Thanks

While we are always thankful for the efforts of the multitude of people who contribute to NABA, this year we are especially thankful. After quite a few years of effort (and a few setbacks) the Visitors Pavilion at the National Butterfly Center is now a reality! More about this later.

The members of the NABA Board of Directors, who govern the direction of NABA, (see page 1 for a list), receive no financial compensation for their efforts nor are they reimbursed for out-of-pocket expenses, such as travel expenses. In addition, many of them have made significant financial contributions to NABA.

Jim Springer serves as NABA Vice-President and Webmaster, and plays an important role in many of NABA's operations.

Jane V. Scott serves as NABA's Secretary-Treasurer, averaging 30 hour weeks working for NABA.

Karen Hillson has served NABA admirably as the volunteer editor of the Butterfly Gardener, producing a publication that is eagerly awaited by many NABA members.

NABA conducts a large and expanding butterfly monitoring program, including the 4th of July Counts, 1st of July Counts, 16th of Sept. Count, Seasonal Butterfly Counts, the Butterflies I've Seen database and the Butterfly Sightings webpages. The butterfly monitoring program, by its very nature, is headed by Sharon Wander whose meticulous attention to detail has resulted in increasingly valuable count reports. The Count program team of Jane Hurwitz, Lisa Lewis and Jim Springer have done a great job of tracking the counts, dealing with paperwork, interacting with compilers and regional editors and increasing the accuracy of count circle centers. Of course, the Count Program would not be possible without the hard work of all of the Regional Editors, Compilers and thousands of participants. Thanks to you all!

Thanks to Red-shift Technologies, and especially to Zi Chen and Matt Scott, for helping to update features of the online entry forms for the Butterfly Counts as well as the Butterflies I’ve Seen Database.

A big thank you to Mike Reese for maintaining the NABA Sightings webpages, dealing with the myriad formats (or lack thereof) of submitted information and photos!

The 2010 NABA Members Meeting was a great success. Lisa Lewis, the lead person coordinating the meeting, did a fantastic job of interacting with all the participants, arranging the field trips and all of the many other tasks associated with a large scale meeting. Thanks Lisa! Thanks also to all the field trip leaders and speakers (see article on pg. 14 for a list) and to the City of Mission for providing two vans and drivers for the farthest field trips.

The work at NABA HQ requires the concerted efforts of a team of people. Members of the team include Jane V. Scott, Jane Hurwitz, who focuses on the Program for Butterfly Gardens and Habitats, Lisa Lewis, who focuses on membership services, chapter relations, the Count program and financial record-keeping, and Ralph Fylstra, NABA's accountant.

I’d like to thank Nancy Flint for helping NABA obtain a number of trademarks over the past year. Nancy, a trademark and patent attorney, has worked for NABA pro bono.

Thanks also to the many NABA chapter officers and volunteers who help us to help butterflies and butterflies, by leading field trips, creating butterfly gardens, by giving talks and helping with educational outreach activities.

(continued on page 46)