



MIAMI BLUE CHAPTER, NABA JUNE 2019 E-NEWS

Above: Miami Blue on Blackbead. Courtesy of Jaeson Clayborn.

In this issue: Butterfly surveys and counts, and the next chapter meeting.

CORAL GABLES BUTTERFLY COUNT

Saturday, June 22
9 am - 2 pm
\$3 fee for NABA

Four Miami Blue teams will count leps in one of four places:

- Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden and the Kampong
- Charles Deering Estate;
- Bill Baggs State Park (Key Biscayne);
- Virginia Key

Citizen scientists--join us for the annual counts. Every June/July NABA chapters throughout the U.S. census the butterflies in specific locations. The data is submitted to NABA, where it provides a cumulative record of butterfly abundance and scarcity.

Bring lots of water, lunch, mosquito repellent, a hat, close-focusing binoculars, and observant eyes.

UPCOMING EVENTS

6/22 Coral Gables butterfly count

now-6/30 Schaus' surveys

7/13 Shark Valley butterfly count

7/22 Loop Road butterfly count

8/4 Chapter meeting



Counting atalas

Anyone interested in joining us, email [Linda Evans](#) or [Jaeson Clayborn](#). As some areas have a limited space availability, let us know ASAP.

SCHAUS' SURVEYS

This Year's Count for the endangered Schaus' Swallowtail has beaten all records with more than 200 seen so far.

Although the flight period is coming to a close, there is still an opportunity to see one of these rare butterflies. If you are interested in joining us, contact Scott Tedford at Scott.Tedford@dep.state.fl.us as soon as possible. We end the counts at the end of June.

Yes, It's hot and buggy, so bring appropriate clothing, hat, sunscreen, bug spray, and lots of water. We meet in Key Largo at 9 am, walk through the magical forest and usually finish around 12 to 12:30. We are having lots of fun! Come join us

MORE NABA BUTTERFLY COUNTS

Every summer, the North American Butterfly Association (NABA) and its chapters survey and census the continent's butterflies through 450 regional counts. This citizen science project, like the [Christmas Bird Count](#), provides data that scientists and naturalists use to track long-term butterfly distribution and population trends. [Learn more about the butterfly counts.](#)

You can take part in this valuable citizen science project by participating in one or more of the Miami Blue Chapter's counts:

Coral Gables - Saturday, June 22 (see paragraph above)

Shark Valley - Saturday, July 13

Loop Road - Saturday, July 27

The **Shark Valley** count covers the north entrance



Atalas being counted
Becky Smith, photographer



Schaus' Swallowtail
North Key Largo
April 12, 2019
Courtesy of Linda Evans



Shark Valley entrance

to Everglades National Park (Shark Valley) and areas adjacent to Tamiami Trail.

The **Pinecrest/Loop Road** count surveys the Loop Road section of Big Cypress National Preserve.

New butterfly watchers and NABA members are welcome to participate. Mingling with experts and visiting butterfly hot spots are the best way to learn and to enjoy leps. And, butterfly counts always need more eyes.

Contact [Linda Evans](#) or [Jaeson Clayborn](#) to participate.

CHAPTER MEETING

Sunday, August 4, 1 PM

Simpson Park
5 SW 17 Road
Miami

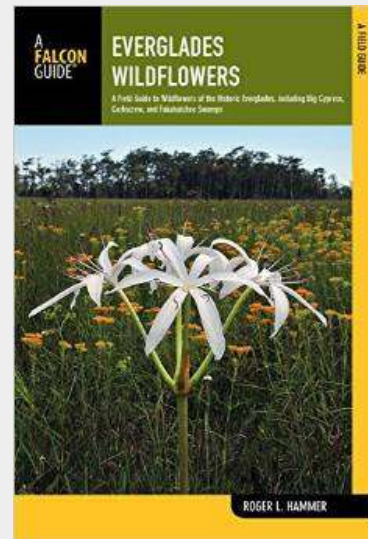
Speaker and Program

Dr. Roger Hammer

"A Program for South Florida Gardeners Plant It and They Will Come"

To have a successful butterfly garden you must plant the appropriate plants to attract them, including favored nectar sources and proper larval host plants. This program features tried and proven Florida native plants that attract butterflies in South Florida gardens, as well as some noteworthy Florida Friendly non-native plants that will guarantee your garden will become a Mecca for butterflies, with the added bonus of moths, bees, and hummingbirds, as well as fruit-eating and insect-eating resident and migratory songbirds.

Roger will be bringing books for sale. Cash or check only. He will also sign your books if you wish.



One of Roger Hammer's many, useful guidebooks.

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.

Roger Hammer is a professional naturalist and survivalist instructor for the Discovery Channel's reality television show *Naked and Afraid*. He was the manager of the 120-acre Castellow Hammock Nature Center for the Miami-Dade County Parks Department for 30 years.

He received the first Marjory Stoneman Douglas Award presented by the Florida Native Plant Society in 1982, and Tropical Audubon Society honored him with the prestigious Charles Brookfield Medal in 1996. In 2003 he received the Green Palmetto Award in Education from the Florida Native Plant Society. He has given keynote speeches at Florida Native Plant Society state conferences and the 2008 World Orchid Conference in Miami. In 2012, he received an honorary Doctor of Science degree from Florida International University and a lifetime achievement award from the Florida Native Plant Society, Tropical Audubon Society, and the North American Butterfly Association.

Roger is an avid long-distance solo canoeist, kayak-fishing enthusiast, rum connoisseur, and wildflower photographer. He is the author of *Florida Keys Wildflowers*, *Everglades Wildflowers*, *Central Florida Wildflowers*, *Exploring Everglades National Park and the Surrounding Area*, *Attracting Hummingbirds and Butterflies in Tropical Florida*, and the recently released *Complete Guide to Florida Wildflowers*. He lives with his wife, Michelle, in Homestead, Florida.

Refreshments, etc.

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

Come early and stay late to butterfly, bird, and explore the park's trails through Brickell Hammock.

To learn more about Miami Blue, go to our web site at 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 or the Miami Blue membership chair, Patty Phares, at pharespl@gmail.com.

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