



Illinois Soil Classifiers Association Newsletter

Winter-February 2007

Upcoming Events

- Annual Meeting
March 31st, 2007
Details Inside

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Message from the President

Dear ISCA Members,

As we come to the end of another term of the Executive Council, I look around at the ISCA members that are the backbone of this organization and are responsible for making it run so smoothly and offer a hand of appreciation for all their dedication and hard work. It takes a lot of time and effort to organize and coordinate the different activities that occur throughout the year. I encourage everyone to become involved in some aspect of the ISCA in the coming year. Please offer your services, and I'm sure you'll find it as a rewarding experience as I have. I look forward to seeing everybody at our annual meeting.

Sincerely,

Clayton Heffter
ISCA President
(630) 407-6729
clayton.heffter@dupageco.org

Illinois State Soil T-Shirts Still Available

Drummer T-Shirts are still available. Some size and color combinations are becoming limited in number. Be sure and order before your size and color are gone.

Short Sleeve -- \$12

Long Sleeve -- \$14

Shipping and

Handling \$5 per order

Order by contacting Steve Elmer

E-mail : torflagr@geneseo.net

Two navy blue ISCA collared shirts still available. XL and XXXL \$17



Did you mail in your 2007 dues?

ISCA membership dues were due in by January 31. Thanks to all who have mailed their dues in for the year. Any late dues will be accepted until February 28, before becoming delinquent.

Please include:	First Name: Middle Initial: Last Name: Street Address: City: State: ZIP: *Home Phone: Office Phone: *Cell Phone: *Fax: Email:	Mail your payment to:	Steve Elmer, Secretary Illinois Soil Classifiers Association 27892 Ebenezer Road Geneseo, IL 61254 torflagr@geneseo.net
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2007 dues are as follows:

Full and Associate -----	\$ 25.00
Student, Affiliate, Retired, & Out of State -----	\$ 5.00
Honorary Full -----	\$ 0.00

*optional

January 26, 2007**Treasurer's Report for Jan. 1, 2006 - December 31, 2006**

Balance in Account - 01/01/06	\$ 15738.74
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Income:

Annual Meeting	\$ 645.00
Dues	2985.00
Interest	73.19
Fall Meeting	77.00
Bookmarks	120.00
State Soil Shirts	31.00
Soil Survey Horizons Refund	18.00

	\$ 3949.19

Expenses:

Administration	\$ 409.20
Annual Meeting	1083.53
Fall Meeting	69.92
Soil Survey Horizons	1602.00
Soil Judging	700.00
State Soil	215.60
Internet	187.38
Awards	400.00

	\$ 4667.63

Ending Bank Balance - 12/31/06	\$ 15020.30
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Submitted by:
 Charles J. Frazee, CPSC
 Treasurer

ISCA 2007 Annual Meeting

Saturday, March 31st, 2007
Springfield, IL

Where: Crown Plaza Hotel, 3000 S. Dirksen Pkwy

Lunch: 12:00 pm

Guest Speaker: follows lunch

Business Meeting: follows guest speaker

The 32nd annual meeting of the Illinois Soil Classifiers Association will be held at the Crown Plaza Hotel located in Springfield, Illinois with lunch being served at 12:00 pm. The meeting room is located on the 14th story of the hotel.

This year's presentation will be by Brad Lee, Associate Professor in the Department of Agronomy at Purdue University. He will be discussing soils and septic systems.

This year's meal will be catered by the Crown Plaza Hotel. The menu will be fried chicken and pork chops. **PRE-REGISTRATION FOR THE MEAL IS MANDATORY!** Cost for the meal is \$16. **Deadline for reservation is Wednesday, March 21.** Make checks payable to the ISCA. Please send reservation and payment to the following:

Charles J. Frazee
65 Gaffney Rd
Divernon, IL 62530

Driving Directions: I-55 to Adlai Stevenson Drive, Exit 94. Turn right on Adlai Stevenson Drive. Turn right on S. Dirksen Pkwy. Crown Plaza Hotel is about one mile on right. A map of the area is attached on page 9 of the newsletter.

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ISCA 2007 Annual Meeting Reservation

NAME _____

NUMBER ATTENDING _____ (**\$16/person**)

TOTAL PAYMENT _____

Fill out the above information and send to the following address:

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

2007 Candidate Biographies

by Bruce Putman, Past-President

The nominees for President Elect:

Scott Wegman
David Rahe

The nominees for Vice President:

Roger Windhorn
Frank Heisner

President Elect

Scott Wegman

Scott Wegman began his career as a county soil scientist with the Pike, Tazewell and Woodford County soil surveys. He then worked for the Lake County Health Department as a soil scientist in the septic program. After that he worked as a soil scientist with the engineering firm now called V3 consultants in Glen Ellyn and Oak Brook, Illinois. He also worked as an environmental scientist for ENSR International in Warrenville, Illinois. After that he worked as a GIS specialist for Klingner & Associates in Quincy, Illinois. Presently he works as a subcontractor for Klingner & Associates doing GIS and wetland work, as an on-call employee for ENSR International and as a private soil classifier doing soils for septic systems in Illinois and Missouri. He has a B.S. in Soil Science from the University of Illinois and an M.S. in Geology from Northern Illinois University.

David Rahe

Dave graduated from the University of Illinois in 1977 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Agronomy with emphasis on Soils. He started his career as a county soil scientist in Madison County. He worked for Soil Conservation Service as a soil scientist on Lee, Bureau, and Putnam County soil surveys and also dabbled in resource soil scientist duties around Northwestern Illinois at that time. He has also worked for NRCS as a soil conservationist, district conservationist, and resource conservationist in various locations in Illinois and Missouri. He spent almost 3 years doing wetland delineations in investigating possible violations of the clean water act with the Corps of Engineers in St. Louis. Dave is currently an associate of Soil-Right Consulting Services, Inc. as a consulting soil scientist specializing in soil classifying, soil fertility and management, and natural resources. He is also employed very part time by FEMA as a floodplain management specialist. He has been an ISCA certified soil classifier for 25 years and has served ISCA as Vice-President, chair of the certification committee and chair of the constitution and bylaws committee and served on various other committees. He is also a certified professional soil scientist under ARCPACS and a CPESC. He has been a section director for the Illinois chapter of SWCS for 10 years. David is a Certified Professional Soil Scientist, Certified Professional in Erosion and Sediment Control, and Certified Professional Soil Classifier.

Vice President

Roger D. Windhorn

Roger is a native of east-central Illinois. He received his B.S. Degree from the University of Illinois in Agronomy and his M.S. Degree also from the University of Illinois in Soil Science and Geomorphology. He has worked since the early 1970's in the Cooperative Soil Survey Program, primarily in northern and central Illinois. During this time he served as the Soil Survey Leader for Knox, DeWitt and McLean counties. Roger currently is a Resource Soil Scientist working as a member of the NRCS State Office team dealing with Soil Survey Investigations and Characterization, Technical Soil Services, and Geotechnical Investigations. These activities include Precision Agriculture, Watershed Erosion and Sedimentation, Geophysical Characterizations, and Soil Quality issues. He is a Charter Member of ISCA. He is also a member of the Soil and Water Conservation Society, American Society of Agronomy, Soil Science Society of America, and Illinois Geologic Mapping Advisory Committee. He is certified by ISCA and ARCPACS. He also runs a part-time soil consulting business. Roger has served as President, Vice President, and on many ISCA Committees in the past. He is currently the ad hoc Historian for ISCA.

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 landtype 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.

2007 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

Scott Wegman _____

David Rahe _____

Write-in Candidate Name

Vice President

Roger Windhorn _____

Frank Heisner _____

Write-in Candidate Name

Return the ballot in a sealed envelope marked "Ballot" to Steve Elmer, ISCA Secretary before the start of the 2007 ISCA Annual Meeting. You may also mail the Ballot to Steve Elmer, 27892 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 31, 2007.

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The News-Gazette.com

Septic permit law challenged

By [Kate Clements](#)

Wednesday February 7, 2007

SPRINGFIELD – Rural residents with certain types of septic systems may soon need a permit from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, a requirement that could prove expensive.

Although the federal government has long required states to issue a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit for all surface discharge septic systems, the IEPA had been requiring only municipalities and businesses with such systems to get permits, said agency spokeswoman Maggie Carson.

"Now the federal government is requiring us to bring individuals that fall into this category into the system," she said. According to the agency's Web site, there are 23,725 surface discharging septic systems in the Champaign region, about 16 percent of the state's total. Most of the rest are in the Peoria, Marion and Edwardsville regions.

While the permit the IEPA has proposed would be free, it would require applicants to provide proof of maintenance, along with semiannual sampling and testing results. Those mandates could cost homeowners more than \$500 a year, according to state Rep. Roger Eddy, R-Hutsonville.

To help some of them avoid those costs, Eddy and state Rep. Chapin Rose, R-Mahomet, have introduced HB 613. The measure would limit the number of septic systems needing individual permits to just those where water discharges directly into a stream, lake or other waterway. Other home-based surface discharging septic systems could file notice of intent to be covered under the state's blanket NPDES permit.

"The bill would greatly restrict the IEPA's ability to enforce this proposed permit, which is exactly what we are trying to do," said state Sen. Dale Righter, R-Mattoon, who filed similar legislation in the Senate.

Carson said the IEPA is opposed to the bills because they would prevent compliance with U.S. EPA requirements and could therefore jeopardize some of the state's federal funding. And even if the legislation does become law, it may not have the desired effect, warned Toby Frevert, manager of the IEPA's Division of Water Pollution Control.

"You can't change federal law with state law, so even if the legislation was adopted, it probably would do nothing other than add more confusion to the public," he said.

Rose said the expensive testing and maintenance requirements in the IEPA's proposed permit go beyond what the federal government demands, and do not have to be included.

"Imagine you are a small rural homeowner on a fixed income," he said. "Just where do these people in the IEPA think you are going to come up with an extra 500 bucks to have your system tested? We're going way overboard in reaction to a federal requirement."

According to Righter, a bipartisan group of downstate lawmakers will continue pushing the permit legislation until the IEPA scales back its proposal to meet the minimum federal requirements.

"We know they are not there yet," he said, claiming that West Virginia, Virginia and South Carolina all have less onerous permitting requirements than what the IEPA has proposed and are still in compliance with the federal Clean Water Act. The IEPA's proposed permit is still in a public review period. Three public hearings have already been held, and written comments will be accepted through Feb. 13. Carson said the IEPA has been listening to the public, and some changes are already being considered as a result. She declined to say what those might be, however.

"We want it to affect (the homeowners) as little as possible and still achieve compliance," she said. "Right now the issue at hand is doing this in the most satisfactory manner."

A copy of the proposed permit and some related information is available online at www.epa.state.il.us/public-notice/2006/npdes-notice.html#general-private-sewage.

Find this article at:

http://www.news-gazette.com/news/2007/02/07/septic_permit_law_challenged

Comments

The News-Gazette.com

The East Central Illinois Online News and Advertising Source

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Submitted by Chris Cochran

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

ISCA Welcomes New Members

Cassandra McKinney - Affiliate Member

Bill Craddock - Out-of-State Affiliate Member

I am a native of Christian County, Kentucky
 BS in Agronomy from the University of Kentucky 1971
 Post graduate work in soil classification
 Began work in Hopkinsville, KY as a soil scientist in 1971
 Worked in Bowling Green, KY and Danville, KY prior to working in the state office
 Currently the SSS/ MO Leader for MO-18, Southern Appalachia Region
 Married 29 years and have 2 sons
 Hobby -Golf

Jason Warren - Student Member

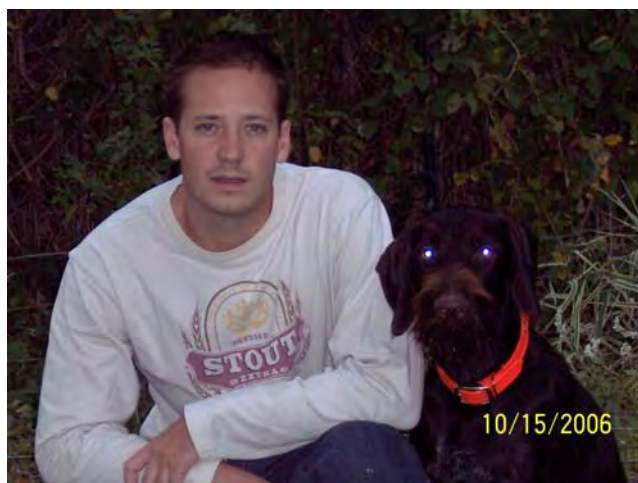
My name is Jason Warren. I am currently a Senior at Western Illinois University. My major is Geology and my minor is Environmental Studies. I work as a Senior Resident Assistant while here and also am a lab assistant for two geology classes: Geology and Geologic History. When I graduate this May, I hope to find a job in Northern or Western Illinois working with soils, but am willing to do just about anything as long as it pays the rent and my student loans! I went to field camp in the Black Hills of South Dakota last summer where I spent 6 weeks with my colleagues mapping the various rock formations found there. We also got to spend some time in the Grand Tetons and visit a few other areas of geologic interest in Yellowstone National Park. I also like to go fishing as often as possible, and spend a lot of time outdoors. I have a real thirst for knowledge, especially when it comes to Illinois Geology, and I am looking forward to the many things I will learn from being a member of the ISCA!



Shae Birkey - Affiliate Member

I currently work as a Wetlands Ecologist with ENSR, Corporation in the Warrenville, IL office. My work involves wetland delineation, threatened and endangered species surveys, and Phase I Environmental Site Assessments throughout the country. I am a graduate of Illinois State University, with a B.S. in Parks and Recreation Administration. I am also an M.S. Candidate at the University of Illinois in Restoration Ecology/ Conservation Biology and plan on graduating in Fall of 2007.

My hobbies include hunting, fishing, camping, backpacking, training with my hunting dog Brahms, and any form of outdoor recreation. I travel extensively within the United States, both for work and hunting/outdoor hobbies.



Member News

Zwicker Retires after 38 years

Steven E. Zwicker, soil scientist, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) retired January 3rd, 2007, after 38 years with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), formerly called Soil conservation Service (SCS). Steve has worked out of the Princeton NRCS Field Office as an Area 4 Soils Specialist serving 19 counties, since 1995, when NRCS relocated Area staff specialists from Rock Falls to surrounding NRCS Field offices.

Steve says, "I loved my Job! For 38 years I was privileged to be a part of USDA's nation-wide team of NRCS employees, who work to reduce soil erosion, improve water quality, create wildlife habitat, and restore wetlands. There is a huge satisfaction that can be derived from that kind of work and soil data plays a major role in getting conservation on the land."

Steve began his career with SCS in December, 1969, as a Soil Scientist, after completing two summers as a Soil Conservationist intern at Stronghurst and Aledo. "After just one summer, I new I wanted to be a part of the SCS conservation team that was obviously so dedicated to reducing the ravages of soil erosion", Steve reminisces. After graduating from Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa, 1969, he was assigned to the Area SCS office located, at that time, in Sterling, Illinois. The following spring, he went to the Rockford SCS Field Office as part of a soil mapping team responsible for classifying and mapping the soils of Winnebago and Boone Counties, which was published as a joint Soil Survey Report in March, 1980, authored by Dana R. Grantham (retired).

Over the next 38 years, working as a soil scientist in 13 counties, Steve classified and mapped over 500,000 acres of soil in Illinois and authored soil survey reports published for Lee (1985), Bureau and Putnam (1992) Counties, and co-authored the Soil Survey Report of Stark County published in 1996. Steve recently updated the manuscript for the Lee soil survey report, his first project soil survey (update published 2005).



Steve Zwicker receiving hardcover "update" copy of Lee County Soil Survey Report, from John Hubert, Acting ASTC, Area 4

Classifying and mapping soils is part of the National Cooperative Soil Survey (NCSS) which is a nationwide partnership of federal, regional, state, and local agencies and institutions. This partnership works together to cooperatively investigate, inventory, document, classify, and interpret soils and to disseminate, publish, and promote the use of information about the soils of the United States and its trust territories. The activities of the NCSS are carried out on national, regional, and state levels.

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is responsible for the leadership of soil survey activities of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, for the leadership and coordination of NCSS activities, and for the extension of soil survey technology to global applications.

Since 1990, Steve served as the lead Area Resource Soil Scientist for 19 counties in northwestern Illinois in Area 4. He was responsible for soil investigations and interpretations for a wide variety of agriculture and urban uses, including wetland delineation. He was responsible for training field staff in soils identification, wetland delineation and restoration, for several agencies in addition to NRCS, including Soil and Water Conservation Districts, the Army Corps of Engineers, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

In 1997, Steve received a USDA-NRCS Certificate of Merit, as a Midwest Wetland Team Member, -“providing guidance and leadership on important wetland issues regionally and nationally.”

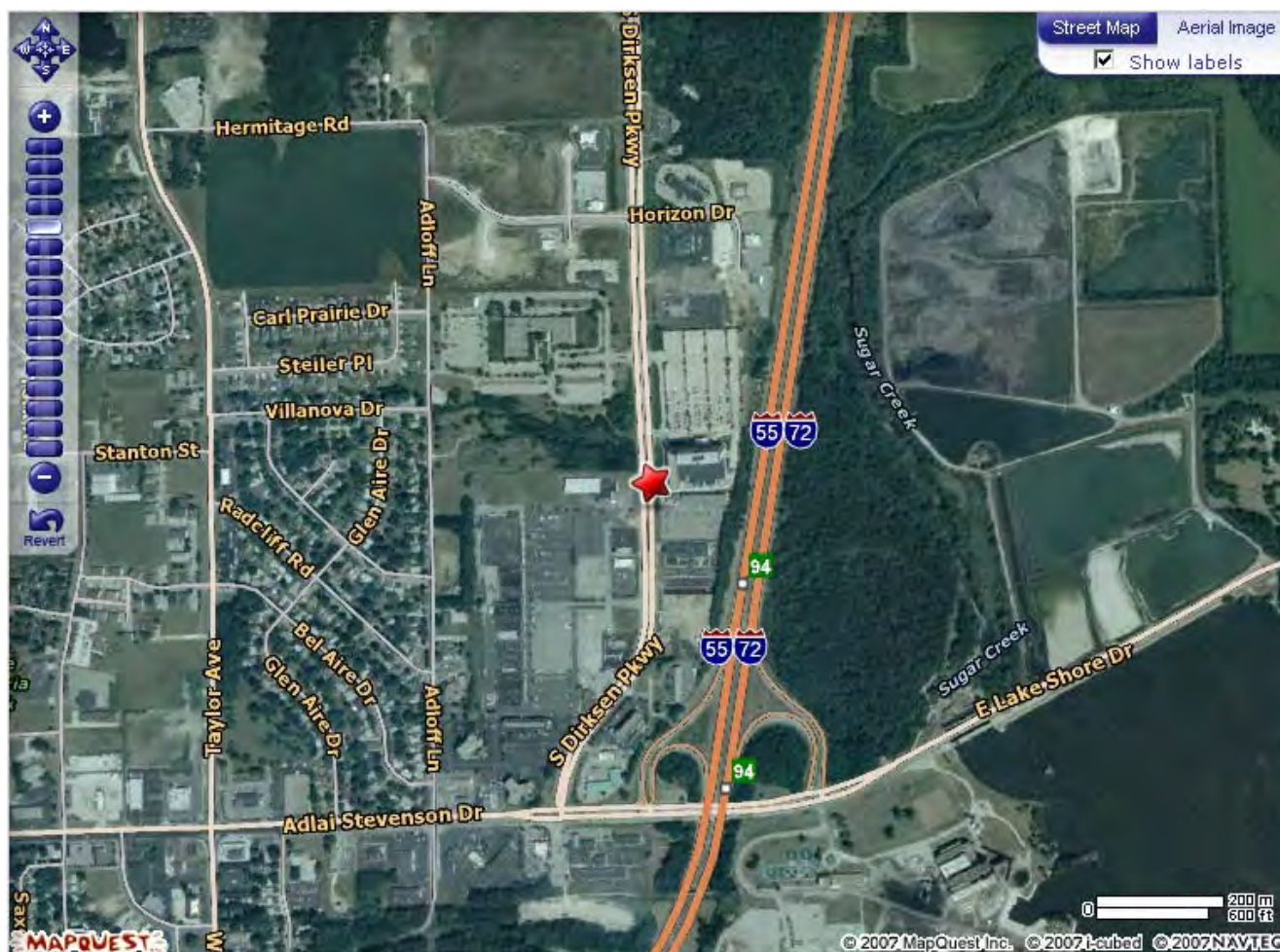
In March of 2005, he received a Making Waves Award at the Clean Water Celebration on the Peoria Riverfront, for his work in restoring Heron Marsh. Steve was nominated by the Peoria Audubon Society.

“If I have had any successes in life,” says Steve, “I owe it to my Dad who instilled a strong work ethic in me early in life; to the good mentors I have had over the years in USDA-NRCS, and to my wife, Mary Anita, who is my best friend.”

Steve and his wife, Mary Anita, who retired December 1st, after 20 years as the Executive Assistant to the CEO, at Perry Memorial Hospital, Princeton, live near Bradford, on Heron Marsh, where they have restored 30 acres of prairie and wetland wildlife habitat.

Crown Plaza Hotel Driving Directions for Annual Meeting

Driving Directions: I-55 to Adlai Stevenson Drive, Exit 94. Turn right on Adlai Stevenson Drive. Turn right on S. Dirksen Pkwy. Crown Plaza Hotel is about one mile on right.



ISCA EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

December 8, 2006
Clinton, IL Service Center

Present:

Clayton Heffter, President
Ken Gotsch, President Elect
Bruce Putman, Past President
Dale Calsyn, Vice President
Chuck Frazee, Treasurer

The Council Meeting was called to order by President Clayton Heffter at 10:30 AM. Heffter distributed meeting agenda. Motion to approve the agenda was made by Putman, seconded by Frazee. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the minutes from the October 21, 2006 Executive Council Meeting was made by Calsyn, seconded by Gotsch. Motion passed.

Reports:

1. Secretary – no report
2. Treasurer - Frazee handed out a copy of the Treasurer's Report for the period 10/19/06-12/7/06 (see attached). Silver Ridge Golf Course has not submitted invoice for cost of Fall Meeting. Putman will follow up. Motion to approve the Treasurer's report was made by Putman, seconded by Calsyn. Motion passed.
3. Certification Board – no report

Standing Committee Reports:

1. Constitution, By-Laws & Legislative – no report
2. Ethics, Certification, and Membership – Gotsch handed out a report from Chairman Mark Bramstedt. Committee recommends the approval of Shae Birkey for Affiliate Member and Jason Warren for Student Member. After review of applicants' qualifications motion to approve applicants as members was made by Putman, seconded by Gotsch. Motion passed.
3. Finance – no report
4. Newsletter – no report
5. Nominations – Putman needs to select two members for his committee. Candidates for president and vice-president will need to be chosen in time for publication in the next newsletter.
6. Public Relations and Education – Heffter handed out draft ISCA brochure for review. Edits were suggested. Heffter will make revisions and submit brochure to Chairman Doug Gaines for his review.

Ad-Hoc and Special Appointee Reports:

1. Program – Frazee reported that the annual meeting is tentatively scheduled for March 31, 2007 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Springfield, IL. A banquet room with a capacity of 50 people has been reserved. Speaker will be Bradley Lee, a professor at Purdue University. His topic will involve septic and soils. Approximately \$800 has been budgeted for the meeting. Frazee is working with Bob Tegeler in securing some door prizes. Motion to approve annual meeting program was made by Calsyn, seconded by Putman. Motion passed.
2. Historian – Gotsch reported that Chairman Roger Windhorn would like, for the current year, a list of all the committee chairs, copies of the newsletters, and all pictures of ISCA activities.
3. State Advisory Commission on Private Sewage Disposal – no report
4. Smithsonian Project Coordinator – no report
5. USCSSA Teleconference - Putman reported that there has been no correspondence at this time.

Old business:

1. ISCA brochure update – discussed under Public Relations and Education committee
2. Annual Meeting – discussed under Program committee

New business:

1. Illinois State Geological Survey is seeking increased funding for the Central Great Lakes Mapping Coalition. ISGS is asking that letters of support be sent to local Congressman and Senators. They would provide the draft letter. Motion for ISCA to submit letter of support for ISGS was made by Putman, seconded by Frazee. Motion passed.
2. Next council meeting – tentatively scheduled for January 26, 2007 if needed.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Gotsch, seconded by Putman. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 11:35 am.

Respectfully submitted
Dale Calsyn, Vice President

www.illinoissoils.org

ISCA Newsletter Staff
683 Castle Drive
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

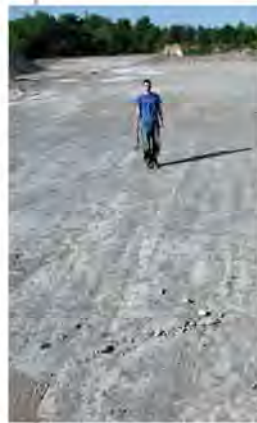
- Winter (February)
- Spring (May)
- Summer (August)
- Fall (November)



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.

FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT

53rd Midwest Friends of the Pleistocene Field Conference



Please join us May 18–20, 2007, in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, for the 53rd Midwest Friends of the Pleistocene Field Conference, co-sponsored by the Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey and the University of Wisconsin–Oshkosh Department of Geology. This year's conference will provide an opportunity for participants to learn about the late-glacial history of glacial Lakes Wisconsin and Oshkosh, which formed in front of the Green Bay Lobe of the Laurentide Ice Sheet. Topics for discussion will include the development of dune fields upon the lake plains, isostatic rebound due to glacial loading, the formation of tunnel channels and subaqueous moraines, the Two Creeks Forest Bed, and the late Pleistocene record of vegetation.



An opening reception will take place on the evening of Friday, May 18, at the Park Plaza Hotel in Oshkosh. An all-day field trip followed by dinner is planned for Saturday, May 19; a half-day field trip will end by 1 p.m. on Sunday, May 20. Transportation by bus will be provided on both days. Registration will be limited to 100 people. Further information will be posted on the Web site <www.uwex.edu/wgnhs/fop.htm>.



If you are not on the email distribution list and would like to be included, please send a note to Kathie Zwettler (kmzwettl@wisc.edu).

Photographs

- Striated and grooved bedrock
- Laminated lake sediment deposited in glacial Lake Oshkosh
- Buried log in till from the Two Creeks Forest Bed

Oshkosh, Wisconsin | May 18–20, 2007



ISCA Newsletter
683 Castle Drive
Charleston, IL 61920

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**



Illinois Soil Classifiers Association Newsletter

Spring-May 2007

Upcoming Events

- 27th Annual Central States Forest Soils Workshop to be hosted in Carbondale, IL area October 9-11

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Message from the President

None of us have the precious commodity of excess time. So, I will make this story short. Last fall, I decided to replace some bad pieces of Masonite siding on my garage. I have no skills or experience of doing this whatsoever! I did some very careful planning, got all my supplies together, calculated the cost, and hoped for good weather. The night before, I told my wife, (who bravely offered to assist me) that I felt I was getting a sore throat. Sure enough, the next morning when we were to begin the project, I was dealt a big time fall cold. With no energy, feeling miserable along with a "wish I were in bed" attitude, we began the project (show must go on). By the end of the day, I was completely exhausted, with still several more days repeating the same rigorous schedule. Will I make it?

As it turned out, the garage is finished and the replacement looks as if a professional carpenter did it (all mistakes were hidden!). Now for the point of all this... All the planning in the world will not account for those unseen hurdles that are thrown at us no matter what we do. But, cooperation, persistence and follow through can sure be helpful attributes. In the end, it could spell the difference between being successful or just so so. But how's this connect with ISCA? Well, it's a new year for one thing...you have a new president for another. But with a little planning by all the committee chairs and their members, a little persistence and follow through, ISCA can have a great year! That is why I have asked for all committees to join the ISCA Council for a joint planning session. You all have great, innovative thoughts as to what you would like ISCA to accomplish. Let's capture all those ideas and have a vision for 07. Then without regret, we can look back and say, "Yep, it looks like a professional carpenter did that!"

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

Illinois State Soil T-Shirts Still Available

Drummer T-Shirts are still available. Some size and color combinations are becoming limited in number. Be sure and order before your size and color are gone.

Short Sleeve -- \$12

Long Sleeve -- \$14

Shipping and

Handling \$5 per order

Order by contacting Steve Elmer

E-mail : torflagr@geneseo.net

Two navy blue ISCA collared shirts still available. XL and XXXL \$17



U of I Soil Judging Team Places 6th

The U of IL soil judging team placed 6th (one point shy of 5th place out of almost 4,000 points) out of 21 University teams at the National Soil Judging Contest hosted by Utah State University in Logan, UT this April. The U of IL's Garrett Rodgers placed 10th (one point shy of 9th place) out of 83 individuals. Students practiced in warm and sunny conditions early in the week followed by snow mixed with rain at 32F later and in the actual contest.

The ISCA donated \$100.00 per student to help defray their costs in representing our state at the contest.

-submitted by Robert Darmody



U of I Soil Judging Team pictured left to right: Garrett Rodgers, Jenwei Tsai, Patrick Baldwin, and Olivia Dorothy

ISCA Welcomes New Member

Alan Stone - Associate Member

I received my B.S. in Water Resources Management from UW-Stevens Point in 1991, M.S. in Earth Science from Western MI University in 1996, and M.S. in Environmental Engineering from Milwaukee School of Engineering in 2005. My experience includes hydrogeologic site investigations, contaminant fate and transport calculations for soil and groundwater contaminants, wastewater and stormwater infiltration, and environmental site assessments. I am currently a hydrogeologist/environmental engineer with Concord Engineering and Science in Bloomington, IL. My interests include hiking, fishing, church, and time with friends and family.

Welcome Alan!

Abraham Lincoln and Agriculture

A reception sponsored by the Illinois State Board of Education and Illinois Department of Agriculture was held recently at The Abraham Lincoln Museum. The title of the program was "Building Bridges For Career Pathways". Dr. Al Goldfarb, President WIU and Dr. Keith Miller, President of Black Hawk College were the speakers for this meeting. A Museum Actor presented Abraham Lincoln's Address to the Wisconsin State Agricultural Society in 1859. This address emphasized the need for Agricultural Education. His statement that "... no other occupation opens so wide a field for the profitable and agreeable combination of labor and cultivated thought as agriculture." To read the entire speech go to: http://www.nal.usda.gov/speccoll/exhibits/lincoln_wisconsin.html.

Questions were presented to the audience asking how agricultural information and exhibits could be integrated into museum presentations; how can the Abraham Lincoln/Agriculture connection be promoted especially to school children; and what types of projects could be targeted to students at all levels of education.

For those of you who may not remember, The Morrill Act and the Homestead Act were both passed during Lincoln's Presidency

Since moving to Springfield, Margaret and I have been volunteers at the Museum. I have been studying ways to integrate my background in soils into my volunteer work. A visit to the Museum is a rewarding experience and if any of you have not had the opportunity, I would urge you to make a trip to Springfield to see this wonderful addition to the State of Illinois.

Clifford C. Miles scruffybuttons@yahoo.com

ILLINOIS SOIL CLASSIFIERS ASSOCIATION

February 23, 2007
 Executive Council Meeting
 Bloomington Field Office
 Council members present: Calsyn, Elmer, Frazee, Gotsch, Heffter

Agenda

Meeting Call to Order – President Clayton Heffter

Approval of Agenda – motion made and accepted

Approval of Minutes: December 8, 2006 Council Meeting, Clinton Field Office – motion made and accepted

Reports:

Secretary – Steve Elmer

- Membership dues for 2007 have been received from all but 16 members to date. Besides the January notice, and the February newsletter notice, Steve will send out a third notice to any remaining unpaid members on 3/1/07, if necessary.
- Membership list discrepancies exist between Secretary, Treasurer, and Website rosters, due largely to uncommunicated transfers out of state, retirements, job change, etc. Steve has Treasurers 2/19 comments on (Steve's 1/07) member list, and has compared both against the website roster. Pending today's input from council members, Steve will insure that the 3 lists are identical. He will then re-route his list to Council members and to Mark Bramstedt for final review, prior to the Annual Meeting.
- Steve asks for any comments on 2006 Secretary Summary Report sent to Council members earlier in February. Copy attached. No comments received from Council members.
- One State Soil shirt was purchased in December.
- Steve also has certificates prepared for new members accepted in 2006. President Heffter signs and returns them to Steve for delivery.
- Steve also gives membership cards to President Heffter to sign and bring to Annual Meeting for distribution.

Treasurer Chuck Frazee

- Financial summaries for periods between the past two Council meetings and since the last Council Meeting (10-19-06 to 12-7-06 and 12-7-06 to 2-22-07) and for the calendar year 2006 were handed out to all council members. Reports were approved as read.

Certification Board

- One applicant is currently being processed

Standing Committee Reports:

Constitution, By-Laws and Legislative – No report

Ethics, Certification and Membership

- See above notes on certification and membership activity.
- Council moves and passes a motion to officially drop all 12 members who have not paid their 2006 dues to this date. Steve will follow up with Mark on one remaining member issue.

Finance

Unpaid dues and membership renewals – based upon the Councils review and concurrence of the 3 membership rosters, plus additional member dues that have been paid so far this month, there are currently only 16 of 106 members still unpaid.

Newsletter

The winter newsletter was mailed out Feb. 15 to all members. It contains registration forms for the Annual Meeting as well as ballots for the upcoming election. It is also posted on the web.

Nominations

- 2 nominees have been placed on the ballot for President-elect (Rahe, Wegman), and for Vice-President (Heisner, Windhorn). See February newsletter for details.
- Status of other Committee appointees:
 - Ethics Chair: Ron Collman
 - Public Relations and Education Chair: Mark Bramstedt
 - 2 Certification Board members: Matt McCauley and 1 to-be-announced
 - Constitution and By-Laws Committee Chair: to be named
 - Program Subcommittee (under Public Relations Committee): to-be-named

Public Relations and Education

President Heffter stated that the ISCA brochure has been drafted and final edits made. It has been sent back to Doug Gaines to obtain printing cost bids.

Ad-Hoc and Special Appointee Reports - No reports from any of the following:

- Program
- Historian
- State Advisory Commission on Private Sewage Disposal
- Smithsonian Project Coordinator
- USCSSA Teleconference

Old Business

- ISCA Brochure update – see note under Public Relations and Education
- Annual Meeting – Crown Plaza Hotel, Springfield, IL
 - Agenda – Chuck Frazee has a draft, and will send it to President Heffter, who will forward to Newsletter Committee for development for the Annual Meeting.
 - Election Procedure - Nominations Committee will count the ballots for President-Elect and Vice-President and announce results. Gavel to be passed by President Heffter to new President Gotsch at the appropriate time during the Annual Meeting in Springfield on 3/31/07.
 - General Business Procedure – Council moves and passes a motion to submit written reports for distribution at the Annual Meeting, in place of the oral reports of the past. Upon review by the membership present, the current officers can answer any questions from the floor.
 - 2007 Budget – The sole exception to the above General Business Procedure, the proposed budget will be voted upon by the members present at the Annual Meeting.
 - Door Prizes - Are being arranged by Chuck Frazee, Bob Tegeler, and others.
 - Adjournment – by new President, to be followed by a brief first meeting of the new Executive Council to discuss any follow up items from the Annual Meeting, and to set the next meeting date and location.

New Business

- 1) 2007 Forest Soils Workshop – scheduled for Carbondale, IL
 - a) will ISCA co-sponsor the workshop? – moved and passed by the Council
 - b) what will ISCA contribute in funding? – up to \$500 authorized
 - c) will ISCA pay for the lab analysis? – included in the above authorized amount
- 2) Other
 - a) Council discusses Annual Meeting speaker honorarium and moves and passes a motion to pay a \$200 honorarium plus mileage.

- b) Council reviews and comments on Calsyn's proposed budget for 2007. He will edit accordingly and re-route for final comments.
- c) ISCA polo shirt supply is down to last 2 shirts. Council moves not to make any purchase at this time, but to market the State Soil shirts currently in abundant supply instead.

Next meeting location and date: Springfield, IL at the ISCA Annual Meeting on March 31, prior to election results announcement and passing of the gavel. President Heffter will call an intermediate meeting, if one is needed prior to Annual Meeting.

Adjourn

Respectfully, Submitted
Steve Elmer, Secretary

ILLINOIS SOIL CLASSIFIERS ASSOCIATION
2006 Summary Notes from the Secretary
January, 2007 report, edited per 2/23/07 Executive Council meeting notes
Current membership total = 106
Certified members = 43

New Members in 2006:

Shae Birkey, Bill Craddock, Cassandra McKinney, Jason Warren

Dropped members in 2006 (unpaid for year, unless otherwise noted):

JD Alexander (deceased), **Richard Boniak, Darryl Einhorn, Jacey Jones, Patti Nomm, Don Phillips, John Tandarich, Patrick Ver Halen, Benny Weiss**

Dropped members by motion of 2/23/07 Executive Council vote:

Brad Boggess – Resigned from USDA late 2006 and transferred.

Greg Clark – Out-of-state transfer. Recommendation of Troy Fehrenbacher.

Jaimee Hammit – Transfer to Washington State. Recommendation of Council.

Catherine Swain – Resigned from USDA early 2006 and transferred. Recommendation of Dale Calsyn.

Members in Question:

Larry Gramm has moved from Plainfield to North Carolina.

Jennifer Wollenweber not on website membership list, has not paid either 06-07, but is still on Secretary membership roster, pending recent Bramstedt communications.

Change of Address:

Brad Cate, Gary Hankins, Christy Sabdo, Scott Wegman, David Zimmerman

Other Secretarial Activity

1. **State Soil shirt sold to Steve Zwicker in December, for reassigned employee. Additional shirt order processed earlier in the year.**
2. **2007 membership dues notice sent to all members in early January. Follow up notice placed in February Newsletter. If necessary, a follow up email or snail mail will be sent to remaining unpaid members on 3/1/07.**
3. **Receipts for dues notice postage and mailers submitted to Treasurer.**
4. **Certified Soil Classifiers list obtained from Doll.**
5. **Membership files updated in Excel spreadsheet. 1-24-07 copy, with 2007 dues current to date, prepared for and mailed to Treasurer.**
6. **Above membership total and membership list is subject to verification by the Executive Council members. There may be additions or deletions to the list, to be confirmed at the 2-23-07 Executive Council meeting. An updated copy of the membership list, including changes from 2006, will be generated before, and a summary presented at, the ISCA Annual meeting on 3/30/07.**

Respectfully submitted,
Steve Elmer, Secretary

ILLINOIS SOIL CLASSIFIERS ASSOCIATION

March 31, 2007
Executive Council Meeting, prior to the ISCA Annual Meeting that afternoon
Crown Plaza Hotel
Springfield, Illinois
Council members present: Calsyn, Elmer, Frazee, Gotsch, Heffter

Agenda

Meeting Called to Order – President Clayton Heffter at 11 AM
Approval of Agenda – motion made and accepted
Approval of Minutes: February 23, 2007 Council Meeting, Bloomington Field Office – motion made, accepted, carried

Reports:

Secretary – Steve Elmer

- Membership dues for 2007 have been received from all but 4 members to date. Besides the three notices already sent to members, Steve will follow up with phone calls or emails to the remaining 4.
- The ISCA membership list has been updated, with 4 new members added and 7 deleted. After the Annual Meeting, Steve will make any final updates and re-route his list to Council members and to Mark Bramstedt for final review and distribution.
- Steve has the signed certificates prepared for new members accepted in 2006, for presentation to those in attendance at the Annual Meeting. He will mail the remainder in coming weeks.
- Signed membership cards have been prepared for distribution at the Annual Meeting as well. Steve will also mail the remainder of these out within the month.

Treasurer Chuck Frazee

- Financial summaries for 2-23-07 to 3/31/07 and for calendar year 2006 were handed out to all council members. Reports were approved as read.

Certification Board

-Matt McCauley and Steve Zwicker are the new committee members, approved by the Council, replacing Paul Brown and John Doll, whose terms expire.

Standing Committee Reports:

Constitution, By-Laws and Legislative – No report

Ethics, Certification and Membership -One new applicant (Alan Stone) is being recommended for Associate membership. Council approves the recommendation after reviewing his application.

Finance – The 2007 budget has been drafted for submittal to the membership for approval by members present at the Annual Meeting.

Newsletter – No report

Nominations – Nominees are on the ballot for President-Elect (Rahe, Wegman) and Vice-President (Heisner, Windhorn).

Public Relations and Education –

-Doug Gaines reports that the new ISCA promotional brochure is nearly complete. A draft is passed around for council members to view. Submission for printing should occur within the next 1-2 months.

-Doug also announces the 2007 Burt Ray award winner – Olivia Dorothy (U of IL), who will be participating in the National Soil Judging Competition at Logan, Utah on April 19-20, 2007. Bob McLeese, NRCS State Soil Scientist submitted a question about support for this year's national contest.

Ad-Hoc and Special Appointee Reports -

Program – no report

Historian – Roger Windhorn requested that he receive copies of current or updated membership information, as applicable, to be included in the ISCA History archives.

State Advisory Commission on Private Sewage Disposal – Mark Bramstedt reviews the status of recommendations made to changes in the State Department of Public Health code. Chuck Frazee proposes that ISCA re-establish an ad hoc committee to track progress on code updates within the legislature and to continue to have a voice on the soils-related aspects of them. No action was taken by the Council at this time.

Smithsonian Project Coordinator – Bill Kreznor reported on behalf of State Liaison Mike Konen that Illinois is currently at about 80% of goaled support. About 25% of the ISCA membership has contributed to date. Corporate sponsors are still being sought as well. Fund-raising concludes in 2007.

USCSSA Teleconference – No report

Old Business - None

New Business

Roger Windhorn reports that the NRCS Soils Key is on a link within the ISCA website, and confirms that part of Illinois' National Soils Display will be present at the 8/28-30 Farm progress Show in Decatur.

The Council passes a motion to provide \$500 to support the Illinois Soil Judging members trip to the national contest in Logan, Utah in April.

Next meeting location and date: Springfield, IL after the ISCA Annual Meeting on March 31, to be convened by new President Ken Gotsch.

Council moves to adjourn – 12 Noon

Respectfully, Submitted
Steve Elmer, Secretary

ISCA 32nd ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES
March 31, 2007
Springfield, Illinois

Welcome, opening remarks and call for ballots by Clayton Heffter, ISCA President
 Meeting commenced at 12 noon with an invocation by Steve Elmer. Lunch followed.

Clayton Heffter introduced Brad Lee, Associate Professor in the Department of Agronomy at Purdue University. He discussed soils and septic systems.

35 members and guests were in attendance.

President Clayton Heffter called the business meeting to order at 1:45 PM.

Reports

Secretary's Report – Steve Elmer. As of March 31, there are 104 members of ISCA. 43 of these members are certified. Current membership includes 68 full; 14 associate; 8 affiliate; 9 out-of-state; 4 student; and 1 retired members. 4 non-certified members have not paid their dues for 2007. This past year, ISCA gained 5 new members. New member certificates were developed for presentation at the annual meeting. 8 members did not renew their membership. Hat and shirt inventory is as follows: hats – 176; ISCA polo shirts – 2; Drummer shirts – 67; magnets – 80. The value of the remaining inventory is \$2,682. Elmer prepared copies of the minutes from the last annual meeting held March 18, 2006 at Homer Lake for distribution to attendees of the March 31, 2007 annual meeting.

Treasurer's Report – Charles Frazee. Chuck provided a summary of income and expenses for the past year. Balance at the beginning of 2006 was \$15,738.74. Balance at the end of 2006 was \$15,020.30.
 Annual Treasurer's report for January 1, 2006 – December 31, 2006

Balance in Account - 01/01/06	\$ 15738.74
Income:	
Annual Meeting	\$ 645.00
Dues	2985.00
Interest	73.19
Fall Meeting	77.00
Bookmarks	120.00
State Soil Shirts	31.00
Soil Survey Horizons Refund	18.00

	\$ 3949.19
Expenses:	
Administration	\$ 409.20
Annual Meeting	1083.53
Fall Meeting	69.92
Soil Survey Horizons	1602.00
Soil Judging	700.00
State Soil	215.60
Internet	187.38
Awards	400.00

	\$ 4667.63
Ending Bank Balance - 12/31/06	\$ 15020.30

Certification Board Report – Chairman John Pearse, Vice-Chairman J. Wiley Scott, Secretary-Treasurer John Doll, members Paul Brown, Scott Wegman, Ken Anderson

2006 expenses:

Office Supplies	8.03	
Stamps/postage	<u>51.18</u>	
TOTAL		59.21

Total number of CPSC's as of March 1, 2007: 42 (43 in 2006)

New Certifications issued: None

New Applications: 1 approved, pending completion of written exam.

CPSC's submitting CEU's from 3/06 through 2/07: 19

Certification Board member terms expiring in 2007: Paul Brown and John Doll

Committee and Ad Hoc Reports:

Constitution, By-Laws & Legislative – Chairman Jeff Deniger.

Previously approved changes regarding Standards and Requirements for Certification (Sec. 5) and Procedures for Application (Sec. 6) were added into the ISCA Handbook and posted on the web by former Chairperson Jaimee Hammit and Mark Bramstedt. Hammit subsequently accepted a new position and moved out-of-state in July. Deniger was asked and agreed to assume the Committee Chair duties for the remainder of the year.

Ethics, Certification & Membership – Mark Bramstedt, Chair, and members Ken Gotsch, Karla Petges, Steve Suhl. New members for 2006-2007 include **Shae Birkey, Bill Craddock, Cassandra McKinney, Alan Stone, and Jason Warren.**

Finance – Dale Calsyn. The Finance Committee for 2006-2007 consisted of Dale Calsyn, Copies of the Illinois Soil Classifiers Association financial ledger and transaction and checking account reports for the period January 1 – December 31, 2006 were provided to the Finance Committee by Charles J. Frazee, ISCA Treasurer.

The Finance Committee audited the ISCA books for the calendar year 2006 and found the books to be in order. The bank account balance on hand as of December 31, 2006 was \$15,020.30.

Attached is the proposed 2007 Annual Budget prepared by the Finance Committee and approved by the Executive Council, and subsequently approved by the membership at the Annual Meeting on March 31, 2007.

**Illinois Soil Classifiers Association
2007 Annual Budget**

	Budget	Actual
Income		
Annual/Fall Meetings	800.00	
Dues, Membership	2000.00	
Dues, Certification	1200.00	
Interest	80.00	
Hats	25.00	
Shirts	50.00	
Soil Tubes	25.00	
Workshops	1500.00	
Totals	5680.00	
Expenses		
Administration	400.00	
Annual/Fall Meetings	1200.00	
Certification Board	100.00	
Awards	400.00	
Central States Forest Soils Workshop	500.00	
Farm Progress Show	500.00	
Miscellaneous	100.00	
Public Relations	200.00	
Smithsonian Soils Exhibit*	1700.00	
Soil Judging	500.00	
Soil Survey Horizons	1600.00	
Workshops	1000.00	
Totals	8200.00	

* The amount listed is the maximum contribution and is subject to change. Additional sources for donations have yet to be contacted.

Newsletter Committee – Chairman Zach Weber. Members Troy Fehrenbacher and Ron Collman:
Newsletters were published in May, August, and November, 2006, and in February, 2007. This newsletter schedule will be continued for 2007-2008. The Committee will distribute within 30 days of the Annual Meeting, minutes from the meeting, a membership roster, and list of all current organization officers. New member bios will be incorporated into future newsletters.

Nominations – Bruce Putman: Candidates for President-Elect are David Rahe and Scott Wegman; for Vice-President are Frank Heisner and Roger Windhorn.

Public Relations and Education – Doug Gaines

- Recognized several promoters of Illinois State Soil legislation
- Met with 2008 Illinois Septic Conference planners regarding possible ISCA “Detailed Soil Mapping for Subdivision Planning” presentation
- Sent a letter to local Congressmen and Senators in support of the Central Great Lakes mapping Coalition and ISGS involvement
- New ISCA promotional brochure is nearly complete and a draft was available for view at the Annual meeting
- Promoted the 2006 Midwestern Friends of the Pleistocene Field Conference in Bismarck, N.D. last June and is promoting the May, 2007 Conference in Oshkosh, WI
- ISCA held a Field Exam for Soil Classifiers and Soil Scientists at Shabbona Lake State Park in DeKalb County on June 23, 2006
- The Illinois Cooperative Soil Survey Planning Conference was held at Parkland College on September 14, 2006
- The Regional Soil Judging Contest was hosted by the University of Platteville on October 6-7, 2006. Olivia Dorothy (U of IL) had the highest individual score from an Illinois college and will receive the Burt Ray Award for 2006-2007. She is also on the national team competing in Logan, Utah on April 19-20, 2007
- The 26th annual Central States Forest Soils Workshop was held in Poplar Bluff, MO on October 10-12, 2006 and the 2007 conference will be held in October in Southern Illinois

Historian – Roger Windhorn:

Committee continues to solicit and maintain archives of organization activities yearly, as well as past and current membership and officer information (photos welcome).

State Advisory Commission on Private Sewage Disposal – Mark Bramstedt: ISCA submitted several comments and recommendations for revision of the soils part of the state sewage disposal code, but no changes to the current Illinois Department of Public Health code have been legislated at this time.

Smithsonian Soils Display – Bill Kreznor for State Liaison Mike Konen: As of 12/31/06, \$8,292.63 (80% of the \$10,000 goal) has been raised for the Illinois soil exhibit. About 25% of ISCA membership has contributed to this project and additional member support is encouraged. Corporate sponsorship is also being solicited. 2007 is the final year of fund-raising for this project. Visit www.soils/smithsonian/ for updated information on this nationwide project.

Old Business: None

New Business:

2007 budget - Dale Calsyn. See previous budget estimate. Motion was made and seconded to approve the budget for 2007. Motion passed.

Bent Auger Award – Roger Windhorn: Award started in 1977. Purpose of award is to recognize an individual who has distinguished himself or herself by some legendary gaffe worthy of recognition for posterity (whether real or imaginary). Two individuals were nominated: Ron Collman and Roger Windhorn. Roger was the unanimous winner, for having had some difficulty remembering where he placed his government truck keys, with resulting imposition on others to chauffeur him around to his duties the following week until the galloping keys were once again recovered (right where he had left them on the bed of the truck).

Election Results - Clayton Heffter. Scott Wegman as President-Elect; Roger Windhorn (In spite of himself) as Vice-President.

Presidents Perogative – Clayton Heffter thanked the Executive Council and Committee members and chairs for their efforts of the past year.

Passing the Gavel – Ken Gotsch accepted the gavel for 2007.

Closing comments – Ken Gotsch thanked Clayton Heffter for his service. Ken looks forward to the year as President of ISCA.

Meeting adjourned at 2:45. A short Executive Council meeting followed.

Respectfully submitted,
Steve Elmer, Secretary

ILLINOIS SOIL CLASSIFIERS ASSOCIATION

March 31, 2007

Executive Council Meeting, immediately after the ISCA Annual Meeting

Crown Plaza Hotel

Springfield, Illinois

Council members present: Elmer, Frazee, Gotsch, Heffter, Windhorn

Agenda

Meeting Called to Order at 3 PM– President Ken Gotsch

President Gotsch recommends an organization planning meeting with all committee chairs and members during the next Executive Council meeting, preferable during April.

The Executive Council members concur in a 9:30 AM meeting on Friday, April 27, at the Normal Field Office.

President Gotsch also encouraged Past-President Clayton Heffter, as Nominations Chairman, to engage the membership as to interests and qualifications for serving as officers, and to develop tools so that the nominations process

does not solely consist of calling candidates from a list, prior to the April Executive Council meeting.

The Executive Council also approves the move of the Annual Meeting planning duties (former Program Sub-Committee) to the responsibility of the Public Relations and Education Committee.

Meeting adjourned – 3:20 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Steve Elmer, Secretary



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

ILLINOIS SOIL CLASSIFIERS ASSOCIATION

April 27, 2007

Executive Council Meeting

NRCS Field Office, Normal, IL

Call to Order & Welcome
President Ken Gotsch – 9:30 AM

ISCA members present:

Executive Council: Steve Elmer, Chuck Frazee, Ken Gotsch, Clayton Heffter, Roger Windhorn.

Committee Chair and/or Members: Mark Bramstedt, Dale Calsyn, Ron Collman, Jesse Kurylo, Bob Tegeler, Ken Anderson

Minutes of March 31, 2007 Council Meeting/Annual Meeting, Springfield IL approved as read.

REPORTS

Secretary and Treasurer Reports approved as read.
Certification Board – no report.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Constitution & Bylaws - Dale Calsyn, Chair, named the remaining committee members: Ashpole, Deniger, and Heisner

Ethics, Certification & Membership - Ron Collman, Chair, presented new membership dues check to Treasurer, from WIU staff John and Alisa Gruven. Chuck has not yet received their membership application. Ron also confirmed that he is the ISCA weblink contact for new member applicants, forwarding applications on to Treasurer Chuck Frazee upon receipt.

Finance - Roger Windhorn, Chair, did not submit a report.

Newsletter - Zach Weber, Chair, did not submit a report.

Public Relations & Education - Mark Bramstedt, Chair. Mark reported that the new septic systems brochure is available, but needs to be more user friendly. The Committee will review and recommend upgrade options.

AD-HOC AND SPECIAL APPOINTEE REPORTS

Historian - Chair Roger Windhorn reported that there are some remaining gaps in the historical organization officers and committee members record that his committee continues to research.

State Advisory Commission on Private Sewage Disposal - Mark Bramstedt did not submit a report.

Smithsonian Project Coordinator - Mike Konen/Bill Kreznor did not submit a report.

USCSSA Teleconference – No report.

OLD BUSINESS

ISCA Brochure - PR&E Committee Chair Mark Bramstedt reported that the brochure has been developed, but will be reviewed by the current committee prior to submittal for publication.

Farm Progress Show – Roger Windhorn confirmed the scheduled Farm Progress Show dates of 8/28-30/07 in Decatur. He

Windhorn also updated the Council on the 10/9-11/07 scheduled Forest Soils Conference being held in the Carbondale area this fall. Missouri is providing contributing funds. NRCS's Matt McCauley and Sam Indorante are providing soil exhibits. Roger mentioned that it was a surprise to find that chartering buses for the event is the single largest cost involved. The ISCA Fall Tour is being held in conjunction with the Conference.

NEW BUSINESS

1. ISCA "Soil Regions of Illinois" Postcards & "Drummer" Bookmarks – Frazee confirmed that the last order was placed in 2001, and the supply is dwindling. Windhorn will confirm the original producer and cost of these and report back at the next meeting.

2. Illinois magnets were produced in Rock Falls, IL. Bob Tegeler will check on availability from original supplier and current cost and report back as well. Steve Elmer will inventory the current supply and inform Windhorn and Tegeler.

3. Mark Bramstedt sought Council input regarding the current policy of placing Certified Soil Classifiers on both the ISCA certified list and the interactive map on the website. Currently, only ISCA-certified members are on both. ARCPACS certified Soil Classifiers, who are also members of ISCA (but not ISCA-certified) are included on the interactive map, but not on the web list of certified members. After considerable discussion, it was approved to retain the present policy.

4. President Gotsch relayed a recommendation from Mike Konen that the ISCA certification exam be revisited and updated. No action was taken.

5. Steve requested confirmation of protocol regarding the official keeper of the membership record (Secretary), as the Secretary, Treasurer, Newsletter Chair, and WebMeister all had slightly different lists this past year, that have since been correlated. Official updates to the membership roster will be incorporated semi-annually. Any interim membership address changes will be posted in the ISCA Quarterly Newsletters.

6. New Officers, Chair & Committee Members – Duties:

President Gotsch distributed copies of ISCA current officers, committee chairs & members, as well as officer position descriptions from Article 7 of the organization By-Laws to all present.

The next Executive Council meeting will be held at the Normal Field Office at 10 AM on Friday, June 15.

The Executive Council meeting was adjourned at 11:15 AM, and was immediately followed by a Planning Session called by President Gotsch, to identify, itemize, and review ISCA organization goals and direction. Jesse Kurylo served as Recorder. Many ideas and suggestions were received from those present. The following were many, but not necessarily a complete list, of the suggestions offered.

- Should organization provide formal training opportunities for prospective soil consultants (conducting investigations, creating a small business, wetlands, speakers, field tours, speakers, etc.)?
- What would a Nominations Process update look like?
- Review of Officer position descriptions.
- Educate members to broader Soil Classifier opportunities, per new regulations, etc.
- What would/should an ISCA 5-year plan contain?
- Coordinate and schedule inter-state Soil Scientist meetings with adjacent states.
- Think of ideas to promote ISCA membership, workshops, shirt sales, etc.
- How could the organization better publicize itself to other related disciplines (Agronomists, Educators, Engineers, Government Officials, others)?

President Gotsch thanked everyone for their input, and will summarize all comments and suggestions, and forward to Mark Bramstedt for posting on the website.

Planning Session adjourned at 12:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Steve Elmer, Secretary

Illinois Hosts 27th Annual Central States Forest Soils Workshop

October 9th-11th, 2007

Carbondale, Illinois Area

Illinois is hosting the 27th Annual Central States Forest Soils Workshop

The focus of the workshop is to compare and contrast White Oak (the Illinois state tree) productivity across Southern Illinois. 1807 Land Survey notes and 1938 Aerial Photography will be used to gain a perspective on past land uses at these sites:

A White Oak Plantation planted in the early 1940's on a fragic inter-grade soil.
Comparison of White Oak growth at the end moraine of the Illinoian Glacier to nearby unglaciated soils.

Visit to a private White Oak Timber Sale site near Carbondale.

Site of 1995 timber sale on deep loess, Menfro soils, on the Shawnee National Forest.

State Nursery Black Walnut Seed Plantation---Comparison of growth from clones.

Dinner at Von Jakob Winery

Dixon Springs State Park Wheel---Comparison of management techniques.

Dixon Springs Agricultural Center---Fragipans with large old White Oak trees.

Garden of the Gods Recreation Area

More detailed information about the workshop will be available in July.

Hosted by:

USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service

Illinois Soil Classifiers Association

Illinois Department of Natural Resources

Southern Illinois University-Carbondale

USDA-Forest Service

For More Information please contact Matt McCauley, USDA-NRCS, 502 Comfort Drive, Suite F, Marion, IL 62959, (618)-978-0814, matt.mccauley@il.usda.gov

Registration form and a detailed agenda will be distributed by late July 2007.

It will be available at <http://www.illinoissoils.org/>

-submitted by Matt McCauley

Congratulations - Bent Auger Award Winner!!

Roger Windhorn was nominated and unanimously voted the 2007 Bent-Auger Award recipient. This took place at the ISCA Annual Meeting in Springfield on March 31.

We are all very proud of you Roger!



Alright, who has my keys?

ISCA Newsletter Staff
683 Castle Drive
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.

PEACH PRODUCING ASH TREE

I want to relate one of those incidents that assists in keeping me working in soils after 52 years. I even remember the date and place. In the month of July 2006, I had a job in the Northern part of Danville, Illinois. As a matter of fact, it was in an area west of Lowes. I don't want to pin down the location too closely. That is a part of Danville where the soils are usually formed in higher clay and thinner loess than farther south in the city of Danville. Septic systems don't work as well in these soils. I would rather work in the areas of lower clay.

I did notice while checking the county soils report, that lower clay soils were mapped nearby, in the area near the North Fork Vermilion River, so I was hoping. The home owner, I'll call him Bob, mentioned that his soils were sandy and he had to water his garden often so I assumed it was fine sand blown out of the low land from the nearby river. The afternoon work was looking up already. It was a hot day, but decent soils and moisture go a long way in improving the odds of having a good day.

Bob had lost a tree. The naked limbs of the unfortunate tree stood in stark contrast to his other leafy trees and the dark green lawn grass helped by recent rains. I sympathized with Bob for loosing such a large ash tree. Bob said he hadn't cut it down because he wanted to give it every chance to revive.

There was a younger tree nearby, full of life, looking vibrant and healthy, in contrast to the dead tree. I asked if it was an offspring from seed of the older tree-produced when the older tree was in its prime. Bob said no that the younger tree was a peach tree, but it hadn't produced peaches for sometime. Now I wasn't about to contradict him since he seemed so positive and since I wanted him to write me a check for my fee after the job was finished. I had learned in my earlier years that one needs to be careful about correcting people.

Several years ago I noticed that a neighbor had put white rock around his red maple tree. Red maple trees are acid loving and the white rock was limestone that reduces acid. When I informed my neighbor of his error I expected him to be grateful. I had failed to notice that his grandson was nearby and had heard that grandpa was less than brilliant, at least as far as trees go. The neighbor wasn't very friendly for a few days and the red maple continues to suffer from the limestone to this day.

Back to Bob's peach tree. I saw that it was getting rough bark, appearing like under-sized pale colored marbles from a distance that characterizes ash trees as they get older. It had a pinnate arrangement of leaves and opposite branching. Opposite branching in trees produces areas suitable for slingshots and were highly valued in my younger days. The number trees with opposite branching are limited and doesn't include peach trees. I swallowed my need to correct people in error and left him to wait for his green ash tree to produce peaches. By the way I did get my fee.

-submitted by Lester Bushue

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

www.illinoissoils.org/news

.....Cut.....Cut.....

Change of Address Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

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



Illinois Soil Classifiers Association Newsletter

Summer-August 2007

Upcoming Events

- Indiana Association of Professional Soil Classifiers Fall Tour- Evansville, IN
September 14
- 2007 Illinois Cooperative Soil Survey Work Planning Conference - Champaign, IL
September 27
- 27th Annual Central States Forest Soils Workshop - Carbondale, IL area
October 9-11

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Message from the President

One of my new hobbies is reconditioning old baseball gloves. I have searched the internet for "how to" information and found some interesting things. Some of the reconditioning tricks are trade secrets. People in this business just plain don't want to share these tricks of the trade! Other tricks aren't tricks at all, just good old fashion skills and abilities, especially when it comes to sewing parts of the glove together and having the machinery to do so. But, it's not easy to learn these skills either.

Concerning ISCA, we have no trade secrets that we won't share with you. Furthermore, the ISCA Council believes that our organization exists to help provide you with the skills you need to help you conduct better "soil business". The ISCA joint Council/Committee Planning Session that was held earlier this year came up with some great ideas, both old and new. This group also suggested that these activities and goals be adopted into a long range plan for ISCA. The Public Relations Committee will be addressing this multi-year plan, as well as providing you with an interesting training session later this summer. In addition, please remember to mark your calendars for the upcoming Central States Forest Soils Workshop coming up in southern Illinois this October. Matt McCauley and his group have worked hard in planning this important event! If ISCA is to remain a viable and credible organization, it must accomplish its mission of equipping our members. Please take advantage of the numerous training sessions that will be available to all, both this year and in the years to come.

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

Illinois State Soil T-Shirts Still Available

Drummer T-Shirts are still available. Some size and color combinations are becoming limited in number. Be sure and order before your size and color are gone.

Short Sleeve -- \$12

Long Sleeve -- \$14

Shipping and

Handling \$5 per order

Order by contacting Steve Elmer

E-mail : torflagr@geneseo.net

Two navy blue ISCA collared shirts still available. XL and XXXL \$17



Chief Lancaster Gets a Soils Lesson

Chief Lancaster recently got a “crash course” in soils at the University of Illinois (U of I) South Farms during a demonstration by NRCS soil scientists on soil mapping, classification, and “tools of the trade.”

“The Chief is very interested in seeing first hand how our agency conducts the business of soil science,” said NRCS State Conservationist Bill Gradle. “This was our opportunity to demonstrate the methods our soil scientists use on the job.”

U of I’s South Farms have permanent soil pits on the grounds, making study of the different layers of soil accessible. Illinois NRCS State Soil Scientist Bob McLeese and his staff explained to Chief Lancaster how soil descriptions are written.

Next, they walked the field to show how scientists determine different soil types by landscape position and by taking a number of soil observations using a hand probe. McLeese said, “We want to give him the full experience of the process even in this short timeframe.”

Assisting NRCS employees were University Professor Wes Jarrell and South Farm Manager Bob Dunker. They demonstrated a few of the “high tech” tools used to learn what lies beneath the soil surface. Electromagnetic induction technology and a penetrometer reveal different properties and characteristics of the soil, which in turn, help scientists determine which soils are located where on the land.

Chief Lancaster was able to maneuver another piece of equipment, called the Veris 3100, in the field and use the NRCS Soil Quality Test Kit. The Veris unit is pulled behind a truck through the field. It has six coulters (blades) that cut a narrow slit through the soil. Voltage is then transmitted into the soil by two of the coulters and the soil’s electrical conductivity is measured.

“It was a one day whirl wind tour through the world of Illinois soils,” said Gradle. “NRCS is proud that the agency’s leader is so interested in the importance of soils. “We are honored that of all 50 States, he chose Illinois as the place to learn more.”

“Our State has one of the best soil survey programs in the nation,” says McLeese. “We have some of the best soils too. The Chief came to the right place,” adds McLeese.

-Article from my.NRCS website



NRCS Illinois soil scientist Dr. John Doll (retired) and Chief Lancaster log soils data (NRCS photo)



Chief Lancaster works in a soils pit (NRCS photo)

More Pictures from the Chief's Visit



CEU's to be submitted by E-mail

The Certification Board is asking that from this time forward, all ISCA Professional Certified Soil Classifiers submit their Continuing Education Units by e-mail. A form and directions for submitting CEU's is on the ISCA Web Page under the "Membership Information" link. If you have any questions, you may contact a member of the Certification Board or e-mail the [Certification Board Secretary](#)

ISCA Membership News

John Doll Receives National Recognition



Dr. John C. Doll - Illinois

Illinois NRCS major land resource area (MLRA) update coordinator Dr. John C. Doll was recently selected from nominations submitted by all NCSS cooperators from across the nation as the winner of the 2007 National Cooperative Soil Survey (NCSS) Soil Scientist of the Year Award. The award was presented at the 2007 NCSS Conference in Madison, Wisconsin.

The NCSS Soil Scientist of the Year Award nationally "recognizes exceptional achievement by NRCS soil scientists who are working in the production phase of the soil survey program." The first award was presented in 1999 as part of the Soil Survey Centennial Celebration and is now granted annually to outstanding soil scientists one time during their career.

Dr. Doll has enjoyed a long and successful career with NRCS. When colleagues think about John Doll and his career, three words generally come to mind - gentleman, scholar and soil scientist.

During his career, Dr. Doll has achieved a high level of soil science expertise. He holds a B.S. in General Agriculture from the University of Illinois, and M.S. in Soil Science and a Ph.D. in Soil Genesis, Morphology and Classification from the University of Missouri. In addition, he was instrumental in the adoption of the MLRA concept in Illinois. His work experience includes, field soil scientist in Bond, Madison, and Macon Counties, Illinois; soil scientist (Manuscripts and MLRA Update Coordinator), Assistant State Soil Scientist (Correlation), State Agronomist/Water Quality Specialist at the NRCS Illinois State Office; and Soil Data Quality Specialist at the MLRA Office, Indianapolis, Indiana. Most of John's 31-year career with NRCS has been spent producing soil surveys. Illinois had one of the top workloads in the United States and no one has matched Dr. Doll's output of edited manuscripts, revised official series descriptions, and soil interpretation records and soil correlations. It's doubtful that anyone knows the soils of Illinois better than Dr. John Doll.

As a Soil Data Quality Specialist on the MLRA Region 11 Staff, he helped prepare the MLRA Offices' guidelines for conducting soil survey updates. "Back in Illinois since 2000, John has been coordinating all of our MLRA soil survey update projects," says Illinois State Soil Scientist Bob McLeese. "He does it all, from classification and correlation, to manuscript review to data base management. Without his expertise and dedication, our Soil Survey Program would not be what it is today," adds McLeese.

According to McLeese, "Soil Scientists, gentlemen and scholars like Dr. John Doll don't come along everyday. We are very lucky to have him as a part of our Soil Survey Program in Illinois. His lifetime achievements in all facets of production soil survey make Dr. John Doll worthy of recognition and deserving of the National Cooperative Soil Survey Soil Scientist of the Year Award."

-submitted by Mark Bramstedt (from my.NRCS)

John Doll Retires

Dr. John Doll retired this July after 34 years of outstanding service. His career accomplishments are outlined in the article on page 4.

Many friends, family, and co-workers came together to help him celebrate. Below are pictures from the "roast".



Congratulations
John!



Look out
Fish!

Mike Keifer Retires

HOUSE RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives are pleased to congratulate Mike Kiefer on his retirement from the United States Department of Agriculture; and

WHEREAS, Mike Kiefer was raised on a farm in Jefferson County, near Mt Vernon; he attended Southern Illinois University from 1964 to 1967, where he received a Bachelor of Science degree with a major in agronomy; he was employed by the USDA, SCS starting July 18, 1967 as an engineering aid until October of 1967 when he was appointed as a Soil Scientist in the Carbondale Area Office; and

WHEREAS, Mike Kiefer was drafted into the United States Army in March, 1968; he married Mary Ann Boscarine on December 21, 1968; he was then assigned to the 2nd Engineer Group in Korea as a Soils Analyst and as Senior Construction Surveyor; he also served as chemical-biological-radiological NCO for 2nd Engineer Group; he was promoted to the rank of Sergeant E-5; he received the Army commendation medal for his work with the 2nd, and was discharged in March, 1970; and

WHEREAS, He returned to the SCS as a soil scientist assigned to the Harrisburg soil survey office until 1983 when he was assigned to the Springfield soil survey office, serving there until accepting a promotion to be the Survey Leader for the Iroquois county Soil Survey; during his assignment in Watseka, he completed his Masters Degree in Public Administration at the University Of Oklahoma through the SCS executive development program; and

WHEREAS, In 1983, he was assigned to Iroquois county as District Conservationist; while living and working in Iroquois County, he and his wife became the proud parents of two wonderful children, Michele and Christopher; they have one grandchild, Macy Anna; and

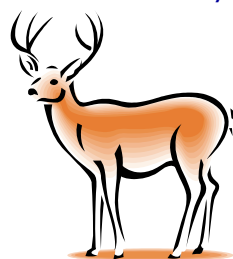
WHEREAS, Upon retirement, Mike Kiefer and his wife have 280 acres downstate that they will manage; he will be spending more time on the farm, and would like to do some soils and agronomy consulting; he will be doing more turkey and deer hunting on the farms in southern Illinois; he will also be going to garage sales and auctions; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we congratulate Mike Kiefer on his retirement and wish him continued success in the future; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to Mike Kiefer as a symbol of our respect.



Congratulations
Mike!



Look out
Deer!

ILLINOIS SOIL CLASSIFIERS ASSOCIATION**Executive council meeting minutes****June 29, 2007****NRCS State Office – Champaign****President Ken Gotsch called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.**

Council members present:: Ken Gotsch, President; Roger Windhorn, Vice-President; Steve Elmer, Secretary; Charles Frazee, Treasurer

Other committee chairs or members present: Mark Bramstedt, Dale Calsyn, Ron Collman, Jeff Deniger, Troy Fehrenbacher, Zach Weber

AGENDA

4/27 Executive Council minutes approved as read, with note made of the re-scheduled 6/15 Executive Council meeting date to 6/29.

Secretary Report (Elmer): All 2007 membership dues have been received, except for one person who has since moved out of state and has not responded to correspondence. Council suggests that Steve confirm members present contact information with Bob McLeese and follow up before the next meeting. Also, new member certificates and membership cards were mailed on 5/3/07.

Treasurers Report (Frazee): Chuck distributes copies of the 4/26/07 to 6/29/07 income and expense and a separate page documenting income and expenses associated with the Central States Forest Soils Conference scheduled for October 9-11 in Southern Illinois. Report approved as read.

President Gotsch informed the Council members that Scott Wegman did not receive Ken's notice of the change in the 6/15 meeting date to 6/29, and recommended that he be reimbursed for his 6/15 round-trip to Normal and back, as provided for in the by-laws. Council approves \$80 for mileage reimbursement for Scott.

Committee Reports:

Constitution/By-Laws (Calsyn): Committee is reviewing the need for Out-Of-State members verification of certification/membership status. President Gotsch and the Council charge Calsyn's committee to redefine the "out of state" membership class and bring a formal recommendation to the next Council meeting.

Membership (Collman): Jen Wollenweber has paid her 2007 dues, but has not filed a membership application to date. Mark Bramstedt offers to contact her to regarding the application.

Newsletter (Weber): August newsletter deadline is August 1, 2007.

Finance (Windhorn): Roger has contacted the Soil Survey Horizons staff, who have confirmed that the publication is not available online. Since the cost of the hardcopy provided to members has increased, Roger encourages the Council to consider a raise in membership dues to help defray this and other cost increases (postage, fees, etc.). No action taken by the Council.

Public Relations and Education (Bramstedt): Committee is considering a September training session with/for private septic consultants.

State Advisory Committee on Septic Code (Bramstedt): Mark updated those present on the latest correspondence concerning proposed edits to the State Health Code. Mark will be attending the 7/11/07 meeting that will be reviewing the proposed changes.

Mark also presented recent emails forwarded from Steve regarding local Sanitarian comments regarding the code changes. Relic mottling was one item in the comments received. After some discussion on this subject, the Council felt it best to let the soil consultants make the call in the field, rather than attempt to add a footnote to the State Code.

Old Business

President Gotsch distributed copies of the results of the 4/27/07 ISCA Planning Session. The ideas generated will help guide ISCA priorities in the future.

Bob Tegeler has reported that the ISCA magnets can still be made at the previous contact. The Council moves to order 2500 for a cost of \$750.

In addition, Roger Windhorn will get firm cost estimates for a new supply of the ISCA bookmarks and postcards and report back to the Council.

New Business

The Council moved to participate in the 8/07 ILICA Show soils display.

Steve raised the issue of the use of and need for membership cards. They are an added cost in time and postage to distribute, and may be unnecessary, in light of other means of membership verification in place, like the website. The Council agreed to bring this matter up again at the next meeting.

President Gotsch updated the Council on recent Shelby County Farmland Assessment issues, and reviewed the current appeal process in place.

Fall Meeting Date: President Gotsch will obtain the agenda for the October Central States Forest Soil Conference, then will set a tentative time during the conference for the Fall ISCA meeting.

Next meeting date: August 10, 2007, Normal Field Office, 10 AM.

Respectfully submitted, Steve Elmer, ISCA Secretary

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 Grand AM SE, 6-cyl, 28 mpg, 148K highway miles, great condition, \$4695 obo, 217-359-4098



**27th Annual
Central States Forest Soils Workshop
Carbondale, Illinois Area
October 9th -11th , 2007**

Sites Include:

Crab Orchard National Wildlife Refuge: A White Oak Plantation planted in the early 1940's on a fragic inter-grade soil and Comparison of White Oak growth at the end moraine of the Illinoian Glacier to nearby unglaciated soils.
Visit to a private White Oak Timber Sale site near Carbondale managed by Carbondale Veneer Company.
Shawnee National Forest Deep Loess Timber Sale Site
Trail of Tears State Nursery Black Walnut Seed Plantation---Comparison of growth from clones.
Dinner at Von Jakob Vineyard
Dixon Springs State Park Wheel---Comparison of forestry management techniques.
Dixon Springs Agricultural Center---Fragipan soils and discussion of Best Management Practices
Garden of the Gods Recreation Area

Lodging Information: A block of fifty rooms has been reserved with the Holiday Inn under "Central States Forest Soils Workshop or USDA-NRCS." The Holiday Inn is located at 2300 Reed Station Parkway, Carbondale, IL, (618)-549-2600 or 1-800-Holiday. Sign in for the conference begins at the Holiday Inn Conference Center at 3:00 pm on October 9th. The meeting will begin at 6:00 pm in the conference room. Lunch and Dinner along with refreshments during breaks will be provided on October 10th.

The Central States Forest Soils Workshop website is at: http://www.illinoissoils.org/announce_files/register07.pdf

Additional hotels in the area include:

Hampton Inn 1-800-Hampton
(The Hampton is within walking distance of the Holiday Inn.)
Super 8 618-457-8822

For More Information please contact Matt McCauley, USDA-NRCS, 502 Comfort Drive, Suite F, Marion, IL 62959, (618)-978-0814 or Bryan Fitch, 148 East Pleasant Hill Road, Suite 105, Carbondale, IL 62903, (618)-453-5579.

Matt.McCauley@il.usda.gov or Bryan.Fitch@il.usda.gov

Sponsored by:
USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service
Illinois Department of Natural Resources
Southern Illinois University-Carbondale
USDA-Forest Service
Illinois Soil Classifier's Association
Society of American Foresters

27th Annual Central States Forest Soils Workshop (Make Checks out to ISCA)

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

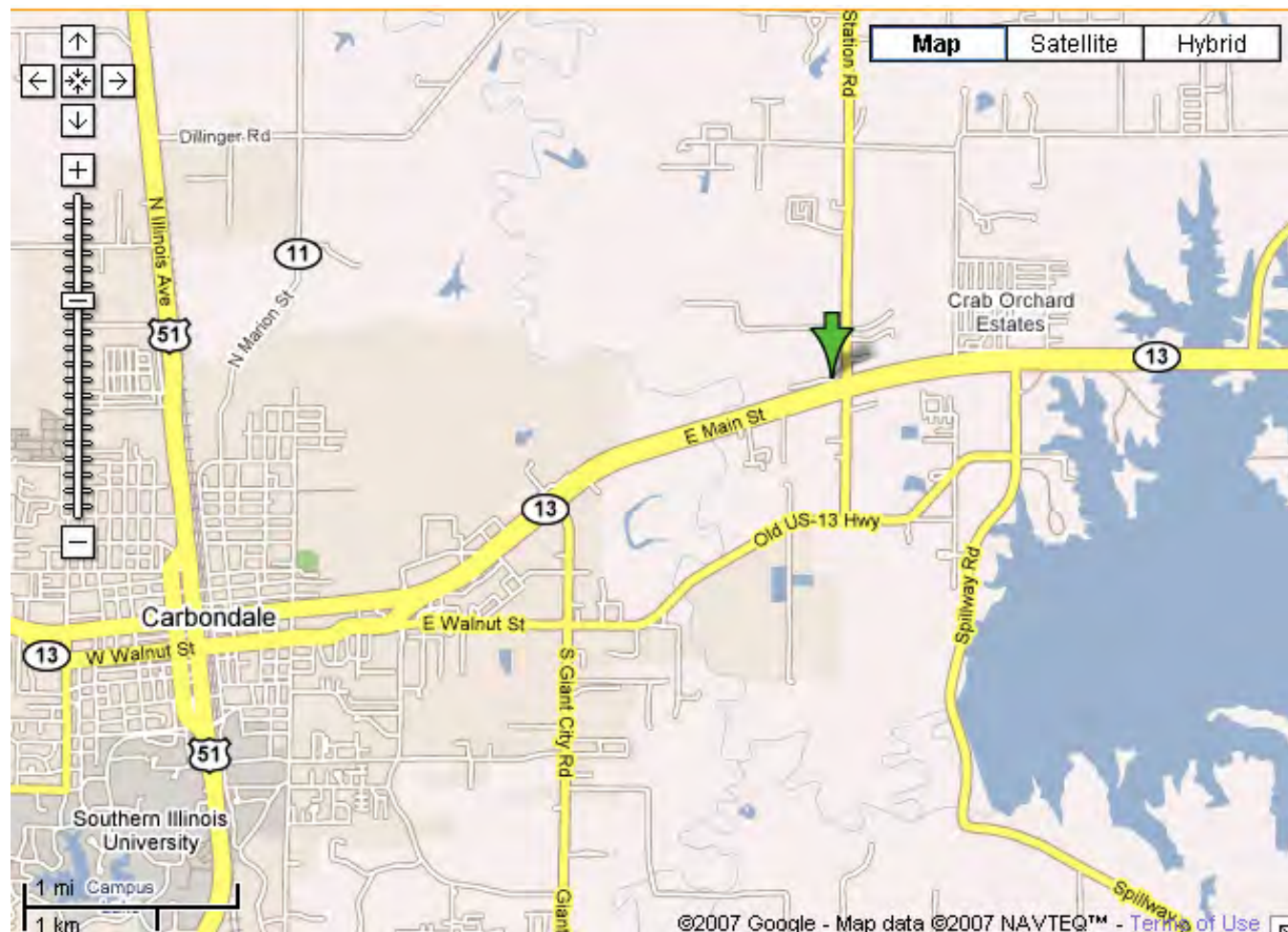
Email Address _____

\$75 Registration by August 31st
\$85 Registration by September 28th
\$50 Student Registration

Mail to:
Matt McCauley, USDA-NRCS
502 Comfort Drive, Suite F
Marion, IL 62959

* for directions: see map on next page

Directions to Holiday Inn at Carbondale (Forest Soils Workshop)



From Interstate 57:

Take exit 54B to merge onto W DeYoung St/IL-13 W toward Carbondale.

Continue to follow IL-13 W 11.3 miles

Turn right at N Reed Station Rd

Turn left at Reed Station Pkwy

Indiana Association of Professional Soil Classifiers Fall Tour 2007
 September 14, 2007
 Angel Mounds State Historic Area
 Warrick/Vanderburgh Counties
 Evansville, IN

ALL TIMES EASTERN DAYLIGHT TIME

AGENDA

- 9:00-10:00 Registration – Angel Mounds Visitors/Conference Center (Coffee, doughnuts, juice, and milk)
 Visit museum in Visitors Center
- 10:00-10:05 Welcome - Dena Marshall, President IAPSC
- 10:05-10:20 Welcome to Angel Mounds and History of Site – Mike Linderman
- 10:20-11:00 Dr. Bill Monaghan - Site Investigation and studies using non-invasive technology
- 11:00-11:45 Stephen Ball - NRCS Cultural Resources Specialist - Historic Significance of the site
- 11:45-12:45 Lunch - BBQ
- 12:45-2:00 IAPSC Business Meeting - Dena Marshall
 Nifty door prizes - Dena Marshall
- 2:10-3:30 Travel to soil sites – Liquefaction in soil pit with Ancient house foundation
 Examine and review soil pits formed in Ohio River sediments (IRSS field exam review)
- 3:30 Adjourned

Registration: \$12.00 Before September 5th
 \$15.00 the day of the meeting
 Due to IAPSC/Paul McCarter
 RR# 1 Box 252A
 Bloomfield, IN 47424

Directions To Angel Mounds:

Take I-164 to the Covert Ave Exit (Exit 5).

Take Covert Ave East (right turn) approx. one block and turn right on Stacer Rd.

Follow Stacer Rd to the 3-way stop (Pollack Ave).

Turn right on Pollack Ave and take the **second left**.

(You'll turn into the site after the big sign.)



United States Department of Agriculture



Natural Resources Conservation Service
2118 West Park Court
Champaign, IL 61821
Phone: 217/353-6600
Fax: 217/353-6676

July 31, 2007

Dear Illinois Soil Survey Cooperators and Supporters:

The 2007 Illinois Cooperative Soil Survey Annual Planning Conference will be held on Thursday, September 27, 2007, at the NRCS State Office, 2118 West Park Court, Champaign, Illinois. The purpose of the Conference is to bring our cooperators and other soil survey supporters up-to-date on soil survey activities in the state.

The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service will be hosting the Conference this year. We will convene at 9:30am. The Conference will adjourn at 12 noon. A tentative agenda is attached.

We will be looking for input from the group on soil survey related issues that need to be addressed this next year. Please RSVP to Jean McConkey by September 21, 2007 at 217/353-6635.

Sincerely,

Acting
State Conservationist

Handwritten signature of William J. Grable in black ink.
WILLIAM J. GRABLE
State Conservationist

Attachment

cc:

Micheal Golden, Director, Soil Survey Division, NHQ, NRCS, Washington, D.C.
Robert Ahrens, Director, National Soil Survey Center, Lincoln, Nebraska
MW State Conservationists/State Soil Scientists
Leadership Team
MLRA Project Leaders
Resource Soil Scientists
State Office Soils Staff

McLeese:letters:ICCS_07

The Natural Resources Conservation Service provides leadership in a partnership effort to help people conserve, maintain, and improve our natural resources and environment.

An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer

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ISCA Newsletter Staff
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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)



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2007 ILLINOIS COOPERATIVE SOIL SURVEY WORK PLANNING CONFERENCE

Thursday, September 27, 2007

USDSA-NRCS State Office
2118 West Park Court
Champaign, Illinois
Agenda

- **Convene 9:30 am**
- **Opening Remarks**
- **Status Reports by Cooperators**
 - **Natural Resources Conservation Service**
 - **Illinois Department of Agriculture**
 - **Illinois State Geological Survey**
 - **Illinois Department of Transportation**
 - **Association of Illinois Soil and Water Conservation Districts**
 - **University of Illinois**
 - **UI Cooperative Extension Service**
 - **United States Forest Service**
 - **Illinois Soil Classifiers Association**
- **Other Reports**
- **Discussion**
- **Adjourn 12:00 Noon**

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

www.illinoissoils.org/news

.....Cut.....Cut.....

Change of Address Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

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



Illinois Soil Classifiers Association Newsletter

Fall-November 2007

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Message from the President

Weighing In On the ILICA Incident:

When I received the "incident letter" for editing & approval before sending out to all ISCA members, I hesitated at first, wanting to edit the word "incident" to something more gentle....like, "event". I ended up leaving it as is.

Later at home the next week, I began reading my November issue of Astronomy magazine and came across an article about black holes. Now, most everyone has heard of a black hole, or has used the term in relation to spending money and size of pants pockets. Black holes are simple, yet complex creatures in our cosmos. They have what astronomers call an "event horizon", the place where gravity is so intense that anything (matter, energy, light) that gets too close will be sucked in and lost forever, never to escape.

Hummmmm.... "event", the very word I wanted to use in replace of "incident". "Horizon", the very issue about what two soil scientists were discussing at the ILICA pit!!

So now I'm glad I did not edit the word "incident" to "event"! You see, "event" would have implied (according to black hole theory), something lost forever, never to escape or to be retrieved...or damage that can never be repaired. And, the ILICA show incident was not of that proportion. Healthy discussion is good among ISCA members, especially when it comes to soil interpretations. When we stop discussing & interpreting, we don't learn anything new. Our membership has been made aware of this "incident". That's a proper first step. The ISCA Council will respond to any formal inquiries we receive from the state health officials regarding soil evaluations for private sewage disposal systems, or provide comments to the proposed code changes when appropriate. Beyond that, this ILICA incident is just an "incident", not an "event horizon"! "Keep looking up!"

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

Don Johnson Retires

Diana and I are thoroughly enjoying retirement, relaxing, writing, traveling, attending national meetings, interacting with extended family, playing racquetball (Don), shooting hoops with friends (Don), and eating out occasionally in non-noisy, good food- and good serviced- restaurants (Milo's, Silver Creek, Kennedy's, Radio Maria's, etc) in Chambana. We also travel out west 2-3 times/year to experience the splendors of western North America, and to continue collecting resources for our biomantle/dynamic denudation/Mima mound books that are under way. Life is good, and we wish the same for ISCA members, and for all peoples in strife-torn areas of the world, especially the Middle East. Let us hope that peace is on the way!

Don Johnson

Obituary - Loyal Reinebach

Loyal Marion Reinebach, age 87 of 1022 S. 21st, Quincy, died Sunday, March 11, 2007 at 4:30 pm in his home.

He was born June 24, 1919 in Quincy the son of George Henry and Katherine Elizabeth Ungerbuehler Reinebach. On January 27, 1946 he married Eleanor June Cuplin in New York, NY. They had celebrated their 61st wedding anniversary on January 29th.

Mr. Reinebach was a graduate of Seymour High School in 1937. He attended Illinois State for two years and graduated in 1942 from Iowa State University, served in the U.S. Army from 1942 - 1947 and received his Master's Degree in 1950 from Iowa State University.

Mr. Reinebach was a soil scientist with the Department of Agriculture Soil Conservation Service, and worked for 22 years from offices at Macomb, Mt. Vernon, Galesburg and Kankakee (Bourbonnais), retiring in 1980 to Tempe, Arizona. He also developed several inventions for use in the soil conservation field. In 2001 he returned to Quincy where he was a member of Faith Baptist Church in Camp Point. He was a church officer and Sunday School teacher in every church he attended.

Survivors in addition to his wife include 3 sons, John Reinebach and his wife Brenda, Glendora, CA, Thomas Reinebach and his wife Mary Ann, Summit, NJ, and James Reinebach and his wife Anita, Victorville, CA, and a daughter, Deborah St. Romaine and her husband Patrick; 3 sisters, Emily Elizabeth O'Banion of Denver, Colorado, Arlene Newkirk of Quincy, and Katherine Blevins of East Carbon, Utah, 7 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren, with one on the way. He was preceded in death by his parents and 4 brothers, Harold, Louis, Floyd, and Lester Reinebach.

Services will be Wednesday at 11:00 am in the Hansen-Spear Funeral Home with Rev. Tom Robbins officiating. Visitation will be Tuesday evening from 4-7pm at the funeral home. Burial will be in Quincy Memorial Park. Memorials may be made to Faith Baptist Church in Camp Point.

www.hansenspear.com/obituaries



27th Annual Central States Forest Soils Workshop

The 27th Annual Central States Forest Soils Workshop was held in Carbondale, IL from October 9th-11, 2007. One hundred and sixty-two people signed up for the workshop, and more than 170 were along at one time or another. The workshop focused on comparing forest productivity with an emphasis on white oak across Southern Illinois. Land survey notes from the early 1800's and several generations of aerial photographs were available for each site.

The planning for the workshop began last October. Bryan Fitch, Soil Scientist, Carbondale MLRA and I did the early initial planning and sampling for the workshop. In December, a planning committee was assembled to shore up other aspects of the workshop. Bryan and I were on the committee along with Gary Stratton, Regional Forester, IDNR; Dr. Jon Schoonover, Forestry Professor, SIU-C; Dr. Sam Indorante, Carbondale MLRA; John DePuy, Soil Scientist, USFS; and Dwayne Williams, Carbondale MLRA.

Eighty five soil scientist and sixty five foresters signed up for the workshop. A dozen others including Soil Conservationists, Biologists, Engineers and people interested in forestry were also along. The breakdown for the states at the workshop was Illinois 91, Missouri 28, Indiana 27, Ohio 6, Tn 4 and Ky 4, Wisconsin 1 and Nebraska 1. Included among the attendees were eighteen graduate students from Southern Illinois University-Carbondale, University of Missouri, Northern Illinois University and Purdue, and two undergraduate students from SIU-C. Speakers from the NRCS, SIU, IDNR, ISGS, UIUC, USFS, and private industry gave presentations on soil and forest related subjects. Guidebooks were given out to all attendees and goodie bags were given out to the first 150 people to sign up.

On Tuesday night speakers representing federal and state agencies and Southern Illinois University at Carbondale (SIU-C) welcomed the attendees to Southern Illinois. Federal and State agencies represented included the USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), USDA Forest Service (USFS) and the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR). This was followed by talks on Soil Productivity across Southern Illinois, Dr. Sam Indorante, NRCS; Forest Productivity in Illinois, Dr. Ken Olsen UIUC; White Oak Distribution and Landscape Ecology across Southern Illinois, Dr. James Fralish, Professor Emeritus, SIU-C; Justifying the Reapplication of Fire in the Central Hardwood Forest by Dr. Charles Ruffner, and an overview of the field trip by Bryan Fitch.

Buses left the Hotel at 7:15 AM the next morning and made their first stop at a White Oak Plantation on Crab Orchard Lake planted by SCS in 1938 at the Crab Orchard National Wildlife Refuge. Due to the high number of attendees groups were formed based on badge colors that ranged in size from 30 to 46 people. Groups were broken up into Orange, Green, Yellow, and Red, and each group had a team leader. Discussions at the first stop included one on Rend Soils by myself, the white oak plantation by Gary Stratton and the Crab Orchard National Wildlife refuge by Mike Brown. Groups were rotated every 12-15 minutes throughout the tour when a whistle blew. Our next stop was near Devils Kitchen Lake. At Devils Kitchen contrast were made between the highly productive Hickory (glaciated) soils with its large white oak trees and the adjacent comparatively unproductive Wellston (un-glaciated) soils with its scrubby post oak trees. Discussions included John Depuy on forest management, Dr. Karl Williard, SIU-C, on forest hydrology and buffers, Dr. Leon Follmer, Quaternary Geologist, ISGS-Retired, on the Hickory soil and glaciation at the terminal moraine and Bryan Fitch on the Wellston soil. The next stop was a private timber site near Carbondale managed by Carbondale Veneer. Stan Curtis, Carbondale Veneer, discussed white oak value and veneer quality timber. Other discussions included Wade Conn, IDNR Forester, on forest plans, Dana Grantham, Consulting Soil Scientist on the shallow Ultic Hapludalf soils and Jerry Berning, Resource Soil Scientist, on the Homen soils.

Lunch at Giant City State Park was the next stop, and it was catered by Our Place from Karnak, IL. After lunch, we headed over to Cripps Bend, the site of the last timber sale on the Shawnee. Discussions included Dr. Sam Indorante on the highly productive Menfro soils, John Depuy on forest management and Dr. Steve Shifley, USFS-North Central Research Station, on forest sustainability. We then loaded the buses onto our next stop, the base of Government Rock, where group photos were taken. Afterward, we proceeded to the Trail of Tears State Forest Nursery to visit the walnut seed orchard. Dr. Jerry Van Sambeek, USFS-North Central Research Station, discussed the walnut cloning project that was on going at the site (which includes clones from 20 and 30 thousand dollar walnut trees). Other discussions included Gary Stratton on the walnut seed orchard and I discussed the Haymond soils located at the site. Haymond is the ideal soil for walnut in southern Illinois.

The next stop, the most important of the tour, was the Von Jakob vineyard. (Some have gone as far as to suggest that the whistle may have even blown early at the last pit, but I deny having any knowledge as to the validity of the accusation). A catered meal along with a couple of hundred bottles of wine nourished the group. I was told by the owners of Von Jakob that our group ate more potatoes than any group than they had ever had before and they were not very happy about that, but I was fairly proud of the accomplishment myself. After the meal, Bob McLeese, State Soil Scientist, NRCS, conducted the business meeting and Ohio agreed to take the workshop for next year. Dave Berna, Consulting Forester, Ohio; Dwain Waters, Waters Christmas Tree Farm, Ohio; and John Robbins, Consulting Soil Scientist, Indiana; were then recognized for attending their 25th CSFSW this year. Each was awarded with any of the door prizes they chose. The door prizes included Wine from Von Jakob, Chocolate from the Chocolate Factory in Golconda, Barbeque Sauce from 17th Street Bar and Grill, and other prizes. A trivia contest for the remaining door prizes followed. Categories included soils, forestry, general knowledge and Illinois Movie Trivia. Bryan Fitch and I wrote the questions, and we had no trouble giving away everything as apparently most had seen the Blues Brothers a few times. After the trivia contest, Gary Stratton introduced Julie Wilkerson, our entertainment for the evening. Julie played mainly country and bluegrass music and the entertainment went over very well. Then we loaded the buses and headed back to Carbondale. The first day was 13 hours and we were never behind schedule more than 2 minutes. I need a whistle blower more often.

The next morning started with a stop at the Dixon Springs Wheel. Dr. Charles Ruffner discussed the management of the forest that could be viewed from the wheel and fires role in forest management. The wheel includes 4 different management schemes, no management, TSI, fire, and TSI with fire. When one stands in the middle of the wheel, he can view all four management schemes. Dick Johnson, IDNR, discussed the fire program he was using on local forest in southern Illinois, and I discussed the Westmore soils at the site. The next stop was at the Dixon Springs Agricultural Center. Discussions included Dr. Jon Schoonover on Best Management Practices and measuring runoff in forests; Dave Allen, IDNR Forester, on forest management; Diane Murphy, Forestry Resource Center, on the Forest Resource Center and Bryan Fitch on Grantsburg Soils. We then loaded the buses and headed to Garden of the Gods. Joe Devera, ISGS, discussed the geology of the area, and John Depuy discussed the Forest Services management of the area. A little after noon, we loaded the buses and sent everyone back to Carbondale.

I would like to thank everyone that helped make this conference the most attended and one of the best Central Sates Forest Soils Workshop ever. All of the other committee members, Chuck Frazee, Bob McLeese, the speakers, the team leaders, Erik Gerhard, Soil Scientist, Carbondale MLRA, Orange Team; Terry Wachter, WRP Coordinator, Green Team; Lauren Lambert, Soil Conservationist, Vienna, Yellow Team; and Chad LaMontagne, Soil Conservation Technician, Anna, Red Team; timekeeper and the whistle blower, Jon Bathgate, GIS Specialist, Carbondale MLRA; Dan Childress, Dexter MLRA Office, Dexter, MO; Dennis Potter, State Soil Scientist, MO; John Tondini, Earth Team Volunteer; Our Place Catering, Von Jakob Vineyard, and everyone that attended.

Matt McCauley
27th Annual Central States Forest Soils Workshop, Chairman
Resource Soil Scientist
Marion, IL



Forest Soils Workshop

**Talk about a lot of foresters
and soil scientists!**



More from the Workshop



51st Annual Region III Collegiate Soil Judging Contest

The University of Illinois hosted this year's regional soil judging contest October 17th -20th. Despite some rainy weather, the soil judging contest was a success. Students from six Universities (University of Illinois, Illinois State University, Northern Illinois University, Purdue University, University of Wisconsin-Platteville, and University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point) attended the challenging competition. Most arrived Wednesday for two days in the field to prepare for the Friday group contest and the Saturday individual contest.

Scott Wiesbrook from Illinois Natural History Survey (INHS), organized the contest and helped keep it running smoothly. Scott, Ron Collman from Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), with the help of Troy Fehrenbacher and Zach Weber from the NRCS-Charleston MLRA staff described 7 practice pits and 6 contest pits. Scott is a recent applicant to ISCA and the others are all members.

There was excellent cooperation, volunteered time, equipment, and locations from several individuals and agencies to make what turned out to be a soggy contest into a success. Pits were located on the Murphy farm and on land owned by the Mill Creek County Park, near Clarksville, Illinois. Facilities were provided by the Murphy farm, Mill Creek Park, and Lincoln Trail State Park. Enough can not be said about the amount of cooperation from individuals and agencies. After a three inch rainfall, Scott and Ron were definitely in over there head on a few of these pits. All pits had to be pumped and re-described. Again, the landowners provided equipment and manpower to get the job done. There were a few long days spent preparing for the contest.

Cooperators:

Evan Lycan - Landowner - provided sites for 3 practice pits and backhoe operator for 7 practice pits

Tom Murphy - Murphy Farm Seeds - Land operator - provided sites for 6 contest pits - backhoe operator for 2 contest pits

Clint Murphy - Murphy Farm Seeds - Pump operator for all pits and backhoe operator for 4 contest pits

Mill Creek Park - Provided sites for 4 practice pits and some pallets

Murphy Farm Seeds also provided their building for dinner / presentation and pallets

Lincoln Trail State Park provided a building for grading of contest and award presentations.

U of I hosts the regional contest in rotation with the other schools. ISCA and NRCS help to sponsor the contest and ISCA also offers the Burt Ray Award for the highest scoring Illinois individual. This year, it turns out, the U of I's highest scorer, Jenwei Tsai, was also the leading scorer for the entire contest. With the help of other team members, the University of Illinois placed second overall in the contest.

Added to the contest was a group judging of two pits on Friday. This relatively new part of the overall contest allows each team to judge pits together. Only one description card is turned in from each team.

-submitted by Ron Collman

Top 10 individuals

Rank	Student	School	Total Points
1	Tsai, Jenwei	Univ. of Illinois A	852
2	Dunn, Joey	Purdue Univ. A	807
3	Abing, Amanda	UW - Platteville A	806
4	Bechman, Allison	Purdue Univ. A	800
5	Thornton, Amanda	Univ. of Illinois B	793
6	Fink, Cody	Purdue Univ. B	783
7	Mattern, Austin	Purdue Univ. A	779
8	Ritchie, Ben	UW - Platteville B	770
9	Weiskircher, Kris	UW - Platteville A	769
10	Flikkema, Jeremy	UW - Platteville A	769

Overall Team Contest Rankings

Rank	School	Individual Total	Team Totals
1	Purdue Univ.	Overall Team Score	2911
2	Univ. of Illinois	Overall Team Score	2791
3	UW - Platteville	Overall Team Score	2760
4	Northern Illinois	Overall Team Score	2651
5	UW - Stevens Point	Overall Team Score	2530
6	Illinois State Univ.	Overall Team Score	2476

Group Judging Rankings

Rank	School	Individual Total	Team Totals
1	Purdue Univ.	Group Judging Total	494
2	Northern Illinois	Group Judging Total	472
3	Univ. of Illinois	Group Judging Total	442
4	UW - Stevens Point	Group Judging Total	421
5	UW - Platteville	Group Judging Total	410
6	Illinois State Univ.	Group Judging Total	377

CREDITS

Job	Name	Institution
Official Judges	Scott Wiesbrook	INHS/(Veteran Soil Judger)
	Ron Collman	NRCS/(Veteran Soil Judger)
	Zach Weber	NRCS
	Troy Fehrenbacher	NRCS
Officials Supervisor	Scott Wiesbrook	INHS/(Veteran Soil Judger)
Saturday Graders	Coaches	Various Universities
	Angela & Tony Kent	NRES
	Ariane Peralta	NRES
	Jason Ackerson	NRES undergraduate
	Mark David	NRES
Saturday Grading Supervisor	R. Darmody	NRES
Friday Grader	Scott Wiesbrook	INHS
Lab Analyses	Jenwei Tsai	NRES
Lab Supervisor	R. Darmody	NRES
Runner	Ron Collman	NRCS
Pit Monitors	Barry Ramsey	Veteran Soil Judger/(Rural Development)
	Matt Mechennes	Veteran Soil Judger/(NRES)
	Olivia Dorothy	Veteran Soil Judger/Illinois Lt. Governor staff
	Andy Brantner	NRCS/Veteran Soil Judger
Pit Supervisor	Scott Wiesbrook	INHS
Timer	Scott Wiesbrook	INHS
Local Arrangements	Scott Wiesbrook	INHS
Pit Excavation	Evan Lycan	Private Citizen
	Clint Murphy	Private Citizen

51st Annual Region III Collegiate Soil Judging Contest



Purdue University - First place Team



University of Illinois - Second Place Team



University of Wisconsin-Platteville - Third Place Team



Jenwei Tsai, U of I - First Place individual and winner of the I.S.C.A. Burt Ray Award.



Practice Pit - 40 to 60 inches of Peoria and Roxana/lacustrine silts over Sangamon paleosol.



Fragic Glossaqualfs on high terrace position

More pictures from the soil judging contest



Students judge this low terrace/floodplain. The soil was well developed and appeared to have an argillic horizon formed in glacio-fluvial sediments



Krotovena

-photos by Ron Collman, Bob Darmody



ILLINOIS SOIL CLASSIFIERS ASSOCIATION

ISCA Multi-Year Plan

"The purpose of this Multi-Year Plan proposal is to strengthen ISCA's commitment to professional development and to equip our membership to do better 'soil business'".

Ken Gotsch, ISCA President

The question of whether or not ISCA had a multi-year plan was raised by then President-Elect Ken Gotsch, during the fall of 2006. For his first order of business as the chief executive, President Gotsch called for the Executive Council, the Certification Board, the committee chairs, select committee members, and select members-at-large to develop ideas for future goals and actions of ISCA. The initial comments and suggestions for a multi-year plan came from a Council meeting and planning session held on April 27, 2007 in Bloomington, Illinois. Those in attendance at the meeting were:

Ken Anderson, Certification Board

Mark Bramstedt, Chair Public Relations and Education Committee

Dale Calsyn, Chair Constitution, By-Laws and Legislative Committee

Ron Collman, Chair Ethics, Certification and Membership Committee

Steve Elmer, Secretary

Chuck Frazee, Treasurer

Ken Gotsch, President

Clayton Heffter, Past President

Jesse Kurylo, PR&E Committee member

Bob Tegeler, ISCA Member-at-large

Roger Windhorn, Vice President

President Gotsch assigned the task of finalizing the multi-year plan to the Public Relations and Education Committee. Those committee members are:

Mark Bramstedt, Chair

Jesse Kurylo

Robert McLeese

Karla Petges

Christy Sabdo

Jennifer Wollenweber

The Multi-Year Plan that follows should be considered as a "work in progress". As the direction of ISCA changes, the plan should change as well. All items and dates are proposals, except for the Central States Forest Soils Workshop scheduled for October 2007. This document should be reviewed by the Council on a regular basis and changes should be made as necessary.

President Gotsch would like to give a special thank you to all those listed above who participated in the development of this plan.

Submitted by:

Mark W. Bramstedt, Chair
ISCA Public Relations and Education Committee
October 1, 2007

The Multi-Year Plan was adopted by the ISCA Executive Council on October 26, 2007.

ISCA Multi-Year Plan

Summary

Subject	Date (proposed)
<u>Part A – Education for ISCA Members (Professional Development)</u>	
Forest Soils Workshop	Fall 2007
IDPH and the Private Sewage Disposal Act	March 2008
Joint Meeting with ISCA, Wisconsin Society of Prof. Soil Scientists & the Assoc. of Women Soil Scientists	Fall 2008
Triennial Field Exam	Fall/Summer 08 or 09
Small Business Issues	March 2009
Conducting On-sites for IDPH Private Sewage Disposal Code	Fall/Summer 2009
Establish Mentoring Program	2008
Notification of associated programs or meetings through the <i>Newsletter</i>	On-going
<u>Part B – Public Relations (Soils Training to Target Audiences)</u>	
Understanding Soils and Septics target - county health department employees, conducted in cooperation with IDPH & NRCS	Winter 2007/2008
Hydric Soils for Wetland Determinations target - private consultants (non-soil scientists)	Spring/Summer 08 or 09

Note: Above is a summary of the Multi-Year Plan. The entire plan is posted on the announcement page of our ISCA website: <http://www.illinoissoils.org/announce.htm>

Drummer Silty Clay Loam to Appear in Washington, DC in 2008

Fund raising for the first phase of the exhibit "Soils: Worlds Underfoot" ended 1 September 2007. This 5000-square foot exhibit will be housed at the National Museum of Natural History in Washington, DC. It is scheduled to open in 2008, and will potentially attract more than 6 million visitors per year. A traveling exhibit is also planned that will reach and educate many more.

This initial phase includes a display of 54 soil monoliths representing the respective soils for each of the states and territories of the USA. Each was asked to raise \$10,000 toward completing the monolith exhibit. The Illinois Soil Classifiers Association (ISCA) formed an ad hoc committee to facilitate the fundraising.

The ISCA jump-started the fundraising in March 2005 by auctioning a trailer-mounted hydraulic soil probe on eBay. The auction netted \$3,477.63, all of which was donated in a ceremony at the ISCA 2005 Annual Meeting. Other large corporate sponsors included the Illinois Chapter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society, the Association of Illinois Soil and Water Conservation Districts, and Peabody Energy Midwest Group. A number of ISCA members and other Illinoisans involved in soil science also made contributions. Officially, a total of \$12,197.63 was raised. The ad hoc Smithsonian Soils Exhibit Committee would like to thank everyone who made a donation. Their generous support will help Museum visitors understand how soil is intricately linked to the health of humanity, the environment, and the planet. It will also serve to promote our profession. Drummer silty clay loam, the State Soil of Illinois, will soon be standing among its brother and sister soils.

Additional fund raising, coordinated by the Agronomic Science Foundation (ASF), will provide funds to develop additional interactive exhibits at the Smithsonian, traveling educational exhibits, and world-wide web activities. The primary source for this funding will come from corporate sponsors. A goal of \$2.5 million has been set.

To view "Soils: Worlds Underfoot" exhibit diagrams, get updated on its progress, and obtain donor information visit www.soils.org/smithsonian/.

-submitted by Bill Kreznor

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.
- 2000 Grand AM SE, 6-cyl, 28 mpg, 148K highway miles, great condition, \$4695 obo, 217-359-4098



www.illinoissoils.org

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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.

NOTICE: From this time forward, minutes from the executive council meetings will no longer appear in the ISCA Newsletters. Please visit our website to view them: <http://www.illinoissoils.org/>



ALSO - Don't miss the November Issue 41 of the National Cooperative Soil Survey (NCSS) Newsletter located at: <ftp://ftp-fc.sc.egov.usda.gov/NSSC/NCSS/Newsletters/issue41.pdf>. Along with other informative articles is the following submission co-authored by Bob McLeese:

Benchmark Soils: Status and Questions

By R. David Hammer, former National Leader, Soil Survey Investigations, National Soil Survey Center; Bob McLeese, State Soil Scientist, Illinois; and Thomas Reinsch, Supervisory Soil Scientist, National Soil Survey Center.

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

www.illinoissoils.org/news

.....Cut.....Cut.....

Change of Address Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

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Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

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