

## Minutes of the UFOP SW Chapter Meeting held on October 19, 2016

**Welcome:** As Bill was not present, our Chapter VP Ann Sherwood chaired this meeting, welcoming the 15 attendees at 7 p.m. and asking those wishing to become members to stay after the meeting so she could give them more information, including a brochure.

**Potluck:** Ann asked to check the column on the sign-in sheet if planning to attend our potluck on December 7 starting at 6 p.m. at Steve and Sally Stephenson's clubhouse for which they were duly thanked. More information would come in due course by e-mail.

**Slate of officers:** Bill, Ann and Elisabeth were willing to serve another year in their resp. positions as President, Vice-President and Secretary, but Mike Santella resigned his in June, so the position of Treasurer is open. Anyone wishing to fill it was truly welcome. The voting-in would occur during the November meeting, being the last one of this year.

**Mail:** There is no longer a local P.O. Box for our chapter. Contact is per e-mail or telephone calls only. Future membership dues will be paid either in person or on-line through the UFOP web site: [www.utahpaleo.org](http://www.utahpaleo.org)

**Secretary's report:** Elisabeth was not available this evening, so Ann asked if there were any amendments to put forward concerning the Minutes of the May 2016 meeting. There were none, so they were voted upon, seconded and approved to be entered as such into the records and posted on our UFOP website under Archives.

**Treasurer's report:** The current balance of our account was \$ 1,269.88.

**Museum news:** Andrew, our chapter advisor and SGDS Curator, talked about its new Director Diana Azevedo replacing Dr. Liz Freedman Fowler who went to rejoin her husband in Dickinson, North Dakota on September 9. She and her husband will both be working at the local dinosaur museum there. We wish them all the best.

Andrew also announced he was working on organizing a field trip in the local area during the last part of November.

**Guest speaker:** Ann introduced our guest speaker **Dr. Larry Davis**, who has given us a presentation twice before. Dr. Davis is currently with the Education Outreach Program of the Bryce Canyon History Association. Between 1992 and 2007 he published many articles and three books, and has been given numerous educational awards. He started out with 12 years in the U.S. Army, including 20 months in Vietnam, after which he earned his MS and PhD at Washington State University. He taught geology there for 15 years and another 15 years at the University of Notre Dame in Australia.

The title of this evening's presentation was: *The Eocene: Dawn of Modern Mammals*.

Dr. Davis gave a lively overview of the Eocene, the longest epoch of the Cenozoic (55.8 - 33.9 MYA) lasting nearly 22 million years, a period of dramatic global warming which allowed warm-adapted mammals to migrate between continents. Dinosaurs, giant marine and flying reptiles disappeared and were replaced by frogs, turtles, flightless birds, snakes and mammals living in tropical forests. As the Eocene progressed, the Earth's temperature gradually cooled and the rainforest-like habitats gave way to more open woodland. All mammals discussed were the "grandfathers and grandmothers" of the animals we see today.

This meeting was adjourned at around 8:30 p.m.

Submitted by Ann Sherman and Elisabeth Nipperus

November 18, 2016