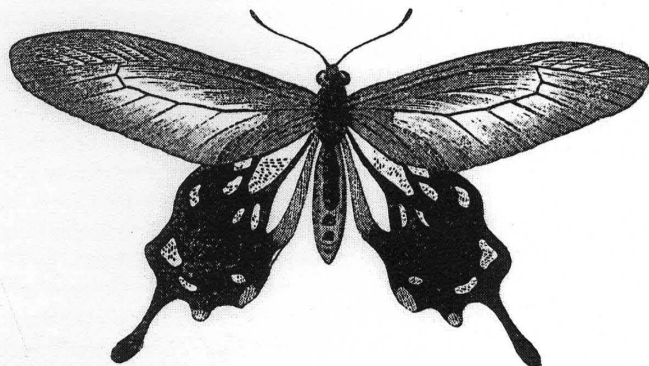


ASSOCIATION FOR TROPICAL LEPIDOPTERA

NOTES

December 2004



ANNUAL MEETING - 2004



As noted last issue, the 2004 ATL Annual Meeting was held in Gainesville, Florida, jointly with the Southern Lepidopterists' Society, on September 17-19, at the new McGuire Center for Lepidoptera and Biodiversity. The meeting photo is shown above, with most of those attending present, in front of the collection

rooms section of McGuire Center. To the left of the stairs is the area with the butterfly house (not visible). McGuire Center offices for staff are on the side of the building and in back, except for vivarium rooms and director's offices by the vivarium, on the second floor. (cont. p. 3)

ATL NOTES

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December 2004

No. 4

TO OUR READERS

The end of the year is a good time to again thank the many dedicated ATL members who not only send their dues on time but include extra funds for publications or conservation projects. No matter that we are late with the journals, these members send in their support. If all members sent in their dues, we would have several issues of the journals printed now. Nonetheless, with this issue we have one issue of *Tropical Lepidoptera* included and some special issues are on the way this winter, as well as our other journals. My estimate is that in the coming months we will get more up-to-date. This can go faster if more members send in their past dues, of course, so keep that in mind.

Besides journals, we have a new part of the *Atlas of Neotropical Lepidoptera* series printed, paid from sales already made. This new catalog is for butterflies of the entire Neotropics. This is a monumental work, tended to for the past 20 years by Dr. Gerardo Lamas, who did the main work on this and the primary editing. Along with several co-workers for different groups of butterflies, the catalog is the first complete compilation of all named butterflies and skippers for this region, from Mexico to Patagonia, altogether nearly 7,800 species (note that north of Mexico there are only about 750 species). ATL members, of course, have a very large discount on the price of the catalog, at only \$35. This has been announced as postpaid in the USA since early this year, and now this will end as of the December 31. But even after January 1, the price will be a bargain even with the \$3 added postage in the USA (postage is higher outside the USA). Price for non-members is \$95, plus postage. Members can still buy the bibliography part that goes along with the new Neotropical catalog, compiled by Dr. Lamas in 1995 (member price for that remains at \$32.50). Updates to the bibliography have appeared since 1995 in past issues of *Lepidoptera News*.

J. B. Heppner
Editor

PUZZLE: What lepidopterans were shown on the covers last time? Answers below:

FC - *Eueides isabella* (Stoll), South America (Nymphalidae)
BC - *Leto venus* (Stoll), South Africa (Hepialidae)

RECENT PASSINGS

Takashi Shirôzu, 2 Apr 2004, Japan
John G. Franclemont, 26 May 2004, Ithaca, NY
Dalibor Povolný, 6 Nov 2004, Brno, Czech Republic

ANNIVERSARIES

125 years: birth of René Jeannel, entomologist, 1879, France
150 years: birth of Samuel E. Cassino, lepidopterist, 1854, USA
150 years: birth of Edward Meyrick, lepidopterist, 1854, England
175 years: birth of J. Brackenridge Clemens, lepidopterist, 1829, USA
265 years: birth of William Bartram, naturalist, 1739, USA
325 years, birth of Mark Catesby, naturalist, 1679, England

The Association for Tropical Lepidoptera, Inc., is a non-profit organization for the support of research on the biology, systematics, and conservation of tropical and subtropical Lepidoptera of the world. Funding for the Association helps to support research projects, field studies, and publications on tropical and subtropical Lepidoptera. The Association was organized in 1989 in Florida as a tax-exempt corporation under Section 501(c)3 of the IRS Code and is a publicly supported organization as defined in Sections 170(b)(1)(vi) and 509(a). Contributions are tax deductible in the United States.

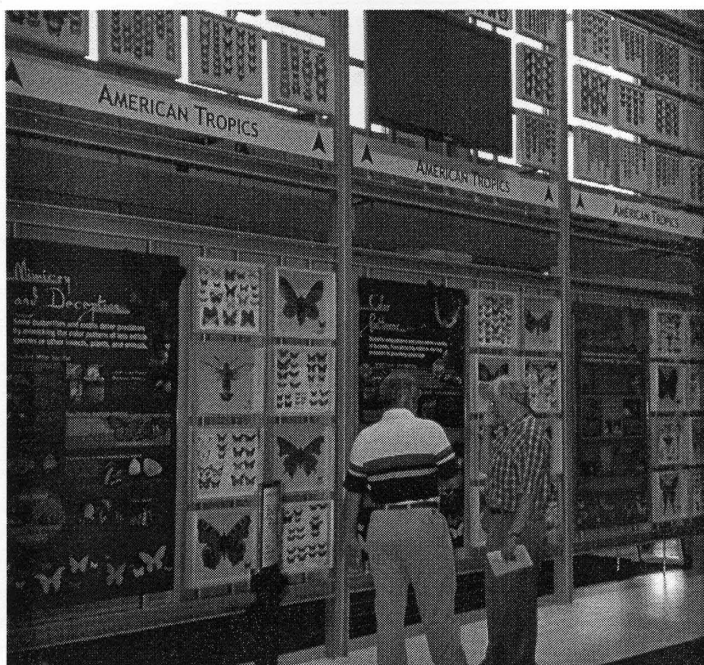
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30 December 2004



The photo above shows a small section of the exhibit gallery inside McGuire Hall, and two of our members viewing the display panels. The gallery has many exhibits on butterflies and moths of the world. In the center there is the public entrance to the butterfly house, with a ticket and information desk. At the far end of the gallery is a view into one of the actual collection rooms where drawers of the main collection will be housed.

Staff of McGuire Center are busy now sorting out collections, mainly the Allyn Museum collection to start with, curating each drawer and leaving space for future expansion. It is a monumental task and will take some months to complete, since all specimens are also being transferred to unit trays. The Allyn collection currently is in the "basement" (1st floor) of McGuire Center, which is the staging area for incoming collections. As the material is curated into new drawers, these drawers are taken upstairs to the butterfly floor (3rd floor), moths to the 2nd floor.

Many staff are also having to move into their offices, so there is much to do. Further staff are to arrive with the New Year. Students are getting their research desks assigned and into place, and slowly everything is being organized more and more.

The butterfly house (vivarium) is fully functional, however, as are the public exhibits. Many visitors have now gone through the vivarium and marveled at all the live tropical butterflies and the tropical plantings that make it resemble a tropical rainforest.

PYRALIDAE OR CRAMBIDAE?

Before 1900, Crambidae was in use for some years but after that and until just a few years ago, everyone working on these moths pretty much agreed that we had one family Pyralidae. It has only been since the cladists looked at this more that we now have two families being adopted by many researchers.

The great pyralid expert, Gene Munroe, some 30 years ago recognized that the crambine group of the Pyralidae all had some internal morphology that was different than the rest of the family, and to show this difference he split the family at a subgroup level and used two series names, Crambiformes and Pyraliformes, yet maintained one family (I call them groups, as Crambinina and Pyralinina, instead of series because "series" is now used for a category above the family level). He was convinced at that time, as I am also still, that it was more useful to have

these groups maintained as one family, and that the single morphological character he found was not enough to split the family into two families, yet using subgroups still showed the distinction was there at a lower level than family level.

Now enter the unifocused cladists. Along with a general splitting urge every other generation which is typical of taxonomic trends since 1758, many cladists could not see this morphological character and not call these separate families. Additionally, some researchers will not use subgroups. Thus, a special subgroup like "series" or "group" will not be used by them, so the groups, of course, are elevated to family level in their view. So, several years ago Gene Munroe also went along with this general idea promoted so much by the cladists. I also use cladistics as another tool in taxonomic work, but I know it is not the single correct answer, since as much subjectivity goes into cladistics as any other methodology, but this is just not admitted to by fervent cladists.

This splitting of the family Pyralidae is, of course, not useful and when subgroups are used also not necessary. It also plays havoc with the economic literature of this important family, since for about 100 years almost all the references refer to these moths as Pyralidae and not Crambidae. Fortunately, there are some pyralid researchers who agree with me and also do not use Crambidae, and maintain a rational usage of a single family of these closely related groups. Using a subgroup classification to make the fine distinction that there are two forms of one internal morphology character shows what distinctions there are, but not of family-level value to justify splitting to two families. Likewise, larval characters do not support splitting pyralids into two families. Thus, one family Pyralidae remains valid.

J. B. Heppner, FSCA

ATL BOOK SERIES

ATLAS OF NORTH AMERICAN LEPIDOPTERA

In preparation, but Papilionidae catalog was printed in *Lepid. News*.

ATLAS OF NEOTROPICAL LEPIDOPTERA

Checklist: Part 1. Micropterigoidea - Immoidea

1984. 112p, cloth \$45.00 (18.50 for members)

Checklist: Part 2. Hyblaeoidea - Pyraloidea - Tortricioidea

1995. 243p, paper \$65.00 (19.95 for members)

Checklist: Part 4A. Hesperioidea - Papilionoidea **NEW**

2004. 464p, paper \$95.00 (35.00 for members)

Checklist: Part 4B. Drepanoidea - Bombycoidea- Sphingoidea

1996. 87p, paper \$35.00 (14.95 for members)

Vol. 124. Bibliography of Butterflies and Skippers

1995. 463p, paper \$95.00 (32.50 for members)

ATLAS OF PALEARCTIC LEPIDOPTERA. Parts in preparation.

LEPIDOPTERA OF TAIWAN

Vol. 1. Part 1: Introduction and Color Synopsis **Mar 2005**

2005. ca 250p, 75 pl., paper \$195.00 (81.50 for members)

Vol. 1. Part 2: Checklist

1992. 276p, paper \$65.00 (21.50 for members)

Vol. 1. Part 3: Faunal distribution and Hostplant Index in prep.

LEPIDOPTERORUM CATALOGUS

Since 1911, the only authoritative catalog for world Lepidoptera.

Fasc. 7. Neopseustidae (Davis). 1997. 8p. \$4.50 (1.50 ATL)

Fasc. 11. Prototheoridae (Davis). **2004**. 8p. \$4.50 (1.50 ATL)

Fasc. 29. Amphitheridae (Heppner) **2005**. 12p. \$5.50 (2.00 ATL)

Fasc. 44. Scythrididae (Passerin d'Entreves & Roggero) **2005**. 80p. \$45.00 (15.00 ATL)

Fasc. 48. Epermeniidae (Gaedike). 1996. 16p. \$7.50 (2.50 ATL)

Fasc. 56. Acrolepiidae (Gaedike). 1997. 16p. \$7.50 (2.50 ATL)

Fasc. 62. Tineodidae (Heppner). 1998. 8p. \$4.50 (1.50 ATL)

Fasc. 63. Oxychirotidae (Heppner). 1997. 8p. \$4.50 (1.50 ATL)

Fasc. 94. Hedyliidae (Scoble). 1998. 16p. \$7.50 (2.50 ATL)

Fasc. 100. Libytheidae (Heppner). **2005**. 12p. \$5.50 (2.00 ATL)

Fasc. 106. Carthaeidae (Heppner). **2005**. 8p. \$4.50 (1.50 ATL)

Fasc. 125. Noctuidae (Poole). 1989. 1314p. \$150.00 (50.00 ATL)

NEW BOOKS

ENCYCLOPEDIA OF ENTOMOLOGY

edited by John L. Capinera

September 2004. 2580 p (3 v.) (8.5x11 in.) Kluwer. \$495.00.

A remarkable 3-volume compendium of entomological subjects, including notes on all insect orders and families. The Lepidoptera section (J. B. Heppner, author) is most extensive. Separate sections on biologies of Lepidoptera are by T. C. Emmel, A. Sourakov, and others. Each volume weighs in at about 5 pounds. The price of the set is high, but major libraries should all get this and certainly anyone interested in insects, the set being a handy reference to all modern insect subjects.

GEOMETRID MOTHS OF EUROPE. Vol. 2. STERRHINAE

by A. Hausmann

November 2004. 600pp, 24 pl. (6.5 x 9.5 in.) Apollo. \$155.00.

This new part in the series on geometrid moths of Europe treats the entire subfamily Sterrhinae, which includes many small, obscure and difficult species groups. The color plates are exceptionally sharp, although generally the figures are not enlarged enough. However, the text includes more figures in black and white of enlarged views of species difficult to identify, plus arrows showing critical identification marks. There also are many genitalia plates. Printing is excellent, although it has the usual Apollo Books simple binding that will not withstand long usage. The series is absolutely essential to anyone working on geometrids for any fauna, since many of the generic types are European species.

LEPIDOPTERA OF THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST:

Caterpillars and Adults

by J. C. Miller and P. C. Hammond

2003. 324pp (11 x 8.5 in.). USDA, Forest Service, FHTET-2003-03.

Long neglected, the Pacific NW region of the United States and adjacent Canada now have a nice introduction to the Lepidoptera found there. The work is full color, treating 239 species. Each species has one page with a color image of the larva and the adult, plus a brief text on its characters and ecology. This is one of these U.S. Forest Service booklets that are never advertised, so often difficult to learn about. Copies can be obtained from the eastern office: 180 Canfield St., Morgantown, WV 26505 (c/o Richard C. Reardon), or e-mail to rreardin@fs.fed.us.

TAXONOMY OF MOTHS IN INDIA

by A. Srivastava

2002. 334p (5.5 x 8.5 in.), 24 pl. International Book, Dehra Dun.

The title to this book is misleading since it only deals with common Noctuidae found in India. While the 24 color plates are very low quality and show very poorly prepared specimens, the book includes 84 plates of genital figures that should be useful. However, there are so many simple spelling errors that one does not know how accurate the information is in the book, or whether the genitalia figures are correctly assigned to correct names, but it is at least something new for India, a region with very little modern literature on its Lepidoptera. Price is about \$25.

BUTTERFLIES OF VIETNAM (an Illustrated Checklist)

by A. L. Monastyrskii and A. L. Devyatkin

2003. 56p (6 x 8.3 in.), 14 pl. Hanoi.

This little booklet on Vietnam butterflies has excellent color plates to illustrate some of the species. The checklist includes 995 species known for Vietnam, giving each name and the range within Vietnam for each species. There is a useful historical review of butterfly studies in Vietnam up to the present time (in English and Vietnamese), and there is a bibliography at the end. One can contact the authors to obtain copies, at maack60@hotmail.com.

GUIDE TO THE BUTTERFLIES OF THE PALEARCTIC REGION. NYMPHALIDAE. Part 1. Tribe Argynnini.

by V. K. Tuzov

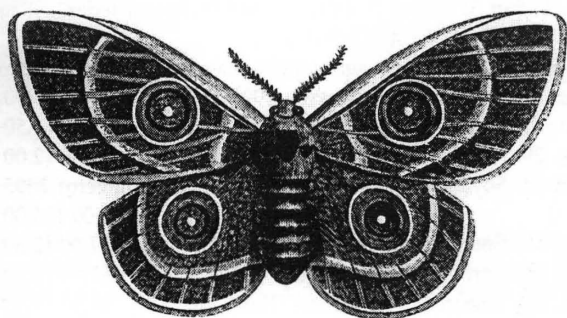
2003. 64p (8 x 11 in.) Omnes Artes, Milan.

The series continues with this 5th book. It is full color and illustrates all the species treated on the text pages. The work treats the American genus *Speyeria* as a synonym of *Argynnis*. Only Old World species are included but it does list all the North American species in the introduction. Besides *Argynnis*, other genera included are *Issoria*, *Brenthis*, and *Argyreus*. The text is in English and the overall printing is excellent. Included are genitalia drawings for each species. Price is not given but past issues have been about \$60 each. Anyone interested in European and Eurasian butterflies should not miss this series.

Association for Tropical Lepidoptera

P. O. Box 141210

Gainesville, Florida 32614-1210



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