

# Wisconsin Entomological Society

## Newsletter

Volume 33, Number 1

March 2006

## DEAD LEAVES, SKY FRAGMENTS and SNOW BUTTERFLIES

Article and Photos by Carroll Rudy

It's one of those enchanting early spring days. The sun is bright and warm, the sky is blue, and the woods invite you to explore. Here and there a crusty remnant of last winter's snow melts into the spongy ground, the trees are still bare and there is not a flower in sight.

### In This Issue...

#### Snow Butterflies

Page 1

#### Insect Books and Websites

##### Mystery Insect Answer

Page 2

#### Need A Project Chasing Bumblebees?

Page 3

#### Photo Salon Winners

Page 4

#### Photo Salon Winners October 2005 Meeting Report

Pages 5

#### 2005 Lepidoptera Summary

Page 6

#### 2005 Lepidoptera Summary

Continued

Page 7

#### New Dragonfly Species Discovered in Wisconsin

Page 8

As you hike along the trail, last year's dead leaves crackle beneath your feet, when suddenly one of the "dead leaves" explodes into flight—it's a butterfly! At rest, the outside of the folded wings looked just like old dried leaves, but in flight the bright orange and russet inside colors flash in the sun. The butterfly is fast—very fast! Your eyes cannot follow it or see its markings, and it defies any hungry bird or curious person to even get close.

Where did this butterfly come from so long before any flowers bloom, while blizzards still threaten and the trees are bare. What does it eat?

This butterfly is one of many species that hibernate right through the coldest winters and can be seen flying about anytime the temperatures near the 60 degree mark; even in midwinter. Often called Angle Wings, these hibernators have angular, notched wings as if they were snipped with scissors into the shape of old leaves, and the outside surfaces are drab and crusty-looking



Mourning Cloak Butterfly



Question Mark Butterfly

like gray tree bark. The camouflage helps to hide them while they hibernate.

Two Angle Wings frequently seen are the Question Mark and the Comma—two similar species that bear silver marks on their hind wings that resemble punctuation marks. Other hibernators you can find in winter are several species of Tortoiseshell Butterflies

and the Mourning Cloak. Tortoiseshells are similar to Angle Wings but lack the silver punctuation marks. Mourning Cloaks, however, are the most conspicuous early spring butterfly of all because they are the largest (3 in.). In flight, the deep maroon wings appear black with cream edges all around and bear bright blue spots. Of course you'll be lucky if you see those beautiful markings because the butterfly is so fast.

Please see Snow Butterflies, Page 3

The Wisconsin Entomological Society Newsletter is published three times a year, at irregular intervals. It is provided to encourage and facilitate the exchange of information by the membership, and to keep the members informed of the activities of the organization. Members are strongly encouraged to contribute items for inclusion in the newsletter. Please send all news items, notes, new or interesting insect records, season summaries, and research requests to the editor:

Janice Stiefel, 2125 Grove Road, Bailey's Harbor, WI 54202, (920) 839-9796, e-mail: jstiefel@itol.com

NOTE: Please report any address changes to Les Ferge, 7119 Hubbard Ave., Middleton, WI 53562. e-mail: ferge@chorus.net

# INSECT BOOKS AND WEBSITES

Submitted by Andrew Khitsun

**A** book recently became available on *Grasshoppers, Katydids & Crickets of the United States* by J. Capinera and others. It covers about one-third of all North American species.

An interesting set of books exist for those of you living or traveling up North frequently, the North Woods Naturalist series. I found several: *Butterflies of the North Woods*, *Butterflies of New England*, *Spiders of the North Woods* by L. Weber; *Dragonflies of the North Woods* by K. Mead; *Damselflies of the North Woods* by WES member, Robert DuBous (with photos by WES member Mike Reese).

The ever expanding series Moths of America North of Mexico, currently sports 24 volumes, of which 14 are devoted to micromoths (Pyralidae, Gelechiidae, Oecophoridae, Cosmopterigidae, and Sesidae). One treats Geometridae; two books cover Saturnidae and one covers three related families (Apodidae, Bombycidae and Lasiocampidae). Sphingidae and Lymantriidae each have their own volume. Noctuidae are dealt with in four books.

For those interested in moths I'd like to suggest some websites. *Microlepidoptera of Finland* deals in detail with a wide variety of moths of that group in Northern Europe at <http://klimmos.freeshell.org/micro/>

Moth Photographers Group at <http://mothphotographersgroup.msstate.edu/MainMenu.shtml>

has a wide array of photos of almost two thousand species from a number of people, including WES members. This site includes photos of living moths, as well as pinned specimens.

*Moth Images on the Web* compiles images of thousands of North American species from a number of sites and authors at <http://facweb.furman.edu/~snyderohn/leplist/>

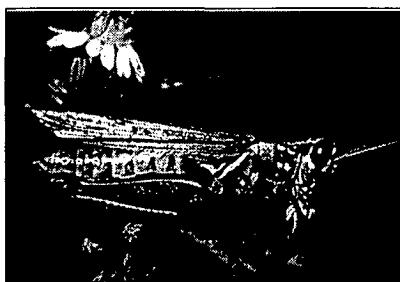
*BugGuide* features a large number of various families of insects, spiders and their kin. It includes data on where and when each insect was found. There is space for making comments or asking questions about the photos that are posted. Some WES members' photos are also posted on this website:

<http://bugguide.net>

Submitted by Dreux Watermolen

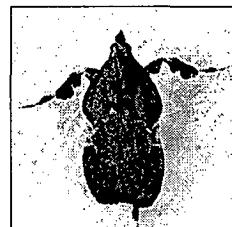
**T**he Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources recently published a *Guide to the Grasshoppers of Wisconsin*. This 150-page book, written by Kathryn Kirk of the DNR's Bureau of Endangered Resources and UW-Stout biology professor, Charles R. Bomar, and edited by WES member Dreux Watermolen, provides the first comprehensive up-to-date reference available for grasshopper species occurring in Wisconsin. The spiral bound guide includes keys for identification, full color plates, maps of known species distributions, descriptions of habitat, and comments on the status, life history, and ecology of individual species. *Guide to the Grasshoppers of Wisconsin* is available free of charge from the Bureau of Integrated Science Services. To obtain copies, contact Martin Griffin, Science Communications Manager, at (608)-266-0842 or [Martin.Griffin@dnr.state.wi.us](mailto:Martin.Griffin@dnr.state.wi.us). For information on how to order hard copies of the book online or to view and download the guide electronically, please visit:

[http://dnr.wi.gov/org/es/science/publications/ss1008\\_2005.htm](http://dnr.wi.gov/org/es/science/publications/ss1008_2005.htm)



*Melanoplus femur-rubrum*, Page 36  
Photo: Janice Stiefel

## Answer to October 2005 MYSTERY INSECT



**Boxwood Leafier Moth**

(*Galasa nigrinodis*)

Photo: Carroll Rudy

It seems that the Mystery Insect for October stumped many people. There was one answer and it was correct. It came from Ron Huber of Bloomington, MN. He said,

"It looks like a pyralid moth, subfamily Chrysinae, and matches nicely with *Galasa nigrinodis*, shown on Plate 59 in Covell's Field guide." ☺

## DID YOU KNOW?

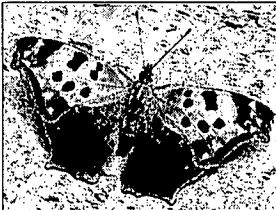
...that you could spell the word "butterfly" with butterflies? Or you could spell your own name with butterflies? You could even write the year of your birth with butterflies. And if you had enough different butterflies, you could even include the month and day you were born.

Nature photographer, Kjell Sandved, has assembled a most unusual and amazing butterfly and moth collection. Traveling all over the world, he has photographed the wings of many of the world's 200,000 butterfly and moth species. The project began more than 30 years ago when he saw a butterfly wing with a perfect representation of the letter "F." Since then Sandved has photographed several representations of every letter of the English alphabet, all the arabic numerals and many non-English letters on the wings of butterflies and moths. He has also found images of plants and animals as well as human faces on the wings of these insects.

Some of the markings on butterflies and moths are part of their camouflage. In other cases, like the giant eyespot on each wing of some butterflies and moths, the spot is known to keep birds away...beauty and protection with a little bit of mystery and intrigue thrown in. ☺

Snow Butterflies from Page 1

All of these butterflies flit about the leafless woods looking for sweet sap that has oozed from wounded trees. Sap serves as their food in the spring while in autumn they favor rotting fruit along with an occasional treat of animal dung for variety. Apparently they find their food



Comma Butterfly

by its odor. Butterflies hibernate in hollow trees, under loose bark, in unheated buildings, crevices in the rocks, bird houses, tin cans...any place protected from wind and wet. Unfortunately most are discovered by mice or birds and devoured. You can build a hibernation box to help them out and keep the predators away from them.

Another very early April butterfly to watch for is the Spring Azure which sometimes emerges from its pupa before all the snow is gone. Most people never notice them because they are so tiny—less than an inch across. In spite of their small size, they are one of the most beautifully colored of all our butterflies, looking like tiny fragments of bright blue sky fluttering about spring mud puddles where they dine daintily upon bird droppings and other tasty fare. While resting on the mud, they are inconspicuous since their closed wings match the mud in color.

**Membership Dues****Individual Membership**

\$5.00 per year

**Family Membership**

\$10.00 per year

**Sustaining Membership**

\$15.00 per year

**Patron Membership**

\$25.00 per year

Please make check payable to WES and send to Les Ferge, 7119 Hubbard Ave., Middleton, WI 53562-3231

**Need A Project Chasing Bumblebees?**

by Andrew Williams

**R**ecently, I took a call from Liz Day, who asked if I had collected *Bombus affinis* or *B. terricola* in the last few years. I had not. Actually, I've no research under way that causes me to collect bees. Liz thinks these two native bees are vanishing, or have vanished, from large parts of their ranges in just a couple years. Have you recently collected either of these bees?

This could be a great opportunity to pursue in the next field season. Bumblebees are large and relatively easy to determine, and this could be a fine project to introduce children to insect collection, conservation, curation, etc. Liz reminded me that these two species show some rusty fuzz as well as yellow fuzz on their abdomens, which makes them very recognizable in the field. She assured me she would help anyone interested in this project with keys to quickly determine bees in the field.

Back in 1963, J. T. Medler and D. W. Carney published *Bumblebees of Wisconsin (Hymenoptera: Apidae)* as Research Bulletin 240 of the UW-Madison Agricultural Experiment Station. From this, I learned that *B. affinis* occurs statewide in Wisconsin, but is hard to find in the north, and that it commonly lives in urban environments, nesting in subterranean spaces in the rubble fill beside the concrete walls of houses. *Bombus terricola* is widespread in the north and absent from southwestern Wisconsin. It has been collected as far south as Dane County and in southeastern Wisconsin counties. If any of you have data to share with Liz, or would like her help getting organized to pursue these bumblebees over next field season, or even to be casually looking for these particular species when you see bumblebees on flowers, please contact Liz at [beebuzz@kiva.net](mailto:beebuzz@kiva.net) or at 317-924-0008. ☺

In mid-April when the snowy hedgerows of wild plum begin to bloom, more butterflies suddenly appear. They are less hardy species which have flown in from the south where they hibernated through a milder winter than ours. Sometimes they migrate in large flocks; other times they are scarce. Most of them are Red Admirals or Painted Ladies, and they are very colorful among the white plum blossoms. Remember that 10 in. blizzard we had in the May of 1990? The butterflies had already arrived in large flocks and some survived the blizzard.

So when you get spring fever and take those spring hikes in the woods, watch for early butterflies. Why not take along a butterfly guide as well as your bird guide. It will open up an entire new world of wildlife observation for you. ☺

Carroll is a WES member from Calumet County. She is a former biology teacher and is currently editor of Chilton's Ledge View Nature Center Newsletter.

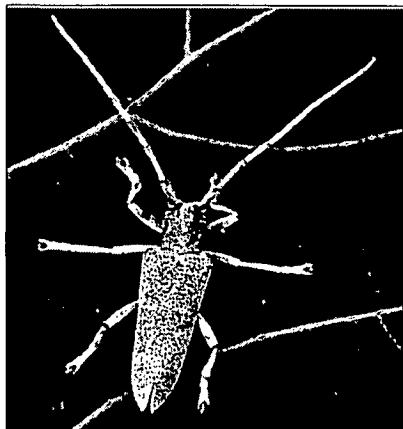


Photo: Janice Stiel

**MYSTERY INSECT****Can you identify it?**

Densely covered with gray pubescence, variegated with patches of yellow hairs on elytra and on head; pronotum has three yellow stripes; front of head and scutellum yellow; underneath gray, with yellow patches. Body about 7/8 in. Send answer to the editor. Winners will be announced in the next newsletter. ☺

## 2005 PHOTO SALON WINNERS



Splendid Tiger Beetle (*Cicindela splendida*)

Photo: October 1, 2005

Spring Green Preserve SNA  
Sauk County, Wisconsin

—FIRST PLACE—  
MIKE REESE



Mating Viceroy Butterflies (*Limenitis archippus*)

Photo: August 2003

Lost Lake, Door County, Wisconsin

—SECOND PLACE—  
KEN TAPP



Meeting Place - Underwing Moths

Photo: July 22, 2005, 3:24 A.M.  
Norwood, Peterborough County  
South/Central Ontario, CANADA

—THIRD PLACE TIE—  
TIM DYSON



Barstool - Pink Underwing Moth with Treefrog

Photo: July 23, 2005, 9:36 P.M.  
Norwood, Peterborough County  
South/Central Ontario, CANADA

—THIRD PLACE TIE—  
TIM DYSON

## PHOTO SALON WINNERS

(Continued)



Taiga Alpine Butterfly

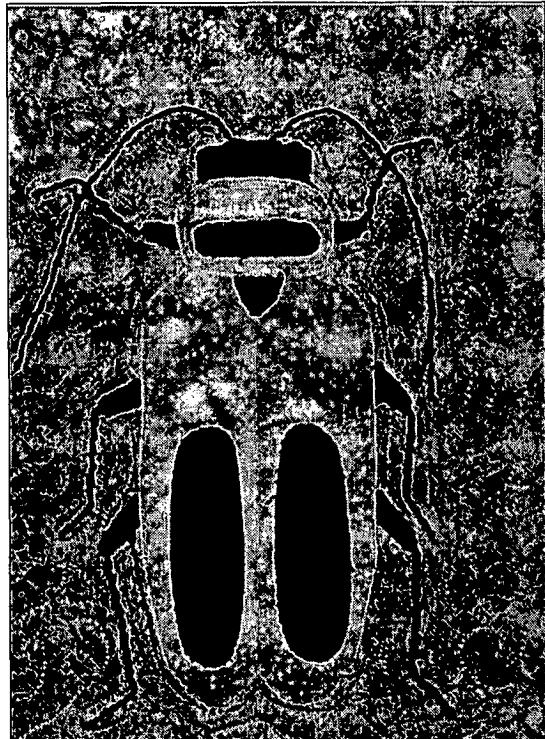
(*Erebia mancinus*)

Photo: June 3, 2005

Sand Lake Bog,  
Lake County, Minnesota

—THIRD PLACE TIE—

KYLE JOHNSON



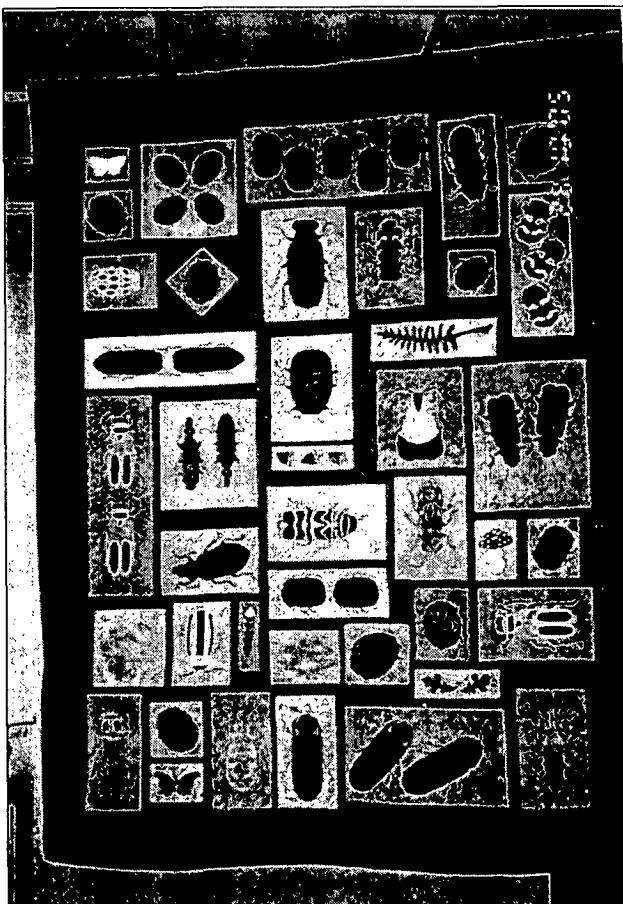
Detailed close-up of one of Anita's beetles.

## WES ANNUAL MEETING

The Wisconsin Entomological Society's Annual Meeting and Photo Salon was held October 15, 2005 in Madison at Russell Labs on the UW-Madison campus. It was attended by about 30 people. A brief business meeting was called to order by President, Megan Hyslop. The existing officers (except the president, who asked to step down), agreed to serve for another term. Andrew Williams received a unanimous vote to serve as president.

A slide program of rare Wisconsin peatland Lepidoptera was presented by Kyle Johnson. We were impressed by his photos and the amount of research he has done on this subject. The annual Photo Salon was a treat, as usual. Winners have been previously announced under each photo shown on pages 4 and 5.

WES member, Anita Carpenter, shared a spectacular handmade quilt of Wisconsin beetles. The black and white photos below do not do it justice. Anita worked on this quilt for over a year...who knows how many hours? She could have sold one to everyone in attendance. Members brought photos and specimens for ID. We had a great time discussing observations and summer's experiences. \*



Beetles of Wisconsin Quilt

Handmade by Anita Carpenter, Oshkosh, WI

# 2005 WISCONSIN LEPIDOPTERA SEASON SUMMARY

Coordinator: Leslie A. Ferge

**CONTRIBUTORS CITED:** James A. Ebner (JAE), Leslie A. Ferge (LAF),  
Kyle E. Johnson (KEJ), Janice J. Stiefel (JJS), Ann and Scot Swengel (SAS)

Spring weather conditions were erratic, with April being unseasonably warm and May being chilly and rainy, with few suitable days for field work. Summer was hot, with near drought conditions prevalent. Late season was relatively mild, with no significant freezes holding off well into October. Numbers of many usually common butterfly species continue to be depressed in localities where they formerly were plentiful. However, *Papilio glaucus* and *P. canadensis* were found in good numbers. The bog-inhabiting *Boloria* species also had a good season, with several new county records reported. It was not a good year for migrants, with the relatively few species noted generally found as single individuals or in small numbers. Monarch numbers remained low throughout the season.

**New County and State Records are indicated in CAPITAL letters**

<b>MONA</b>	<b>Species Name</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>Locality</b>	<b>Date 1</b>	<b>Date2</b>	<b>CTR</b>	<b>Comment</b>
<b>BUTTERFLIES</b>							
4013	<i>Hylephila phyleus</i>	Waukesha	Oconomowoc	21-Aug-05	18-Oct-05	JAE	
4020	<i>Hesperia comma laurentina</i>	Florence	Spread Eagle	5-Aug-05		SAS	81 individuals
4049	<i>Atalopedes campestris</i>	Waukesha	Okauchee	5-Sep-05		JAE	
4170	<i>Papilio cresphontes</i>	Waukesha	Okauchee	26-Jul-05		JAE	
4224	<i>Colias cesonia</i>	Dane	Lk Mendota lk shore	18-Oct-05		KEJ	
4248	<i>Nathalis iole</i>	Richland	Lone Rock	18-Sep-05		KEJ	
4256	<i>Lycaena hyllus</i>	RICHLAND	Lone Rock	18-Sep-05		KEJ	
4260	<i>Lycaena epixanthe michiganensis</i>	FLORENCE	Fence/Tipler Twp.	12-Jul-05	21-Jul-05	KEJ	
4260	<i>Lycaena epixanthe michiganensis</i>	Marinette	Goodman Twp.	21-Jul-05		KEJ	
4261	<i>Lycaena dorcas</i>	Ashland	Caroline Bog	30-May-05		SAS	
4281	<i>Satyrium edwardsii</i>	Clark	Dewhurst Twp.	7-Jul-05		LAF	
4325	<i>Callophrys irus</i>	Jackson	Jackson Co. Forest	21-May-05	24-May-05	SAS	
4326	<i>Callophrys henrici</i>	Jackson	Jackson Co. Forest	6-May-05		SAS	
4374	<i>Lycaeides idas nabokovi</i>	Oconto	Riverview Twp.	1-Jul-05		SAS	only one seen
4374	<i>Lycaeides idas nabokovi</i>	Marinette	Goodman Twp.	1-Jul-05	24-Jul-05	SAS	111 individuals
4423	<i>Polygonia faunus</i>	Douglas	Oakland Twp.	29-Jul-05		KEJ	
4447	<i>Euptoieta claudia</i>	LANGLADE	Elcho Twp.	25-Jun-05		KEJ	
4452	<i>Speyeria idalia</i>	Portage	Buena Vista WA	7-Jul-05		LAF	
4463	<i>Boloria eunomia dawsoni</i>	ASHLAND	Butternut	9-Jun-05		LAF	
4463	<i>Boloria eunomia dawsoni</i>	FLORENCE	Bog E of Popple River	17-Jun-05		LAF	nectaring on Labrador Tea
4463	<i>Boloria eunomia dawsoni</i>	Forest	Armstrong Ck/Hiles/ Wabeno Twp.	7-Jun-05	23-Jun-05	KEJ	
4463	<i>Boloria eunomia dawsoni</i>	MARINETTE	Goodman Twp.	7-Jun-05	13-Jun-05	KEJ	
4466	<i>Boloria frigga saga</i>	Ashland	Glidden Bog	3-Jun-05		LAF	
4466	<i>Boloria frigga saga</i>	Douglas	Summit Twp.	2-Jun-05	4-Jun-05	KEJ	
4466	<i>Boloria frigga saga</i>	Lincoln	Wilson Twp.	25-May-05		KEJ	adults closely patrolled Salix pedicellaris
4471	<i>Boloria freija</i>	ASHLAND	Butternut	16-May-05		LAF	
4471	<i>Boloria freija</i>	FOREST	Hiles Twp.	16-May-05		KEJ	
4471	<i>Boloria freija</i>	Iron	Oma Twp.	26-May-05		KEJ	
4474	<i>Boloria titania grandis</i>	Douglas	Oakland/Summit Twp.	29-Jul-05	2-Aug-05	KEJ	
4569	<i>Satyrodes appalachia leeuwi</i>	VILAS	Arbor Vitae Twp.	24-Jun-05		KEJ	
4583	<i>Coenonympha tullia inornata</i>	LANGLADE	Ainsworth Twp.	25-Jun-05		KEJ	
4596	<i>Erebia discoidalis</i>	Ashland	Caroline Bog	30-May-05		SAS	
4596	<i>Erebia discoidalis</i>	Forest	Armstrong Creek/ Hiles Twp.	16-May-05	27-May-05	KEJ	
4611	<i>Oeneis jutta ascerta</i>	MARINETTE	Goodman Twp.	7-Jun-05	13-Jun-05	KEJ	
4611	<i>Oeneis jutta ascerta</i>	WASHBURN	Crystal Twp.	5-Jun-05		KEJ	
4611	<i>Oeneis jutta ascerta</i>	Vilas	Winchester/Arbor Vitae Twp.	26-May-05	24-Jun-05	KEJ	one site mixed conifer swamp w/balsam fir, alder.
4614	<i>Danaus plexippus</i>	Milwaukee	Oak Creek	1-Jun-05	4-Nov-05	JAE	Very late date
4614	<i>Danaus plexippus</i>	Dane	Middleton	21-May-05		LAF	

# 2005 WISCONSIN LEPIDOPTERA SEASON SUMMARY

Continued

MONA	Species Name	County	Locality	Date 1	Date2	CTR	Comment
<b>MOTHS</b>							
6256	Archearis infans	IRON	Mercer Twp.	14-Apr-05		LAF	one fresh specimen
6663	Paleacrita merricata	WAUSHARA	Soules Creek SFA	16-Apr-05		LAF	
7811	Sphinx luscitiosa	Price	Fifield Twp.	14-Jun-05		KEJ	hovering around/sucking nutrients from dead toad
8120	Holomelina lamae	Douglas	Summit Twp.	2-Aug-05		KEJ	
8120	Holomelina lamae	Oneida	Hazelhurst Twp.	1-Jul-05		LAF	
8166	Arctia caja americana	IRON	Oma Twp.	4-Aug-05		LAF	
8171.1	Apantesis carlotta	ROCK	Newark Prairie SNA	1-Aug-05		LAF	
8412	Melanomma auricinctaria	ROCK	Avon Bottoms WA	1-Aug-05		LAF	
8491	Ledaea perditalis	ROCK	Avon Bottoms WA	1-Aug-05		LAF	
8649	Ascalapha odorata	Dane	Middleton	14-Aug-05		LAF	female found dead in downtown Middleton
8945	Syngrapha montana	Forest	Armstrong Creek Twp.	6-Jun-05		KEJ	
8946	Syngrapha microgamma nearctica	ASHLAND	Butternut	9-Jun-05		LAF	
8946	Syngrapha microgamma nearctica	Langlade	Elcho Twp.	25-Jun-05		KEJ	
8946	Syngrapha microgamma nearctica	MARINETTE	Goodman Twp.	7-Jun-05		KEJ	
8977	Nycteola cinereana	DOOR	Bailey's Harbor	19-Nov-04		JJS	STATE RECORD
9127	Spraguea leo	ROCK	Avon Bottoms WA	1-Aug-05		LAF	
9274	Acronicta lanceolaria	DOUGLAS	Summit Twp.	1-Jun-05		LAF	
9328	Apamea nigrior	IRON	Manitowish	30-Jun-05		LAF	
9360	Apamea impulsa	IRON	Manitowish	30-Jun-05		LAF	
9362.1	Apamea unanimitis	OCONTO	Oconto Marsh	15-Jun-05		LAF	
9367.1	Apamea cogitata	IRON	Manitowish	30-Jun-05		LAF	
9408	Oligia exhausta	DOOR	Bailey's Harbor	30-Jun-05		JJS	
9427	Meropleon diversicolor	ASHLAND	Glidden Bog	3-Sep-05		LAF	
9429	Lemmeria digitalis	ROCK	Newark Prairie SNA	3-Oct-05		LAF	
9439	Chortodes basistriga	ASHLAND	Glidden Bog	3-Sep-05		LAF	
9457	Amphipoea americana	ROCK	Newark Prairie SNA	9-Sep-05		LAF	
9486	Papaipema birdi	ROCK	Newark Prairie SNA	1-Aug-05		LAF	
9498	Papaipema silphii	ROCK	Newark Prairie SNA	9-Sep-05		LAF	
9500	Papaipema maritima	ROCK	Newark Prairie SNA	9-Sep-05		LAF	
9501	Papaipema eupatoriil	ROCK	Newark Prairie SNA	3-Oct-05		LAF	
9506	Papaipema sciata	ROCK	Newark Prairie SNA	3-Oct-05		LAF	
9524	Bellura brehmei	IRON	Manitowish	9-Jun-05		LAF	
9548	Conservula anodonta	DOOR	Bailey's Harbor	10-Jul-05		JJS	
9754	Plagiomimicus ptyochromus	ROCK	Avon Bottoms WA	1-Aug-05		LAF	
9902	Lithophane baileyi	DOOR	Bailey's Harbor	26-Apr-05		JJS	
9916	Lithophane unimoda	DOOR	Bailey's Harbor	4-Apr-05		JJS	
9928	Lithophane thaxteri	ASHLAND	Shanagolden Twp.	15-Apr-05		LAF	
10011	Brachionycha borealis	ASHLAND	Shanagolden Twp.	15-Apr-05		LAF	
10011	Brachionycha borealis	RICHLAND	3 mi. W of Gotham	9-Apr-05		LAF	Southernmost Wisconsin locality
10332	Anarta luteola	Oneida	Enterprise/Sugar Camp Twp	24-May-05		KEJ	
10332	Anarta luteola	Forest	Hiles Twp.	16-24 May-05		KEJ	
10702	Euxoa divergens	IRON	Manitowish	30-Jun-05		LAF	
10878	Richia albicosta	ROCK	Newark Prairie SNA	1-Aug-05		LAF	
10947	Xestia obliqua	Iron	Manitowish	30-Jun-05		LAF	
11081	Heliothis borealis	Oneida	Sugar Camp Twp.	24-May-05		KEJ	
11095	Schinia Indiana	Jackson	Jackson Co. Forest	3-10 Jun-05		SAS	
11095	Schinia Indiana	Burnett	Crex WA, Fish Lk. WA	11-Jun-05		SAS	
11117	Schinia lynx	ROCK	Avon Bottoms WA	1-Aug-05		LAF	

## Wisconsin Entomological Society



Janice Stiefel, Editor  
2125 Grove Rd.  
Bailey's Harbor, WI 54202

Address Correction Requested

Wisconsin Entomological Society Newsletter — March 2006

Page 8



## New Species of Dragonfly DISCOVERED in WISCONSIN

submitted by Dreux Watermolen

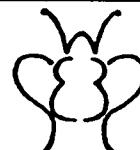
MADISON — From DNR News

Six years after the original specimen was collected along the banks of Wisconsin's Eau Claire River, the scientific community has officially recognized a new species of dragonfly discovered by a state Department of Natural Resources biologist. A medium-sized insect with an impressive name, *Ophiogomphus smithi* (pronounced smith-eye), is named after its discoverer, William Smith, a biologist with the DNR Bureau of Endangered Resources.

Originally thought to be an example of an already-named dragonfly species, the determination of *O. smithi* as a distinct species was confirmed when two other entomologists in the mid 1990s recognized important differences in the specimen collected by Smith in Eau Claire County in 1989. The 1.8-inch dragonfly also goes by the common name of Sand Snaketail.

This is the second new dragonfly species discovered by Smith who collected an undecided species in the St. Croix River in 1989. The 1989 find was eventually named *Ophiogomphus susbehcha* in 1993 with a common name of Saint Croix Snaketail. "Susbehcha" is Lakota for dragonfly. For more information, contact Bill Smith at (608) 266-0924. ☺

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