# BUTTERFLIES Alive!



BLUE-FROSTED BANNER
Cantonephele numilia (male)



BLUE-FROSTED BANNER

Cantonephele numilia (female)



DORIS LONGWING

Laparus doris



POSTMAN
Heliconius melpomene



ZEBRA LONGWING
Heliconius charithonia



JULIA LONGWING

Dryas iulia



MONARCH\*

Danaus plexippus



GIANT SWALLOWTAIL

Papilio cresphontes



TIGER LONGWING

Heliconius hecale



POLYDAMAS SWALLOWTAIL

Battus polydamas



TRUE CATTLEHEART

Parides eurimedes



MALACHITE Siproeta stelenes



BLUE MORPHO Morpho peleides



SILKMOTH Rothschildea lebeau



GIANT OWL Caligo sp.



# **BLUE-FROSTED BANNER (MALE)**

This butterfly is a perfect example of sexual dimorphism with males and females having distinct markings and patterns. The male banner has six orange spots featured against black wings.



## MONARCH\*

The classic bright orange and black warning colors on the Monarch's wings signal toxicity to birds, protecting the butterflies. Santa Barbara has resident Monarchs as well as overwintering migrants.



## TRUE CATTLEHEART

True Cattleheart butterflies are members of the swallowtail family (family Papilionidae). This cattleheart has a distinct red fringe on both sides of its hindwings. They are often found in the shady areas of our garden or hiding under leaves.



# **BLUE-FROSTED BANNER (FEMALE)**

The female banner has light yellow bands on the center of its forewings. These adult butterflies prefer rotting fruit to nectar in our garden.



## **ZEBRA LONGWING**

This black butterfly with narrow yellow stripes is often seen in our garden roosting in large clusters in on trees or high up on the mesh panels. This group roosting behavior often occurs as a protective strategy; there just might be safety in numbers!



# MALACHITE

Named after the mineral, Malachite butterflies feature bright green upperside and broad brown or black bands. Their rusty brown and pale green undersides help camouflage when resting under leaves and in shady areas.



#### **DORIS LONGWING**

One of our smallest butterflies found in the garden, the colorful ray pattern on its hindwing can be blue, green or red. These fliers can be found from Mexico southward to Brazil, preferring areas where flowers are most abundant.



## GIANT SWALLOWTAIL

This black and yellow butterfly is noted by its broadly yellow abdomen. You may see this butterfly with or without tails; a defense strategy against predators, the tails can detach without harming this insect.



## **BLUE MORPHO**

This butterfly mostly feeds on rotting fruit, sap, and fungi, never flowers. The brilliant blue upperside is seen during flight or perching on warm days. Count the seven eyespots on its underwings when roosting in shady areas of our garden.



#### **POSTMAN**

With bold red bands and white/yellow patches on its hindwings, the Postman looks like its relative, the Red Postman (Heliconius erato). Both species are poisonous to eat. Their similar markings help spread the word that these bugs don't taste good!



# TIGER LONGWING

This tiger lacks solid stripes, but its black, orange, and yellow colorings signal a warning to birds who prey on this hearty butterfly. The caterpillar feeds on passionflower leaves, which are toxic to birds and other insects. An abundant butterfly in Costa Rica, from pastures to rainforests.



#### SILKMOTH

This silkmoth is usually found high up in our garden. If you can spot this loner, it is distinguished by four transparent spots in both sets of wings. Unlike butterflies, moths are most active at night, and have feather-like antennae.



#### JULIA LONGWING

This butterfly has bright orange wings, warning predators of toxins. Females have a complete dark bar across the forewing, while males have only a dark spot. Both Julia and Zebra Longwings gather to sleep in trees, roosting upside down.



## POLYDAMAS SWALLOWTAIL

This swallowtail has no tails! To find this butterfly, look up. They tend to be stronger fliers that often take a high perch. Look for a row of wide gold spots on the upperside of the forewings and hindwings.



#### **GIANT OWL**

This butterfly and others of the genus Caligo are active at dawn and dusk. The large eyespots on its underwing give this butterfly its namesake. Many Owl butterflies have different upperside color variations but rarely is seen with its wings open on display.

\*Indicates this species is found in Santa Barbara.