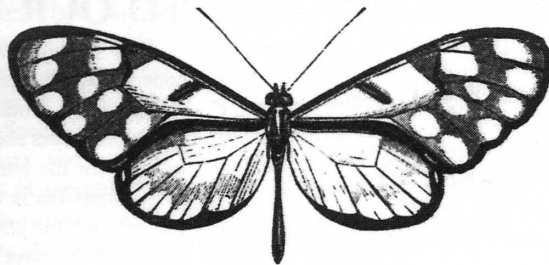


ASSOCIATION FOR TROPICAL LEPIDOPTERA

NOTES



June 2006

ATL 2006 ANNUAL MEETING

For 2006, we had our annual meeting again in the late spring, together this year with the two American societies, the Lepidopterists' Society and the Southern Lepidopterists' Society. We had spring meetings in previous years before changing to autumn meetings, but to accommodate the joint venue with the Lepidopterists' Society this year, ATL also met in June.

The meeting in late spring, 15-18 June 2006, was held in Gainesville, allowing many new visitors to also see the new McGuire Center for Lepidoptera and Biodiversity. To accommodate the 220 or so members and visitors this year, the meetings were held across from McGuire Center and the Florida State Collection of Arthropods, at the University of Florida and Hilton Hotel Conference Center. Dr. Jackie Y. Miller, of McGuire Center, was principal coordinator for this year's joint meetings, although she primarily handled arrangements for the Lepidopterists' Society. Dr. Thomas C. Emmel, McGuire Center Director and ATL Vice-President, handled the ATL portions of our meetings, while Dr. Marc Minno and others organized the sessions for the Southern Lepidopterists' Society. Many other members of each society, as well as students from McGuire Center, also helped with various functions to make the meetings possible, and all such help is greatly appreciated.

The overall register of members of the three societies who attended the meetings showed attendance from nearly all states and a number of other countries. The list of papers is too long to detail here but over 60 papers were presented. In addition, there were special conferences on such subjects as Noctuidae taxonomy and Neotropical butterflies. Members also had a choice of several local field trips to attend, primarily for collecting moths and butterflies, although many butterfly photographers were on hand as well. Dr. Emmel also organized special visitor tours of McGuire Center and the adjacent butterfly rainforest and other displays, all at the Florida Museum of Natural History, on the campus of the University of Florida. Many visitors also took this opportunity to study the collections, although much curation remains to be done for easier access.

For ATL, Dr. Ulf Eitschberger, our 2006 President, was able to make the trip from Germany to attend and lead the ATL meeting first-hand. His presidential address to members will be published later this year once the translation into English is completed. Dr. Eitschberger's vast Museum Eitschberger, ca. 2 million Lepidoptera and a virtually complete library of works on Lepidoptera, is one of the largest private collections in Europe.

Dr. William W. McGuire, who made possible McGuire Center at the University of Florida, with a series of gifts starting in December 2000, gave an inspirational address at the Annual Banquet. His message focused on the incredibly important period we are now living in, to study and preserve samples of lepidopteran biodiversity before the last undeveloped habitats in the world disappear. He

emphasized the vital role of amateurs in assembling collections and then donating them to some secure and well-staffed museum, to ensure the preservation in perpetuity of the invaluable specimens and to document the efforts the collector made over many years to form such a collection.

ATL did not have awards this year, changing its two awards to a biennial award sequence. The Lepidopterists' Society and the Southern Lepidopterists' Society did likewise. However, there were some student awards. After the meeting, members had the choice of local field trips, plus trips to Costa Rica and Ecuador to choose from. For 2007, we will again have our autumn meeting in Gainesville, probably sometime in mid-October after the main hurricane season is past. In June 2006, the Gainesville meetings almost had a delayed start due to a small hurricane that threatened northern Florida from the Gulf Coast, but luckily it dissipated before getting to the Gainesville area.

ATL CONSERVATION DONATIONS

The September 2005 issue of this newsletter noted to members that since 1990 over \$933,000 had been donated by ATL members for our Lepidoptera conservation goals and projects. A challenge was given the membership to see if we could get over the million dollar mark during 2005, after 15 years of society membership efforts. We can report now that this was indeed accomplished, with conservation donations amounting to \$118,840 being received during 2005. Thus, since our beginning year of such donations in 1990, we have raised a total of \$1,052,571 from your donations for ATL conservation goals for Lepidoptera. Needless to say, this is a significant amount, which has resulted in many areas of land being purchased in Brazil and Ecuador as Lepidoptera preserves.

Dr. Emmel has organized all this and can summarize our results in a future newsletter issue. These donations do not involve any monies from regular dues or what could be used for the journals, since all the conservation donations noted were earmarked for specific Lepidoptera projects and conservation efforts by each donor. We have received smaller donations for conservation work along with dues from a number of members over the years, often only \$5 or \$20, but these smaller amounts also add up, so members are encouraged to add such contributions when possible. We also have had many members donate varying amounts over the years for our publication fund and for general society expenses. All contributions are appreciated and are also tax-deductible in the United States.

LIFE HISTORY OF *EUPACKARDIA*

For those interested in North American saturniid moths, one should note a recent article on the Mexican and southwestern border species, *Eupackardia calleta*. A full-color life history article was published early in 2006 in French by H. Guyot, in the popular insect journal, *Insectes* (No. 140, pp. 19-22).

ATL NOTES

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June 2006

No. 2

TO OUR READERS

The phenomenal donation of over \$1 million for Lepidoptera conservation by generous donations from a number of ATL members since 1990 is remarkable and should be noted again. As noteworthy as this is, members should know that none of this money was ever available to ATL for the journals, since no overhead percentage was taken from these funds (as is the case in all other societies). Your support of the journals is still critical, since page charges do not cover all expenses involved. We have more issues in the works, so our journal cover dates can be gotten up-to-date as soon as possible.

The 2006 meetings in Gainesville were a great success, from what comments we heard. I was in Japan on a trip already planned for over a year when the word was that the Lepidopterists' Society wanted an August 2006 meeting, which then changed to June when my plans were finalized. Certainly, a big turnout can be expected in 2007 as well.

J. B. Heppner
Editor

ATL ANNUAL MEETING - 2007

October 2007 (dates to be set): Gainesville, Florida (joint meeting with the Southern Lepidopterists' Society). Call Dr. Heppner for details about the 2007 meeting.

ATL TRIPS: 2006-07

GUATEMALA, 15-21/30 Sep 2006 (space still available)

The trip starts in Flores, in the Petén, until 21 Sep, for a repeat of the popular 2005 ATL trip. Cost is \$850, plus airfare. The trip can be extended to include the Quetzal Reserve until 24 Sep, and for sites in western Guatemala until 30 Sep, for added cost (approx. \$125 per day).

CHILE, 2-24 March 2007

We fly to Santiago and drive to northern Chile for specialized study of rare Andean blues and other lepidopterans. Cost is \$3,200 plus airfare. No registrants for this trip so far, but if you want to see rare Andes blues, then this is the trip to take. Dr. Benyamini, from Israel, will be leading the trip, and he is the world expert of this group for the Andes.

GUATEMALA, 2-10 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 western mountains. Cost approx. \$1,150, plus airfare.

ROMANIA, 1-15 July 2007

We visit the Carpathian Mts. and Transylvania. We are organizing this trip tentatively with the Romanian Lepid. Society, in Cluj. Anyone interested in *Erebia* butterflies and other Carpathian species will not want to miss this trip, clearly something closer to home for our many European members. Cost is approx. \$1,850 plus airfare. We stay one day and night in Vienna on the way to Cluj. Members in Europe can also go by train and meet us in Cluj for lower cost.

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. ATL handles all in-country arrangements.

RECENT PASSINGS

Ian F. B. Common, 3 Jun 2006, in Australia

David S. Smith, 22 Oct 2005, in Miami, Florida, USA

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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12 August 2006

CATOCALA ARTICLES

Few recent works illustrate the popular underwing moths, but new articles on *Catocala* (Noctuidae) species, by K. Ishizuka (2005), in the Japanese journal *Yadoriga* (204:2-17; 206:2-19), illustrate and discuss many species of the genus. *Yadoriga* is the newsletter of the Lepidopterological Society of Japan. The life-size color photographs of museum specimens are excellent. The first article treats 45 species from North America. The second article treats 45 species from Europe to Japan, including rare species from the Himalayas, Central Asia, and even the mountains of Laos, Taiwan, and Vietnam. The text is in Japanese, but the illustrations are useful and there is a brief English summary at the end of the second article. The author notes that about 250 species are known worldwide, primarily Holarctic, of which 110 species are Nearctic and 140 species are Palearctic and Asian. The genus just borders the tropics in northern Mexico, while in Asia species are found southwards in temperate border areas and on mountain peaks as far south as Vietnam. Anyone interested in this popular genus of underwing moths should reference these articles.

COLOR ARTICLES ON LEPIDOPTERA

As noted above, color articles in the Japanese journal *Yadoriga* may be overlooked by researchers outside of Japan, since the text is always in Japanese and the journal is not well-known outside of Japan. Articles that have many color illustrations of moths and butterflies, often also treating species from the Americas and Europe, include the following since color was first used in *Yadoriga*:

- 1992
Genus *Erebia* (Nymphalidae) - 1. M. Kogure and Y. Iwamoto. 150:2-33.
- 1993
Winter geometrid moths of Japan (Geometridae). H. Nakajima. 152:2-28.
Genus *Erebia* (Nymphalidae) - 2. M. Kogure and Y. Iwamoto. 154:2-38.
- 1994
Moth-like butterflies (Hedylidae). M. Scoble. 158:2-10.
Sesiidae of Japan. Y. Arita. 159:2-29.
- 1995
Apaturinae of the world (Nymphalidae) - 7. A. Masui and T. Inomata. 160:2-16.
- 1996
Agrias hunting in Peru (Nymphalidae). T. Inoue. 167:2-12.
- 1997
Apaturinae of the world (Nymphalidae) - 8. A. Masui and T. Inomata. 170:7-23.
- 1998
Anthocharis of the world (Pieridae). M. Tomonaga. 176:2-18.
Genus *Asterope* and allies [plus *Callicore*] (Nymphalidae). K. Kariya. 177:2-25.
Erebia in Japan (Nymphalidae). N. Nagaoka. 178:2-18.
- 1999
Erebia in Europe (Nymphalidae). Y. Nisaka. 180:2-35.
- 2000
Lycaenids in Europe. Y. Nisaka. 184:2-40.
- 2001
Fritillaries in Europe (Nymphalidae). H. Nakamura, *et al.* 188:2-49.
- 2002
Satyrines in Europe (Nymphalidae). H. Nakamura, *et al.* 192:2-29; 194:2-24.
- 2003
Pierids in Europe. H. Nakamura, *et al.* 197:2-28; 198:2-19.
- 2004
Beauty of tiger moths (Arctiidae). Y. Kishida. 200:2-30; 202:2-24.
Swallowtails in Europe (Papilionidae). H. Nakamura, *et al.* 201:2-26.
Butterflies of Vermont. H. Iwano and W. Mitsuhashi. 203:2-8.
- 2005
Catocala of the world (Noctuidae) - 1. K. Ishizuka. 204:2-17.
Catocala of the world (Noctuidae) - 2. K. Ishizuka. 206:2-19.

MOTHS OF THE EMPEROR'S PALACE GARDEN

Readers may be interested in learning that a 5 year study by Japanese lepidopterists from the Tokyo area, working from 2000 to the end of 2005, recorded 633 species of moths from the gardens of the Imperial Palace, in Tokyo. Not surprisingly, the Emperor's gardens are about the only remaining natural area in central Tokyo that is extensive enough (ca. 115 hectares) to include enough natural habitat from olden days. The special moth survey was conducted by several researchers, under principal leadership of Dr. Mamoru Owada, of the National Science Museum, Tokyo. One can wonder what kind of result we would get with a similar survey of places like Central Park, in New York City, or the White House gardens and other parklands, in central Washington, or Hyde Park, in London. Personally, I would not collect moths at night in Central Park without an armed escort of several police, but such studies in Japan are no problem due to the lack of major crime in Japan.

The Japanese study can be noted in the paper by Owada *et al.*, 2006, in *Memoirs of the National Science Museum* (Tokyo), No. 43. 133pp.
J. B. Heppner

CHILE 2006

We did an ATL trip to Chile in December 1995 and this trip was so phenomenal that for February 2006 we planned another two-week long ATL trip to the Valdivian region of southern Chile, this time in the Chilean summer rather than in springtime. Chilean Lepidoptera are few in number of species, especially among the butterflies, but 95% of what one finds is unique to Chile and mostly related to an ancient southern distribution that includes South African and Australian relatives. Among plants, for example, one has Proteaceae as in Australia, and the strange araucaria trees that elsewhere only occur as related species in places like Norfolk Island, near New Caledonia.

While last time we began from the central town of Temuco, this time we flew in from Miami, via Santiago, to Concepción, about 350 miles south of Santiago. Our host again this year was Dr. Andres Angulo, professor at the Universidad de Concepción and specialist in Chilean Noctuidae. We did some local collecting on January 29 at a wonderfully intact habitat near the coast by Concepción, run by the university as a research and ecological station, the Estación Biológica Hualpen. This area is an intact coastal forest and shrub zone which would be worth exploring for many weeks on its own. We then proceeded east in the region of Bio-Bio to the Andes and the many volcanos of this part of Chile. First stop was the Termas Chillan, at about 1250m elevation. Most of the volcano areas in Chile have hot springs, or termas as they are called there, usually also associated with tourist lodgings. Chillan still has some excellent *Nothofagus* forest, or southern beech. We then backtracked west while also going south and stopped for a few days at the last remaining patch of araucaria forest in the coastal mountains of Chile, near Angol: this site is in Nahuelbuta Reserve, at from 1190-1350m elevation, in the region Araucania. The famous monkey-pod, or *Araucaria*, trees grow here in profusion: a forest that resembles something one would see in a dinosaur movie, since the trees are unchanged in appearance over the past 200 million years. Some of the trees are estimated at nearly 2,000 years in age, and can attain a height of about 50 meters. Nahuelbuta is a very interesting forest and shrub habitat and well worth more exploring. We then proceeded east again to Volcan Lonquimay, staying at a lodge in the valley below, collecting also in surrounding valleys. This volcano is more recently active and has a lunar-like landscape above treeline of the large araucaria forest, above 1450m.

After the first week we went further south to the Los Lagos region, and stayed a few days at Termas Rio Liquiñe, at 240m elevation, near the border with Argentina. Although much of this area is deforested, various canyons and hillsides remain forested, so many interesting butterflies and moths were found. This area is called Siete Lagos, or seven lakes region, well known to tourists and a favorite summer retreat

for Chileans as well, with several snow-covered volcanos all around. The last few days of the second week we then spent at Ralun, much further south, east of Puerto Montt and near the Volcan Osorno. The volcano overlooks the large Lago Llanquihue, the second largest lake in Chile, just north of Puerto Montt. Osorno also overlooks towards the east the famous Lago Todos Santos, which meanders past the border into Argentina. We collected at various good sites and also on the slopes of the volcano, where there is a ski lodge at 1250m elevation.

A few of us stayed another week to explore further south from Puerto Montt, while the others flew home to Santiago and Miami. South from Ralun, we still were in the Los Lagos region but in the southern cedar forests of Chile, or allerce and coigue forests. Driving south, one first takes a ferry to get to Hornopiren. After exploring the area for a day we then went on a longer ferry trip to continue on the Carretera Austral, the southern highway that meanders another 800 miles southwards. The ferry ride allowed us to see the small Chilean penguins and other shore life. After debarking at the Parque Pumalin, an enormous ecological park now run by the government after first being a private reserve, we drove on to Chaiten. Many sites were visited in this area, as well as further south to La Junta, in Aisen region. Along the way one sees many snow-covered mountains and even glaciers, reminiscent of Alaskan scenery. For butterflies, this southern area proved most interesting, especially for the Chilean orangetip (*Eroessa chilensis*), which is uncommon further north in the Osorno region, but south of Chaiten it was found to be abundant even in mid-February when we were there. Further north, it generally is a spring species and even in December (in 1995) we found only a few on the slopes of the Osorno volcano.

Cohaique and other points another 500 miles to the south beckoned, but our schedule required a departure, leaving southernmost Chile and Punta Arenas for some future trip. Tierra del Fuego indeed is more interesting than one might think since even the southernmost island, Isla Navarino, still has some forest, so not all of it is grass-covered steppe as we often think of it. Due to ferry schedules, we had to make a hasty retreat back to Puerto Montt with a small plane from Chaiten, but we made it in time to catch our flight back to Santiago and Miami. Our host, meanwhile, had to return via a 10-hour ferry ride, together with the driver and university van, for the long drive back to Concepción.

J. B. Heppner

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