

Olathe Gem and Mineral Society - May 4, 2023 - Club Meeting Minutes

Place: Hope Chapel

Time: 6:45-8:45

Before the meeting began, we had our raffle, presided over by Leslie Hartman.

Norman Onnen called the meeting to order at 7:00 with a welcome to all and introduction of guests and new members.

Barbara Crompton brought our newly ordered club shirts for our new members and for existing members who wanted a 2nd shirt. The club provides the first club t-shirts at no charge, for any additional shirts there is a cost. The foodie sweatshirts that were ordered by members were also available for pick up.

Announcements:

Picnic will be held on June 3rd at Kill Creek Park. Starting time will be 3:00pm. The club will provide hamburgers, hot dogs, drinks, ice, serving/eating utensils and the Chefs. Sign-up sheets were provided and members were requested to provide number of family members/guests attending, meat preference, and what side they will be bringing. Donation for silent auction will need to be brought to the picnic and auction sheets are to be filled out in advance. There will be a drawing for prizes (3) for members who paid their dues by this meeting.

Our next club meeting will be Thursday September 7, 2023 at Hope Chapel.

Rock Mountain Federation Congress will be held in Casper, WY. July12-16th.

Program -

Kathleen Rust; KU PhD Candidate.- Topic: Ekgmowechashala, an extinct genus North American primate

Bio:

Kathleen Rust is a 2019-2023 Self Graduate Fellow pursuing a Ph.D. in ecology and evolutionary biology. She received a B.A. (2012) with high honors in anthropology and German from the University of Texas at Austin. She earned an M.A. in anthropology (2018) from Hunter College City University of New York. Her master's thesis work involved collecting data from fossils to investigate the phylogenetic affinities and origins of sivaladapids – an extinct group of adapiform primates. Her thesis research suggests a new possible evolutionary scenario for the origins and evolution of Sivaladapidae. During her graduate studies in New York City, Rust was recruited as a biological anthropology educator at the American Museum of Natural

history (AMNH). Her role at the AMNH enabled her to share the science of the latest research in paleontology and communicate the importance of evolution and genomics with museum visitors of all ages. As a doctoral student, Rust continues to study adapiform systematics, and her dissertation research investigates the purported evolutionary trade-off between vision and olfaction in early primate evolution. By studying the fossils of primates and genomes of living mammals, her research explores modularity and morphological integration of the maxillofacial skeleton to test if changes in the facial anatomy reflect this trade-off between the visual and olfactory sensory systems in the fossil record of primates. In addition to research, Rust remains active in outreach and education for local audiences through the KU Museum of Natural History and Biodiversity Institute.

Mentor: K. Christopher Beard, Senior Curator- Biodiversity Institute, U. of Kansas-on Sat., March 25, 2023 she was a part of the KU "2nd annual Celebrating Women in Science" event in honor of Women's History Month.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30.