



# Butterflites

## Newsletter of the NJ Butterfly Club Chapter of the North American Butterfly Association

Vol. 18 No. 7

October, 2023

Find out more at:

[Our Website \(www.naba.org/chapters/nabanj/\)](http://www.naba.org/chapters/nabanj/)

Contact us at:

[ButterflyClubNJ@gmail.com](mailto:ButterflyClubNJ@gmail.com)

**Our Next Meeting:  
October 3rd, 2023 – 7:30 PM**

To Register for the October Zoom Meeting, use the link below:



<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZlvceGuqz4vGdKqPhUdH6NTH0yB3MK07lxv#/registration>

## **October Meeting Presentation- Can western monarchs beat the heat? The effects of shade structure and milkweed species on growth and survival of monarchs in the western U.S.**

Climate change is altering heat and drought patterns across the western U.S. and inevitably changing the conditions under which monarch butterflies and other wildlife must survive. Across much of the Great Basin, shade can be hard to come by and yet can be invaluable for species survival. A team of researchers in Dr. Cheryl Schultz's lab at Washington State University are in the first year of a two-year study investigating how shade structure and milkweed species affect monarch growth and survival in the Great Basin. The team set up field enclosures with early instar caterpillars in both shade and direct sun on two species of milkweed (showy milkweed and narrow-leaved milkweed) and tracked growth and survival of these caterpillars until adulthood. In this talk, post-doctoral researcher Michelle Boone will highlight the preliminary results of the study.

Dr. Michelle Boone is a post-doctoral researcher in the Schultz Conservation Biology Lab at Washington State University, where she leads projects on the effects of shade structure and breeding phenology of western monarchs. Michelle earned her PhD in Entomology in May of 2023 at the University of MN, where she studied occupancy and detection patterns of an endangered bee, the rusty-patched bumble bee. She has used the results of her doctoral research to provide recommendations for imperiled bumble bee monitoring and has also applied her expertise to give recommendations for surveying the Bethany Beach firefly in DE. Michelle's hometown is Minneapolis, MN, where she completed her B.S. and A.S. degrees.

## **Presidents Message**

I hope everyone has been safe from all this rain this week or so, lots of flooding everywhere! As the temperature is going down and we enter fall more, I hope everyone made the most out of their spring and summer and got to see lots of butterflies!

I would like to again thank my eboard for their help with keeping the website up to date (Keith), our social media account very active (Edmund), and Wade for all of his time as our field trip coordinator.

See everyone Tuesday! ☺

[Jen](#)

## **Upcoming Meetings**

If you have a program you would like to present to our club or have seen one that you believe our members would enjoy, please email me at [entomologyjenna@gmail.com](mailto:entomologyjenna@gmail.com) - Thank you!

**Next meeting will be Tuesday, November 7th, 2023**

## Field trip

The 2023 schedule of field trips has concluded. Please be sure to check back in the spring to see what we have in store for next year.

Wrapping up another season of butterfly field trips. Gathering of the clan hosted by Teresa Knipper (seated on the right) at her home following our overnight trip in September to Cape May. The list of butterflies seen on the trip has been posted on the South Jersey Butterfly Log (for Sept. 19) at:

<https://sjbutterflies.org/>

