# The Mountain Breeze

## Spring

### Four Seasons at Charlottesville

2012

The Four Seasons at Charlottesville newsletter is yet to be published. This issue is just a simple example of what it could be.



The newsletter is in need of writers and good stories to relay.

#### **Wine Club Outing**

The Wine Club traveled to Pippin Hill Farm Winery in April. A good time was had by all who went.

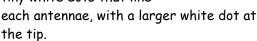


#### **Moths and Butterflies**

On Tuesday Arline and I were working on the lawn when she noticed a large insect on the grass. It just stayed there as we looked carefully at it. I took some pictures. It seemed quite docile as it allowed itself to be picked up. It stayed on the lawn for a couple of hours, allowing us to show it to a couple of neighbors. I was able to identify it on a web site as a polythemus moth. It has a 4.5 inch wing span. Wikipedia tells me that this moth goes through 5 stages of caterpillar, eating 86,000 times its own weight, before it morphs into its final flying stage. Then, it only lives for five days. It must find a mate quickly, and it uses the feathery antenna to detect and follow the ephemerons emitted by the female. I suspect that it seemed docile because it was close to the end of its life

Yesterday, I saw many butterflies along the path by the lake, flitting from flower to flower. I was able to get one or two good pictures of individuals. Using the same web site (Butterflies and Moths of North America) I identified them as Red

Admirals. They have a 2 inch wing span. In addition to the brilliant colors, the close-up photo below shows the tiny white dots that line



Joe Brennan