



MIAMI BLUE CHAPTER, NABA AUGUST 2017 E-NEWS

CHAPTER MEETING

Sunday, August 6, 1 pm
Castellow Hammock Park
22301 SW 162 Avenue

Program
Parasites and Caterpillars in South Florida
Andrea E. Salas

Three sulphurs, their host plant, and the critters that feed upon their instars add up to an interesting program. Ph.D. Candidate Andrea Salas has been studying the effect of host-plant density on the number of sulphur caterpillars--Cloudless Sulphur, Orange-barred Sulphur, and Sleepy Orange (*Phoebis sennae*, *Phoebis philea*, and *Abaeis nicippe*)--and rates of parasitization in urban and agricultural environments. She has been observing eggs and instars on Bahama Senna (*Senna mexicana chapmanii*), and the paranoid larvae that feed upon (and kill) their host caterpillars.

Bahama Senna (*Senna mexicana*) is a threatened species native to pine rocklands of southern Florida,



Upcoming Events

7/29
Loop Road NABA Count

8/6
Chapter meeting

10/21
Bird & Butterfly Day for Kids

Above: Miami Blue Butterflies

which is grown as an ornamental plant. Pictures and more information: <http://www.regionalconservation.org/beta/nfyn/plantdetail.asp?tx=Sennmexichap>

Andrea Salas received a Bachelor's degree in Biological Sciences and a master's degree in Environmental Studies at Florida International University. She is enrolled in a doctoral program at FIU, where she is investigating the effects of *Senna mexicana chapmanii* on the diversity and abundance of beneficial insects, fruit production, and farmer behavior in agricultural sites located near protected areas.

You are invited to add to the refreshment table! Finger foods preferred. Ice, cups, toothpicks and napkins are provided. Refreshments start about 12:45.

BIRD AND BUTTERFLY DAY--FOR KIDS

Saturday, October 21, 9:30 am - 3 pm
Castellow Hammock
FREE

Our second annual Bird and Butterfly Day will be for instars of all ages. Young birders and butterflyers (and their accompanying grownups) will have their choice of activities, walks, talks, and readings. Watch the Miami Blue web site and a future enews for details.

Meanwhile, we need volunteers to help with preparations, as well as the day of the event. Email [Linda Evans](mailto:Linda.Evans@miami-blue.org) or sign up at August's chapter meeting.

ABOUT NABA

Are YOU a NABA member? We are happy to send you this bi-monthly e-news and hope you will attend upcoming Miami Blue activities, learn and enjoy. If you aren't a NABA member, we'd be delighted to



Cloudless Sulphur
Courtesy of Ron Nuehring



have you join -- or rejoin, if your membership has lapsed.

As a member, you will enjoy NABA's quarterly publications ([American Butterflies](#) and [The Butterfly Gardener](#)), regional and national meetings, and the news and activities of the Miami Blue Chapter (or your local chapter).

Better yet, you will help ensure that this national organization and its chapters will continue to work to increase public enjoyment and conservation of butterflies. You helped us petition the State of Florida and the USFWS to declare Miami Blues an endangered species.

To join (or renew), go to <http://miamiblue.org/> or <http://www.naba.org/>.

Not sure if you are a member (or current member) or need help? Contact NABA at naba@naba.org or the Miami Blue membership chair, Patty Phares, at pharespl@gmail.com, [305-255-6404](tel:305-255-6404)).

Memberships start at \$35 (see NABA.org). Such a small amount to support big things!endangered species.