

Minutes of the UFOP SW Branch Meeting on 10/19/2017

Bill welcomed the 18 attendees and made sure they signed their names on the attendance sheet. He noted many familiar faces and a few new ones, and reminded them that during our next meeting nominations for officers were going to be accepted, and to consider volunteering.

Joanna indicated a starting balance of \$ 2,071.73 since last meeting. There was since then a dinner expense of \$62.73 and two amounts were deposited: one new fam. membership plus an extra \$5 donation and a deposit of \$193.25 from State settling us up for dues and conference money, bringing the current balance up to \$ 2,227.25.

Elisabeth read her Minutes of the previous meeting on September 20. They were approved, voted on, seconded, and as such entered into the record, to be posted on our website.

Bill introduced our speaker for this evening: Dr. Robert Joseph Gay, an American paleontologist known for his work in the Chinle and Kayenta Formations in the SW United States. He is known for the discovery of the first occurrence of *Crosbysaurus* from Utah, as well as his studies of cannibalism in *Coelophysis* and sexual dimorphism in *Dilophosaurus*. Dr. Gay is currently the Education Director at the Colorado Canyons Association. Since 2014, he has taken H.S. students to the Chinle of Comb Ridge, UT, and is currently making new discoveries there. He has been instrumental in raising the awareness of the paleontological resources of BENM which represent at least three distinct and important slices of time in the rock record.

On Twitter (@Paleorob) he writes:

"My work since 2013-2014 has focused on Comb Ridge and more recently Fry Canyon. Joint teams from Appalachian State University and the Museum of Moab are beginning to work in Red Canyon, an area just barely excluded from the Monument's boundaries."

The title of Dr. Gay's presentation was "*The Portal to NeCrocPolis: a new and significant Triassic site in Utah.*" Together with many pictures and commentaries he gave us a good impression of his latest important finds.

Meeting adjourned 8:30 p.m.

Submitted by Elisabeth Nipperus, Secr. UFOP SW Branch
January 18, 2018