



MIAMI BLUE CHAPTER, NABA MAY 2016 E-NEWS

Above: Miami Blue.

In this issue: May quarterly meeting; field trips to Key Largo and Owaissa Bauer Park; call for volunteers; and a truly fine day.

Miami Blue Quarterly Meeting

Sunday, May 1, 1-3 pm.
Castellow Hammock
22301 SW 162 Avenue, Miami, FL 3317

Program:
The 39 Imperiled Butterflies of South Florida

Our speaker will Barbara McAdam, PA, Florida Yards & Neighborhoods Program, UF/IFAS/Extension Service, Miami-Dade County Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces. Her topic will be "The 39 Imperiled Butterflies of South Florida" and their necessary plants.

Come early to check out Castellow's butterfly garden and hammock.

We are going pot luck! If so inclined, please bring finger food for the refreshments table.



Dingy Purplewing
at Castellow Hammock
Courtesy of Ron Nuehring

Field Trip to North Key Largo

Key Largo Hammocks State Botanical Site Birds, Butterflies and Native Plants

Saturday, May 7
6:30 am - 2 pm

Tropical Audubon Society President Joe Barros and Miami Blue President Linda Evans will lead this joint trip to the largest remaining tract of coastal tropical hardwood hammock in the Florida Keys.

Meet at 6:30am at the Cracker Barrel restaurant at US 1 and Palm Drive in Florida City. Bring water and insect repellent. There is an entrance fee to the botanical site. Lunch at a Key Largo restaurant.

Owaissa Bauer Field Trip Organized by the Native Plant Society

Sunday, June 5
9 am - noon
17001 Southwest 264 Street (Bauer Drive)

We'll visit this South Miami-Dade county park especially to see pine rockland in glorious restoration, along with early summer wildflowers. We will no doubt stray into other habitats to look for interesting plants and butterflies in this large, diverse park. **Jane Dozier**, Environmental Resource Project Supervisor at Miami-Dade County Parks Natural Areas Management, and **Roger Hammer**, former naturalist with Miami-Dade Parks, are expected to join us to share their knowledge of the park. Afterward, some might go to Hattie Bauer Hammock (former Orchid Jungle) nearby.

Address: Owaissa Bauer is at 17001 Southwest 264 Street (Bauer Drive), between US 1 and Krome Avenue. Hattie Bauer is at SW 157 Ave and 267 St (go east from "COB" and turn south on 157 Ave..).

Bring: Sun protection, water, binoculars if you are interested in "butterflying," and lunch if you want to picnic afterward.



Schaus Swallowtail
Courtesy of Jeff Daniels and
the University of Florida



Silver Banded Hairstreak
Everglades National Park
Courtesy of Ron Nuehring



Giant Swallowtail
Courtesy of Susan Kolterman

Difficulty: Easy

Questions / lost? Call **Bill Shores** ([305-793-2230](tel:305-793-2230)). (Thanks to Bill for organizing this trip!)

Schaus' Survey Volunteers Needed

Contribute to citizen science; volunteer for Schaus' Swallowtail surveys during May and/or June. To learn more, contact Scott Tedford, Florida Park Service Environmental Specialist, at scott.tedford@dep.state.fl.us.

A Truly Fine Day

By Susan Kolterman

Every once in a while, everything comes together and a truly fine day is had.

Today is a sad day remembered. When as a very young girl, the only mother I knew or remembered passed on to a play of joy and no more pain. I called my sister Susan as I do every year on April 26. I was Little Susan (LS) and she was Big Susan (BS - tee hee). When I told her I was going out in the hammock on my Schaus' surveys she told me Mommy would have been very proud and to SEE SOMETHING GREAT.

Libby, Billy and I did the stateside routes heading north. I had the best luck to be working with them, both very intelligent, sweet and mostly FUN! We started at the JHT subdivision and saw a giant swallowtail ovipositing on wild lime and a white-crowned pigeon scratching around in the hammock leaves. Rare and lovely finds.

Next stop was PP 169.5, where we saw some great butterflies and warblers as well as a Mangrove Buckeye, a Zebra Longwing nectaring on Poisonwood, and a Mangrove Cuckoo! The latter was a very rare find indeed.

Next at PP 160 we saw, first, a sweat shirt here and a backpack there, and on until Billy realized we were probably seeing the castoffs of Cuban refugees. There was baby food,



White-crowned Pigeon
Courtesy of Susan Kolterman



Mangrove Buckeye
Courtesy of Susan Kolterman



Great Southern White
Courtesy of Susan Kolterman

cigarettes, lots of still wet clothing, a few Cuban pesos, antibiotics and re-hydrating packets. A really interesting find indeed.

Our surveys went on, full of great migrating birds--some really getting their breeding plumage on, oodles of butterflies, including a nice smoky great southern white and ended with the wonderful, goose pimply finale of the first Schaus' Swallowtail spotted in Key Largo this season. It was happily nectaring on *Bidens alba*. We finished the trail with a Fl. Purplewing and some faithful beauty moth caterpillars but the Schaus' was the butterfly of our dreams--fulfilled.

I returned to Croc Lake to tell Jeremy the good news and the butterfly garden was filled with beautiful giant swallowtails. The day started with a giant swallowtail, pinnacled with a Schaus' swallowtail in the middle and finished with dancing swallowtails in the end. Truly a grand day. A day of celebration- for lives lost from us near and long ago, for the rafters finding a new home and for the Schaus' swallowtail beating the odds to live another day. We did SEE MANY THINGS GREAT!



Schaus' Swallowtail
Courtesy of Susan Kolterman

Join NABA and the Miami Blue Chapter; membership information is at: www.miamiblue.org.

Check the chapter website for the latest news at: www.miamiblue.org.

Don't forget to save your unwanted copies of *American Butterflies* and the *Butterfly Gardener*; we have many uses for extra copies.

Contact us at miamiblue@bellsouth.net
