

Badger ButterFlyer

The e-Newsletter of the Southern Wisconsin Butterfly Association

JULY, 2014

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

1 NEXT FIELD TRIPS

Friday, July 4: Butterflies and Dragonflies of Swamp Lovers Preserve



Meadow Fritillary

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) along with your own lunch and beverages to enjoy when we finish the trip at the **bluff-top picnic shelter**. Leaders are Tod Highsmith, Karl and Dorothy Legler. This is a joint trip of SWBA with the Madison Audubon Society and is co-sponsored by The Prairie Enthusiasts.

Meet at 9:30 a.m. This trip will last until 1:00 p.m. **DIRECTIONS:** Travel west from Cross Plains on Hwy 14. Just outside town take County KP to the right (north), go about 1.3 mile 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.

Saturday, July 5: Madison Butterfly Count

This is our **24th annual** butterfly count! Co-sponsors are SWBA, UW Arboretum and Madison Audubon Society. 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



Edward's Hairstreak

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. 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. We will count until about noon. **DIRECTIONS:** Heading west on the Beltline (Hwy 12), take the Seminole Hwy exit and then turn left (south) on Seminole

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Eastern Amberwing

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

Sunday, July 6: Butterflies & Dragonflies of Riveredge, Watts Lake and Forest Beach Migratory Preserve

Join us for this exciting field trip adventure! Leaders are **butterfly expert Mike Reese and naturalist Kate Redmond**. First we will observe dragonflies and butterflies at **Watts Lake** (part of the Cedarburg Bog State Natural Area). Then we will go to nearby **Riveredge Nature Center** for lunch and a walk along their extensive nature trails to look for butterflies, and particularly the exquisitely beautiful and Endangered **Swamp Metalmark**. The third stop will be the **Forest Beach Migratory Preserve**, (home of the Western Great Lakes Bird and Bat Observatory) along Lake Michigan near Port Washington. Bring binoculars (close-focusing ones work best--we will have a few extra binoculars). Long pants, a hat and sturdy walking shoes are recommended. Bring water and a bag lunch. Riveredge has a **\$5 per person fee** for hikes on their property, *which will be used for Swamp Metalmark conservation!* This is a joint trip of SWBA and the Madison Audubon Society.



Swamp Metalmark

Participants must PRE-REGISTER for this trip by including your phone number in an email to mikereese@wisconsinbutterflies.org (so we can contact you in case of cancellation due to weather).

Limited to 15 participants.

Meet at 10:15 a.m. at the parking lot for Riveredge Nature Center. (We may car pool from here.)

DIRECTIONS:

From Madison, take Hwy 151 north, then at Beaver Dam turn right (east) onto Hwy 33. Follow to West Bend. (Take a bathroom break here since we will not have access to restroom facilities until noon.) Continue east on Hwy 33 to Newburg and turn left (north) on County Y (also called Hawthorne Drive). Stay on Y as it turns northeast, continuing for about 1 mile. Riveredge is on the right. Park in front of the Nature Center.

SCHEDULE CHANGE: Sunday, July 6: Pretty Things with Wings! (Birds, Butterflies and Dragonflies of Lakeshore Nature Preserve.)

[The leader has a schedule conflict that resulted in the trip being rescheduled a week earlier.]

On this two hour walk in the Picnic Point area we expect to see interesting bird species and at least half a dozen species of dragonflies and twice as many different butterflies. The walking route will include the edge of Mendota's University Bay, the woods of Picnic Point, and the Biocore Prairie. Bring your binoculars--the closer they focus the better. This trip is sponsored by SWBA, Friends of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve, and the Madison Audubon Society. The trip leader is **Edgar Spalding**.

Meet at 10:00 a.m. at the Picnic Point Parking Lot, along University Bay Drive, on the UW campus. Call Edgar at (608) 265-5294 or 831-0616 only if you have a question about the trip or if the weather is questionable.

Saturday, July 12: Butterflies of Page Creek Marsh and John Muir Park

We will visit two areas looking for interesting butterflies. Located in the central sands of Wisconsin, **Page Creek Marsh** is a large 643 acre wetland preserve that supports a rich diversity of plants. It has sedge meadows and sandy oak savanna, fens, wet-mesic prairie, bog and seepage lakes. The second area we

will visit is the nearby **John Muir Memorial County Park**, which contains a variety of upland and wetland communities surrounding Ennis Lake. We will also eat lunch here. (Muir lived here in his youth, and became the founder of the Sierra Club and the father of the National Park system.)

Leaders will be **Dan Sonnenberg and Dr. Douglas Buege**. This is a joint trip of SWBA with the Madison Audubon Society. Bring binoculars, the closer they focus the better. (We will have a few extra pairs of binoculars.) Long pants, a hat, and sturdy walking shoes are recommended. Bring a bag lunch and water.

Meet at the Page Creek Marsh Parking Lot at 9:30 a.m. The



American Lady

trip will last until lunchtime.

DIRECTIONS FROM MADISON: take Interstate Highway I-39 north, past Portage, into Marquette County. Take Exit# 104 and follow County D east for 3.45 miles (going through Packwaukee, where D turns right and goes across the lake). Turn left (north) onto County K and go 0.86 mile to a gated entrance on the right (east) side of K. Park here. Call Dan at (608) 225-0451 only if you have a question about the trip.

Sunday, July 13: Pretty Things with Wings. **Rescheduled to July 6.**

Saturday, July 19: Flowers, Butterflies, and Birds at Shea Prairie

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 a diversity of dragonflies. Bring binoculars for butterfly viewing (the

closer they can focus the better--we will have a few extra binoculars). This trip is co-sponsored by SWBA, The Prairie Enthusiasts, and the Madison Audubon Society. The leaders are **Rich Henderson** (608) 845-7065 and **Dr. Douglas Buege**.

Meet at 10:00 AM at the parking area. The trip will last until Noon.

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.



Regal Fritillary.
Photo by Mike Reese.

2 AUGUST FIELD TRIPS

Saturday	August 9	Butterflies of Avoca/Blue River Area	Mike Reese
Saturday	August 23	Butterflies and Blossoms at Pheasant Branch Conservancy	Dreux Watermolen

Details will be in the August newsletter.

3 HIGHLIGHTS OF RECENT FIELD TRIPS

Highlights of Pleasant Valley field trip:

We had a great turnout of 32 butterflyers and good numbers of nice butterflies, despite overcast skies. Highlights included **Baltimore Checkerspot**, **Silvery Checkerspot**, and **Bronze Copper**. We found 21 species, fewer than previous years, but not bad. Many thanks to Kathie and Tom Brock for restoring this beautiful state natural area, and to Ann Thering for ably leading this trip.

Butterflies seen on the Pleasant Valley field trip:

Eastern Tiger Swallowtail	2	Silvery Checkerspot	5	Viceroy	2
Bronze Copper	1	Pearl Crescent	2	Eyed Brown	6
Banded Hairstreak	1	Baltimore Checkerspot	50	Little Wood Satyr	2
Eastern Tailed-Blue	2	Eastern Comma	1	Monarch	3
Summer Azure	3	Mourning Cloak	1	Silver-spotted Skipper	2
Great Spangled Fritillary	6	Red Admiral	1	Least Skipper	35
Aphrodite Fritillary	7	Red-spotted Purple	2	European Skipper	1

Highlights of Cherokee Marsh field trip:

Twenty-five participants observed 17 species. We found several Baltimore Checkerspots, Bronze Copper, Banded Hairstreaks and Hackberry Emperor. The Emperor landed on one participant (as they often do). A Wandering Glider (dragonfly) flew overhead. They are the world champion insect migrant (traveling 12,000 miles in 4 generations in a yearly round-trip between India and South Africa over the Indian Ocean!) Thanks to Stan Rehm for spotting butterflies and providing a photo of the Bronze Copper. Thanks also to Jan Axelson for information about Cherokee Marsh and the prairies. Leader Karl Legler rescued a Baltimore from a spider web. When the butterfly was released it flew up, touched the leader's nose then flew off. That was a real "butterfly-kiss"!



Bronze Copper.
Photo by Stan Rehm.

Butterflies seen on the Cherokee Marsh field trip:

Viceroy	1	Great Spangled Fritillary	6	Clouded Sulphur	2
Summer Azure	2	Banded Hairstreak	2	Orange Sulphur	3
Baltimore Checkerspot	8	Red Admiral	5	Black Swallowtail	1
Bronze Copper	1	Monarch	2	Mourning Cloak	1
Northern Crescent	3	Least Skipper	15	Cabbage White	2
Hackberry Emperor	1	Silver-spotted Skipper	1		

4 BUTTERFLY SIGHTINGS OF JUNE REPORTED TO wisconsinbutterflies.org

A good number of butterflies are flying right now, so get out and take a look!

Here is a table that shows the common butterflies that fly primarily in June, fly primarily in July, or fly in both June and July. This provides a preview of what is coming up in July!

COMMON BUTTERFLIES THAT FLY IN BOTH JUNE AND JULY

Cabbage White; Clouded Sulphur; Orange Sulphur; American Copper; Northern Crescent; Eastern Tailed-Blue; Summer Azure; Meadow Fritillary; Red Admiral; Viceroy; Monarch; Silver-spotted Skipper; Least Skipper (1st brood); Tawny-edged Skipper; Long Dash;.

COMMON BUTTERFLIES THAT FLY IN JUNE

Giant Swallowtail (1st brood); Karner Blue (1st brood); Red-spotted Purple (1st brood); Hackberry Emperor (1st brood); Little Wood-Satyr; Pearl Crescent (1st brood); Northern Cloudywing; Hobomok Skipper.

COMMON BUTTERFLIES THAT FLY IN JULY

Giant Swallowtail (2nd brood); Black Swallowtail (2nd); Eastern Tiger Swallowtail (2nd brood); Pink-edged Sulphur (north); HAIRSTREAKS (Juniper Hairstreak 2nd brood); Karner Blue (2nd brood); Great Spangled Fritillary; Aphrodite Fritillary; Gorgone Checkerspot (2nd brood); Eastern Comma (summer brood); Mourning Cloak; American Lady (2nd brood); Red-spotted Purple (2nd brood); Northern Pearly-Eye; Eyed Brown; Common Wood-Nymph; Northern Broken Dash; Delaware Skipper; Dun Skipper; Roadside Skipper.

Migrants from the South that came into Wisconsin during June were Red Admiral, Painted Lady, Giant Swallowtail, Common Buckeye, Little Yellow, and Gray Hairstreak, but the rarest sighting was the Pipevine Swallowtail seen by Ann Thering in Dane County! Keep an eye on your Pipevine plants for this rare migrant from the South! That's a good sign for more unusual sightings in the months ahead.

[Keep sending butterfly reports to wisconsinbutterflies.org](http://wisconsinbutterflies.org)

5 A RECOMMENDED FIELD GUIDE IS OUT OF PRINT; ANOTHER RECOMMENDATION!

Butterflies of the North Woods by Larry Weber

Wisconsin Butterflies iOS app by Mike Reese

SWBA has recommended 3 guide books for butterfly identification. The most important is Butterflies Through Binoculars (the East) by Jeffry Glassberg. 2nd in importance is Ken Kaufman's Butterflies of North America. (We have Quick-indexes to Wisconsin Butterflies for each of these books that can be downloaded free from our website and pasted in the back.) The third recommended book has been Larry Weber's Butterflies of the North Woods (2006). Recently I donated our copy to Madison Audubon's Goose Pond, thinking I could replace it with a new copy. But I discovered it is out of print! Fortunately I was able to buy the last copy that Amazon.com had! My guess is that a 3rd edition will perhaps appear in the future.

Meanwhile, I am reminded to call attention to another outstanding resource for butterfly identification: Mike Reese's award-winning website wisconsinbutterflies.org contains its own field guide to Wisconsin butterflies. **And a Wisconsin Butterflies iOS app is available!** It is designed for your iPhone, iPod touch, or iPad, with images and species descriptions from wisconsinbutterflies.org.

Install it on your device and take wisconsinbutterflies.org with you in your pocket. Includes over 150 species of butterflies with over 600 images taken in the field.

Click on <http://wisconsinbutterflies.org/butterfly/iphone> to get more information.

6 DATES FOR SOME 2014 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 each year. Some 17 NABA Butterfly Counts take place in Wisconsin. Below are ones that are connected with SWBA.

- ❖ **Mud Lake (Columbia County) Tuesday, July 1, 2014**
- ❖ **Madison (Dane County) Saturday, July 5, 2014**
- ❖ **Trempealeau (Trempealeau County) Wednesday, July 9, 2014**
- ❖ **Dubuque, IA (Wisconsin portion) Sunday, July 13, 2014**
- ❖ **Northern Kettle Moraine (Fond du Lac County) Tuesday, July 15, 2014**
- ❖ **Sister Bay (Door County) Thursday, July 17, 2014**

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 (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 Contacts are Listed.)

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

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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.