

Butterfly watchers get help from book



TIM NOWICKI

Butterflies are always beautiful to watch. I think even those people who are borderline wildflower watchers, enjoy the colors and delicate nature of butterflies. Such exquisite beauty in such an ephemeral body puts us all in wonder about these creatures.

Many books, organizations and people are devoting time and energy to watch butterflies and to encourage others to do the same. Wildflower plantings along roadsides, butterfly gardens and butterfly houses all help people enjoy the 159 species of butterflies that have been seen in the state.

This figure of 159 species comes from the new book "Michigan Butterflies & Skippers" by Mogens Nielsen. Nielsen is the authority on butterflies for the state of Michigan. The book is published by Michigan State University Extension.

Books on Michigan snakes, turtles and lizards and amphibians were also published through the extension service.

Nielsen outlines many different habitats where various butterfly species can be found. Many species of butterfly are restricted to habitats where particular plants grow. Though the adult may feed on nectar from a variety of plants, larvae, or caterpillars, are much more limiting in their choice of food. Adults must lay their eggs on the correct species of plant, or the young caterpillar will die. Since plants live in particular habitats with certain soils types,

or quantities of water, butterflies are frequently found near their host plants.

Though the color photographs are smaller than I would like, they show various color types through the seasons and differences between males and females. Reference to size could have been accomplished with the heading lines for each species, but other field guides do this very well.

This book is not intended to be a one resource field guide, rather it is intended to encourage others to get into the field and enjoy butterflies. Outstanding maps accompanying each species description pin-point the locations within the state where each species has been verified. No other field guide has such accurate maps.

In the front is a complete listing of all species found in the state. They are organized by families which have similar features within the state where color codes direct you to the section of the book containing each family of butterflies. This feature makes it very convenient once you become familiar with the characteristics of each family.

For those who want to plant a butterfly garden, Nielsen has included nectar plants used by adults and the caterpillars. By comparing the range of a butterfly on the map, you can determine if that species would be in your area. If the butterfly is found in Wayne or Oakland Counties, you may want to plant flowers that would attract your favorite species.

With a copy of "Michigan Butterflies & Skippers" in hand, you will be able to narrow down the possible species you see in the field when you use the traditional field guides.

ARCHERY

ROA 3D SHOOT
Royal Oak Archers will hold a 3D shoot beginning at 9 a.m. Sunday, July 18, on its walk-through course in Lake Orion. Call (248) 628-8354 or (248) 659-2480 for more information.

SAFARI 3D
Detroit Archers will hold a 56-target safari shoot beginning at 9 a.m. Saturday and Sunday, July 24-25, on its walk-through course in West Bloomfield. Call (248) 661-0610 or (313) 835-2110 for more information.

LIVONIA RANGE
The newly renovated Livonia Archery Range is open to the public. The range features seven field lanes and one broadhead lane and is open 10 a.m.-4 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. Cost is \$4 for adults and \$2 for children. Livonia residents shoot free of charge. The range is located on Glendale Ave., east of Farmington Road. Call (734) 468-2410 for more information.

JUNIOR OLYMPICS
The Oakland County Sportsman Club in Clarkston offers a Junior Olympic Archery Development Program beginning at 1 p.m. on Sundays. Call (248) 623-0444 for more information.

JUNIOR ARCHERS
A weekly program for junior archers begins at 9 a.m. Saturdays at Detroit Archers in West Bloomfield. Call (248) 661-9910 or (313) 835-2110 for more information.

SHOOTING SPORTS

SPORTING CLAYS
Wings & Clays will host a sporting clays shoot on Sunday, Aug. 29, at the Bald Mountain range in Lake Orion. Call (248) 814-9183 for more information.

FISHING TOURNAMENTS

OAKLAND BASS MASTERS
Oakland Bass Masters will hold its annual Tournament for Toys, a two-man team open charity bass tournament, beginning at 6:30 a.m. Sunday, July 18, on Lake St. Clair. Entry fee is \$30 per boat. To register and for more information call Roy Randolph at (248) 642-5254. Oakland Bass Masters will hold additional tournaments Aug. 8 on Orchard Lake, Aug. 29 on Lobdell Lake, and Sept. 26 on Lakeville Lake.

CLASSES/SEMINARS

FLY FISHING SCHOOL
The Riverland Sports Shop in Southfield is sponsoring several fly fishing schools in the upcoming months. Held at the Huntsman Hunt Club in Dryden and Hunters Creek Hunt Club in Metamora, the schools include lessons in basic fly fishing techniques including casting, knot tying, reading the water, playing, landing and releasing fish, wading methods and fly selection and more. Classes are scheduled for August 15 and 29, and Sept. 12. Class size is limited. To register and for more information call (248) 350-8484 or (248) 691-3474.

FLY TYING
Paint Creek Outfitters in Rochester offers a variety of fly tying classes for beginners and advanced tiers. Call (248) 650-0440 for more information or to make a reservation for an upcoming class.

MORE FLY TYING
River Bend Sport Shop in Southfield offers fly tying classes for beginners, intermediate and advanced tiers. Classes will be held at various times in July.

OUTDOOR CALENDAR

For more information and to register call (248) 350-8484 or (248) 691-3474.

CLIMBING CLASS
An introductory climbing course for the novice and first-time climber is offered at various times at REI in Northville. The class covers basic indoor climbing safety, technique, equipment and terminology. The course is free and open to adults and children. Call (248) 347-2100 for current schedules and additional information.

ACTIVITIES

SLEEPY HOLLOW
Join members of the Southeast Michigan Group, Sierra Club on a six-mile hike at Steeple Hollow State Park on Sunday, July 18. Participants are asked to meet at 10 a.m. in the shopping center parking lot behind McDonalds on Telegraph, north of Square Lake Road, in Bloomfield Hills. Call John Kalam at (248) 681-9160 for more information.

CLUBS

CLINTON VALLEY BASS
Clinton Valley Bass Anglers club is seeking new members (boaters and non-boaters are welcome). The club meets monthly at Gander Mountain in Waterford. Call Mike Daly at (248) 866-8910 for more information.

METRO-WEST STEELHEADERS
Metro-West Steelheaders meets at 7:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month in the cafeteria at Garden City High School. Call Dominic Liparuta at (248) 476-5027 for more information.

MICHIGAN FLY FISHING
The Michigan Fly Fishing Club meets at 7 p.m. the first and third Wednesdays of each month at Livonia Clarenceville Junior High School. Call (810) 478-1494 for more information.

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The Four Seasons Fishing Club meets 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. the first Wednesday of each month at the Civic Park Senior Center, 15218 Farmington Road, in Livonia. Visitors are invited and refreshments will be served. Call Jim Kudej at (734) 691-0843 for more information.

FISHING BUDDIES
Fishing Buddies Fishing Club meets the third Tuesday of each month in Rochester Hills. Meetings are open to all anglers (boaters and non-boaters). Call (248) 656-0566 for more information.

HURON VALLEY STEELHEADERS
The Huron Valley Steelheaders meets the third Thursday of each month at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 27600 Hall Rd., Flat Rock. Call Carroll White at (734) 285-0843 for information.

BASS ASSOCIATION
The Downriver Bass Association, a non-tournament bass club, meets at 6:30 p.m. the fourth Tuesday of every month at the Gander Mountain in Taylor. Call (734) 676-2863 for information.

SOLAR
The School for Outdoor Leadership, Adventure and Recreation (SOLAR), a non-profit organization interested in promoting the appreciation of outdoor activities, meets at 7:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month at the Colony Hall in Southfield. Call (248) 988-6658 for more information.

FLY TYING
The River Bend Sports Shop Fly Tying Club meets every other week in Southfield. Call (248) 350-8484 or (248) 691-3474 for more information.

SHOOTING RANGES

BALD MOUNTAIN
Please see OUTDOORS, D6