

# Badger ButterFlyer

The e-Newsletter of the Southern Wisconsin Butterfly Association

A chapter of NABA (North American Butterfly Association)

JUNE, 2018

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

## 1 NEXT FIELD TRIPS

Field Trips are free and open to the public.

Mark your calendar!

### BUTTERFLIES AND WILDFLOWERS OF PLEASANT VALLEY CONSERVANCY

Saturday, June 16, 2018  
10 a.m.– Noon.



Baltimore Checkerspot

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

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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](mailto: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.

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### 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 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. Wear sturdy shoes, long pants and a hat for protection from the sun.



Great Spangled Fritillary

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.

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## **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.



Eastern Amberwing



Meadow Fritillary

**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.

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## **Butterflies of Sandhill 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



Acadian Hairstreak

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.)

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## Madison 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](mailto:karlndot@charter.net)



Edward's Hairstreak

## 2 HIGHLIGHTS OF BAUER-BROCKWAY BARRENS FIELD TRIP

May 19, 2018 was our **12th annual** mid-May butterfly field trip to Jackson County in Central Wisconsin. Douglas Buege was the leader and we had a turnout of 7 people. We found 15 species, many of which are not found, or are scarce, in southern Wisconsin. (The best sightings are in bold type.) The data will be sent to NABA as the "Wazee, WI Spring Count". We do this because this is an important butterfly area and so the butterfly observations we make on this trip are also important. So we make our observations available to a national database archive, maintained and published by the North American Butterfly Association (NABA). Below are the results of our field trip.



Hoary Elfin

Canadian Tiger Swallowtail 5  
**Olympia Marble** 37  
 Clouded Sulphur 2  
**Harvester** 1  
 Brown Elfin 6  
**Hoary Elfin** 7

**Eastern Pine Elfin** 10  
 Spring Azure 13  
**Gorgone Checkerspot** 3  
 Mourning Cloak 3  
 American Lady 1  
**Dreamy Duskywing** 3

Juvenal's Duskywing 31  
**Persius Duskywing** 3  
**Sleepy Duskywing** 2

## 3 SOME RESULTS OF THE 2017 NORTH AMERICAN COUNTS

NABA conducts more than 400 butterfly counts around North America each year. A few counts have been conducted for as long as 43 years! 14 counts were conducted in Wisconsin in 2017. For some species the highest count occurred in Wisconsin.

The table below shows which species had their highest North American number counted on a Wisconsin Count. The final column indicates how many years the count has been conducted.



Mottled Duskywing

SPECIES	NUMBER	COUNT NAME (WIS)	WIS. COUNTY	YEAR OF COUNT
Olympia Marble	30	Wazee Spring Count	Jackson	11
Bog Copper	653	Northern Oconto Co.	Oconto	3
Frosted Elfin	1	Wazee Spring Count	Jackson	11
Karner Blue	67	Wazee Summer Count	Jackson	24
Swamp Metalmark	1	Northern Kettle Moraine	Fond du Lac	21
Dreamy Duskywing	8	Wazee Spring Count	Jackson	11
Mottled Duskywing	1	Crex Meadows	Burnett	26
Dion Skipper	82	Sandhill/Seneca	Wood	27
Two-spotted Skipper	18	Sandhill/Seneca	Wood	27
Dusted Skipper	39	Wazee Spring Count	Jackson	11

## 4 NABA BUTTERFLY COUNT SCHEDULE FOR 2018

COUNT NAME	DAY	DATE	COUNTY	THIS YEAR WILL BE THE
Mud Lake	Monday	July 2	Columbia Co.	30th year
Oconto		TBA	Oconto Co.	4th year
Madison	Sunday	July 8	Dane Co.	28th year
Trempealeau	Tuesday	July 10	Trempealeau Co.	29th year
Northern Kettle Moraine	Friday	July 13	Fond du Lac Co.	22nd year
Dubuque (Wis. portion)	Saturday	July 14	Grant Co.	16th year

These are similar to Christmas Bird Counts. This is a good way to gain more experience with a range of butterflies. Whether experienced or novice, you are always welcome to participate. To join in, or if you have a question, contact the 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](http://www.naba.org/counts/us_mx_map.html) Contacts are Listed.)

## 5 FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE FOR 2018 (mark these on your calendar!)

These field trips are free and open to the public.

DAY	DATE	TRIP TITLE	LEADER(S)
Saturday	May 19	Butterflies of Bauer Brockway Barrens (Jackson Co.)	Douglas Buege
Saturday	June 16	Butterflies and Wildflowers at Pleasant Valley Conservancy	Ann Thering Kathie and Tom Brock
Saturday	June 23	Butterflies of Cherokee Marsh	Karl & Dorothy Legler and Janet Battista
Wednesday	July 4	Butterflies and Dragonflies of Swamp Lovers Preserve	Tod Highsmith Karl and Dorothy Legler
Saturday	July 7	Butterflies of Sandhill Wildlife Area (Wood Co.)	Ron Arnold
Sunday	July 8	Madison Butterfly Count	Karl and Dorothy Legler
Saturday	July 21	Butterflies and Flowers of Shea Prairie	Karl and Dorothy Legler Rich Henderson
Saturday	August 4	Butterflies of the Avoca and Blue River Area	Mike Reese

## 6 BUTTERFLY SIGHTINGS FOR APRIL AND MAY [wisconsinbutterflies.org](http://wisconsinbutterflies.org)

Last winter was cold. March was cold and had the fewest reports (7) of the past 4 Marches. April was the 2nd coldest on record at Madison and produced two major snow storms after mid-month. Number of reports (38) was the lowest in 11 years! May saw above average rainfall and hot weather (4 days in a row of 90° or above) but still had the lowest number of reports (186) of the past 5 years. Three species were reported for March, another 7 species added in April and another 48 were added in May

for a total of 58 species reported. Several sightings were of special interest: A Monarch was sighted on April 20, Gray Hairstreak and Common Checkered-Skipper are scarce strays that are seldom seen this early in the season. Columbine Duskywing ("Special Concern") has been reported this year after no reports in 2017. The Swengels reported Frosted Elfins (Threatened) as having the 3rd highest count in the 21 years of surveying for them! Keep sending in your butterfly sightings!

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

## 7 North American Butterfly Association 13th Biennial Members' Meeting Tallahassee, FL September 16-19, 2018

Every other year NABA holds a meeting and field trips somewhere in the U.S. The Panhandle has been identified as one of the five richest biodiversity hotspots in North America. The Apalachicola River Basin, just to the west of Tallahassee, has the highest species diversity of reptiles and amphibians in the U.S. and an estimated 1300 plant species, with 127 of them endemic to the Basin, including dozens of carnivorous plant species, more than any other state. The Apalachicola NF, just south of Tallahassee, is part of one of the largest contiguous blocks of public lands east of the Mississippi River. With over 120 species of butterflies within the vicinity, Tallahassee will give attendees of the 13th biennial NABA meeting an opportunity to experience the riches of natural Florida.

**The cost for the 4 days is \$295, which includes 3 days of field trips and Workshops, 3 box lunches and 2 banquet dinners. (Accommodations are extra.) Daytime temperatures average in the upper 80's.**

### TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

#### Sunday, September 16:

3:30-7:30 p.m. Registration  
7:30-9:00 p.m. Welcome & Program:  
"An Introduction to Central Florida Panhandle  
Butterflies" by Dean and Sally Jue

#### Monday, September 17:

8:00-8:45 a.m. Workshops (3 concurrent topics)  
9:15 a.m. Field Trips depart  
5:00 p.m. Field Trips return  
6:00-7:00 p.m. Social Hour, Book signing, Exhibits  
7:00-9:00 p.m. Banquet and Keynote Speaker

#### Tuesday, September 18:

8:00-8:45 a.m. Workshops (3 concurrent topics)  
9:15 a.m. Field Trips depart  
5:00 p.m. Field Trips return  
6:00-7:00 p.m. Social Hour, Book signing, Exhibits  
7:00-9:00 p.m. Banquet and Featured Speaker

#### Wednesday, September 19:

8:00 a.m. Field Trips depart  
3:00 p.m. Field Trips return  
3:00-3:30 p.m. Meeting Finale



Zebra Swallowtail

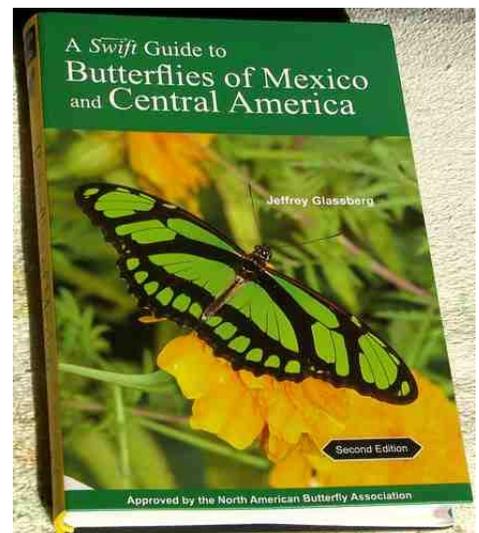
**To register or get more information, click on this link:** <http://www.naba.org/meeting.html>

## 8 NEW BOOK: A SWIFT GUIDE TO BUTTERFLIES OF MEXICO AND CENTRAL AMERICA (2nd Edition) by Jeffrey Glassberg.

"A fully revised **Second Edition** of the most detailed, comprehensive, and user-friendly photographic field guide to the butterflies of Mexico and Central America.

- Covers more than **2,000 species**.
- More than **1500 new photos**.
- Beautifully illustrated with **3,800 color photographs**.
- Field marks and arrows that show you exactly what to look for are embedded in the photographs for swift access.
- Detailed range maps."

**8" x 5.8" 304 pages.** Available on Amazon for **\$27.61** + shipping.



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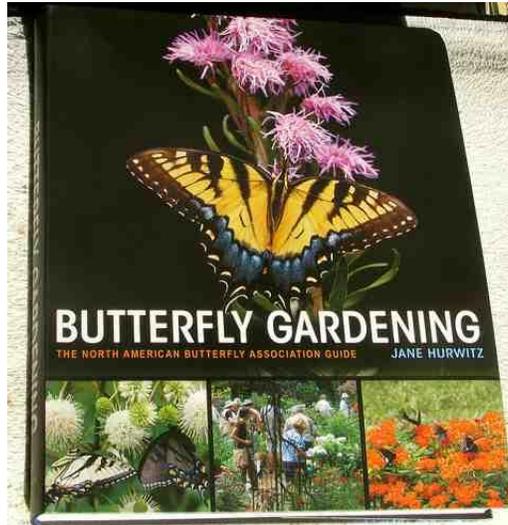
## 9 NEW BOOK: Butterfly Gardening. The North American Butterfly Association Guide by Jane Hurwitz.

This book was published in April. The author is Jane Hurwitz the editor of Butterfly Gardening magazine and the former director of the Butterfly Garden and Habitat Program of NABA.

An indispensable and lavishly illustrated guide to creating a garden that attracts and sustains butterflies

"Butterfly gardening creates habitats that support butterflies, connecting us with some of the most beautiful creatures in the natural world..... Lavishly illustrated with more than two hundred color photographs and maps, accomplished butterfly gardener Jane Hurwitz presents essential information on how to choose and cultivate plants that will attract a range of butterflies to your garden and help sustain all the stages of their life cycles. An indispensable resource... *Butterfly Gardening* is the most gardener-friendly source on the subject, covering all the practical details needed to create a vibrant garden habitat that fosters butterflies. It tells you which plants support which butterflies,

depending on where you live; it describes what different butterflies require in the garden over the course of their lives; and it shows you how



to become a butterfly watcher as well as a butterfly gardener. While predominantly recommending regionally native plants, the book includes information on non-native plants. It also features informative interviews with experienced butterfly gardeners from across the United States. These gardeners share a wealth of information on plants and practices to draw butterflies to all kinds of gardens--from small suburban gardens to community plots and larger expanses."

**10.5" x 8.5" 288 pages. \$22.80 at Amazon.**

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**The ButterFlyer flits to you every month in summer. The next issue will be in July.**

### 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. Send any news notes to the editor, Karl Legler, at [karlndot@charter.net](mailto:karlndot@charter.net)

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