



# SOCIETY OF AVIAN PALEONTOLOGY AND EVOLUTION

- Newsletter -

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## 6<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL MEETING OF THE SOCIETY OF AVIAN PALEONTOLOGY AND EVOLUTION

Quillan, France, September 28<sup>th</sup>-October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2004

The 6<sup>th</sup> International Meeting of the Society of Avian Paleontology and Evolution, organized by the Esperaza Dinosaur Museum (<http://perso.wanadoo.fr/musee.dinosaures/>), will be held from September 28<sup>th</sup> to October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2004, in Quillan, France.

**Venue:** both the lectures and poster sessions and accommodation will be at L'Espinet resort, just outside the small town of Quillan, in the foothills of the French Pyrenees. For details about l'Espinet, please see their website: [www.lespinet.com](http://www.lespinet.com)

Quillan is located 50 km south of the city of Carcassonne and is easily accessible by road and rail. The nearest airport is at Carcassonne. There are frequent and cheap flights to Carcassonne from London, and this is a travel option which should be considered by participants coming from Britain and from outside Europe. The nearest large international airport is at Toulouse, with relatively easy connections to Quillan.

The train station at Carcassonne is on one of the main lines, from Marseille to Toulouse. From Carcassonne, there are frequent train/bus services to Quillan.

Further travel details will be provided in the second circular.

**Accommodation:** accommodation will be at l'Espinet, in comfortable fully-equipped villas in a large park. Full board (including breakfast, lunch and dinner) for 5 nights and 4 days will be 280 to 350 euros per person, depending on the type of room (at the current rate, 1 euro is about 1.10 US \$). Hotel accommodation in Quillan is also possible, but it should be kept in mind that

l'Espinet is outside the town, so this option is mainly for participants with their own means of transportation.

**Program:** as usual, all aspects of avian paleontology and evolution will be considered. Both oral communications and posters are welcome. Participants are invited to suggest themes for special sessions. We plan three days of sessions, beginning on the morning of Wednesday, September 28<sup>th</sup>.

A volume of abstracts will be available at the beginning of the meeting. Full-length papers will be published as a special issue of a paleontological journal. Details about abstract submission and publication will be provided in the second circular.

**Field trips:** during the meeting, a visit will be organized to the nearby Esperaza Dinosaur Museum, which houses remains of the Late Cretaceous ground bird *Gargantuavis philoinos* and the Eocene giant bird *Gastornis*, and to a Late Cretaceous vertebrate locality which has yielded the type of *Gargantuavis*.

If a sufficient number of participants is interested, pre- or post-meeting excursions will be organized to fossil bird sites, including:

- A Late Cretaceous locality with enantiornithine remains at Cruzy, near Béziers, Hérault (one day trip).
- The Quercy area, north of Toulouse, where Late Eocene and Oligocene phosphate pits have yielded an abundant avifauna (one or two days trip).
- The Tautavel cave and museum, with Pleistocene bird remains (one day trip).

**Members who did not yet respond to the circular sent out by email but are interested in attending the meeting and in receiving the second circular, please fill in the following form and return it as soon as possible to Eric Buffetaut.**

**Eric Buffetaut  
CNRS  
16 cour du Liégat  
75013 Paris, France  
Eric.Buffetaut@wanadoo.fr**

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I am planning to attend the 6<sup>th</sup> International Meeting of the Society of Avian Paleontology and Evolution

I would like to present a lecture entitled:

I would like to present a poster entitled:

Suggestion for a special session:

I am interested in taking part in the following field trip(s) [please tick]:

- Late Cretaceous bird locality at Cruzy
- Early Tertiary localities of Quercy
- Pleistocene cave and museum at Tautavel

**Name:**

**Address:**

**E-mail:**

**Telephone:**

**Fax:**

## NEWS FROM THE MEMBERS AND RECENT PUBLICATIONS

### ARGENTINA

- CRUZ, I. (2000): Los restos de aves de los sitios arqueológicos del Parque Nacional Perito Moreno (Santa Cruz, Argentina). - *Anales del Instituto de la Patagonia, Serie Cs. Sociales* (Punta Arenas, Chile), 28: 305-313.
- CRUZ, I. (2001): Los pingüinos como presas durante el Holoceno. Información biológica, fósil y arqueológica para evaluar su disponibilidad en el sur de Patagonia. - *Archaeofauna, International Journal of Archaeozoology*, 10: 99-112.
- CRUZ, I. (2003): Paisaje y Tafonomía en la cuenca del río Gallegos (Santa Cruz, Argentina). - *Actas del XIV Congreso Nacional de Arqueología Argentina Universidad Nacional de Rosario, Santa Fe* (In press).
- CRUZ, I. (2003): The recent bones of the Río Gallegos Basin (Santa Cruz, Argentina) and their preservation potential. - In: GUTIERREZ, M., BARRIENTOS, G., SALEMME, M., MIOTTI, L. & MENGONI GOÑALONS, G. (eds.): *Taphonomy and Archaeozoology in Argentina*. - British Archaeological Reports, International Series, Oxford (In press).
- CRUZ, I. (2003): Tafonomía de huesos de aves en Punta Medanososa (Depto. Puerto Deseado, Santa Cruz, Argentina). - In: *Contra viento y marea*. - Instituto Nacional de Antropología y Pensamiento Latinoamericano, Buenos Aires (In press).
- CRUZ, I. & ELKIN, D. (2003): Structural Bone Density of the Lesser Rhea (*Pterocnemia pennata*) (Aves: Rheidae). Taphonomic and Archaeological Implications. *Journal of Archaeological Science*, 30: 37-44.
- FERNÁNDEZ, P., CRUZ, I. & ELKIN, D. (2001): Densidad mineral ósea de *Pterocnemia pennata* (Aves: Rheidae). Una herramienta para evaluar frecuencias anatómicas en sitios arqueológicos. - *Relaciones, Revista de la Sociedad Argentina de Antropología*, 26: 243-260.

### AUSTRALIA

WALTER BOLES was invited by Ben Kear (South Australian Museum) to examine avian remains found in the gut contents of an Early Cretaceous ichthyosaur from western Queensland. The results of this were published in conjunction with Kear and Elizabeth Smith. The specimens come from the same general locality as the enantiornithine *Nanantius eos* Molnar, and appear referable to that taxon.

Walter contributed a chapter to the book 'Evolution and Biogeography of Australasian Vertebrates' (eds. J.R. Merrick, M. Archer, G. Hickey & M. Lee) reviewing the avian fossil record of Australia, and submitted papers on several different groups of Australian fossil birds: storks (*Ciconia*), a flightless gallinule, Tertiary honeyeaters (Meliphagidae) and the putative spoonbill *Platalea subtenuis* De Vis.

His work continues on a revision of the giant megapodes (*Progura*) and the compilation of a checklist of Tertiary and named fossil birds of

Australia. New projects were initiated on Late Oligocene specimens from central Australia, including waterfowl, pigeons, gulls and other charadriiforms. Walter is hoping to start a study on some recently found Early and Late Miocene specimens from the Northern Territory.

He attended the Conference of Australasian Vertebrate Evolution, Palaeontology and Systematics in Brisbane, Queensland (7-11 July), where he had the chance to catch up with his New Zealand colleagues to discuss palaeornithological matters.

- KEAR, B.P., BOLES, W.E. & SMITH, E.T. (2003): Unusual gut contents in an Early Cretaceous ichthyosaur. - *Proceedings of the Royal Society of London B (Supp.)*, *Biology Letters*. Published online 21 July 2003 (DOI 10.1098/rsbl.2003.0050).

### BULGARIA

In 2001, ZLATOZAR BOEV worked two weeks in the Institute of Systematics and Evolution of Animals (ISEAK) (PAS, Cracow, Poland) to identify some Neogene avian specimens (Accipitridae, Falconidae, Bucerotidae) from Bulgarian localities. In 2002 he had a four-week visit to the Natural History Museum in Tring to identify bones in a Bulgarian collection of Late Pleistocene bird

remains (Non-Passeriformes) from two caves of Northern Vietnam (Tonkin Province).

In 2003, he again had a four-week visit to the NHM to identify some Neogene avian bones (Anatidae, Accipitridae, Falconidae, Alaudidae, Sturnidae, etc.) from Bulgarian localities. He is very grateful to Dr. Tereza Tomek and Dr. Zbigniew Bochenski (ISEAK) and Dr. Robert Pry-Jones and

Dr Joanne Cooper (NHM) for their warm hospitality.

Z. Boev further collected ca. 200 avian and over 4000 amphibian, reptilian and mammalian fossils from a late Pliocene locality near the town of Varshets (NW Bulgaria) (with assistance of Vera Hristova and Ivo Petrov). He organized an exhibition of "Exotic birds" (ca. 100 species of tropical/subtropical distribution) with specimens of the National Museum of Natural History (Sofia) in the Natural History Museum in Skopje (Macedonia). He further examined the avian component of the diet of some species from localities in Bulgaria: Barn Owl (*Tyto alba*) (51 bird species identified), Imperial Eagle (*Aquila heliaca*) (6 bird species, 1 reptile and 10 mammals identified), and Mediterranean Gull (*Larus melanocephalus*) (3 bird species identified)

BOEV, Z. (2001): Tetraonidae Vigors, 1825 (Galliformes - Aves) in the Neogene-Quaternary record of Bulgaria and the origin and evolution of the family. – International Council for Archaeozoology. Bird Working Group. IV Meeting, Krakow, Poland, 11th to 15th September 2001. (Abstracts). 13.

BOEV, Z. (2001): The 70-th anniversary of the ornithologist Stefan Donchev. – Nauka, Union of the Scientists of Bulgaria., 11 (3): 70 (in Bulgarian).

BOEV, Z. (2001): Birds over the mammoth's head in Bulgaria. – In: CAVARETTA, G., GIOIA, P., MUSSI, M. & PALOMBO M. R. (eds.): The World of Elephants: 180-186. Proceedings of the 1st International Congress. Roma, 16-20 Ottobre 2001.

BOEV, Z. (2001): The Ornithological Collections of the National Museum of Natural History of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences: their History and Scientific Value. – In: Bird Collections in Europe: The Challenge of Mutual Cooperation. 2nd European Symposium 09-12 November 2001, Bonn & Bad Honnef. Programme, Abstracts, Participants, 8.

BOEV, Z. (2001): Late Pleistocene and Holocene avifauna from three caves in the vicinity of Tran (Pernik District - W Bulgaria). - In: DELCHEV, P., SHANOV & S., BENDEREV, A. (eds.): Karst. Vol. I. Proceedings of the First National Conference on Environment and Cultural Heritage in Karst. Sofia, 10-11 November 2000. Earth and Man National Museum, Association of Environment and Cultural Heritage in Karst, Sofia: 98-106.

BOEV, Z. (2001): Late Pleistocene and Holocene avian finds from the vicinity of the Lakatnik r/w Station (W Bulgaria). - In: DELCHEV, P., SHANOV, S. & BENDEREV, A. (eds.): Karst. Vol. I. Proceedings of the First National Conference on Environment and Cultural Heritage in Karst. Sofia, 10-11 November 2000. Earth and Man National Museum, Association of Environment and Cultural Heritage in Karst, Sofia: 107-112.

BOEV, Z. (2001): Late Pleistocene birds from the Kozarnika Cave (Montana District; NW Bulgaria). - In: DELCHEV, P., SHANOV, S. & BENDEREV, A. (eds.): Karst. Vol. I. Proceedings of the First National Conference on Environment and Cultural Heritage in Karst. Sofia, 10-11 November 2000. Earth and Man National Museum, Association of Environment and Cultural Heritage in Karst, Sofia: 113-128.

BOEV, Z. (2001): The Ornithological Collection of Dr. Emil Werner in the National Museum of Natural History in Sofia. – In: Bird Collections in Europe: The Challenge of Mutual Cooperation. 2nd European Symposium 09-12 November 2001, Bonn & Bad Honnef. Programme, Abstracts, Participants, 9.

BOEV, Z. (2001): The 70-th anniversary of the ornithologist Stefan Donchev. – Nauka, Union of the Scientists of Bulgaria., 11 (3): 70 (in Bulgarian)

BOEV, Z. (2001): The Paleontological locality of late Pliocene fauna and flora near Varshets. – In: Varshets. A town of health. [A Tourist Guide.] Gradina Publ. House, Sofia, 5.

BOEV, Z. (2002): An useful guide to the birds of the Vithosha Mountain. - In: SHURULINKOV, P. & HRISTOV, I. (eds.): The Birds of the Vitosha Nature Park. Geosoft Publ. House Ltd., Sofia, 1-156. - Historia naturalis bulgarica, 14: 72. (in Bulgarian).

BOEV, Z. (2002): Fossil record and disappearance of peafowl (*Pavo Linnaeus*) from the Balkan Peninsula and Europe (Aves: Phasianidae). – Historia naturalis bulgarica, 14: 109-115.

BOEV, Z. (2002): A book on the European Buntings. Tryjanowski, P., T. Osiejuk, M. Kupczyk (eds) 2001. Bunting Studies in Europe. Bogucki Wydawnictwo Naukowe. Poznan., 1-127. - Historia naturalis bulgarica, 14: 116 (in Bulgarian).

BOEV, Z. (2002): Der bulgarische Ornithologe Doz. Dr. Stefan Dontschev 70 Jahre alt. – Ornithologische Mitteilungen, 54 (10): 358-359.

BOEV, Z. (2002): Tetraonidae Vigors, 1825 (Galliformes - Aves) in the Neogene-Quaternary record of Bulgaria and the origin and evolution of the family. – In: Proceedings of the 4th Meeting of the ICAZ Bird Working Group, Krakow, Poland, 11-15 September, 2001. Acta zoologica cracoviensia, 45 (special issue): 263-282.

BOEV, Z. (2002): The Bulgarian participation in the international project "Fauna Europaea". – Historia naturalis bulgarica, 15: 54. (in Bulgarian).

BOEV, Z. (2002): Neogene avifauna of Bulgaria. - In: ZHOU, Z. & ZHANG, F. (eds.): Proceedings of the 5th Symposium of the Society of Avian Paleontology and Evolution, Beijing, 1-4 June 2000: 29-40. Beijing, Science Press.

BOEV, Z. (2002): Tetraonidae Vigors, 1825 (Galliformes - Aves) in the Neogene-Quaternary record of Bulgaria and the origin and evolution

- of the family. - In: Proceedings of the 4th Meeting of the ICAZ Bird Working Group, Krakow, Poland, 11-15 September, 2001. - Acta zoologica cracoviensia, 45 (special issue): 263-282.
- BOEV, Z. (2003): Specimens of extinct and threatened birds in the collections of the National Museum of Natural History in Sofia, Bulgaria. - In: COLLAR, N., FISHER, C. & FEARE, C. (eds.): Why Museums Matter; Avian Archives in Age of Extinction. British Ornithologists' Club. 123A: 234-245.
- BOEV, Z. (2003): Distribution of the Little Bustard (*Tetrax tetrax* Linnaeus, 1758) and Great Bustard (*Otis tarda* Linnaeus, 1758) (Aves: Otidae Gray, 1845) in Bulgaria during the Late Pleistocene and the Holocene. - Annuaire de L'Universite de Sofia "St. Kliment Ochriski". Faculte de Biologie. Sofia. Livre 1 - Zoologie, 93-94: 41-47.
- BOEV, Z., PETROVA, A. & GEORGIEV, V. (2003, eds.): Short guide of the animals and plants included in the convention on international trade in endangered species of wild fauna and flora (The Washington Convention - (CITES). Ministry of Environment and Waters, Customs Agency, Sofia: 1-64 (in Bulgarian).
- BOEV, Z., PETROVA, A., ANACHKOVA, S., & GEORGIEV, V. (2003, eds): Concise Identification Guide of Animals and Plants Included in the Appendices of the Convention on International trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES). Ministry of Environmental and Waters, Sofia, Bulgaria. Second revised edition: 1-64 (in Bulgarian).
- MILCHEV, B., BOEV, Z. & TOTEVA, T. (2003): Diet composition of the Long-eared Owl (*Asio otus*) during the autumn-winter period in the Northern Park of Sofia. - Annuaire de L'Universite de Sofia "St. Kliment Ochriski". Faculte de Biologie. Sofia. Livre 1 - Zoologie, 93-94: 49-56.
- SPASSOV, N., ILIEV, N. & BOEV, Z. (2001): Animal remains from the Eneolithic site near the village of Dolnoslav, Plovdiv District, South Bulgaria. - Historia naturalis bulgarica, 13: 159-179 (in Bulgarian, English summary).

## CHINA

ZHONGHE ZHOU continues his work on the Mesozoic birds from Liaoning Province, northeast China. Most recently he and his collaborators have focused on some basal early Cretaceous birds such as the long-tailed, seed-eating *Jeholornis* and the large sized early Cretaceous bird *Sapeornis*. He has done much of his recent work together with Fucheng Zhang. He is also working with Julia Clarke on ornithurine birds. Recently he, as co-PI with Luis Chiappe, secured a NSF grant from the United States working on Mesozoic enantiornithines. He is also leading a team at the Institute of Vertebrate Paleontology and Paleoanthropology, Chinese Academy of Sciences which studies the early Cretaceous Jehol Biota.

FUCHENG ZHANG worked with Zhonghe Zhou on recent findings of early birds in China. He is also working with Per Ericson on an enantiornithine bird from Hebei Province. He recently described the arboreal theropod *Epidendrosaurus*. He is further interested in the study of feather evolution and the paleohistology of birds and dinosaurs. He is going to have a popular book on animal flight coming out soon in China.

LIANHAI HOU still comes to office quite often. He is recently working with Luis Chiappe on an unique enantiornithine. He is also looking at some Cenozoic birds from China.

ZHANG, F., ZHOU, Z. HOU, L. & GU, G. (2001): Early diversification of birds: evidence from a new opposite bird. - Chinese Sci. Bull., 46: 945-949.

- ZHANG, F., ZHOU, Z., XU, X. & WANG, X. (2002): A juvenile coelurosaurian theropod from China indicates arboreal habits. - Naturwissenschaften, 89: 394-398.
- ZHOU, Z. (2002): A new and primitive enantiornithine bird from the Early Cretaceous of China. - J. Vert. Pal., 22 (1): 49-57.
- ZHOU, Z., BARRETT, P.M. & HILTON, J. (2003): An exceptionally preserved Lower Cretaceous ecosystem. - Nature, 421: 807-814.
- ZHOU, Z., CLARKE, J. & ZHANG, F. (2002): Archaeoraptor's better half. - Nature, 420: 285.
- ZHOU, Z. & FARLOW, J. (2001): Flight capability and habits of *Confuciusornis*. - In: GAUTHIER, J. & GALL, L.F. (eds.): New perspectives on the origin and early evolution of birds: Proceedings of the international symposium in honor of John H. Ostrom; 1999 Feb 12-14; New Haven, CT. New Haven. - Peabody Mus. Nat. Hist., Yale Univ.: 237-254.
- ZHOU, Z. & HOU, L. (2002): The findings and study of Mesozoic birds in China. - In: CHIAPPE L. & WITMER, L. (eds.) Mesozoic birds above the head of dinosaurs. - California University Press. Pp. 160-183.
- ZHOU, Z. & ZHANG, F. (2001): Origin of feathers-perspectives from fossil evidence. - Science Progress, 84(2): 87-104.
- ZHOU, Z. & ZHANG F. (2001): Two new ornithurine birds from the Early Cretaceous of western Liaoning, China. - Chinese Sci. Bull., 46(15): 1258-1264.
- ZHOU, Z. & ZHANG, F. (2002): Largest bird from the Early Cretaceous and its implications for the earliest avian ecological diversification. - Naturwissenschaften, 89: 34-38.

- ZHOU, Z. & F. ZHANG. (2002): A long-tailed, seed-eating bird from the Early Cretaceous of China. - *Nature*, 418: 405-409.
- ZHOU, Z. & ZHANG, F. (2002, eds.): Proceedings of the 5<sup>th</sup> Symposium of the Society of Avian Paleontology and Evolution, Beijing, 1-4 June 2000. Beijing: Science Press. 311 pp.
- ZHOU, Z. & ZHANG, F. (2003): *Jeholornis* compared to *Archaeopteryx*, with a new

understanding of the earliest avian evolution. - *Naturwissenschaften*, 90: 220-225.

- ZHOU, Z., & ZHANG, F. (2003): Anatomy of the primitive bird *Sapeornis chaoyangensis* from the Early Cretaceous of Liaoning, China. - *Can. J. Earth Sci.*, 40(5): 731-747.

## CUBA

WILLIAM SUÁREZ continues his collaborative work on fossil birds from the Quaternary of Cuba. He informs you that two papers from Oscar Arredondo and his son Carlos, which have been in press for a long time, were finally published in 2002. These constitute the last contributions in Cuban paleornithology from professor Oscar Arredondo, who died in summer 2001.

- ARREDONDO, O. & ARREDONDO, C (2002): Nuevos género y especie de ave fósil (Falconiformes: Accipitridae) del Cuaternario de Cuba. - *Poeyana*, 470-475: 9-14.

- ARREDONDO, O. & ARREDONDO, C. (2002): Nueva especie de ave (Falconiformes: Teratornithidae) del Pleistoceno de Cuba. - *Poeyana*, 470-475: 15-21.

- SUÁREZ, W. & EMSLIE, S.D. (2003): New fossil material with a redescription of the extinct condor *Gymnogyps varonai* (Arredondo, 1971) from the Quaternary of Cuba (Aves: Vulturidae). - *Proc. Biol. Soc. Wash.*, 116(1): 29-37.

- SUÁREZ, W. & OLSON, S.L. (2003): New records of storks (Ciconiidae) from Quaternary asphalt deposits in Cuba. - *Condor*, 105: 150-154.

- SUÁREZ, W. & OLSON, S.L. (2003): Red-shouldered Hawk and Aplomado Falcon from Quaternary asphalt deposits in Cuba. - *J. Raptor. Res.*, 37(1): 71-75.

- SUÁREZ, W. & OLSON, S.L. (2003): A new species of caracara (*Milvago*) from Quaternary asphalt deposits in Cuba, with notes on new material of *Caracara creightoni* Brodkorb (Aves: Falconidae). - *Proc. Biol. Soc. Wash.*, 116(2).

## CZECH REPUBLIC

JIRI MLÍKOVSKÝ continues to work on Tertiary and Quaternary birds, mainly those of Europe. He published the first part of his *Catalogue of Cenozoic birds of the world*, treating the birds of Europe. This volume is available in pdf format on request (2.7 MB). It is temporarily not available on-line, because it is currently being moved to a new www-address, where it will be freely available again.

Jiri hopes to finish the second volume of his *Catalogue*, treating the birds of Africa and adjacent islands, within a few months. Hence, he would be much obliged to all paleontologists for data on any avian localities of Africa, which are known to them, but which have not been published as yet. They will be included in the list of avian fossil localities of Africa. The latter list will include (similarly as in the volume on Europe) all Tertiary and early Pleistocene localities plus all younger localities which yielded remains of fossil and/or extinct birds. After working for two years in the CITES Management Authority of the Czech Republic, Jiri is happy to announce that he will become curator of ornithology in the National Museum in Prague, Czechia, from the 1<sup>st</sup> November 2003. His new address will be: Department of Zoology, National Museum, Vaclavske namesti 68, CZ-115 79 Praha, Czech Republic. His new e-mail address will be: jiri.mlikovsky@nm.cz

- MLÍKOVSKÝ, J. (2000): Early Miocene pratincoles

(Aves: Glareolidae) from Dolnice, Czech Republic. - *Casopis Národního Muzea, Rada Přírodovědná*, 64: 93-96.

- MLÍKOVSKÝ, J. (2000): Late Pleistocene birds of Hôrka-Ondrej. - In: KAMINSKÁ, L. (ed.): *Hôrka-Ondrej: Research of a middle Palaeolithic travertine locality*. - *Archaeologica Slovaca Monographiae Fontes*, 17: 196-197. Nitra.

- MLÍKOVSKÝ, J. (2000): Family-group names of Cenozoic birds. - *Casopis Národního Muzea, Rada Přírodovědná*, 169: 75-90.

- MLÍKOVSKÝ, J. (2000): Early Miocene quails (Aves: Phasianidae) from Saint-Gérand-le-Puy, France. - *Casopis Národního Muzea, Rada Přírodovědná*, 169: 91-96.

- MLÍKOVSKÝ, J. (2000): Early Miocene birds of Skyrice, Czech Republic. - *Casopis Národního Muzea, Rada Přírodovědná*, 169: 97-100.

- MLÍKOVSKÝ, J. (2001): Sexual dimorphism in the bill size in owls: a comparison of external and osteological characters. - *Buteo*, 12: 77-80

- MLÍKOVSKÝ, J. (2002): Cenozoic birds of the world. Part 1: Europe. - Praha: Ninox Press, 406 pp.

- MLÍKOVSKÝ, J. (2002): Late Cenozoic biostratigraphy of Europe: mammal zones and the fossil record of birds. - In: HORÁČEK, I. & MLÍKOVSKÝ, J. (eds.): *Papers in paleomammalogy honoring Oldrich Fejfar*. - *Lynx*, 32: 279-294.

- MLÍKOVSKÝ, J. (2002): Early Miocene birds of Tucharice, Czech Republic. - *Casopis*

Národního Muzea, Rada Přírodovědná, 171: 131-175.

MLÍKOVSKÝ, J. (2003): Early Pleistocene birds of Stránská skála, Czech Republic: 2. Absolon's cave. – *Sylvia*, 38: 19-27.

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

## FRANCE

ESTELLE BOURDON is continuing her PhD work on the Paleocene-Eocene marine avifauna from the phosphatic beds of the Ouled Abdoun Basin, Morocco. The description of a new Prophaethontidae was presented at the 12th SVPCA meeting at Oxford. Descriptions of new bony-toothed birds (Odontopterygiformes) will be completed in the following months.

Since October 2002, VÉRONIQUE LAROUANDIE has a research position in the Institut de Préhistoire et de Géologie du Quaternaire, UMR 5808 CNRS, University of Bordeaux I. She continues to study the taphonomy and zooarchaeology of bird bones from prehistoric French sites. A pdf version of her PhD thesis is available in the Internet<sup>1</sup>.

ANTOINE LOUCHART continues the work on fossil birds from the Late Neogene of Ethiopia and Chad, with the «Mission Paléanthropologique Franco-Tchadienne» (Poitiers, France) and the Middle Awash Research Project (Berkeley, USA). In Chad, he now focuses on birds from Late Miocene deposits, with the description of a large Anserinae and a Heliornithidae almost finished. From the Pliocene, a synthesis of Chadian bird remains, as well as the description of a marabou stork, are now submitted. In Ethiopia, the main work consists of the identification of Early Pliocene birds from Aramis. One of these, a peafowl, is new to Africa. He also studies the taphonomy of small mammals from this site. He still works on a review of Tertiary African birds in collaboration with T.A. Stidham (Berkeley), and on bird cenograms. During the year, he participated in collective works on the Middle Pleistocene of Corsica, and on the site of Coudoulous I (Middle Pleistocene, Lot, France). Descriptions of an eagle and of a thrush from some Mediterranean Islands are completed. Finally, he studies some aspects of bird exploitation at the Taï 2 site (Upper Paleolithic, Drôme, France). He is still applying for a position as a research worker in France.

Since the last newsletter CÉCILE MOURER-CHAUVIRÉ has got two papers published, one on the birds from the Middle Miocene of Arrisdrift (Namibia), and another one on the datings of the Middle Pleistocene locality of La Fage (Corrèze, France) with the revised lists of the mammalian and avian faunas. Cécile has worked, in collaboration with Didier Berthet and Marguerite Huguéney, on the late Oligocene avifauna of the Créchy quarry, which includes two new genera, a

Phalacrocoracidae and an Anseranatidae. She has worked in collaboration with Gerald Mayr on a coliform bird from the Phosphorites du Quercy, in collaboration with G. Mayr and I. Weidig on some Primobucconidae from the Eocene of France and Germany, and in collaboration with G. Mayr and Albrecht Manegold on some Passeriformes from the Middle Miocene of France and Germany.

Together with Ursula Göhlich, Cécile took part in the revision of the Phasianidae from the Early Miocene of Saint-Gérard-le-Puy. Concerning these phasianids, Ursula and Cécile have submitted to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature a proposition for the conservation of the specific name *Palaeortyx phasianoides* by the designation of a neotype.

Cécile spent several months to write a review of Mlíkovský's book "Cenozoic Birds of the World. Part 1: Europe" (2002). This review was far too long to be accepted, but it has been shortened and Cécile hopes that it will be accepted.

Concerning the insular avifaunas, Cécile has submitted a paper on the taxonomic identity of *Circus alphonssi*, the extinct Harrier from Mauritius. At the present time Cécile works, in collaboration with Jean Christophe Balouet, on the description of the cranial remains of *Sylviornis neocaledoniae*, the giant extinct galliform from New Caledonia. This communication will be presented during the congress "Insular Vertebrate Evolution: The Palaeontological Approach" which will be held in Mallorca in September 2003.

GHEERBRANT, E., SUDRE, J., CAPPETTA, H., MOURER-CHAUVIRÉ, C., BOURDON, E., IAROCHÈNE, M., AMAGHZAZ, M. & BOUYA, B. (2003): Les localités à mammifères des carrières de Grand Daoui, bassin des Ouled Abdoun, Maroc, Yprésien : premier état des lieux. - *Bulletin de la Société Géologique de France*, 174 (3): 279-293.

LAROUANDIE, V. (2002): Damage to Pigeon long bones in pellets of *Bubo Bubo* and food remains of *Falco peregrinus*: zooarchaeological implications. - In: BOCHENSKI, Z.M., BOCHENSKI, Z. & STEWART, J.R. (eds.): Proceedings of the 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ICAZ Bird Working Group, Krakow, Poland (11-15 September 2001). - *Acta Zoologica Cracoviensia*, 45 (special issue): 331-339.

LAROUANDIE, V. (2003): Exploitation des Oiseaux au Magdalénien en France: Etat des lieux. - In: COSTAMAGNO, S. & LAROUANDIE V. (eds.): Mode de vie au Magdalénien: Apports de l'archéozoologie/Zooarchaeological insights into

<sup>1</sup> [http://www.disvu-bx1.u-bordeaux.fr/ecoles/docs/ligne\\_imp\\_the.html](http://www.disvu-bx1.u-bordeaux.fr/ecoles/docs/ligne_imp_the.html)

- Magdalenian lifeways. - Actes du colloque 6.4 du XIV<sup>e</sup> Congrès de l'UISPP, Liège, Belgique (2-8 septembre 2001). BAR, 1144: 129-138.
- LAROU LANDIE, V. (in press): Anthropogenic versus non-anthropogenic bird bone assemblages: New criteria for their distinction. - In: O'CONNOR, T. (ed.): Biosphere to lithosphere: new studies in vertebrate taphonomy, Proceedings of the 9<sup>th</sup> conference of ICAZ, Durham, (23-28 august 2002). BAR.
- LOUCHART, A. (2001): Les oiseaux du Pléistocène de Corse et données concernant la Sardaigne. - Bulletin de la Société des Sciences historiques et naturelles de la Corse, 696-697: 187-221.
- LOUCHART, A. (in press): A true peafowl in Africa. - South African Journal of Science.
- LOUCHART, A. & SOAVE, R. (2002): Changement d'ampleur de l'exploitation des oiseaux entre le Magdalénien et l'Azilien: l'exemple du Taï 2 (Drôme). - Quaternaire, 13 (3-4): 297-312.
- MOURER-CHAUVIRÉ, C. (2003): Birds (Aves) from the Middle Miocene of Arrisdrift (Namibia). Preliminary study with description of two new genera: *Amanuensis* (Accipitriformes, Sagittariidae) and *Namibiavis* (Gruiformes, Idiornithidae). - In: Pickford, M. & Senut, B. (eds.): Geology and Paleobiology of the Central and Southern Namib. Vol. 2: Palaeontology of the Orange River Valley, Namibia. Geological Survey of Namibia, 19: 103-113.
- MOURER-CHAUVIRÉ, C., PHILIPPE, M., QUINIF, Y., CHALINE, J., DEBARD, E., GUÉRIN, C. & HUGUENEY, M. (2003): Position of the palaeontological site Aven I des Abîmes de La Fage, at Noailles (Corrèze, France) in the European Pleistocene chronology. - Boreas, 32 (3): 521-531.
- MOURER-CHAUVIRÉ, C., LOUCHART, A., PAVIA, M. & SEGUI, B. (2001): Les avifaunes du Pléistocène moyen et supérieur des îles méditerranéennes. - Bulletin de la Société des Sciences historiques et naturelles de la Corse, 696-697: 223-244.

## GERMANY

URSULA GÖHLICH from Munich University continued her studies on the Miocene avifaunas from Southern Germany and further European sites. Her Miocene bird project, supported by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft for the past four years, ended in March 2003. She is planning a new study on Neogene birds, to be conducted at the Université Claude Bernard in Lyon, France; her scholarship application awaits decision.

A study by U. Göhlich and C. Mourer-Chauviré on the phasianids from St.-Gérand-le-Puy, France is nearing completion and will be submitted soon for publication; the results of this investigation will also be presented at the SVP-meeting 2003 in St.-Paul, Minnesota.

From May to July, U. Göhlich worked together with Luis Chiappe on a project about archaeosaurs from the Upper Jurassic of Colorado, USA, at the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County. She wishes to warmly thank Luis for his support, hospitality, and collegueship, and for the possibility to take part in the marvelous digging in Montana.

GERALD MAYR has finished manuscripts on the systematic position of the early Tertiary Messelornithidae and Primobucconidae (the latter together with C. Mourer-Chauviré and I. Weidig). Together with C. Mourer-Chauviré he described new remains of mousebirds from the Eocene of France. He further submitted a manuscript on the systematic position of the Gallinuloididae (together with I. Weidig). Concerning extant birds, he finished studies on the relationships of flamingos and mesites (the latter together with P. Ericson). Together with Julia Clarke, he further performed a cladistic analysis of the deep divergences among

neornithine birds. Currently, he is describing a new trogon from Messel.

ILKA WEIDIG is about to finish her PhD on the birds from the Eocene Green River Formation.

GÖHLICH, U.B. (2002): The avifauna of the Miocene Fossilagerstätte Sandelzhausen (Upper Freshwater Molasse, Southern Germany). - Zitteliana, 22: 169-190; München.

GÖHLICH, U.B. (2003): A new crane (Aves, Gruidae) from the Middle Miocene of Sandelzhausen (Upper Freshwater Molasse, Southern Germany). - Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology, 23(2) 387-393; Northbrook.

GÖHLICH, U.B. (2003): The avifauna of the "Grunder Beds" (Early Badenian, northern Austria). - Annalen des Naturhistorischen Museums Wien, A 104: 237-249; Wien.

GÖHLICH, U.B. MOURER-CHAUVIRÉ, C. (2003): *Palaeortyx phasianoides* Milne-Edwards, 1869 (Aves, Galliformes, Phasianidae): proposed conservation of the usage of the specific name by the designation of a neotype - Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature, 60(2): 1-4; London.

GÖHLICH, U.B. & MOURER-CHAUVIRÉ, C. (in press): Revision of the phasianids (Aves, Galliformes) from the Lower Miocene of St.-Gérand-le-Puy (France). - Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology. Abstracts of Papers; Northbrook. (Abstract).

MAYR, G. (2002): On the osteology and phylogenetic affinities of the Pseudasturidae - Lower Eocene stem-group representatives of parrots (Aves, Psittaciformes). - Zoological Journal of the Linnean Society, 136: 715-729.

MAYR, G. (2003): A postcranial skeleton of *Palaeopsittacus* Harrison, 1982 (Aves incertae



sedis) from the Middle Eocene of Messel (Germany). - *Oryctos*, 4: 75-82.

MAYR, G. (2003): On the phylogenetic relationships of trogons (Aves, Trogonidae). - *Journal of Avian Biology*, 34(1): 81-88.

MAYR, G. (2003): The phylogenetic relationships of the shoebill, *Balaeniceps rex*. - *Journal für Ornithologie*, 144(2): 157-175.

MAYR, G. & MOURER-CHAUVIRÉ, C. (2003): Phylogeny and fossil record of the Brachypteraciidae: a comment on Kirchman et al. (2001). - *Auk*, 120(1): 202-203.

MAYR, G. (2003): Phylogeny of early Tertiary swifts and hummingbirds (Aves: Apodiformes). - *Auk*, 120(1): 145-151.

MAYR, G. (2003): A new Eocene swift-like bird with a peculiar feathering. - *Ibis*, 145 (3): 382-391.

MAYR, G. & MANEGOLD, A. (2002): Eozäne Stammlinienvertreter von Schwalmvögeln und Seglern aus der Grube Messel bei Darmstadt. - *Sitzungsberichte der Gesellschaft Naturforschender Freunde zu Berlin (N. F.)*, 41: 21-35. [German, with English abstract].

## GREAT BRITAIN

GARETH DYKE continues with work on avian systematics and palaeontology at University College Dublin. In collaboration with the National Museum of Ireland, we have begun a project to database the extant avian holdings in Ireland (skins and skeletons). This year Gareth has also begun work on a field collaboration with the Institute of Zoology, Almaty (Republic of Kazakhstan). Please see the following URL for more information about his work in Ireland:

<http://www.ucd.ie/zoology/DYKE.htm>

JOLYON PARISH undertook a cladistic analysis of the phylogenetic relationships of the dodo and solitaire, using both osteological and soft-part characters and including one sub-fossil taxon, *Natunaornis* in addition to *Raphus* and *Pezophaps*. The analysis included 28 taxa and 119 characters; taxa were coded mostly from specimens, but also from the literature. The results support the placement of the dodo and solitaire close to *Goura*.

DYKE, G.J. (2003): "Big bang" for Tertiary birds? - reply to Feduccia (2003). - *Trends in Ecology and Evolution* 18: 441-442.

DYKE, G.J. (2003): The phylogenetic position of *Gallinuloides* Eastman (Aves: Galliformes) from the Tertiary of North America. - *ZooTaxa*, 19: 1-10.

DYKE, G.J. (2003, in press): The fossil record and molecular clocks: basal radiations within Neornithes. - In SMITH, P. & DONOGHUE, P (eds): *Telling the Evolutionary Time - Molecular Clocks and the Fossil Record*. Taylor and Francis, London.

DYKE, G.J., GULAS, B.E. & CROWE, T.M. (2003): The suprageneric relationships of galliform birds (Aves, Galliformes): a cladistic analysis of morphological characters. - *Zoological Journal of the Linnaean Society*, 137: 227-244.

VAN TUINEN, M. & DYKE, G.J. (2003, in press): Calibration of galliform molecular clocks using multiple fossils and genetic partitions. - *Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution*.

## HUNGARY

ERIKA GÁL continues her work in a Holocene project in the Archaeological Institute of HAS. Having a 10-days EU 5 IHP fellowship in the Natural History Museum in Madrid, she studied Spanish Miocene bird remains housed in the Hungarian Natural History Museum. Erika thanks A. Sánchez Marco and B. Sanchiz for the kind hospitality. Besides studying different Holocene mammal and bird faunas, and Late Pleistocene bird remains from the Crimean Peninsula, she also completes the catalogue of the recent bird bone collection developed by D. JÁNOSSY. The first part of this catalogue is in press, while the next one (Anseriformes through Falconiformes) is in good progress.

EUGEN KESSLER teaches as guest professor at the Department of Palaeontology of Eötvös Loránd University in Budapest. He is continuously studying the Tertiary avifauna of Carpathian Basin, and interested in the origin and evolution of birds.

Eugen's new address is: 14 Osz, 2310 Szigetszentmiklós, Hungary. E-mail: kessler\_jeno@yahoo.com.

DIMITRIJEVICH, V., GÁL, E. & KESSLER, E. (2002): A new genus and new species of grebe (Podicipediformes, Aves) from the Early Miocene lake deposits of Valjevo Basin (Serbia). - *Fragmenta Palaeontologica Hungarica*, 20: 3-7.

GÁL, E. (2002): Bird remains from the Bajcsa fortress. - In: KOVÁCS, G. (ed.): *Weitschawar – Bajcsa-vár*. Zalaegerszeg: 101-105 [in Hungarian].

GÁL, E. (2002): Bird remains from two Romanian caves: Curata Cave (Nandru) and Bordu Mare Cave (Ohaba Ponor). - 9<sup>th</sup> General ICAZ Meeting, 23-28 August 2002, Durham, UK, abstract volume: 59.

GÁL, E. (2003): Catalogue of recent bird bone collection in the Hungarian Natural History Museum. Part 1: Sphenisciformes through Phoenicopteriformes. - 6<sup>th</sup> Hungarian Meeting

- on Palaeontology, 8<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> May 2003, Zirc (Hungary), abstract volume: 12 [in Hungarian].
- GÁL, E. (2003): Bird hunting in the Carpathian Basin with special reference to Neolithic data from Hungary and Romania. - 5<sup>th</sup> World Archaeological Congress, 21<sup>st</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> July 2003, Washington, D.C. (USA), abstract volume: 230.
- GÁL, E. (2003): Pleistocene avifauna of Romania: a review. - 8<sup>th</sup> European Workshop on Vertebrate Palaeontology, 15<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> July 2003, Basel (Switzerland), abstract volume: 24.
- GÁL, E. (2003): Worked bird bones from the Carpathian Basin with special reference to Hungarian and Romanian data. - 4<sup>th</sup>

- International Meeting of the ICAZ Worked Bone Research Group, 26<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup> August 2003, Tallinn (Estonia), abstract volume: 20.
- GÁL, E. (in press). Catalogue of recent bird bone collection in the Hungarian Natural History Museum. Part 1: Sphenisciformes through Phoenicopteriformes. - *Annales historico-naturales Musei nationalis hungarici*, 95.
- GÁL, E. & KESSLER, E. (2002): Bird remains from the Eneolithic and Iron Age site Bordusani Popina and Eneolithic site Hârsova (Southeast Romania). Proceedings of the 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the ICAZ Bird Working Group, Krakow, Poland, 11-15 September, 2001. - *Acta zoologica cracoviensia*, 45(special issue): 253-262.

## ITALY

In the last two years, the activities of MARCO PAVIA focused on both, fossil birds and activities in his University Department as organizing the collections of the Palaeontological Museum, waiting for the move of the whole collections at the beginning of the next year.

Regarding fossil birds, he worked a lot together with Claudia Bedetti on Plio-Pleistocene bird remains from Sardinia, including the description of the bird assemblage from Grotta dei Fiori with very interesting remains of breeding *Ciconia nigra* and the beginning of the study of the material from Monte Tuttavista, near Orosei. In this locality several fissure-fillings of different age, from the Late Pliocene to the Late Pleistocene, were discovered and excavated. The work is still in progress but up to now rich bird associations were recognized from different fissure-fillings, with some bird species showing endemic characteristics similar to Corsican bird species of similar age. He and Claudia continue excavations at the Middle Pleistocene locality of Casal Selce, near Roma where a rich bird association has been found, together with a lot of other vertebrate remains especially mammals. This fossil material will be included in the PhD thesis of Claudia that will finish at the end of this year.

In the last two years, Marco Pavia also continued the study of fossil birds from Sicily, started during his PhD thesis, with the preparation of some papers. This work is still in progress and will continue for the next years.

Last April he spent a week in Munich working with Ursula Göhlich on the late Miocene fossil birds from Gargano, Southern Italy. They will make a revision of the material described by Ballmann in 1973 and 1976 together with the description of a lot of new bones found in the same localities after the Ballmann papers. He started this work some years ago but now, together with Ursula, they plan to finish it in the next year.

Together with Gilda Zucchetta and Sergio Gentili of Perugia, he also made the first report on the fossil bird association from the Early Pleistocene locality of Pietrafitta, Central Italy which mainly

consists of aquatic species, including a new species of a galliform, probably related to the genus *Gallus*.

Not strictly related to fossil birds, in March 2002 Marco Pavia also participated at an expedition in the Pacaya-Samiria National Park in Perú, particularly along the Yanayacu River, to first evaluate the vertebrate communities of the area, particularly the birds, with direct observations, song records and bird trapping. This expedition was organized by the Natural History Museum of Carmagnola (Torino, Italy).

PAVIA, M. (2001): The Middle Pleistocene fossil avifauna from the "*Elephas mnaidriensis* Faunal Complex" of Sicily (Italy): preliminary results. – Proceeding of the First International Congress "The World of Elephant", Roma, 16-20 October 2001: 497-501, C.N.R. Roma.

PAVIA, M. & MOURER-CHAUVIRÉ, C. (2002): An overview on the genus *Athene* in the Pleistocene Mediterranean Islands with the description of *Athene trinacriae* n. sp. (Aves, Strigiformes). – In: ZHOU, Z. & ZHANG, F. (eds.): Proceedings of the 5<sup>th</sup> Symposium of the Society of Avian Paleontology and Evolution, Beijing, 1-4 June 2000: 13-27. Beijing Science Press.

BONFIGLIO, L., MANGANO, G., MARRA, A. C., MASINI, F., PAVIA, M. & PETRUSO, D. (2002): Pleistocene Calabrian and Sicilian bioprovinces. – *Geobios, Mémoire special* 24: 29-39.

MELIS, R., PALOMBO, M. R., BEDETTI, C., FENZA, P., PAVIA, M., VILLANI, M. & MUREDDU A. (2002): Evoluzione speleogenetica e paleoambientale della SA/CA 218 Grotta dei Fiori (Carbonia – Sardegna Sud-occidentale). – *Atti del convegno "Il Carsismo e la ricerca speleologica in Sardegna"*. *Anthèò*, 6: 71-88.

PAVIA, M. & BEDETTI, C. (2003): The late Pleistocene fossil avian remains from Grotta dei Fiori, Carbonia (SW Sardinia, Italy). – *Bollettino della Società Paleontologica Italiana*, 42 (1-2): 163-169.

ZUCCHETTA, G., GENTILI, S. & PAVIA, M., (2003): A new Early Pleistocene bird association from Pietrafitta (Perugia, Central Italy). – Rivista

Italiana di Paleontologia e Stratigrafia, 109 (4): 157-167.

## NEW ZEALAND

JOSEPH MCKEE reports that during the past year the NZ Pliocene has only produced a few fragmentary bones from medium to large size marine birds.

TREVOR WORTHY reports the following: Another year has passed rapidly in NZ with much attention focused on study of the early-mid Miocene fauna from Otago reported last year. We now have about 20 taxa of birds represented among several hundred specimens plus skinks, geckos, crocodylians, and bats. Six species of waterfowl predominate, but two rails, a large species cf. *Aptornis*, an eagle, a parrot, a diving petrel, 2-3 waders, and several passerines are included.

A surprise over the last year or so has been the recognition of a new species of *Oxyura* in Holocene lake deposits in the North Island.

The study of moa is never-ending but the recent application of DNA analyses to the taxonomic work has revealed a few surprises. In possibly the first extraction of nuclear genomic material from fossil bones both Bunce et al (2003) and Huynen et al (2003) have sexed the bones of moa. Previous synonymies of congeneric pairs in several genera have been supported based on sexing of the bones, but for *Dinornis* the work has revealed that this genus has the greatest reversed sexual dimorphism of any bird in the world. It transpires that of the three species formerly accepted, *D. giganteus* and *D. novaezealandiae* are in fact females and *D. struthoides* males. The presence of extreme sexual dimorphism plus marked geographic variation related to habitat had resulted

in three taxa having formerly been recognized instead of just one in each island.

BUNCE, M., WORTHY, T.H., FORD, T., HOPPITT, W., WILLERSLEV, E., DRUMMOND, A. & COOPER, A. (2003): Extreme reversed sexual size dimorphism in the extinct New Zealand moa *Dinornis*. - Nature, 425: 172-175.

HUYNEN, L., MILLAR, C.D., SCOFIELD, R.P. & LAMBERT, D. M. (2003): Nuclear DNA sequences detect species limits in ancient moa. - Nature, 425: 175-178.

PALMA, R.L., WORTHY, T.H. & TENNYSON, A.J.D. (2003): Resolution of the status of the taxon *Apteryx maxima*. - Tuhiinga, 14: 1-9.

WORTHY, T.H. (2003): A new extinct species of snipe *Coenocorypha* from Vitilevu, Fiji. - Bull. Brit Ornith. Club, 123(2): 90-103.

WORTHY T.H. & GILL, B.J. (2002): New distributional records of the extinct New Zealand duck *Malacorhynchus scarletti* (Anatidae). - Records of the Auckland Museum, 39: 49-52.

WORTHY, T.H. & GRANT-MACKIE, J.A. (2003): Late Pleistocene avifaunas from Cape Wanbrow, Otago, South Island, New Zealand. - Journal of the Royal Society of New Zealand, 33: 427-485.

WORTHY, T.H. & ROSCOE, D. (2003): Takaka Fossil Cave – a stratified Late Glacial to Late Holocene deposit from Takaka Hill, New Zealand. - Tuhiinga, 14: 41-60.

## POLAND

ZYGMUNT BOCHENSKI spent a long time preparing publication of the monograph "Nesting of the *Acrocephalus* warblers" which was published this summer. He also finished completing entrances concerning fossil birds for "Wielka Encyklopedia Powszechna" and started to work on a paper "History of Polish bird fauna" (Oligocene - Recent). Together with Teresa Tomek, Zygmunt has been preparing a paper on latest Pleistocene and Holocene bird fossils from the Krucza Cave which will probably be published by the end of 2003. Zygmunt also supervises three PhD students: Joanna Wojcik (ISES Krakow: osteology of European thrushes), Michal Lorenc (Szczecin University: "Reconstruction of the young Pleistocene climate based on the fossil bird remains"), Mateusz Ledwon (since autumn 2003, ISEZ Krakow: Biology of *Chlidonias hybrida*). Zygmunt has a new e-mail address: zygbochenski@isez.pan.krakow.pl

ZBIGNIEW M. BOCHENSKI started a collaboration with Kenneth E. Campbell on the extinct California Turkey *Meleagris californicus* from Rancho La Brea. He received a one-year postdoctoral fellowship from the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County to investigate the relationships between *Meleagris californicus* and the living taxa *M. gallopavo* and *M. ocellata*.

ANDRZEJ ELZANOWSKI focuses on the biological roles of locomotion in the Mesozoic birds (in preparation for the 7th Int. Congress of Vertebrate Morphology, Boca Raton, Florida 2004) and biological interpretations of avian bone histology (in collaboration with Anusuya Chinsamy, University of Cape Town).

TERESA TOMEK worked on bird remains from three Polish sites: Dudka, Krucza Cave, and Komarova Cave. She took part in an expedition to Moldavia where they excavated Pliocene and Pleistocene vertebrate remains.

JOANNA WOJCIK spent several months in Canada (ROM), working on the osteology of thrushes and other passerines of similar size. She took part in an expedition to Moldavia where they excavated Pliocene and Pleistocene vertebrate remains.

ELZANOWSKI, A. (2002). Archaeopterygidae (Upper Jurassic of Germany). - In: CHIAPPE, L.M & WITMER, L.M. (eds.): Mesozoic Birds: Above the

Heads of Dinosaurs: 129-159. The University of California Press, Berkeley.

LORENC, M. (2001): Reconstruction of the young Pleistocene climate on the basis of the fossil bird remains (preliminary report). - Zeitschrift geol. Wiss., Berlin, 29 (1/2): 17-28.

TOMEK, T. & GUMINSKI, W. (2003): Bird remains from the Mesolithic and Neolithic Site Dudka, Masuria, NE Poland. - Acta zoologica cracoviensia, 46 (1): 9-18.

## SPAIN

JUAN CARLOS RANDO has mainly been working on giant lizards from the Canary Islands. He hopes to spend more time working on fossil birds next year.

RANDO, J.C. (2002): New data of fossil birds from El Hierro (Canary Islands): Probable causes of extinction and some biogeographical considerations. - Ardeola, 49 (2): 39-49.

RANDO, J.C. (2003): Protagonistas de una catástrofe silenciosa: Los vertebrados extintos de Canarias. - El Indiferente, 14 (1): 4-15.

RANDO, J.C. (2003): ¿qué queda de la avifauna endémica de Canarias? - El Escribano digital, 40 (1): 8.

## SWEDEN

PER ERICSON continues to study higher-level relationships in birds based on analyses of DNA sequence data. He also participates in various studies of Mesozoic and Tertiary fossil taxa.

MARTIN IRESTEDT participates in the study of higher-level relationships of passerines at the Swedish Museum of Natural History. He mainly works with New World Suboscines.

ULF JOHANSSON has moved to the University of Chicago for a postdoc with Trevor Price. He is currently investigating the causes of geographical variation in avian species diversity along the Himalayas.

CHIAPPE, L.M., LAMB, J.P. & ERICSON, P.G.P. (2002): New enantiornithine bird from the marine Upper Cretaceous of Alabama. - Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology, 22: 170-174.

DICKINSON, E. C. & ERICSON, P.G.P. (2002): Systematic notes on Asian birds 32: The type locality of *Hirundo daurica* Laxmann, 1769. - Zoologische Verhandlungen Leiden, 340: 205-206.

ERICSON, P.G.P., ENVALL, I., IRESTEDT, M. & NORMAN, J.A. (2003): Inter-familial relationships of the shorebirds (Aves: Charadriiformes) based on nuclear DNA sequence data. - BMC Evolutionary Biology 2003 3:16.

ERICSON, P.G.P., IRESTEDT, M. & JOHANSSON, U.S. (2003): Evolution, biogeography, and patterns of diversification in passerine birds. - Journal of Avian Biology, 34: 3-15.

ERICSON, P.G.P. & JOHANSSON, U.S. (2003): Phylogeny of Passerida (Aves: Passeriformes) based on nuclear and mitochondrial sequence data. - Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution, 29: 126-138.

FJELDSÅ, J., ZUCCON, D., IRESTEDT, M., JOHANSSON, U.S. AND ERICSON, P.G.P. (2003): *Sapayoa aenigma*: a New World representative of 'Old World suboscines'. - Proceedings of the Royal Society of London. Ser. B. (Suppl.).

HOU, LIANHAI & ERICSON, P.G.P. (2002): A middle Eocene shorebird from China. - Condor, 104: 896-899.

JAMES, H.F., ERICSON, P.G.P., SLIKAS, B., LEI, F.-M., GILL, F.B., & OLSON, S.L. (2003): *Pseudopodoces humilis*, a misclassified terrestrial tit (Aves: Paridae) of the Tibetan Plateau: evolutionary consequences of shifting adaptive zones. - Ibis, 145: 185-202.

JOHANSSON, U.S. & ERICSON, P.G.P. (2003): Molecular support for a sister group relationship between Pici and Galbulae (Piciformes sensu Wetmore 1960). - Journal of Avian Biology, 34: 185-197.

## UNITED STATES

### California

SYLVIA HOPE is working together with colleagues in Alberta and Berkeley on neornithine

birds in the Campanian, and hopes soon to complete a manuscript together with Evgeny

Kurochkin on the Maastrichtian peleciform-like birds. She worked much of the past year with mammal paleontologists and geophysicists on survival of terrestrial vertebrates over the Cretaceous-Tertiary boundary. After long discussions to resolved differing views, all authors are hoping now for prompt publication.

PARRIS, D. & HOPE, S. (2002): New interpretations of birds from the Hornerstown and Navesink

## Georgia

BOB CHANDLER has several students working on either fossil (Oligocene quail from San Diego Co., CA; extinct cormorant from Fossil Lake, OR) or modern birds (review of birds of Baldwin County, GA; Osprey breeding on Lake Sinclair, Baldwin Co., GA). Also, he is putting data together from the last ten years of collecting fossils (including the flora and fauna) on the Santa Fe River in northcentral FL.

CHANDLER, B. & WALL, W. P. (2001): The first record of bird eggs from the early Oligocene (Orellan) of North America. - *Geologic*

## Louisiana

GUDO, M. & HOMBERGER, D.G. (2002): The functional morphology of the pectoral fin girdle of the Spiny Dogfish (*Squalus acanthias*): Implications for the evolutionary history of the pectoral girdle of vertebrates. - *Senckenbergiana lethaea*, 82 (1): 241-252.

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## North Carolina

This past year, STEVE EMSLIE spent 3.5 months in east Antarctica at Casey Station (Australia) where he continued his research on climate change and the occupation history of penguins. This region of the Antarctic was quite rich in abandoned colonies dating from 9000 years old to the present. He currently is exploring the use of carbon and oxygen isotopes from ancient and modern penguin eggshell with Dr. William Patterson (Univ. of Saskatchewan) to address new questions on dietary shifts in penguins with climate change. Steve will be returning to the Ross Sea this coming season to complete additional research on this topic in collaboration with Italian scientists at Terra Nova Bay. In addition, Steve continued his work on monitoring the diet and growth rates of Royal Terns (*Sterna maxima*) breeding on barrier and dredge islands near

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Wilmington, NC. One new graduate student, Deniz Aygen, has been investigating chick diet of these terns in correlation with fishery stock abundance at Fisherman Island, located at the mouth of the Chesapeake Bay, VA. One more season of data will be collected at this location before this project will be completed.

In regard to work on fossil birds, Steve completed a paper with William Suárez (Cuba) on a redescription of the Cuban condor, *Gymnogyps varonai*. This paper, as well as one describing a new species of *Spheniscus* penguin from northern Chile, were published in the *Proceedings of the Biological Society of Washington* (see below). Currently, Steve is working on two other fossil projects. An Honors student (Rebecka Brasso) is studying the late Pleistocene avifauna from Sandia Cave, New Mexico, where, among other species, we have identified the first record of King Vulture (*Sarcoramphus papa*) from North America. In addition, Steve has been collaborating with

Marcelo Stucchi (Peru) to complete a paper on a new genus and species of condor from the late Miocene/early Pliocene Pisco Formation, Peru.

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WAMBACH, E. & EMSLIE, S.D. (in press): Seasonal and annual variation in the diet of breeding, known-age Royal Terns in North Carolina. - *Wilson Bulletin*.

## Pennsylvania

BRAD LIVEZEY continued his work with RICHARD ZUSI, completed a flightless rail monograph, and

nearly completed a revised nomenclature for the os palatinum