NABA News and Notes

NABA International Butterfly Park.
Community support for NABA International Butterfly Park continues to build. Five individuals have newly joined the Advisory Board. Current members of the Advisory Board are Dr. Jose Amador (co-chair), Director Emeritus, Texas A&M Research Station, McAllen, Texas; Kika de la Garza (co-chair of capital campaign) past Chairman of the Committee on Agriculture, United States House of Representatives, 1981-1994; Lucille de la Garza (co-chair of capital campaign), McAllen, Texas; Margaret McAllen (co-chair)(Mrs. Robert A. McAllen), Weslaco, Texas; Dr. Miguel Nevarez, Executive Director of the Coastal Studies Laboratory in Edinburg, Texas and past president of University of Texas, Pan American, Edinburg, Texas; Ruben Plata, Branch President of 1st National Bank, Mission, Texas; Gilberto Quintanilla, President, Quintanilla & Co., CPAs, Mission, Texas; Tomas Tijerina, President, Renees of Sharyland, Mission, Texas; Virginia Townsend (Mrs. Pat Townsend, Sr.), Mission, Texas; Mary Altman Yturria (Mrs. Frank Yturria), Civic leader, Brownsville, Texas; Alicia Landry (Mrs. Tom Landry), Dallas, Texas, is an Honorary Member.

As we go to press, the Park’s first comfort station, designed by Wendy Evans Joseph and funded, in part, by the Mission Economic Development Authority, is being constructed. It will be a welcome development for both Park visitors and staff.

Dues
We would like to remind NABA members that because NABA is classed as a non-profit organization by the Internal Revenue Service, all contributions to NABA, including membership dues, are fully tax-deductible.

NABA Art Contest
Artists interested in entering the 7th NABA Art Contest should submit 35mm slide transparencies or, preferably, high quality digital images (submitted on a CD, CDW or DVD — attempted submission via email will result in disqualification)(maximum of 3 images) of original two-dimensional color “paintings,” in any medium. If realistic, the painting should depict species found in Mexico, the United States or Canada. If sending slides, please send duplicates as slides will not be returned. In your cover letter, please include the dimensions of the original work, give a description of the medium of the work, and provide a release granting to NABA the one-time right to copy and publish the image. Please include a telephone number where you can be reached. Submissions need to be received not later than May 1, 2007. Winning artist will receive a prize of $150, 2nd place winner will receive $50 and winners will have their works published in color in the Fall 2007 issue of American Butterflies. All decisions of the judges are final.

Web Designers and Developers Wanted
NABA presence on the Web is an important component both of our educational activities and of how people interact with NABA. We are currently considering a major redesign of NABA’s extensive website. We would welcome and greatly appreciate the volunteer efforts of any NABA members who are proficient in web design and/or software development. If interested in contributing to NABA’s growth, please contact NABA Webmaster, Jim Springer, at springer@naba.org.

Members Photo Gallery
If you would like one of your photos to be considered for this feature, please submit no more than two high resolution interesting and unusual photos of either adult or immature butterflies taken of wild, unmanipulated butterflies or immatures in the United States, Canada, or Mexico. Photos should be in digital form, and should be uncropped and unaltered/minimally altered. Send your entries on a CD to: NABA Members Gallery, 4 Delaware Rd., Morristown, NJ 07960.

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Cover photograph by Paula Cannon is of a Miami Blue perching on its caterpillar foodplant, blackbead monkeypod (Plathecellobium keyense). Dec. 3, 2006. Marquesas Key, Monroe County, Florida. See story on page 20.

NABA News & Notes (Continued)

Harry Darrow
NABA member Harry Darrow died on August 18, 2006 at the age of 90. Harry was a charter member of NABA and a major contributor to the New York City Butterfly Club, beginning with its first meeting in 1984.

Born on January 6, 1916, Harry attended the New York Military Academy and was one of the first young men drafted for World War II. Part of the first group of United States troops to fight in North Africa, Harry was twice wounded and received decorations from both the French and the United States governments, including a Bronze Star.

After the war, Harry’s first job was at the American Museum of Natural History, but he soon went into banking and later retired as an officer of the Apple Savings Bank of New York. His love for the natural world led him to photography as a means to document its variety. At first Harry focused on bird photography (a number of his photographs graced the covers of Audubon Field Notes, a publication that later became American Birds) but he soon smiled on the whole natural world. By the 1960s Harry was a member of the Newark Entomological Society and through the 1960s, 70s and 80s, Harry accumulated an unparalleled collection of photographs of living butterflies taken in the field.

His was, by far, the largest photographic contribution to the Chanticleer Press produced book sold as the Audubon Society Field Guide to Butterflies (1981), with more than 150 of his images included in the book. In the first Butterflies through Binoculars (1993) book Harry contributed 23 of the 42 photographs not taken by Jeffrey Glassberg, including photographs documenting the presence of Regal Fritillaries in 1969 in Westchester County, New York and, as far as known, the only photographic images of live Mitchell’s Satyrs from New Jersey.

In the early years of the New York City Butterfly Club, from 1984-1987, Harry was the only member with a truly extensive collection of butterfly photographs, which he shared with other members at meetings. The availability of his outstanding photographs was a major factor allowing members of that group to note true field marks for butterflies and, along with the development of close-focusing binoculars, directly led to the birth of butterflying.

A part-time resident of the Florida Keys for many years, in the late 1980s, Harry and his wife, Agnes, began to spend most of their time in the Keys, in part for the butterflies and birds found there, but mainly to enjoy fishing, especially surf-fishing for snook. While in Florida, Harry entertained a steady procession of northern butterflies, showing them hard-to-find Florida specialties.

Harry Darrow, a talented photographer and a gentle and generous human being, will be warmly remembered by the many butterflies who benefited from having him as a friend.

Information for this section was contributed by Jeffrey Glassberg, Jeff Ingraham, Peter Post, Guy Tudor and Harry Zirlin.