



Illinois Soil Classifiers Association Newsletter

Winter-March 2016

Upcoming Events:

41st Annual Meeting	March 19, 2016
Loessfest	September 22-25, 2016

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Message from the President

Our upcoming Annual Meeting will continue the tradition of inviting the best technical minds to be our program speakers; this year we welcome Dr. Bruce Vasilas from the University of Delaware. As a side note, we even considered inviting Dr. Vasilas' spouse as a co-speaker, Lenore Matula Vasilas. She is the chair of the NRCS National Technical Committee for Hydric Soils and is a soil scientist at NRCS' National Headquarters. By reaching out to professionals of the highest order we hope to expand ISCA's network with leaders in soil science research.

Please review the proposed changes to the certification standards in this newsletter. In my opinion these are an improvement to our present requirements by not only looking at the quantity of professional experience but also the quality and in a more objective manner. Also the proposal adds a new requirement of a field practicum to insure that candidates can perform the basic tasks of soil classification. It also creates the potential for more interaction between experienced classifiers and newer classifiers. There are also changes to the renewal process of recording CEUs (proposed to be called Professional Development Hours PDHs) to align the credit for an activity to the actual time spent.

I want to thank the Executive Council, the Committees, and the Membership as a whole during the last year. It was gratifying to see the high number of you who turned out at the fall meeting/ field practicum and I want to encourage you to stay engaged, young and old. If you're young, step up and express your opinion and don't back down to a fixed mindset. If you're old like me, stay involved and at the very least encourage younger members.

On a personal note, when I retired a few years ago, I was ready to spend my days drinking craft beer, watching old movies, and playing chess with my oldest grandson. While I still enjoy these activities, two people kicked me in the rear and said I still had something to contribute to our profession (a debatable opinion.) I want to thank Mark Bramstedt and Bruce Putman for their double boot. My wife Linda thanks them too!

Don Fehrenbacher

8th International Conference of the Working Group on Soils in Urban, Industrial, Traffic, Military, and Mining Areas (SUITMA)



Left to Right): Randy Riddle, Luis Hernandez, Kristine Ryan, Maxine Levin on a playa at the former Lake Texcoco. Draining former Lake Texcoco has led to severe subsidence problems in Mexico City (up to 40 cm/year in places), dust storms and water and air quality problems.

The 8th International Conference of the Working Group on Soils in Urban, Industrial, Traffic, Military and Mining Areas (SUITMA) was held from September 20th -25th, 2015, in Mexico City, Mexico, with pre and post conference tour options available. Countries represented at this congress included the United States, Australia, Japan, Singapore, South Africa, Kenya, Niger, Syria (France), China, Russia, Estonia, Belgium, France, Germany, Poland, Italy, Chile, Brazil, and Korea.

The objective of this international group is to bring together professionals, students, and academics from the field of urban, industrial, traffic, military and mining soils to exchange and share ideas. In the United States and worldwide, anthropogenic and human affected soils are often overlooked as being “living” ecosystems. The goal of this working group is to change that perception through education, emphasizing and supporting research in cities all over the world, and to connect people for collaboration purposes. An emerging concept in soils is the term ‘Ecosystem Services’. This term is now universally accepted and refers to the ability of soils to provide essential functions in the ecosystem. The key points are that anthropogenic and human affected soils **can** provide essential functions and play a role in the ecosystem, but we have to learn to work with them. SUITMA emphasizes soils as a vital component to our infrastructure and ecosystems while working in harmony with engineering needs. This viewpoint is critical for policy makers to improve ecological systems in the urban environment.

The *Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico (UNAM)* hosted the week-long conference which consisted of field tours, (which showcased the restoration and reclamation work being done with urban soils in Mexico City), poster sessions, and lectures (highlighting research being done all over the world). The delegates from the university and the organizing committee did a thorough job of highlighting the resource concerns in Mexico City as well as research currently underway that addresses these issues. The resource and environmental concerns in Mexico City are vast-subsidence, from overdrawing the aquifer that supplies the drinking water, dust storms, water contamination, composting, landfill reclamation, farmland and wetland creation and protection, and reclaiming industrial urban soils, etc. The international research that was presented by the delegates provided data that can help formulate solutions. With an abundance of studies being conducted throughout the world, the goal is to influence policy change at the local and national level.

The NRCS Soil Scientists that represented the U.S. Delegation included Maxine Levin (SSRA-SSD), Luis Hernandez (SSR-12), Randy Riddle (SSRO 2-TEM) and Kristine Ryan (SSRO 11-AUR). Topics presented included a national soil interpretation and map developed for ground mounted solar array panels; the New York City soil survey and its partnerships; Soil Taxonomy for anthropogenic soils (Los Angeles, CA examples); and the soil survey methods used for the Chicago soil survey. The United States’ work and expertise in Soil Taxonomy and Soil Survey was highlighted to an international audience which was recognized by members of the congress. The Soil Science Division of the NRCS is recognized as a world leader in soil survey and technical expertise. We have the skill set, technology, and knowledge to provide soils information for urban areas and cities. We have soil mapped cities such as Los Angeles, Chicago, Detroit, Washington D.C., Baltimore, and New York. Having a presence at these SUITMA conferences allows our agency to be the example of how to conduct a technically sound and useful urban soil survey and to offer our methods and assistance to others that might need guidance. We can emphasize the important interpretations that are developed for our customers and encourage professional collaboration with academics and field staff. Because the NRCS delegation attended this conference we were able to network with soil scientists, researchers, professors, and students from other countries and give them insight into the work NRCS is doing within the United States.



Profile of a soil formed in human transported material (rubble from the 1985 Mexico City earthquake)

Roger Windhorn Retires!



Good morning! I wanted to take a minute to inform folks that as of January 2, 2016 I retired from NRCS. I began this career in June of 1970 as a Soil Conservationist trainee in the Kankakee Field Office. After 46+ years it is time for me to step away and concentrate on a few other things! To say this has been fun would be a gross understatement! I have thoroughly enjoyed my career and cannot imagine a better life! The friends I have been able to work with touched my life in so many ways that I will never be able to thank them enough! For those that know me, realize that computers and I never really got along well..... I like to think I'm not necessarily stupid, but just always felt that computers somehow kept me from being in the field.....which has always been my first priority. I wish you all well and stay in touch (at 43soiltech@gmail.com or 217-433-5293) !

Roger Windhorn

**special thank you to Mark Bramstedt for providing these pictures!

41st ISCA Annual Meeting

When: Scheduled for **March 19th, 2016**

Where: Room 1005, Forbes building at **1816 S. Oak St.,
Champaign, IL**

Registration Fee: **\$20.00 for members** and **\$30.00 for non-members**

(**online** via PayPal @ <http://www.illinoissoils.org/>
or via **mail** to Chuck Frazee @ 65 Gaffney Road, Divernon,
IL 62530

Registered by **March 12th!!!**

Agenda

Council Meeting: 10:30 am

Registration: 11:00 am

Opening Remarks: 11:45 am

Invocation

Lunch: 12:00 pm

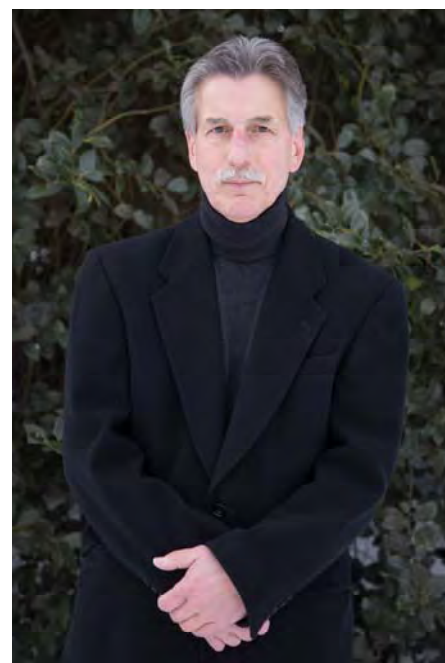
Guest Speaker: 1:00 pm

Business Meeting: 2:30 pm

Speaker for the Annual Meeting

Dr. Bruce Vasilas is a professor of Agronomy and Soil Science at the University of Delaware. He received a B.S. in Agronomy -Soil Science from the University of Maryland, an M.S. in Soil Microbiology from the University of Maryland, and a Ph.D. in Soil Microbiology from the University of Minnesota. From 1981 to 1987 he was an assistant professor of Agronomy at the University of Illinois. He has been on the faculty at the University of Delaware since 1987. His recent research areas include biogeochemical cycling and carbon sequestration in wetlands, environmental impact assessment of anthropogenic disturbance to wetlands, hydric soil identification, rapid characterization of wetland hydrology with soil morphology, and hydrologic monitoring of freshwater wetlands.

He teaches classes in agronomy, soil science, and wetlands. He is a frequent contributor to short courses on wetland identification and delineation. He was the 2015 chair of the Wetland Soils Division of the Soil Science Society of America. He is chair of the Mid-Atlantic Hydric Soils Committee, a member of the Northeast Hydric and Subaqueous Soils Committee, and the University of Delaware liaison to the Cooperative Soil Survey. He is co-editor of *A Guide to Hydric Soils in the Mid-Atlantic Region*. His publications include book chapters on wetland biogeochemistry techniques, identification of hydric soils, hydric soils and wetland regulation, microbiology of hydric soils, hydrology of hydric soils, hydric soils and wetland functions, and monitoring hydric soils.



**ISCA 2016 Annual Spring Meeting
March 19th, 2016
Illinois Natural History Building, Champaign, IL**

Name _____

Number Attending _____ (\$20/member; \$30/nonmember)

Total Payment _____

Fill out the above information and mail with a check (payable to ISCA to the following address)

Chuck Frazee

65 Gaffney Road
Divernon, IL 62530

Or register online at illinoissoils.org and pay using PayPal

Ballot for 2016 ISCA Elections

Voting rights are for Full Members only.

Please vote for one for each office by placing an X next to the name.

See the candidate biographies on the next page for more information about the candidates.

Write-in candidates must have agreed prior to the election to run for that office.

President-Elect

Todd Soukup

Scott Wegman

(write-in candidate for President-Elect) _____

Vice President

Pat Kelsey

Bill Teater

(write-in candidate for Vice President) _____

Treasurer

Charles Frazee

Ken Anderson

(write-in candidate for Treasurer) _____

Submit your ballot:

You may bring your ballot to the 2016 ISCA Annual Meeting or you may vote prior to the Annual meeting by mailing your ballot to Scott Wiesbrook at 1816 S. Oak St., Champaign, IL 61820. Please seal your ballot in a separate envelope and mark it with "Ballot" on the outside of that envelope. Mailed ballots must be received by March 18th, 2016 in order to be counted.

Officer Nominations Biographies

President-Elect

Todd Soukup:

Todd began his career in 1989 as a soil scientist with the SCS in North Dakota. He moved to Illinois in 1994, where he worked in private industry primarily performing wetland delineation and permitting services. He started his own business in 1997 providing soil evaluation and ecological management services, and continues in this capacity today. Todd has been a member of ISCA since 1995.

Scott Wegman:

Scott has worked in the field of Soil Science since 1988. After graduating from the University of Illinois with a B.S. in Soil Science, he began his career as a county soil scientist with Pike County, Illinois Soil Survey. He also worked for Tazewell and Woodford County Soil Surveys. With the soil surveys ending, he took a job as a soil scientist with the Lake County Health Department. From there he went into consulting and worked for a small engineering consulting firm in the Chicago area and after that a large international engineering consulting firm. After moving to Quincy, Illinois to work for a local engineering firm he began his own soils consulting business in 2004. He currently provides soil morphology services for clients in Illinois and Missouri. Scott is married to Dawn, they have six children, three cats and a varying number of rabbits. He has an M.A. in Counseling and is a part-time marriage counselor as well as being a soil scientist.

Vice President

Pat Kelsey:

Pat has more than 30 years of experience as a project manager in the fields of soil science and environmental resource management at WBK. Pat is the firm principal for all natural resource design, site development, stormwater management, and regulatory services including permitting and compliance activities. Pat serves as the principal scientist and provides scientific and environmental survey for soils, water resources, sediments, and vegetation. He has previously served as the ISCA President, Newsletter Editor (10 yrs) and on the Certification Board. Pat enjoys camping, photography and single malt, not necessarily in that order.

Bill Teater:

Bill received his Bachelors in Science from the University of Illinois in December of 1978. Upon graduation, he worked a full time assistantship in the University of Illinois soils lab doing mechanical analysis for 8 months. He then served as the Ford County Soil Scientist for a few months. He then moved onto to be a USDA Soil Scientist at: Ford, Mason, Tazewell, Woodford, and Marshall Counties. Bill was in the Springfield MLRA Update Office until his retirement in 2014 and is currently doing onsite soil investigations for septic systems.

Treasurer

Charles J. Frazee:

Chuck is a charter member of ISCA and has been the Treasurer since 1993. He has both a MS and a Ph.D. from the University of Illinois. He mapped in 6 different counties in IL and was an Assistant Professor at the South Dakota State University from 1969-1975. His research was in remote sensing using soil maps for taxation and taught soil genesis, classification, and morphology. Chuck returned to his family farm in 1975. He is a Professional Soil Classifier (Certificate #10) and has been consulting in Sangamon and surrounding counties since 1996.

Ken Anderson:

Ken is the Director of the Kane County Division of Environmental and Water Resources. He is a ISCA member and has held the position of President and Vice President of the Association. He is a graduate of the University of Stevens Point. He is married to his beautiful wife Julie and is blessed with three wonderful daughters. He enjoys God's creation, fishing and golfing.

2015 Treasurer's Report

ISCA - 2015

January 25, 2016

Treasurer's Report for Jan. 1, 2015 - December 31, 2015

Balance in Account - 1/1/15 \$ 21724.07

Income:

Administration	
Paypal Transfer	\$ 135.05
Donation	175.00
Annual Meeting	1267.25
Certification Application Fees	119.51
Dues	3083.76
Interest	31.55
T-Shirts and Caps	87.50

	\$ 4899.62

Expenses:

Administration	
Paypal	\$ 200.00
Corporation Fee	10.00
Spanish Translation	300.00
Internet	184.95
Annual Meeting	2012.22
Certification Board Exp	123.23
Adams Co. Report	612.10
Fall Meeting	229.95
Farm Progress Show	433.40
Soil Judging	750.00

	\$ 4855.85

Ending Bank Balance - 12/31/15 \$ 21767.84

Submitted by:

Charles J. Frazee, CPSC
Treasurer

Changes to the Certification Standards and CEUs

For nearly two years now, you have probably been hearing about ISCA's proposed changes to our certification standards. With generous input from the membership, the Ethics, Certification, and Membership Committee, and the Council, we have nearly arrived at the final draft. The major changes involve elimination of the specific requirements that 70% of an applicant's time be spent doing soil classification activities. Now, applicants will be required to simply have 4 years of experience in soil classification. They are expected to provide examples of their work to the board on request. A point system has been developed that allows an applicant to accumulate points that may substitute for up to 2 years of experience based on certain types of activities. All applicants meeting the requirements will sit for the written exam, and passing that, will take the field practicum.

There has been much discussion about requiring certain numbers of reports, acres mapped, profiles described, etc. per year to meet experience requirements. In the end, it was clear that many applicants will come from non-traditional avenues (read soil survey) that any quota requirements would tend to exclude talented and qualified people. Instead, the intent is to let them be evaluated on the quality of their work rather than quantity. This, in conjunction with the written exam and the field practicum will insure we continue to certify competent individuals practicing soil classification in non-traditional professional positions.

Also proposed are changes to our CEU structure. The new structure will implement Professional Development Hours (PDH's) that are based on actual time spent on activities rather than the number of activities. Under the old system, a person attending a multi-day seminar or workshop could only claim the same number of CEU's as one attending a short meeting. Most of the categories have been retained with some modification and total PDH's must be from a number of categories. This should simplify reporting and make it more equitable. We also hope to implement on-line CEU reporting in the future.

We will be bringing the changes to a vote on March 19th. We have a distinguished speaker and big changes to our standards so I hope to see a lot of you there.

** Submitted by Brad Cate

The proposed certification process changes are included at the end of this newsletter.
Thank you!

** Newsletter Committee

2016 Bent Auger Award - Call for Nominations!!!!

It is once again time to select a new winner of the prestigious Bent Auger Award. As its name suggests, this award is given each year to an individual or group of individuals who displays "excellence" in the field. Qualifying events/situations are numerous and unrestricted. Stories do not have to be true, but are preferably based on partial truth. If you know anyone who is deserving of this award for 2016, please bring her nomination to the annual meeting in Champaign on March 19. Competition can be fierce, so make sure your story is well prepared and fully exaggerated. This award has been held by many of the leaders and founders of the ISCA. It is a great honor and looks good on any resume.



Fall Meeting Update

We held our fall meeting on October 30th at the Natural History Survey Building in Champaign. The main focus of the meeting was to conduct somewhat of a trial run of our proposed field practicum. As many of you know, ISCA is contemplating implementation of a field practicum as a requirement of our certification process.

The morning held an update, discussion, and question and answer period regarding the proposed changes to our certification requirements. Following another great catered lunch, we fought an inclination to nap and headed for the university farms to examine and describe parts of a Catlin - Drummer hydrosequence (or maybe I meant to say catena). Three groups were formed to rotate through two test pits and a soil texturing exercise. Congratulations to Ken AKA "Magic Fingers" Anderson who was the top scorer in texturing. Evaluation of the pit scoring is still under study to provide information on consistency and uniformity as it relates to describing morphology and using descriptors. Ultimately, it will be up to the certification board to fine tune or develop its own protocol for assessing applicant skills fairly and consistently.

Fortunately we were treated to a warm sunny day, especially for the end of October, and a good attendance by our members. A few members provided some mentoring in the pits. We hope to provide opportunities for more of that in the future. Thanks to Scott, Jenwei (esp. for the baked goodies), and Ian at the survey for making this happen!

** Submitted by Brad Cate

SSSA to Review Viability of CPSS Program

In the Jan-Feb Crops & Soils Magazine, you may have missed the article on page 17. The CPSS Board is forming a task force to evaluate the viability of the soil scientist certification and review the requirements. As an alternative, they are considering a new category to include "soil professionals" with "less education and experience" or individuals with "more diverse degrees"... "working in soil science." You may want to express your opinion to the CPSS Board.

ISCA will continue to improve and strengthen our certification standards and we will protect Article 1 Item 3 of our Code of Ethics that reads "A member shall not perform beyond the scope of his/her education and experience."

** Submitted by Don Fehrenbacher

Save the Date!

**LOESS FEST 2016
EAU CLAIRE, WISCONSIN, USA**



Randall Schaetzl,
Conference Host and Organizer

September 22-25, 2016

2 days of papers/posters (Thursday - Friday)
2 days of field trips (Saturday - Sunday)

For more information, see:
<http://www.loessfest2016.msu.edu/>

Or contact Dr. Randall Schaetzl at soils@msu.edu

Days Gone By



Photo from Soil Conservation Service, Champaign, IL (Old Post Office Building on Church) Conservation for New Employees in the Fall of 1974.

FRONT ROW (left to right):

Barry Kintzer, Proj. Eng.; Steven Hollister, SC; William Kuentsler, SC; Tom Collins, DC; Richard Miller, SC; Ed Delbrook, DC.

SECOND ROW (left to right):

Charles Nelson, SS; Mark LaVan, SS; Steven Brady, Biol.; Dan Holmes, State Conservationist; William Miller, SC; Robert Cline, SC; Mike Martin, Geol.

THIRD ROW (left to right):

William Dickerson, SS; Jerry Berning, SS; Mark Bolton, SC; Loran Davis, SC; Chris Cochran, SS; Mike Walker, SS

**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 staff at newsletter@illinoissoils.org



FOR SALE!!!

1981 Giddings rear-mount Model SR truck probe, w/ rotary head and clean out brush, mounted on 1/4" x 46"x60" steel plate, w/ electric start ONAN Performer 24 engine, battery and tool box. \$4,000. All in good condition.

Reason for selling: purchased a replacement. Contact Tom or Steve at **309-945-9090**.

www.illinoissoils.org

ILLINOIS
NATURAL HISTORY

ISCA Newsletter Staff
1816 S. Oak St.,
Champaign, IL 61820

Phone: 217-300-1930
E-mail:
Newsletter@illinoissoils.org

Submissions

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

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

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

Publication Schedule

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

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

ISCA on Facebook

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



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

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

www.illinoissoils.org

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

Better yet... make it your home page!



ISCA Newsletter
1816 S. Oak St.,
Champaign, IL 61820

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: Scott Wiesbrook, ISCA Secretary, 1816 S. Oak. St., Champaign, IL 61820

**STANDARDS FOR CERTIFICATION OF PROFESSIONAL SOIL
CLASSIFIERS
BY
ILLINOIS SOIL CLASSIFIERS ASSOCIATION (ISCA)**

SECTIONS 1 and 2. – No proposed changes.

**SECTION 3.
APPOINTMENT AND COMPOSITION OF THE CERTIFICATION
BOARD**

- a. A Certification Board is hereby created within the Illinois Soil Classifiers Association. The Board shall consist of six (6) members nominated by the President and approved by the Council to serve staggered three (3) year terms.
- b. Eligible nominees must be citizens of the United States, and must perform the practice of professional soil classifying primarily in Illinois. Nominees must ~~have a minimum of four (4) years of experience in a responsible soil classifying position and must~~ be ISCA Certified Professional Soil Classifiers. Any member of the Board who ceases to perform the practice of professional soil classifying primarily in Illinois shall be deemed to have resigned from membership on the Board as of the last date of their professional practice in Illinois.
- c. Members of the Board shall be Certified Professional Soil Classifiers and shall serve a term of three (3) years and until a successor has been appointed. Unfilled terms on the Board shall be filled within thirty (30) days by nomination by the President and approval by the Council at their next scheduled meeting. New members of the Board shall assume duties after being approved by the Council.
- d. The membership of the Board should represent governmental agencies, private sector and academic interests in approximately the same proportions as the certified membership of ISCA.
- e. The Board members shall receive reimbursement for necessary and reasonable expenses incurred in the performance of their duties to the Board, but shall not receive other compensation.

SECTION 4. – No proposed changes.

**SECTION 5.
STANDARDS AND REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTIFICATION**

In order to be eligible for certification as a professional soil classifier in Illinois, applicants must subscribe to the Code of Ethics of the Illinois Soil Classifiers Association and meet the following.

- a. Education Requirements
Possess a **minimum of a** bachelor's, degree from an accredited institution and at least 15 semester credit hours in soil courses or closely related courses. Related courses can account for only 20% (3 hours) of the required 15 credit hours. ~~Have 4 years of professional experience working in soil classification. Or.~~
~~2. Possess a master's degree from an accredited institution and at least 15 semester credit hours in soil courses or closely related courses. Related courses can account for only 20% (3 hours) of the required 15 credit hours. Have 3 years of professional experience working in soil classification. Or.~~

~~3. Possess a doctoral degree from an accredited institution and at least 15 semester credit hours in soil courses or closely related courses. Related courses can account for only 20% (3 hours) of the required 15 credit hours. Have 2 years of professional experience working in soil classification. Or.~~

b. Professional Experience

1. Must ~~meet the requirements~~ be or have been engaged in the practice of Soil Classifying set forth in Section 2.05.

~~e. Work Experience~~

~~A. A minimum of 70% of the applicant's time working directly with the area of soil classification Professional experience will be evaluated by the Board.~~

~~B. Work Experience less than 70% will be prorated. Work experience will be summarized on the ISCA application for certification form. The applicant will provide examples of soil classification work to the board for evaluation upon request.~~

~~C. A work experience summary will be attached to any application submitted by the applicant. Professional experience should enable the applicant to practice soil classification competently without supervision.~~

~~D. The applicant shall not have less than 4 years (or as required in Sec. a) of cumulative professional experience in the practice of soil classification. The applicant must be competent to practice soil classification without direct supervision.~~

~~E. The Board reserves the right to request copies of the applicants work to review.~~

2. Applicants are required to demonstrate soil classifying experience over a 4 year period, or:

3. Possess a master's degree from an accredited institution and at least 15 semester credit hours in soil courses or closely related courses. Related courses can account for only 20% (3 hours) of the required 15 credit hours. Have 3 years of professional experience working in soil classification, or:

4. Possess a doctoral degree from an accredited institution and at least 15 semester credit hours in soil courses or closely related courses. Related courses can account for only 20% (3 hours) of the required 15 credit hours. Have 2 years of professional experience working in soil classification, or:

5. Be certified or licensed by a state, regional, or national association as a soil classifier or pedologist, or:

6. Have 2 years of professional experience working in soil classification and accumulate 250 experience points or 3 years of professional experience and accumulate 125 experience points. Experience activities and associated points are determined by the Ethics, Certification, and Membership Committee in conjunction with the Certification Board, and are subject to approval by the Council. See the Application for Certification of Professional Soil Classifiers for the list of activities and associated points.

~~d. c.~~ References

~~You Applicant must submit three references that are familiar with your work and professional experience in soil classifying. References must be familiar with your work experience used to meet certification requirements and be~~

~~knowledgeable of soils. The applicant will need to designate the time period for which the reference has personal knowledge of his or her work experience history.~~

~~A. At least one individual must be associated with your employment; an immediate supervisor, collaborator, or coworker.~~

e.d. Core Requirements

Applicants must meet the minimum ~~core requirements as outlined in this document~~ education and experience requirements set forth to be eligible to take the Illinois Soil Classifier's written exam.

f. e. Exam Requirements

1. ~~Certifications are exam based and all Applicants for Certified Professional Soil Classifier~~ are required to pass:

A. The Illinois Soil Classifiers ~~written~~ exam.

1. Applicants shall have one year from the date of ~~application determination by the board that the requirements for education and experience have been met~~ to take the examination. Applicants that do not take the examination within one (1) year must reapply following the procedures described in Section 6, and pay the application fee as described in Section 7.

2. ~~All a~~ Applicants shall receive ten (10) sample questions at least two (2) weeks prior to examination. A Board member shall monitor written examinations. A passing grade on an examination shall be a score of seventy (70) percent or higher. Applicants ~~failing the written exam~~ may be re-examined once within two years ~~of first applying for certification~~ without submitting an additional fee.

B. The ISCA Field Practicum

1. Applicants passing the written exam are eligible to take the ISCA field practicum.

2. Applicants shall have one year from the date of passing the written examination to take the field practicum. This deadline will be extended in the event that the field practicum is not administered within the deadline period to the next date the practicum is administered. Applicants that do not take the examination within one year or at the earliest date after must reapply following the procedures described in Section 6, and pay the application fee as described in Section 7.

SECTION 6.

PROCEDURES FOR APPLICATION

Applications for certification may be submitted at any time and shall be of a format prescribed and furnished by the Board. Such application shall contain ~~(a)~~ a statement of the applicant's formal education, ~~(b)~~ a copy of all transcripts of formal academic studies, ~~(c)~~ a detailed summary of his or her work experience, ~~(d)~~ the names and addresses of three (3) references who have personal knowledge of the applicant's classifying experience and shall provide a written statement of the technical skill level of the applicant. ~~At least one of the references shall be a supervisor or collaborator as specified in Section 5 (d), (e)~~ The application shall also include a narrative summary of soil classifying experience

showing the type, dates and amounts of experience, i.e. soil mapping, soil descriptions, on-site investigations or other related work as defined under the practice of soil classifying, and (e) the proper fee as prescribed in Section 7.

**SECTION 7.
FEES**

To pay the expenses of the operation of the certification process, the Board shall, at the time an application for certification is submitted, collect from the applicant a fee of forty dollars (\$40.00). If the applicant fails to qualify, such fee shall not be returned, ~~but such~~ Such applicant is eligible ~~for re-examination to re-apply once within two (2) years after one (1) year of failing the written exam twice or failing the field practicum.~~

The fee for annual renewal of the certificate shall be twenty-five dollars (\$25.00).

The fee for restoration of a certificate which has lapsed shall be fifteen dollars (\$15.00).

The fee to be paid for a duplicate certificate shall be five dollars (\$5.00).

These fees may be adjusted as necessary by action of the Council of the Illinois Soil Classifiers Association.

**SECTION 8.
RENEWAL, EXPIRATION, AND RESTORATION OF CERTIFICATION**

a. Introduction

Each Professional Soil Classifier who continues in active practice shall renew certification annually for five (5) years by the payment of the required renewal fee on or before January 1. At the end of five (5) years, renewal requires the payment of the required fee, and meeting the specified requirements for re-certification, ~~and submission of the re-certification application form.~~ Including submission of documentation of continuing professional education meeting the requirements of this Section. ~~Specified requirements for re-certification are:~~

~~1. In each five (5) year period, acquire continuing education units in at least two (2) of the following categories, with a minimum of nine (9) CEUs required.~~

No.	Activity	CEU	Per	Maximum Allowed
Category A: Continuing Education and Training				
1.	Germane college courses	1.0	course	5.0
2.	Short courses	0.5	course	2.0
3.	Workshops, clinics, field days, conferences	0.5	activity	2.0
4.	Symposia	0.5	symposia	2.0
5.	Seminar series (non-course)	0.5	series	2.0
6.	Technical field mapping; soil investigation	0.25	3-mo. period	5.0

Category B: Professional Publications, Reports, or Presentations

1.	Soil survey report, book writing, editing	1.0	book	2.0
2.	Refereed publication, book, or soil survey report chapter	0.5	publication	3.0
3.	Non-refereed publication, legal deposition	0.5	publication	1.5
4.	Soil correlation, generalized soil maps, interpretations, series descriptions	0.5	publication	2.0
5.	Formal employer/project reports	0.5	report	1.5
6.	Publication or grant reviewer	0.25	review	1.0
7.	Popular article	0.25	article	1.0
8.	Paper presentation, exhibit	0.5	presentation	1.0
9.	National scientific committee or board membership	0.5	item	1.0

Category C: Professional Activity

1.	National or international scientific meeting	0.5	meeting	2.0
2.	Regional or state scientific meeting	0.5	meeting	1.5
3.	Local or county scientific meeting	0.25	meeting	1.5
4.	National, regional, or state committee membership	0.5	membership/ term	1.0

No.	Activity	CEU	Per	Maximum-Allowed
5.	Elected office (local, state, national, or international)	0.5	office/year	2.0
6.	Appointed office (local, state, national, or international)	0.5	office/year	2.0

Category D: Other Professional Activity

1.	Self-training (journal or book reading)	0.5	item	1.0
2.	Awards and recognition	0.5	award	2.0
3.	Community scientific involvement (land judging, advisory boards, school programs, etc.)	0.5	event	2.0

4.	Develop new lecture notes or new training materials or new techniques	0.5	item	2.0
5.	Other	0.25	item	1.5

~~Any Professional Soil Classifier shall be listed as “delinquent” if fees remain unpaid after the due date of January 1 of the current year. His/her certificate shall expire if fees remain unpaid for sixty (60) days after the due date. A Professional Soil Classifier whose certificate has expired may have his or her certificate restored only by making application to the Board and upon payment of all lapsed renewal fees and payment of the required restoration fee provided that he or she has engaged in the practice of soil classifying three (3) of the preceding four (4) years, or have more than six (6) years of total soil classifying experience and have actively practiced soil classifying during the preceding year. If certification has lapsed for more than four (4) years, the applicant shall again be required to pass an examination as described in Section 5(e).~~

~~a. Any Professional Soil Classifier whose certificate expires while he or she is engaged in active duty with the armed forces of the United States may have his or her certificate restored without paying any lapsed renewal fees or restoration fee or passing any examination if, within one (1) year after termination of such service, he or she furnishes the Board with an affidavit to the effect that he or she was so engaged, and if the Board finds that he or she is of good character and reputation, and if not more than four (4) years has lapsed since he or she last engaged in the practice of soil classifying. If more than four (4) years has lapsed, the Professional Soil Classifier shall be required to successfully pass an examination to determine his or her proficiency.~~

~~b. The Board shall notify every Certified Professional Soil Classifier of the date of expiration and the amount of the fee required for renewal. The notice will also include the ending date of the five (5) year certification period and a listing by category, of the CEUs accepted to date. The notice shall be mailed at least thirty (30) days in advance of the expiration of the certificate.~~

b. Definition of Terms.

1. Professional Development Hour (PDH) – Contact hour consisting of not less than 50 minutes each of instruction, presentation, composition, participation, or service.
2. College/Unit Semester/Quarter Hour – Credit assigned by a college or university for a completed course.
3. Activity – Any activity or course with a clear purpose and objective that maintains, improves, or expands the skills, knowledge, and abilities of the Professional Soil Classifier.
4. Sponsor – An organization or individual that has supplied a course or activity.
5. Certification Renewal Period – The period for accumulating the required PDHs shall be five (5) years.
6. Activity Category – A generalized classification of the type of activity satisfying the PDH requirement.

c. Requirements

Every Professional Soil Classifier shall meet both of the following requirements:

1. Participate in an ISCA-sponsored field exercise or practicum at least once during each of their respective 5-year certification renewal periods.
2. Obtain sixty (60) PDHs during each 5-year certification renewal period. Selection of courses and activities which meet the requirements of this Section shall be the responsibility of the Professional Soil Classifier. PDHs shall be earned in at least three (3) different categories with a maximum of 30 PDHs being earned in any individual category. Continuing education activities for which PDHs may be earned include, but are not limited to, the following activity categories:
 - A. Completing or auditing college or college-sponsored courses. One (1) college or unit semester hour shall be equivalent to fifteen (15) PDHs. One (1) college or unit quarter hour shall be equivalent to ten (10) PDHs.
 - B. Completing self-study college or professional society sponsored courses, seminars, or symposia presented by correspondence, internet, television, video, or audio, and ending with examination or other verification processes. PDHs shall be earned for the actual time of each program with a maximum of fifteen (15) PDHs for a given activity.
 - C. Attendance or participation in seminars, tutorials, clinics, workshops, symposia, in-house courses, field tours/exercises, or technical presentations made at meetings, conventions, or conferences. PDHs shall be earned for the actual time of each program with a maximum of fifteen (15) PDHs for a given meeting.
 - D. Teaching of or providing instruction in Items (a) through (c), above. PDHs shall be doubled for this activity, and shall be applied for the initial presentation only.
 - E. Technical field mapping, onsite investigations, formal reports of investigations, soil correlation and interpretation of properties, legal depositions, and expert witness testimony. A maximum of thirty (30) PDHs shall be applied for this activity.
 - F. Authoring published papers, articles, blogs, books, or book chapters. PDHs earned may equal preparation time spent and shall be claimed only following publication. A maximum of twelve (12) PDHs shall be applied per paper, article, blog, book, or book chapter for this activity.
 - G. Active participation in professional or technical societies as an officer, committee chair, or committee member. A maximum of four (4) PDHs per year in each office or committee shall be applied for this activity, and PDHs shall not be earned until the end of each year.
 - H. Participation in professional examination grading or writing. A maximum of twelve (12) PDHs shall be applied for this activity.
 - I. Providing professional service to the public on boards, commissions, committees, school programs or non-work related volunteer service which draws upon their professional expertise. A maximum of twenty-four (24) PDHs shall be applied for this activity.
 - J. Self-training such as book or journal reading. A maximum of six (6) PDHs shall be earned for this activity.
 - K. Patents, after they are granted. A maximum of twenty (20) PDHs per patent shall be applied for this activity.

d. Criteria

Continuing education activities shall meet the following criteria:

1. There must be a clear purpose and objective for each activity which will maintain, improve, or expand skills, knowledge, and abilities prior to the initial certification or develop new and relevant skills, knowledge, and abilities.
2. The content of each presentation must be well organized and presented in a sequential manner.
3. There must be evidence of pre-planning which must include the opportunity for input by the target group to be served.
4. The activity must be led by persons who are well qualified by education or experience.
5. There must be provision for documentation of the participation of the CPSC in the activity.

e. **Determination of Credit**

The Board shall have the final authority with respect to approval of activities, sponsors, credit, PDH value for courses, and other methods of earning credit. PDH credit shall not be considered earned until the activity is completed or until the end of each year of service is completed.

f. **Record Keeping**

Each Professional Soil Classifier shall maintain records to be used to support credits claimed. Records shall include, but are not limited to:

1. A log showing the type of activity claimed, date or duration, sponsoring organization, name of speaker or instructor, location, and PDHs earned.
2. Attendance verification records in the form of completion certificates or other documents supporting evidence of attendance.

g. **Reporting**

Each Professional Soil Classifier shall submit a written record or log of continuing education activities to the Secretary-Treasurer of the Board prior to the end of their certification renewal period. The Board may request supplemental documentation such as registration receipts, meeting agendas, participation rosters, or certificates of completion in order to verify proper classification of an activity or compliance with these standards.

h. **Noncompliance and Reinstatement**

Any Professional Soil Classifier shall be listed as “delinquent” if fees remain unpaid after the due date of January 1 of the current year. His/her certificate shall expire if fees remain unpaid for sixty (60) days after the due date. A Professional Soil Classifier whose certificate has expired may have his or her certificate restored only by making application to the Board and upon payment of all lapsed renewal fees and payment of the required restoration fee provided that he or she has engaged in the practice of soil classifying three (3) of the preceding four (4) years, or have more than six (6) years of total soil classifying experience and have actively practiced soil classifying during the preceding year. If certification has lapsed for more than four (4) years, the applicant shall again be required to pass examinations as described in Section 5.

i. **Exemptions**

Any Professional Soil Classifier whose certificate expires while he or she is engaged in active duty with the armed forces of the United States may have his or her certificate restored without paying any lapsed renewal fees or restoration fee or taking any examination if, within one (1) year after termination of such service, he or she furnishes the Board with an affidavit to the effect that he or she was so engaged, and if the Board finds that he or she is of good character and reputation, and if not more than

four (4) years has lapsed since he or she last engaged in the practice of soil classifying. If more than four (4) years has lapsed, the Professional Soil Classifier shall be required to successfully pass examinations to determine his or her proficiency as described in section 5.

j. Notification

The Board shall notify every Certified Professional Soil Classifier of the date of expiration and the amount of the fee required for renewal. The notice will also include the ending date of the five (5) year certification period and a listing by category, of the PDHs accepted to date. The notice shall be mailed at least thirty (30) days in advance of the expiration of the certificate.

SECTIONS 9 and 10. – No proposed changes.

Approved at the annual meeting, March 1, 1980.

J. Wiley Scott, Chairman

Ethics, Registration and Membership Committee

Linus M. Kiefer, President, ISCA

Amended March 1982

Amended October 1987

Amended March 1989

Amended March 1991

Amended March 1992

Amended March 1997

Amended March 1999

Amended March 2006

Amended March 2012

**ILLINOIS SOIL CLASSIFIERS ASSOCIATION
APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP
– No proposed changes**

APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATION OF PROFESSIONAL SOIL CLASSIFIERS BY THE ILLINOIS SOIL CLASSIFIERS ASSOCIATION

Please Print or Type

Name of Applicant _____ Birth Date _____
(Name to be printed on certificate)

Residence Address _____

Name of Employer or Business _____

Office phone _____ Home phone _____

E-Mail _____

Are you a Full or Honorary Full Member of the Illinois Soil Classifiers Association?

Yes _____ No _____

Certification applied for:

_____ Professional Soil Classifier in Illinois

_____ Restoration of certificate which has lapsed

_____ Duplicate certificate

STATEMENT OF FORMAL EDUCATION [Sec. 6 (a)]: year degree conferred, name and location of institution

BS _____

MS _____

PhD _____

Other _____

Education beyond listed degrees _____

TRANSCRIPTS OF FORMAL ACADEMIC STUDY [Sec. 6 (b)]. Attach transcripts that list soils courses, number of credits (differentiate semester and quarter credits), and grades earned.

ISCA Application for Certification Page 2

SUMMARY OF WORK EXPERIENCE [Sec. 6 (c)]. Describe your capacity and activities as defined in Section 2.05 of the Standards for Certification. (Attach additional sheets if necessary.)

Job Title

Name and address of employer:

_____	_____
_____	_____
Dates of employment:	
_____ to _____	Hours per week: _____
Experience: _____	

Job Title

Name and address of employer:

_____	_____
_____	_____
Dates of employment:	
_____ to _____	Hours per week: _____
Experience: _____	

Job Title

Name and address of employer:

_____	_____
_____	_____
Dates of employment:	
_____ to _____	Hours per week: _____
Experience: _____	

ISCA Application for Certification Page 3

NARRATIVE SUMMARY OF SOIL CLASSIFYING EXPERIENCE [Sec. 6 (e)]. Attach narrative describing soil classifying experience.

REFERENCES [Sec. 6 (d)]. List three (3) individuals that will supply reference information on the applicant's current soil classifying abilities upon request. ~~At least one of the references shall be a supervisor or collaborator as specified in Section 5 (d) of the Standards for Certification of Professional Soil Classifiers.~~ Check box when applicable.

1. Name: _____
Occupation: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone # _____ E-mail: (opt) _____ Supervisor/collaborator []

2. Name: _____
Occupation: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone # _____ E-mail: (opt) _____ Supervisor/collaborator []

3. Name: _____
Occupation: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone # _____ E-mail: (opt) Supervisor/collaborator [] Application fee

enclosed: \$ _____

I, _____, understand that the application fee will not be returned regardless of the action of the Certification Board.

I understand that I have the right to review the contents of my confidential file.

I certify that the information stated above is true to the best of my knowledge, and I request to be considered promptly for certification in the category indicated above.

Signature

Date

ISCA Application for Certification Page 4

Category	Maximum Points
ISCA Member	10 points

Education

A. BS degree, unrelated field.....	10 points
B. MS degree, unrelated field	10 points
C. PhD, unrelated field.....	20 points

Soil Classification Experience ¹

A. Soil profile descriptions -1 point per description ²	100 points
B. Wetland Soil Determinations – 1 point per description ²	100 points
C. Judge of Collegiate Soil Judging Contest – 5 points per contest	50 points
D. Soil Reports for Waste Water treatment systems – 3 points per report ²	50 points
E. Classify soils per Keys to Soil Taxonomy – 1 point per description ²	50 points
F. Order 1 Soil Survey Map (1) – 1 point per acre mapped ²	25 points
G. Order 2 Soil Survey Map (1) – 1 point per acre mapped ²	25 points
H. Soil interpretations provided – 1 point per instance ²	25 points
I. Judge of High School Soil Judging Contest – 1 point per contest	10 points
J. Soil Reports for Stormwater Management – 3 points per report ²	50 points

At least 50 points must be derived from items A or B in the Experience section. Fifty percent of the total points must have occurred within 4 years of the application date for certification.

¹ Soil Classification must meet applicable standards

² Double points apply if work was under the supervision of an ISCA certified Soil Classifier



Illinois Soil Classifiers Association Newsletter

Spring—June 2016

Message from the President

Upcoming Events:

2016 North Central
Regional Cooperative
Soil Survey
Conference July 12-15

Inside this issue:

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Spring just never seems to last long enough to get everything done. I can't believe it is already June! It appears to have been a busy spring for many judging by the difficulty in scheduling a council meeting in May.

At our annual meeting there was a palpable sigh of relief when the changes to the certification, education, experience, and continuing education standards were passed (I believe unanimously). The committee, council, certification board and working group worked diligently over a two year period to try to get things right but we had no idea how the membership would react at crunch time. I am convinced that we are on the right track in requiring a field practicum to augment the written exam. In the short run, it may have motivated people to become certified prior to the changes. It remains to be seen if the changes will directly influence the number of new applicants. I believe the changes to the standards are only the first and may prove to be the easiest step in getting more people certified.

The harder long term task will be to continue to grow our membership and provide incentives for certification. We may need to look past our state private sewage code into other areas where our truly unique skill sets could benefit the public. We don't need to compete with other disciplines but find ways to complement them.

Later this year, you will be asked to participate in an on-line questionnaire regarding where ISCA needs to be headed, what benefits or activities are least and most valuable, and what types of additional benefits or activities we need to add. In a separate direct mailing you will be asked if you are willing to participate in ISCA as an elected officer, committee chair or member, as part of the certification board, or as a mentor to those working toward certification.

Stay cool and enjoy your summer as you contemplate ways to make our organization stronger and more relevant.

Brad

Bent Auger Awardee, Mark Bramstedt, proudly displays award!



As recipient protocol dictates, this year's Bent Auger Awardee, Mark is proudly displaying his award in a prominent location.

2016 Annual Meeting Recap

A big thank you for all who participated in the 2016 Annual Meeting in Champaign! Here are the election results and the current list of ISCA committees and involved members.

Certification Board, Sam Indorante, Chair
Clayton Heffter, Vice Chair
Dave Rahe, Secretary
Ken Anderson
Scott Wegman
Pat Kelsey

Officers:

President Elect: Todd Soukup
President: Brad Cate
Vice President: Bill Teeter
Secretary: Scott Wiesbrook
Treasurer: Chuck Frazee

Standing Committees:

Constitution, By-Laws, and Legislative Committee, Bob Mcleese, Chair
Rachel Welch
Jake Kruse

Ethics, Certification, and Membership Committee, Bruce Putman, Chair

Finance Committee, Bill Teeter, Chair
Josh Litwiller
Jim Hornickel

Newsletter Committee, Jenwei Tsai, Chair
Alicia Metzger
Erik Gerhard

Nominations Committee, Don Fehrenbacher, Chair

Public Relations and Education Committee, Jerry Berning, Chair

Add-Hoc Committees:

Historian Committee, Steve Zwicker, Chair

Multi Year Plan Committee, Kristine Ryan, Chair
Don Fehrenbacher
Mark Bramstedt
Bruce Putman

Soils of Illinois Tour Committee, Kristine Ryan, Chair
Mike Konen

Webmaster, Mark Bramstedt

ISCA Representative to the IDPH Advisory Commission on Private Sewage Disposal, Don Fehrenbacher

An excerpt from David Lefforge



David Lefforge is the Chairman of the Indiana Registry of Soil Scientists. This excerpt from David's email is not only a good reminder of how soil classifiers serve the public but also for those who are doing on-site septic evaluations, to pay particular attention to documentation of their sample point locations.

** submitted by Mark Bramstedt**

Our goal in these appearances [at meetings and events] is to make ourselves available to the clients that we serve. We first serve the public of the State of Indiana as registered soil scientists with the duty to protect soil and water resources. When we do soils investigations for septic systems we are using soil science to support state and county governments so that septic problems do not bring shame on our system of laws and government. We are serving the engineer that takes our soil science and applies it to the design. We are serving the contractors who install a septic system designed with our soil science. We are also serving the homeowner with the best available soil science for them to enjoy their home. If we fail, we let all of these people and ourselves down.

As we tour these annual meetings it takes more than a display to have a presence. We need soil scientists to meet our clients. Soil Scientists are needed to explain our science to build trust with our clients of all levels. Some of you are affiliated with these and other organizations for reasons of personal interest and well as professional development. You are welcome to use the IRSS display at other venues. The Board invites all Certified Soil Scientist to participate at these meetings. Please make it a personal goal to man the display and participate in one or several public venues to listen and discuss our science. One result of participating at these meetings has been the realization of the discontent of contractors and health department staff with the difficulty in accurately relocating soil borings and septic field boundaries. For many reasons construction does not immediately follow the soils investigation. With time, grass and weeds camouflage the location of your detailed work. Eye witness memories fade. Temporary bench marks get disturbed. There may be discrepancies of magnetic vs true north or mistakes of measurement of distance on sloping vs flat land. Trees and brush can obscure line of sight or obstruct stretching of a tape measure. Hand held GPS points at best are accurate to 3 meters, with error potential to magnify for weather, signal obstruction. Unless you can see all, remember all and can predict the future, it is important to utilize multiple methods to document multiple points of reference and coordinates that are reproducible for the home owner, local and state health department and the contractor to be able to return to the exact places where soil descriptions were taken.

- For an open field, establish several temporary bench marks (TBM). TBMs should be existing and likely to endure after construction. A tree with a spike nail in the base, a utility post with a metal ident tag, the corner of a building, a top of culvert description; A steel post driven into the ground above and/or below grade (Below grade would require a metal detector), are some options available to use as temporary bench marks and to collect and reference boring/pit locations.
- For a woods, the situation gets harder with obscured lines of site. You may have to describe a series of meets and bounds or use a GPS.

There are considerations in choosing electronic location methods. What is the availability of GPS or metal detecting equipment for the health department? A GPS is best used to establish a rough location to complement a more definitive TBM or point location method. Some soil scientists have used survey equipment to lay out a site (elevation, stadia distance and degree angles). If you have access to specialized equipment, you may need follow-up with the health department and assist with relocating points. If your point locations are not reproducible, your descriptions and your credibility will be questioned.

One final point. Make sure that a septic system can reasonably be installed within the boundaries of septic field area. Beware of slope %, swales, utilities and any other observable limitation that might adversely affect installation and function of a septic system.

As professional soil scientists registered by the Indiana Board of Registration for Soil Scientist we need to take the extra effort to explain our science, participate in professional meetings and continue to learn and sharpen our skills. This is why we join other organization to listen and learn information that will complement our soil science knowledge. These are the reasons we practice site location from a known point at each CEU exercise. These are the reasons we discuss soils issues at meetings. We learn and practice so that we can adapt and function in the real world that does not always follow the recipe.

David Lefforge
IRSS Board Chairman (dlefforge@isda.in.gov)

New Member Biographies

Rachel Welch



Rachel completed her Bachelors in Natural Resources and Environmental Science with a concentration in Resource Conservation and Restoration Ecology from University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign in 2013. As an undergraduate, she was on the Illinois Soil Judging Team and competed in the Regional Competition in the fall of 2011 and 2012 and the National Competition in spring of 2013.

Rachel also received her Masters in Crop Science with a concentration in Agronomy from University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, where her thesis studied the effect of cover crops on soil compaction and weed suppression in organic grain production. Currently, Rachel is a Soil Conservationist with the Natural Resources Conservation Service and is stationed out of the Champaign State Office.

Joshua Litwiller

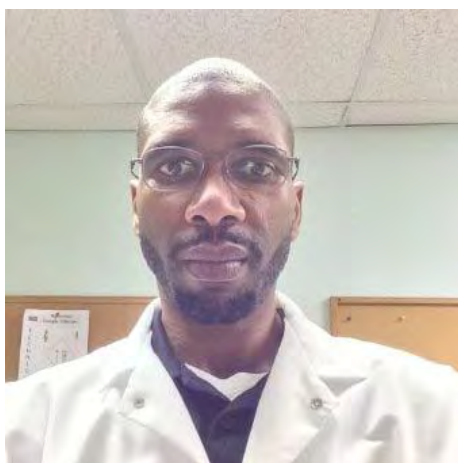
Josh grew up and currently live in Tremont, IL with his wife, Gabrielle. He graduated from Illinois State University last year in May 2015. He enrolled in all the soil related classes available at ISU and also have a degree in Conservation Biology. In his last semester of schooling he took an Independent Research course in which he investigated the influence of cover crops on soil microbial growth.

For work, Josh is beginning his career with Bill Teater doing on-site soil investigations. He recently became an ISCA member this past winter and hope to become certified in the near future.

Outside of work, he is an avid cyclist and is currently (April-July) bicycling across the country with his wife. Also, after their trip, he will be involved with his church's high school/college ministry.



Jay Wise



Jay has a B.S. from Lamar University in Physics, a M.S. from Texas A&M University in Radiological health Physics, and a PhD in Soil Science from Texas A&M University. In addition, he also earned a business management certificate from the Center for Executive Develop at May's business school at Texas A&M University.

He currently works as the Principal Soil Scientist for Wise Soil Fertility Services which provides agricultural, environmental, and educational soil fertility consulting.

He enjoys cheering on the Aggies and Lamar Cardinals. His hobbies include learning about new technologies and traveling.

2016 North Central Regional Cooperative Soil Survey Conference

When: July 12-15, 2016

Where: 1350 W Prairie Dr., Sycamore, IL 60178

Hosted by Northern Illinois University

Registration is required by 6/24/2016!

“Soil Survey Interpretations — Bringing Soil Survey Users and Producers Together”

PROGRAM TOPICS

- Soil Survey Interpretations
- Soil Health and Dynamic Soil Properties
- Digital Soil Mapping
- National and MO Reports
- University Research and Reports

Detailed program will be available on June 15.

FIELD TRIP

On Wednesday, July 13, join a field trip looking at soil-geomorphic relationships on ice-walled lake plains and relict periglacial features, soil variability, hydric soils, septic loading rates, and dynamic soil properties and bison at Nachusa Grasslands ending with a tour of a local whiskey distillery and discussions of local agriculture.

Contacts:

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Dr. Sam Indorante (Speakers)
College of Agricultural Sciences
Southern Illinois University-Carbondale
sjindorante@siu.edu
618-967-4509

More information online at: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/soils/survey/partnership/ncss/?cid=nrcseprd959208>

Dale Calsyn Retires!

** An excerpt from NRCS MLRA Soil Survey Region 11 Newsletter**



After a 40 1/2 year career as a soil scientist, 38 1/2 with NRCS, Dale Calsyn who was the MLRA Soil Survey Office Leader in Aurora, IL, retired at the end of April, 2016. Dale graduated from the University of Illinois in 1975 and shortly thereafter was hired as a county soil scientist for the initial soil survey in his home county of Henry County, IL. After two years as a county employee, Dale was hired by NRCS. From 1980 through 1990, Dale served as the survey leader for initial soil surveys in three counties in central Illinois: Cass, Mason, and Fulton. In the fall of 1990, he moved to northeastern Illinois to serve as the soil survey leader in McHenry County. This project was one of the state's first soil survey update projects and also one of the first digital soil surveys in Illinois. The update soil survey office quickly evolved into the MLRA Soil Survey Update Office which was responsible for updating and digitizing the soil surveys of subsets/counties occurring within MLRA 95B and 110 in Illinois. Up through 2008, the Aurora office updated 14 MLRA subsets. Then from 2008 through 2012, Dale and the Aurora staff completed the last initial soil survey in Illinois which was the more highly urbanized area of Cook County. Since 2013, his main focus was the Soil Data Join Recorrelation Initiative (SDJR). Over the years, Dale supervised and mentored over 25 individuals. Dale has no immediate plans in retirement. His initial goals are to clear out some of the clutter he has accumulated over the past 40 years and to condition his body to sleep until at least 7:00 in the morning rather than 5:00.

TRADING POST

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

What is Our Consulting Time Really Worth?

****Submitted by Brad Cate****

Last winter I had a maintenance visit by an HVAC technician. After he added a little water to our geo ground loop and we talked about hunting, he left me a bill for \$275. I thought about the fact that he was on-site for about 45 minutes and had about a 25 minute ride each way from his employer's office. That was an effective rate of \$175/hr for a non-degree, possibly certified (or not) technician which was on par with a senior engineer/consultant.

When I schedule a site evaluation, I might spend 15 to 20 minutes booking the job, collecting billing information and directions and possibly looking at county GIS maps and or google maps to see what the property physically looks like. Add on another 15 minutes to generate a JULIE ticket and you have half an hour. Many jobs require half an hour or more travel each way, 1 to 2 hours on site, and 1 to 2 hours to generate and disseminate a report. That totals around 3.5 to 5.5 hours per job. A professional hourly rate is typically somewhere around \$100/hr. Remember, we don't make that unless actively working on a project.

That hourly rate may or may not include putting a specialty vehicle (probe truck) on the road and hopefully budgeting for its future replacement or repairs as well as insurance and tags. Don't forget approximately 1/3 of what you charge goes to the tax man in the form of self employment and income taxes. If you have to pay for health insurance, scratch off another \$800 to \$1600 a month whether you work or not. You are socking 10% or more away for retirement aren't you? If you want to sleep better at night, add on \$2500 per year for professional liability and another \$500 for general liability. Do you maintain specialized GIS or CADD software, GPS equipment, a pin locator, or burn thru expendable sampling tools and parts? Charging \$350 to \$550 per job, we'll pocket less than half that after all expenses are tallied, much less than I paid for that HVAC technician's time. Granted, some of us do consulting part time and may have a pension and health care provided but we must recognize the competition with people who consult full time and pay for those necessities out of pocket.

Maybe I just work more slowly than many but the point is that if we want more people to become certified, there has to be a financial incentive. All of us have at least a bachelor's degree on up to a PhD as well as years of experience in the field all the way up to running a statewide program. Shouldn't we be billing on par with our engineering, surveying and geotechnical contemporaries? Something to think about.

Links to Interesting Articles

****Submitted by Mark Bramstedt****

1) As National Park Services celebrates its centennial, an article about soils in the National Parks was in the winter 2015-2016 Park Science publication: [http://www.nature.nps.gov/parkscience/Archive/PDF/Article_PDFs/ParkScience32\(2\)Winter2015-2016_54-59_Southard_Eckert_3836.pdf](http://www.nature.nps.gov/parkscience/Archive/PDF/Article_PDFs/ParkScience32(2)Winter2015-2016_54-59_Southard_Eckert_3836.pdf)



Mary C. Baltz (Tyler), the first women soil scientist in the field for the Soil Conservation Service (SCS) - USDA

2) March was celebrated as National Women's History Month, Maxine J. Levin played a significant role not only in writing an article about the history of women in soil science, but also in her dedication to documenting and promoting equality for women in the field of soil science. Here is the link to Association of Women Soil Scientist (AWSS) that has a brief overview of the timeline of women in soil science from 1895 to present: <http://www.womeninsoils.org/womensci.html>



Soil At Mt. Rainer National Park (USDA/Susan Southard)

www.illinoissoils.org

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Carbondale, IL 62903

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Fax: 618-453-5578
Email:
Newsletter@illinoissoils.org

Submissions

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

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

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

Publication Schedule

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



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

ISCA on Facebook

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



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

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

www.illinoissoils.org

New, exciting links have been added to the "announcements" page on our website. Be sure to bookmark this page. Its an excellent resource to keep you informed on the latest soils issues. **Better yet... make it your home page!**



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

www.illinoissoils.org/news

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

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Address: _____

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Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

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



Illinois Soil Classifiers Association Newsletter

Summer—August 2016

Upcoming Events:

Loess Fest	September 22-25
36th Annual Central States Forest Soil	October 11-13

Inside this issue:

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Message from the President

Last month I attended the North Central Regional Cooperative Soil Survey Conference in Sycamore. It was my first as I'd always assumed they were exclusively geared toward NRCS employees. What I experienced was completely different. The participants and presenters represented a diverse array of university faculty and grad students, private sector consultants, and representatives of state and local government. Of course my assumptions were proved incorrect and the true meaning of the "Cooperative" aspect was realized. One gentleman I spoke with was from the Nebraska Division of Revenue. Since they also use yield data derived from soil mapping to assess farmland, he was attending to gain more insight on how soil maps were made and revised. Certainly not a typical attendee I would have expected. Also notable and gratifying was the diversity in age of attendees. Sam Indorante presented a topic regarding the future of soil science and the role of soil survey. Sam's contention was that we hold a royal flush in terms of our skill sets and relevance to other fields such as climate change, anthropology, wildlife biology, botany, etc. In order to maintain that relevance, we need to continue to connect with these other disciplines and explain what we as soil scientists bring to the table, wherever and whenever possible. Otherwise we risk folding our winning cards to a lesser hand.

On the horizon, we have LoessFest in Eau Claire, WI Sept. 22-25 and the Central States Forest Soils Workshop in Aurora, KY Oct. 11-13. I hope many of you are able to make either or both venues. In addition, we will be announcing our ISCA fall activity when finalized. Should any of you have ideas, please send them to me. Anything we can't get to this year might be a candidate for next year.

Looking forward to fall. I don't know about the rest of you, but I think summer is highly overrated.

Take Care,

Brad

2016 North Central Regional Cooperative Soil Survey Conference

A big thank you for all who participated in the 2016 North Central Regional Cooperative Soil Survey Conference in Sycamore, IL on July 12—15th! Here are some pictures from the conference taken and submitted by Ron Collman.

2016 North Central Regional Cooperative Soil Survey Conference



The 2016 LoessFest in Eau Claire, WI September 22-25, 2016

For more information about the event, please go to:
<http://www.loessfest2016.msu.edu/>
August 26, 2016 is the final registration deadline!

** submitted by Brad Cate**

REGISTRATION FORM and ABSTRACT SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

Registration for the LoessFest is a two-step process. First, you must go to the registration website (<https://uwec.ticketforce.com/eventperformances.asp?evt=90>) and pay. Then, you must fill out this form, AND EMAIL IT to soils@msu.edu to complete your registration. Once received, you will receive an email confirming that your registration is complete. This form is also the abstract submission form, for those wishing to present a paper or poster. Thank you for participating in the 2016 LoessFest.

Please mark an X in the areas that apply...

I wish to register only for the two-days of papers at the LoessFest

Before July 15: \$160 (\$100 for Students)

After July 15th: \$175 (\$115 for Students)

I wish to register for the full conference (paper sessions plus field trips)

Before July 15: \$260 (\$180 for Students)

After July 15th: \$285 (\$200 for Students)

I will be presenting a paper

I will be presenting a poster

I am a *student* and wish to be considered for the student paper/poster competition. In order to qualify, the student must be the first author on the poster, or the presenter of the oral paper.

Name and affiliation as you wish it to appear on your badge

Name:

Affiliation:

If you wish to present a paper or poster, please paste your abstract in the space below.

Abstract submission instructions

A sample abstract is shown below. Please write your abstract so that it parallels this document, including underlining of names, and with the title CAPITALIZED. All abstracts (excluding the title) must be between 200 and 400 words.

=====

LOESS DEPOSITS OF OUTER BERINGIA. Smith, T.H., Cold Regions Research Lab, Fritsland, Russia, Rogers, A.C., University of Beringia, Cold Place, Alaska, USA, Redick, J.J., Natural Resources Conservation Service, USDA, Lincoln, Nebraska, USA.

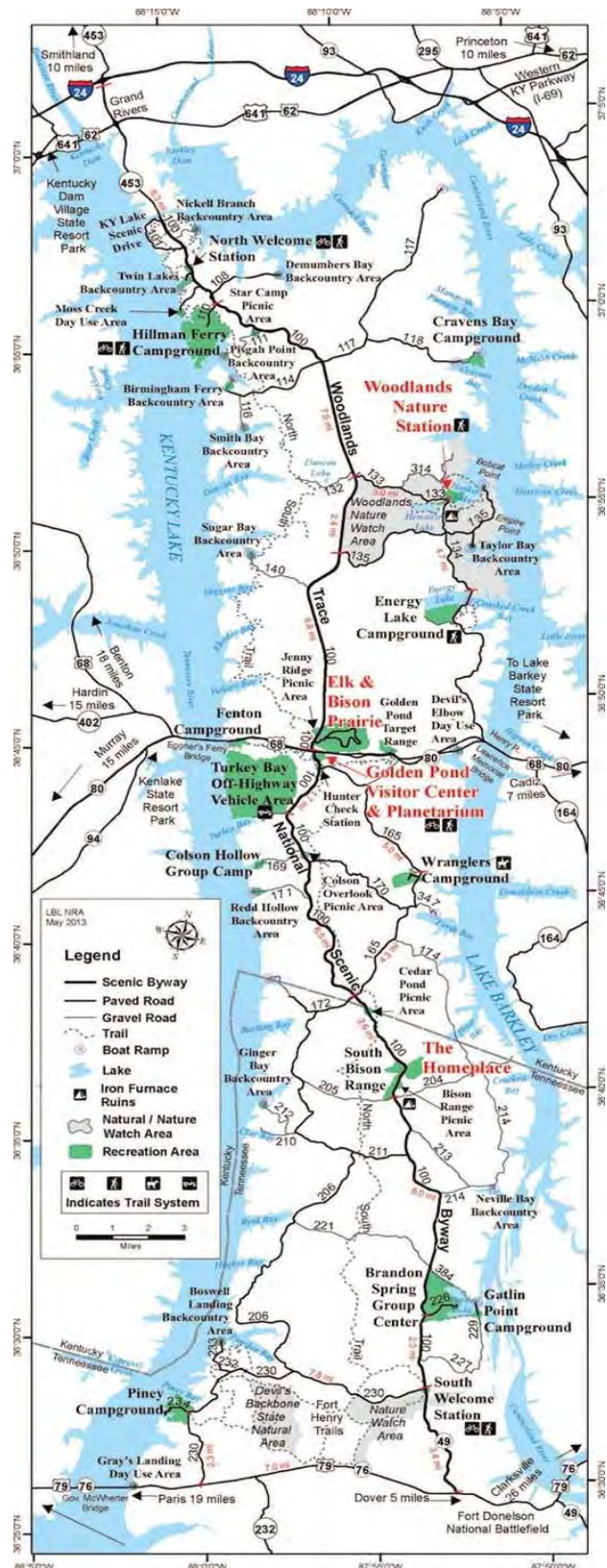
In this study we report on the loess deposits of outer Beringia, an area that has thin but widespread loess. This work was undertaken... (Continue writing to the end of the abstract).

Paste your abstract here:

36th Annual Central States Forest Soils Workshop in Aurora, Kentucky
October 11-13, 2016



- * The 2016 Central States Forest Soils Workshop will be held in Aurora, Kentucky at Kenlake State Resort Park and in Land Between the Lakes National Recreation Area. Lodging will be at Kenlake State Park.
- * Soils of the region and forest management in the area will be highlighted. Land Between the Lakes has soils formed in loess overlying a mixed geology of tertiary gravels, cretaceous sediments and Mississippian rocks. LBL was largely farmland 80 years ago before becoming TVA. Pre-settlement vegetation included some “barrens” or prairie managed through fire for Bison.
- * We will visit a re-established Elk-Bison Prairie during the tour along with a visit to the Homeplace 1850, a working 1850’s farm.
- * Additional subjects include the making of iron in the region, wetland soils, fragipan soils, and forest management.



36th Annual Central States Forest Soils Workshop Registration

Pre-Register before September 19th, 2016!!!

Agenda:

Tuesday, October 11

Registration/Displays: 4:00—6:00pm

Evening Program: 6:00—8:00pm

Wednesday, October 12

Field Trip Departs: 8:00am

Returns to Hotel: 5:30pm

Banquet & Speaker: 6:30pm

Thursday, October 13

Field Trip Departs: 8:00am

Returns to Hotel: 12:00pm

** Times listed are Central Standard Time**

Name _____

Guests _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Representing _____

Special Needs _____

Diet Needs _____

If more than 1 attach list with above contact information.

Regular registration:

\$70 each X (number) _____ Total \$ _____

Student & Landowner registration:

\$35 each X (number) _____ Total \$ _____

Late Registration after Sept. 18, 2015

Regular registration:

\$90 each X (number) _____ Total \$ _____

Student & Landowner registration:

\$45 each X (number) _____ Total \$ _____

Banquet only for spouses or guests

\$10.00 each X (number) _____ Total \$ _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Workshop Hotel

Kenlake State Park,
Hardin, KY 42048

Reservations can be made at:

(270) 474-2211

Group rate: **\$64.95/night**
until **October 1st, 2016**

Make checks payable to:

Indiana Association of Professional Soil Classifiers.

Payment must be enclosed to receive pre-registration discount.

Send To:

Dena Anderson
IAPSC Secretary/Treasurer
618 North 1000W
Lexington, IN 47138

“GOD made DIRT and DIRT don’t Hurt!”

by Bill Kreznor

All things dirt was the topic of interest for the preschoolers of the Early Childhood Education Center at Concordia University Chicago. Teacher Julie Ross had invited me to “talk soils” to her class of sixteen students on a late-October afternoon. Ms. Ross had contacted the Soil Science Society of America through the “Ask a Soil Scientist” program. This program connects educators with a cadre of nearby SSSA members who are willing to answer questions or make classroom visits. I have been registered as a participating scientist in this program for a number of years, and this was my third opportunity to service such a request.

I have made presentations for students in grades 1 through 12, but never for pre-K kids. I was a bit concerned about keeping such a young group interested in an old guy droning on about soils for thirty minutes. My plan was to get dirty: lecture as little as possible and provide some type of hands-on activity. I chose to highlight a topic that has worked for me in the past with students in grades 1-5: “Life in the Soil”. I would bring in a bucket full of the A horizon of a Mollisol and we would dig through it, looking for any signs of life within. To aid our search, I would also provide handouts with illustrations of creatures that inhabit the soil and magnifying glasses to help us identify our quarry. And, courtesy of the SSSA, I was able to give Ms. Ross some additional educational booklets and posters.

The level of interest in soil that Ms. Ross had generated amongst her youngsters took me by surprise. The classroom was a shrine to soil (see the accompanying photos). The walls were covered with posters – professional renderings and others created by the students themselves. A shelf was loaded with books about soil, and included a jar of soil material that had been artfully crafted into light- and dark-colored layers. There was even a long list of questions for me posted on the wall. Given this level of preparation by Ms. Ross and the genuine curiosity of soils demonstrated by her students, I knew we would have some fun.

I introduced myself, explained what soil scientists do, and briefly discussed some basic concepts. I often referred to the questions the students had posted for me in advance. After about ten minutes, they were ready for something more active. I covered an area of the floor with a tarp (standard equipment when soil, carpeting and children are combined for an indoor soils activity) and emptied the bucket of soil. Our search through the soil yielded some earthworms, ants, beetles, millipedes, roots, and fungi. These were gleefully presented by their finder on soil-stained hands.

Ms. Ross and the students invited me outside to view their garden which had been constructed earlier that year. It is located in a corner of a larger, fenced playground area. A few hostas were barely hanging onto life, likely a result of the poor quality of the soil (a compacted mixture of fine-textured topsoil and subsoil fill material containing some extraneous material such as clay tile fragments). It receives little direct sunlight during the day. However, it serves as a splendid play area for excavating, hauling, and grading with toy trucks and equipment. It also was a convenient location to dispose of my soil.

Teacher Julie Ross has developed a remarkable earth science program for an age group not routinely addressed. I’m thankful to have been a small part of it. This was a thoroughly enjoyable experience that, hopefully, I’ll have the opportunity to repeat at other venues.



Questions About DIRT

Do dirt and soil are the same?
 → No, soil is the ground that you dig up.

What is the difference between TOPSOIL and SUBSOIL?
 → Topsoil is the top layer of dirt that you can see. Subsoil is the layer below it.

What is HUMUS?
 → Humus is the dark, moist stuff that plants and animals break down into.

Who works with DIRT?
 → Farmers, florists, gardeners, paleontologists, scientists, construction workers, dog diggers, and pig diggers.

What is DIRT and SOIL?
 → Dirt is a natural resource that is made of rocks, sand, and small pieces of plants and animals. Soil is made of dirt and humus.



- What do earthquakes do to dirt? - Shane
- Why do animals live in dirt? - Olivia
- What colors of dirt are there? - Max K.
- What is dirt made out of? - Laura
- What do volcanoes do to dirt when they erupt? - Finn
- What types of dirt are there? - Sadie
- Are there living things in the dirt? - Erik
- Is dirt a living thing? - Elsa
- Why are there layers of dirt? - Alex
- How do slugs breathe inside the dirt? - Vito
- What would happen if we didn't have dirt? - Erik
- How does dirt absorb water? - Amela
- How do worms get their food? - David

Congratulations to Chuck!!!!

Recently Chuck Frazee was inducted into the **Sangamon County Farmer Hall of Fame**. The press release from the Sangamon County Farm Bureau is below.

**Submitted by Bob Tegeler



Charles Joseph Frazee was born on November 8, 1940 to Elmer and Helen Frazee, Divernon. After graduating from Pawnee High School he attended Western Illinois University for his undergraduate degree and then the University of Illinois for his Master's and Ph. D. in Agronomy. He married Lois Summers in 1965 and they have two children Laura (Joe) Pickrell and Joe (Sarah) Frazee and 4 grandchildren.

Chuck was a professor of Agronomy at South Dakota State University from 1969-1975. As a professor he taught soils and conducted research in remote sensing. In 1975, he returned to the family farm, Round Barn Farms Inc., to farm with his father and brother Tom. The farm became a sesquicentennial farm in 2012.

Upon returning to the farm, Chuck expanded the hog operation to a 200 sow farrow to finish operation. They also raised corn and soybeans and were one of the early no-till farmers in the area.

Chuck was very active in Sangamon County Pork Producers and is well known for grilling some of the best pork chops in the area. He was a 4-H leader for 20 years. He has served on the Soil and Water District Board for over 35 years. He also served on the Farm Bureau Board for 9 years and has been on numerous committees within the Farm Bureau. He was appointed and served on the Illinois Fertilizer Research and Education Committee for 4 years. He was elected to serve on the Sangamon County FSA committee for 12 years. Chuck is a charter member of the Sugar Creek United Methodist Church in Chatham. He has served as trustee and a treasurer of the United Methodist Men's group.

He currently operates a soil consulting business that provides soil analysis for septic systems. He has operated Frazee Soil Consulting for 20 years and has served many area Farm Bureau members.

Chuck's comment: "Farming has seen many changes but soil conservation is still important for future generations to feed the world."

2016 Recipient
Charles Joseph Frazee
Auburn, Illinois

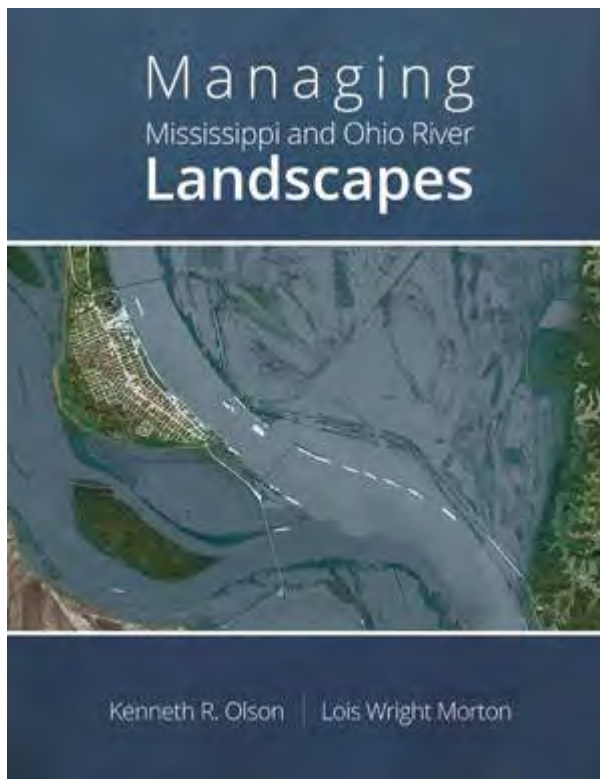
Managing Mississippi and Ohio River Landscapes

Kenneth R. Olson and Lois Wright Morton

Foreword by Samuel J. Indorante

2016, 240 full-color pages, hardcover
ISBN 978-0-9856923-1-5

****This title will be available in late August or early September of 2016****



Two powerful rivers, the Ohio and Mississippi, and their tributaries drain more than 41% of the interior continental United States. Their shifting paths have shaped and re-shaped the landscapes through which they flow and the confluences where their sediment-laden waters co-mingle on the voyage to the Gulf of Mexico. Changing climates and extreme weather events over the millennia have carved new channels through river bottomlands, leaving rock-exposed uplands and fertile valleys behind while altering the location where the Ohio and Mississippi rivers meet. Since the great rivers often become state boundaries, their historic realignment has added or subtracted land from many states which border them. For much of their history, the lands adjacent to these rivers were low-lying bottomlands that flood with the seasons unconstrained by human structures. However, in the last century these rivers have become agricultural economic engines as humans reengineered the rivers and their bottomlands with extensive systems of levees, locks and dams, floodwalls, and reservoirs.

Through a series of engaging case studies accompanied by illustrative maps and photographs, the authors examine the complex and ever-changing Mississippi and Ohio rivers' landscapes and their systems; review historical impacts of climate, economic and population growth, and efforts to manage river landscapes with engineered structures; and make recommendations on future management to protect soil and water resources and facilitate social, economic, and ecosystem balance. This book serves as a powerful resource for private and public landowners and managers, soil scientists, conservationists, sociologists, wetland specialists, hydrologists, geologists, and those interested in the future of our river landscapes.

For more info, please go to:

<http://www.swcs.org/en/publications/managing-mississippi-and-ohio-river-landscapes/>

TRADING POST

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

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ISCA on Facebook

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Better yet... make it your home page!



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



Illinois Soil Classifiers Association Newsletter

Fall-November 2016

Upcoming Events:

ISCA Fall Meeting November 11-12

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Message from the President

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

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

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

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

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

Brad

ISCA Fall Workshop Announcement

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

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

When: November 11 & 12

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

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

Where: Olive Branch area in Alexander County, IL

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

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

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

Early November is a great time to visit Southern Illinois!

Illinois Soil Classifiers Association

<http://www.illinoissoils.org>

*Dr. Olson's book can be purchased at: http://www.swcs.org/en/publications/managing_mississippi_and_ohio_river_landscapes/

ISCA Fall Tour Registration Form

Name(s): _____

Address 1: _____

Address 2: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Affiliation (if any): _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

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

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

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

or mail to:

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

Job Announcement for Potential Job Seekers



V3 Companies - Soil Scientist

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

General responsibilities include:

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

Qualifications:

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

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

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

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

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

Colluvium VS Alluvium Survey

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

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

Bradley Miller (millerba@iastate.edu)

Jérôme Juilleret (jerome.juilleret@list.lu)

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

https://www.researchgate.net/post/How_do_you_define_colluvium

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

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

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

Soil Planners are on the Web!

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

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

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

Google Earth and Soil Web App

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

All of the above information is submitted by: Mark Bramstedt

TRADING POST

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

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. It can be done, but increases work load for the committee.

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

Publication Schedule

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



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

ISCA on Facebook

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



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

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

www.illinoissoils.org

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

Better yet... make it your home page!



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

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

www.illinoissoils.org/news

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Change of Address Form

Name: _____

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