	606
Bayfield County (South)	44	1496	Sandhill/Seneca	43	1043
Beaver Creek Reserve	43	1281	Sister Bay	39	558
Cornucopia	49	1270	Trempealeau	37	430
Crex Meadows	50	1050	Wazee (spring)	42	463
Gilmanton	34	245	Wazee (summer)	57	1432
Madison	32	443	Wehr Nature Center	20	188
Mud Lake	33	257			

Each year nearly **450 butterfly counts** are conducted in North America by the North American Butterfly Association (NABA). SWBA is a Wis. chapter of NABA. The report on these counts, **NABA Butterfly Counts 2012 Report**, has now been published. (To purchase a copy, see box below.) 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 2012. **Eighty-eight** observers found, identified and counted a total of **11,287 butterflies**.

#### WISCONSIN COUNTS THAT HAD HIGHEST NUMBERS FOR SOME SPECIES.

Several of our Wisconsin counts found one or more species in the highest numbers for any North American 2012 Count! Listed in the table below are the numbers of individuals. **Bold Numbers with an asterisk (\*)** have set a *new record high* for North American NABA counts!

<b>Wazee (spring)</b>		<b>Cornucopia</b>		<b>Sandhill/Seneca</b>	
Hoary Elfin	1	Bog Fritillary	1	Dion Skipper	99
Frosted Elfin	2	<b>South Bayfield County</b>		Two-spotted Skipper	8
Gorgone Checkerspot	146	Aphrodite Fritillary	706	<b>Riveredge Nature Center</b>	
Dusted Skipper	<b>47*</b>	Green Comma	7	Swamp Metalmark	45
<b>Baraboo</b>		<b>Crex Meadows</b>		<b>Wazee (summer)</b>	
Compton Tortoiseshell	31	Mottled Duskywing	2	Karner Blue	207

If you would like a copy of the 132 page, spiral bound **NABA Butterfly Counts 2012 Report**, which contains details on all 463 NABA counts, it may be ordered from the address below. The cost is \$11 for NABA/SWBA members and \$16 for non-NABA members. Copies of the previous NABA Butterfly Count Reports are also available. Shipping and handling is \$2 for the first item and \$1 for each additional item. Please make check payable to NABA and send to:

NABA Butterfly Count  
4 Delaware Rd.  
Morristown, NJ 07960

SWBA will have a field trip to this interesting area: **Bauer Brockway Barrens** (within the Wazee-spring count circle) on Saturday, May 18. See Article #1 above.

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## 4 DATES FOR SOME 2013 NABA “4TH OF JULY” BUTTERFLY COUNTS

These butterfly counts are conducted exactly like Christmas Bird Counts: Identify butterfly species and count individuals, staying within a 15 mile diameter circle. The data from hundreds of counts is collected and published. Some 17 NABA Butterfly Counts take place in Wisconsin each year. Below are ones that are connected with SWBA.

- ❖ Mud Lake (Columbia County) Wednesday, June 26, 2013
- ❖ Madison (Dane County) Saturday, June 29, 2013
- ❖ Trempealeau (Trempealeau County) Tuesday, July 9, 2013

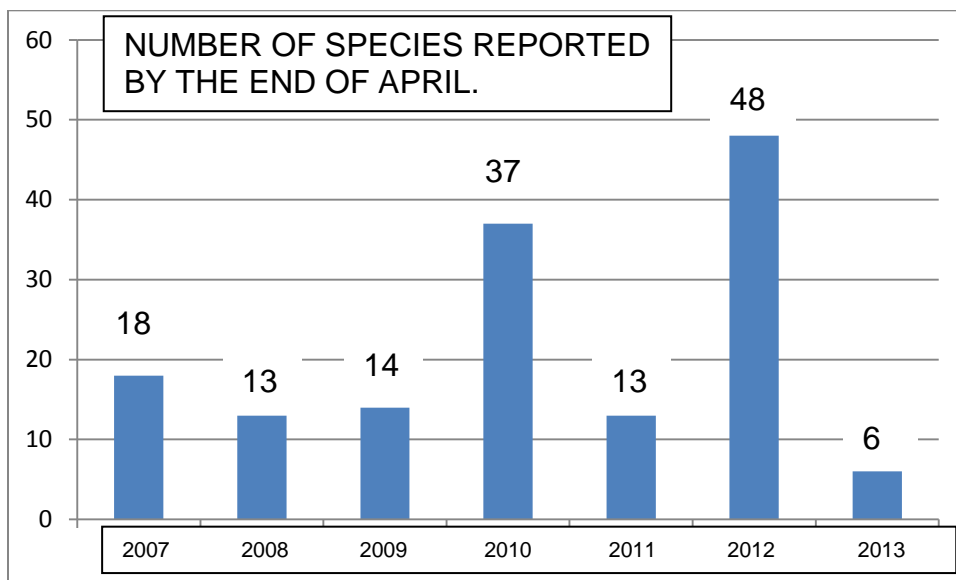
To join in on these fun counts -- or for more information about SWBA-sponsored NABA counts, please contact the SWBA count coordinators: Karl and Dorothy Legler, [karlndot@charter.net](mailto:karlndot@charter.net) (608) 643-4926. (NABA charges a \$3 fee to participate in a count, to help defray the cost of publication.)

(For a list of additional Butterfly Counts in Wisconsin and elsewhere, visit NABA's Web site at [www.naba.org/counts/us\\_mx\\_map.html](http://www.naba.org/counts/us_mx_map.html) Contacts are Listed.)

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## 5 BUTTERFLY SIGHTINGS THROUGH APRIL

Here is the data on **April** butterfly sightings reported over the past 7 years on [www.wisconsinbutterflies.org](http://www.wisconsinbutterflies.org)



2012 was the ultimate early spring. 2010 also had very early development of the spring butterfly season. But of the last 7 years, the spring of 2013 is seen as having the slowest development of the butterfly season. As the season progresses, with warm weather, the butterflies will get back on a normal track. (Stay tuned!)

Be sure and send in your sightings to Mike Reese's website [www.wisconsinbutterflies.org](http://www.wisconsinbutterflies.org)

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## 6 The Prairie Enthusiasts to Visit Moely Sand Prairie in Sauk City.

**Sunday, June 2 1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

"Come see this privately-owned dry-sandy prairie in the Sauk Prairie area. It is a small diamond in the rough. The volunteer land manager will discuss plans to restore this 23.5 acre remnant including work done this past winter to clear half the property of woody vegetation with the help of a grant. It is known for its large population of Prairie Smoke, which should be in bloom, but also expect to see Carolina puccoon, pale spiked lobelia, pussy-toes, slender beard tongue and small skullcap. Efforts to inventory birds, dragonflies, and butterflies are in progress so bring binoculars (close-focusing ones work best). Easy to moderate hiking.

Trip Leader: **Susan Kenney** (608-643-8724 or [skenneyfen@yahoo.com](mailto:skenneyfen@yahoo.com)).

**DIRECTIONS:** Take Hwy 12 through Sauk City, to the west then heading north. At the stoplight, turn right (east) onto Hwy PF, and go about 0.6 mile. Turn right (south) at 21st Street into the subdivision, then turn right onto Fullerton Street. Make a left onto Billings Avenue and a right (west) onto Alban and park at the dead end. We will meet there."

## 7 2013 FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE

Saturday	May 18	Butterflies of Bauer Brockway Barrens (Jackson Co.)	Mike Reese
Saturday	June 22	Butterflies of Cherokee Marsh	Dr. Douglas Buege
Saturday	June 29	Madison Butterfly Count	Karl and Dorothy Legler
Thursday	July 4	Butterflies and Dragonflies of Swamp Lovers Preserve	Tod Highsmith Leglers
Saturday	July 6	Butterflies of Sandhill State Wildlife Area (Wood Co.)	Ron Arnold
Saturday	July 13	Butterflies and Dragonflies of Summerton Bog	Dan Sonnenberg Leglers
Sunday	July 14	Birds, Butterflies and Dragonflies of Lakeshore Nature Preserve	Edgar Spalding
Saturday	July 20	Flowers and Butterflies of Schurch-Thomson Prairie	Rich Henderson TBA
Sunday	July 21	Prairie Restoration for Karner Blue Butterflies	John Shillinglaw Mike Reese
Saturday	August 10	Butterflies of Avoca/Blue River (Lower Wis. Riverway)	Mike Reese
Saturday	August 24	Butterflies and Blossoms at Pheasant Branch Conservancy	Dreux Watermolen

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

### Officers of SWBA:

President: Dr. Douglas Buege  
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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](mailto:karlndot@charter.net)

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