

## Minutes of the UFOP SW Chapter Meeting held on Nov.16, 2016

**President:** Bill Biesele welcomed the 15 attendees and any new members, suggesting to check UFOP's website [utahpaleo.org](http://utahpaleo.org) or asking Ann Sherwood, our chapter VP, for membership forms.

**Field trip:** Announcement of a field trip to a new plant site in Warner Valley found by Fred and Joanna Overkamp to be held on the following Monday (Nov. 21) starting at 8 a.m. at SGDS.

**VP report:** New members (6 total)

**Secretary report:** Minutes of Oct. 19, 2016 voted on, approved and entered into the record.

**Nominations for officers for 2017:** President Bill Biesele, VP Ann Sherwood, Secretary Elisabeth Nipperus, and Advisor Andrew Milner were all nominated and re-elected. Joanna Overkamp volunteered for the position of Treasurer taking the place of Mike Santella who served for one year.

**2017 Annual UFOP Convention hosted by SW Branch:** Discussion about what to offer to speakers, dinner, registration, lodging, volunteers, keynote speaker, committees, general planning.

**Speaker:** Bill introduced our speaker of the evening — Stephen P. Mulqueen. He lived much of his life in Southern California. In 1978, Steve earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Geology at Cal Poly Pomona. He was employed as a geologist at the Searles Lake solution mining facility in Trona, CA by Kerr-McGee Chemical Corporation from 1979–1982. From 1982–2009 Steve worked as a Mineral Resources Engineer for the State of California, Department of Conservation and also the California State Lands Commission. One of his hobbies includes rock hounding, in search of unusual and rare rocks, minerals and fossils. Some of his rock discoveries he donated to college geology labs or used for grade school educational material. He volunteers his time conducting field trips, writing professional articles and presenting lectures. Steve is currently retired and resides in St. George.

His powerpoint presentation was titled *Petroleum Seeps: Structural Setting, Energy Drive and Path of Migration*.

This talk included a discussion of paleontology with examples from the La Brea Tar Pits in Los Angeles, from where millions of fossils have been recovered since 1913.

Petroleum seeps are the result of complex sequences of geologic events; fossils are very well preserved in seeps for they are well protected from weather, erosion, other animals, breakage, biodegradation, acid rain, inundation, etc. and are always in motion. Petroleum is built up from fossil organic matter and is found in the form of liquids, gases, vapors and solids. Marine fossils help determine age and correlation of strata in many types of seeps, incl. those made up of crude oil, asphalt and organic stuff, bitumen, sulfur, gas, and mud.

Stephen Mulqueen gave us a very detailed presentation accompanied by many interesting and pertinent photo's of all the different kinds of seeps found mostly in California.

Meeting was adjourned at 9 p.m.

Submitted by UFOP SW Secretary Elisabeth Nipperus  
January 18, 2017