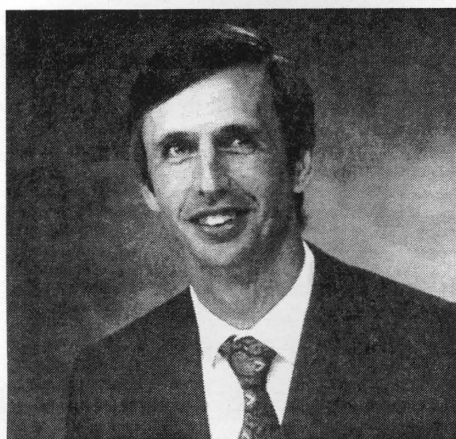


ASSOCIATION FOR TROPICAL LEPIDOPTERA

March 2007

NOTES



Since the last newsletter, the Board of Directors and Officers of the Association have agreed to a restructuring of ATL, under guidelines set forth in the Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation. At the request of the Board of Directors, Dr. John Heppner will continue as Editor. Board

member Peter Eliazar is assuming the responsibilities of Secretary-Treasurer and I am the Executive Director.

Over the past 18 years since our incorporation in 1989, John Heppner has worked tirelessly building ATL. Our restructuring will allow John to concentrate on editing the publications of the Association, while Peter and I attend to the financial and administrative duties. Dr. Tom Emmel will continue as Vice-President and Director of Development.

During the past several weeks, the four of us, in conjunction with the other Board members, have worked closely to resolve some of the problems facing ATL. In the short term, we anticipate catching up on ATL journal issues. After the next *Holarctic Lepidoptera* issue (Vol. 11, for 2004, already prepared for publication), we will place *Holarctic Lepidoptera* in diapause to concentrate more on *Tropical Lepidoptera*. Long term, we want to return our focus to tropical lepidopteran and conservation issues. We intend to publish *Tropical Lepidoptera* at least each quarter this year, to catch up on issues up to 2007 (Vol. 14-18).

Over the past several years, there has been a significant decline in ATL membership. We need your help to revitalize the organization and increase our membership. We solicit your ideas and suggestions and we encourage your active involvement in ATL. We will specifically contact former members requesting their reinstatement. We would like to offer them all the catch-up journal issues published during 2007, and new issues in 2008, if they will renew now. We hope that you personally will help ATL recruit new members in 2007 who will also have the opportunity to receive every catch-up issue, as well as the volume and numbers correlating with

2007. We should all actively recruit high school, undergraduate and graduate student memberships, and particularly encourage graduate level participation in the annual meetings, as well as submission of research articles for publication. We will have special membership rates for new student members.

We anticipate experimental changes in publication format. For example, we will publish invited summary articles on conservation topics and issues that are applicable to tropical Lepidoptera. We will consider a "Comments and Perspectives" section responding to research articles by other experts in the field. We could include published updates from members living in or visiting various tropical locales of interest. Some of these items could go into *Lepidoptera News* if no color pages are needed. We need your feedback (positive and negative) as these suggested changes appear.

One of the best motivators for ATL involvement is attendance at the annual meeting. The next meeting will be in October 2007, in Gainesville, Florida. This meeting will be held jointly with the Southern Lepidopterists' Society, as in recent years. In addition to the scientific sessions and business meeting, there will be ample time for one-on-one discussion with officers and directors of ATL. Further details will be forthcoming, but plan ahead now to be in Gainesville for the 2007 meeting.

As outlined in his Presidential address, Dr. Ulf Eitschberger emphasized the importance of involvement in ATL and supporting your organization monetarily. The importance of donating to ATL publications as well as to conservation projects cannot be overemphasized. We gratefully acknowledge those individuals who have generously supported the organization thus far. I agree with past ATL President Eitschberger in asking each member to consider a donation to ATL (tax-deductible in the U.S.), in addition to annual membership dues. Our fundraising goal is to achieve sufficient endowment in order to grant financial security to the administrative and publication branches of ATL.

We should envision the Association for Tropical Lepidoptera as the premier organization, and *Tropical Lepidoptera* as the premier publication, for tropical Lepidoptera and conservation issues around the world. Please join me in helping to achieve these goals. Thank you for your participation.

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ATL NOTES

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ASSOCIATION FOR TROPICAL LEPIDOPTERA

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March 2007

No. 1

TO OUR READERS

Change brings excitement and synergy, so I hope the membership supports these moves to help ATL and our goals, as noted by Dr. Turner. My hope for this year is that more members respond with donations, including review of any missing back dues payments.

As for the newsletter, members should submit their news, notes, questions, etc., so you can read more items like that rather than only what I can put together myself for each issue.

Our ATL trips are exceptional this year. Unfortunately, no members expressed any interest in the Andean trip to northern Chile or to Romania. Andean blues and other high altitude lepidopterans can only be found in these regions, but it is an expensive trip. Dr. Benyamini goes there every year, so anyone interested in this can always contact ATL about it. Romania is the best area in Europe to find Lepidoptera, since it remains about the most unspoiled region, with vast mountains and forests, and these are easily accessible versus more remote regions that are cumbersome to get to. American members should consider this again in the future: European members already know all this and go there.

J. B. Heppner
Editor

ATL ANNUAL MEETING - 2007

5-7 October 2007: Gainesville, Florida (joint meeting with the Southern Lepidopterists' Society). Contact Dr. Emmel for details.

ATL TRIPS: 2007

CHILE, 2-24 March 2007: lack of interest; cancelled.

GUATEMALA, 2-10/15 June 2007

We repeat our trip again in the late spring when rains start, a time of massive emergence of moths and butterflies. We go to Flores and central mountains. Cost approx. \$1,250, plus airfare. Add-on cost for June 11-15 is ca. \$125 per day. The first week includes an opportunity to also camp at a rich lowland site near the Gulf Coast, to find other species.

ROMANIA, 1-15 July 2007: lack of interest; cancelled.

PERU, 2-11/17 November 2007

We visit the Cosñipata Valley, near Cuzco, staying at a comfortable lodge at about 1200m elevation, perfect for a multitude of moths and butterflies. Dr. Gerardo Lamas will be our local guide and expert on Peruvian butterflies. Basic 10-day trip is approx. \$1,450 plus airfare (added days after Nov 11, if staying for extended itinerary, are ca. \$125 per day).

NOTE: ATL trips allow members and friends to fly in from other cities as well and meet at the destination city, if so desired. Members from Europe, for example, can join a trip by flying a route that is convenient for their destination. Each participant books their own flights from recommended routes, so insurance and airline mileage can be obtained, while in-country arrangements are organized for maximum use of our time in the field.

ELECTIONS 2006

ATL President: Roger Kitching, Australia

Vice-President: Thomas C. Emmel, USA

Secretary/Treasurer: Peter J. Eliazar, USA (for J. B. Heppner)

Elected Board members: Manuel Balcázar (Mexico), Gerardo Lamas (Peru), and J. D. Turner (USA).

Our thanks to all who participated in the 2006 election.

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.

LEPIDOPTERA NOTES is published quarterly (March, June, September and December) as the newsletter of the Association for Tropical Lepidoptera, Inc. Membership is \$90 per year. Journals of the Society are: *Holarctic Lepidoptera*, *Tropical Lepidoptera*, and *Lepidoptera News*. Membership is open to all persons interested in Lepidoptera. Membership applications and other information can be obtained from the ATL website (www.troplep.org), or by mail from the Association for Tropical Lepidoptera, P. O. Box 141210, Gainesville, FL 32614-1210.

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19 January 2007

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

For 20 years now — since 1987 when I started the *Neotropical Lepidoptera News* and then developed ATL from that in 1989 — I have done all the work involved to keep ATL going and our journals printed. Others, like Tom Emmel, have been instrumental in helping since then with various chores, like proof-reading the many journal issues and newsletters, besides his handling of our conservation programs for Lepidoptera. As a result, ATL journals have become benchmarks in our science of lepidopterology and much sought after as publication venues for prospective authors. Many other journals have, since 1990, emulated our journals and also transformed to all-color issues in large format. And, our society has become the major funding source for conservation of tropical Lepidoptera faunas in many areas of the world.

Thanks to new volunteers, I can now transfer some of the workload to others and devote my main energies to our journals and book series projects. Dr. J. D. Turner, of Ardmore, Tennessee (just north of Hunstville, Alabama), having recently retired from his medical profession, now has ample time available and has agreed to lead ATL and augment our fund-raising and other goals. ATL members will recall Dr. Turner from his message as ATL President in 1997. He has long been on our Board of Directors and has also been active in our Lepidoptera conservation efforts over the years. Dr. Turner's e-mail address is: jdatl@gmail.com.

Peter Eliazar, of Gainesville, Florida, has agreed to take over the duties of ATL Secretary and Treasurer, and handle all the chores of mailing journal issues, maintaining the membership list, advertising the society to new members, answering member correspondence and e-mails, and handling the ATL accounts. His e-mail address: pjeatl@gmail.com.

Our recent ATL election began before these new developments, so I am glad to report more help commencing in 2007. We have some new Board members with the election: Dr. Manuel Balcázar, of Colima, Mexico, is a new Board member, replacing Dr. Vitor Becker, of Brazil, who retired from the ATL Board of Directors at the end of 2006. Drs. J. D. Turner and Gerardo Lamas were re-elected for a new 6-year term of office, and I will trade places with Dr. Turner as a regular Board member. Roger Kitching, of Australia, is the new ATL President for 2007 (we had Martin Krüger also listed on the ballot but after he was nominated it was noted that he is not an ATL member and, thus, not eligible to run for office).

Webmaster duties have long been a problem, but now we have found new volunteers in the persons of Nancy Turner and her son, Matt Turner, so this job can now also be handled by others. Some new website features may be anticipated with their generous help for this chore! Please send in your ideas for the website, or features you find lacking (use Dr. Turner's e-mail address for your messages).

The recent fund-raising letter has been successful as well, and for 2006 we already have cash donations, loan transfers, and pledges amounting to \$63,072. Hopefully, the membership will continue adding to this in 2007 so all our debts can be removed and we can push forward with more of our journal issues and other society goals. With our new funding, several journal issues can now be produced this winter and spring, and these will be sent to the membership as soon as they are printed, with issues bundled to saved on postage costs.

We have numerous papers long on hold awaiting publication in our journals, so it will be good, and authors will be glad to know, that these papers will finally get into print in new issues of *Tropical Lepidoptera* and *Holarctic Lepidoptera*. Many other authors, and member readers, have also been frustrated in not seeing new ATL journal issues or more rapidly available publication space, so these problems will be notably lessened in 2007. As noted by Dr. Turner, I also urge the membership to support ATL and, as the journal issues appear more rapidly, to also look at gaps in their back dues that can be sent in.

J. B. Heppner
Founder and Editor

ESPERIANA. Vol. 12

H. H. Hacker and H. Peks, editors

2006. Delta Druck & Verlag, Schwanfeld, Germany. 419pp, 30 pl., cloth (7x10). Price: Euro 149 (ca. \$195).

The book-series journal, *Esperiana*, has been in production since 1990, with volumes being issued most years since then. The current volume conforms to the high standards set forth with the first issue: uniform cloth binding of orange color (plus dust jacket), matte-coated fine paper, and color plates at the end of the volume. While the cost of each part is high, the quality is exceptional and worth the price. The series generally publishes papers on Palearctic fauna, but with some papers on Old World tropical faunas. The volumes vary in size, with the largest being number 8 (from 2001), with 942 pages. The only volumes without color plates are the second one in 1990, which was a checklist of European Noctuidae, as well as the 10-volume index supplement.

The 12th volume, issued in honor of the late Claude Herbulot (photo on cover and preface), of France, has the usual mix of various scientific papers, mostly on moths of the family Noctuidae, but also other families. Occasionally, as in this volume, there are also articles on other insects. The color plates are fine and crisp, placed at the end to save on some publication costs. Hermann Hacker has a large portion of the included papers, and with all authors the emphasis is on Noctuidae. The current volume has another installment on "The Insect Fauna of Yemen," on noctuids from that region and also a paper on the local geometrids by Axel Hausmann. There also are papers on Tibetan and Central Asian noctuid and bombycoid moths, plus the Middle East. There are a few papers on beetles of Israel and Syria at the end, with an introductory paper on this region that will also be of interest to lepidopterists. After the plates there is an index to scientific names.

To order volumes, as well as two memoirs that have been published, volume details, prices, and other information, go to the *Esperiana* website: www.esperiana.net.

ATL members will be interested to see the photo of Herbulot on the volume cover, sitting at a table at the Forum Herbulot, Munich, with his awards, and especially holding his ATL Hübner Award from 2002.

J. B. Heppner
Gainesville, FL

THE FAMILY NAME AMPHITHERIDAE

The recent paper by Nieuwerkerken and Karsholt (2006) tries to counter my clear notes (see Heppner, 2005) that *Roeslerstammidae* is an invalid family name for Amphitheridae, a family of small mostly tropical micro-moths, many species of which have the peculiar feature of males with split compound eyes. Those of you interested in this matter can read the papers in the journals *Nota Lepidopterologica* and *Tinea*. My own notes for Amphitheridae, of course, long predate my 2005 paper, since I always used the correct family name since 1982 and earlier.

The main point in my 2005 paper shows that Bruand (1851) did not include any species involved in the genus *Roeslerstammia* (as now restricted), which occur in Europe, and, thus, the family name he erected is invalid according to the Zoological Code, being based on no species that currently are included in the family. However, Nieuwerkerken and Karsholt (2006) "think" for Bruand, stating that he "would have" included the type-species of the genus if it only had occurred in France, but since it does not, he did not list it: all this they somehow know (it seems like from a seance they had to get to Bruand's spirit). The simple fact is, without any included species now known to be in the family, Bruand's family name remains invalid, and thus Amphitheridae is the correct name to use.

It does not matter why Bruand did not include any species of *Roeslerstammia* that actually are in this genus (his listed species are now all in other genera and other families), the only thing that matters for priority is that the species are "not" included, and thus the family name cannot represent what persons in Europe keep calling *Roeslerstammidae*. Thus, the correct name is Amphitheridae, as I noted in my paper

(Heppner, 2005). This does not suit them, so they go on about other items that are not pertinent to the main point, namely, that Bruand's family name of 1851 does not apply to the species today involved with this family, so their other notes are really irrelevant.

Moriuti, a Japanese researcher who wrote several papers on this family, also used Amphitheridae in all his main works on the group, and only early on did he ever incorrectly use Roeslerstammiidae, yet this single usage Nieuwerkerken and Karsholt (2006) seize upon to immediately espouse the view that this is what Moriuti actually thought, rather than his continual usage of Amphitheridae: again they try to use a seance to know what Moriuti actually thought. It is almost hilarious the lengths that Nieuwerkerken and Karsholt (2006) go to find any shred that will diminish the truth, which of course is that the Bruand family name is invalid.

Nieuwerkerken and Karsholt (2006) state that since the type-genus of Roeslerstammiidae, *Roeslerstammia* (published 1839), is senior to the genus *Amphithera* (published 1893), that is further reason not to use Amphitheridae for the family. As with other authors, they ignore the same principle in other cases as it suits them, like Nepticulidae, where the senior generic name in the family is from 1802 (*Stigmella*), yet they do not call the family Stigmellidae (in this case they prefer Nepticulidae, as it has long been the convention, even though the type-genus, *Nepticula*, dates from 1843).

Nieuwerkerken and Karsholt (2006) conclude with extraneous points that my paper included a Colombian species, even though I clearly noted in my paper that this species is likely erroneous for the family, and which

Becker in a 1999 paper also agreed on and thought it belonged to Acrolepiidae. Had I excluded this species, then they would have criticized my paper for overlooking this.

Their final points note that all recent usages (except mine) use Roeslerstammiidae, as if general usage were somehow always correct. Of course, this recent usage is due to "following the leader" among mostly European authors who otherwise are not expert in this family and do not know the detailed history of the family name. Thus, I wrote my paper in the special 2005 Moriuti issue of *Tinea* to let others know what the correct family name is, besides listing all known species and honoring the late Moriuti for his extensive work on the family in East Asia. Whatever the current fashion or convention, or presumed priority, the fact is that the Bruand family name is invalid, as already noted, so Amphitheridae is the valid name for this family of moths.

J. B. Heppner
Gainesville, FL

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ATL BOOK SERIES*

NEOTROPICAL BUTTERFLY CATALOG. NEW - *Atlas of Neotropical Lepidoptera. Checklist: Part 4A*. 464pp. 2004. \$45.00

LEPIDOPTERA OF TAIWAN. Color Atlas and Introduction. 215pp, 76 pl. Pending. \$81.50

LEPIDOPTERORUM CATALOGUS (New Series) - the only benchmark catalog series for all species of Lepidoptera worldwide

Several families already published, including Noctuidae (a third of all known lepidopterans). For details, write to ATL or see website.

Catalogs include all species names, type-localities, ranges, hostplants (except Noctuidae), illustration citations, and references.

Recently published parts include the following (each with at least one plate showing representative adults):

- | | |
|--|---|
| 2. Agathiphagidae (Heppner). 8pp. \$3 | 44. Scythrididae (Passerin d'Entreves & Roggero). 85pp. \$20.00 |
| 10. Anomosetidae (Heppner). 7pp. \$3 | 89. Apoprogonidae (Heppner). 7pp. \$3 |
| 28. Arrhenophanidae (Davis). 11pp. \$3 | 106. Carthaeidae (Heppner). 8pp. \$3 |

* Note member prices (non-member prices are much higher). Shipping is extra.

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