

# ASSOCIATION FOR TROPICAL LEPIDOPTERA

September 2005

## NOTES



### ATL 2005 Annual Meeting

The 2005 ATL Annual Meeting and Lepidoptera Symposium was held in Gainesville, Florida, September 29 to October 2, with a post-meeting trip to Guatemala from 3-9 October. Again this year, the ATL meeting was held jointly with the Southern Lepidopterists' Society. We had 40 registered participants, plus a few guests and students attending some or all of the meetings. Several talks were presented, plus two poster presentations. After early registration and museum open house at the Florida State Collection of Arthropods on Thursday and Friday, plus evening receptions, the main meeting day was on Saturday in the conference room of the new McGuire Center for Lepidoptera and Biodiversity. Meeting participants came from several states, including as far away as Kansas, Massachusetts, Texas and Wisconsin, plus Panama and Puerto Rico (see group photo above).

The highlight of this year's program was of course keynote speaker Dr. Daniel Janzen, Professor at the University of Pennsylvania and one of the founders of the tropical studies course in Costa Rica. ATL invited Dr. Janzen for the meeting, and McGuire Center and the Florida Museum of Natural History were able to help support his visit by paying his travel expenses to come to Gainesville. Dr. Janzen gave his lecture October 2 at an auditorium venue on the campus of the University of Florida, with about 100 students, faculty and ATL members in the audience. Museum director Douglas Jones made the introductions for the Janzen lecture.

For 2005, ATL again awarded its two achievement awards. The Henry Bates Award, for exceptional work for conservation of tropical Lepidoptera, went to Dr. Timothy R. New, of La Trobe University, in Victoria, Australia. Dr. New is well-known for his textbook on butterfly conservation (1997), and books on the conservation of Lycaenidae (1993) and threatened swallowtails (1991), besides many other works on butterfly conservation.

(cont. p. 3)

### GUATEMALA 2005

After repeated requests for many years to have an ATL tropical post-meeting trip, we organized such a trip to Guatemala this year. Several members took advantage of this great trip and experienced tropical northern Guatemala. Our group stayed at the Ixpanajul Nature Park, just south of Flores and Santa Elena, in the north-central part of Dept. Petén, Guatemala. The area consists of low rolling hills which gradually diminish as one goes northwards toward the Yucatan of Mexico.

The Ixpanajul Nature Park is a private natural area of several 1000s hectares of intact forest. One side of the park, where the lodges and headquarters are located, also has a small area of farm animals and horses, while the south end of the preserve has some cattle areas near the fence line. One special feature of the preserve, besides its excellent forest, is the network of nature trails that loop up a hillside and then go over forested canyons via several suspension walkways that get one over the canopy. There also is a hilltop pavillion with views of Flores and Lake Petén Itzá. The trails are well maintained and extend for about 4 km in total. For the adventurous, there also is a so-called "Tarzan" experience: a wire hung to allow one to soar over several canyons and hillsides while strapped in a chair, such that one gets the impression of flying over the forest (not for the faint-hearted — I did not try this, but one of our participants did and found it most exciting).

Our group included collectors and one butterfly photographer. The guide for our trip was José Monzon, who runs field trips out of Guatemala City and also collects and studies moths, particularly Arctiidae and the larger moths. His knowledge of the butterflies and most places in Guatemala is also excellent.

While most sampling was immediately at the preserve and near our bungalows, there also were day trips to nearby sites like the lake by Flores and along roads leading around the lake and toward Belize. We also took a day to visit nearby Tikal National Park to see (cont. p. 3)

# ATL NOTES

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September 2005

No. 3

## TO OUR READERS

ATL has had an exceptional year in 2005 and most encouraging is the progress we have made in getting our journals up to date. More issues are being printed or being mailed. We still have a number of manuscripts awaiting publication, but as these are completed, you can plan on submitting your new work again. We also always welcome your notes and comments for this newsletter.

Our membership has stabilized, but we can always use the help of members to have their friends and colleagues join ATL as well. Note that life membership also has an advantage not all are aware of, and that is that new life members receive all past issues of the journals that they may not have, back to 1990. For those interested in a life membership, please read the compelling comments on p. 3 by member Dr. Annette Aiello, who recently sent in her life membership dues.

Member participation on ATL trips is also again increasing, so keep the 2006 trips in mind. Send me your desired locations for future trips so we can plan for areas that are of most interest to you. We try to keep costs as low as possible for our members on ATL trips.

J. B. Heppner  
Editor

## RECENT PASSINGS

Ron Gattelle, 14 Aug 2005, in Goose Creek, South Carolina, USA  
Don MacNeill, 28 Jul 2005, in Oakland, California, USA  
Masami Ogata, during 2004, in Nishinomiya, Hyogo, Japan

## ATL ANNUAL MEETING - 2006

June 15-18: Gainesville, Florida (joint meeting with the Lepidopterists' Society and the Southern Lepidopterists' Society).

## ATL TRIPS: 2006

**CHILE**, 28 Jan-11 Feb 2006 (few seats still available)

Sampling of austral forest fauna in the Lakes district of southern Chile. We fly Miami to Concepción (via Santiago); return is from Puerto Montt. Cost is \$1750, plus airfare. Guide is Prof. Angulo (Concepción). **JAPAN**, 20-30 May 2006 (nearly sold out)

The trip to Japan will start at Atlanta with the non-stop flight to Osaka. Different forested areas of central Japan will be visited. Cost is \$2100, plus airfare. Guide is Prof. Hirowatari (Osaka).

**CHINA** (Yunnan and Sichuan), 23 Sep-8 Oct 2006 (few seats available)

A photographic tour of Yunnan and Sichuan. We fly from Atlanta to Kunming, via Hong Kong, to stay in the tropical forest next to Myanmar. Then, on to Chengdu to visit mountain areas, including famous Omeishan. Cost is \$1950 plus airfare. Guide is H.-Y. Wang.

**NOTE:** ATL tours 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 tour by flying a route that is convenient for their destination. Each participant books their own flights from recommended routes. ATL handles all in-country arrangements. Each participant on an ATL tour receives a guidebook, plus various other information. In-country costs for each trip include lodging (doubles), meals, local transportation, and guide fees.

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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## MEMBER COMMENTS

The following comments were sent in by Dr. Annette Aiello upon her becoming a life member in ATL recently, as reasons for her doing so:

"1) Life-membership is a form of life insurance for the association. It ensures that should the member die prematurely, the association nevertheless will receive close to all the funding they would have received if the member had lived a long life."

"2) If the association invests the life-membership funds, and annually withdraws only the dues for that year, those funds will grow and further support the association."

"3) Life-membership also is insurance for the member, should that person fall on hard times and find themselves unable to pay dues."

"4) Life-membership eliminates the annual annoyance and of remembering to pay dues, and the financial strain of paying dues to a number of groups all at once, around Christmas time."

## 2005 ATL Annual Meeting (from p. 1)

The Jacob Hübner Award, for major achievement for the systematics of Lepidoptera, went to Dr. Richard I. Vane-Wright, formerly of the Natural History Museum, London, England. Dr. Vane-Wright has many works on the taxonomy and biology of butterflies, especially milkweed butterflies (1984). Dr. Vane-Wright is also well-known for his contribution to the *Biology of Butterflies* book (1984), and more recent work on Sulawesi butterflies (2003), besides many other revisions and papers on butterflies.

Talks at the meeting included the following:

Advances in our Understanding of Relationships within the Arctiidae  
*James K. Adams*, Dalton State College, Dalton, GA

Notes on Montane Lepidoptera Endemic to Southern Nevada, USA  
*Bret M. Boyd*, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL

Taiwan Butterflies: a Photo Tour  
*Hank & Priscilla Brodtkin*, Hereford, AZ

Butterflies of Northeast Mexico: a Photographic Guide  
*Kim Garwood*, Mission, TX

Taiwan Lepidoptera: Biodiversity of an Outpost of Himalayan and Oriental Fauna  
*John B. Heppner*, Florida State Collection of Arthropods  
DPI, FDACS, Gainesville, FL

Rediscovery of the Wild Indigo Duskywing (*Erynnis baptisiae* Forbes) in Florida  
*Marc C. Minno*, Gainesville, FL

Population Dynamics of Four Genera of Butterflies in Southern Karst, Juana Diaz, Puerto Rico  
*Y. V. Rentas-Soto, J. Santiago & A. Hernández*, Pontifical Catholic Univ., Ponce, PR

*Eumorpha*, *Eumorpha* and more *Eumorpha*: a Brief Overview on Rearing Studies of the *Eumorpha* Species in the United States  
*Jeffrey R. Slotten*, Gainesville, FL

The keynote address by Daniel H. Janzen, was entitled: "Conservation, Caterpillar Inventory and DNA Barcoding of a Large Complex Tropical Wildland."

The Saturday evening banquet program included an illustrated talk by Dr. Thomas C. Emmel, McGuire Center Director, entitled, "McGuire Center - Present & Future." Door prizes were distributed courtesy of expert emcee, Dr. Charlie Covell.

J. B. Heppner

## ATL GUATEMALA TRIP (from p. 1)

the famous Mayan ruins there.

Our trip this year left Orlando early on October 3 for the 3 hour flight to Guatemala City via Ft. Lauderdale. We then had a short flight to Flores, which saved us a 7 hour drive from the capitol to the north of the country. While most participants returned to Florida on October 9, two of us stayed a few extra days to visit other sites in Guatemala. The main secondary site was next to the Quetzal Reserve, about 3 hours northeast of Guatemala City, in Dept. Baja Verapaz, at about 1600m elevation in cloud forest. This upland forest is old forest and has many of the beautiful quetzal birds to be seen near the lodge there. We also visited a montane oak forest nearby and the drier lowlands below where there is a large valley with semi-desert vegetation due to a rain-shadow effect from the nearby mountain ranges.

All in all, moths and butterflies were in good numbers, although the lowland tropical forest was not at its peak for butterflies. There also were storms that brought in cooler mountain air. Clearly, Guatemala has much to offer for Lepidoptera and also has about the most diverse habitats of any Central American country south of Mexico.

J. B. Heppner

## ATL CONSERVATION FUNDS

Members may be interested in knowing that in the 15 years since 1990 we have raised over \$933,000 for conservation and research on tropical Lepidoptera. Dr. Thomas C. Emmel has been instrumental in raising and handling most of these funds, most of which include grants to study and conserve endangered butterflies. Also involved are ATL land purchases in Brazil for the Fazenda Rancho Grande reserve in Rondônia, all funded by large and small private donations to the ATL Rainforest Fund.

The totals by year from 1990 to 2004 are as follows (note that these monies are not ATL regular dues, but only money donated directly for ATL conservation goals and conservation research projects):

1990	1,005	1998	62,363
1991	1,200	1999	85,975
1992	80,479	2000	33,931
1993	80,236	2001	116,195
1994	26,087	2002	104,406
1995	68,388	2003	86,401
1996	108,197	2004	42,036
1997	36,832		

TOTAL: \$933,731

Can we challenge the membership to get us over the million dollar mark in 2005? Seeing what came in during some years, it seems the membership should be able to match the yearly average during 2005, which would get us to \$1 million for Lepidoptera conservation since 1990. We started small but had some huge amounts donated some years. Let us keep it going so more conservation projects can be started in other areas of the world. Donations are tax-deductible in the USA.

Needless to say, ATL journals are also a vital part of Lepidoptera research efforts, so your help for better funding to publish the journals is also welcome. ATL began the move to full-color, large-format and modern scientific journals for Lepidoptera, which format several other societies now copy. Let's make it even better in the future.

J. B. Heppner

## NEW BOOKS

### *FLORIDA BUTTERFLY CATERpillars AND THEIR HOST PLANTS*

by M. C. Minno, J. F. Butler, and D. W. Hall

2005. Univ. Florida Press. 342pp (6 x 9 in). Soft-cloth. \$34.95

This full-color book treats most Florida butterflies: 167 species have the larva illustrated. The text gives basic information on each species, such as habitat, distribution, life cycle, time of year when larvae are out, and hostplants. There also is a brief larval description for each species. Some general information on Lepidoptera and caterpillars is also provided, as well as figures of hostplants and how to identify them. The color figures are all excellent and sharp. There is a checklist of Florida butterflies at the end, plus an index and short list of references.

### *THE MONARCH*

*Danaus plexippus* (Linnaeus) (Nymphalidae: Danainae)

by J. B. Heppner

2005. Scientific Publishers, Gainesville. 42pp (6 x 9 in). Paper. \$7.95

This small full-color booklet is the first in the new *Nature World Lepidoptera Guide* series. The easy-reading text covers basic facts of the monarch butterfly, with sections on distribution, classification, biology, migration, and conservation. The life history and forms of the monarch are all fully illustrated. The Mexican over-wintering sites and migration routes are particularly noted and also mapped and illustrated. At the end there is a list of Lepidoptera and monarch organizations, major museums, and a list of references on monarchs and butterflies for further study. Future issues of the *Nature World* series will treat other well-known species such as the cecropia moth, tiger swallowtail, zebra swallowtail, apollo parnassian, and Rajah Brooke's birdwing, among others.

### *THE BUTTERFLIES OF COLORADO*

*Nymphalidae - Part 1. The Subfamily Satyrinae*

by M. S. Fisher

2005. Colo. St. Univ., Gillette Mus., Ft. Collins. 40pp (6.5 x 9 in). Pap. The first is a series planned on the butterflies in Colorado, and part of the Gillette Museum's continued work on North American Lepidoptera (this is No. 7.1). Figures of adults are sharp and in color. Included are distribution maps, but inserted as loose pages. Basic data is given for each of the 20 species treated.

## ATL BOOK SERIES

*ATLAS OF NORTH AMERICAN LEPIDOPTERA*. In preparation.

### *ATLAS OF NEOTROPICAL LEPIDOPTERA*

Checklist: Part 1. Micropteroidea - Immoidea

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

Checklist: Part 2. Hyblaeoidea - Pyraloidea - Tortricoidea

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*. In preparation.

### *LEPIDOPTERA OF TAIWAN*

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

2005. 215p, 76 pl., paper \$195.00 (81.50 for members)  
(price includes Pt. 3 and catalog supplement)

Vol. 1. Part 2: Checklist

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

Catalog Supplement 1. **2005**

2005. 80p. \$20.00 (8.00 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)

## Association for Tropical Lepidoptera

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