

Solution to Puzzle #196 – September, 2017 "Early Bird"

S	T	P	L	E	S	A	L	I	E	N
C	E	R	O	D	E	N	T	A	I	S
E	P	E	C	U	L	I	A	R	A	T
T	A	C	K	M	I	N	E	E	G	R
E	T	L	E	A	D	E	R	C	O	E
R	E	U	R	V	O	G	E	L	S	W
O	R	D	W	I	T	E	L	I	T	E
P	O	T	A	T	O	N	I	N	A	P
E	R	O	R	A	T	E	T	E	T	E
R	A	M	B	L	E	R	A	P	I	C
A	L	B	L	O	C	A	R	R	O	T

The omitted letters (in parentheses in the list below) spell
ARCHAEOPTERYX

Across

1. ST(A)PLE
2. SALIENCE
3. RODENT
4. (R)AISE
5. PECULIAR
6. ATTACK
7. MIN(C)E
8. EGRET
9. LEADER
10. CO(H)ERE
11. **URVOGEL**
12. SWORD
13. W(A)IT
14. ELITE
15. POTATO
16. NINA
17. PERORATE
18. T(E)ETER
19. AMBLER
20. APICAL
21. B(O)LO
22. CARROT

Down

1. SCE(P)TER
2. OPERATE
3. PA(T)TER
4. ORAL
5. PRECLUD(E)
6. TOMB
7. LOCKER
8. WARBLE
9. DUMA
10. VITA
11. LOSE
12. LIDO
13. TOTE
14. CANINE
15. GENERAL
16. TA(R)E
17. RELIT
18. ARIA
19. RECLINE
20. PRE(Y)
21. IAGO
22. STATION
23. STREW
24. E(X)PECT

Kevin Wald solved the puzzle in 20 minutes.