



Illinois Soil Classifiers Association Newsletter

Winter-February 2008

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Message from the President

In this, my last message to you, you will not find references to carpentry skills, baseball gloves, or black holes! That's because,

(1) We now have a multi-year plan thanks to many of you who participated in our early planning session. I want to thank all those who helped develop items for this plan, including Mark Bramstedt and the Public Relations & Education Committee, who put the multi-year plan together into a product we can all use. This plan should allow for greater continuity of specific educational events that are "under construction" for the incoming ISCA council members and president to follow.

(2) The ISCA will have a proposal out for a different way to conduct the nomination of officers every year. I'm hoping everyone will see the potential benefit this will make as we seek qualified candidates every year, and doing so by making everyone a winner. Each of us has talents and skills to make this organization run as smooth as "leather". We should not waste any of our resources, namely, you the member.

(3) The "ILICA Incident" made us more aware of the IDPH's proposed code changes for Private Sewage Disposal which is perhaps, the most single important issue facing ISCA at the moment. In response, ISCA has submitted a well written statement(s) of our position which has incorporated many comments we received from our membership. Where this will all end up is mostly a guess. We shall certainly see in the near future.

In the meantime, ISCA must move forward and continue to do what we do best....providing educational opportunities to our membership so that we can become better at doing "soil business".

I want to take this last opportunity to thank all those who have served with me this year, and in doing so, have provided me with much needed support. I know you will help me in doing the same for our new incoming ISCA President, Scott Wegman.

Ken Gotsch, President
217-774-5564
Ken.gotsch@il.usda.gov

Illinois State Soil T-Shirts Still Available

Short Sleeve -- \$12

Long Sleeve -- \$14

Shipping and Handling \$5 per order

Order by contacting Steve Elmer

E-mail : torflagr@geneseo.net



ISCA Membership News

Obituary - Donald Wallace



Donald L. Wallace, age 85, of Edwardsville, died at 11:51 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 24, 2007, at Anderson Hospital in Maryville.

He was born on May 16, 1922, in White County, the son of the late Oscar and Esther (Doty) Wallace.

He married Doris E. Potter on March 23, 1945. She preceded him in death on Aug. 5, 1982.

He married Edna Erlich in July, 1985. She preceded him in death on June 25, 2003.

He is survived by two sons: Donald R. Wallace and his wife, Linda of Belleville, and James P. Wallace and his wife, Barbara of St. Louis; a step daughter: Joann Diepholz and her husband, Roger of Glen Carbon; four grandchildren: Christopher, Todd, Ryan and Baily Wallace; and five step grandchildren: Gina Hall, Jayne Gratz, Nathan and Toby Meador and Heather Meyer; and one sister: Violet Jones and her husband, Victor of Carmi.

Mr. Wallace was a retired soil scientist for the Department of Agriculture and a visiting professor at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville. He also worked for SWMPC and served on the Planning Commission for the city of Edwardsville.

He was a member of the Salem Primitive Baptist Church in Crossville and the Edwardsville Kiwanis Club. He graduated Michigan State University in 1944 and earned a Master's Degree from SIUE in 1970.

Visitation was from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 27, at Weber and Rodney Funeral Home in Edwardsville.

Funeral services were at 9:30 a.m. on Friday, Dec. 28, at the funeral home, with Rev. Nathan Meador officiating.

Interment was at Little Wabash Cemetery in Crossville.

Memorials are suggested to the Kiwanis Club of Edwardsville.

Published in the Edwardsville Intelligencer from 12/26/2007 - 12/27/2007.

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 zach.weber@il.usda.gov

- ISCA ball caps available for \$9 (includes S&H). Contact Steve Elmer at torflagr@geneseo.net
- Drummer T-Shirts available in 2 colors (see front cover). Short sleeve - \$12 Long sleeve - \$14
- 2000 4100 4WD JD hydrostatic drive, low hours, with Giddings rear-mounted 5-TS soil probe, storage boxes, and many accessories. Call A&E Soil Consultants@ 309-945-9090.



ISCA 2007 Budget

	Budget	Actual
Income		
Annual / Fall Meetings	\$800.00	\$560.00
Dues, Membership	\$2,000.00	\$3,225.00
Dues, Certification & App. For Cert.	\$1,200.00	\$1,340.00
Interest	\$80.00	\$80.00
Bookmarks	\$0.00	\$11.00
Hats	\$25.00	\$0.00
Shirts	\$50.00	\$57.00
Soil Tubes (Drummer)	\$25.00	\$25.00
Workshops	\$1,500.00	\$0.00
Soil Survey Horizon (refund)	\$0.00	\$95.00
TOTALS	\$5,680.00	\$5,393
Expenses		
Administration	\$400.00	\$409.00
ISCA Magnets	\$0.00	\$871.00
ISCA Brochures	\$0.00	\$738.00
Soil Cards and Drummer bookmarks	\$0.00	\$1,534.00
Annual / Fall Meetings	\$1,200.00	\$1,516.00
Certification Board	\$100.00	\$0.00
Awards (Burt Ray)	\$400.00	\$500.00
Central States Forest Soils Workshop	\$500.00	\$500.00
Farm Progress Show	\$500.00	\$406.00
Miscellaneous	\$100.00	\$95.00
Public Relations	\$200.00	\$0.00
Smithsonian Soils Exhibit	\$1,700.00	\$700.00
Soil Judging (Regional Collegiate)	\$500.00	\$400.00
Soil Survey Horizons	\$1,600.00	\$1,520.00
Workshops	\$1,000.00	\$0.00
TOTALS	\$8,200.00	\$9,189.00

ISCA served as agent for 2007 Central States Forest Soils Workshop

	Amount
INCOME	
Transfer from Missouri	\$4,677.32
ISCA Contribution (Lab analysis)	\$500.00
Other (Registrations)	\$11,665.00
TOTAL	\$16,842.32
EXPENSES	\$13,484.93
DIFFERENCE	\$3,357.39
	Sent to Ohio for 2008



2007 Burton W. Ray Scholarship Award in Soil Science

The 2007 winner of the scholarship is Jenwei Tsai from the University of Illinois. The contest was held near Marshall, Illinois this last October. Jenwei was the overall individual winner of the Region 3 contest and her name was submitted by Robert Darmody, UI team advisor, as the award recipient. Ms. Tsai's name has been engraved on the award as the 2007 winner. Olivia Dorothy was the 2006 award winner, who was also from the University of Illinois. The award plaque resides in Turner Hall at the University of Illinois, where Professor Ray was an instructor.



Dues Increase??

For the past year, the Council has been discussing a possible dues increase for Full and Associate Membership within ISCA. The reason is, of course, to increase our revenue and operating capital and to prepare for anticipated expenses in the future. The Long Range Plan for ISCA indicates the possibility of future training sessions, seminars, and other activities that will require working capital to initiate. **Of the current \$25 fee, ISCA actually ends up with only about \$6.** The other \$19 goes toward an annual subscription to Soil Survey Horizons. We have checked with the editors and SSH is not on the web and is not scheduled to be in the future. They feel they have a limited audience of only about 1,700 total subscribers and they can't afford to keep a staff if they could not collect a subscription fee. The cost per subscription has gone up three times in the last four years!

The possible dues increase would only be \$5 or \$10 per year. With roughly 100 Full and Associate Members, obviously the increased revenue would be \$500 or \$1000 per year. We have not had a dues increase in a number of years. In fact, the Council could not come up with the last time without having to go back through the records.

Couple suggestions on what we might do: One is to leave everything the way it currently is and get by the best we can. Two, would be to go with an increase, either amount, and be better able to handle increased expenses in the future. Three, drop the Soil Survey Horizon subscription as part of the dues and let folks handle that on their own through SSSA. Fourth, might be to go ahead with an increase in dues but then offer upcoming seminars or workshops free or at a much reduced rate to members as part of a member incentive program.

We are not preparing a specific proposal for the upcoming annual meeting but we will be discussing this point for future guidance. Be prepared!

- submitted by Roger Windhorn

**Comments from the Illinois Soil Classifiers Association (ISCA)
Concerning the Proposed Amendments to the Private Sewage Disposal Code
Illinois Register Volume 31, Issue 47, November 26, 2007, pages 15642 through 15742
December 31, 2007**

Code Citation: 77 Ill. Adm. Code 905

Section 905.10 Definitions, page 15650
“Estimated Seasonal High Water Table”

Comment: The proposed definition allows for a subjective determination of the seasonal high water table. The Illinois Soil Classifiers Association proposes the use of measurable soil characteristics as the best objective method for determining the estimated seasonal high water table. These measurable soil characteristics, called redoximorphic features (formerly called mottles), only develop in the areas of the soil that have been saturated on a regular basis for an extended period of time. The U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), the International Committee on Soils with Aquic Soil Moisture Regimes (ICOMAQ), the National Technical Committee on Hydric Soils (NTCHS) and the soil science community at large have long recognized redoximorphic features as the most reliable method for determining the depth to a seasonal high water table. The NTCHS includes soil scientists in the NRCS in cooperation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and various regional, state, and local agencies across the United States. Redoximorphic features are recognized in other state septic ordinances as the most reliable way to determine the estimated seasonal high water table. The NRCS has established accepted scientific methods and procedures for describing these features and characteristics in the Field Book for Describing and Sampling Soils. These methods are also recognized by the Soil Science Society of America, universities, and other soil science associations as the most objective method to determine the depth to the estimated seasonal high water table.

Using direct observation of a seasonal high water table during any time of the year will provide an inaccurate estimation of the depth because the water table fluctuates on an irregular, unpredictable basis determined by precipitation at the site and in the region of the site. The seasonal high water table fluctuates on an annual, seasonal, monthly, weekly, daily, and sometimes hourly basis depending upon the soil and other environmental factors. The only time when using direct observation would provide a more accurate determination of the seasonal high water table would be if monitoring wells were installed at a site and the depth was recorded over a period of several years.

Using published soil survey information alone to make a determination of seasonal high water table and landscape conditions may provide an inaccurate estimation of the seasonal high water table and site conditions since the soil surveys were not designed for site specific interpretations.

Recommendation: The Illinois Soil Classifiers Association recommends that the definition of the estimated seasonal high water table be strengthened, so that measurable soil characteristics (redoximorphic features) which are recognized by the scientific community as identifiers of soil saturation and which are described by accepted procedures, be used as the major identifier to determine the depth to saturation and that other features of the soil and landscape may be used as additional support. These accepted procedures also provide a method for the interpretation of whether soil features are relic or contemporaneous to the current existing environment. If there is a preponderance of evidence that the soil features are not reflecting current conditions, then that information may be submitted to refute the depth of seasonal saturation determined by using the soil features alone.

Section 905.15 Incorporated and Referenced Materials, page 15652

Section 905.15 a)

Comment: The only reference given for soils is a glossary of terminology. There is no reference to the standard, method, or procedure for which the soils should be described. The Field Book for Describing and Sampling Soils ver. 2.0 was developed by soil scientists in the U.S. Department of Agriculture in consultation with soil scientists across the United States from various government agencies and universities. It is considered the national standard for describing soil properties and characteristics. Two other references that are standard to soil science for describing and classifying soil

are: [Soil Taxonomy](#) and the [Soil Survey Manual](#).

Recommendation: The Illinois Soil Classifiers Association recommends that the following publications be cited in the Code and referenced in Section 905.55 a) 1) and that they be used as the standards for observing and recording soil and site characteristics:

Schoeneberger, P.J., Wysocki, D.A., Benham, E.C., and Broderson, W.D. (editors) 2002. [Field book for describing and sampling soils, version 2.0](#). Natural Resources Conservation Service, USDA, National Soil Survey Center, Lincoln, NE.

Soil Survey Staff. 1999. [Soil Taxonomy: A basic system of soil classification for making and interpreting soil surveys](#). 2nd edition. Natural Resources Conservation Service. U.S. Department of Agriculture Handbook 436.

Soil Survey Division Staff. 1993. [Soil Survey Manual](#). Soil Conservation Service. U.S. Department of Agriculture Handbook 18.

Section 905.55 Subsurface Seepage System Design Requirements, page I5676

Section 905.55 a) 1)

Comment: There is no standard method or procedure suggested or required for describing soil properties and characteristics. The [Field Book for Describing and Sampling Soils ver. 2.0](#) was developed by soil scientists in the U.S. Department of Agriculture in consultation with soil scientists across the United States from various government agencies and universities. It is considered the national standard for describing soil properties and characteristics. Two other references that are standard to soil science for describing and classifying soil are: [Soil Taxonomy](#) and the [Soil Survey Manual](#).

Recommendation: The Illinois Soil Classifiers Association recommends that the [Field Book for Describing and Sampling Soils](#), [Soil Taxonomy](#), and the [Soil Survey Manual](#) be used as the standards for observing and recording soil and site characteristics and that this is so stated in this paragraph.

Section 905.55 a) 2) C), page I5677

Comment: In the late 1970's the Illinois Soil Classifiers Association pursued licensure of soil classifiers in the State of Illinois. Near that same time, the geologists in Illinois were attempting to become licensed, and they were very concerned that soil classifiers would conflict with their area of expertise. After much discussion, it was informally agreed between the geologists and the soil classifiers that Soil Classifiers would pursue certification and not pursue licensure and would classify soils as defined in Section I of the ISCA Constitution as follows: " 'Soil Classifier' shall mean a person who by reason of special knowledge of the physical, chemical, and biological sciences applicable to soils and the methods and principles of soil classification as acquired by soils education and soil classification experience in the formation, morphology, description, and mapping of soils is qualified to practice soil classifying".

ISCA removed their objection to the licensure of geologists when it was informally agreed that the geologist would deal with other near-surface materials, including hard rock and unconsolidated materials that are below the soil profile. It was also agreed by the geologists, the soil scientists, and the State of Illinois that the arbitrary depth of soil would be five feet, or to the bottom of the developed part of the soil. Geologists would describe and classify the material below this depth and soil classifiers would describe the active soil at the surface.

Geology is a study of the rocks and minerals below the earth's surface and does not generally include the interpretation of the soil. In addition, the official job description of a Licensed Professional Geologist for the State of Illinois includes only those investigations that deal with the geology of the earth's surface, not with private sewage disposal.

According to these definitions and to the prior agreement between soil classifiers and geologists, the Illinois Soil Classifiers Association rejects the addition of Licensed Professional Geologists as a person qualified to conduct soil investigations.

Recommendation: ISCA recommends that item C) be deleted.

Section 905.55 a) 2) D) and E), page 15677

Comment: The minimum requirements to become an ISCA Certified Professional Soil Classifier (CPSC) are a BS degree in a natural science field (which includes at least 15 semester hours of soil science), 4 years experience in classifying soils under the supervision of a CPSC, and the passage of a written exam. ISCA believes that employees of health departments with no college degree, only 3 years experience (not actually in classifying soils), and only 6 semester hours of soils course work do not have the training nor the experience to accurately describe soil properties according to established procedures. In addition, these employees have even less credentials to supervise other health department employees in soil classifying.

Recommendation: ISCA recommends that both proposed items D) and E) be deleted.

Section 905.55 a) 3), page 15678

Comment: No state agency has the authority to require a federal agency to provide additional information, especially if there is no official cooperative agreement. Also, listing NRCS may cause an apparent or perceived conflict of interest for NRCS soil classifiers who do soils consulting on the side, especially since it says that NRCS will help in conflict resolution. If the wording remains as proposed, NRCS soil classifiers would no longer be able to practice soil classification for private sewage disposal. This would negatively impact the number of soil classifiers who are available for consulting.

Recommendation: ISCA suggests changing the wording of this paragraph to: *“If conflicting soil information is provided about a given site, a third Certified Professional Soil Classifier will be required to provide additional information or help to resolve the conflict. An NRCS soil scientist, who is also a Certified Professional Soil Classifier, may be contacted for technical information and interpretation.”*

Section 905.60 Subsurface Seepage System Construction Requirements

Section 905.60 a) 1), page 15679

Comment: To design a system based upon the permeability of the soil above the seasonal water table will not necessarily provide a design that is best suited for that soil. The estimated seasonal high water table has no effect on the permeability of the soil horizon nor the loading rate of the soil. The layers above the seasonal high water table may be more permeable than the layer below the water table that is in the zone of the soil needed to treat the effluent. A design based upon the layer above the seasonal water table may not be adequate to treat the effluent. For example, a soil may have a seasonal high water table (limiting layer) at 24 inches, but have a more slowly permeable layer starting at 30 inches. The proposed code calls for the design to be based upon the soil above the seasonal water table. However, if perimeter drains were allowed to lower the water table, then the layer at 30 inches would impact the movement of effluent more than the soil above 24 inches.

Also, the least permeable layer above the seasonal water table may occur well below the minimum separation distance or the distance needed to treat the effluent. To design a system based upon a layer that is below the treatment distance may require an unnecessary design. For example, if the seasonal water table is at 52 inches, but there is slowly permeable till at 50 inches, one would be required to design the system based upon the slowly permeable till layer which is beyond the required separation distance.

Changing the wording to include a specific distance for determining the design criteria will provide for the system to be designed for the soil. Using a specific distance will insure that the system is designed for the least permeable soil horizon within the distance needed to adequately treat the effluent.

Comment: In soil science, the term “profile” is used to mean the vertical portion of the soil, not the horizontal portion as should be used here. The terminology should be changed.

Recommendation: ISCA suggests changing the wording of this paragraph to include a specific distance for system design and to correct the terminology as follows: *“The least permeable soil profile layer or horizon between the top of the gravel, gravelless pipe or chamber systems to a depth of 1 foot below the bottom of the seepage trench shall be used to determine the size of*

the subsurface system. For mound or at-grade systems, the upper two feet of the soil shall be used to determine system size.”

Section 905.60 a) 7), page 15679

Comment: The paragraph allows for installation of a system around the seepage field to lower the seasonal high water table, yet no criteria are established for this drainage system. If the drainage system is too close to the seepage field, then untreated effluent will enter the drainage system. Most subsurface drainage systems are connected to other subsurface systems or outlet directly to surface waters. This could provide a potential pathway for untreated effluent reaching surface water and drinking water supplies.

Recommendation: The Illinois Soil Classifiers Association recommends that standards be developed to determine the setback distance and the outlet of a subsurface perimeter drains if they are to be allowed in the Code.

Section 905.60 a) 8) A), page 15680

Comment: To design a system based upon the permeability of the soil above the seasonal water table will not necessarily provide a design that is best suited for that soil. The estimated seasonal high water table has no effect on the permeability of the soil horizon nor the loading rate of the soil. The layers above the seasonal high water table may be more permeable than the layer below the water table that is in the zone of the soil needed to treat the effluent. A design based upon the layer above the seasonal water table may not be adequate to treat the effluent. For example, a soil may have a seasonal high water table (limiting layer) at 24 inches, but have a more slowly permeable layer starting at 30 inches. The proposed code calls for the design to be based upon the soil above the seasonal water table. However, if perimeter drains were allowed to lower the water table, then the layer at 30 inches would impact the movement of effluent more than the soil above 24 inches.

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Changing the wording to include a specific distance for determining the design criteria will provide for the system to be designed for the soil. Using a specific distance will insure that the system is designed for the least permeable soil horizon within the distance needed to adequately treat the effluent.

Comment: In soil science, the term “profile” is used to mean the vertical portion of the soil, not the horizontal portion as should be used here. The terminology should be changed.

Recommendation: ISCA suggests changing the wording of this paragraph to include a specific distance for system design and to correct the terminology as follows: *“The least permeable soil profile layer or horizon between the top of the gravel, gravelless pipe or chamber systems to a depth of 1 foot below the bottom of the seepage trench shall be used to determine the size of the subsurface system. For mound or at-grade systems, the upper two feet of the soil shall be used to determine system size.”*

Section 905.60 c) 1) A), page 15683

Comment: No diameter is listed for the size of the perforations.

Recommendation: Insert a value.

Section 905. Appendix A, Illustration M, Exhibit B – Key for Determining Sewage Subsurface Loading Rates for Illinois Soils

Comment: This exhibit was omitted and was not included in the proposed code for comment. Section 905. Appendix A, Illustration M, Exhibit A has been changed to reflect an edited version of the current Exhibit B.

Recommendation: Include the edited version of Exhibit B that corresponds to the proposed Exhibit A. (see below).

Section 905,Appendix A Illustrations and Exhibits
 Illustration M Subsurface Seepage Loading Rate Key
 Exhibit B

KEY FOR DETERMINING SEWAGE SUBSURFACE LOADING RATES (g/d/sq. ft.) FOR ILLINOIS SOILS (1)

	Single Grain, weak Play (2)	Granular, Angular and Subangular Blocky; Prismatic						Structureless or massive								
		Loess, Outwash, Alluvium, Lacustrine(8) Weak			Moderate, Strong			Till (3) Weak			Moderate, Strong			Loess, Outwash, Alluvium, Lacustrine(8)		
Moist Consistence	lo,vfr, fr	vfr, fr	fi	vfr, fr	fi	vfr, fr	fi	fr	fi	vfr	vfr	fr	fi	vfr, fr	fi, vfr	
Texture	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	
1. Fragmental; Ext. or vgrs	>1.00 (4)	N/A (5)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
2. s, lcs, ls, grs, cs, grls	1.00	1.00	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	1.00	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
3. fs, lfs, csl	.84	.91	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	.91	.84	N/A	N/A	N/A	
4. sl, fsl, grsl, grl, grsil,	.75	.75	N/A	.84	N/A	.69	N/A	.75	N/A	N/A	.84	.75	.69	.62	.52	
5. l, sil, vfrsl, scl, si, vfs, lfs, grcl	.62	.69	.62	.75	.57 .52	.45 (6)	.40 (6)	.62	.52	N/A	.62	.52	.45 (6)	.27 (6)	N/R (7)	
6. sicl, cl (<35% clay)	.52	.52	.45 (6)	.62	.52	.40 (6)	.27 (6)	.52	.40 (6)	.27 (6)	.52	.45 (6)	.27 (6)	N/R	N/R	
7. sicl, cl (>35% clay)	N/A	N/A	.40 (6)	.45 (6)	.40 (6)	.27 (6)	.20 (6)	.40 (6)	.27 (6)	.20 (6)	N/A	.20 (6)	N/R	N/R	N/R	
8. sc,sic,clay(9)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	.20 (6)(9)	N/A	N/A	N/A	.20 (6)(9)	N/R	N/A	N/A	N/R	N/A	N/R	
9. Organics, Fragic, Lithic, Paralitbic	SOIL PROPERTIES HAVE VERY SEVERE LIMITATIONS: SUBSURFACE DISPOSAL NOT RECOMMENDED															

*see footnotes on next page

FOOTNOTES (to Exhibit B):

- 1) Disturbed soils are highly variable and require special on-site investigations.
- 2) Moderate or strong platy structures for the soil textures in Groups 4, 5 and 6 have a loading rate of 0.40 g/d/sq. ft. Platy structure having firm or very firm consistence and/ or caused by mechanical compaction has a loading rate of 0.0 g/d/sq. ft.
- 3) Basal glacial tills structured by geogenic processes have the same loading rates as structureless glacial till.
- 4) This soil group is estimated to have very rapid permeability and exceeds the maximum established rate in Section 905. Illustration H, Exhibit A of this part.
- 5) N/A means not applicable.
- 6) These soil groups are estimated to have moderately slow to very slow permeability and is less than the minimum established rate in Section 905. Illustration H, Exhibit A of this part.
- 7) N/R means not recommended. These soils have loading rates considered too low for conventional subsurface disposal.
- 8) In some areas, lacustrine material may have physical properties similar to glacial till and should be placed in the glacial till columns.
- 9) Non-swelling (1:1 lattice clays) formed in bedrock residuum have a loading rate of .27 g/d/sq. ft. Swelling (2:1 lattice) clays are not recommended for subsurface disposal.

-submitted by Mark Bramstedt

Constitution Revision Notice

In accordance with Article XIII, Section 1 of the Constitution of the Illinois Soil Classifiers Association, official notice is hereby given that a vote to amend the following will be taken at the Annual Meeting to be held at the Route 66 Hotel and Conference Center in Springfield, Illinois on March 8, 2008.

Proposed Revision (New definition)

Constitution Article IV Section 3.f.

Out-of-State Member is any member who resides in a state other than Illinois, who qualifies under a or b, and who does not practice soil classifying in Illinois.

Reason

It is proposed that the requirement to belong to an organization of professional soil scientists within one's state of residence be dropped from the definition. Justifications for this change are:

- 1) Not all states have professional soil scientist organizations.
- 2) Proof is not required as to whether an out of state member actually belongs to such an organization.

Respectfully submitted,

Constitution, By-Laws, and Legislative Committee

By-Laws Revision Notice

Notice is hereby given that a vote to amend the following will be taken at the Annual Meeting to be held at the Route 66 Hotel and Conference Center in Springfield, Illinois on March 8, 2008.

Proposed Revision

By-Laws Article VI - Nominations and Elections

Section 1. The Nominations Committee shall notify the general membership of the opportunity to submit nominations of eligible candidates for each office of the Association no later than sixty (60) days before the Annual Meeting. The names of potential candidates must be received by the Nominations Committee no later than forty-five (45) days prior to the Annual Meeting.

Section 2. One or more nominations shall be made for each office of the Association, but no Member of the Nominations Committee shall be eligible for the nomination by the Committee. The Nominations Committee shall secure the consent of the nominee before placing his/her name in nomination for a given office.

Section 3. The Nominations Committee shall report the names of the nominees for each office of the Association to the Secretary no later than thirty (30) days before the Annual Meeting. The names of the nominees and ballots shall be circulated to the eligible voters of the membership no later than twenty-one (21) days prior to the Annual Meeting. Space will be provided for write-in candidates other than those selected by the Nominations Committee.

Section 4. The ballots must be returned to the Secretary in a sealed envelope marked "ballot" prior to or at the Annual Meeting. Ballots will be opened and counted at the Annual Meeting by the Nominations Committee.

Reason

Over the past years it has become more of a challenge for the nominating committee to find at least two candidates willing to run for each office. Therefore it is proposed that the committee will open the nominations up to the general membership prior to the annual meeting. If no eligible candidates are nominated, the nominating committee has the discretion to find only one candidate per office. Ballots will still have a space for write-in candidates.

Respectfully submitted,

Constitution, By-Laws, and Legislative Committee

**33rd Annual Meeting
Illinois Soil Classifiers Association**

Saturday, March 8th, 2008
Springfield, IL

Where: Route 66 Inn and Conference Center
625 E. Saint Joseph St.,
(888) 707-8366

Registration: 11:00 am
Opening Remarks: 11:40
Lunch: 12:00
Guest Speaker: 12:45
Panel Discussion: 1:30
Business Meeting: 2:00

The 33rd annual meeting of the Illinois Soil Classifiers Association will be held March 8, 2008 at the Route 66 Hotel and Conference Center <http://www.rt66hotel.com/> located at 625 E. Saint Joseph St. Springfield, IL 62703 with registration beginning at 11am and lunch being served at noon. The meeting room is next to restaurant on the 1st floor of the hotel. Please use registration form below to make a reservation before March 1, 2008. The cost of the meal is \$15. Make checks payable to ISCA.

This year's speaker will be Chad Moorman from Illinois Public Health Department. He will be discussing Soils and the septic code.

Driving Directions: The Route 66 Hotel and Conference Center is located on the south side of Springfield on Business 55, 1.1 mile north of Interstate 55 - 72. From north, east, or south take exit 92A onto Business 55. Left at 2nd stoplight. From west take exit 97B onto Business 55. Left at 2nd stoplight. **See map on the next page.**

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ISCA 2008 Annual Meeting Reservation

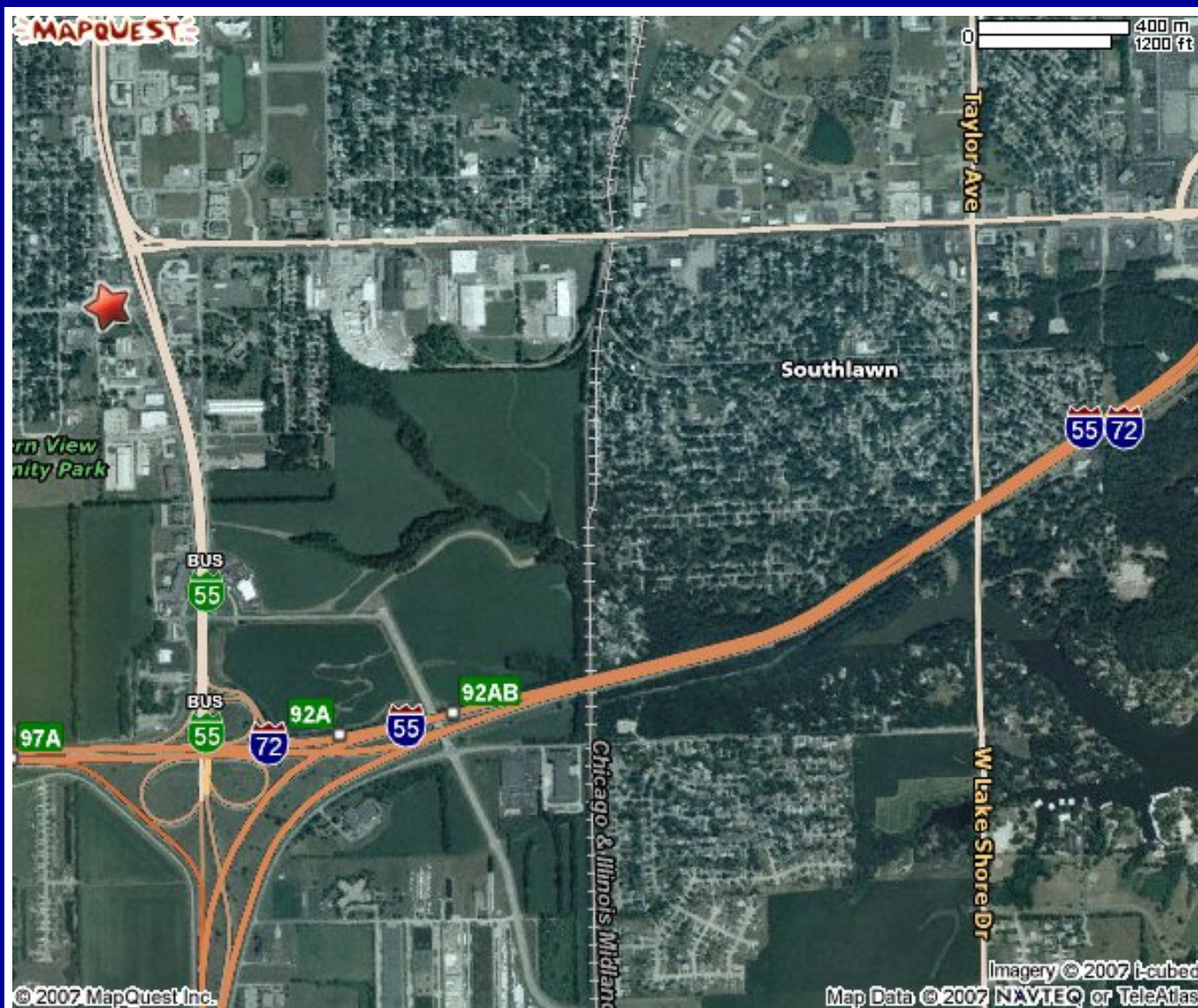
NAME _____

NUMBER ATTENDING _____ (**\$15/person**)

TOTAL PAYMENT _____

Fill out the above information and mail with check to the following address:

**Charles J. Frazee
65 Gaffney Rd
Divernon, IL 62530**



Route 66 Hotel and Conference Center Driving Directions for Annual Meeting

The hotel is located on the south side of Springfield on Business 55, 1.1 mile north of Interstate 55 - 72. From north, east, or south take exit 92A onto Business 55. From west take exit 97B onto Business 55. Hotel is on the west side at 2nd stoplight.

2008 Bent Auger Award

It is again time to select a new winner of the prestigious Bent Auger Award. As its name suggests, this award is given each year to an individual or group of individuals who displays "excellence" in the field. Qualifying events/situations are numerous and unrestricted. Stories do not have to be true, but are preferably based on partial truth. If you know anyone who is deserving of this award for 2008, **please bring his/her nomination to the annual meeting** in Springfield on March 8.

Competition can be fierce, so make sure your story is well prepared and fully exaggerated. This award has been held by many of the leaders and founders of the ISCA. It is a great honor and looks good on any resume. Good luck!

2008 Candidate Biographies

The nominees for President Elect:

Tom D'Avello

Pat Kelsey

The nominees for Vice President:

Frank Heisner

Todd Soukup

The nominees for Treasurer:

Dale Calsyn

Chuck Frazee

President Elect

Tom D'Avello

Tom graduated from Ohio State University where he received his B.S. in Agronomy. He began his career with SCS in eastern Ohio in 1981. He has also mapped in Florida and Montana. In 1986, he went back to school at Michigan Tech and received his M.S. in Forest Soils. After receiving his M.S., he went back to Ohio where he was the survey leader in Ross County. Tom has been the GIS specialist in Illinois since 1990 working on projects such as Soilview, SSURGO, bathymetric mapping, GPS and general GIS applications.

Pat Kelsey

Patrick Kelsey is the Senior Soil Scientist at Christopher B. Burke Engineering, Ltd in Rosemont, Illinois. He was formerly the Research Soil Scientist at the Morton Arboretum. He has been a member of ISCA since 1987 and a Certified Classifier since 1988. He served as Newsletter Editor from 1991-2001. He served as President of ISCA in 1996 and represented ISCA in Conservation Congress IV (1998-2001). Pat and his wife LuAnne live in Montgomery, IL with their two children.

Vice President

Frank Heisner

Frank received his B.S. from Iowa State University in 1988 and his M.S. from the University of Missouri - Columbia in 1997. He began his career with the U.S. Forest Service, Dickinson, North Dakota in 1987, classifying soils as part of a regional soil and land type inventory in Montana, North Dakota, and South Dakota. Frank also functioned as a resource soil scientist during his time with the Forest Service. In 1999, Frank joined NRCS in the MLRA project office in Rock Falls and was the subset leader for the Henderson County Soil Survey Update. He is currently the MLRA Soil Survey Project Leader for northwest Illinois in Rock Falls. Frank enjoys history, the outdoors, and spending time with his family.

Todd Soukup

Todd graduated from Iowa State in 1989 and began his career that year as a soil scientist with the SCS in North Dakota. He moved to Illinois in 1994, taking a position in Glen Ellyn with Environmental S/E, Inc., as a soil scientist primarily responsible for wetland delineations and permitting. He has operated a business providing soil evaluation and ecological management services in the Chicago area since 1997. Todd and his wife Jan live west of Plainfield.

Treasurer

Dale Calsyn

Dale received his B.S. degree in Agronomy from the University of Illinois in 1975. He began his career as a county soil scientist working on the Henry County Soil Survey in 1975. He became a soil scientist with the Soil Conservation Service in 1977. During the period from 1980 through 1990, he served as the project leader for the Cass County Soil Survey, the Mason County Soil Survey, and the Fulton County FSA HEL mapping project. In 1990, he moved to NE Illinois to serve as the project leader for the McHenry County Soil Survey Update. His position there has since evolved into being the team leader for the NE Illinois MLRA update office with the responsibility of overseeing the soil survey updates for 17 counties. He has been a member of the Illinois Soil Classifiers since 1977. His wife, Janice, handles all their financial affairs due to his lack of managerial skills with money especially when it comes to balancing the checkbook.

Chuck Frazee

Chuck has a Ph.D. from the University of Illinois. He is a Charter member of ISCA and is Certified Professional Soil Classifier #10. He has mapped soils in six counties in Illinois. He is presently Treasurer of ISCA and has held this position for the past 9 years.

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2008 ISCA Ballot for Officers

Voting privileges are for Full Members, Associate Members, and Honorary Members
(Vote for one in each office by placing a check or an X next to the candidate's name or write in another name and check or X the space)

President – Elect

Tom D’Avello _____

Pat Kelsey _____

Write-in Candidate Name

Vice President

Frank Heisner _____

Todd Soukup _____

Write-in Candidate Name

Treasurer

Dale Calsyn _____

Chuck Frazee _____

Write-in Candidate Name

Return the ballot in a sealed envelope marked “Ballot” to Steve Elmer, ISCA Secretary before the start of the 2008 ISCA Annual Meeting. You may also mail the Ballot to Steve Elmer, 27560 Ebenezer Road, Geneseo, IL 61254 . Please mark “Ballot” on the outside of the envelope to ensure that the ballot remains sealed before it is counted at the Annual Meeting. In order to be counted, mailed ballots must be received before March 8, 2008.

www.illinoissoils.org

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Charleston, IL 61920

Phone: 217-345-6767
Fax: 217-345-7307
Email: zach.weber@il.usda.gov

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.

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.

1st Announcement: 54th Midwest Friends of the Pleistocene Field Conference May 16-18, De Kalb, Illinois

The deglacial history of northeastern Illinois

**Sponsored by the
Illinois State Geological Survey with contributions from Northern Illinois
University, University of Illinois-Chicago, and the Illinois State Museum**

Come discuss and see Illinois-style ice-walled lake plains, large-scale thin-skinned deformation of diamicton, gracefully folded outwash deposits, evidence of large floods, and the Aurora Mastodons (among other things...)!

**Please e-mail Brandon Curry if you are interested in attending
(curry@isgs.uiuc.edu)**

We will send out the 2nd announcement (with the registration form attached) as soon as we have heard positive responses from about 100 people.

2008 Annual Conference National Society of Consulting Soil Scientists February 20-23 Myrtle Beach, SC

Details on the 2008 NSCSS Annual Conference can be found at the webpages below:

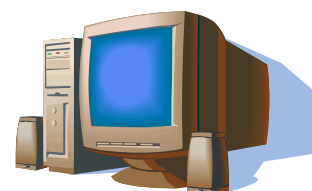
Event website link <<https://www.regonline.com/178639>>

Annual meeting news link <<http://www.nscss.org/forum/viewforum.php?f=2>>

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!



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

www.illinoissoils.org/news

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Change of Address Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

*Mail to: Steve Elmer, ISCA Secretary, 27892 Ebenezer Road, Geneseo, IL 61254