



Washington Butterfly
Association

*G'nun**

The newsletter of the Washington Butterfly Association

P.O. Box 31317 Seattle WA 98103

<http://wabutterflyassoc.org>

Facebook: Washington Butterfly Association. Instagram: #washingtonbutterflies. iNaturalist: Washington State Butterflies.

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



Four socially-distancing lepidopterists on the ridge at Slate Peak. L-R: John Baumann, Jim Reed and Cathy Clarke, with Brenda McCracken taking the photo.

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Upcoming Programs by Zoom

November 18 — The Moth Man, Carl Barrentine, will present with a few other moth-ers. (Spokane)

December 2— Managing for butterflies on Department of Natural Resources' Natural Areas: a delicate dance. David Wilderman, Natural Areas ecologist, and Regina Johnson, assistant Natural Areas ecologist for the west side. Managing South Puget prairies for the needs of butterflies and other grassland-dependent species in a conifer-dominated ecoregion. (Seattle)

January 20, 2021 — Tentatively - David Droppers. (Spokane)

Spring Azure on Camas at a Thurston County natural area preserve. (R. Johnson)



President's Message from Mary Schu

With COVID still present and no vaccination in sight, this year's WBA Officer's Fall Retreat, that normally takes place in Ellensburg at CWU, was done via Zoom. The positive of this was the almost three-hour drive to get there from Spokane and the almost three-hour drive home did not happen and was kind of a nice break this year. However, it was sad to not see everyone in person and camaraderie via Zoom is difficult.

During this year's retreat, we were able to complete the budget (which despite the pandemic doesn't look as awful as one would think) as well as discuss ways to do outreach during a pandemic in order to grow WBA's membership. Some ideas for outreach were...

contacting local newspapers, writing articles, contacting T.V. stations, and Instagram. During this retreat it was also decided to keep Seattle monthly meetings and Spokane monthly meetings via Zoom and when we are able to meet in person again, we will still try to Zoom these meetings. I am not sure if it's the pandemic, or if it's the great efforts by Carolyn and Melanie (Thank you, Carolyn and Melanie) on broadcasting these Zoom monthly meetings so everyone is aware of them or because the last monthly meeting was on Monarchs (the orange and black butterfly, not the yellow and black butterfly....heeheehee), but the turnout for people registered was over 100 and the amount that came (via Zoom) to the meeting was approximately 78 people from places all over Washington, from Montana, California, and I am sure other States I wasn't even aware were there. Wow! Amazing!!!



Praying Mantis. (M. Schu)



Painted Lady. (M. Schu)

As for butterflies and what I have been up to lately regarding these winged insects...well, with the snow in Spokane that fell on October 23rd of about 6.8", the butterflies have been quiet. However, since my message in August I have seen a large amount of California Tortoiseshells, especially on a drive around 49 Degrees North in late September. My sister and I counted over 150. Also, in late September I was able to take the back roads to Fishtrap Lake and to Sprague where

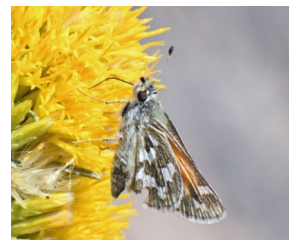
CA Tortoiseshell. (M. Schu)



there was a lot of blooming rabbitbrush, and I saw many Juba Skippers, a Painted Lady, Purplish Coppers, a beautiful moth and a Praying Mantis who looks to be gravid (not sure though) hiding in the rabbitbrush waiting for a meal. Just a reminder, Jon Pelham is still collecting butterfly data for the Washington State database he is building, you can email him those data at zapjammer@comcast.net.

Until next time, Mary Schu

Juba Skipper. (M. Schu)



Trip Report by Cheryl Bellin

Whistler basin off highway 20 in the north cascades is a meadow visited for WBA field trips in late July, early August. Taking a break from traveling gravel roads, I visited the meadow 19/Aug/2020 with an avid birder, photographer, hopefully new butterflyer. Past its prime we photographed far fewer species than typical earlier in the season: mountain parnassians, field crescents, blue and mariposa coppers.

I then followed my friend to the WA Pass overlook to photograph a bird that had eluded her lens in 2020. We found the opportunistic jay in the parking lot and we parted ways. Driving out of the lot, I noticed a greater fritillary basking on the road. As I approached, it fluttered ahead and landed. The third stop encouraged me that I had a chance to look more closely. Perusing my field guides, it appeared to be a *Coronis Fritillaria* female quite far afield. Upon release, I watched it fly further west presumably not quite ready to return to the shrub steppe.

Jonathan Pelham has one other *Coronis Fritillaria* record in the area that he'd observed 15/Aug/1976 further west at Rainy Pass. For more information on the *Coronis Fritillaria* here's a link to Jonathan's WBA presentation on the life cycle and altitudinal migration: <https://youtu.be/6MEjNYkt3Sk> and the James and Pelham (2011) publication is listed below. Knowing of their migration, I'm still wondering how far west she traveled and to where she returned.

James, D.G. and J.P. Pelham. 2011. *Journal of the Lepidopterists' Society* 65(4):249-255.

Trip Report: Slate Peak: It did not disappoint.

By Jim Reed

A small group of intrepid butterfly watchers made their way up the nasty road to the Slate Peak/ Harts Pass area around the first of August. As we puzzled out how to social distance and appropriate mask wearing strategies in the fresh mountain air, it became evident that the butterflies and other insects did not care. In the bright sunshine at 7440' elevation, we were treated to early morning visits from the stars of the show. We were able to get great photos of Melissa Arctics, Astarte Fritillary and a little later even the Lustrous Copper.

We identified a total of about 28 species over two days. The wild-flower season was in full swing with multiple nectar sources from the summit down into the lush meadows clear down to Harts Pass. The meadows were a little drier than years past but still afforded plentiful choices for butterflies. Especially common in the meadows were Vidler's Alpine and Mountain Parnassians. Arctic Blues and Anicia Checkerspots appeared to be especially abundant at all levels on the mountain.



Astarte Fritillary. (Cheryl Bellin)

The weekend started very well when we were able to net the Melissa Arctic. These butterflies are rarely seen in Washington as they are more common to the mountain tops of Canada. It was my first time seeing the Melissa Arctic in eight trips to Slate Peak. These fast flying butterflies have a two year life cycle which means it took me sixteen years to successfully see them in Washington! These butterflies glide up the warm scree slopes and when they settle down on the warm rocks to bask in the heat, their cryptic coloration makes them all but invisible. (see photo in Gnum Vol 21 No. 3)

The equally elusive Astarte Fritillary also graced us with a visit. These are members of the "Lesser Fritillaries" even though there is nothing less exciting than seeing these members of the genus *Boloria*. I sat on a pile of rocks along the ridge to the northwest of the summit, eagerly watching for the Melissa Arctic. I would see a few of these orange and black butterflies flying low in the rills and ripples of the rock slopes. They flew low to the ground (perhaps gathering heat radiating off the rocks) and would make their way near the ridgeline and abruptly turn around and glide back down - always just beyond reach.

The Melissa Arctics seemed to be what we call hill toppers as they were always near the actual rocky top that was flattened off in the 1950's for a radar dome. The Astarte was found - but rarely netted - all along the scree ridges that spread out from the summit. They seemed to like the warm eastern slopes out of the mainly westerly breezes.

The Astarte flew over pockets of flowers and patches of scattered greenery. They interacted with the Checkerspots, Anna's Blues and Mormon Fritillaries. As they chased each other over the edge of the ridge, as they sped past it seemed we could only net the checkerspots and Mormon Fritillaries. We would check to see if they were Anicia Checkerspots or their look-alike cousins, both *editha* and *hoffmanni* - were also flying. With identity confirmed, the more common butterflies were quickly released to continue their patrol, others got their pictures taken first!



Arctic Blues. (C. Bellin)

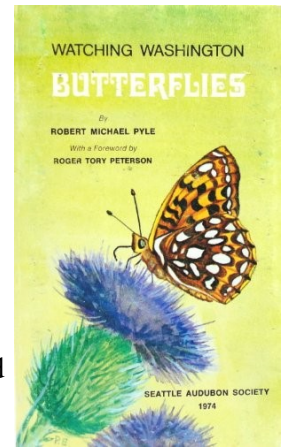
With our luck of seeing these rare creatures from the North, we perhaps stayed too long at the upper reaches of the mountain and not enough time below in the meadows. Perhaps with giving the meadow habitat a little more time our species count would have risen but the treat of seeing the truly rare species kept us more than enthused. A side benefit to staying up high was the several hundred Pacific Crest Trail hikers we avoided in the time of Covid 19. And where there are lots of hikers, there are even more horseflies to be endured than we faced upslope. Yes. Slate Peak did not disappoint. If you are interested in a full species list, Jim Reed can email you a copy

Watching Washington Butterflies with Bob Pyle

Number Forty-two

The Making of WWB: Fifty Years and Counting

Growing up in Colorado as a young lepidopterist, I had the benefit of not only Holland's classic *Butterfly Book* and Klotz's excellent *Peterson Field Guide to Butterflies East of the Great Plains*, but also to a superb state book: *The Butterflies of Colorado*, by F. Martin Brown, Donald Eff, and Bernard Rotger. Published in 1957 by the Denver Museum of Natural History, this book came to me from my father for Christmas, 1958, and my life was never the same again.



Colorado Butterflies enabled me to know what had been found in the state to date, to compare it with what I could go out and find for myself, and to see how I could make new discoveries of my own to advance the state of butterfly knowledge in my home state. The beguiling photographs of specimens were in black-and-white, which left lots of room for the imagination, and forced close attention to detail. Brown was a learned teacher of both depth and great breadth, and I always felt his clear and precise text showed respect for the intelligence of his readers, even a kid like me. I practically memorized whole pages, and it became my model.

I had several other state butterfly books too—Kansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Maine—and while Brown was mine, I read them all. It seemed to me a great boon to have such a gospel for one's passion, and I felt fortunate to have the best. So when I went away to college in the Pacific Northwest in 1965, and found there were no handbooks for either Washington nor Oregon butterflies, it struck me as a great absence on the local scene. It wasn't long till I began to imagine doing something about it. Happily, I wasn't the only one who felt this gap and wanted to fill it. When Jonathan Pelham and I began collecting together in 1967, the need for a Washington book quickly arose in our exchanges. And when Jon organized the first meeting of Washington butterfly enthusiasts in Seattle in 1968, the making of such a book emerged high on our agenda.

Soon, two other conditions furthered the embryonic cause. First, I became active in the Seattle Audubon Society, and got to know its doyenne, Hazel Wolf. At the annual SAS spring birding gathering at Wenas Creek, Hazel introduced me to Professor Earl Larrison of the University of Idaho. The two of them managed what were known as the Trailside Series of natural history guides, most of them written by Larrison, and published by SAS. Wolf asked me whether I might be interested in writing a contribution to the series, about butterflies. Of course I was! Particularly because by this time my ambitions as a writer were growing. Second, I had entered the UW College of Forest Resources as a master's student under Professor Grant W. Sharpe in the field of Nature Interpretation. It occurred to me, after floating several other abortive topics, that I might be able to fashion a master's thesis in the form of an interpretive field guide to Washington butterflies.

Given the unconventional nature of the topic, and that it would be more applied and practical than research oriented, it was an uphill battle to convince my committee: Grant Sharpe, Wildlife Biologist Richard Taber, Forest Entomologist Bob Gara, and—get ready for it—Forest Recreation Professor J. Alan Wagar, Jr.! There was some concern that, as an academic thesis, my book might short science and original research in favor of popular appeal. That was reasonable, because my point was to make butterflies available to people as a recreational resource in the way that birds had always been. On the other hand, I also intended to write the first American book to emphasize butterfly *watching* alongside sensible collecting, and the first field guide to be illustrated with photographs of living butterflies, all while following the set principles of nature interpretation. My aim was "to enhance enjoyment of butterflies, to reveal butterflies to the reader and to provoke his or her curiosity about them." I saw the audience as "anyone who wishes to add the butterflies to his or her repertoire of appreciative outdoor pursuits." As such, it seemed original and fully defensible as a thesis topic. Finally, my committee concurred in my plan, and approved my plan.

As for research materials, I had Ben Leighton's 1946 master's thesis, essentially an annotated checklist of Washington butterflies; access to the Burke Museum collection, and the data bases of Washington butterfly records being kept by Jon Pelham in Seattle and Jon Shepard in Berkeley (and that, in 1970, was a memorable visit!). Then there was all the published literature, especially by E. J. Newcomer, and the field experience and collections of Don Frechin, Dan Car-

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ney, John Hopfinger (see my two preceding columns), and other Washington lepidists. Entomology professor Melville Hatch (founder of the Seattle bug group, Scarabs) and my committee read drafts for me, as, of course, did Jon Pelham. I couldn't have written it without his and Jon Shepard's help.

And then there were the photographs! In the spring of 1970, I went forth with the simple photographic gear I'd managed to assemble, and began to shoot the requisite photographs. Remember that very few people were photographing butterflies in those days. I had a tiny budget—shoestring doesn't begin to say it. This is the set-up I settled upon: an ancient Exacta SLR camera body; a three-inch hollow extension tube; a cheap 300 mm Vivitar telephoto lens; and a stock of high-speed Ektachrome film, to be used hand-held with natural light. My first excursion, in late March, took me to southwest Washington and netted one species: the margined white, my first photo.

That summer I would travel all over the state, both taking pictures and seeking new records and knowledge to fill out my species accounts. I was also employed as an interpretive photographer for Washington State Parks and Snohomish County Parks, which helped me to get around and to buy film. I'll never forget setting off for the East Side one June evening, camping near Stevens Pass, then snapping Indra Swallowtails at gravel along the Icicle River in the morning; or the flotilla of immobile Pale Tiger Swallowtails lined up at mud on a logging road where gypsoes were salvaging cedar. In July, my brother was hospitalized in LaGrande, Oregon, following a bad accident, so I spent weeks there in between my other trips. This resulted in many of the photos in the book originating in the Blue Mountains of northeast Oregon. Considering that this was my first experience with butterfly photography, and my primitive gear, it is surprising how many species I managed to shoot that summer. And they weren't that bad, some of them surviving into Cascadia in 2002.



J. Alan Wagar, J. Forestry,
May 1974.

Even so, it didn't go entirely smoothly for the book from there. My committee held my feet to the fire to ensure scientific accuracy, and clamped down somewhat on what they considered overly familiar language (I'm looking at *you*, Brother Al!). This was no doubt right, but it meant I had to take the manuscript with me on my Fulbright year in England in 1971-72 for another draft, and then return to the university for spring quarter of 1973 to complete it for the M.Sc. Meanwhile, there were problems with the publisher, as well. Any number of issues arose over printing the color photographs, the budget, and changing SAS Board members with different priorities. At one point I traveled to Healdsburg, California, to meet with Vinson Brown, the legendary natural history author and publisher at Naturegraph Press. I almost went with Naturegraph. But then SAS came around, under Hazel's iron influence, and we finally signed a contract.

I still had to take the manuscript to Yale with me in the fall of 1973, for one final polish (and to restore some of the more colorful language!). I regret failing to ask my major professor at Yale, Charles Remington, to read it prior to publication, as it would have saved me from a number of errors. I guess I was afraid to have it torn up once again. When I gave him the published work, he congratulated me, but didn't spare the red ink, even after the fact. The book was designed and laid out by the publications committee back in Seattle. In April, 1974, I drove with fellow grad students back to Seattle for the book launch. At last it was a reality: *Watching Washington Butterflies: An interpretive guide to the state's 134 species, including most of the butterflies of Oregon, Idaho, and British Columbia*, took flight.

My first look at it gave me a shock, as I had expected my photograph of a Zerene Fritillary on a thistle, and there was a painting of the same scene instead. It seems the original photo had too little contrast for the bigger format, so Pat Evans whipped up the pleasant illustration to take its place. My chagrin at this was overborne by the thrill of holding the very first copy of my very first book. We put on a book-signing at J. K. Gill Books & Office Supplies, another first for me, and maybe the most exciting of the many hundreds that have followed.

But that wasn't all. The night before that signing, Hazel and the committee and I were applying stickers to the inside front covers night unto dawn. The printer, Binford & Mort, had omitted the frontispiece: a fine pen-and-ink drawing of Johnson's Hairstreak on dogwood by JoAnne Pyle (now Heron). JoAnne also devised the beautiful Haida-style butterfly on the back cover of the book. The printer had also omitted the title and author on the spine of the book from the first 500 copies of the print run of 5,000. So those blank-spine copies are now the rarest of what has become rather an uncommon book. At this writing, there are nine copies available from Abe Books, ranging from \$9.02 to \$85.00.

While it can still be found, I recommend picking up a copy of *WWB* for your library, both for its historic value, and because it includes material that will not be found in either its much later, much bigger successor, *The Butterflies of Cas-*

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cadia, or the recent Timber Press *Butterflies of the Pacific Northwest*. I continue to hope, all these years later, that the final paragraph of its introduction may still ring true:

Watching Washington Butterflies is a tool for access to a most enthralling and wholly charming dimension of nature. I would be presumptuous to hope that it might become for some young naturalists the virtual bible that F. Martin Brown's *Colorado Butterflies* was for me. But if the book helps you to see butterflies as necessary elements in an imperiled life matrix—or simply to *see* butterflies—it will have achieved its purpose. —R.M.P.



Daphne transatlantica

Butterflying in the Time of COVID. By Jim Reed

It was a promising start to a spring of wonderful butterflying down here in Klickitat County. And by March 14th we got word to shut down our programs and to think about staying indoors at home. As a teacher/ spring season coach, and as the stories of the pandemic grew and grew, we were unable to travel. I fell into the high risk category due to age, diabetes, and a few other underlying conditions. This had never stopped me from roaming the hillsides and meadows in search of butterflies to observe.

On our daily walks in isolation, my son and I noticed the slow and steady unfolding of spring and the progression into summer. We noted the butterflies that we saw and sent the pertinent information to Jon Pelham. Since I could not really travel, we decided to work on sprucing up the place. As we added flowers and shrubs and kept them hydrated we noticed an increase in butterfly visitations. We got out the checklist from WBA field trips provided by Dave Nunnallee and started keeping track of who came to visit our yard.

As of the first of September, we have had visits in my neighborhood from an incredible 32 species of butterflies. They varied from the dependable such as the Cabbage White and the Western Tiger Swallowtail to the rare and unusual Thicket Hairstreak and Indra Swallowtail. The thing that I found most fascinating were the species that I did not previously consider as nectar loving butterflies. But I observed Great Arcotics (*Oenosis nevadensis*), Indra Swallowtails (*Papilio indra*) and Lorquin's Admirals (*Limenitis lorquini*) all spend time nectaring in my yard. I usually see these three common butterflies for the Klickitat River Valley out patrolling their territory rather than sipping sugar!



Both *Hibiscus moscheutos* and *H. syriacus* attracted butterflies in Jim's garden.

This spring and summer, I had visits from all of the five Swallowtails within a month's time frame. The Indra and Anise flew until May at our lower elevation, and the Pale Tiger, Western Tiger, and the Two-Tailed Swallowtail all picked up from mid-June onward. The variety has been there from the Common Ringlet and Woodland Skippers to Acmon Blues and Lilac Bordered Coppers.

A quick list includes Silver Spotted Skippers, Propertius Skipper, Two Banded Checkered Skipper, Common Wood Nymph, Julia Orangetip, a lost Western Sulphur, Western Pine Elf, California Hairstreak, a green hairstreak sp, Silvery Blue, Boisduval's Blue, a raggedy old Zerene Fritillary, Northern (?) Checkerspot, Green Comma, California Tortoiseshell, Mourning Cloak, Painted Lady sp., Mylitta Crescent, Field Crescent, and a lone red Admiral.

Who knows what the list could have been if I netted all the little blues and skippers? I am still keeping an eye out for the arrival of the Mormon Metalmarks and other late season fliers this September- October.

Next year, regardless of travel restrictions or not, I will be keeping the camera handy and my checklist prominently at the ready. And an eye out for the Gold Hunters Hairstreak (*Satyrrium auretoem*) which has been photographed nearby!!! All in all, it was a great year in isolation in my yard with the company of an ever-changing array of Lepidoptera.

Charles A. Rogers December 22, 1941 - September 14, 2020

By Carolyn Heberlein



Every summer that I attended the Washington Butterfly Association conference / study weekend, I was certain to have a conversation or two or three with Charles Rogers. I never saw Charles at a field trip, but he was always at the weekend. Sometimes he would drag along a daughter or his wife. More often he was there solo. He was a quiet man with many interests that he loved to talk about.

He worked at Hanford and closely watched for butterflies on the land as he bicycled between his home in Richland and his office. Besides his interest in butterflies, he would also talk about religion and of alien visits to our planet.

Bob Pyle - "Charles made an impact on Washington butterfly studies. He was one of two (along with David James) who had sight records for the variegated fritillary (*Euptoieta claudia*) in Washington, which led to its acceptance on the state checklist--the first time a state record was validated solely by sight (afterward verified with a voucher by RMP). Later, he was again one of two (along with Ray Stanford) to turn in a probable sight record for the hackberry emperor (*Asterocampa celtis*). This was not accepted as a state record, but it has inspired several expeditions to try to verify the presence of the species in the state, so far unsuccessful."

Maureen Traxler - "One of the last times I spoke with him he told me he was writing a book that he thought would change the world. It was being revealed to him as he wrote it. I wish I could remember more of the details about it (though I'm not sure I understood it even then) I wonder if he finished it. I will miss him!"

David James - "I do know he found a Variegated Fritillary while riding his bicycle near the Tri-Cities just a few years ago! He provided a number of other rare butterfly records for WA as well. He was very good at providing me records of the monarchs he spotted in the Tri-Cities. He often spoke to Tanya on WBA trips and shared that like us he had given his three daughters the same middle name: 'Carina' which is the name of a constellation in the southern sky! Our daughters of course have the middle name 'Vanessa' for the genus of butterflies."

Richard Youel - "He was a very reliable attendee at the annual conference/weekend and I always had conversation with him. As I got familiar with him I found him to be good humored. I was amazed to read his obituary and see that what he talked about, and I regarded as suspect, was true. His plans for bike paths, his expertise at Hanford, discoveries, achievements, etc. "

<https://www.tributearchive.com/obituaries/18583827/Charles-A-Rogers>

Charles A. Rogers was born in Canton, Illinois, on December 22, 1941. His intense curiosity and talents for mathematics and analytical thinking sparked a keen lifelong passion for all things science and nature related. He and his brother Bill roamed the countryside, collecting butterflies and moths. At age 13, he discovered a new comet using just a 3.5" telescope. In ninth grade, he received a first place in the Illinois State Science Fair for building a 5" reflector telescope.

<https://independent.academia.edu/CharlesRogers18>

After his father told him he could not pay for college, Charles was in a dark basement when he asked God what he should do with his life. Immediately, as if projected on a screen, he saw a vision of himself giving a speech to a group of people. A mushroom cloud was seen in the distance. He then resolved that, if he could go to college, he would research the causes of war. In 1959 Charles received a scholarship to Northwestern University.

Charles received a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1963 with a major in physics and a Master of Science degree from the University of Illinois in 1964. In 1967 he went to work at the Critical Mass Laboratory at the Hanford Atomic Works in Richland, Washington. In 1970 he became a Nuclear Criticality Safety Specialist in support of the Fast Flux Test Facility. In 1995 he transferred to the High-Level Tank Waste Farms and in 2000 to the Solid Waste Burial Grounds. He retired in 2007.

When Mount Saint Helens became active in 1980, Charles became convinced that a major eruption was imminent, and on May 17 he drove to within 15 miles from the mountain. On May 18 he had a ringside seat to see a 12-mile high eruption cloud.

Annual Treasurer's Report by Regina Johnson

2018-19	
INCOME	
Conference net income	2807.47
Donations to WBA	921.15
Interest Inc	100.26
Member Dues	2,505.65
TOTAL INCOME	6334.53
EXPENSES	
Fees & Charges	93.67
Hospitality	91.10
Insurance	1,664.00
Meetup	103.97
Newsletter	539.32
Outreach	150.00
PO Box	176.00
Postage	49.75
Quicken	38.10
Rent, Meeting Room	1,628.75
Speaker Fees	600.00
State Registration and Filing Fees	50.00
Website	214.35
Zoom	209.89
TOTAL EXPENSES	5608.90
OVERALL TOTAL	
	725.63

2019 Study Weekend, Colville	
Income	
Conference Auction	385.00
Conference Registration	3,857.50
	4,242.50
Expenses	
Conference Cost Misc	62.73
Conference Cost Speaker	300.00
Conference Cost, Food	763.80
Conference Cost, Planet Reg	58.50
Conference Rental	250.00
	1,435.03
net from conference	
	2,807.47

I wanted to compare this year's finances with last year's, then discovered that I hadn't published a report last year! So here they both are side by side, pre-pandemic and mid-pandemic, for easy comparison. The big concern for most people, is the lost income from not having a Study Weekend this year. You can see that we netted \$2800 from last year's Study Weekend, so we don't have that income this year. Also, membership dues are down, donations are down, and no more monthly raffles this year. But, our single biggest expense is the meeting room at the Center for Urban Horticulture at UW for the Seattle meetings, which we are not being charged for so long as the UW campus is closed to outside groups. We paid through May up front, and then campus closed after the March meeting, but that payment for 2 months is being held for us for when campus reopens. Our second biggest expense is insurance. That has gone down, but it's unrelated to the pandemic. Our PO Box expense was higher this year but that's a one-time thing. The USPS lost our payment, then locked us out of our box without notice when our rent expired. We had to pay a late fee to get our box back. But this won't happen again, as we're now signed up for Auto Renew on the USPS website. Am I the only one that sees the irony in the Postal Service losing their own payment? Probably not.

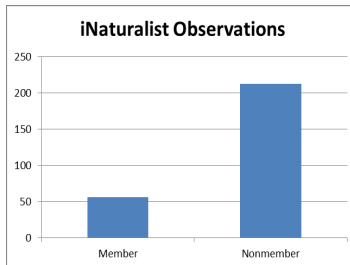
2019-20	
INCOME	
Donations to WBA	347.54
Interest Inc	64.56
Member Dues	2,247.76
Raffle Seattle	90.00
Raffle Spokane	75.00
TOTAL INCOME	2,824.86
EXPENSES	
Hospitality	69.39
Insurance	1,324.00
Meetup	108.92
Newsletter	404.42
Outreach	256.61
PO Box	251.00
Postage	76.47
Quicken	54.64
Rent, Meeting Room	825.00
Speaker Fees	300.00
State Registration and Filing Fees	40.00
Website	372.09
Zoom	109.99
TOTAL EXPENSES	4,996.97
OVERALL TOTAL	
	-2,172.11

site. Am I the only one that sees the irony in the Postal Service losing their own payment? Probably not.

Our income is less than half of last year's, but some expenses are also down, and we have savings to the tune of \$21,747 thanks to two generous bequests made a few years ago. We have gotten through this year without having to dip into our savings, and I think we are in relatively good shape financially and do not have to worry financially about not being able to have a Study Weekend. We have room to maneuver, and weather the pandemic. We are extremely fortunate in that respect.

WA State Butterflies on iNaturalist by Regina Johnson

As of November, we have 9 members in our iNat project, WA State Butterflies (<https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/washington-state-butterflies>). Five are WBA members, the other 4 are not. The most commonly recorded species is the Woodland Skipper, followed by the Woolly Bear, Cabbage White, and Boisduval's Blue and its subspecies. Interestingly, the people with the most observations and the most species recorded, are not WBA members, despite being less than half the project members. WBA members are at the bottom of the list for those metrics. Three non-members have posted 76, 68, and 67 observations (a lot of these are little brown moths). I am 4th with 33, and the next WBA member has only 8 observations. The fourth non-WBA member has not posted anything since the pandemic shutdowns. For number of species recorded, the top recorder is a non-WBA member with 39, and I am second with 22, and the next WBA member has 7. A little over half the observations (145) have achieved Research Grade status, which means there are



122 observations in our project that need someone to put a species name on them. This would be a good rainy-day activity for armchair lepidopterists, to browse through our iNat project and identify what you can. Or sometimes, you have to say, No, sorry, that's not what that is. (I've been there done that from both directions). When you offer an identification it's helpful if you point out what in the photo determines that, but you don't have to go into any great detail. Also keep in mind it is never too late to upload observations, even months afterwards. And, joining the project is a one-time thing. Once you've joined, all your Lepidoptera observations are automatically included, no further steps required.

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