



Washington Butterfly Association

G'n^um*

The newsletter of the Washington Butterfly Association

P.O. Box 31317 Seattle WA 98103
www.naba.org/chapters/nabaws

*G'n^um is the official greeting of WBA. It is derived from the name of common Washington butterfly food plants, of the genus *Eriogonum*.

WBA Meeting Programs / Events

WBA meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month. They are held at the UW Center for Urban Horticulture (3501 NE 41st Street, Seattle) and begin at 7:00 p.m. The first fifteen minutes are used for social reception and viewing of displays.

May 3

Prairie Appreciation Days in Littlerock from 10am to 4pm Day at Thurston County's Glacial Heritage Preserve. WBA will have a table at this event. Directions from I-5 exit 95 and more information is available on their website: <http://www.prairieappreciationday.org/>

May 6

“Creating and Maintaining a Successful Butterfly Garden” by David Droppers

Want to create a habitat for many of the declining urban and suburban butterflies? Want to help offset the destruction of our remaining habitat? Learn some of the tricks to gardening for butterflies in a region that is not quite like any other in the U.S. Have your garden shimmering with Azures in the spring, graced by Swallowtails in the summer, and dancing with Skippers in the fall. Presentation will focus on west of the Cascades but will address the east as well.

May 10

Tukwila: Backyard Wildlife Fair 9am to 5pm at Tukwila Community Center, 12424 42nd Ave S, Tukwila. WBA will have a table at this event.
<http://www.backyardwildlifefair.org/>

May 10

Health and Green Living Fair 10am to 3pm at Trinity Lutheran Church at 6215 196th St SW, Lynnwood
WBA will have a table at this event.

June 4

“Exciting New Ventures in the World of Butterflies” by Jonathan Pelham

Our own Science Advisor and now Vice President of the national Lepidopterist Society, Jon Pelham, has been working on a variety of exciting national projects. He is the author of the recent publication The Catalog of the Butterflies of the United States and Canada and will describe how the catalog is created and functions. He will also present the exciting new national butterfly website which should be up and running by this meeting. This will become one of the most complete butterfly websites in the world.

July 27-29

Annual Conference in Dayton and the Blue Mountains.

WBA Mission Statement

The Washington Butterfly Association is devoted to scientific understanding and enjoyment of butterflies and their ecology through conservation and education.

Hooray! The field season is here. Schnebley Canyon was frozen out, but a great set of other trips is lined up, including annual conference trips led by David James, who is highly familiar with the butterflies near Dayton. Now, if only the rain gods are kind and do their thing mid-week instead of on weekends, it should be a great season.

Going into spring, we have three "tabling" opportunities lined up to let people know we exist and strut our stuff, the first at Prairie Appreciation Day on May 3, others in Tukwila and Lynnwood a week later. Do you know of others we should be doing?

Once again, kudos to Joyce Bergen who has provided heroic service in lining up the venue, meals, and other details for our annual conference, including scoping out places to stay.

For a couple of years, I've made short videos of various WBA field trips, showing some of the people, settings, and butterflies we've seen. This year, I'll again show the most recent at the back of room while we are socializing before the "species profile" and formal program start. I'll also post them on Youtube. To facilitate searching, each title will begin with "WBA to . . ." and finish with destination and date. Youtube doesn't have great resolution but let's us share experiences. To find a sample from last year go to Youtube.com and search with **WBA to Reecer**.

As always, feel free to contact me to discuss or comment on the above or anything else related to WBA.

Al
President

Wagar

Washington Native Plant Society Spring Sales

Salal Chapter's 9th Annual Spring Plant Sale

Date Saturday, April 26, 2008

Time 10 a.m.-noon

Location Native Plant Garden area of the Skagit Display Gardens located at WSU-NWREC (16650 State Highway 536) in Mount Vernon, WA.

Plant List Expect to find a good selection of native trees, shrubs, perennials, groundcovers and ferns.

Central Puget Sound Chapter Spring Plant Sale

Date Saturday, May 10, 2008

Time 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Location Bellevue Botanical Garden
12001 Main St
Bellevue, WA

http://www.wnps.org/chapter_info/chapter_sales.html

WBA Noticeline

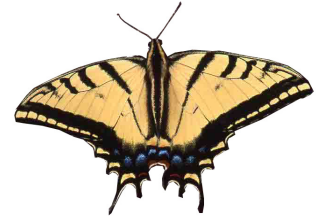
It is time to re-signup for the WBA Noticeline. The WBA Noticeline is a free "opt-in" service for members of the Butterfly Association. Selected scientific butterfly articles, general information and announcements are E-mailed to those who wish to receive it. Members often contribute articles to this service. We are careful not to share your addresses, send non-WBA information or to overuse this service.

Class - Butterflies of the Puget Sound Region

Instructor Idie Ulsh, Past President Seattle Audubon, Washington Butterfly Association Founding President

Co-sponsored by Seattle Audubon & Washington Butterfly Association.

This relaxed and informative class is designed for people who wish to learn about local butterflies. It includes natural history, butterfly gardening, and butterfly photography. Tips will be given on identification of thirty of the most common species of this region. Classes are photo based.



Classes: Tuesdays; May 20th, 27th and June 3rd 7-9PM;

Field Session: May 24

Location: CUH, Douglas Classroom

Cost: \$75 members, \$90 nonmembers (either Seattle Audubon or WA Butterfly Assoc.)
Lecture only \$55 members, \$70 nonmembers

Update Swallowtail Seasons: The First Butterfly Big Year

March 12, 2008 - Bob has had quite a trip so far, starting from his home in Gray's River, Washington, then heading down the Pacific coast through Oregon and into California in search of overwintering monarchs, West Coast ladies, gulf fritillaries, buckeyes, and cabbage whites. In spite of darkened clouds and driving rain, Bob managed to see more than a few monarchs, particularly around the Bay area, and even spotted a few spring whites and brown elfins.

Crossing into the Yucca Valley and observing a few more monarchs, Bob then traveled south, past the Salton Sea, and down to Calexico near the Mexican border, with the weather never quite on his side. Though the rains did bring to life a profusion of desert flowers, the butterflies were not as forthcoming. Heading into California's famous Death Valley, a seemingly inhospitable land that Bob says "seems like the largest landscape in the world," he spotted North America's tiniest butterfly, the Pygmy Blue.

After spending a bit more time searching for butterflies in California, Bob headed back home for a bit of re-tooling and respite before returning to the Central Valley, where a West Coast Lady and a Mourning Cloak peeked out from the incessant wind and rain. Moving into Nevada and Arizona and traveling along the Colorado River, and in a patch of purple and yellow flowers below the Hoover Dam, Bob observed great numbers of painted ladies. Then, into cold and windy west Texas, he spotted a lonely Western White.

As of March 3rd, Bob had positively identified at least 30 different species of North American butterflies, and expects this number to increase dramatically as he heads further south and east to what we hope will be better weather. We will continue to post Bob's messages, postcards, and souvenirs from the journey on our website at http://www.xerces.org/Butterfly_Conservation/butterflyathon.html, and will send out periodic updates of his progress. We hope that you will continue to join us in Bob Pyle's First Butterfly Big Year, and we very much appreciate your support of our Butterfly-A-Thon. Thanks again!

From Sean Tenney, Development and Administrative Associate
The Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation | 4828 SE Hawthorne Blvd., Portland, OR 97215

The Xerces Society is an international, nonprofit organization that protects wildlife through the conservation of invertebrates and their habitat.



Fritillaries belong to the very large worldwide family Nymphalidae, the Brushfoots. All fritillaries have a similar appearance dorsally, tawny-orange to carrot-orange with a complex pattern of black lines and dashes. Fritillaries are divided into two groups, the greater and the lesser fritillaries. The greater “frits” are generally larger and have separated oval spots, often silvered, on the ventral hindwing (vhw). The lesser frits are smaller and have white or yellow vhw spots (silvered in one species) which are usually not oval in shape, or if oval are clustered and touching. All nine of our greater fritillaries are in the genus *Speyeria*, and all six of our lesser fritillaries are in the genus *Boloria*.

Only two of our lesser fritillaries are widespread and easily found in Washington, while the other four are localized to rare. *Boloria bellona* is one of our relatively rare species, found in only a few places in the State. Small localized populations occur in northern Washington in Okanogan and Ferry Counties, and additional outlier populations have been reported in the mountainous parts of Spokane, Whitman and Columbia Counties in the east and southeast of Washington. Populations fluctuate from year to year and in some years it can be quite difficult to find this species at all. Beyond Washington *Boloria bellona* has a wide range across nearly all of middle and southern Canada and throughout the northeast quarter of the US where it is common and spreading. The rarity of the Meadow Fritillary in Washington is owing to this area being on the extreme western fringe of the species’ range.

In Washington the Meadow Fritillary is believed to be double-brooded, while in other regions it has been reported to be single, double or triple brooded; multiple broods typically occur in areas with warmer climates and longer growing seasons. In Washington first-brood adults lay their eggs in mid to late June, on or in close proximity to their violet food plants near seeps or boggy areas. The pale yellow eggs have a truncated cone shape with numerous ribs, each rib with many small lateral cross-grooves, a morphology which is typical for all fritillaries. After hatching the larvae quickly feed up on the leaves of

their violet host plants, reaching the final instar, pupating and then eclosing to 2nd brood adults all within 30 days after the eggs were laid. The mature larva is mottled grayish-purple, with a cluster of short brown unbranched spines sprouting from each of six bullae on each segment. There is a white dorsolateral stripe along each side of the caterpillar, with a contrasting black band below this stripe. The larva grows to about one inch before pupating to a mostly gray chrysalis, with indentations and spiny projections, hanging suspended from a silk pad (cremaster), but lacking a silk girdle. Little is known about the second brood in Washington, but judging by the rapid larval development in captivity the wild second brood should be on the wing by mid to late July. Adults have been reported in Washington from late May to early July (with some gaps), suggesting that the second brood is very poorly documented and is possibly much smaller in numbers than the first brood. In other areas the species is reported as overwintering in the 3rd or 4th larval instar.

On the dorsal surface the adult Meadow Fritillary looks much like its far more common cousin the Western Meadow Fritillary, *Boloria epithore*. Dorsally the two species are best separated by wing shape, *B. bellona* having distinctly truncated (squared) wing tips while those of *B. epithore* are evenly rounded. Ventrally the two species are easily differentiated by color and patterns on the vhw. While both species have broad pinkish bands on the outer half of the vhw, that of *B. bellona* is darker, more purplish, and is heavily infused with whitish-gray, imparting a mottled contrasting appearance. The inner half of the vhw is also different, *B. epithore* having much more distinct bright yellow clustered oval spots, while those of *B. bellona* are heavily infused with black scales giving a much darker appearance. Males patrol conspicuously looking for females in open forest areas bordered by grassy meadows and boggy streams, in the vicinity of violets, particularly their favored *Viola canadensis*. Females generally stay low in the vegetation and out of sight, and are best found by walking through the area and flushing them to flight or when being pursued by amorous males.

2007 General Membership Field Trips

Non-consumptive appreciation of butterflies is central to our purpose and basic to our approach. This is the guiding principal behind general membership field trips. Collecting of adult butterflies is not allowed on general membership field trips. Collecting of eggs and larval stages for rearing is accepted on the condition that individuals raised to adult stage are to be released at their original location.

Date	Destination	Trip Leader
March 29	3 - Schnebley between Ellensburg and Vantage	Dave Nunnallee
April 19	3 - Lower Umtanum (alt. Lower Swakane)	Dave Nunnallee
May 10	1 - Mima Mounds, Scatter Creek, etc. Thurston County	Bob Hardwick/Bill Yake
June 7	1 - Tahuya (alt. Umtanum or Swakane)	Idie Ulsh (alt. Dave Nunnallee)
June 14	1 - Beckler River, Jack's Pass, etc.	David Droppers/Al Wagar
June 16-20	Sinlahekin (best 3-day weather window) north of Chelan	Bob Hardwick
June 22	1 - Chumstick Fourth of July Count near Wenatchee (NABA trip)	Don Rolfs 509-662-7196
June 27-29	1-3 WBA Annual Conference, Dayton	See Registration Form
July 12	2 - Reecer Big Day near Ellensburg	David Nunnallee
July 19	2-3 Monte Cristo - Snohomish County near Granite Falls	David Droppers
August 2	4 - Sauk Mountain on North Cascades Highway 20 beyond Concrete	Al Wagar
August 9	2 - Haney Meadows near Ellensburg	Dave Nunnallee
August 23	3 - Snoqualmie Pass	Dave Nunnallee

DIFFICULTY RATINGS:

- 1 Easy, mostly by car, minor walking along roads
- 2 Fairly limited walking, some slopes involved.
- 3 Moderate, up to 1.5 miles walking with moderate slopes
- 4 Difficult, hiking on trails or terrain are steep in places.
- 5 Very difficult, extended hiking on trails or steep terrain.

HOW TO SIGN UP: Anyone can sign up for field trips at a WBA monthly meeting or by contacting WBA Vice-President: Donna Shaeffer at donut@u.washington.edu or 206-525-5328.

WHERE & WHEN TO MEET:

Trips will depart from the Ravenna Park & Ride at 7:00 a.m. unless expressly stated otherwise. The park & ride is located under I-5 at Ravenna Blvd between NE 50th & NE 65th St. We meet in the north half of the park & ride.

On request will also stop at the Issaquah Park & Ride at 7:30 a.m. To reach the Issaquah Park & Ride, take I-90 east to Issaquah, exit to the south via Exit 16, and go 3 blocks. The Park & Ride is on the left.

If you live in another part of the state, contact the trip coordinator to make arrangements to meet the field trip group.

FIELD TRIP PROTOCOLS:

All field trips are conducted by carpool-without the volunteer participation of drivers the trips are not possible.

If you have a car that you are willing to drive, please have the gas tank full and ready to go. Passengers are

expected to share gasoline expenses. It is suggested that each rider pay the driver ten cents per mile plus a share of any park entry fees, ferry fares, etc.

All WBA-sponsored field trips are fully insured through our parent organization, NABA.

Please tend to any personal matters, such as getting breakfast, coffee or gasoline, before the departure time so others are not delayed.

The trip leader will collect a voluntary donation of \$5 per person (children under 12 are free) for each field trip to help offset expenses of the organization.

SCHEDULING & WEATHER:

Weather is always a major factor for planning butterfly trips in Washington, particularly March through June. The key to dealing with weather is flexibility; our leaders reserve the right to make last-minute itinerary changes in order to provide you with the best possible butterfly experience.

On occasion it may be necessary to cancel or postpone an outing if the weather does not permit a viable alternative. The flow of the season is also important, and it may be necessary to adjust some trips to earlier or later dates to best match the seasonal weather patterns. WBA will make every effort to keep you informed of any changes.

CANCELLATIONS:

If you need to cancel, please remember to contact the trip coordinator as soon as you can so the group does not wait for you at the park & ride.



**Washington Butterfly
Association**
Ninth Annual Conference
Dayton, Washington
June 27 - 29



Join us as we return to Dayton and the Blue Mountains, site of the second WBA Annual Conference, where butterfly diversity is impressive. Habitats we will visit include Tucannon Valley meadows, riversides and woodlands, as well as high elevation rocky areas, giving us the opportunity to see a wide variety of butterfly species. The Blue Mountains are notable for the high diversity of butterfly species and as long as the sun is shining, the habitats we visit will display a good representation of this. Some of the notable species we expect to see, that don't occur in too many other places in WA.

Species we can expect to see, as listed by David James, include: "Ediths Copper (*Lycaena editha*), Hesperis Fritillary (*Argynnis (Speyeria) hesperis*) and perhaps the Great Basin Fritillary (*Argynnis (Speyeria) eglets*). It should be "fritillary heaven" with Hydaspe, Great Spangled and Zerene all guaranteed to be present! Five species of Swallowtails should also be present as well as the two Parnassian species and a myriad of Blues and Hairstreaks! If the sun shines we can guarantee you'll see anything from 30-50 species".

Conference program

Friday, June 27

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|-------------|---|
| 6:30–7:30pm | Check-in, registration, and refreshments |
| 7:30–8:30pm | Butterflies of the Blue Mountain Region presented by David Nunnallee. Dave will share his excellent photos of the butterflies occurring in this region and give tips on identifying them. He will also review the habitats of our Saturday and Sunday field trips and why they are unique. Dave is the founding vice president of WBA and current coordinator of field trips. He has spent the past several years photographing and researching immature stages of butterflies of Cascadia for an upcoming book. |

Saturday, June 28

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|---------------|---|
| 8:30 | Meet for an all-day field trip |
| 9:00am–5:00pm | All-day field trip |
| 6:00pm | Dinner for those who signed up. |
| 7:30pm | Short business meeting, including election of officers. |
| 7:45pm | Saturday evening keynote speech: The Impact on Butterflies of Habitat Changes by Dr. David James. David is Associate Professor, Department of Entomology at Washington State University. He has done significant research during 2004-2007 on butterfly species incidence and abundance prior to and after a major fire, "the school fire", swept through the Blue Mountain area. His data documents the patterns of recovery and/or changes after forest fires. He will also address the impact of logging, pesticides and other habitat changes to butterfly populations. David has also spent the past few years photographing and researching immature stages of butterflies of Cascadia for an upcoming book. |

Sunday, June 29

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|---------------|--------------------------------|
| 8:30 | Meet for a half-day field trip |
| 9:00am–2:00pm | Half-day field trip |
| 2:00pm | Leave for home |

Please note that you are responsible for making your own lodging arrangements. All prices include tax, and were accurate for late June as quoted at press time. All have at least some air conditioning, unless otherwise noted.

Weinhard Hotel

235 E Main Street
Dayton, WA 99328
509-382-4032
www.weinhard.com

Very pleasant, spacious rooms with antiques. Close to conference meeting room. At press-time, 11 rooms available, \$98.91 – \$170.34; most sleep at least two. No fee for reservations cancelled at least seven days in advance. Book early; this is a popular place with wedding parties.

Blue Mountain Motel

Contact: Priyavaden Patel
414 W Main Street
Dayton, WA 99328
509-382-3040
www.bluemountainmotel.net
\$48.36 – 104.41

Mill House Lodging & Events

Contact: Larry & Mary Jeanne Smith
504 N 1st Street
Dayton, WA 99328
509-382-2393
www.millhouselodging.com
One cottage; \$137.38 – 170.35

The Guest House

Contact: Tammy Wepler
316 E Spring Street
Dayton, WA 99328
509-382-9033
www.daytonsguesthouse.com
\$150; AC installed soon

Dayton Cottage Rental

Contact: Bradley McMasters
117 W Dayton Avenue
Dayton, WA 99328
509-386-4750
One cottage, \$65

Purple House Bed & Breakfast

Contact: Christine Williscroft
415 E Clay Street
Dayton, WA 99328
509-382-3159
www.purplehousebnb.com
Information not available at press

The White Cottage

Contact: Melinda Murphy
212 E Patit Street
Dayton, WA 99328
509-382-3136
Information not available at press time

Dayton Motel

Contact: Priyavaden Patel
110 S Pine Street
Dayton, WA 99328
509-382-4503
\$49.46 – 76.93

The Last Resort (RV Park)

Contact: Jim & Angela MacArthur
2005 Tucannon Road
Pomeroy, WA 99347
509-843-1556
www.thelastresortrv.com
Tent sites also available

Tucannon River RV Park

Contact: Skip & Julia Mead
230 Mead Road
Dayton, WA 99328
888-399-2056
www.trrvpark.com
Tent sites also available

Cameron Court (RV Park)

Contact: Adam & Kelvin Hagel
522 W Cameron Court #27
Dayton, WA 99328
509-382-4410

Northworld Ventures (RV Park)

Contact: Marjorie Lowe
PO Box 65
Dayton, WA 99328
Phone: 509-382-1525

Shangrila RV Park

Contact: Gary Wilson
104 Rose Gulch Road
Dayton, WA 99328
509-382-1125

Umatilla National Forest Campgrounds

<http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/uma/recreation/campgrounds/pomeroy-cg.shtml#AlderThicket>

State Campgrounds

<http://www.parks.wa.gov/parks/southeast.asp>

Board Members

Al Wagar	President
Robin Lewis	Vice President
Donna Schaeffer	Secretary
Jennifer Kauffman	Treasurer
Maureen Traxler	Past-President
Jon Pelham	Science Advisor
Richard Youel	At-Large
David Droppers	At-Large
Carolyn Heberlein	Newsletter/Website

Committees

Marty Hanson	Membership
Joyce Bergen	Annual Conference
Bob Hardwick	Research Projects
David & Jo Nunnallee	Field Trips
Idie Ulsh	Programs

Membership Application

<https://wabutterflyassoc.org/membership/>