A Winter Surprise  Barbara Richie
In December, when my husband and I were walking on an abandoned golf course across from us in the Woodmont development in Tamarac, we noticed a Great Southern White butterfly laying eggs on peppergrass. In order to protect the eggs from periodic mowings, we dug up the plant and brought it home. It was almost impossible to spot the eggs which are laid in clusters of twenty or so but I was able to take photos showing 30 or more of them on our plant. Continued...

Hi, spring has sprung and summer is close behind. Check the common grasses, e.g. peppergrass, you could find one of our familiar butterflies.

WILDFLOWER
Polymnia uvedalii, commonly known as Bear's Foot or Hairy Leaf-Cup. Found in NW, NE, So to FL. Photo Virginia Tech Weed ID guide

FIELD TRIP UPDATES
The adventures of our field trips and the learning experiences of our butterfly counts were spot on thanks to the work of Sue and Barb. Consider along sometime as we count butterflies or go on a trip.

FIELD TRIP TO SUE ARNOLD BUTTERFLY HAVEN SAT JUNE 6
Contact Sue 954 205 5432 or Pat 954-376-1128
14895 NW 30th Terrace, Okeechobee, FL 34972

WILDFLOWERS
Polymnia uvedalii, commonly known as Bear's Foot or Hairy Leaf-Cup. Found in NW, NE, So to FL. Photo Virginia Tech Weed ID guide

Amazon Users
Please order thru website www.browardbutterfly.org. BCBC earns 4% of your purchases.

Silent Auction
Please id donated plants. We accept natives and non-invasive plants. No invasive exotics please.

Signing In Notebook
Members & guests, please print your name. As a guest, please give us your email address to receive our newsletters.

UPCOMING EVENTS
Tues May 12, 2015, Last meeting until August 2015. Slide Show of Members Gardens
Members Garden Tour Sun May 17, 2015, info at our Tues May 12 meeting
“WILDFLOWERS” for our auction table
Dedication of Mosaic Garden Bench for Elane Nuehring at Long Key Nature Center. Invitation Forthcoming
Contact us at www.browardbutterflies.org; email: BCBCmail@gmail.com
Chapter meetings at Plantation Heritage Park 1100 S Fig Tree Ln, Plantation FL33317
A Winter Surprise

About a week later, with the aid of a magnifying glass, we saw our first caterpillars which grew slowly than others we’ve raised. It took three weeks for the first ones to pupate and almost another three weeks before the last ones emerged. I don’t know if this is typical or something that was effected by the cold weather.

One of the butterflies stayed on our screen for two days without moving even when I touched it. Since it was perfect, and I thought it died, I was planning to give it to Kelly Whitney to use as a specimen in her programs. Then, the next time I looked, it was flying and I was able to release it with all the others. Now when I see a Great Southern White, I say it’s one of ours!

Ladies in Your Garden

Ladybug, Ladybird or ladybeetle, whichever name suites you, is a real garden friend, as these beetles will feed on your dreaded garden aphids, whiteflies or mealybugs, garden pests which destroy or mutilate plants. The name comes from Marienkafe, German, which translates to Marybeetle. Named for the Virgin Mary they are from the insect family Coccinellidae. There are over 600 species worldwide; originally from Europe, some have been introduced to North America and to Florida for biological control of plant pests. The shape is oval, with wings and depending upon the species their lengths vary from 1 mm to over 10 mm. Ladybugs go through three growth stages, the egg, the larvae and the pupae.

The reason why they’re such good predators is they hatch from eggs as a larvae which resembles a small caterpillar. Those caterpillar critters have a voracious appetite while they live for one to three weeks. Then the caterpillars form a pupae, the pupae remains motionless for one to three weeks, and then the adult ladybug emerges from the pupae.

Four of these beetles were introduced to Florida for biological control of pests. The most recognized beetle, the *Coccinella septempunctata* (the seven-spotted beetle), pictured above is red with black spots, and an aphid predator. The color some think may be a warning to predators ‘I taste bad’. Also introduced are the beetle *C. inaequalis* from Australia; the *H. dimidiata* from China and the multi-colored yellow/orange/black *H. axyridis* from Japan. All of these beetles eat aphids. Continued...

COUNT OUR FAB BUTTERFLIES LOCATIONS

Saturday May 2nd and Sunday June 28

South: Tree Tops Park & Long Key Nature Center Davie. North: Hugh Birch State Park, Hillsboro Pine- 

land Natural Area and Crystal Lakes Sand Pine Scrub.

Arrive at 8:30am; starts 9am. Lasts approximately 2.5 hrs; with a break for lunch, then continues at 1pm. Look for a notice from BCBC. Contact B.DeWitt for more info: 954-599-1082 or bcbcmail@gmail.com.

Bench Extraordinaire

Artistic Layout of Garden Bench & Dedication

The bench layout in progress. It is the work of the Broward Butterfly chapter in memory of Elane Nuehring, Miami Blue Chapter. The mosaic bench will be finished and later installed at Long Key Nature Center, Davie Florida. The dedication event announcement is forthcoming.

SPRING 2015

Anything Grows’ Westfield Broward Mall. Sat-Sun April 11&12.

Our Mall Event ~ Eve Maige

Anything Grows was an amazing success! Kudos to all of the BCBC members who participated! We educated, demonstrated, we recruited possible new members and added new names to our newsletter mailing. We Raised Money for the Club...most of all we had fun! Continued...

Ladies in Your Garden

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Ladybugs lay hundreds of eggs in the colonies of aphids and other plant-eating pests. The reason why they’re such good predators is they hatch from eggs as a larvae which resembles a small caterpillar. Those caterpillar critters have a voracious appetite while they live for one to three weeks. Then the caterpillars form a pupae, the pupae remains motionless for one to three weeks, and then the adult ladybug emerges from the pupae.

Four of these beetles were introduced to Florida for biological control of pests. The most recognized beetle, the *Coccinella septempunctata* (the seven-spotted beetle), pictured above is red with black spots, and an aphid predator. The color some think may be a warning to predators ‘I taste bad’. Also introduced are the beetle *C. inaequalis* from Australia; the *H. dimidiata* from China and the multi-colored yellow/orange/black *H. axyridis* from Japan. All of these beetles eat aphids. Continued...
Ladies
...Others such as the Delphastus catalinae (from Australia) or the D. pallidus, (native to Florida) are both black in color and specializes in eating white-flies. The Cryptolaemus montrouzieri Mulsant from Australia (which is dark brown to black with an orange head) is found in Florida and specializes in eating mealybugs. The larvae actually look like their mealybug prey. These are just some of the tribe of beetles found in Florida. There are many others not listed here that eat aphids, whiteflies, armored and scale insects, mildew, thrips, mealybugs, mites and plants. While these beetles are known to attack specific insects found on crops or gardens, beetles are not exclusive feeders of any of the pests mentioned. These beetles also feed on special nectar i.e. extrafloral nectaries, water, pollen and honeydew.

Ladybeetles are not immune from predators. They can be attacked in the adult stage by the tachinid fly and by the braconid wasp as well as weevils or a plume moth. If you purchase some for release, they’ll be off very quickly to find their meal and it may not in your yard. Yellow, brown, black or red spotted, always welcome these garden friends.

PHOTO NITE
We had a great response. Bonnie was great at presenting! Some of the pictures by amateur photographers looked very professional.

Thanks
We thank everyone for their help at Water Matters Day, Tree Tops Park, Davie. Nancy Johns and Peggy Strumski were the organizers. At the next event Anything Grows, Westfield Broward Mall Eve Maige, organizer and all our volunteers came together to make it a success. We had three prizes donated and we thank all the donors.

Our Mall Event
...We raffled baskets, sold plants and book markers, had caterpillars and pupas on display, had a very active butterfly coloring table and talked to many interested people. Our success was due to the many volunteers who contributed to the event. Special thanks for all the donations of time, labor, plants and genuine joy we share in our butterflies and the plants that bring them to us. The following volunteers have earned their wings: Ana Maria Agrusa, Peggy Strumski, Cindy Jenkins & friend Annette, Lillian Maniscalco, Sue Mather, Nancy Johns, Addie Travers, Mariana Yi, Eddie Yi, Fran Trotta, Dick Trotta, Elaine Miers, Missy Belsito, Art Constantino, Barbara DeWitt, Barbara Metcalf, Eve Maige, Pat Rossi.

WaterMattersDay
April Count
PHOTO NITE

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