

Minutes of the Utah Friends of Paleontology Southwest Chapter Meeting – 2012

- Steve called the meeting to order at 7 p.m., welcoming the 21 attendees, including our speaker for the evening.
- Elisabeth read her Minutes of April 18, 2012, which was followed by vote approval and entered as such into the record.
- Linda gave her Treasurer's report, indicating an ending balance of \$744.30 after deduction of speaker expenses for March and April amounting to \$250.67, and addition of \$75 worth of memberships.
- Andrew announced a field trip for October and promised more details in the near future.
- Steve had no specific UFOP news and proceeded to introduce our speaker of the evening, Tylor Birthisel. Tylor earned a B.S. Degree in Geology from UNLV and has done a lot of volunteer work at the SGDS Museum. In June 2011 he was appointed manager of the Paleontology Lab at the GSENM in Kanab, and he still serves in that position.

His presentation was about his work in the Kaiparowits Formation in the GSENM, focusing on the *Parasaurolophus*, specifically regarding its history as recorded in the field of paleontology dating back to the 1920's when the first four skulls were found, and three years later, two partial skeletons. After a gap of fifty years, more parts were found, including last year's most complete skull, a.k.a. "Oliver". These different finds made it clear that there were not two different species as had been thought due to the differences found in the curvature of the crest, but that the crest change was a unique development feature from infant to adult within the same species. Studies have now shifted to the existing complexity of the auxiliary tubes

forming the nasal track, the skull's main feature.

Tylor accompanied his talk showing a power point presentation that was well put together, and clear and interesting to follow.

- The meeting was adjourned around 8:45 p.m.

Submitted by Elisabeth Nipperus, Secretary UFOP SW Chapter

November 20, 2012