



## MIAMI BLUE CHAPTER, NABA APRIL 2018 E-NEWS

In this issue: the next chapter meeting and butterfly news

### SEX, LIES, & BUTTERFLIES

Wednesday, April 4  
8 pm. on television

Set a reminder for Wednesday, April 4, at 8 p.m. EST, to watch the premier of [PBS' NATURE](#) documentary on butterflies. It was filmed, in part, at the NABA National Butterfly Center. If you miss the show, point your browser to <http://www.pbs.org/show/nature/>, where the show will be posted later.

### SCHAUS' SURVEY WORKSHOP

Thursday, April 12  
7 pm  
John Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park  
Key Largo

Scott Tedford will introduce volunteers to this year's Schaus' Swallowtail Survey. Citizen scientists will locate and count this beautiful, but rare, butterfly during weekly walks on north Key Largo and/or

### Upcoming Events

- 4/4  
Nature documentary
- 4/12  
Schauss Survey workshop
- 5/5  
Key Largo field trip
- 5/6  
Chapter meeting
- 9/16-19  
NABA members meeting

Elliott Key during the months of April and May. Anyone interested in joining in, come to this orientation.

## KEY LARGO FIELD TRIP

Saturday, May 5  
Time and meeting place TBA

Marc Minno will lead a walk through North Key Largo. Check the [Miami Blue website](#) in a week or two for starting time and meeting place.

## CHAPTER MEETING

Sunday, May 6  
1-3 pm

Castellow Hammock  
22301 SW 162 Avenue  
In the Redland  
Scroll down here for [map to Castellow Hammock](#)

### Program

Primary talk and speaker:  
**Conservation, Faunal Changes, and the Exchange of Butterflies Between Cuba and Florida**  
**Marc Minno**

Gainesville zoologist Marc Minno specializes in the study of South Florida and Florida Keys butterflies, and has written a number of books many of us have in our personal leps libraries, such as *Florida Butterfly Caterpillars and their Host Plants*. His PowerPoint talk will conclude with a Q&A session. His occasional presentations to Miami Blue are always informative and enjoyable--not to be missed.

Bonus talk and speaker:  
**Butterflies of Cuba**  
**Douglas Fernandez**



A battered Schauss' Swallowtail  
Courtesy of Susan Kolterman



Schauss' Swallowtail,  
Key Largo  
Courtesy of Linda Cooper



Giant Swallowtail,  
Coconut Grove  
Courtesy of LB



Don't miss the meeting at  
Castellow Hammock

Cuba is one of the world's hot spots for biodiversity. A significant percentage of the island's plants and animals are unique to Cuba, including Leps.

Douglas Fernandez is one of the top naturalists in Cuba. Douglas has published a number of articles on Cuban butterflies and contributed a chapter on their biology to the book, *Lepidópteros de Cuba*. He is currently working on field guides to Cuban butterflies and wildflowers.

### **Refreshments, etc.**

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

Come early and stay late to butterfly and bird.

### **‘THE BORDER WALL AND NABA**

The new federal budget which provides funding for 33 new miles of Border Wall in the Lower Rio Grande Valley. While the bill spares Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge, unfortunately the National Butterfly Center and neighboring Bentsen-Rio State Park remain endangered. They and other wildlife properties are slated to be walled off. Seventy per cent of the National Butterfly Center property will be behind the wall, and no one knows what, if any, access to it will be made available to NABA.

The North American Butterfly Center has filed suit in Washington, D.C. against the federal government for actions taken by the Department of Homeland Security in advance preparation for Border Wall construction, without notice or due process of law, on the property last July.

“Border fencing” and a “levee fence” are synonyms for a border wall, based upon the government’s attempt to circumvent the law and exploit language in the easement provided for the levee system on which they have constructed the Border Wall in the past. This fence/wall will be 18 ft of concrete with at



Speaker Marc Minno



One of Marc's many publications



Douglas Fernandez

least 12 ft of vertical steel bollards on top of it.

NABA is being represented pro bono by two world-class organizations, Debevoise & Plimpton and the Texas Civil Right Project; however, there will continue to be many expenses related to the defense of our property. If you wish to contribute, please click on "[Defend the NBC](#)" to make a tax-deductible gift.

[More about NABA and the border wall.](#)

Miami Blue members on Facebook, become friends with Linda Cooper. She is doing excellent work posting news about the border wall and its potential effect upon places dear to butterfly and bird watchers.

## NABA MEMBER'S MEETING

Tallahassee, Florida  
September 16-19

The 13th biennial national meeting of the North American Butterfly Association will take place within a long day's drive of southeast Florida. The meeting will consist of field trips to various locations around Tallahassee, evening meals and programs, and opportunities to meet and mingle with butterflyers from all over.

North Florida has national and state forests, wildlife refuges, and parks; and butterflies unlike those of South Florida. Come September, consider making a trek to the other end of the state.



Lime Swallowtail, Cuba  
Courtesy of Douglas Fernandez  
[See more](#)



The Border Wall at Hidalgo Pumphouse, a small botanical park some miles east of the National Butterfly Center.  
Courtesy of Becky Smith

## About NABA and the Miami Blue Chapter

Are YOU a NABA member? We are happy to send you this e-news and hope you will attend upcoming Miami Blue activities. If you aren't a NABA member, we'd be delighted to 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 learn more about Miami Blue, go to our web site at [miamiblue.org](http://miamiblue.org).

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](mailto:naba@naba.org) or the Miami Blue membership chair, Patty Phares, at [pharespl@gmail.com](mailto:pharespl@gmail.com).

Memberships start at \$35 (see [NABA.org](http://NABA.org)). Such a small amount to support big things--endangered species.