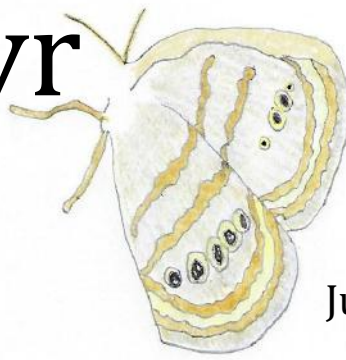


The Lonely Satyr

For Butterfly Enthusiasts
of Northeast Indiana



July 1, 2023

Sarett Nature Center Highlight

The Mitchell's Satyr only flies for a few weeks a year. Those weeks happen to be right now. Incredible people working to study and save the Mitchell's Satyr typically look for them in flight the last weeks of June through mid-July. One opportunity for the general public to possibly see a Mitchell's Satyr is at Sarett Nature Center, located in Benton Harbor, Michigan. While there are no guarantees, the "River Trail" winds through ideal habitat. I'm sure you'll also see other butterflies and wildlife too.

On Saturday, July 8, at 1:00 p.m., Sarett is offering a public program called "The Mysterious Mitchell's Satyr." As advertised, you can join Director Nate Fuller to learn about their special habitat needs and natural history. The program includes a walk to try and see the butterfly. You *must* register for this program by calling (269) 927-4832. Program fees: Member/\$5; Non-member/\$8; Children/\$3. They do not allow any pets on their trails. The Nature Center and Butterfly House have posted hours, so check out their website before traveling if you plan to include them in your visit. Packing water, sunscreen, insect repellent, binoculars and, of course, a camera is recommended. Collecting is absolutely forbidden and will get you in big, big trouble.

For more information, contact Sarett at (269) 927-4832 or visit <https://sarett.org>

Thank you to the very kind staff of Sarett for sharing this information with me. I actually did ask if I could tell all my friends.

Butterfly House

Sarett Nature Center
2300 Benton Center Rd.
Benton Harbor, MI 49022
Hours: Tuesday—Sunday, Memorial Day through
Sept. 30, or as butterflies persist
Member fee: Adults \$5, Children \$3
Non-member fee: Adults \$8, Children \$4



Right: Mitchell's Satyr (male)
Photo credit: Ronda Spink
Fen habitat, MI

Rearing at John Ball Zoo

Ronda Spink, Michigan Butterfly Network Coordinator, kindly shared some educational photos of the setup for the rearing process of Mitchell's Satyrs taking place this year at John Ball Zoo. This is a special "behind the scenes" look at the incredible propagation efforts taking place. Ronda explained that hopefully they will be putting three or four caterpillars with the host plant inside each of the breathable shelters. The number of caterpillars depends on the shelter size.

Impress Your Neighbors Vocab
Word of the Day:

Propagation

1. Multiplication or increase as by natural reproduction
2. The process of spreading to a larger area or greater number



John Ball Zoo is located in Grand Rapids, Michigan. If you watched the "Life on the Brink" YouTube video about the Poweshiek Skipperling, then it may sound familiar. John Ball Zoo is working with Michigan State University's Nick Haddad Lab (and many others) to help save the Poweshiek Skipperling.

Nick Haddad, of the Nick Haddad Lab, authored the book *The Last Butterflies: A Scientist's Quest to Save a Rare and Vanishing Creature* in 2019. I am currently reading the one and only copy in the Evergreen Indiana library loan system. So far, it is quite fascinating! I recommend it to anyone interested in learning more about the process of saving endangered butterflies and their homes.

Sightings



Right: Hackberry Emperor
Photo credit: John Michael Durback
Chain O' Lakes State Park, IN
6/20/23



Right: Red-spotted Purple
Photo credit: Jan McGowan
St. Joseph County Parks, IN
June

Jan also reports for June:
Hackberry Emperor
Viceroy



Right: Common Sootywing
Photo credit: Doug Selzer
Pigeon River FWA, LaGrange Co., IN
5/21/23

Doug also reported for May at Pigeon River
FWA :
American Copper
Baltimore Checkerspot chrysalis
Juvenal Duskywing



Sightings cont'd.

Right: Gray Comma

Photo credit: John Michael Durback
Chain O' Lakes State Park, Albion, IN
6/22/23



Right: Milbert's Tortoiseshell

Photo credit: Bill Schmidt
Yellowstone National Park
5/16/23



Right: Mourning Cloak

Photo credit: Leslie Arnold
Pokagon State Park, Angola, IN
6/28/23

Also spotted at Pokagon: Hackberry Emperors



Sightings cont'd.

Right: Pipevine Swallowtail
Photo credit: Dani Tippmann
Oklahoma
6/19—6/23/23



Right: Silver-spotted Skipper
Photo credit: Emily Wolfe
LaGrange Co., IN
6/10/23

Emily also reports seeing in June:
Black Swallowtails



Additional Sightings Reported:

John Michael Durback - Hobomok Skipper, Chain O' Lakes State Park, Albion, IN on 6/23/23

Bridger Arnold - Summer Azure, Wolcottville, IN on 6/28/23

Carole Mitchell - Bumble bee with a heavy load of pollen on New Jersey Tea, Elkhart Co., IN on 6/27/23

Community Calendar

Contact the event host prior to traveling to make sure it's not cancelled.

Magnificent Monarchs

Saturday, July 8, 11:00 a.m.

Stanley Schoolhouse, Chain O' Lakes State Park, Albion, IN

Meet the naturalist to discover Monarchs and their amazing lives—metamorphosis, migration, milkweed. Hope to have eggs and caterpillars. 1 hour program. Park entrance fee required.

Monarch Parenting 101

Saturday, July 15, 11:00 a.m. *and* Saturday, July 29, 11:00 a.m.

Stanley Schoolhouse, Chain O' Lakes State Park, Albion, IN

Meet the naturalist to discover how to find Monarch eggs and caterpillars and the necessary duties to raise and release them successfully. 1 hour program. Park entrance fee required.

Monarchs are Back!

Saturday, July 22, 11:00 a.m.

Stanley Schoolhouse, Chain O' Lakes State Park, Albion, IN

Join a discussion about the amazing Monarch butterfly. Take a short, easy walk through the prairie to look for eggs and caterpillars. 1 hour program. Park entrance fee required.

Butterfly Hike

Saturday, July 29, 1:00—3:00 p.m.

Mike Metz Fen, Pine Knob Park, Howe, IN

Walk is led by John Brittenham, of Blue Heron Ministries. Meet in the Pine Knob parking lot at 1:00 p.m. Water and sunscreen highly recommended. Butterflies observed on this walk will be counted in the East LaGrange County NABA Count. To RSVP or ask a question, email johnbrittenham@gmail.com.

East LaGrange County NABA Count (Indiana)

Saturday, July 29 (All Day)

If you live within the count circle and would like to count at your home or a nearby area, please register to participate by contacting Leslie Arnold at 260-854-2225 or larnold@lagrangeparkcounty.org. You can count anytime on July 29, and for just 30 minutes or more. This count is done independently. When you register, you will be sent count paperwork. View the count circle at https://naba.or/counts/count_circles.html

(No endorsement or discrimination of specific events or vendors on this community calendar is intended or implied.)



Above: Great Spangled Fritillary
Photo credit: Leslie Arnold
Chain O' Lakes State Park, Albion, IN
6/22/23

Leslie also spotted at Chain O' Lakes:
2 Monarchs
Silver-spotted Skipper

If you'd like your event information to be in August's newsletter, please turn it in by July 26. Local sightings are my favorite part of the newsletter, so please report what you're seeing. Don't be shy!

To subscribe and submit, contact:

Naturalist Leslie A. Arnold

larnold@lagrangeparkcounty.org

260-854-2225

0505 W 700 S, Wolcottville, IN,
46795

