

Nectar News



Official Newsletter of the Southeast Michigan Butterfly Association

July 2016

Mission Statement:

It is our mission to share our knowledge to educate people about Lepidoptera and their habitats, to instill and foster a passion for nature in others, and to establish and preserve the environment for butterflies, skippers and moths.

Lycaenidae: Gossamer Wings

This family of butterflies includes coppers, harvesters, blues, hairstreaks, and metalmarks. Here are a few!

Purplish Copper (*Lycaena helloides*), Larval host: knotweed and dock. Male pictured.



Banded Hairstreak (*Satyrium calanus falacer*), Larval host: oaks, walnuts, hickories, Bitternut).



Summer Azure (*Celastrina neglecta*), Larval host: New Jersey Tea, meadowsweet, Wing-stem, holly, sumac.



More info at:
www.butterfliesandmoths.org

Board Members for 2016 :

- **President:** Carolyn Sohoza
- **Vice President:** Brendon Weil
- **Secretary:** Diana McCormick
- **Treasurer:** Carolyn Sohoza
- **Communications Director:** Monica McCormick
- **Event Committee Chair:** Brenda Dziedzic
- **Habitat Committee Chair:** Kathy Bey and Karen Jewell
- **Past President—**Brenda Dziedzic
- **Membership Committee Chair:** Megan Ellis

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19 Fascinating Butterfly Facts

19 Fascinating Butterfly Facts

1. Butterflies taste with their feet.
2. A group of butterflies is sometimes called a flutter.
3. Their eyes are made of 6,000 lenses and can see ultraviolet light.
4. There are 165,000 known species of butterflies found on every continent except Antarctica.
5. Many adult butterflies never excrete waste – they use up all they eat for energy.
6. Despite popular belief, butterfly wings are clear – the colors and patterns we see are made by the reflection of the tiny scales covering them.
7. Butterfly wings move in a figure “8” motion.
8. Butterflies vary in size – the largest species may reach 12 inches across, while the smallest may only be half an inch.
9. Some butterfly species lay their eggs on only one type of plant.
10. The Very Hungry Caterpillar was no joke – the first meal after a caterpillar hatches is usually the eggshell from which it has just emerged.
11. In some areas, the number of feeding caterpillars on plants is so great that you can actually hear them munching. Thus, manners are not important in butterfly society.
12. The process by which a caterpillar magically transforms into a butterfly, aka metamorphosis, is completed in 10 to 15 days, depending on the species.
13. Butterflies are essentially cold-blooded.
14. Skipper butterflies fly so fast they could outpace a horse, but most butterflies fly at 5 to 12 miles per hour (8 to 20 kilometers per hour).
15. Butterflies have a long, tube-like tongue called a proboscis that allows them to soak up their food rather than sip it.
16. Males drink from mud puddles to extract minerals that aren't available in flowers. This behavior is known as “puddling.”
17. “Puddle clubs” are groups of butterflies that gather at wet soil to suck up salts and minerals.
18. Some butterflies have been seen drinking blood from open wounds on animals.
19. Scientists thought butterflies were deaf until the first butterfly ears were identified in 1912.

*Taken from sandiegozoo.org
Original article by Jenn Beening*





Updates and Reminders

An Evening with the Butterflies

An Evening with Butterflies at Brenda's Butterfly Habitat was held July 16th as a fundraiser for Monarch Watch. Featuring harpist Deborah Gabrion, visitors strolled through the habitat and viewed the butterflies, enjoying beautiful harp music. \$10 donations per person was collected and **100%** of the proceeds was donated to Monarch Watch. **Brenda raised \$1,360 for Monarch Watch!**



Pictured Above: Harpist Deborah Gabrion at Brenda's Butterfly Habitat.

Monarch Waystation

Certification:

Monarch Watch is a nonprofit educational outreach program based at the University of Kansas that focuses on the Monarch butterflies, its habitat, and its spectacular fall migration. If you would like to certify your monarch habitat and help support Monarch Watch's conservation efforts, there is a \$16 non-refundable application fee. Sign is \$17. Application and sign bundle is \$33 purchased all at once.

Requirements:

Size— No minimum area requirement, however a truly effective Monarch Waystation will be at least 100 square feet. The total area may be split among several sites at your location.

Exposure— At least 6 hours of sun a day.

Plants, Drainage, and Soil Type are other interesting considerations for the Waystation.

Register your butterfly garden!

More information at:

Monarchwatch.org

Calendar Photo Contest

Take your best shot of a butterfly for the next Semba Calendar 2017! Any member can submit up to 3 photos for this contest, proceeds are for the butterfly garden grants for next year. An announcement will be made where to email the pictures at Wednesday's meeting. Go butterflying!

Tea Cup Raffle

We are collecting items for the tea cup raffle now, if you have anything to donate please give to a board member. Thanks!

Contact Us:

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Calendar of Events



January 2016

20th, at Nankin Mills, 7:00 p.m.

Cheryl English, "Pollinator Preservation Strategies for the Home Garden".

February 2016

17th, at Nankin Mills, 7:00 p.m.

Professor Mark Hunter, University of Michigan, "Monarchs, milkweeds, and disease: Current patterns and future problems".

March 2016

16th, at Nankin Mills, 7:00 p.m.

Update on Monarchs in Mexico, Monarch Watch, Monarch Waystations, Tagging, by Diana Pruden

April 2016

20th, at Nankin Mills, 7:00 p.m.

Anna Szczotka/"Rain Gardens"

May 2016

18th, at Nankin Mills, 7:00 p.m.

"Container Gardening", Carolyn Sohoza will show us how to put together planters designed to attract specific butterfly species, and the containers will be auctioned off!

June 2016

15th, at Nankin Mills, 7:00 p.m.

Chad from Hidden Savanna Nursery, "Landscaping with Natives: It's More Than Just Pretty Flowers". Presentation and Plant Sale!

July 2016

20th, at Nankin Mills, 7:00 pm.

"Raising Butterflies" by Carolyn Sohoza. Carolyn, SEMBA President, will tell you how to raise butterflies in your garden inside and out.

August 2016

17th, at Nankin Mills, 7:00 p.m.

Movie Night

Join us for a long awaited educational movie: *Flight of the Butterfly*. It took Dr. Fred Urquhart almost 40 years to discover the monarch butterflies' secret, the most incredible migration on Earth! We'll provide the popcorn and drinks!

September 2016

21st, at Nankin Mills, 7:00 p.m.

Butterflies of Southeast Michigan
Carol Clements of the Wayne County Parks Nankin Mills Interpretive Center will teach you how to recognize butterflies throughout their different stages of life and what plants you can add to your landscape to attract them.

October 2016

19th, at Nankin Mills, 7:00 p.m.

Tea Cup Raffle

Join us for our end of the year Tea Cup Raffle Celebration dinner! Come celebrate another successful year of butterfly-ing with a meal and conversation with fellow butterfly enthusiasts.

