

## Minutes of the Utah Friends of Paleontology Southwest Chapter Meeting – January 25, 2012

It was decided to hold the business meeting after the presentation so our speaker would be able to return home to Las Vegas earlier. So Steve welcomed the 43 attendees (of which 18 students) and immediately introduced Aubrey Bonde as our speaker for the evening after first explaining the reason for the reversal.

Aubrey graduated from South Dakota School of Mines and Technology with a B.S. where she worked primarily on Oligocene mammals from Badlands National Park and dinosaurs from the Hell Creek Formation. She then moved on to Kent State University for a M.S. and transitioned to invertebrates. Her thesis was on Jurassic crustaceans from Romania, having made two separate trips to Romania for field work and discovering several new species. After which she decided she liked working the most with mammal fossils. She is now at University of Nevada Las Vegas finishing up her Ph.D. on large mammals from the Late Pleistocene.

Steve reminded the attendees of Aubrey's husband, Josh, who gave a presentation last November titled: "What killed Kermit?", adding that both Aubrey and Josh will be receiving their doctorate degrees from UNLV this summer and that congratulations were in order.

The subject of Audrey's presentation was *Pleistocene Megaloherbivores: What's there to eat in an Ice Age?* In an interesting and lively manner she showed how many plant-eating mammals from different locales in Nevada and California adjusted their diets due to climate change at the close of the late Pleistocene deglaciation.

Before she left, Aubrey was given a small present for her first baby due in March, which she gladly accepted (Elisabeth found a handpuppet with dinosaurs and booklet in the SGDS gift shop).

After a short pause, Steve started the business end of the meeting inviting Elisabeth to read the minutes of the previous meeting held on November 16, 2011 which were then approved and voted on to be entered into record. Linda followed with her treasurer's report noting an income of \$145 for memberships, and expenses amounting to \$106.47 for a Speaker's Dinner and the Christmas Potluck. The ending Balance came to \$734.97.

Steve continued with chapter items of interest:

- Reminder of the UFOP Annual Meeting in Salt Lake City April 27-29. The Great Basin Chapter will be sending out general meeting information and registration very soon.
- Reminder that we will be hosting the 2013 Annual Meeting and that Bob Baldazzi will become State President at this year's meeting in SLC. Our chapter will be needing some assistance during this next year from several volunteers.
- SGDS Museum: The blocks on the hill beside the museum have been moved behind the building after more space was created by adding soil. The rest of the hill is being leveled. Bob Baldazzi is preparing the upper jaws of the Washington County phytosaur skull, and Tylor Birthisel is working on the lower jaw. One can see photos of their work on Andrew's Facebook or on [www.WashingtonCountyPhytosaurSkull.com](http://www.WashingtonCountyPhytosaurSkull.com).

The meeting was adjourned at 9 p.m.

*Submitted by Elisabeth Nipperus, Secretary UFOP SW Chapter March 16, 2012*