

## THE IV-TH SYMPOSIUM OF THE ROMANIAN SOCIETY OF PALEONTOLOGISTS

Cluj-Napoca, September 5-7, 2003



The IV-th symposium of the Romanian Society of Paleontologists was held this autumn at Cluj-Napoca, organized by the RSP and the “Babeș-Bolyai” University (Dept. of Geology-Paleontology). The symposium is a proof that such manifestations of the Society inscribe in a tradition started in 1997 at Bucharest, continued at Cluj-Napoca (1999) and Jassy (2001).

The Symposium runned on four streams: I. Vertebrate Paleontology; II. Micro-paleontology; III. Paleobotany-Palinology; IV. Invertebrate Paleontology – to which was added a poster session.

The large spectrum of the subjects debated is to be pointed out as a consequence of the participation of an important number of scientists from the traditional Romanian teaching and research centers (Cluj-Napoca, București, Iași) as well as from other institutions. The contributions of reputed scientists from Austria, Albania, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Great Britain, Hungary, Italy, Moldova Republic, Norway, Russia, Serbia, Spain and USA brought a plus of value and consistency to the presentations. This obviously proves that a series of fruitful collaborations exist now between Romanian paleontologists and foreign colleagues.

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After the presentations, the Society held its General Assembly: the management presented the account for the last two years, offered the biannual awards (Conf. dr. Rodica Ciobanu and Prof. dr. Leonard Olaru) and then got re-elected for their second term.

The field trip organized for the last day of the Symposium, on the route Cluj Napoca-Căpuș-Valea Neagră (= Valea Crișului)- Oradea-Betfia-Cluj-Napoca, showed the participants the realities from the field and the richness and significance of some exceptional paleontological sites from Transylvania.

Like at any other manifestation of this kind, the opinions are divided: some said it was a success and greeted the organizers (who were many at the beginning, fewer at the end...); other participants had comments for one thing or another (at least for some details...) and finally others had no comments at all!

Therefore we, the organizers wish all the best to our colleagues in organizing the next RSP symposium, at the University of Bucharest in 2005.

**Vlad CODREA**  
**Ovidiu BARBU**