

# Badger ButterFlyer

The e-Newsletter of the Southern Wisconsin Butterfly Association

A chapter of NABA (North American Butterfly Association)

JULY, 2019

WEB SITE: <http://www.naba.org/chapters/nabawba/>

Field Trips are free and open to the public. (Mark your calendar!)

## 1 NEXT FIELD TRIPS

### BUTTERFLIES AND FLOWERS OF KALSCHEUR OAK SAVANNAH

Saturday, July 20, 2019

10:00 a.m. to noon.

We will explore this diverse area. Kalscheur is owned by The Prairie Enthusiasts. It encompasses 19 acres and has a wide diversity of habitats with a cold water stream, wet meadow and wet prairie to dry prairie, oak savanna and oak woodland. It has 243 native plant species. We



Giant Swallowtail

expect to find Swallowtails, Fritillaries and many other species of butterfly. (Two years ago, when we first did this trip, we found 24 species!) Leaders are **Dr. Douglas Buege** (SWBA) and **Rich Henderson** (TPE)

Bring binoculars for butterfly viewing (the closer they can focus the better). We have a few extra binoculars. Wear long pants and a hat for protection from the sun. Wear sturdy walking shoes and bring water. The property is hilly. This is a joint trip of the Southern Wisconsin Butterfly Association (SWBA) and The Prairie Enthusiasts (TPE). Contact Rich at [tpe.rhenderson@tds.net](mailto:tpe.rhenderson@tds.net) only if you have a question about the trip, or if the weather is questionable.

**DIRECTIONS:** Meet at 10:00 a.m. in Iowa County, on County K, 2 miles south of the village of Hollandale.

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### BUTTERFLIES OF YAHARA HEIGHTS **NEW**

Saturday, July 27, 2019

10:00 a.m. to noon

Yahara Heights is a 141 acre Dane County Park. It is a hidden gem tucked away at the north tip of Madison. It is located adjacent to Cherokee Marsh, the largest remaining wetland in Dane County. Yahara Heights has over 3,000 feet of water frontage, spectacular wetland views, over 3 miles of secluded hiking trails, and an impressive prairie restoration which provides a much-needed wildlife habitat preserve. We expect to see Swallowtails, Sulphurs, Blues, Crescents, Monarchs and Skippers, etc. nectaring at wildflowers. We will look for any stray immigrants from the South. Leaders are **Ginny Nelson** and **Pamela Skaar**.

Bring binoculars for butterfly viewing (the closer they can focus the better). We have a few extra binoculars. Wear long pants and a hat for protection from the sun. Wear sturdy walking shoes and bring water. Call Karl Legler at (608) 228-0743 only if you have a question about the trip, or if the weather is questionable.

#### IN THIS ISSUE:

##### 1. NEXT FIELD TRIPS

● **Butterflies and Flowers of Kalscheur Oak Savannah.**

● Butterflies of Yahara Heights.

● Butterflies of the Avoca/Blue River Area.

● Butterflies of the Sauk-Prairie Recreational Area.

##### 2. Recent Butterfly Sightings!

##### 3. Butterfly Field Trip Schedule 2019.

##### 4. Butterfly NABA Count Schedule 2019.

##### 5. Butterfly Field Days at Fort McCoy.

**DIRECTIONS:** Meet at 10:00 a.m. in the parking lot for Yahara Heights. From the north side of Madison, head north on Hwy 113. Continue on Hwy 113, past the intersection with County M, for 1/3 mile. Turn right (east) onto River Road. Then turn right (south) at the next road (Catfish Court) and drive about 1/3 mile to the parking area on the left (east) side of the road. (This is north of the Dog Park parking lot.) The trail is accessible by a handicap scooter.

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## BUTTERFLIES OF THE AVOCA / BLUE RIVER AREA

**Saturday, August 3, 2019**

10:30 a.m.- 4 p.m.



**Common Sootywing.**

In some years this can be the best butterfly trip of the year! This trip will highlight several areas in the **Lower Wisconsin State Riverway**, including Avoca Prairie and Savanna State Natural Area in Iowa County, and Blue River unit in Grant County. Leader is **Dr. Douglas Buege**. We expect to see late butterflies and several unusual southern immigrants. A hat and long pants are recommended. Bring water, a lunch, and binoculars (the closer they focus the better). A few extra binoculars are available. Call Karl Legler at (608) 228-0743 only if you have a question about the trip, or if the weather is questionable. Meet at 10:30 a.m. Allow 50 minute travel time from Middleton.

**DIRECTIONS:** Take Hwy 14 west to Lone Rock, south on Hwy 130 then turn right on Hwy 133. Go west about 5.0 miles, turn right on Hay Road, and drive north to the first parking area.



**Eastern Tiger Swallowtail**

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## BUTTERFLIES OF THE SAUK-PRAIRIE RECREATION AREA **NEW**

**Saturday, August 10, 2019**

10:00 a.m. to noon

The Sauk Prairie Recreation Area, located in southeastern Sauk County, consists of a portion of the decommissioned 7,354-acre Badger Army Ammunition Plant (BAAP). The Sauk Prairie Recreation Area contributes important areas of grassland habitat needed to reconstruct a natural mosaic of prairie-savanna-woodland at a landscape scale. Directly adjacent to Devils Lake State Park, it serves as an ecological transition from the Baraboo Hills to the Wisconsin River. This is a huge area! We hope to see about 20 species or more. Leaders are **Karl and Dorothy Legler**. A hat and long pants are recommended. Bring water and binoculars (the closer they focus the better). A few extra binoculars are available. Call Karl Legler at (608) 228-0743 only if you have a question about the trip, or if the weather is questionable.

Meet at 10:00 a.m. along the entrance road.

**DIRECTIONS:** From Middleton, take Hwy 12 to Sauk City. From the stoplight at the bridge over the Wisconsin River continue on Hwy 12 for 8.7 miles. Turn right at the sign for "Museum: Badger Army Ammunition" and meet along the road.



**Eastern Tailed-Blue**

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## 2 RECENT BUTTERFLIES REPORTED ON [wisconsinbutterflies.org](http://wisconsinbutterflies.org)

The most notable recent observations of permanent residents were Mike Reese's two reports (June 21, July 6) of **Greenish Blue** which have been declining in recent years.



**Greenish Blue**



**Reakirt's Blue**

In the past month a small but increasing number of rare or very rare immigrants from the South and West have been reported. These cannot survive winter here but wander northward and breed in Wisconsin. Some are known to return south in the fall, e.g. Painted Lady, Red Admiral, Common Buckeye, etc.

**Painted Lady** has been fairly common (but not as common as American Lady).

**Gray Hairstreak** (June 1, 23, and July 7 the Madison Butterfly Count)

**Little Yellow** (July 1, July 7 Madison Butterfly Count)

**Checkered White** (July 3 Sandhill Butterfly Count)

**Common Buckeye** (June 17, June 26, July 1 the Mud Lake Butterfly Count)

**Common Checkered-Skipper** (July 3 Vilas Co.)

**Variagated Fritillary** (June July 4)

**Reakirt's Blue** (July 7 Madison Butterfly Count)

**Zebra Swallowtail** (June 27)

**Keep sending reports to [www.wisconsinbutterflies.org](http://www.wisconsinbutterflies.org)**

### 3 LIST OF 2019 SWBA BUTTERFLY FIELD TRIPS

Please put these butterfly field trips on your calendar!!

DAY	DATE	FIELD TRIP TITLE	LEADER(S)
Sunday	May 19	Butterflies of Bauer Brockway Barrens (Jackson Co.)	Mike Reese
Saturday	June 15	Butterflies and Wildflowers of Pleasant Valley Conservancy	Douglas Buege Kathie and Tom Brock
Saturday	June 22	Butterflies of Cherokee Marsh	Karl & Dorothy Legler, Jan Axelson, Peter Fissel.
Thursday	July 4	Butterflies and Dragonflies of Swamp Lovers Preserve	Tod Highsmith Karl and Dorothy Legler
Saturday	July 6	Butterflies of Sandhill Wildlife Area (Wood Co.)	Ron Arnold
Sunday	July 7	Madison Butterfly Count	Leglers, Peter Fissel
Saturday	July 20	Butterflies and Flowers of Kalscheur Oak Savannah	Douglas Buege Rich Henderson
Saturday	July 27	Butterflies of Yahara Heights <b>NEW</b>	Ginny Nelson and Pam Skaar
Saturday	August 3	Butterflies of the Avoca and Blue River Area	Douglas Buege
Saturday	August 10	Butterflies of Sauk-Prairie Recreation Area <b>NEW</b>	Leglers

## 4 SWBA/NABA BUTTERFLY COUNTS 2019 SCHEDULE.

COUNT NAME	DAY	DATE	COUNTY	THIS YEAR WILL BE THE
Mud Lake	Monday	July 1	Columbia Co.	31st year
Oconto		TBA	Oconto Co.	5th year
Madison	Sunday	July 7	Dane Co.	29th year
Trempealeau	Wednesday	July 10	Trempealeau Co.	30th year
Dubuque (Wis. portion)	Saturday	July 13	Grant Co.	17th year
Northern Kettle Moraine	Monday	July 15	Fond du Lac Co.	23rd year

These are similar to Christmas Bird Counts. This is a good way to gain more experience with a range of butterflies. Whether experienced or novice, you are always welcome to participate. To join in, or if you have a question, contact the coordinators (Karl and Dorothy Legler, karlndot@charter.net, (608) 643-4926). (NABA charges a \$3 fee to participate in a count, to help defray the cost of publication.)

(For a list of additional Butterfly Counts in Wisconsin and elsewhere, visit NABA's Web site at [www.naba.org/counts/us\\_mx\\_map.html](http://www.naba.org/counts/us_mx_map.html) Contacts are Listed.)

## 5 JUST IN: BUTTERFLY FIELD DAYS at Fort McCoy, Saturday, July 27

"This is the first public opportunity to learn about and see some of the rare butterflies at the Fort McCoy military base in western WI (35 minutes east of La Crosse). As far as I know of, this property contains the last stronghold for Ottoe Skipper in the upper Midwest contained within it's 16,000 acres of somewhat connected high quality sand prairie/barrens/savanna habitat. It's not uncommon to have Gorgone Checkerspots, Regal Fritillaries, and Karner Blues all on the same pile of wolf scat. It's an amazing place floristically as well. Two sessions to choose from: 9 a.m. - Noon or 1:00 p.m. to 4 p.m. Includes a presentation and a bus tour to the field to see butterflies (bring binoculars). Coordinated by Directorate of Public Works Environmental Division Natural Resources Branch. Call the Permit Sales Office at 608-388-3337 to reserve a spot for one of the sessions. There is no cost for attending this event. You should meet at Building 6058 at the Sparta/Fort McCoy Airport.

**The ButterFlyer flits to you every month in summer. The next issue will be in AUGUST, 2019.**

### Officers of SWBA:

President: Dr. Douglas Buege  
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## SWBA

The Southern Wisconsin Butterfly Association (SWBA) is a non-profit Wisconsin chapter of the North American Butterfly Association (NABA) which is the largest organization of people interested in butterflies. SWBA promotes public awareness, conservation and the enjoyment of butterflies through observation with close-focusing binoculars, chapter field trips, educational meetings, photography, butterfly gardening, monitoring and travel. SWBA's events are open to the public.

To become a member of SWBA simply join NABA. Membership benefits include 2 color quarterly magazines "American Butterflies" and "Butterfly Gardening". Please use the membership form on the SWBA Web site at <http://www.naba.org/chapters/nabawba/>

Our e-Newsletter, the Badger ButterFlyer, will be published monthly in spring to fall. Send any news notes to the editor, Karl Legler, at [karlndot@charter.net](mailto:karlndot@charter.net)

**To stop receiving this e-Newsletter simply send an email to the above editor's address.**