

Massachusetts Butterflies



Fall 2019, No. 53

Massachusetts Butterflies is the semiannual publication of the Massachusetts Butterfly Club, a chapter of the North American Butterfly Association. Membership in NABA-MBC brings you *American Butterflies* and *Butterfly Gardener*. If you live in the state of Massachusetts, you also receive *Massachusetts Butterflies*, and our mailings of field trips, meetings, and NABA Counts in Massachusetts. Out-of-state members of NABA-MBC and others who wish to receive *Massachusetts Butterflies* may order it from our secretary for \$7 per issue, including postage. Regular NABA dues are \$35 for an individual, \$45 for a family; outside the U.S., only digital membership is available (\$35). Send a check made out to “NABA” to: NABA, 4 Delaware Road, Morristown, NJ 07960.

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Eastern Tiger Swallowtail (*Papilio glaucus*), 8/2/19,
Southborough, MA, Dawn Vesey

Cover photo: Leonard's Skipper (*Hesperia leonardus*)
8/29/19, Worcester, MA, Garry Kessler

Horn Pond Mountain
Woburn, MA
By Howard Hoople



Overview

Horn Pond Mountain (HPM) is unique. It offers a remarkably diverse array of butterflies, birds and plants right in the metropolitan Boston area. It's located north of Boston, just off Route 3 a few miles south of the intersection of Route 3 and Route 95/128. The "mountain" is a modest but rocky survivor of the last glacier in the area, now rising only 287 feet above sea level. A gentle 15 minute hike will take you to the top of HPM, or you can choose the steeper trail and get there in 10 minutes! Plan on spending at least an hour to explore the trails on the northern side and the plateau on the top of HPM. Take the short walk to the southern end of the plateau to see a terrific view of the Boston skyline. About half of all the butterflies you can find in Massachusetts can be found on HPM!

Directions

If you're driving, set your GPS for 2 Rehabilitation Way, Woburn. Before you park, remember that there are no services on HPM. Restrooms and food are readily available in the adjacent shopping plaza, which includes a Dunkin' Donuts and Whole Foods market. Rehabilitation Way is only accessible from Rte 3 North, so if you come from the north, go beyond the entrance and make a U turn. Enter Rehabilitation Way (at the

signs for Encompass Health or the New England Rehabilitation Hospital), and follow arrows directing you to parking, going clockwise around the hospital until your car is facing towards the northwest side of HPM. Park in the area just above “Employee Lot B Parking”.

It is possible to get to HPM using public transportation from Cambridge, Boston or other parts of the known universe. From Porter Square in Cambridge, take the MBTA Bus #350 for about 30 minutes. The bus will stop right at 2 Rehabilitation Way, a 5 minute walk from the base of the hill!

The Hike

Many interesting butterflies are found close to the parking area at the base of the hill, so start looking immediately! And if you either can't or don't feel like climbing the hill, there are lots of interesting butterflies that can be found in the short, flat trail between the parking lot and the hill. If you do climb, plan your ascent, choosing either the gentle or the slightly steeper trail to the plateau. Either choice will get you there, and both offer many interesting opportunities to observe butterflies along the way. I often go up the steeper trail, and then descend by the more gradual path.

The Butterflies

There are over 100 different species of butterflies in Massachusetts, and you can find over 50 of them at HPM over the course of a season that lasts from April to October each year! But it will help if you know when and where to look for each of them. Familiarity with the flight period(s) of particular species, their preferred nectar sources, and favored caterpillar food plants will help a lot.

For instance, in late June and early July, several species of hairstreaks can be found on HPM: Gray, Striped, Banded, Coral and Edwards' Hairstreaks have sometimes all been found flying there at the same time. Look for their favorite nectar sources. New Jersey Tea, Dogbane, Sumac, Wood Lilies, and Mountain-Mint are all blooming at that time, and are favored by these small, dashing, enthusiastic little butterflies.

Elfins, Swallowtails, Sulphurs, Monarchs, Great Spangled Fritillaries, Viceroy's, American Coppers, Eastern Tailed-Blues, Mourning Cloaks, Buckeyes, and Skippers and Cloudywings and Duskywings and more can

all be found at HPM in turn.

Where to Look

The several trails up the northern side of HPM are productive areas, as are open areas on the plateau on top of the hill. The highest spot, near the south end of the plateau and off to the right of the main trail is a favorite for hill-topping butterflies such as Tiger Swallowtails and Red-Spotted Admirals. Not too many butterflies have been reported on the south side of the hill, which is heavily wooded with limited trails.

What to Watch Out For

Be careful! HPM is not aggressively maintained for butterflying by any of the local stakeholders (e.g. the city of Woburn, the utility company, etc.). This is part of the reason for the wonderful diversity of butterfly, bird and plant species that can be found on HPM, right in the midst of the metropolitan Boston area. It's interesting that there doesn't seem to be much poison ivy on HPM. But there are other things to be wary of there. Broken glass and spent fireworks canisters mark favorite evening meeting places for local teenagers. To avoid the insect bites that many of us suspect are a remnant population of chiggers (not seen elsewhere in MA that we know of), stay on well-marked trails. To avoid the chigger-like bites, if you are prone to getting down on your knees (as I am, for example, to see more clearly or photograph), it's best to tuck your pantlegs into your socks, and liberally apply DEET-based insecticides. Recently coyotes have been spotted during the day on HPM. And while HPM isn't very high, there are places where steep rock faces are precipitous, and they demand good footwear and careful footwork to prevent serious injury in a fall.

Conservation

HPM is a great place to see and learn about butterflies in Eastern Massachusetts. Special butterflies, unique habitats and attractive nectar sources abound. Respect the environment, taking care not to trample the NJ Tea and other nectar sources and caterpillar food plants. Marvel at the diversity of butterflies and other wildlife in this crazy, chaotic little spot. Practice the fundamentals of observant butterflying and enjoy this wonderful little gem of a place.



Remembrances of Marilyn Lovell

*We'll be seeing you in every lovely summer's day
In everything that's bright and gay
We'll always think of you that way.*

My fondest memories of Lyn Lovell include times in the field, watching butterflies and birds and whatever there was to see, and times of connection with Lyn's friends and family. In the field, Lyn was animated and energetic and though her knees let her down later in life, she was until then a woman who



charged ahead in meadows, plowed through the tear-thumb and thistles, wanting to miss nothing and, indeed, to discover a great deal. Lyn was an invaluable addition to the Massachusetts Audubon Society's Butterfly Atlas Project, the first butterfly mapping project in any U.S. state. From 1986 to 1990, every corner of our state was looked at and its butterfly species tallied, spring to fall. As it turned out, it was difficult to get commitments for coverage of many out-of-the-way places and so I started and maintained a series of "block bashers," where we drove to places with little or no coverage and did some whirlwind butterfly collecting (gasp!, but the protocol of the project). Jumping from meadow to meadow, town to town, staying ahead of cloudy weather, we made a lot of great discoveries in those years....and Lyn Lovell, unless she had a pressing family commitment, was there. I am sure that Lyn made a greater time-in-the-field commitment to the MBAP than any other participant.

Lyn was one of the very first members of the Massachusetts

Butterfly Club and supported our organization and the North American Butterfly Association in so many ways over the years, going to meetings and far-flung NABA events, serving as club officer and council, watching the Club's money, participating in Butterfly Institutes and many other MBC activities. She was a constant.

Lyn and I looked at many wonderful butterflies along the way - in Australia, India, Venezuela, Argentina, much of Central America, and many corners of North America, including Arctic Canada. Lyn was a great and thoughtful travel companion, in large or small group settings, in love with birds and butterflies and, thank goodness, tolerant of herpetiles.

I have known Lyn's three sons and three daughters for decades. They themselves have children and grandchildren, by the score. Lyn taught her family her values and her love of nature. She spoke of them lovingly and was forever passing along stories of discoveries her grandchildren made. Lyn dutifully kept track of her family members, of her butterfly and bird sightings, and of her friends. She was dear woman in the extreme. There will never be another like her.

Brian Cassie

We have a few thoughts about Lyn. She was always warm and welcoming. If you needed something, she would always lend a hand. We remember her hosting the Uxbridge Christmas Bird Count wrap-up at her house for so many years. Her dining room had a long antique dinner table and we remember that she would make a big pot of homemade soup for all the attendees. It was such a warm, relaxing ending to a cold day.

One other time, at a NABA Butterfly Conference, she was having trouble getting around, and so sat down and waited at a park bench for our return. When we got back, we told her what we had seen, and she topped us all by stating that a rattlesnake had slithered past where she was sitting. We will both miss her dearly.

Tom & Cathy Dodd

I met Lyn in the early 1990's, probably before I even joined the Massachusetts Butterfly Club. She delighted in leading butterfly walks, especially for families with young children. In 1995, I brought my daughter to one of these walks in Grafton. She introduced all of us "kids" to the life cycle of the Monarch, pointing out eggs and larvae to eager young minds. I was pleasantly surprised to see the Grafton TV channel still showing this walk just about two years ago! Once I became a member of the Club and started attending field trips, I came to truly realize Lyn's phenomenal knowledge of butterflies. In her later years, she would often sit near the beginning of a trail and wait for the leader's and our return. Then we would all be astonished with what butterflies she had seen while just patiently sitting still and watching!

Lyn was extremely committed to educating the public and promoting a love for butterflies. She once invited me to her home and graciously offered me the Club's collection of slides to use for talks I was then giving about butterflies and the Club at libraries, garden clubs, etc. Every July, Lyn led a combined field trip near the back side of the Leicester airport for both the Forbush Bird Club and Massachusetts Butterfly Club. She called it "Birds and Butterflies." Lyn would excitedly greet everyone as they arrived, and call them over to her car to examine the butterfly "road kill" she had found that morning. She intended to teach each participant about that butterfly even after its recent demise! Her enthusiasm was so infectious that I happily agreed some years later to take over as leader for this Birds and Butterflies field trip. She was such fun that I only hope that I can continue to provide even a semblance of her dedication to the joys of butterfly and bird watching.

Dolores Price

There are four things I fondly remember about Lyn:

She was so instrumental in the formation of the Massachusetts Butterfly Club. She was not only treasurer for many years, but always ready to jump in when something needed to be done, and provided structure and organization for the club.

She was always ready with a quick warm smile and a happy disposition.

When she had trouble walking in her later years, she would go on butterfly walks, and while everyone else was racing out to cover as much ground as they could, she would stay in one place and watch the butterflies come into view - and usually come up with quite an impressive list.

Lyn was a fellow caterpillar rescuer.

Madeline Champagne

It was always the best when Mom came home from one of her birding trips. We would spend time together updating her world bird count in her checklist books. I would curse because the birds were all listed taxonomically and I could never find them for her. I always swore I would someday write them out alphabetically and cure everyone's headache but she knew right where to find them and list the dates in her book. The best part was listening to her stories of what had happened on the trip, adventures with a sloth, army ants, bogs, koalas, and yes, believe it or not, lions and tigers and bears, oh my. As she talked about those adventures, she was always planning her next trip. The two places she always wanted to get to were Antarctica and Alaska. She made it as close as Tierra del Fuego and looked across the Straits of Magellan at Antarctica, but never quite got to Alaska.

She loved her family, her friends, her rug hooking, and all her hobbies, BUT when you mentioned a rare sighting of a butterfly, bird, or whatever creature, it was off in the car to see what she could see, so we could share another story. The adventuresome stories she recalled, and I imagined in my head as I listened, made memories that convince me she is still out there bird watching and chasing butterflies every day.

Jeffrie Lovell

I knew Lyn for quite a long while. We were naturalist pals who shared many natural history adventures, often pleasant, always interesting, sometimes even harrowing. It began with birds. We belonged to the Forbush Bird Club, attending meetings and going on club trips. Soon we got involved with more serious matters. Lyn and I were partners on many Christmas Bird Counts. Lyn knew the birds and could identify most species likely to occur in Massachusetts. She even found some rare birds. An example is in March 2012 at Louisa Lake in Milford, Lyn found and correctly identified a Black-Headed Gull. I got excellent photos of the bird and it was seen by many Worcester County birders.

Next came the butterflies. During the Massachusetts Audubon Society Butterfly Atlas Project (in which Brian Cassie was a prime mover), Lyn got out and found collecting sites, collected butterflies, and learned to identify them. I consider that this project became largely a technical failure but was a great educational accomplishment. A lot of folks got out and discovered butterflies, developing great interest in them and love of them. Brian organized the enthusiastic group into a Massachusetts Butterfly Club. Lyn was an active founding member.

Lyn was a very bright person with many interests and talents. She was friendly and kind, with a great sense of humor and great diplomatic skills. I greatly miss her.

R.W. Hildreth



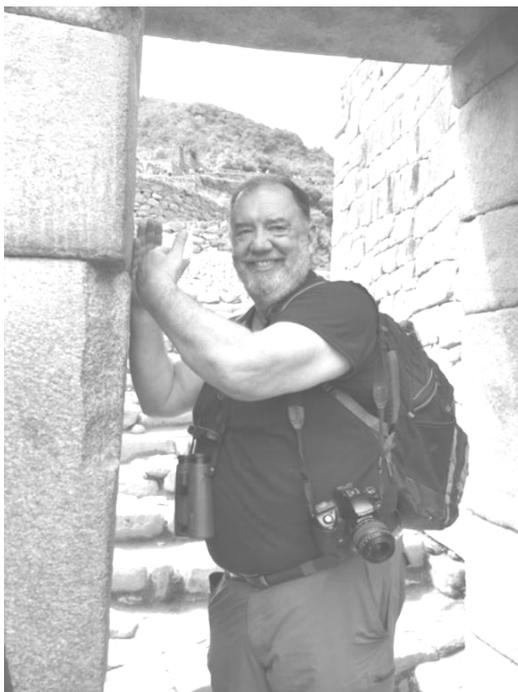
Common Buckeye (*Junonia coenia*), 8/10/19,
West Roxbury, MA, Lucy Merrill-Hills

The Butterflies of Massachusetts

Tom Tynning

Were you a young naturalist as a child, and what was that like growing up?

Born and growing up in the city of Holyoke one might not think there were a lot of opportunities to experience nature. In Kindergarten, however, the first school field trip I was ever on, our teacher brought us to Mt. Tom and that's all it took. By mid-elementary age, we moved to an old farmhouse on the edge of Chicopee – surrounded by forest, fields, and a stream. Frogs, turtles, birds, snakes, stars, and butterflies were all around for the watching and sometimes catching. It was a remarkable place to grow up. Eventually, we moved to Easthampton, on the other side of Mt. Tom and adjacent to Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary, and I spent my high school years really honing observation skills thanks to local naturalists like Tom Gagnon, Helen Bates, Rudd Stone, Bill Thompkins, Robie Hubley, and many others.



What got you interested in butterflying?

I tried to learn butterflies in elementary school since they abounded where I was. I had a copy of the Petersen Field Guide but it

was tough for me to match what I was seeing to those photos and I didn't have anyone around who could help me work it out. I focused then on larger things (thank goodness for vertebrates)! It wasn't until Mass Audubon's Butterfly Atlas project that I really began to dive back in and I was lucky enough to have several field naturalists (like Edna Dunbar) to work with.

Do you keep a butterfly life list?

I began to record a lot of species and keep notes around that farmhouse. But, I didn't know what a life list was in those days. Still, I began to write the dates and locations of butterflies in the field guide. I still don't have a life list – it makes every butterfly brand new to me!

You have an amazing and wide range of natural history interests. Can you tell us about some of those?

When I did meet teachers or other folks with an interest in Natural History I was impressed with their knowledge of local and distant phenomena, and their ability to communicate effectively. Most were really fascinated by the natural world as the science of Ecology was just being formulated. It seemed to me then (and now) that a solid grounding in many aspects of the natural world could really enhance my appreciation of what I see. It's tough to look at a butterfly and not want to understand its ecological requirements, from soil moisture to food plant to nectar sources and the interactions that go on with every other living thing in their ecological community. I've been lucky enough in my years working with Audubon and teaching at Springfield College, Antioch University, and now Berkshire Community college to learn more about many subjects. This has led me to teach courses in Herpetology, Field Entomology, Astronomy and the Night Sky, Ornithology, Field Research Methods, and the standards. Though small in number, I've been able to lead tours to (for example) the Pine Barrens of New Jersey, the Florida Everglades, the American Southwest, the Mexico Highlands, Galapagos Islands, and several countries in Central and South America. Turns out that while those locales are totally incredible, there's no place like home, and it's here where there is so much more to investigate.

What butterfly do you look forward to the most every year?

Of course, the first butterfly of the year of any species is breathtaking – I've even found Mourning Cloaks semi-hibernated under rocks on Mt. Greylock. But, there's nothing like a fresh Coral Hairstreak to get one really excited.

What butterfly would you travel the furthest to see?

I have been lucky enough to travel to a few places around the world to gasp at organisms I had only read about or seen pictures. A small group of Blue Morpho wings under a Golden Orb Weaver web was impressive while a live adult floated nearby in the Peruvian Amazon. I've only been close to a Queen Alexandra's Birdwing – missing it by a couple of weeks on a visit to eastern Australia. That's one I'd love to really see for sure. Maybe this May when I get back there!

What's your favorite Massachusetts butterfly and why?

Well, I was lucky enough to get invited to see the wintering grounds of the Monarch just a couple of years after all the sites were discovered, and every time I see one floating over a Massachusetts meadow, I can't help but bring that spectacle back. The Monarch is a remarkable butterfly with an incredible connection to the history of science, conservation, and natural history. You just gotta love 'em!



Monarch
(*Danaus
plexippus*),
8/4/19,
Medfield,
MA, Walt
Webb

What do you see as the greatest challenges facing Massachusetts butterflies, and do you have any ideas about solutions?

The general problem of more citizens backing away from nature – not letting their kids outside (especially alone) in the forest, being afraid of any “bug” that’s out there, and the over-emphasized fear of insect-borne diseases — has made it tough for anyone interested in the conservation of butterflies. The efforts to protect “native pollinators” and bees in general has been a good (but small) step forward as has been a push to encourage more backyards being planted for birds and butterflies. Part of the good news is that many butterflies have minimal home ranges

(continued p. 17)



new 1st instar



late 1st instar



2nd instar



3rd instar



5th instar



5th instar "J" pre-chrysalis



Monarchs (*Danaus plexippus*), captive reared, 8/22/19, Waltham, MA. Above left, a few minutes prior to emergence; above center, beginning emergence; above right, 4 minutes later. Adult with wings expanded at right. All photos, including caterpillar life stages, by Linda Graetz.





Common Buckeyes (*Junonia coenia*),
7/31/19, Shrewsbury, MA, Bruce
deGraaf



Pink-striped Oakworm Moths (*Anisota
virginiensis*), 7/5/19, New Marlborough,
MA, Bill Benner



“Karner” Melissa Blues (*Lycaeides
melissa samuelis*), 7/27/19, Concord, NH,
Lucy Merrill-Hills



Least Skipper (*Ancyloxypha numitor*),
8/15/19, Shrewsbury, MA, Bruce deGraaf



Eastern Tailed-
Blues (*Everes
comyntas*),
7/24/19,
Shrewsbury,
MA, Bruce
deGraaf



Marjorie Felton Watson and I went to the Karner Blue Easement in Concord, NH, to see the second brood of the endangered Karner Blue butterfly on 7/27/19. The butterfly needs a sandy habitat and Wild Blue Lupine, and it is the state butterfly of New Hampshire. We saw a total of fourteen species, including seventeen Karner Blues with one mating pair, as well as four other butterfly species we were seeing for the first time this year (White Admiral, Coral Hairstreak, Gray Hairstreak and Horace's Duskywing).

The above photo gives you an idea of the size of the Karner Blue butterfly. This butterfly first landed on my pant leg, then flew up to my hand, seeking salts from the sweat on my skin. After a few minutes, I held my hand up to Marj's finger, and the butterfly climbed on.

Lucy Merrill-Hills



Common
Wood-Nymph
(*Cercyonis
pegala*),
7/19/19, New-
buryport, MA,
Bo Zaremba



Dusted Skipper (*Atrytonopsis hianna*),
6/15/19,
Montague,
MA, Kyle
Bradford

Giant Swallowtail (*Papilio cresphontes*), 7/19/19, Williamstown,
MA, Pam Weatherbee



Variegated Fritillary (*Euptoieta claudia*), 8/4/19, Medfield, MA, Walt Webb

Ocola Skipper (*Panoquina ocola*),
8/24/19, South Hadley, MA,
Ted Gilliland



Eastern Comma (*Polygonia comma*),
8/10/19, Sheffield, MA, Alan Rawle



so that conservation of even small parcels of land can be turned into success stories.

Do you think there are any unique challenges and advantages in the Berkshires compared to the rest of the state?

We certainly have more conservation land and a greater elevational variation than any other part of the Commonwealth giving us a breadth of butterfly landscapes that is impressive to say the least. However, the push for more development to help many towns with limited ability to grow economically does bode poorly for conservation. Still, with land trusts, non-profits, state, and federal agencies there are more acres being considered to be added to those already in place and that is a hopeful sign. Of course, we have a relatively small human population compared to the rest of the state and while that has some advantages it also means we have fewer people documenting our natural communities, including butterfly populations. Come on out and help us find more!

You spend so much of your time teaching young people. Can you share some of the rewards of that, and do you have any thoughts about effective ways for all of us to engage young folks in nature in general, and butterflies in particular, in this digital age?

People of all ages are funny. Many have pre-conceived ideas about a lot of things, including landscapes and the environment. Younger people may be more inclined to be completely fascinated by what you can show them, but it's not that different from college students (or adults) who have never seen the intricate details on the underside of a hairstreak or the stunning dorsal pattern of a Baltimore Checkerspot. Show them (preferably outdoors) this and the experience remains with them. Let them do the digital stuff themselves (show them iNaturalist, or eBird, or others) while you (we) show them the real world, even in their own backyard. It's important to remind people that we have something few other locations in the world have – an impressive mix of landscapes that still function well and are filled with an array of organisms that are fascinating on many levels. It's up to us to find out what level might interest them at their age and experience.

Can you share something fun about yourself that most of us don't know?

OMG. I can't cook; I can't play an instrument. I can't paint or draw. I am completely useless in the world of fine arts. I do see the humor in all our endeavors and try to remind myself that enjoying life is as much of a goal as anything one can achieve.



4th of July Counts for 2019

It seemed to me the butterflying started off very slow at the beginning of July. Numbers were not out there—some variety but, no numbers. Fritillaries especially were very low in numbers and continued to be low in numbers right into September. 42 Meadow Fritillaries on the North Berkshire Count stood out amongst all the Fritillaries reported.

Hairstreaks were also very low in numbers except 27 Banded Hairstreaks on the Central Franklin Count, and 28 Coral Hairstreaks on the Central Berkshire Count. Hairstreak numbers continued low for the rest of the Summer. Just as the count period started, we started receiving a few reports of America Snouts. The Northampton and South Berkshire Counts each recorded one each. Many more were reported just after the counts ended.



Variegated Fritillary (*Euptoieta claudia*), 8/26/19,
Mattapoissett, MA, Mark Rosenstein

The brushfoots were the only group to show good numbers. The Commas, Ladies, Red Admiral and Buckeyes were up in numbers, especially the Red Admirals and Buckeyes early this year in June. 222 Monarchs on the Northern Worcester Count was outstanding compared to the last few years.



Common Sootywing (*Pholisora catullus*), 7/21/19,
South Hadley, MA, Bill Benner

67 Common Sootywings on the Northampton Count stands out since there were only 2 other individuals reported. Largest number of a single species reported was European Skippers: 1,394 on the North Berkshire Count, beating out the 1,326 Cabbage Whites reported on the Northampton Count. Congratulations to the Northern Essex Count for tallying 3 Indian Skippers by holding their count early this year on June 22nd. The skipper numbers were down and continued in low numbers the rest of the Summer. Finally, the 1 Pepper & Salt Skipper on the North Berkshire Count was found to be in good shape for being so late on the top of Mt. Greylock. The 3 Variegated Fritillaries found on the Truro Count was outstanding.

The 17 species that were each seen on only one count was the most single sightings in the last 10 years. Also, 11 species were found on only 2 counts. Thank you to all the count compilers for giving of their time to compile all the information. An extra special big THANK YOU to Karl Barry for taking all the numbers sent in by the compilers and arranging the numbers into columns for the journal.

Tom Gagnon

July Count 2019	Black Swallowtail	Giant Swallowtail	Eastern Tiger Swallowtail	Canadian Tiger Swallowtail	Spicebush Swallowtail	Mustard White	Cabbage White	Clouded Sulphur	Orange Sulphur	American Copper	Bronze Copper
Northern Berkshire	1		97	42			94	14	9		1
Central Berkshire			40	1		61	23	12	2		
Southern Berkshire	2	1	33		1		20	14	4		
Central Franklin	7		55		4		191	32	4	28	
Northampton	22		22		5		1326	74	18	18	
Northern Worcester	57		71		2		66	39	8	15	
Northern Essex	2		2		2		3		2	2	
Blackstone Corridor	6		2		4		11	30	6	11	
Falmouth	3				7			6	11	3	
Brewster	4		2		4		49		12	48	
Truro	2		11		4		14	2	12	97	

July Count 2019	Bog Copper	Coral Hairstreak	Acadian Hairstreak	Edwards' Hairstreak	Banded Hairstreak	Hickory Hairstreak	Striped Hairstreak	Juniper Hairstreak	Gray Hairstreak	Eastern Tailed-Blue	Cherry Gall Azure
Northern Berkshire		6			6	3			1		
Central Berkshire		28	3		6					1	2
Southern Berkshire		1			8					2	
Central Franklin	838	5			27		2		1	7	
Northampton					6				2	8	
Northern Worcester							1		1	5	
Northern Essex											
Blackstone Corridor		4			2				17	33	
Falmouth		3		8	1				7	19	
Brewster		22							3	3	
Truro	40	4		3			2	1	1		

July Count 2019	'Summer' Spring Azure	American Snout	Variegated Fritillary	Great Spangled Fritillary	Aphrodite Fritillary	Atlantis Fritillary	Silver-bordered Fritillary	Meadow Fritillary	Pearl Crescent	Baltimore Checkerspot	Question Mark
Northern Berkshire	2			12	3	1		42	3	10	5
Central Berkshire	7			6		4			1		4
Southern Berkshire	9	1		3				13	2		8
Central Franklin	15			28	2		5			13	5
Northampton	30	1		4			6		46	16	8
Northern Worcester	22			9					37		4
Northern Essex							3		8		5
Blackstone Corridor	8			5			3		9	45	11
Falmouth									23		
Brewster									38		5
Truro	5		3						1		1

July Count 2019	Eastern Comma	Mourning Cloak	Milbert's Tortoiseshell	American Lady	Painted Lady	Red Admiral	Common Buckeye	Red-spotted Admiral	White Admiral	Red-spotted Purple	Viceroy
Northern Berkshire	2	1		7	3	46			23	22	3
Central Berkshire	4	2		3		21	2	8			
Southern Berkshire	15	1		1	3	21				6	
Central Franklin	12		1	12	2	42	1	17	2		1
Northampton	14			4	8	94				6	27
Northern Worcester	8	1		4	2	10	19	6			7
Northern Essex		1		2	7	7	1			2	2
Blackstone Corridor	4	4		10	5	19	23	1			3
Falmouth				23			5				
Brewster		1		7	3	11	7				
Truro				15	5	17	3			1	

July Count 2019	Tawny Emperor	Northern Pearly-Eye	Eyed Brown	Appalachian Brown	Little Wood-Satyr	Common Ringlet	Common Wood-Nymph	Monarch	Silver-spotted Skipper	Hoary Edge	Southern Cloudwying
Northern Berkshire		5	1	17	4	14	2	36	19		
Central Berkshire		4	7	3	2	1	8	49	5		
Southern Berkshire	2			6	8	12		15	22		
Central Franklin			9	8	8			41	47	5	2
Northampton		1		7	3		35	139	39		
Northern Worcester		4	1	6	8	57	108	222	15		
Northern Essex					13	63		13	4		
Blackstone Corridor				4	45		66	74	30		
Falmouth							28	57	2		
Brewster				1	2		32	82	6		
Truro				7	22		25	13	22		

July Count 2019	Northern Cloudywing	Horace's Duskywing	Wild Indigo Duskywing	Common Sootywing	Least Skipper	European Skipper	Fiery Skipper	Indian Skipper	Peck's Skipper	Tawny-edged Skipper	Crossline Skipper
Northern Berkshire	4				21	1394			32	1	2
Central Berkshire						58			9	1	
Southern Berkshire					15	47			11	1	2
Central Franklin	1		2	1	14	42	1		14	4	4
Northampton			18	67						1	
Northern Worcester		2	28	1		1					2
Northern Essex					6	50		3	22	7	
Blackstone Corridor	1	1	7		1	1					1
Falmouth			7								1
Brewster		4			6					2	
Truro					8	6					1

July Count 2019	Long Dash	Northern Broken-Dash	Little Glassywing	Delaware Skipper	Mulberry Wing	Hobomok Skipper	Broad-winged Skipper	Dion Skipper	Black Dash	Two-spotted Skipper	Dun Skipper	Pepper and Salt Skipper
Northern Berkshire	22	4	5			9		1			11	1
Central Berkshire	1	7	3								17	
Southern Berkshire	5	13	19	3		4					11	
Central Franklin		8	9	15						1	8	
Northampton		22		1	4				7		26	
Northern Worcester		12	4		3						16	
Northern Essex	65											
Blackstone Corridor		8	1	18	12				6		21	
Falmouth		9		2							6	
Brewster		44					17				40	
Truro		13		4			1				69	

July Counts 2019 Summary	No. of Individuals	No. of Species	No. of Participants	Party Hours	Date	Compiler
Northern Berkshire	2064	48	14	41.5	July 7	Tom Tying
Central Berkshire	416	37	11	26	July 13	Tom Tying
Southern Berkshire	365	39	13	31	July 5	Rene Wendell
Central Franklin	1608	49	12	35.5	July 4	Mark Fairbrother
Northampton	2135	37	8	26	July 21	Mark Fairbrother
Northern Worcester	921	39	11	34	July 27	Wendy Howes
Concord	No count in 2019					Dick Walton
Northern Essex	297	26	11	45	June 22	Russ Hopping
Blackstone Corridor	573	42	9	17	July 13	Tom Dodd
Bristol	Count results not available					Mark Mello
Falmouth	231	21	4	24	July 20	Joe Dwelly
Brewster	455	27	5	12	July 27	Joe Dwelly
Truro	435	34	6	54	July 13	Mark Faherty



Mulberry Wing (*Poanes massasoit*), 7/7/19, Ware, MA, Garry Kessler

Frosted Elfin-Wild Indigo Duskywing Conservation Project in Foxboro

Brian Cassie

In Foxboro, there is an area of water department property with an historically good matrix of fields with rather poor soil that supports Wild Indigo, the foodplant for two very interesting butterflies - the rather uncommon Wild Indigo Duskywing and the state-endangered and candidate for national listing Frosted Elfin.

In the spring and summer of 2019, inspired by the wonderful projects of the British organization Butterfly Conservation, I initiated a project here; namely, to improve the project site habitat by removing vegetation that was restricting Wild Indigo growth and spread. The primary focus of the work was pulling Sweet Fern shrubs and after many, many visits to the site (usually in the early morning with my two dogs along) and the extraction of precisely 25,000 plants, I am delighted to report that the fields at summer's end were looking splendid. The Wild Indigo Duskywings did quite well in their second flight and hopefully the caterpillars of the spring-flying elfins found much to munch on and will produce an excellent flight of Frosted Elfins this May and June.

I have Butterfly Conservation to thank for their continuing splendid efforts to help conserve butterflies and their habitats. How could I read about so many of their locally-centered projects and not get involved myself? Got a few wasp stings along the way and two callused index fingers but it was well worth it!

I am very grateful to my friend, Foxboro resident Jonathan Glover, for his help in removing small White Pines in late winter, before the ground thawed and the caterpillars became active.

Anyone who would like to roll up their sleeves for the skippers and elfins should contact me at brianrfg@aol.com or 508-543-3512. Many of the Sweet Ferns will sprout again from rootstock. This is water department land and no herbicides can be applied....only elbow grease.



Frosted Elfin
(*Callophrys irus*),
5/18/19, Andover, MA,
Howard Hoople

Submission of Articles, Illustrations, and Season Records

We encourage all members to contribute to *Massachusetts Butterflies*. Articles, illustrations, photographs, butterfly field trip reports, garden reports, and book reviews are all welcome, and should be sent to the Editor at:

bill@massbutterflies.org by August 31 for the Fall issue, and January 31 for the Spring issue.

Send NABA Fourth of July count results to Karl Barry at:

karl@massbutterflies.org by **August 15** for inclusion in the Fall issue. Send your season sightings and records to Mark Fairbrother at:

mark@massbutterflies.org by **December 15** (or earlier if possible!) for inclusion in the Spring issue. Records may now be submitted via the online checklist and reporting form, which is available for download from our website at:

<http://www.massbutterflies.org/club-publications.asp>

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Atlantis Fritillary (*Speyeria atlantis*),
7/19/19, Washington, MA, Mark Rosenstein



'Summer' Spring Azure (*Celastrina ladon neglecta*),
7/27/19, Stockbridge, MA, Dawn Vesey