

ALG News Archive - from the ALG website

#1 December 2000

[note historical links are no longer functional]

The formation of the Alberta Lepidopterists' Guild:

After casual discussions throughout 1998 and 1999, a group of lepidopterists met at Olds College on October 16 to discuss the formation of a society for lepidopterists in Alberta. The following people were present at that meeting:

Gary Anweiler (Edmonton)	Louis Morneau (Edmonton)
George Ball (Edmonton)	Ted Pike (Calgary)
Charles Bird (Erskine)	Greg Pohl (Sherwood Park)
Sherri Dunne (Edmonton)	Chris Schmidt (Edmonton)
David Lawrie (Edmonton)	Danny Shpeley (Edmonton)
Doug Macaulay (Edmonton)	John Spence (Edmonton)
Ernest Mengersen (Olds)	Felix Sperling (Edmonton)
Andrew Mitchell (Edmonton)	Jan Volney (Edmonton)

We decided to pursue incorporation as a society, and after much debate, The Alberta Lepidopterists' Guild was chosen as a name. We hammered out a set of bylaws, which were duly signed by all, and witnessed by Dr. Kathleen Ball. We each paid \$10 in dues to get the society rolling, and elected a set of officers as follows:

Gary Anweiler	President
Felix Sperling	Vice-President
Greg Pohl	Secretary/Treasurer
Chris Schmidt	Director
Ernest Mengersen	Director
Dave Lawrie	Director
Andrew Mitchell	Director

After a glitch with our paperwork and some minor alterations to the bylaws, the society was incorporated on Dec. 8, 1999.

Some ALG happenings in 2000:

Feb. 27

Daryl Williams hosted a Lepidoptera imagery night at his home in Edmonton. The highlight

of the night was special guest Tom Webb, who showed off some of his amazing Lepidoptera photography.

June 22

Our list-serve ALTALEPS is born. Originally set up by Barb Beck, this is a closed list for ALG members, hosted by the University of Alberta.

July 7

Greg Pohl hosted a potluck BBQ and moth collecting night, at his acreage east of Edmonton.

September 29

Gary Anweiler had a moth night at his home in Edmonton. This was a chance to compare catches and tale sof the ones that got away, from the past summer.

November 10

Doug Macaulay had a moth night at his home in Edmonton. Among other things, Greg Pohl showed his slides of the recent Boreal Shield collecting trip.

December 9

Felix Sperling hosted the ALG general meeting at his home in Edmonton. Andrew Mitchell and Dave Lawrie stepped down from the executive as directors, and were replaced by John Acorn and Charley Bird for the 2001 year. We also discussed the possibility of hosting the international Lep Society meetings, in 2003. The meeting was followed by a farewell party for Andrew Mitchell, one of our founding members, who left for a research position in South Africa.

Charley Bird Receives Award:

Charles Durham Bird, a long-time lepidopterist and founding member of the ALG, was awarded the Dewey Soper Award in May 2000, by the Alberta Society of Professional Biologists. The award was given to Dr. Bird based on his years of research and teaching as a botany professor at the University of Calgary (1966-1979) and for his work on butterflies in Alberta, culminating in the publication of Alberta Butterflies in 1995 by Bird and 4 other members of ALG.

The Alberta Shield Inventory:

The ALG was invited to participate in an inventory of new wildland parks in extreme northeastern Alberta. This survey is expected to go on for several years. This year the study area consisted of the Richardson Dunes Wildland Park, Maybelle River Wildland Park, and Marguerite Crag & Tail Wildland Park. The survey was organised by the Government of Alberta's Natural Resources Service; they provided a fully equipped field camp, and helicopter and ATV access to these remote sites. ALG members Andrew Mitchell, Greg Pohl, and Chris Schmidt went on the June 11-15 expedition, and Dave Lawrie and Doug Macaulay went on the August 21-26 expedition. They collected with nets by day, and UV traps and MV sheets by night. A [report detailing the collections](#) has been submitted to the Alberta Government.

Butterfly Counts:

ALG members were very active in summer [NABA butterfly counts](#), organising or participating in events at Vegreville, Innisfree, Elk Island, Athabasca, Dry Island Buffalo Jump, Cardinal Divide, Edmonton, Calling Lake, Pigeon Lake, Bragg Creek, Redwater, and Opal.

ALG membership continues to grow:

2000 saw ALG continue to grow by leaps and bounds. By the end of the year, we had 31 members, just about double the number at the inaugural meeting.