



SOCIETY OF AVIAN PALEONTOLOGY AND EVOLUTION

- Newsletter -

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Colleagues.

As a scientific society, SAPE has moved on two fronts to further its goal of promoting international cooperation in the study of the evolutionary history of birds. First, as most of you must know, through the hard work of PER ERICSON and TOMMY TYRBERG we have our own home page on the WWW*, as well as a Listserv for those who choose to participate. I know from several non-members that they have visited and used our home page, and I regard it as a significant step forward for the Society. Suggestions for improving the site are always welcome.

The Listserv has not generated the interest I know some members would like to see, but it has served to disperse information that otherwise would not have been readily available. The list was not intended to be used as a "chat room"; I think most of us are simply too busy to respond to every comment that might arise from that type of a list, even though we may wish to do so. There is one use of the list that has not yet arisen that I think could be extremely useful, which is for members to post their publications as they appear. Everyone puts a lot of work into their papers, and letting colleagues know that a paper has appeared should become the final step in the publication process. This would be particularly useful for papers published in what are often referred to as "obscure" serials or books. Although members list their publications in our newsletter, its appearance only once a year does not promote rapid dispersal of

information. I would urge all members to begin posting references to their papers as they appear.

On another front, the Executive Council of SAPE has been working to develop a Constitution and Bylaws for the society. A draft has been developed and is currently being circulated and discussed by the Executive Council. I have been coordinating this effort, and although progress was slowed for the past few months because I was away from Los Angeles, a draft should be available on our home page by the end of the year. We will notify the membership once this becomes available, and everyone who chooses to do so will have the opportunity to comment on the draft document. At the time the draft is posted (or circulated by mail to those who do not have access to the WWW) we will present explanations for the points we expect will raise the most questions. We hope members will offer their comments on the Listserv so that all may be part of the discussion. We plan to have a final version ready for a vote of acceptance by late spring of 2002.

As a final note, the 23rd International Ornithological Congress will be held in Beijing, China, in August of next year. I am planning on attending and representing SAPE at that congress. I hope to see many of you there!

Cordially,

Ken Campbell

* the internet address of the SAPE website is:

<http://www.nrm.se/ve/birds/sape/sape001.html.en>

the site also contains a regularly updated membership list

THE 6TH QUADRENNIAL MEETING OF SAPE: SITE SELECTION

The result of the election for the site of the next SAPE meeting is as follows:

Gainesville: 21 votes

Quillan: 42 votes.

The 6th SAPE meeting will thus be held in Quillan, France (see the last newsletter for further information). The exact dates for the 2004 meeting have not yet been decided upon. However, July and August are probably out of consideration because Quillan is an important tourist destination

during those months and the town is very crowded. If you have any comments or suggestions regarding scheduling or any other matters, please contact:

ERIC BUFFETAUT, CNRS, 16 cour du Liegat, 75013 Paris, France (eric.buffetaut@wanadoo.fr).

Since there were some rumors concerning the issue, it should be noted that 25 people voting for Quillan are members who attended a previous SAPE meeting and regularly publish in avian paleontology.

NEWS FROM THE MEMBERS AND RECENT PUBLICATIONS

ARGENTINA

CAROLINA ACOSTA HOSPITALECHE now works on the morphometrics of the various species of Spheniscidae from Argentina. For her PhD, she further studies the stratigraphy and taphonomy of this group.

JORGE I. NORIEGA is currently describing a fossil specimen of *Sarcoramphus* cf. *papa* (Ciconiiformes: Vulturidae) from Late Pleistocene sediments of Buenos Aires Province (Argentina), which has very interesting paleozoogeographic and paleoenvironmental implications for the last glacial maximum times. Together with CLAUDIA TAMBUSI, he continues to work on hind-limb bones of a medium sized phorusrhacid from the Late Miocene of Entre Rios Province of Argentina, comparing it with another very similar and more complete specimen which comes from earlier sediments of the Santa Cruz Province (Patagonia). Together with STORRS OLSON and GERARDO CLADERA (Museo Paleontológico Egidio Feruglio de Trelew), he started to study a Miocene fossil stork (Ciconiidae) from Patagonia. Together with ANDRÉS RINDERKNECHT (Museo Nacional de Historia Natural de Montevideo, Uruguay), he further describes a pelvic girdle of a new giant darter (Pelecaniformes: Anhingidae) from the Pliocene of Uruguay Republic.

ACOSTA HOSPITALECHE, C. & TAMBUSI, C. (2000): *Pterocnemia pennata* en el Pleistoceno tardío-Holoceno de Monte Hermoso, provincia de Buenos Aires (Argentina): su importancia paleoambiental. Comunicaciones Anuales de la APA. - Ameghiniana, 37 (4). Suplemento 2000, Res-menues: 68R.

ACOSTA HOSPITALECHE, C. (2001): Restos de *Hermosiornis* (Aves, Gruiformes) del Mioceno

tardío-temprano de Arroyo Chasicó, Argentina. - XVII Jornadas Argentinas Paleontología Vertebrados. Esquel.

ACOSTA HOSPITALECHE, C.C. TAMBUSI, C.P. & REGUERO, M. (2001): Catálogo de los tipos de Aves fósiles del Museo de La Plata. - Revista del Museo, Serie Técnica y Didáctica, 41: 1-28.

CARLINI, A.A., SCILLATO YANÉ, G.J., NORIEGA, J.I. & ACEÑOLAZA, F.G. (2000): Perezosos terrestres (Xenarthra: Tardigrada) del "Mesopotamiense" (Formación Ituzaingó, Mioceno tardío) de la provincia de Entre Ríos, Argentina. - Studia Geologica Salmanticensia, 36: 13-27.

CIONE, A.L., AZPELIQUETA, M., BOND, M., CARLINI, A., CASCIOTTA, J., COZZUOL, M., DE LA FUENTE, M., GASPARINI, Z., GOIN, F., NORIEGA, J.I., SCILLATO-YANÉ, G. J., SOIBELZON, L., TONNI, E.P., VERZI, D. & VUCETICH, M.G. (2000): Miocene vertebrates from Entre Ríos, eastern Argentina. - In: ACEÑOLAZA, F. G. & HERBST, R. (eds.): El Neógeno de Argentina. - INSUGEO, Serie Correlación Geológica, 14: 191-237.

NORIEGA, J.I. (2000): Body mass estimation and locomotion of the Miocene pelecaniform bird *Macranhinga*. - Acta Palaeontologica Polonica, 46 (2): 115-128.

NORIEGA, J.I., MANZANO, A.S., DE LA FUENTE, M.S. & TONNI, E.P. (2000): Un Testudininae gigante (Chelonii: Cryptodira) del Pleistoceno de la Provincia de Corrientes. - Ameghiniana, 37 (3): 321-326.

TONNI, E.P. & NORIEGA, J.I. (2001): Una especie extinta de *Pseudoseisura* Reichenbach 1853 (Passeriformes: Furnariidae) del Pleistoceno de la Argentina: comentarios filogenéticos. - Ornitología Neotropical, 12 (1): 29-44.

AUSTRALIA

In 2000, WALTER BOLES completed his PhD on "Investigations on Australian Tertiary Avifauna, with an Emphasis on the Fossil Birds of Riversleigh, Northwestern Queensland". With TESSA IVISON, he described a dwarf megapode *Ngawupodius minya* from the Late Oligocene of central Australia, and also published a comparison of the diverse sternal osteology of Australian pigeons.

Several papers arising from his thesis are in press or have been submitted for publication. The description of the new emu mentioned in the 1999 Newsletter will be published later this year. This form comes from Late Oligocene deposits of central Australia. It has not been possible to determine if this taxon had the derived features of the hindlimb that diagnose the genus *Dromaius*, so it has been tentatively assigned to the more primitive *Emuarius*. After some delays, the description of the swiftlet *Collocalia* from Late Oligocene/Early Miocene deposits at Riversleigh, Queensland will be published in a special volume of *Memoirs of the Australasian Society of Palaeontologists*, hopefully later this year. The study of another Riversleigh fossil, a flightless rail similar to the Australian native-hens *Gallinula* (subgenus *Tribonyx*), was submitted to the proceedings of the Beijing SAPE meeting. Specimens assigned to this species have been found at sites dating from the Late Oligocene through the Middle Miocene. An overview of the fossil history of Australian birds has been submitted as a chapter of a forthcoming book, "Evolution and Zoogeography of Australasian Vertebrates". It attempts to integrate more recent findings with the previously known record and interpret this history in light of what is now known of palaeogeography of Australia.

Of the unpublished chapters of his doctoral work, Walter hopes to submit several in the near future, including a revision of Australian Tertiary storks (Ciconiidae) of the genus *Ciconia* and Tertiary honeyeaters (Meliphagidae) from Riversleigh. A large component of his thesis consists of work on the osteology, systematics and palaeobiology of the two species of the Dromornithidae from the Late Oligocene – Middle Miocene of Riversleigh. Extra motivation will be required before revisiting them. (Note – the cassowary mentioned in the 1999 Newsletter turned out to be young individual

of the dromornithid *Barawertornis tedfordi*, lacking some of the diagnostic features.) A checklist of the Tertiary and named fossil birds of Australia is awaiting final checks before submission.

New projects that Walter plans to undertake include studies on several central Australian fossils of Columbiformes and Charadriiformes and the development of an identification guide to the major bones of Australian bird families. He was asked to identify a collection of well-preserved Pleistocene fossils from a cave in South Australia. Almost all belonged to the giant megapodes of the genus *Progura*. This genus currently comprises two species, *P. gallinacea* and *P. naracoortensis*; however, there is a question whether the latter is a valid species or represents the smaller sex of a markedly dimorphic species. Nothing has been done on these birds since 1974, and the osteology remains to be described and their relationships to other Australian megapodes has not been examined. Walter is undertaking a project looking at the extensive, but unstudied, material in the South Australian Museum, most of which has come from other cave deposits. The aims will be to (1) describe the osteology, (2) identify how many species are represented and, if there is only one species, (3) determine whether the size differences are due to sexual dimorphism or marked individual variation. A very well preserved endocast of a dromornithid bird was previously found at Riversleigh. This year, at another site, a second endocast was found, this one still in a partial skull. Walter is hoping that these finds will provide clues to the sensory capabilities of these intriguing birds.

BOLES, W.E. (1999): Comments on the sternal morphology of Australo-Papuan pigeons. - *Bulletin of the British Ornithologists Club*, 119: 144-151.

BOLES, W.E. & IVISON, T.J. (1999): A new genus of dwarf megapode (Galliformes: Megapodiidae) from the Late Oligocene of central Australia. - In: OLSON, S.L. (ed): *Avian Paleontology at the Close of the 20th Century: Proceedings of the 4th International Meeting of the Society of Avian Paleontology and Evolution*, Washington, D.C., 4-7 June 1996. - *Smithsonian Contributions to Paleobiology*, 89: 199-206.

BRAZIL

HÖFLING, E. & ALVARENGA, H.M.F. (2001): Osteology of the shoulder girdle in the Piciformes,

Passeriformes and related groups of birds. - *Zoologischer Anzeiger*, 240: 196-208.

BULGARIA

In 2000, ZLATOZAR BOEV did field work at the following localities: Ratiaria, a late Holocene site (some findings of Phasianidae, Anatidae, and Otididae); Balsha, a new Late Pliocene/Early Pleistocene site of W-Bulgaria (findings of *Lagopus* sp.); Kunino, an early Pleistocene site of NW-Bulgaria (some findings of Non-Passeriform birds); Hadzhidimovo, a Middle Miocene site of SW-Bulgaria (some findings of Anatidae and other Non-Passeriform birds). In 2001, he collected additional bird material in Varshets, Bulgaria.

- BOEV, Z. (1998): Presence of Bald Ibises (*Geronticus* Wagler, 1832) (Threskiornithidae - Aves) in the Late Pliocene of Bulgaria. - *Geologica Balcanica*, 28 (1-2): 45-52.
- BOEV, Z. (1998): The fossil birds of Dorkovo - an Early Pliocene site in the Rhodope Mts. (Southern Bulgaria). - *Geologica Balcanica*, 28 (1-2): 53-60.
- BOEV, Z. (1998): A range fluctuation of Alpine swift (*Apus melba* (L., 1758)) (Apodidae - Aves) in Northern Balkan Peninsula in the Riss-Wurm interglacial. - *Biogeographia, Nuova Serie*, 19, 1997: 213-218.
- BOEV, Z. (1998): Peafowl (g. *Pavo* Linnaeus, 1758) and Ptarmigans (g. *Lagopus* Brisson, 1760): An unique coexistence in North Bulgaria over 3 m. y. ago. - *Biogeographia, Nuova Serie*, 19, 1997: 219-222.
- BOEV, Z. (1998): The birds in the Neogene - Quaternary. - *Priroda, BAS*. 1-2: 57-67. [in Bulgarian]
- SIMEONOV, S., MILCHEV, B. & BOEV, Z. (1998): Study of the Eagle Owl (*Bubo bubo* (L.)) (Aves: Strigiformes) in Strandzha mountain (Southeast Bulgaria). II. Food spectrum and trophic specialization. - *Acta zoologica bulgarica*, 50 (2/3): 87-100.
- BOEV, Z. & KOVACHEV, D. (1999): *Buteo spassovi* sp. n. - a Late Miocene Buzzard (Accipitridae, Aves) from SW Bulgaria. - *Geologica Balcanica*, 29 (1-2): 125-129.
- BOEV, Z. (1999): Earliest finds of crossbills (genus *Loxia*) (Aves: Fringillidae) from Varshets (NW Bulgaria). - *Geologica balcanica*, 29 (3-4): 51-57.
- BOEV, Z. (1999): *Falco bakalovi* sp. n. - a Late Pliocene falcon (Falconidae, Aves) from Varshets (W Bulgaria). - *Geologica Balcanica*, 29 (1-2): 131-135.
- BOEV, Z. (1999): On the presence of *Tetrao partium* (Kretzoi, 1962) (Tetraonidae - Galliformes) in the Late Pliocene of Bulgaria. - *Historia naturalis bulgarica*, 10: 85-96.
- BOEV, Z. (1999): Late Pliocene Bustards (Otididae, Gray, 1845) from W Bulgaria. - *Historia naturalis bulgarica*, 10: 97-108.
- BOEV, Z. (1999): *Regulus bulgaricus* sp. n. - the first fossil Kinglet (Aves: Sylviidae) from the Late Pliocene of Varshets (W Bulgaria). - *Historia naturalis bulgarica*, 10: 109-115.
- BOEV, Z. (1999): *Gallinula balcanica* sp. n. (Rallidae: Gruiformes) - a Middle Villafranchian Moorhen from Western Bulgaria. - *Acta zoologica bulgarica*, 51 (1): 43-47.
- BOEV, Z. (1999): 60 years of the birth of Dr. Tanyo Michev - an ornithologist, nature conservator, photographer. - *Historia naturalis bulgarica*, 10: 116. [in Bulgarian]
- BOEV, Z. (2000): Neogene avifaunas of Bulgaria. - *Vertebrata Palasiatica*, 38 (Suppl.): 2-3. (Abstract).
- BOEV, Z. (2000): *Cygnus verae* sp. n. (Anseriformes: Anatidae) from the Early Pliocene of Sofia (Bulgaria). - *Acta zoologica cracoviensia*, 43 (1-2): 185-192.
- BOEV, Z. (2000): Early Pleistocene and Early Holocene Avifauna of the Cherdzhenitsa Cave (Northwestern Bulgaria) - *Historia naturalis bulgarica*, 11: 107-116.
- BOEV, Z. (2000): A book about the bird life of the Rhodopes. - *Historia naturalis bulgarica*, 11: 126. [in Bulgarian]
- BOEV, Z. (2000): 70-th anniversary of Dr. Nikolay Iliev - a veterinarian, local lore researcher and archaeozoologist. - *Historia naturalis bulgarica*, 11: 160. [in Bulgarian]
- BOEV, Z. (2000): The Presence of *Apus baranensis* Janossy, 1977 (Apodidae - Aves) in the Late Pliocene of Bulgaria. - *Acta zoologica bulgarica*, 52 (2): 43-52.
- BOEV, Z. (2000): Additional material of *Geronticus balcanicus* Boev, 1998 and Precision of the Age of the Type Locality - *Acta zoologica bulgarica*, 52 (2): 53-58.
- BOEV, Z. (2000): Late Pleistocene Avifauna of the Razhishkata Cave (W Bulgaria). - *Historia naturalis bulgarica*, 12: 71-87.
- BOEV, Z. (2000): The paleornithology and archaeornithology as paleozoological branches. - *Historia naturalis bulgarica*, 12: 157-166.
- BOEV, Z. (2000): A Late Miocene Gull (Larinae gen. indet.) (Laridae Vigors, 1825 - Charadriiformes Huxley, 1867) from Hrabarsko (W Bulgaria). - *Geologica Balcanica*, 30 (1-2): 25-31.
- BOEV, Z. & KOUFOS, G. (2000): The presence of *Pavo bravardi* (Gervais, 1849) (Aves, Phasianidae) in the Ruscinian locality of Megalo Emvolon, Macedonia, Greece. - *Geologica Balcanica*, 30 (1-2): 69-74.
- BOEV, Z. (2001): Early Pliocene avifauna of Muselievo (Northern Bulgaria) - *Acta zoologica cracoviensia*, 44 (1): 37-52.

CUBA

STORRS OLSON and WILLIAM SUÁREZ will continue the study of fossil birds which they started

in the summer of last year. For this reason, WILLIAM SUÁREZ will be in Washington/D.C. from

October to December. They have been working on some interesting remains from caves and asphalt deposits. WILLIAM SUÁREZ is also planning to start working on some interesting remains of vultures from Cuba. He is further preparing some other papers on Cuban fossil birds, e.g. about the interesting avifauna from the asphalt deposits of San Felipe, Western Cuba.

ITURRALDE-VINENT, M., MACPHEE, R.D.E., DÍAZ-FRANCO, S., ROJAS-CONSUEGRA, R., SUÁREZ, W. & LOMBA, A. (2000): Las Breas de San Felipe, a Quaternary asphalt seep near Martí (Matanzas Province, Cuba). - *Car. J. Sci.*, 36 (3-4): 300-313.

SUÁREZ, W. (2000): Fossil evidence for the occurrence of Cuban Poorwill *Siphonorhis daiquiri* in western Cuba. - *Cotinga*, 14: 66-68. (Note: this is the correct citation of the paper,

since the editor of *Cotinga* changed the original title).

SUÁREZ, W. (2001): Deletion of the flightless Ibis *Xenicibis* from the fossil record of Cuba. - *Car. J. Sci.*, 37 (1-2): 109-110.

SUÁREZ, W. (2001): A reevaluation of some fossils identified as vultures (Aves: Vulturidae) from Quaternary cave deposits of Cuba. - *Car. J. Sci.*, 37 (1-2): 110-111.

SUÁREZ, W. & OLSON, S.L. (2001): A remarkable new species of small falcon from the Quaternary of Cuba (Aves: Falconidae: *Falco*). - *Proc. Biol. Soc. Wash.*, 114 (1): 34-41.

SUÁREZ, W. & OLSON, S.L. (2001): Further characterization of *Caracara creightoni* Brodkorb based on fossils from the Quaternary of Cuba (Aves: Falconidae). - *Proc. Biol. Soc. Wash.*, 114 (2): 501-508.

FRANCE

VÉRONIQUE LAROULANDIE finished her PhD in December 2000. She continues to study the taphonomy and zooarchaeology of bird bones from France.

ANTOINE LOUCHART has also completed his PhD dissertation and is going to defend it in December 2001 (title: Oiseaux insulaires. Le cas du Pléistocène de Corse et son contexte, écologie, évolution, biogéographie et extinctions). He further worked on fossil bird material which was collected by the team of the Middle Awash Project, in the Miocene and Pliocene of the Middle Awash (Afar depression, Ethiopia), and which is deposited in the National Museum of Ethiopia, Addis Ababa.

Since the last newsletter, CÉCILE MOURER-CHAUVIRÉ took part at an European Science Foundation Workshop ("Origin and Early Evolution of Birds"), organized in September 2000 in Strasbourg by ERIC BUFFETAUT. In November, Cécile again went to Réunion Island for a new campaign of fieldworks. Since that time, she spent much of her time in participating in PhD dissertation committees, and in reviewing manuscripts, and her own research did thus not progress very much.

CHENEVAL, J. (2000): L'avifaune de Sansan. - In: GINSBURG, L. (ed.): La faune miocène de Sansan et son environnement. - *Mémoires du Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle*, 183: 321-388.

LAROULANDIE, V. (2000): Taphonomie et Archéozoologie des Oiseaux en Grotte: Applications aux sites Paléolithiques du Bois-Ragot (Vienne), de Combe Saunière (Dordogne) et de La Vache (Ariège). - Thèse d'Université, Université de Bordeaux I; 396 pp. (a pdf-version is available by email or CD rom).

LAROULANDIE, V. (in press): Exploitation du Harfang au Magdalénien final: l'exemple du Bois-Ragot (Gouex, Vienne). - *Bulletin de la Société Préhistorique Française*.

LAROULANDIE, V. (in press): Les traces liées à la boucherie, à la cuisson et à la consommation d'oiseaux: apport de l'expérimentation. - In: BOURGUIGNON, L., ORTEGA, I. & FRÈRE-SAUTOT, M.-C. (eds.): *Préhistoire et approche expérimentale*. - Montagnac, Monique Mergoual, collection préhistoire.

MOURER-CHAUVIRÉ, C. (2001): L'avifaune originelle de la Réunion et l'impact de l'arrivée de l'homme. - *Le Taille-Vent, Saint-Denis de la Réunion, Numéro spécial Braconnage*: 2-4.

SALOTTI, M., BELLOT-GOURET, L., COURTOIS, J.-Y., DUBOIS, J.-N., LOUCHART, A., MOURER-CHAUVIRÉ, C., OBERLIN, C., PEREIRA, E., POUPEAU, G. & TRAMPONI, P. (2000): La fin du Pléistocène et le début de l'Holocène en Corse: Apports paléontologiques et archéologiques du Site de Castiglione (Oletta, Haute-Corse). - *Quaternaire*, 11 (3-4): 219-230.

GERMANY

The research project of URSULA GÖHLICH on the Miocene avifaunas from Southern Germany will be supported by the German Science Foundation (DFG) for two more years. In the first half of the year, she was occupied with teaching invertebrate paleontology and historical geology as assistant

professor at the Institut für Paläontologie und Historische Geologie in Munich, during a colleagues' maternity leave. As in the past years, in summer she participated in the final excavation in Sandelzhausen (Bavarian Upper Freshwater Molasse). Studies on a new crane from the early

Middle Miocene of Sandelzhausen and a barn owl from the Middle Miocene of Steinberg (Nördlinger Ries) are in preparation.

ALBRECHT MANEGOLD is working on his PhD-thesis, which deals with the phylogenetic relationships of coraciiform, piciform and passeriform birds. For reconstructing a cladogram he especially uses osteological and myological characters of the forelimb.

GERALD MAYR continues to work on the Middle Eocene Messel avifauna. He identified a postcranial skeleton of the enigmatic *Palaeopsittacus* which confirms previous assumptions that the genus was incorrectly referred to the Psittaciformes. He also described the first record of a pelecaniiform bird from Messel and tentatively referred the specimen - an isolated skull - to the Sulidae. He further finished the description of a complete skeleton of a new taxon of the Jungornithidae which for the first time shows the peculiar feathering of these birds. In a cooperation with RICHARD SMITH, he described avian remains (mainly Anatidae, Rallidae, and Charadriiformes) from the lowermost Oligocene of Hoogbutsel (Belgium). A further major project finished in 2001 was a phylogenetic analysis of recent caprimulgid birds, the results of which will be published in the Journal für Ornithologie.

HARALD PIEPER works on subfossil birds from the Ilhes Desertas, Darwin, and Madeira (including the extinct finches).

ILKA WEIDIG continues her PhD on the birds from the Green River Formation.

GÖHLICH, U.B. & FAHLBUSCH, V. (2000): Die ober-oligozänen Fossilfundstellen von Habach (Untere Süßwassermolasse, Oberbayern). - Mitteilungen der Bayerischen Staatssammlung für Paläontologie und historische Geologie, 40: 181-200.

GÖHLICH, U.B. & MAYR, G. (2001): Zu Besuch bei *Confuciusornis* & Co. in Nordost-China. - Natur und Museum, 131 (11). (in press)

MAYR, G. (2000): Die Vögel der Grube Messel - ein Einblick in die Vogelwelt Mitteleuropas vor 49 Millionen Jahren. - Natur und Museum, 130 (11): 365-378. [The birds of the Messel pit - an insight into the avifauna of Central Europe 49 million years ago; in German].

MAYR, G. (2000): New or previously unrecorded avian taxa from the Middle Eocene of Messel (Hessen, Germany). - Mitt. Mus. Nat.kd. Berl., Geowiss. Reihe, 3: 207-219.

MAYR, G. (2000): Charadriiform birds from the early Oligocene of Céreste (France) and the Middle Eocene of Messel (Hessen, Germany). - Géobios, 33 (5): 625-636.

MAYR, G. (2001): The earliest fossil record of a modern-type piciform bird from the late Oligocene of Germany. - J. Ornithol., 142 (1): 2-6.

MAYR, G. (2001): Comments on the osteology of *Masillapodargus longipes* Mayr 1999 and *Paraprefica major* Mayr 1999, caprimulgid birds from the Middle Eocene of Messel (Hessen, Germany). - Neues Jahrbuch für Geologie und Paläontologie, Monatshefte, 2001 (2): 65-76.

MAYR, G. (2001): A new specimen of the tiny Middle Eocene bird *Gracilitarsus mirabilis* (new family: Gracilitarsidae). - Condor, 103 (1): 78-84.

MAYR, G. (2001): New specimens of the Middle Eocene fossil mousebird *Selmes absurdipes* Peters 1999. - Ibis, 143 (3): 427-434.

MAYR, G. & DANIELS, M. (2001): A new short-legged landbird from the early Eocene of Wyoming and contemporaneous European sites. - Acta Palaeontologica Polonica, 46 (3): 393-402.

MLÍKOVSKÝ, J. & GÖHLICH, U.B. (2000): A new wood-hoopoe (Aves: Phoeniculidae) from the early Miocene of Germany and France. - Acta Societatis Zoologicae Bohemicae, 64: 419-424.

GREAT BRITAIN

Since the circulation of the last newsletter, MICHAEL DANIELS has continued to have reasonable success finding Naze birds. For some time the London Clay has been largely obscured by sand and without access to this lower Eocene deposit, resulting in few birds. However, when the shore was fully exposed he was able to remove accumulations for later processing. These are now receiving his attention, together with the last four acquisitions (each containing bird but none extensively preserved). He has been dismayed to see a recent succession of papers produced on Naze avian material that are, in his view, of low merit. The author/authors, in each case, have failed to take into account the likelihood that

recoveries from this locality may be of intermixed species. Because this factor has not been taken into consideration, the confusion is clearly evident. The outcome has been that the true identity of the fossils has been misrepresented, leading to invalid referrals. In every case the relics described almost certainly have close counterparts in the Daniels collection. This material is always available for inspection and indeed, one of the authors involved visited Holland-on-Sea twice to benefit from this opportunity. The great majority of birds from the Walton London Clay show no clear affinity to modern types being highly mosaic in character, and to apply anything to modern orders is at best highly speculative.

ITALY

Last year, CLAUDIA BEDETTI started a PhD fellowship in the Earth Science Department of the University "La Sapienza" (Roma). The aim of her research is the study of Late Pliocene to Middle Pleistocene fossil avifaunas from Italy, with particular attention to the sites in the area of Roma. She will take into account unpublished fossil birds from the fossiliferous localities Pirro (Puglia), Pietrafitta (Umbria), Ponte Galeria (Lazio) and many others. Together with MARCO PAVIA, she is further preparing studies on fossil birds from Ingarano (Puglia-Late Pleistocene), Dragonara (Sardegna- Late Pleistocene) and Grotta dei Fiori (Sardegna-Late Pleistocene).

MONICA GALA continues to work on the human exploitation of paleolithic birds. In cooperation with the University of Ferrara, she is further working on a taphonomic analysis of the surface of bird bones from Riparo di Fumane (Musterian and Aurignacian levels), in comparison with other contemporary Italian sites. A paper on birds from

Shahr-i Sokhta has been presented at the 16th International Conference of South Asian Archaeologists in Western Europe.

Also in the last year, MARCO PAVIA finished his PhD thesis. After that he was involved in the determination and cataloging of vertebrate remains, especially large mammals from the early Paleolithic site "La Pineta" at Isernia, Central Italy. Now he is going to start a postdoctoral program which focuses on Italian fossil birds, in particular the insular and Pliocene taxa.

CASSOLI, P.F., GALA, M., TAGLIACOZZO, A. (in press): La caccia e l'utilizzo alimentare degli uccelli a Grotta Romanelli durante le fasi finali del Pleistocene. - Studi di Antichità, Lecce.

CASSOLI, P.F., GALA, M., SPRÖDE, K., TAGLIACOZZO, A., TOSI, M. (in press): Birds at Shahr-i Sokhta. - 16^o International Conference of South Asian Archaeologist in Western Europe, Paris, July 2001.

JAPAN

As they informed in the last newsletter, HIROSHIGE MATSUOKA and YOSHIKAZU HASEGAWA are working on a Miocene flightless swan and a preliminary report was published. Now the specimen is under preparation in order to remove all matrix for detailed osteological observations. Also, the reconstruction and mounting project for the exhibition of this flightless swan is proceeding in the Gunma Museum of Natural History. (Y. HASEGAWA is the Director of this museum.) Haraichi Formation, the locality of swan, yields a

rich marine vertebrate fauna including some other avian materials. They will go on with studying this exiting locality.

MATSUOKA, H., NAKAJIMA, H., TAKAKUWA, Y. & HASEGAWA, Y. (2001): Preliminary note on the Miocene flightless swan from the Haraichi Formation, Tomioka Group of Annaka, Gunma, Japan. - Bulletin of Gunma Museum of Natural History, 3: 1-8.

NEW ZEALAND

JOSEPH MCKEE continues to collect isolated and fragmentary bird bones from Pliocene marine sediments. Eventually, the accumulation of these bones will provide insight into the non-penguin, non-pseudodontorn, marine avifauna of New Zealand. A very fragmentary penguin bone indicates the presence of a small species of penguin during the New Zealand Pliocene. However, more diagnostic material will be needed to confirm this discovery.

TREVOR WORTHY had the good fortune to finish the 20th century by discovering a relatively complete skeleton of the giant Haast's eagle in a cave on Takaka Hill, South Island, beneath 50 cm of sediment in a small excavation. Most elements of the skeleton were preserved except the skull destroyed about 12,000 yrs BP before burial in clay sediments. Of interest this bird had extensive arthritis on one tarsometatarsi-tibiotarsus joint and in one humerus-ulna joint. Mid-winter (June 2001) saw the discovery of a major moa graveyard in the form of a springhole trap, about 5 m in diameter, with the bones of 100s of birds in it. Discovered by a ditch digger, RICHARD HOLDAWAY and I have

been granted a few months to do salvage excavation work on the site, which is equivalent to one of the great moa sites of the 19th century. This time we will be able to extract much taphonomic data and associated palaeoenvironmental data. After two weeks work in sub-zero temperatures we now know the deposit is maximally 1.7m deep and has a density of about 120 main leg bones per meter area.

TREVOR WORTHY and RICHARD HOLDAWAY have completed a book "The lost world of the moa" to be published by Indiana University Press in January 2002, and co-published in New Zealand by Canterbury University Press. This extensive book treats all New Zealand's extinct birds in detail with emphases on moa and Haast's eagle, and places all in an ecological perspective before discussing the major extinction event that wiped out most of the interesting fauna.

WORTHY, T.H. (2000): The fossil megapodes (Aves: Megapodiidae) of Fiji with descriptions of a new genus and two new species. - Journal of

- the Royal Society of New Zealand, 30 (4): 337-364.
- WORTHY, T.H. & HOLDAWAY, R.N. (2000): Terrestrial Fossil vertebrate faunas from inland Hawke's Bay, North Island New Zealand. Part 1. - Records of the Canterbury Museum, 14: 89-154.
- HOLDAWAY, R.N., WORTHY, T.H. & TENNYSON, A.J.T. (2001): A working list of breeding bird species of the New Zealand region at first human contact. - New Zealand journal of zoology, 28: 119-187.
- TREWICK, S.A. & WORTHY, T.H. (2001): Origins and prehistoric ecology of takahe based on morphometric, molecular, and fossil data. - In: LEE, W.G. & JAMIESON, I.G. (eds.): The Takahe: Fifty Years of Conservation Management and Research: 31-48. - University of Otago Press, Dunedin.
- WORTHY, T.H. (in press): A giant flightless pigeon gen. et sp. nov. and a new species of *Ducula* (Aves: Columbidae), from Quaternary deposits in Fiji. - Journal of the Royal Society of New Zealand.
- WORTHY, T.H. (in press): A rich, owl-accumulated, fossil fauna from Goulard Downs, Northwest Nelson, South Island. - Notornis.
- WORTHY, T.H. (in press): Discovery of the remains of a Giant Moa (*Dinornis giganteus*) near Turangi, in central North Island. - Journal of the Royal Society of New Zealand.
- WORTHY, T.H. (in press): The New Zealand musk duck (*Biziura delautouri* Forbes 1892). - Notornis.
- WORTHY, T.H. & HOLDAWAY, R.N. (in press, Jan. 2002): The Lost World of the moa: Prehistoric life of New Zealand. - Indiana University Press, Indiana.
- WORTHY, T.H. & OLSON, S.L. (in press): Relationships, adaptations, and habits of the extinct duck '*Euryanas' finschi*. - Notornis

POLAND

ANDRZEJ ELZANOWSKI'S top research priority for the near future will be the confusing cranial anatomy of basal birds.

- ELZANOWSKI, A. (2000): The flying dinosaurs. - In: PAUL, G.S. (ed.): The Scientific American Book of Dinosaurs: 169-182. - St. Martin's Press, New York.
- ELZANOWSKI, A., PAUL, G.S. & STIDHAM, T.A. (2000): An avian quadruped from the Late Cretaceous Lance Formation of Wyoming. - Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology, 20: 712-719.
- ELZANOWSKI, A. (2001): A novel reconstruction of the skull of *Archaeopteryx*. - Netherlands Journal of Zoology, 51: 207-215.
- CHINSAMY, A. & ELZANOWSKI, A. (2001): Evolution of growth pattern in birds. - Nature, 412: 402-403.
- ELZANOWSKI, A. (2001): The life style of *Archaeopteryx* (Aves). - Publicaciones Especiales de la Asociación Paleontológica Argentina, 7: 91-99.
- ELZANOWSKI, A. (2001): A new genus and species for the largest specimen of *Archaeopteryx*. - Acta Palaeontologica Polonica, 46: 519-532.
- ELZANOWSKI, A. & SCHODDE, R. (2001): The Origin and Systematics of Birds. - Journal of Morphology, 248: 227. [Abstract]

ROMANIA

ERIKA GÁL is finishing her PhD on the Pleistocene bird fauna of Romania, which includes 178 species from 32 sites. Erika also takes part in two Hungarian projects: a paleontological one focusing on the Miocene locality Tárkány, and an archaeological project about the Neolithic site Ecsegfalva; both localities are in Hungary.

EUGEN KESSLER is going to revise the Tertiary avifauna of the Carpathian Basin, based on the bird remains housed in the Natural History Museum of Hungary. He is sponsored by the NATO Research Fellowship. Apart from the expected material, Eugen found some very interesting unstudied bones from the Miocene of Zaragoza (Spain) in the Museum. Unfortunately, no references are known about this region, and any data regarding the Miocene localities of the area would be much appreciated.

The oldest bird material of Hungary was found in the Department of Paleontology of the Natural

History Museum of Hungary. It are remains of a wing from the Middle Oligocene of Budapest. Preliminary studies show that it belongs to a fossil taxon of the Fregatidae.

- DIMITRIJEVICH, V., GÁL, E. & KESSLER, E. (2000): The bird fauna from the Epigravettian site in Trebacki krs, near Berane (NE Montenegro). - Geoloski anali Balkanskog poluostrva, 63 (1999): 107-118.
- GÁL, E., HÍR, J., KESSLER, E., KÓKAY, J. & VENCZEL, M. (2000): Middle Miocene fossils from the section of the road at the Rákóczi Chapell, Mátraszőlös II. Locality Mátraszőlös 2. - Folia Historico Naturalia Musei Matraensis, 24: 39-75. [in Hungarian, with English abstract].
- GÁL, E. (2001): Bird fauna of Betsfia 9 (Romania). - 4th Hungarian Palaeontological Session, 4-5. May, 2001, Pécsvárad (Hungary), Abstract volume: 14-15. [in Hungarian].

- GÁL, E. (2001): About the Chinese fossil birds. - *Természet Világa*, 132 (9): 397-400. [popular article in Hungarian]
- GÁL, E., HÍR, J., KESSLER, E., KÓKAY, J. & VENCZEL, M. (2001): Preliminary report on the revision of the Miocene "Güdör-kert" site of Felsotarkany (Hungary). - *Folia Historico Naturalia Musei Matraensis*. (in press)

- KESSLER, E. & GÁL, E. (1998): Fossil and subfossil bird remains from Paleolithic and Neolithic sites in Cheile Turzii and Cheile Turenilor (Cluj county). - *Angvstia*, 3: 9-12. [in Romanian, with English abstract].
- KESSLER, E. & GÁL, E. (2000): The fossil avifauna from Cioarei Cave. - In: CĂRCIUMARU, M. (ed.): *Cioarei Cave: 68-77*. Editura Macarie, Târgoviste [in Romanian].

RUSSIA

In October 2000 and May 2001, ANDREI V. PANTELEYEV did field trips to the Mangyshlak Peninsula (Western Kazakhstan). He worked on the Shorym Formation (Bartonian, Middle Eocene) which contains a rich vertebrate fauna (sharks, fishes, turtles, marine crocodiles, sea - and landsnakes, birds, mammals). There he found 40 remains of birds (Presbyornithidae, Pelagornithidae, vertebrae of a very large bird). Moreover, he found two bones of Falconiformes from Lower Oligocene (Rupelian) deposits. In September and October 2001, he will go to Mangyshlak again. He further described the tibiotarsus of a new species of rail (*Eocrex tagusevae*) from the Paleogene (Upper Eocene - ?Lower Oligocene) of Tadjikistan.

- ALEKSEEVA, E.V., GORBUNOV, S.V. & PANTELEYEV, A.V. (2000): Ikonnikova Cave and its fossil fauna.- *Natural History Bulletin*. - Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk, 2: 111-114. [in Russian]
- NOMURA, T., KIKUCHI, T., PROKOFIEV, M.M., GORBUNOV, S.V., NAZARKIN, M.V. &

- PANTELEYEV, A.V. (2000): Materials on the archaeology and archaeozoology of the Moneron Island. - 68 pp., Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk, Sakhalin Book Press. [in Russian]
- PANTELEYEV, A.V. & BURCHAK-ABRAMOVICH, N.I. (2000): Passerine birds from Binagady Pleistocene asphalts. I. Introduction. - *Russ. J. Ornithol. Express-issue*, 112: 3-8. [in Russian]
- PANTELEYEV, A.V. & BURCHAK-ABRAMOVICH, N.I. (2000): Passerine birds from Binagady Pleistocene asphalts. II. Small corvids. - *Russ. J. Ornithol. Express-issue*, 115: 3-17. [in Russian]
- PANTELEYEV, A.V. (2001): The study of Quaternary ornithofauna of the Sakhalin Island. - In: KUROCHKIN, E.N. & RAKHILIN, I.I. (eds.): *Actual problems of the study and guarding of birds of East Europe and North Asia*, Kazan: 486. [in Russian]
- PANTELEYEV, A.V. (2001): New species of rails (Aves: Gruiformes: Rallidae) from Paleogene of Tadjikistan. - *Russ. J. Ornithol. Express-issue*, 135: 199-201. [in Russian]

SPAIN

During the last year, LLUÍS GARCIA PETIT studied bird remains from Reclau Viver, one of the caves in Serinyà, near Banyoles (Catalonia), which was occupied during the Upper Paleolithic. He presented the results of this study at the colloquium held in Banyoles on "The fossil vertebrates of the Pla de l'Estany". He also attended a meeting in Lattes (France) on "Animal movements and displacements in the Mediterranean basin during the Holocene", where he presented a paper on the arrival and the expansion of domestic fowl. Unfortunately, he couldn't attend the ICAZ Bird Working Group meeting in Kraków present a paper on his researches on bird bones during the last ten years, as he announced in the last Newsletter. During the next year, he will study the bird remains from the medieval Castell de Montsoriu (Arbúcies, Catalonia), as well as some remains from some recent excavations at the city of Lleida.

For some months (January-June) JUAN CARLOS RANDO has been working on the organization, identification and conservation of the fossil vertebrates collection of the Museo de Ciencias Naturales de Santa Cruz de Tenerife. Until the end

of the year, he works on a conservation project for the recent giant lizard from Tenerife Island (*Gallotia intermedia*). He and FRANCISCO GARCIA-TALAVERA, the paleontological curator of the Museo de Ciencias Naturales de Santa Cruz de Tenerife, have applied for a project on the extinct vertebrates faunas from the Macaronesian Region. If they have luck, they will be working on fossil vertebrates, mainly fossil birds, in the next year.

- BURJACHS, F., BUXÓ, R., CASELLAS, S., FÈLIX, J., GARCIA, L., JUAN-MUNS, N., NEBOT, J., OLLER, J., ROS, M. & VILLATE, E. (1999): Reconstrucció paleoambiental. - In: MARTIN, A., BUXÓ, R., LÓPEZ, J. B., MATARÓ, M. (eds.): *Excavacions arqueològiques a l'illa d'en Reixac (1987-1992): 325-338*. - Monografies d'Ullastret 1, Museu d'Arqueologia de Catalunya, Girona.
- ELORZA, M. (2000): Restos de aves del yacimiento de Labeko Koba (Arrasate, País Vasco). - *Munibe*, 52: 187-192.
- GARCIA, L. (1999): Les aus. - In: MARTIN, A., BUXÓ, R., LÓPEZ, J.B. & MATARÓ, M. (eds.): *Excavacions arqueològiques a l'illa d'en Reixac (1987-1992)*, Girona: 295-297.

- GARCIA, L. (2000): Pocs ocells a La Draga. - In: BOSCH, A., CHINCHILLA, J. & TARRÚS, J. (eds.): El poblament lacustre neolític de La Draga. Excavacions de 1990 a 1998: 166. - Monografies del CASC 2, Museu d'Arqueologia de Catalunya, Girona.
- GARCIA, L. (2001): Ornitofàgia i ornitologia. - *Bioma*, 4: 5.
- SÁNCHEZ MARCO, A. (2000): Vestigios de una lechuga fósil del Mediterráneo occidental. - *Quercus*, 168: 28-30. [popular article]
- SÁNCHEZ MARCO, A. (2000): Objeciones al caso de los fósiles gibraltareños. - *Quercus*, 170: 52-53. [popular article]
- SÁNCHEZ MARCO, A. (2000): Aves fósiles de Madrid: - In: MORALES, J. (ed.): Patrimonio paleontológico de la Comunidad de Madrid. - *Arqueología, Paleontología y Etnografía*, 6: 247-248.
- SÁNCHEZ MARCO, A. et al. (2000): Passeriformes del Neógeno ibérico: hallazgos en Layna (Plioceno inferior). - *Revista Española de Paleontología*, 15 (1): 101-104.
- SÁNCHEZ MARCO, A. (2001): Strigiformes from the Neogene of Spain. - *Ibis*, 143: 313-316.
- SÁNCHEZ MARCO, A. & SASTRE PÁEZ, I. (2001): Historia de la Paleornitología en España a través de los documentos científicos. - *Revista Española de Paleontología*, 16 (1): 99-113.
- SÁNCHEZ MARCO, A. [MONTROYA, P. et al.] (2001): Une faune très diversifiée du Pléistocène inférieur de la Sierra de Quibas (province de Murcia, Espagne). - *C. R. Acad. Sci. Paris*, 332: 387-393.

SWEDEN

TOMMY TYRBERG tries to keep his netsite on Palearctic Pleistocene birds up to date and plugs away at his Bibliography of Palaeornithology when he has the time. He is going to present a paper on subfossil domesticated birds in Sweden at the ICAZ Bird Working Group Meeting meeting in Krakow in September 2001.

HERNANDEZ-CARRASQUILLA, F., TYRBERG, T. & VON DEN DRIESCH, A. (2000): A record of Pygmy Cormorant from Medieval Spain. - *Ardea*, 87 (2): 285-288.

JOHANSSON, U.S., PARSONS, T.J., IRESTEDT, M. & ERICSON, P.G.P. (2001): Clades within the 'higher land birds', evaluated by nuclear DNA sequences. - *J. Zool. Syst. Evol. Research*, 39: 37-51.

TYRBERG, T. (2000): Les oiseaux perdus d'Océanie. - *La Recherche*, 29 (333): 24-27.

TYRBERG, T. (2000): Species Turnover and Species Longevity in the Pleistocene of the Palearctic [Abstract]. - *Vertebrata Palasiatica*, 38 (Suppl.): 31.

UNITED STATES

California

This year, SYLVIA HOPE completed a manuscript on the radiation of modern birds in the Mesozoic. In October 2001, together with TOM STIDHAM, she will report on the avifauna of the Late Cretaceous Lance and Hell Creek formations in the Western Interior of North America. Other projects in progress include a revision of her thesis on phylogeny of the Corvidae, and a phylogenetic analysis of relationships among major lineages of modern birds, based on the morphology, and including fossils of early birds to the extent that the material permits. Much of her time has been taken up lately with helping to organize a symposium and book on bird sounds, to be held this November, 2001 at the California Academy of Sciences ("Natures' Music: the Science of Bird Song").

From Los Angeles, KEN CAMPBELL reports that he and FRITZ HERTEL have just submitted for publication their paper on the function of the avian antitrochanter. A summary of this paper was presented at the 6th International Congress of Vertebrate Morphology in Jena, Germany in July. The two will continue their collaboration on the functional morphology of birds, and they have already initiated a new study that will describe the

automatic balance system of birds that makes their unique form of bipedal locomotion possible. They also continue their work on the arthrology and osteology of New World Vultures. Before and after the congress in Jena, Ken took the opportunity to study the four specimens of *Archaeopteryx* available in Germany. He would like to thank all of those who made this possible, especially Stefan Peters, Gerald Mayr, Ursula Göhlich, Günter Viehl, Martin Roper, and Dave Unwin. Some results of this study tour should be forthcoming soon. Ken reports that the description of a new lapwing from Rancho La Brea is in press and should be out by the end of the year. Additional work continues on other taxa from Rancho La Brea, including new species. Of special note is the fact that Ken has been promised funding to support a post-doctoral student for one year to study the La Brea turkey. The objective would be a complete and highly detailed osteological comparison with the living *Meleagris gallopavo*, but would also include extensive paleoecological reconstructions. Although the funding is promised, it is not yet in hand, so the position would not be available until sometime early in 2002, at the earliest. Anyone

interested in the position should contact Ken (kcampbel@nhm.org) to receive any further announcements about the position when they become available.

HOPE, S. (in press): The Mesozoic record of Neornithes (modern birds). - In: CHIAPPE, L.M. & WITMER, L. (eds.): Over the Heads of the

Georgia

Since his last contribution, ROBERT CHANDLER has continued to collect fossils in the Santa Fe River in north central Florida looking for *Titanis walleri*. He has taken GC&SU students with him for five years and they have made significant additions to the known flora and fauna of the late Blancan SF1B locality, but no new *Titanis* specimens. The floral lists now includes palm, oak, black walnut fruit, and bamboo. The faunal list includes gar, sturgeon, many bony fishes, snakes, lizard, 15 species of birds, small mammals, cats, elephants, horses, camels, sloths, and glyptodont. Last March (Spring Break) Drs. AL MEAD and BILL WALL (GC&SU) and he went to Trinidad to look for fossils and bird watch. They did find some late Pliocene plant, owl, sloth, and glyptodont fossils. In a little over a week they saw 54 species of birds including Oilbirds.

UMAN, M.A., RAKOV, V.A., RAMBO, K.J., VAUGHT, T.W., FERNANDEZ, M.I., CORDIER, D.J., CHANDLER, R.M., BERNSTEIN, R. & GOLDEN, C. (1997): Triggered-lightning experiments at Camp Blanding, Florida (1993-1995). - Trans. IEE Japan.

CHANDLER, R. (1998): Additions to the fossil birds reported from Agate Fossil Beds National Monument, western Nebraska. - Geologic

Michigan

Most of the current research on birds of ROBERT STORER is not paleontological or parasitological, although he does have a semipopular MS on the Dodo and the Solitaires in process.

STORER, R.W. (2000): The Systematic Position of the Miocene Grebe, *Thiornis sociata* Navas. - Annal. Paléontol., 86 (2):129-139.

STORER, R.W. (2000): The Metazoan Parasite Fauna of Grebes (Podicipediformes) and its Relationship to the Birds' Biology. - Misc. Publ. Mus. Zool. Univ. Mich., 188: i-iv + 1-90.

New Mexico

MARY ALICE ROOT reports the following: The type-specimen of *Diatryma* is from New Mexico (COPE, 1876), and is in the Smithsonian Institution's National History Museum, Washington, D.C. Three fragments of fossil bones from *Diatryma* have been found in New Mexico. The

Dinosaurs. - University of California Press, Berkeley.

PARRIS, D. & HOPE, S. (subm.): New interpretations of birds from the Hornerstown and Navesink formations, New Jersey. - In: ZHOU Z. (ed.): Proceedings of the 5th International Meeting of the Society of Avian Paleontology and Evolution, Beijing, June, 2000. - China Science Press.

Resource Division Technical Report NPS/NRGRD/GRDTR-98/01: 1-4.

CHANDLER, R. (1998): Fossil birds of Tunica Hills, Louisiana, and the first record of Ruffed Grouse (*Bonasa umbellus*). - Current Research in the Pleistocene, 15: 103-104.

CHANDLER, R. (1999): Fossil birds of Florissant, Colorado: with a description of a new species of cuckoo. - Geologic Resource Division Technical Report NPS/NRGRD/GRDTR-99: 49-53.

MURPHEY, P.C., TORICK, L.L., BRAY, E.S., CHANDLER, R.M. & EVANOFF, E. (2001): Taphonomy, fauna, and depositional history of the Omomys Quarry, an unusual accumulation from the Bridger Formation (middle Eocene) of southwestern Wyoming. - In: GUNNELL, G. & ALEXANDER, J. (eds.): Eocene Vertebrates, Unusual Occurrences and Rarely Sampled habitats. - Plenum Press.

CHANDLER, R. & WALL, P. (in press): The first record of bird eggs from the early Oligocene (Orellan) of North America. - Geologic Resource Division Technical Report NPS/NRGRD/GRDTR-01

JARVIS, P.M., CHANDLER, R.M. & VIAU, R.O. (in press): Determining body weight of Terror Birds. - ILAPs, The Mathematical Association of America.

STORER, R.W. (2001): A New Pliocene Grebe from the Lee Creek Deposits. - In: RAY, E. & BOHASKA, D.J. (eds.): Geol. and Paleontol. of the Lee Creek Mine, North Carolina, C. vol. 3. - Smiths. Contrib. Paleontol., 61: 277-231.

STORER, R.W. (subm.): The Metazoan Parasite Fauna of Loons (Aves: Gaviiformes), and its Relationship to the Birds' Evolutionary History and Biology, and a Comparison with the Parasite Fauna of Grebes. - Misc. Publ., Mus. Zool. Univ. Mich.

American Museum of Natural History has a nearly complete *Diatryma* skeleton that was found in Wyoming in 1915, and from this skeleton several casts have been made. The New Mexico Museum of Natural History and Science has purchased a cast of the American Museum's *Diatryma*. It was

purchased with funds raised by MARY ALICE ROOT from giving talks and writing articles for the members of our museum and the public. The cast went on display in the NM Museum of Natural History on July 2, 2001, and will be a part of the new Tertiary Hall that is planned. A future project will be to try to obtain funds for a cast of

New York

GARETH DYKE is continuing with his postdoctoral work at the American Museum of Natural History (Department of Ornithology) working primarily on the relationships of palaeognaths using morphology and incorporating data from fossil taxa, such as the Eocene members of the Lithornithidae. In the summer of 2002, Gareth will move back to the U.K. to the University of Leeds to work on a longer-term project with JEREMY RAYNER (funded by the Leverhulme Trust) on the evolution of flight morphologies in birds. They plan to investigate a number of phylogenetic and aerodynamic questions by use of a range of systematic and experimental methods.

CRACRAFT, J. (2001): Avian evolution, Gondwana biogeography and the Cretaceous-Tertiary mass extinction event. - *Proc. R. Soc. Lond. (B)*, 268: 459-469.

North Carolina

STEVE EMSLIE has two on-going research programs, one on climate change and the occupation history of penguins in Antarctica, and the other on the foraging ecology of terns and other seabirds in North Carolina. In December 2000 - February 2001, he conducted fieldwork at McMurdo Station, Antarctica, with one undergraduate Honor's student (MIKE POLITO) and one field assistant, LARRY COATS. The field team visited numerous abandoned penguin colonies along the Scott Coast and on Ross Island. Excavations provided considerable information on the occupation history and past diet of Adélie penguins in this region, dating back nearly 5000 years. A summary of the work completed in the field can be found at:

www.uncwil.edu/tc/antarctica2/antarctica.html.

In summer 2001, Steve worked with two of his graduate students on Royal and Sandwich Terns breeding on barrier and dredge islands near Wilmington, NC. A long-term banding effort by Dr. JOHN WESKE has resulted in numerous breeding colonies comprised of known-age birds and these have been the focus of Steve's investigations. Preliminary analysis of the age structure of these colonies, with J. WESKE and M. BROWNE, suggest that El Niño events may impact the survival of

Palaeoborus umbrosus, an Old World Vulture, that lived in what is now New Mexico in the early Miocene. The type-specimen (COPE, 1876) is from New Mexico and is in the American Museum of Natural History in New York.

DYKE, G.J. (2001): Fossil pseudasturid birds (Aves, Pseudasturidae) from the London Clay. - *Bull. nat. Hist. Mus. Lond. (Geol.)*, 57 (1): 1-4.

DYKE, G.J. (2001): A primitive swift from the London Clay and the relationships of fossil apodiform birds. - *Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology*, 21: 195-200.

DYKE, G.J. (2001): *Laputavis*, a replacement name for *Laputa* Dyke 2001 (preoccupied name). - *Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology*, 21: 401.

DYKE, G.J. & GULAS, B.E. (2001): The fossil galliform bird *Paraortygoides* from the Eocene of the United Kingdom. - *American Museum Novitates* (in press).

DYKE, G.J. (2001): The fossil waterfowl (Aves, Anseriformes) from the Eocene of England. - *American Museum Novitates* (in press).

ESPINOSA DE LOS MONTEROS, A. (2000): Higher-level Phylogeny of Trogoniformes. - *Mol. Phylogenet. Evol.*, 14: 20-34.

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