

# ILLINOIS SOIL CLASSIFIERS ASSOCIATION

February 1983 Newsletter

## Newsletter Contents

Please note that this newsletter contains a summary of the last council meeting, the announcement and reservation information for the 1983 Annual Meeting, the 1983 election ballot for members, the ARCPACS position on recertification, proposals for amendments to the Constitution concerning membership, and other news.

## Council Meeting News

The ISCA Council members met at the Peoria County Soil Survey Office on 11/20/82. Secretary-Treasurer Bushue reported that the ISCA received \$56.00 from dues and paid out \$79.76 leaving a balance of \$1,630.02 as of 11/20/82. After some discussion, Council approved the move of the ISCA bank account to the First Federal Savings and Loan of Champaign. Dick Bond has resigned his position on the Certification Board, because he moved to Minnesota, and President Windhorn appointed Mike Walker to that post with the Council's approval.

The ISCA's certification examination was discussed and nine of the questions will be replaced or revised because they were considered irrelevant. The design of membership certificates was discussed and was decided that the full and associate member certificates will remain unchanged, and the student, affiliate and honorary certificates will be the same color with appropriate wording. President Windhorn reminded committee chairman to submit written reports at the next Annual Meeting. More discussion was presented concerning a Bert Ray Memorial Award to a student in soil science for excellence, but no plan has been formulated.

## Field and Furrow News

Secretary Bushue received a letter from Bob Beck, Cosponsor of the Field and Furrow Club at the U. of I. They are making plans for their next annual awards banquet on 4/7/83 and are soliciting the ISCA's support for awards again this year. The ISCA has given \$25.00 each year in the past for the Local Soil Judging Contest and is being asked to consider giving more this year. The last contest was held 10/2/82 at Mahomet and attracted 75 undergraduates, including 7 from I.S.U. Help from 15 faculty and staff, and 10 graduate students from the U. of I., and 5 SCS personnel were enlisted. The winners in the experienced division were Kent Olson (1st), Earl Allen (2nd), and Harry Fisher (3rd); in the inexperienced division, Patricia Wilkins (1st), Daniel Mueller (2nd), and Darel Walker (3rd).



## ARCPACS News

At the last Council Meeting the Professional Maintenance and Re-Certification Program administered by ARCPACS was discussed. President Windhorn was directed to investigate how this program would impact ISCS members. In a letter to Director Martin Openshaw, on 12/29/83, he expressed our concern on how the "field" people, those away from the academic community, could meet the requirements. Director Openshaw responded on 1/24/83 and included in his letter the two following items of explanation:

### 1. Re-Certification/Maintenance Program Explained

Many certified professionals have raised questions regarding the recently instituted ARCPACS Profession Maintenance and Re-Certification Program. The majority are concerned about fulfilling the requirements. When ARCPACS was first conceived, it was decided that the program of identifying qualified professionals would have more credibility if the registrants would not be "permanently" certified. To satisfy this requirement, a maintenance and re-certification program was developed and instituted.

The ARCPACS Board of Directors wanted a program that would encourage each professional to develop and follow a professional improvement plan. They did not want a program that totally dictated each course but one that allowed for the greatest flexibility. They also wanted a program that could be accomplished by a field soil scientist as well as a university professor. One advantage of the program is the flexibility and individuality in meeting the requirements. The total number of credits required is nine. The only constraint is that the credits must be earned in at least two categories. This allows the individual flexibility in selecting the activities in which he or she will gain credits.

Some are not happy because the program does not give credit for everyday work activities. Each professional must reach out and learn new ideas to improve his or her professional competence. Using the same class notes to teach the same class year after year does not qualify for keeping abreast in the profession unless there is a major revision and new information included. Neither does classifying the same soil series or making resource inventories year after year qualify for re-certification unless new principles are learned and applied through independent (not in the field) reading and learning experiences. These three examples illustrate that daily activities are usually not professional improvement activities. If the professional revises class notes or uses newly-learned soil classifying principles, then the learning activity which leads up to that point is accepted. These activities may be personal study and reading or attending classes or workshops or seminars.

### 2. Examples of Re-Certification -- Soil Scientists

The following is an example of how a field soil scientist would fulfill the 5-year requirements for re-certification. This example and principles can be applied to all professionals certified by ARCPAC. Each individual will modify his/her program to fit his/her needs. Please refer to the "Professional Maintenance and Re-Certification Program" Brochure when reference is made to the categories and activities. In this example, it is assumed that the field soil scientist does not attend national scientific meetings and resides in a city that does not have ready access to a college or university. It is assumed that he/she is eager to improve his/her professional skills through a personal professional development program.

Category A contains professional activities of continuing education and training. Most organizations employing soil classifiers hold some type of soil survey workshop each year. Active participation in the workshop (activity No. 3) would net 1.5 maximum credits (CEU's) in the five-year period. Many times the extension service or university will hold some type of seminar or workshop in neighboring communities. Subjects such as using data processing equipment, accounting ecology, and pesticides would be considered adding to one's professional knowledge. Don't be limited just to soils. The professional may have to travel for one or two evenings, but it is worth it. Another 1 or 1.5 CEU's can be obtained this way. If no seminar or short courses are offered, then the professional should ask for them in fulfillment of his/her professional requirements.

In Category B, credit is given for presentation of materials in written, oral, and visual form. Many soil scientists actively write the major portions of soil survey reports and credit is given under activity No. 1 (2 maximum). Activity No. 6 includes special reports on soil series or land associations or soil interpretations which are submitted to the employer. Usually, new material is used in such reports. A maximum of 1.5 credits can be earned. Credits can also be earned for popular articles, paper presentations, or audio-visual presentations. An exhibit of soil profiles at the county fair would earn 0.5 CEU per event. Category B easily would yield 2, if not 3 CEU's, for the field soil scientist.

The activities of Category C are for professional society participation. In this example, it was assumed that there would be no credits for activity No. 1 but there might be a possibility for No. 2. Most field soil scientists belong to at least one state or regional scientific organization. These would include state chapters of the Soil Conservation Society of America and state soil classifier associations. If the field soil scientist attends at least 3 of the 5 annual meetings, he/she would earn 1.5 CEU's. (Please note that the word "state" was omitted in activity No. 2 and No. 4.) Local scientific meetings would include land-use discussion groups and soil survey report meetings on a local basis. A maximum of 1.5 CEU's could be earned. Activity No. 4 would include membership on some state scientific association committee. A maximum of 1.5 CEU's could be earned. Elected and appointed offices are covered in activity 5 and 6 with combined total of 4 CEU's. Category C would yield at least 2 and probably 6 CEU's for the field soil scientist. (If the field soil scientist is not active in his/her state association, then he/she may want to reconsider that decision.)

Finally, in Category D, other professional activities are recognized. Self-training such as journal article reading, self-study programs, and book reading is covered. A total of 2.0 CEU's are allowed. For example, a soil scientist could be involved in teaching soils to a third grade class as a community project. A total of 2.0 CEU's can be earned for such activities. Activity No. 4 is left for the soil scientist to describe. Professional improvement activities not clearly covered under the other activities are allowed here with a total of 1.5 CEU's maximum. Category D would yield 3 to 5 CEU's. Summing the activities suggested in each category as given in this example easily yields greater than 9 CEU's. It can be done! It is best for the soil scientist to plan how he/she is going to fulfill the requirements since he/she may need to request assistance from employer and others. Find ways to fulfill the requirement. It is suggested that each professional explain the plan to his/her supervisor(s). The supervisor may suggest other ways to earn CEU's.

Each Certified Professional, certified as of 31 December 1982, has five years or until 31 December 1987 to earn nine CEU's. In the meantime, each professional is reminded to keep the CP certification current by renewing each year and by implementing the professional improvement plan.

Proposals to Amend the ISCA Constitution

Following discussions at the last Council Meeting on dues and membership status, Constitution and By-Laws Chairman Lilly was directed to draft proposals for consideration at the next Annual Meeting. Please evaluate the following proposals and definitions and express your interest in writing on or before 3/19/83 or attend the business meeting on said date.

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE IV - DUES

Section 1. Annual dues shall be as follows:

- a. Annual dues for full, associate, and affiliate members shall be \$17.50 payable by January 1 to the Secretary-Treasurer upon receipt of dues notice. These dues may be changed by the Executive Council (Article V of the Constitution).
- b. Annual dues for out-of-state members shall be \$10.00 payable by January 1 to the Secretary-Treasurer upon receipt of dues notice. These dues may be changed by the Executive Council (Article V of the Constitution).
- c. Annual dues for retired members shall be \$10.00 payable by January 1 to the Secretary-Treasurer upon receipt of dues notice. These dues may be changed by the Executive Council (Article V of the Constitution).
- d. Annual dues for student members shall be \$3.00 payable by January 1 to the Secretary-Treasurer upon receipt of dues notice. These dues may be changed by the Executive Council (Article V of the Constitution).
- e. Annual dues for honorary members are waived.

Proposal 2

All items are the same except:

- b. Annual dues for out-of-state members shall be \$5.00.....
- c. Annual dues for retired members shall be \$5.00.....

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE II - DEFINITIONS

Section 6. Out-of-State Member is any Member who resides in a state other than Illinois and does not practice soil classifying in Illinois.

Section 7. Retired Member is any Member who has retired from the occupation of soil classifying and has been a Member of the Illinois Soil Classifiers Association for the last 5 years.

People in the News

Mark Bramstedt has been selected to be the Soil Survey Leader in Jasper County. He was formerly located at Peoria. He and his family have moved to Newton.

Carl Wacker was selected to be the Soil Survey Leader in Vermilion County replacing Richard Bond. Carl was formerly located at Decatur. He is now on the job in Danville.

Jasper County has hired two new soil scientists - Bryan Fitch and Brad Simcox. Bryan is a native of Casey Illinois. He received his B.S. degree in 1980 in Plant and Soil Science from SIU, Carbondale. He has been working on the family farm since graduation. Brad is a native of Altamont, Illinois. He received his B.S. degree in 1982 from SIU, Carbondale. His degrees are in Zoology-Wildlife Management and Plant and Soil Science. While at the University he worked in the soils laboratory and on strip mine reclamation.

Piatt and Vermilion Counties are looking for soil scientists. If anyone knows of some one who might be interested, contact Roger Windhorn or Carl Wacker.

Roger Windhorn will be on TV on Wednesday, March 16, 1983 at 7:25 a.m. on WMBD from Peoria. The Bill Mason's TV show has asked Roger to appear and discuss ISCA's role in soil conservation issues. Be sure to watch.

Membership in the ISCA

To better serve the professional interest of soil scientists in Illinois, take an active role and join the ISCA or pass this on to a potential member. Fill out this application and send \$17,50 to Lester Bushue, Secretary-Treasurer ISCA, 1911 Scottsdale Drive, Champaign, Illinois, 61820.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Title/Occupation \_\_\_\_\_  
Street \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

### WHAT IS A "GEOLIGUST"?

"A geoligust is something that grubs around in the woods looking for little rocks and stones. When he finds them he smiles as he beats them brutally with a little hammer. Sometimes if he is really mad he uses a great big hammer. When he don't find the rock he wants he walks around all day like he is lost. A geoligust has one big eye and one little eye like popeye. He usually looks through a magnifying glas, which incidently always hangs around his nek, with his little eye so he can tell if he has found a for sure rock or stone. He usually walks bent over all the time which is why he always looks so stooped. What you can see of his face looks like old leather, the rest is usually covered with snarled and bushy hair. He cusses terribul. He always has a back ake from carrying around bags of rocks to beat on. He hasn't figured out yet that there are rocks everywhere he goes. He keeps saying he is going back to school at the end of the summer, maybe they will teach him about that if he gets there. Every time he picks up a rock he wrights about it in a little book like it was a important thing to remembur, and if he ever luzes his little book he looks like nobody fed him for a week. His pants are always tore from rocks and sticks, and his shoes look like they was made of mud. People stare at him, forest krittters chase him, and he always looks wore out. I don't know why anyone wants to be a geoligust."

Rex Orgill, hellecopter pilot  
Central Mineral Resources

Dear Members:

The Eighth Annual Meeting of the Illinois Soil Classifiers Association will be held Saturday, March 19, 1983. The meeting will begin at 11:30 A.M. with a buffet luncheon at the Heritage House, South 6th Street, Springfield, Illinois (map attached for location).

Dr. Ivan Jansen, Professor in Agronomy, University of Illinois; Roger Windhorn, Soil Scientist, Soil Conservation Service; and Sam Indorante, Soil Scientist, Soil Conservation Service will be the featured speakers on the program. They will discuss the problems of classifying and restoring the productivity of soils which have been disturbed by surface mining. As you know this is a major problem throughout the State of Illinois and should be of interest to all the members of the association.

Please make reservations early. Complete the form below and return it, along with a check to cover the total cost by March 4, 1983. Make the check payable to the Illinois Soil Classifiers Association. Send it to Don Wallace, 643 North Kansas, Edwardsville, 62025. If you need to cancel a reservation, notify me by noon, March 14, 1983. For any additional information about the annual meeting, call me at (618) 656-8230 (home) or (618) 344-4250 (office).

Program Chairman

Don Wallace

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Chem+Eng. News 5-10-82  
**SI units—fact and fiction**

SIR: The recent appearance of National Bureau of Standards Special Publication 330, 1981 Edition (available from Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402), which is the authorized English translation of the basic International Bureau of Weights & Measures (BIPM) document on the International System of Units (SI), prompts me to comment on various correspondence related to SI which has been published in C&EN, May 25, 1981, page 2; July 27, 1981, page 4

This correspondence contains several misleading statements and suggests widely held misconceptions concerning SI. In particular, there appears to be a perception of undue rigidity about SI that should be dispelled.

The following salient points may be distilled from the full description in Special Publication 330:

1. SI is a *single system* consisting of base units, derived units, supplementary units, and units formed by attachment of the approved SI prefixes to any of the above. All these subclasses have fully acceptable status. In addition, certain other units outside SI are recognized for use with SI, such as the minute, hour, bar, angstrom, and others.

2. The *subset of SI* consisting of base, derived, and supplementary units forms a "coherent set of units." While coherent units have obvious advantages in certain circumstances, nothing in Special Publication 330 can be construed as suggesting that units formed with SI prefixes (and therefore "noncoherent") are forbidden or discouraged. This should be a personal choice of teachers or authors, based on the convenience in doing calculations. It would appear unwise for organizations or journals to adopt a rigid policy in this regard.

3. Units formed with SI prefixes can be used in any desired combination. Thus, expressions such as  $\text{g/cm}^3$  and  $\mu\text{mol/L}$  are perfectly acceptable. One may find that use of the equivalent forms  $\text{Mg/m}^3$  and  $\text{mmol/m}^3$ , respectively, simplifies certain calculations, but nothing in the SI rules requires this form.

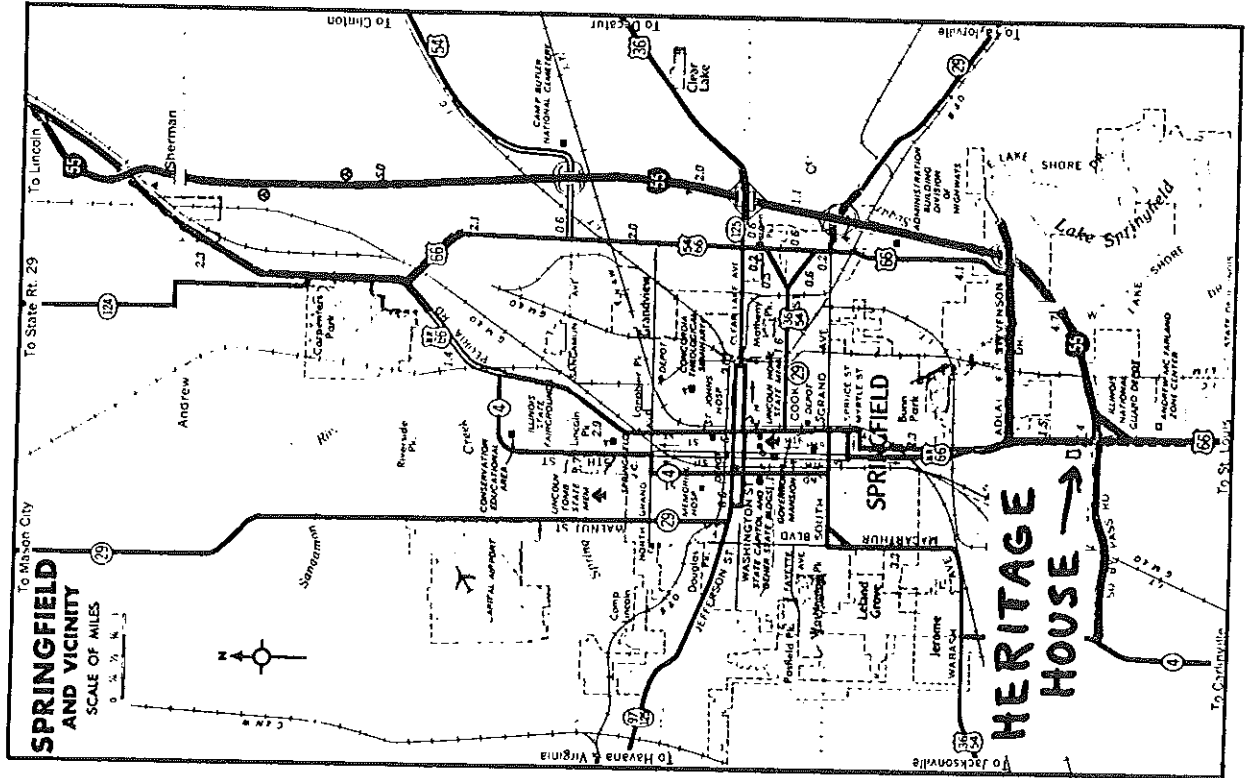
In summary, SI has been designed to provide a system of units that is flexible enough to accommodate the needs of all fields of science and technology, thereby making it unnecessary to introduce specialized units that impede scientific communication. Excessively rigid interpretations of SI tend to defeat its purpose. Chemists are urged to consult Special Publication 330 or the IUPAC Manual of Symbols and Terminology for Physicochemical Quantities and Units for the authoritative information on SI.

David R. Lide Jr.  
Chief, Office of Standard Reference Data, National Bureau of Standards; Former Chairman, IUPAC Commission on Symbols, Terminology & Units





8th ANNUAL MEETING  
 HERITAGE HOUSE  
 Springfield, Illinois  
 11:30 A.M.  
 March 19, 1983



Program

Annual Meeting - March 19, 1983

President, Roger Windhorn, Presiding

11:30 Invocation

Buffet Luncheon

12:30 Problems in Soil Taxonomy for  
Disturbed Soils in Northern Illinois  
Roger Windhorn, CPSS  
Soil Conservation Service  
Clinton, Illinois

12:50 Problems in Soil Taxonomy for  
Disturbed Soils in Southern Illinois  
Sam Indorante  
Soil Conservation Service  
Pinckneyville, Illinois

1:10 Problems of Restoring Productivity  
of Surface Disturbed Soils in Ill.  
Dr. Ivan Jansen  
Professor in Agronomy  
University of Illinois  
Urbana, Illinois

1:50 Question and Answer Session  
All speakers Involved

BUSINESS MEETING

2:10 Opening Remarks - Roger Windhorn

Secretary's Report - Lester Bushue

Treasurer's Report - Lester Bushue

Committee Reports

Old Business

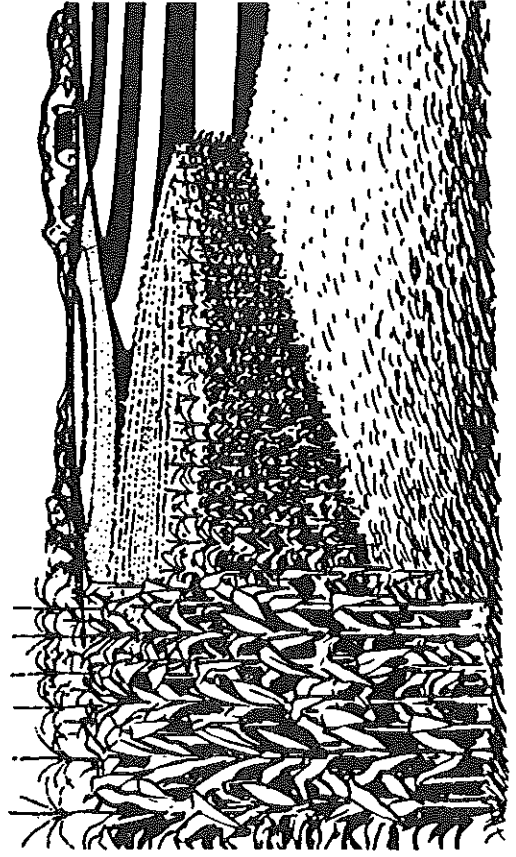
New Business

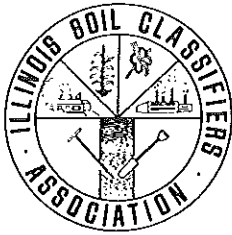
Report of Nominating Committee  
Steve Higgins

Election of Officers

Passing of the Gavel

3:15 ADJOURN





# ILLINOIS SOIL CLASSIFIERS ASSOCIATION

August 1983 Newsletter

## Newsletter Contents

This newsletter contains the announcement for the Summer Meeting, a message from the President, a list of the new officers, a new item of announcing upcoming events and other news. Due to delays and a busy schedule the news staff must withhold some of the news submitted for publication so that the Summer Meeting plans can be circulated in time. The next issue will include summaries of past Council Meetings, the 8th Annual Meeting, and a revised list of members and other news.

## A Message from President Doll - Get Involved

There is no such thing as a free lunch and you seldom get something for nothing. But, the more you give the more you receive. The ISCA, your association, is not a free lunch. It has more to offer than simply something to list on a resume or a certificate to hang on your wall.

Yes, your association does add credibility to the profession of soil science and to you as a soil scientist. This credibility is supported and enhanced through ISCA's affiliation with ARCPACS. And, yes it is true that the newsletters keep you generally abreast of the activities of ISCA and its members.

Your association can provide you with more, much more. But, this will happen only if you, individually and collectively, are committed to making it happen. GET INVOLVED! There are several ways to accomplish this.

First, there are numerous committees on which to serve. Two of the most interesting and rewarding committees on which to serve are the Newsletter Committee and the Public Relations and Education Committee. If you want to work on either of these or any committee, please notify the committee chairperson. You can use the form provided in this newsletter if you wish.

Second, attend the Annual and Summer Meetings. These meetings serve several functions. They provide an opportunity to visit with old friends and to make new ones. With SCS not having annual soil scientist workshops, the ISCA meetings can help fill the gap in maintaining contact with our counterparts from other areas within the state. The meetings also present programs to help us grow in our profession. GET INVOLVED! Your next opportunity will be to attend the Summer Meeting.

Third, you can use the newsletter to transfer ideas, exchange information, air your gripes, etc. We are all involved in activities that would be of interest to others. For example, what is involved in the geomorphology study in Mercer County? Did you know there was a National Soil Judging Contest



in Illinois this spring? SCS is using word processing equipment for writing, storing, and editing soil survey manuscripts. SCS'ers are aware of this, but what about other ISCA members or those who receive courtesy copies of this newsletter? What are soil scientists outside of SCS doing.....who is paying their salaries.....what type of investigations are they conducting? News articles need not always be serious. If you are asking for permission to map and the family dog "relieves himself" on your leg, that's newsletter material. (Mike - you can submit these items anonymously, if you wish.) GET INVOLVED! Let others know what is going on in your area.

ISCA is about as "big" as it will ever be. We must continue to encourage our colleagues to become members but we should realize that we cannot expect to get much bigger. With our collective efforts we can expect to get much better. GET INVOLVED! The more we give, the more we receive.

Officers and Committee Chairmen for 1983

President - - - - - John Doll  
President-elect - - - - - Sam Indorante  
Vice President - - - - - Carl Wacker  
Secretary-Treasurer - - - - - Les Bushue  
Certification Board Chairman - - Benny Weiss

Committee Chairmen:

Constitution and By-Laws - - - - - Mike Lilly  
Ethics, Registration and Membership - - Dale Calsyn  
Nominations - - - - - Roger Windhorn  
Public Relations and Education - - - - Mark Bramstedt  
Finance - - - - - Carl Wacker  
Newsletter - - - - - Leon Follmer  
Historian - - - - - Roger Windhorn  
Program - - - - - Tonie Endres

New Members of ISCA

Dennis McKenna  
Wilbur Chrudimsky  
Louis Iverson

Scholarship Award in Soil Science in Memory of Burton W. Ray

A scholarship award sponsored by the Illinois Soil Classifiers Association will be given to an outstanding student in soil science. Applicants and nominees who have (1) participated in the Local Soil Judging Contest sponsored by the University of Illinois Field and Furrow Agronomy Club and (2) have completed one soils course for each year the student has been enrolled in any college or university in Illinois will be considered. The selection will be upon scholarship and soil judging performance in a 100 point system.

For scholarship, the applicant will be judged on overall grade point average (GPA) and GPA improvement comparing the spring and fall semesters of

the calendar year preceding the annual Field and Furrow Club Awards Banquet which is held each April. Points up to a maximum of 40 will be based on overall GPA at the end of the calendar year preceding the awards banquet and up to 10 points will be given for GPA improvement.

The remaining 50 points of the judging will be based on the applicant's participation in the Local Soil Judging Contest sponsored each fall by the University of Illinois Field and Furrow Agronomy Club. The two most recent contest scores will be used and will be based on percent correct answers.

The award will consist of a personal plaque, a \$30 award and the awardee's name will be engraved on a permanent plaque that will be displayed in the student lounge in Turner Hall at the University of Illinois.

Send qualifying material to:

Dr. R. H. Beck  
AE-120 Turner Hall  
University of Illinois  
1102 South Goodwin Ave.  
Urbana, IL 61801

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Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

University, College, or  
Junior College attending \_\_\_\_\_

Advisors name and address \_\_\_\_\_

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Number of semesters (quarters) completed \_\_\_\_\_

Credit hours accumulated to end of calendar year \_\_\_\_\_  
(number) (year)

Overall GPA \_\_\_\_\_ at end of calendar year \_\_\_\_\_  
(year)

Spring Semester GPA \_\_\_\_\_ Fall Semester GPA \_\_\_\_\_ for the calendar year \_\_\_\_\_  
(year)

Contest 1 Score \_\_\_\_\_ % correct      Contest 2 Score \_\_\_\_\_ % correct

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Calendar of Events

Sept. 24, 1983 - Illinois Soil Judging Contest hosted by the University of Illinois Field and Furrow Club.

Oct. 18-20, 1983 - 4th Central States Forest Soils Workshop/Tour on bottomland soils-site-tree relationships. Dept. of Forestry, SIU, Carbondale, 62901; 618-536-7751.

- Oct. 21-22, 1983 - North Central Region III Soil Judging Contest hosted by the University of Illinois Field and Furrow Club.
- Oct. 22, 1983 - Geological Science Field Trip, Lewistown-Spoon River, conducted by ISGS. Starting point, Lewistown High School, 8 a.m., free, bring lunch and drive own car.
- Oct. 29-30, 1983 - Geological Society of America Field Trip 3 from Peoria to Indianapolis on Wisconsinan stratigraphy. Fee is \$125.00 and requires additional registration fee of \$70 or \$95 to attend meetings in Indianapolis 10/31 to 11/3. Forget it! ISGS has agreed to rerun the trip later for no fee if there is interest.
- Nov. 5, 1983 - Geological Science Field Trip, Galconda, conducted by ISGS. Starting point, high school one mile west of Galconda, 8 a.m., free, bring lunch and drive own car.
- Nov. 9-10, 1983 - Illinois Conference on Soil Conservation and Water Quality, Springfield, Holiday Inn East, \$30.00. Many important people in agriculture will speak. Organized by the Association of Illinois Soil and Water Conservation Districts, 3085 Stevenson Drive, Springfield, Illinois, 62705.

Note: Participation in these activities earns ARCPACS points.

#### A Point to Ponder by Sam Indorante

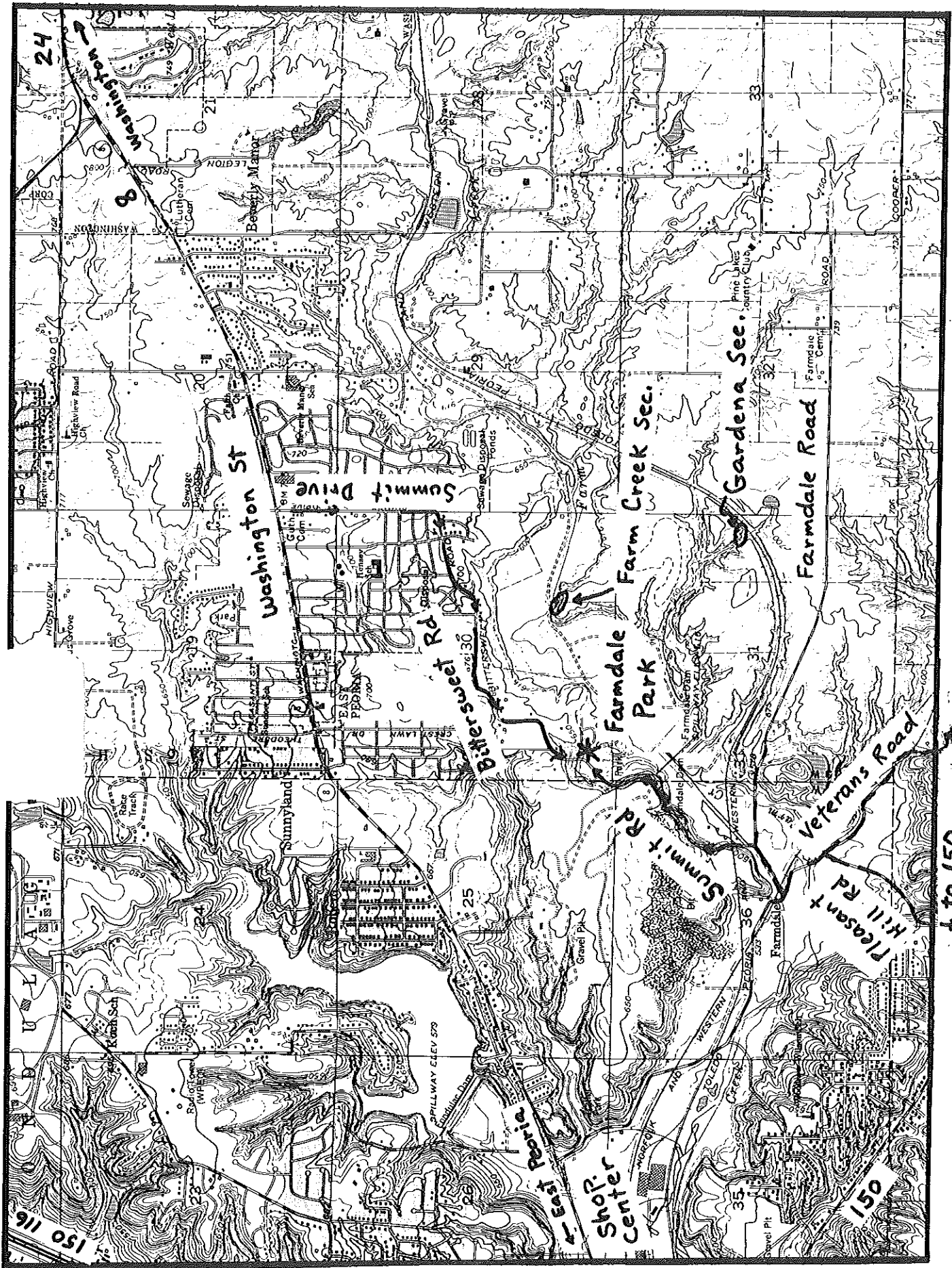
"Critical and skeptical examination is the method used in everyday practical matters as well as in science....Where skeptical observation and discussion are suppressed, the truth is hidden. The proponents of borderline beliefs, when criticized, often point to geniuses of the past who were ridiculed. But the fact that some geniuses were laughed at does not imply that all who are laughed at are geniuses. They laughed at Columbus, they laughed at Fulton, they laughed at the Wright brothers. But they also laughed at Bozo the Clown."

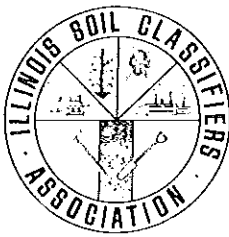
From Broca's Brain  
by Carl Sagan

#### Summer Meeting Plans

Plans for the summer meeting and picnic are set. Farmdale Park in Tazewell County is the place; September 17, 1983 is the time. All members, family and friends are encouraged to attend. Hiking trails and grassy areas for sports are available.

Schedule of Events: 10:30 a.m. ISCA Council Meeting  
11:30 a.m. Potluck lunch. Please bring a main dish, a salad or a dessert, and your own eating utensils.  
12:30 p.m. ISCA Membership Meeting  
1:00 p.m. Geologic and Soils Tour with Leon Follmer





# ILLINOIS SOIL CLASSIFIERS ASSOCIATION

November 1983 Newsletter

## Newsletter Contents

This newsletter contains the first and final notice for your 1984 dues, news of the 8th Annual Meeting and Summer Meeting, summaries of Council Meetings 3/19/83, 7/8/83 and 9/17/83, a 1983 membership list and other news.

## ISCA Business News

**Annual Meeting:** The 8th Annual Meeting was held 3/19/83 at the Heritage House in Springfield. The program was presented by ISCA members Ivan Jansen, Sam Indorante and Roger Windhorn on their research and experience with drastically disturbed soils. President Windhorn conducted the business meeting in which committee reports were given. Copies of the committee reports and secretary's reports are available on request. Highlights are summarized here.

**Certification Board:** Chairman Zwicker explained the certification process. Members of ISCA who want to be certified by ISCA should apply to the CB secretary, Mike Walker.

**Ethics, Registration and Membership:** Chairman Calsyn reported that six applications were received this year and that a new certificate of membership will be prepared for students and affiliate members.

**Constitution and By-Laws:** Chairman Lilly presented a proposal for changing the dues. After much discussion the following motions were passed:

1. The annual dues henceforth shall be:

|              |           |         |
|--------------|-----------|---------|
| Regular      | - - - - - | \$17.50 |
| Out-of-State | - - - - - | 5.00    |
| Retired      | - - - - - | 5.00    |
| Student      | - - - - - | 3.00    |
| Honorary     | - - - - - | None    |

2. An Out-of-State member must belong to an equivalent organization in the state of residence.

3. A retired member will be granted a reduced fee if one has been a member for more than five years and is no longer practicing soil classification.

**Public Relations and Education:** Chairman Bramstedt discussed the plans for the Burton Wiley Ray Soil Science Scholarship Award.

**Newsletter:** Chairman Follmer reported that three newsletters were sent out during the last year. The largest mailing was in February to 74 members and 35 others who received complimentary copies.





Other Business: A position of ISCA Historian was created and will be filled by the ISCA Past President. Past President Higgins has submitted articles about ISCA activities to Agronomy News and SCS Current Developments which have been published. The ISCA received a certificate from ARCPACS that recognizes ISCA affiliation with ARCPACS. Now, ISCA members can get a group discount rate for certification by ARCPACS if five or more members apply. President Windhorn passed the gavel to the incoming President, John Doll.

Council Meeting 3/19/83: President Doll called a meeting following the Annual Meeting. President announced the appointments to the Certification Board:

Benny Weiss - - - - - Chairman  
Fred Awalt - - - - - Vice Chairman  
Mike Walker - - - - - Secretary  
Wells Andrews - - - - - Member  
David Rahe - - - - - Member

The new officers were announced in the August Newsletter. The monetary award for the Burt Ray Award was raised from \$30.00 to \$50.00. The treasury on 3/19/83 stood at \$2,626.52. Expenses and income for the fiscal year was \$611.95 and \$1,748.45 respectively.

Council Meeting 7/8/83: Council met at the Macon County Soil Survey office. Secretary Bushue reported that eleven of the 1982 members had not paid their 1983 dues as of that date. The treasury now earns interest on the account held at the First Federal Savings and Loan which amounts to about \$10.00 per month.

Follmer reported on the Newsletter activity and the difficulty in meeting schedules. The Constitution requires three per year. As it is now arranged, the first newsletter of the year announces the Annual Meeting plans, the second reports on the Annual Meeting and announces the Summer Meeting plans, and the third includes a membership renewal notice. The Constitution also sets schedule requirements which are not compatible with the circumstances. More newsletters may be the best solution for meeting the schedule requirements but help is needed.

Chairman Calsyn announced the appointment of Bob Tegeler, Rich Sims, Ray Herman and Sam Indorante to the Ethics, Registration and Membership Committee. Promotions to full membership was announced for Richard Christ, Mike Kuhn, Charles Love and Sylvia Redschlag.

Chairman Bramstedt appointed Laurie King, Bill Kreznor and Cliff Miles to the Public Relations and Education Committee. The Committee was instructed by Council to proceed with plans to develop and purchase the plaque for the Burt Ray Award. All colleges in Illinois, with agricultural programs, will be notified and solicited for nominations for the Burt Ray Award.

Chairman Lilly named Bruce Putman and Wiley Scott to the Constitution and By-Laws Committee. The Constitution will be reprinted with additions and distributed at the next Annual Meeting. Copies are available on request.

Chairman Tonie Endres appointed David Rahe to the Programs Committee. Plans for the Summer meeting at Farmdale Park were made.

The Council agreed to support the ISCA President to attend the Soil Science Society of America Annual Meeting. A motion passed to grant \$100.00 to President Doll to support his travel to the meeting. The status of honorary memberships was discussed and Council requested John Alexander to prepare a proposal for nominating an honorary member. The proposal will be presented to the full membership at the next Annual Meeting. The treasury balance on 7/9/83 was \$2742.99, which includes \$435.32 income and \$318.85 expenses since 3/19/83.

Summer Meeting: The 8th Annual Summer Meeting was held at Farmdale Park 9/17/83. After a picnic lunch, Leon Follmer led the group through the park to visit the classic Farm Creek Section. This section is a creek bank exposure first visited by Leverett in 1897 and studied in detail by Pleistocene Geologist Leighton (1926), Willman and Frye (1970) and Follmer, McKay and others (1979, Midwest Friends of the Pleistocene). The first wood to be dated from the Farmdale Soil was collected near this exposure by Guy Smith in about 1951. The C-14 age turned out to be  $22,000 \pm 900$  years B.P. This result was the basis for assigning the age of the top of the Farmdalian interval to be 22,000 years B.P. In soil terms it means that the Farmdale Soil was buried  $22,000 \pm$  years ago. In the more recent work a better estimate of the age of this boundary has been placed at  $25,000 \pm$ .

The upper half of this 90-foot exposure is still uncovered but has retreated somewhat over the years. At the top a variable thickness of loess overlies a thin outwash. The sequence below is thick Woodfordian till; calcareous Morton Loess; discontinuous organic-rich silt called Robein Silt (the O or A of the Farmdale Soil); leached Roxana Silt; Sangamon Soil in till (an Albaquilt at one place) and calcareous Illinoian till that becomes buried by talus and colluvium. The Btg of the Sangamon was once referred to as gumbotil.

We had the pleasure of Dr. John Catt and his wife joining us at Farmdale Park. Dr. Catt is the Principal Scientific Officer from the Rothamsted Experimental Station, England. They were on tour visiting places from New England to Kansas City to see soils and Paleosols.

Council Meeting 9/17/83: Before the Summer Meeting Picnic a Council Meeting was called by President Doll. Bramstedt presented a copy of the letter that will be mailed to the agricultural schools in the State which describes the Burt Ray Award and purpose. A motion was passed to add a complimentary one year student membership in ISCA to the Award. Two new applicants, Susan Mravik and David Creemens, were approved for student membership. Lilly submitted a typed draft of the Constitution and By-Laws which incorporates amendments made in 1983. Follmer will reproduce copies and distribute at the next Annual Meeting. A motion passed to give a one year subscription of Soil Survey Horizons to all new ISCA members.

(Editor's Note: Soil Survey Horizons is more or less a national-level banner for a federation of soil surveyors that could or should be established. How about designating Soil Survey Horizons the official organ of our professional organization and send all members copies? The cost should be a part of the dues. Perhaps we could get a group discount.)

### REGION 3 COLLEGIATE SOIL JUDGING CONTEST

The Salt Fork River Forest Preserve at Homer Lake in Champaign County was the site for the 27th annual Region 3 Collegiate Soil Judging Contest, Saturday October 22. The Field and Furrow Club from the University of Illinois was the Sponsor. Dr. R. H. Beck, Assistant Professor, Soil Science and Field and Furrow Club Advisor, requested ISCA and SCS assistance. On Friday night before the contest, after contestants completed the practice pits, Dr. Ivan Jansen gave a presentation of the soils of Illinois at a pre-contest hog roast. Contest pits were judged by ISCA members Wiley Scott, Carl Wacker, John Pierce, Ken Olson, and John Alexander. Other ISCA members who served as scorecard graders were John Doll, Toni Endres, William Kreznor, Mark Bramstedt, and John Alexander. Bruce Putman, also of ISCA was a pit monitor.

There were 74 contestants and 13 coaches representing the 10 schools which participated. These are the schools that were present and they are listed from highest score to lowest: University of Wisconsin, Platteville; Ohio State University; University of Wisconsin, River Falls, Purdue, University of Illinois, University of Wisconsin, Madison; Illinois State University, University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point, Wilmington of Ohio, and Michigan Tech (represented by coach only).

### Only 20% use SCS Soil Survey

Soil survey work has been accelerated in many states as the Soil Conservation Service strives to bring this mapping and reporting chore to a timely close.

A recent study of three Minnesota counties reveals, however, that the agency still confronts the job of educating farmers about the use and benefit of soil survey information.

Soil scientists J. L. Anderson, R. L. Skarie and B. A. Adams conducted the study and found that only 48% of the farmers responding to their questionnaire were aware of the availability of a soil survey for their county. Only 25% of those responding had ever received a soil survey report for their county and an average of 20% had actually used the information.

Larger farmers tended to use the soil survey information more than smaller farmers. Only 16% of those responding who farmed less than 160 acres used the report while 18% of those responding with 160 to 320 acres used it. Thirty percent of the respondents with 320 to 640 acres used the surveys as did 50% of those who farmed more than 640 acres.

The farmers who did use the soil survey information used it principally to aid in the selection of crop varieties. This use was followed closely by evaluating the adaptability of reduced tillage systems and determining the value of land for sale, purchase or rent. Other uses were to establish herbicide rates, access drainage systems and plan conservation.

Only 14% of the farmers had ever attended a meeting where the soil survey was discussed, though half of the respondents expressed interest in such programs.

The soil scientists also surveyed nonfarm business in each county to determine their awareness and use of soil survey information. These nonfarm subjects were agribusiness firms, engineers, real estate brokers, financial officers, local government officials and contractors. All of these, the researchers noted, are likely to find soil survey information useful in their line of work. The results showed this to indeed be the case, as 75% of the respondents were familiar with the soil survey program, 66% had received a copy of the soil survey report for their county and 71% had made use of soil survey information. Reprinted from Successful Farming 1/83, submitted by Dana Grantham.

#### SOILS AND LAND USE TOUR REPORT BY BILL KREZNOR

A field tour entitled "Soils and Land Use" was held during the ASA, CSSA, and SSSA annual meetings in Washington, D.C., August 15-19, 1983. The tour was organized by Carolyn G. Olson of the U.S. Geological Survey. Ms. Olson was assisted by several earth and crop scientists at the tour stops; among them Robert Cook, James Patterson, and John Short of the National Park Service; John Elder and Richard Weber of Virginia Polytechnic Institute; Delvin Fanning of the University of Maryland; and Lawrence Johnson of Fairfax County, Va. Soil Survey. The tour consisted of six stops which focused on natural soil associations and the underlying geology, man's influence on the land surface, and on the edaphic problems associated with urbanization. The stops included the Mall in Washington, D.C., a commercial development in suburban Washington, Prince William National Forest Park, and Manassas Battlefield National Park.

The Mall is an open parkland about 46 acres in size. It is located in the downtown area between the U.S. Capitol and the Washington Monument. The soils in this park consist mainly of miscellaneous fill materials deposited periodically over the last 200 years to a depth of about 18 feet over what was originally a marshy land surface. The sight of 60 to 70 people examining a soil pit several hundred yards in front of the Capitol was a bit different from the 5 or 6 we are more accustomed to seeing in and around the pit in the cornfield at your neighborhood type location. Of considerable interest was the discussion relating to proposals for changes in Soil Taxonomy to explain these man-influenced soils. There was also some discussion on the presence of cambic horizons described in nearby pits based upon color change and weak structure. Were these features pedogenic or related to the mode of deposition and the type of fill material?

Another stop was a camping area on soils formed in loamy colluvial or alluvial sediments and the underlying clayey alluvial sediments and the underlying clayey alluvial sediments. This clayey material, called Potomac Clays, is highly plastic and has low shear strength. The predominant clay mineral is montmorillonite. The Potomac Clays commonly are less than 3 feet to more than 90 feet below the surface and are discontinuous to nearly continuous across the landscape. This makes for a potentially unstable land surface especially during the wet season when slope failure occurs most frequently. The Soil Survey of Fairfax County, Va. has identified many of these areas. The Fairfax County Code requires an investigation and report by a qualified geotechnical engineer for all construction and grading work in these areas. This report must address foundation design, pavement design, earthwork, site grading, drainage, and construction procedures. Also required is an engineering analysis of the short-and long-term stability of existing and planned slopes.

Over the last 40 years, land use in the Washington area has shifted from agricultural to industrial development. The enormous growth of the federal government has led to intensive suburban development as well. Soil surveys get quite a workout as a tool for urban planning. This tour gave those of us who deal mostly with agricultural interpretations a different and refreshing look at another aspect of our profession. It was also encouraging to see local government incorporating soil survey information and site investigations into land use decisions.

#### MEMBERS ON THE MOVE

It is difficult to keep up on the changes that occur within our membership but we try. The following have taken new assignments:

- Jerry Berning - Soil Survey Leader, Christian County, Taylorville
- Dana Grantham - Soil Scientist, Area 7, Carbondale
- Mike Kiefer - District Conservationist, Iroquois County, Watseka
- Cliff Miles - Soil Survey Leader, Marion County, Salem
- Bruce Putman - U. of I. Grad Student and part-time Soil Survey, Ford County, Paxton
- Richard Sims - Soil Conservationist, Morgan County, Jacksonville

#### New ISCA Members in 1983

Wilbur Chrudinsky, Assistant Professor of Plant and Soil Science, Illinois State University, Normal. Born in Clutier, Iowa, B.S. in Agronomy from Iowa State, M.S. in Agronomy from Oklahoma State and Ph.D. in Soil Science also from Oklahoma State. Present duties: Teaching.

Louis Iverson, Assistant Professional Scientist, Lands Unsuitable for Mining Program, Dept. Energy and Natural Resources, located at Illinois Natural History Survey, Champaign. Born in Jamestown, N.D., B.S. in Biology from U. of N.D., Ph.D. in Ecology from U. of N.D., Fulbright scholar to Britain working on soil reclamation research. Present duties: Assess soil, reclamation feasibility and research.

Dennis McKenna, Executive Director of Winnebago Company Soil and Water Conservation District, Rockford. Born in Chicago, B.S. in Psychology from Purdue University, working on M.S. in Soil Science from N.I.U., DeKalb. Present duties: Office Manager and soil classification and mapping specialist on intensive urban uses of soils.

David Cremeens, Research Assistant in Dept. Agronomy, U. of I., Champaign. Born in St. Louis, B.S. in Agriculture from U. of Missouri, M.S. in Pedology from Michigan State, working on Ph.D. in Pedology at U. of I. Present duties: In charge of Soil Characterization Laboratory.

Susan Mravik, Research and Teaching Assistant in Dept. of Agronomy, U. of I., Champaign. Born in Stanley, Wisconsin, B.S. in Agriculture from U. of Wisconsin, Riverfalls, working on M.S. in Pedology at U. of I. Student Research Assistant for 9 months at the Federal Institute of Technology, Zurich, Switzerland. Present duties: laboratory instruction and research.

### NACTA Soil Judging Contest

Last April 22 and 23, the National Association of Colleges Teaching Agriculture sponsored a soil judging contest in McLean County on the Charles Beeler Farm. The host was Illinois State University with Dr. Wilbur Chrudinsky in charge. About 15 schools from the Midwest and Southwest participated in judging Lawson, Tama, Strawn and Saybrook soils. Roger Windhorn, Past-President of ISCA, and Gary Fak, District Conservationist of McLean County, served as official judges of soils and land use, respectively. The ISCA thanks Wilbur, Roger and Gary for serving interests of our Association and professionalism in soil science. (Contents submitted by Roger Windhorn.)

### DeWitt County hires two soil Scientists

Last Spring Darrell Leach and Tom Brooks joined the survey team in DeWitt County lead by Roger Windhorn. Darrell graduated from S.I.U. Carbondale and has 1½ years mapping experience in Monroe County. Roger reports that he has fit right in and has been a great help to the DeWitt Survey. Darrell is married and has one child. Tom graduated from U.of I. Champaign. Roger reports that he helped with the SCS field assistance meeting and is ready to map on his own.

### Soil Survey Research: Terraces and Lake Sediments in the Bureau Creek Drainage System.

West of Princeton, Illinois, a problem area for soil mapping occurs in the Bureau Creek drainage system of Bureau County. Some of the oddities or observations that seemed odd during the early stage of investigations were the occurrences of lake bed sediments on steep slopes and outwash some distance from end moraines.

Bureau Creek drains a large percentage of Bureau County to the Illinois River. This drainage pattern was probably developed as the glacier receded from the Bloomington Moraine (Willman and Frye, 1970, ISGS Bull. 94). The subsequent moraines appear to have been deposited in rapid succession following the Bloomington. Several of these moraines blocked Bureau Creek from draining into the Illinois River. These glacial events created proglacial lakes. The oldest sediments of these lakes occur high on the landscape today and are overlain by outwash in places. In other places, such as on eroding slopes, lake sediments are interbedded with outwash.

The uppermost lake bed appears to be deposited as the Bloomington Moraine receded, then the Bureau Creek drainage was established. The subsequent glacial advances that produced the Dover, Paw Paw and Arlington Moraines appear to have blocked the Bureau Creek near its mouth. Lake bed sediments were also likely deposited during each of these events. MacClintock and Willman (1959, ISGS Circ. 275) reported that lake bed materials were found at an elevation between 610 and 670 feet. They imply that the lake sediments form a single deposit, but during the course of our soil survey investigations evidence for several deposits have been found. In fact, none of the deposits observed are over 30 feet thick. Probably during the highest lake stage, some water passed westward through low points in the Bloomington Moraine, such as where the Illinois and Mississippi Canal is located today.

The upper most terrace we found is between the valleys of Big Bureau and West Bureau Creeks and rises to at least 660 feet in elevation. This is above the level recognized by MacClintock and Willman as the Tazewell Terrace. This highest level looks like a till plain and is shown as a till plain on the map of Quaternary Deposits of Illinois (Lineback, 1979, ISGS). We found outwash in a boring at 14 feet beneath loess on a flat part of this landscape. The outwash overlies Tiskilwa Till in outcrops along Big Bureau and West Bureau Creeks. In our survey we have seen at least four obvious terraces below this level. The uppermost terrace is often covered by up to 15 feet of loess but we see outwash often enough in outcrops to know it is continuous except in a few areas where it must have been eroded off before loess deposition. In general it would appear that up to 10 feet of outwash was deposited in this broad, nearly level area. Later erosion entrenched the main valleys to something above about the 600 foot level. This appears to be a level controlled by a lake in the Illinois River Valley (MacClintock and Willman, 1959).

MacClintock and Willman only mention two terraces, the Tazewell Terrace and a lower one, the Cary Terrace. Both are contained within the valleys. Actually there is a series of terraces that merge together. Loess on the higher terraces is generally thick and soils are Tama, Rozetta and Associates. On the valley slopes, the soils are St. Charles or Plano on the higher parts and Camden and Proctor on the lower parts. The lowest terrace in many places has loamy soils such as Warsaw and Jasper. All terrace deposits appear to contain some lake bed deposits in places.

In the area to the east around Princeton, the Malden Till overlies lake bed and outwash deposits. In one of the thicker deposits of lake sediments observed south of Big Bureau Creek and east of the town of Tiskilwa, the sequence appears to contain sediments derived from the Malden Till.

In summary we have found the area between Big Bureau and West Bureau Creeks to be an outwash plain or terrace superposed on a till plain. The level is higher than the surface designated as the Tazewell Terrace by MacClintock and Willman. Because its origin is not related to a present river, it is best to call it an outwash plain on the upland.

In deeply incised areas we sometimes have a problem naming mapping units because of the number of possible layers of material above the Tiskilwa Till. We will have a better idea of what to name the units after we do some transect studies. (Submitted by David B. Rahe, Bureau County Soil Survey).

#### Next Annual Meeting

The 9th ISCA Annual Meeting will be held at the House of Hunan Restaurant, 3025 Kandy Lane, Decatur, on March 17, 1984, at 11:30 a.m. Penny Severns, Decatur City Councilperson will present the program on issues concerning the Decatur water supply. A buffet luncheon will be served for \$5.95. More details will be in the February Newsletter.

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