



# Illinois Soil Classifiers Association Newsletter

Fall-November 2016

## Upcoming Events:

ISCA Fall Meeting    November 11-12

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## Message from the President

It seems like fall, it feels like fall, it must be fall, already? I can't believe how quickly my second favorite season has come and is flying by. Is that statement indicative of the rush toward geezerdom?

In September I had the good fortune to take in 2 of the 4 days of Loessfest in Eau Claire WI. It was an excellent venue, meticulously planned, and well executed. I attended the last 2 days which consisted of field trips in and around Eau Claire looking at loess transport and its relation to glacial topography, surfaces, features and soils. Having seen ice walled lake plains in the northern Illinois area, it was hard to recognize the same features on steroids. Where our lake plains might be 5'-10' higher than surrounding topography, these stood 50'-100' high. We were also treated to horse drawn transport at one site, local microbrew, cheese curds, and the spectacle of one of the international participants trying to get a close up of a skunk that wandered thru the gathering. This generated a fine variety of ingenious hand gestures and signals by the rest of the group to stay away. The only detraction was water in nearly all the pits thanks to a 6" rain the day before the field trips.

October brought the Forest Soils Workshop in Kentucky. The lodge at Kenlake State Park sits on the bluff overlooking Kentucky Lake (obviously!). We saw cherty soils, lots of cherty soils. The US Forest Service manages the recreation area to appeal to the most diverse interests including fishing, shooting ranges, ATV, horseback, and hiking trails, captive elk and bison viewing, a planetarium, and cultural and historic sites. Along with that diversity comes adversity in trying to manage the resource and placate a public with an equally diffuse set of interests and preconceptions. The takeaway is that in some cases, it is hard to placate everyone so little or nothing actually gets done. Is there a societal corollary there?

The striking thing is how fortunate we are in Illinois to have the luxury of loess. Even in thin veneers in Wisconsin and Kentucky, its effect on forest and crop productivity is remarkable. A foot or two makes the difference between viable agricultural communities and sparsely populated subsistence farming and forest lands.

It's important to support the efforts of the people who plan and execute these workshops. I'm always humbled with the realization of how much there is to learn and how much has been forgotten! Hope to see a lot of you at our workshop down in Southern Illinois November 11 and 12.

Brad

## ISCA Fall Workshop Announcement

We're pleased to announce our fall workshop in Southern Illinois. Dr. Kenneth Olson, University of Illinois, Emeritus, will host our fall workshop with the subject matter: the Mississippi River threatens to make the Dogtooth Bend Peninsula in Illinois an Island. We will tour flood affected areas and observe impacts on farmland and soil mapping as a result of levee construction and failure.

Dr. Olson was formerly the professor of Pedology, Soil Conservation, and Management before retiring from the U of I in 2014. His recent co-authored book, *Managing Mississippi and Ohio River Landscapes\** examines the cause and effects of past and present floodplain management, while discussing strategies for the future.

**When:** November 11 & 12

November 11: Banquet & Orientation 6:30-8:30

November 12: Field Trip 8:15-2:00 PM (lunch provided)

**Where:** Olive Branch area in Alexander County, IL

**Lodging:** Auburn Place Hotel & Suites  
3265 William St  
Cape Girardeau, MO 63703  
(573) 651-4486

**Cost:** ISCA is underwriting the cost of the workshop. There is no charge for the workshop other than lodging at participant's expense.

We will have a buffet with presentations/orientation on the evening of the 11<sup>th</sup> at the hotel with the field trip to the Olive Branch area on the 12<sup>th</sup>. Transportation will be by personal vehicle caravan. Consolidation of vehicles by attendees will be beneficial in safely accessing the sites. On Saturday, lunch will be provided. A block of 15 rooms is reserved at a rate of \$99/night plus tax with more rooms available as needed. To insure getting a room at the block rate, reservations must be made by 11/1/16. Mention ISCA when booking. If you decide to stay over on the 12<sup>th</sup> before heading home, the same rate is available. Just let the hotel know when making your reservation.

Early November is a great time to visit Southern Illinois!

### Illinois Soil Classifiers Association

<http://www.illinoissoils.org>

\*Dr. Olson's book can be purchased at: [http://www.swcs.org/en/publications/managing\\_mississippi\\_and\\_ohio\\_river\\_landscapes/](http://www.swcs.org/en/publications/managing_mississippi_and_ohio_river_landscapes/)

## ISCA Fall Tour Registration Form

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Address 2: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliation (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Registration Deadline is **11/8/16**

Hotel Registration Deadline is **11/1/16** for the Group Rate

Please return the registration form via email to: **president@illinoissoils.org**

or mail to:

**Bradley Cate**  
**P.O. Box 411**  
**Savanna, IL 61074**

## Job Announcement for Potential Job Seekers



### V3 Companies - Soil Scientist

V3 Companies, a multi-discipline civil engineering firm, is seeking a full time Soil Scientist for our Natural Resources division within our Woodridge, Illinois office. Understanding and classifying soil types is required, and working knowledge of GIS and Phase I Environmental studies is desired. Candidate should have the ability to summarize soils and hydrology indicator findings. Qualified candidates must have strong interpersonal and communication skills as the position includes interaction with both internal and external clients. In addition, they must be able to work both independently and in a team based environment and possess the ability to manage several major activities at once.

#### General responsibilities include:

- Assisting ecologists with field work on wetland determinations and delineations, including classification of soil types and evaluating wetland hydrology.
  - Preparing wetland determination and wetland delineation reports, including summarizing soils and hydrology findings and filling out data forms.
  - Utilizing GIS applications.
  - Assist with monitoring and reporting.
  - Provide support and assistance with Phase I Environmental Site Assessments and Environmental Due Diligence.
- Perform other project field work as required.

#### Qualifications:

- A Bachelor of Science Degree in Soil Science.
- 0 -3 years of related experience in Environmental Sciences or Natural Resources.
- Experience with GIS required.
- Microstation CAD platform preferred.

Basic understanding of federal, state, and local permitting requirements preferred.

We offer a competitive salary and benefits package including medical, dental, vision, 401(k), paid time off and holidays. Please visit our website at [www.v3co.com](http://www.v3co.com) for additional information on V3 Companies. Qualified candidates should submit their resumes to Allison Stanislavski at [astanislavski@v3co.com](mailto:astanislavski@v3co.com) or by fax to 630.724.0385.

**V3 IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER- "EEO Employer/ Vet/ Disabled"**

**This announcement is submitted by Keith Jones. Interested applicants are encouraged to mention Keith as a reference and this announcement when applying!**

## Colluvium VS Alluvium Survey

Here is a link to an on-line survey to help evaluate the definition of colluvium vs alluvium from the Soil Survey Conference in July.: <https://goo.gl/forms/fV8RBVVKjis>

If you have any questions or any comments on the survey, please feel free to contact us:

Bradley Miller ([millerba@iastate.edu](mailto:millerba@iastate.edu))

Jérôme Juilleret ([jerome.juilleret@list.lu](mailto:jerome.juilleret@list.lu))

Also, Brian and Jérôme invite you to join the discussion occurring at:

[https://www.researchgate.net/post/How\\_do\\_you\\_define\\_colluvium](https://www.researchgate.net/post/How_do_you_define_colluvium)

## The Soil Colors of the National Parks — 100 Years of Conservation & Soil Science

Here is a link to an interesting read about soil colors of the National Parks

<http://munsell.com/color-blog/soil-colors-national-parks-anniversary/>

## Soil Planners are on the Web!

The National Soil Survey Center and the Soil Science Division have scanned all the Soil Planners since 1999 and put them on the Web for your outreach use. They are located at

<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/soils/edu/?cid=nrcseprd1250008>

under Soil Education and also a link from Soil Publications. Please direct educators to this site for use of the planners in their curriculum. They are available as pdf files.

## Google Earth and Soil Web App

If you like Google Earth, you will like it even more now. Google Earth has united with the Soil Web app. Check out the article in the Ohio Pedologist news. <http://www.ohiopedologist.com/news.html>

All of the above information is submitted by: Mark Bramstedt

## TRADING POST

This spot is reserved for members who would like to buy, sell, trade, or announce an item, event, or activity in our newsletter. Please limit your classified ad to 25 words or less. Email your ad to the newsletter at [newsletter@illinoissoils.org](mailto:newsletter@illinoissoils.org)

[www.illinoissoils.org](http://www.illinoissoils.org)

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[Newsletter@illinoissoils.org](mailto:Newsletter@illinoissoils.org)

### Submissions

This is **YOUR** newsletter. If you wish to submit material, here are some preferences.

- Send information by the last week of the month before the newsletter is scheduled to be published.
- Digital copy in Microsoft Word
- Use as little formatting (indents, bullets, charts) as possible. This increases the work to get it into Publisher. It can be done, but increases work load for the committee.

The Newsletter Committee reserves the right to make edits/ corrections deemed appropriate

### Publication Schedule

- Winter (February)
- Spring (May)
- Summer (August)
- Fall (November)



The Illinois Soil Classifiers Association is an organization promoting the wise use of the soil resource. ISCA is made up of professional soil classifiers in public service, private industry, and education and includes students and others interested in preserving soil. A soil classifier maps, describes and interprets soils according to a national system of soil classification. ISCA was established in 1975 and is affiliated with the American Registry of Certified Professionals in Agronomy, Crops, and Soils.

## ISCA on Facebook

For those of you who want to keep in touch with ISCA members and others interested in soils in Illinois, join our group on Facebook. Search Facebook for "Illinois Soil Classifiers Association" and become a friend of ISCA. Anyone may post messages, announcements, pictures or events that may be of interest to our membership. This is a great venue for posting meetings of other associations or organizations who use soil information. This is also a great place to post pictures of recent projects, interesting soils, or maybe something unrelated to soils, but of general interest to the membership. If you don't have a Facebook account, it is easy to set up. Just go to [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com) and follow the instructions. Unfortunately, the Facebook site is restricted on some government computers, so many of you will need to do this at home. Contact [webmaster@illinoissoils.org](mailto:webmaster@illinoissoils.org) if you have any difficulty in accessing the ISCA Group or if you have any questions or comments.



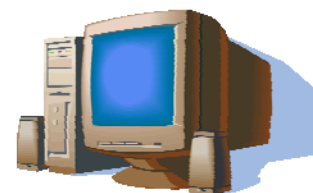
### ISCA Newsletter Committee is looking for pictures of it's members, past or present, to include in future newsletters.

Submissions can be sent electronically or hard copy to the staff address, see above and left. Please include a narrative for the caption! If hard copies are sent please indicate if they are to be returned otherwise photographs will be retained in an archive photos file.

[www.illinoissoils.org](http://www.illinoissoils.org)

New, exciting links have been added to the "announcements" page on our website. Be sure to bookmark this page. Its an excellent resource to keep you informed on the latest soils issues.

Better yet... make it your home page!



ISCA Newsletter  
148 E. Pleasant Hill Road  
Suite 105, Box #2  
Carbondale, IL 62903

**Visit the ISCA website to see the color version of this newsletter**

**[www.illinoissoils.org/news](http://www.illinoissoils.org/news)**

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### Change of Address Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Mail to: Bob Tegeler, ISCA Secretary, 124 Joan Drive, Divernon, IL 62530