



Vancouver Island Paleontological Society
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Seventh British Columbia Paleontological Symposium Highlights 2007

Introduction: - Fourteen years ago in the Comox Valley, the original VIPS hosted the very first Paleontological Symposium in British Columbia. A few years earlier Mike Trask had found the Puntledge River Elasmosaur, and that discovery brought together a group of enthusiastic people that eventually formed the VIPS. The enthusiasm swept across the province and now there are 7 societies under the BC Paleontological Alliance. Now that's evolution! We have returned full circle to the Comox Valley for the next Symposium.

Symposium 2007 applications available via email danbowen@shaw.ca

On May 18 - 21st at the North Island College, in Courtenay, there will be an event that will bring 16 of the top professional and amateur paleontologists for abstract presentations, paleo-workshops, and field trips.

- 1) Keynote speaker Dr Ryosuke Motani, UCMP Berkeley, Ichthyosaur expert, will preside over the symposium. He is one of the leading researchers on the subject.
- 2) Dr. Don Brinkman of the Tyrrell Museum will present a paper on a species of a fossil Turtles of North America and fossilized Cretaceous fresh water turtle found on the Trent River, in the Comox Valley.
- 3) George Mustoe will present an abstract on the Princeton Chert and an ancient Eocene wetland.
- 4) Torrey Nyborg, student from Loma Linda University, will present a paper on crabs and crab molts from Oregon.

- 1) Kirsten Brink, U of A student, will describe a new species of fossil plant from Hornby Is related to the Araucaria (Monkey Puzzle tree.)
- 2) Tom Cockburn and Jim Haggart will present a preliminary abstract on the marine fauna of the Appian Way locality.
- 3) Dr Ruth Stockey, from the U of A, to describe the oldest fossil angiosperms (flowering plants) or is it the youngest seed fern? from Apple Bay, Holberg Inlet. We will find out.
- 4) Steve Karafit, from the U of A, to discuss Permineralized plant remains.
- 5) Randal Mindell will describe fossil flowers, fruits and fungi.
- 6) Gary Kaiser to describe the unique anatomical similarities and differences between Birds and Dinosaurs including their evolution and extinction. Author of the new book "The Inner Bird."
- 7) Dr. Rolf Ludvigsen, one of Canada's foremost researchers of trilobites, will present "The Trilobite Nation." Rolf Ludvigsen was one of the founding members of the VIPS, the original Paleontological Society in BC in 1992.
- 8) Pat Trask will be giving a behind the scenes tour of the Courtenay and District Museum.
- 9) Marji Johns, Clio Bonnett and Dr Chris Barnes will discuss from fossils to tectonics - interpreting the history of the offshore Tofino and Queen Charlotte basins from multiple data sets.
- 10) Dr Richard Hebda will present "The Late Quaternary fossils record from BC" and its lessons for future climate change.
- 11) Rich McCrea to present a lecture on the amazing discovery of dinosaur track ways in BC. That is, the oldest Cretaceous dinosaur tracks in British Columbia

- 1) Mike Trask will present a lecture on an important discovery of Wisconsinian plant material found in the Comox Valley about 22,000 years old. Fossil wood, pinecones, seeds, pollen and insect material.
- 2) Louise Longridge will discuss Hettangian (Early Jurassic) ammonites from British Columbia. Louise will compare ammonites from the Queen Charlotte Islands (QCI) and Taseko Lakes.
- 3) Dr. Jim Haggart, of the GSC and president of the BCPA, will present a talk on BC's Fabulous Fossils!
- 4) Field Trips to Shelter Point to the only known location on the planet to find the fossil crab Longusorbis cuniculosus.
- 5) Field trip to the famous Trent River, with Mike Trask, to the search for the rare heteromorph ammonites: Polyptychoceras and Eubostriyoceras. The site of the ratfish, a plesiosaur and turtles.
- 6) Field trip to Hornby Island, with Graham Beard, (All day trip) Some of the best preservation of fossils in BC, ammonites, crabs, bivalves, sharks teeth, echinoids, wood and bones.
- 7) Workshop with Dan Bowen and Jay Hawley, bring fossils to prepare. Microwave technique explained, save time with the rock saw, air scribe and air abrasive use with hands-on techniques explained.
- 8) Workshop with Graham Beard, Cephalopods, diagnostic characteristics from earliest fossils to present day living fossils.
- 9) Wine and cheese reception for the Paleontological Art show and scientific posters presentation in the Shadbolt Studio. (Wine 80 ma)
- 10) Paleontological Banquet with Dino-ribs, Pterodactyl wings, Cretaceous calamari and ever-popular Saber-tooth salmon. At the Best Western, The Westerly Hotel in Courtenay.

