# Linnaean Field Trip Report

Van Cortlandt Park, NYC, NY

June 16, 2018

Weather was sunny, calm, in mid 80s

Leader: Ken Chaya

#### **Birds**

Rock Pigeon

Chimney Swift

Mourning Dove (nest only)

Green Heron (on active nest)

Red-tailed Hawk

Peregrine Falcon

Red-eyed Vireo

Warbling Vireo

Blue Jay

Tree Swallow

Barn Swallow

American Robin

Gray Catbird

**European Starling** 

House Sparrow

American Goldfinch (heard)

Red-winged Blackbird

Scarlet Tanager

Baltimore Oriole

Northern Cardinal

### Trees, Shrubs

Paperbark Maple

Red Maple

Norway Maple

Silver Maple

European Linden

Red Oak

Chestnut Oak

Pin Oak

Black Cherry

Hackberry

Catalpa Tree

Tuliptree

Bitternut Hickory

Black Locust

Cottonwood

American Sycamore

London Plane

Staghorn Sumac

Smooth Sumac

Sassafras

White Ash

## Vines, Wildflowers

Virginia Creeper

Poison Ivy

Wine Berry

Curled Dock

Broad-leaved Dock

Arrowwood Viburnum

Daisy Fleabane

Wild Grape

False Solomon's Seal

Bladdernut

Purple Milkweed

Common Milkweed

Black Cohosh

Mugwort

White Clover

Yellow Wood Sorrel

Deadly Nightshade

#### **Butterflies and Moths**

Eastern Tiger Swallowtail

Spicebush Swallowtail

Cabbage White

Clouded Sulfur

Orange Sulfur

Orange Junui

Banded Hairstreak

Summer Azure

Silvery Checkerspot

Red Admiral

Silver-spotted Skipper

Hobomok Skipper

Morbid Owlet

Orange-patched Smoky

Moth

### **Odonates**

**Ebony Jewelwing** 

Eastern Forktail

Variable Dancer

Spot-winged Glider

Common Whitetail

#### Other Invertebrates

Spittle Bug (Cercopoidea)

Red-banded Leaf Hopper (Graphocephala coccinea)

Two-spotted Grassbug (*Stenotus* binotatus)

Stilt Bug (Berytidae)

Eastern Harvestman, aka Daddy Longlegs (*Leiobunum vittatum*)

Earwig (Forficulidae)

Green Lacewing (Chrysopidae)

Katydid (Tettigoniidae)

Syrphid Fly (Syrphidae, several

different species seen)

Picture-wing Fly (Delphinia picta)

Long-legged Fly

(Dolichopodidae)

Crane Fly (Limoniidae)

Checkered Beetle (Cleridae)

Locust Leafminer (larval

leafmine seen on leaves)

Golden Tortoise Beetle

(Charidotella sexpunctata)

Metallic Wood-boring Beetle

(Buprestidae)

Ridged Carrion Beetle

(Olceoptoma inaequale)

Tumbling Flower Beetle

(Mordella marginata)
Long-horned Beetle (Necydalis

mellita)

Firefly (Lampyridae)

Net-winged Beetle (Calopteron

discrepans)

Net-winged Beetle (Caenia

dimidiata)

Ichneumon Wasp

(Ichneumonidae)

Cerceris Wasp (Crabronidae)

Mason Wasp (Manobia

quadridens)

Cuckoo Wasp (Chrysididae)

Velvet Ant (Timulla sp.)

Crab Spider (Thomisidae)

Jumping Spider (Salticidae)

(Note: Roman font indicates Family name, Italic indicates Genus and Species)



We were successful in finding our target species, the Silvery Checkerspot (*Chlosyne nycteis*).



Another view of the Silvery Checkerspot. We easily saw over a dozen individuals on this day.



This tiny Tumbling Flower Beetle (*Mordella marginata*) was found on a wild rose blossom.



A favorite, the brightly colored Red-banded Leafhopper (*Graphocephala coccinea*).



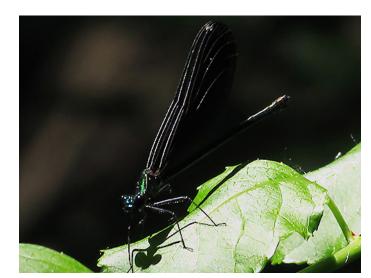
Another good sighting was this Banded Hairstreak (*Satyrium calanus*). It cooperatively perched for us allowing for photographs..



The fine, velvet-like hair on its stalk indicates that this is Staghorn Sumac (*Rhus typhina*).



Less seen elsewhere in NYC, I often observe this Tachnid Fly (*Cordyligaster septentrionalis*) in Van Cortlandt Park during the summer months.



Ebony Jewelwing (*Calopteryx maculata*). A beautiful female—note small white spots on wing tips (pseudostigma)—watches from her perch.



An exciting first-time ever sighting for everyone was this Long-horned Beetle (*Necydalis mellita*).

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Found on decomposing remains was this Ridged Carrion Beetle (*Olceoptoma inaequale*).

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Young Earwigs such as this one can often be found within the foliage of Milkweed plants. Family Forticulidae.



After some research, I believe this Limoniid Crane Fly may be (*Epiphragma solatrix*).

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High in a Pin Oak, we observed this active Green Heron nest.



One of the nesting pair, this Green Heron (*Buto-rides virescens*) was seen perching nearby.



Easily confused in the field are the 3 orange and black insects on this page. The one above is called a Net-winged Beetle (*Caenia dimidiata*).



To illustrate why we use Latin names for precise identification, here is another common named, Net-winged Beetle (*Calopteron discrepans*).



These young American Robins (*Turdus migratorius*) still in the nest, appeared ready to fledge.



Balancing on its long, spindley legs, the wellnamed Stilt Bug makes its way across a leaf. Family Berytidae.



And another look-alike, yet not a beetle at all, is this Orange-patched Smoky Moth (*Pyramorphia dimidiata*).



Careful observation revealed several well camouflaged Morbid Owlet moths (*Chytolita morbidalis*) perched on the ground.



Getting ready to bloom was this Purple Milkweed (*Argia fumipennis*).



Although it goes by the common name of Velvet Ant (*Timulla sp.*), this hairy red insect is actually a wasp.



This bold fellow is a Jumping Spider of the Family Salticidae.



Variable Dancer (*Argia fumipennis*) this female was found blending in with the forest leaf litter.