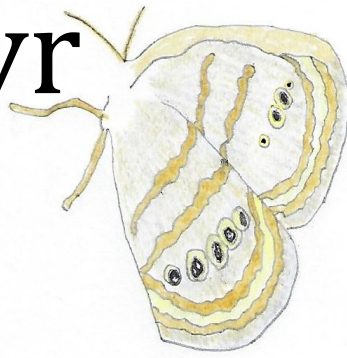


# The Lonely Satyr

For Butterfly Enthusiasts  
of Indiana, Michigan, Ohio



June 1, 2025

## *Quest for a Pollinator License Plate by Leslie Arnold*

Thanks to a fellow *Lonely Satyr* member, I learned about the campaign to have a pollinator license plate in Indiana. Let's meet Lisa Conrad, the plate spearhead, and Phoebe Redfield, the plate sponsor at [Pollinator.org](https://pollinator.org), to find out more about the project! I had the fun opportunity to email interview Lisa, and I have paraphrased her story here. Thank you, Lisa and Phoebe, for everything you do to save pollinators.



For more than thirty years, Lisa Conrad (photo left) has been involved in many volunteer efforts to save Monarchs. These have included raising Monarch eggs in her Waterloo classroom, creating a Monarch Waystation, organizing the event Monarch Kids Fest, and participating in milkweed monitoring and Monarch tagging programs. Lisa said "several of her tagged monarchs (were) recovered in Mexico." Lisa also served on the Eckhart Public Library Board when they redesigned the library landscape to incorporate native Indiana pollinator plants.

Furthermore, in 2019, she approached the Auburn Mayor about the Monarch Mayor's Pledge. The Mayor signed the pledge and supported a Monarch mural in downtown Auburn. A picture of the mural is bottom left of this page.

It was also in 2019 that she met author Kylee Baumle, of *The Monarch: Saving our Most-Loved Butterfly*. Upon meeting Kylee, she discussed the idea of a Monarch specialty plate with her and learned that she had succeeded in getting a plate in Ohio. When Lisa retired from teaching in 2022, she decided to pursue her "bucket list" goal of getting a pollinator license plate.

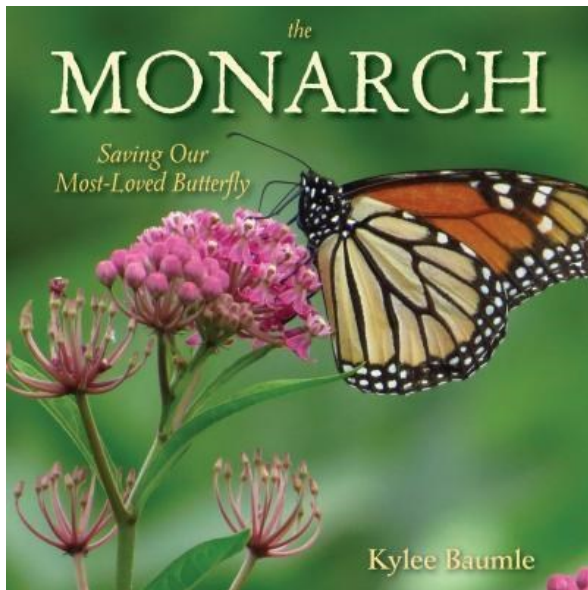
When asked about the process, Lisa said:

"I reached out to Pollinator Partnership ([Pollinator.org](https://pollinator.org)) this year and after several emails Phoebe Redfield contacted me for a video conference. We got the OK to move forward in late March and decided to shoot for the April 1 deadline -- leaving only about 10 days to collect the necessary 500 signatures of individuals committed to purchasing a pollinator plate!"





## Plate continued



If you've been with *The Lonely Satyr* since the start, the name Kylee Baumle might sound familiar. We were delighted with an interview of Kylee in a past newsletter. Here is the cover of the book mentioned in this article.



"I posted a notice and link on Facebook to request petitions and set up signing locations. The link was immediately reposted and 2 days later I was approached for a TV interview. The day the interview ran my email box exploded with requests for petitions. Within 24 hours I was getting requests all across the state. I was elated by the interest and enthusiasm for the pollinator plate! I met several people who wanted to take an active part in promoting this venture! Lindsey, a young mom from my area made a large license plate sign and drove all over several cities delivering petitions or collecting signatures, family friends in Indianapolis took petitions to work and throughout the neighborhood recruiting pollinator supporters to commit to a license plate. Others took petitions to garden shows, clubs, meetings, work, doctor's offices and more! We not only collected the 500 signatures necessary, but happily exceeded that amount in just 10 days! The license plate application was submitted by April 1 and has passed the first hurdle - the legal aspect. Now we wait for the Road and Transportation Board to approve the plate and then the final design. *When* that happens we will be on board for a 2026 Pollinator License plate!" The proposed design of the plate is pictured here, top left. Maybe I'm biased, but that is an attractive looking design!

I asked Lisa how we can help, and she said:

"You can help by staying involved with pollinator initiatives and spreading the word about the pollinator plate so when it is available it will have lots of support and become the MOST purchased specialty plate in Indiana!"

A picture of the Monarch, courtesy of Indiana DNR, is seen here to the left.

## *Plate continued*

When I asked Phoebe about the plate project, she replied:

“Lisa has been the heart and soul behind this license plate effort. Her passion for pollinators shines through in everything she does. It has been such a joy for us at Pollinator Partnership to help support her vision and to stand alongside all of the many Hoosiers who rallied behind it. Pollinator Partnership is the largest nonprofit organization in North America dedicated exclusively to pollinator health and habitat protection, and when we first connected with Lisa, we knew right away that her idea was something special. Lisa and I helped rally the troops, but it was the people of Indiana who made this happen. I think that this plate can show what’s possible when one person lights a spark and a whole community comes together to make it happen.”

Phoebe Redfield is the Conservation Director with Pollinator Partnership. Future sales of the plate will support Pollinator.org projects across Indiana. I plan to update us on this project as it moves through the approval process.

## *Butterfly Sightings*

Right: Mottled Duskywing  
Credit: John Michael Durback  
Indiana Dunes N.P., Miller Woods  
5/10/2025



Right: Silvery Blue  
Credit: John Michael Durback  
Northeast Indiana  
5/2025





## Community Calendar

Contact the event host prior to traveling to make sure it's not cancelled.

**Saturday, June 7 & Sunday, June 8**

**10:00 am - 5:00pm**

**Native Plant Sale**

**Sarett Nature Center**

2300 N. Benton Center Rd., Benton Center, MI

Possible entry fees apply.

**Sunday, June 8**

**1:00 - 4:00pm**

**Butterfly Monitor Training (Outdoor Field Portion)**

**Merry Lea Environmental Learning Center, Albion, IN**

Indoor presentation required prior to attending. Practice a monitoring route. Register at <https://merrylea.goshen.edu/get-involved>. Scroll down to the Google Form. Call 260-799-5969 with questions.

**Saturday, June 14**

**10:00am - 2:00pm**

**Allen County Master Gardeners Garden Walk & Plant Sale**

**Allen County Extension Office, 4001 Crescent Ave., Fort Wayne, IN**

Will have native plants as well as other plants and much more.

**Sunday, July 6**

**1:00 - 2:30pm**

**The Mysterious Mitchell's Satyr Butterfly Walk**

**Sarett Nature Center, Benton Center, MI**

Join Director, Nate Fuller, to learn about this federally endangered butterfly. Learn about their special habitat needs and take a walk to try to see them in flight. Call 269-927-4832 to register. Program has fees.

**Wednesday, July 9**

**NABA July 4th Butterfly Count**

**Chain O' Lakes State Park, Albion, IN**

Volunteers welcome! Free park entry if you pre-register as a volunteer with Leslie Arnold at [leslie@forestteacher.org](mailto:leslie@forestteacher.org). Rain day is Thursday, July 10. Start time and meeting place to be determined closer to event.

(No endorsement or discrimination of specific events or vendors on this community calendar is intended or implied.)

## Community Sightings

I think May was a bit on the cool side. We didn't have any sightings reported. So....let's celebrate Pollinator Week 2025 instead! See the full list of swag and events at [pollinator.org/pollinator-week](http://pollinator.org/pollinator-week).

June 16-22, 2025

If you'd like to use a photograph in this newsletter, or any other "The Lonely Satyr," please contact Leslie Arnold, who will seek permission from the photographer. These amazing photos are hard work, so we want to give credit where it is due!



If you'd like your event information to be in July's newsletter, please turn it in by June 23. Local sightings are my favorite part of the newsletter, so please report what you're seeing. Don't be shy! Photos are great!

To subscribe and submit, contact:

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