



NEWSLETTER

Winter 2005

ISCA ANNUAL MEETING

ISCA 2005 Annual Meeting
March 1st, 2005 Decatur, IL

Where: **Holiday Inn Select Conference Hotel** – The Hotel is located on the west side of Decatur at the intersection of U.S. Rt. 36 and Wyckles Road. (see map)

Room Reservations: A block of rooms is being held under Illinois Soil Classifiers Association for the night of the 1st at the Holiday Inn (217) 422-8800. Room rate is \$80.00 Single/\$10 additional person. Deadline for room reservations in this block is January 31st.

Other hotels in the area (Forsyth, at the junction of I-72 and US 51):

Hampton Inn – (217) 877-5577

Farifield Inn – (217) 875-3337

Comfort Inn – (217) 875-1166

Agenda

Check-in: 5:00 to 6:00 PM

Dinner: 6:00 to 6:30 PM

Guest Speaker: Valerie Breunig, Project Organizer of the Smithsonian Soils Exhibit

Business Meeting: follows guest speaker.

Adjourn: 8:00 PM

Social hour: continues afterwards

Cost: \$15/person – includes a plate dinner with choice of chicken or beef. Select your choice of meat on the registration form.

Deadline for meal reservation: February 24

Send reservations with payment or call in reservations to:

Jim Hornickel
104 Cornell Dr.
Normal, Illinois 61761
309-862-0007

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Happy 30th Anniversary!

Message from the President

Thirty years ago, a group of soil scientists from government agencies, universities, and the private sector developed a constitution and by-laws and formed the Illinois Soil Classifiers Association. One of the main purposes in forming ISCA was to promote registration or licensure of soil classifiers in Illinois. The licensure and registration process ran into several road blocks over the years so ISCA developed a certification program as an alternative to state registration. The Standards for Certification were adopted twenty five years ago in March 1980. At the time ISCA was formed and the certification standards were adopted, no other meaningful certification for soil classifiers was widely known in Illinois. Since the adoption of the ISCA Certification Standards, the American Registry of Certified Professionals in Agronomy, Crops, and Soils (ARCPACS) developed a national certification program for Professional Soil Scientists.

One of the objectives in the ISCA constitution states, "Protect the public welfare by encouraging all soil classifiers to qualify for certification." In the past few years, only a few soil classifiers have applied for certification. There may be several reasons why applications are down. Still, we need to continue to evaluate our certification process. Are you certified with ISCA? Are you working towards your certification? Why should a soil classifier be certified with ISCA? What advantage is there in being certified through ISCA? Does the ARCPACS certification program make the ISCA certification standards unnecessary? Are the ISCA certification standards achievable for those in the private sector? Each ISCA Member needs to think about the reasons behind certification. In addition, some of these questions need to be addressed by our organization as a whole. The certification standards are decided upon by the whole membership of ISCA, not just by those who are certified. Every Member can have a say in the evaluation of the standards.

I believe that ISCA certification still plays an important role in the advancement of soil science in Illinois. We are named in state and county ordinances. To quote our By-laws "In order to safeguard life, health, and property; to foster wise use of the land and maintain quality in the environment; to foster maintenance of professional competency; and provide credentials to practicing soil classifiers..." we need to promote certification. We need to keep certification of soil classifiers as one of the main objectives of ISCA. We also need to continue to evaluate the certification standards in order to remain a viable organization. Special thanks to our Charter Members who had the foreknowledge to organize the Illinois Soil Classifiers Association and set the standard for all of us!

Happy 30th Anniversary!

Mark Bramstedt, ISCA President

Illinois Soil Classifiers Association Charter Members

Lawrence Acker
Jerald L. Alexander
John D. Alexander
Fred L. Awalt
Lindo J. Bartelli
Gerald V. Berning
Lester J. Bushue
Christopher Cochran
William Dickerson
Lewis Dungan
Donald Fehrenbacher
Joe B. Fehrenbacher
Leon R. Follmer
Charles J. Frazee
Tyrone Goddard
Dana R. Grantham
Raymond J. Herman
Stephen K. Higgins
Kenneth Hinkley
Merlin Horn
Ivan J. Jansen
Linus M. Kiefer
Joe Kleiss
Albert A. Klingebiel
Emil E. Kubalek
Kermit Larson
Mark R. La Van
Rex D. Mapes
Clifford C. Miles
Henry R. Mount
Chuck Nelson
Russell T. Odell
Walter D. Parks

John E. Paschke
Donald B. Phillips
Burton W. Ray
Loyal M. Reinebach
Edward Runge
J. Wiley Scott
James F. Steinkamp
Bobby Stewart
Earl E. Voss
George Walker
Michael B. Walker
Donald L. Wallace
Benny J. Weiss
Roger D. Windhorn
Lionel Young
Steven E. Zwicker

Candidates for 2005 ISCA Elections

President

Clayton Heffter

Clayton Heffter is the Stormwater Permitting Manager for the DuPage County Department of Economic Development and Planning. He has a B.S. in Agronomy from Iowa State University and is a Certified Professional Soil Classifier with ARCPACS and a Registered Professional Soil Scientist with the NSCSS. He worked on the Putnam and Bureau County Illinois soil surveys for the NRCS in the mid 1980s, and mapped soils and wetlands for 14 years as a consultant in the Northeast and Midwest U.S. before joining DuPage County in 2000 to manage their wetland program. Clayton has been a member of ISCA since 1997.

Pat Kelsey

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

Vice President

Bob Tegeler is a soil scientist employed with NRCS since 1976. He earned a B.S. degree in Resource Management, with a minor in Soil Science at UW-Stevens Point. Bob has worked in northwestern and central Illinois, and is currently a Soil Survey Project Leader located at the Springfield MLRA Office. Bob has been a member of ISCA since 1977. He has served as ISCA Secretary on two different occasions, and also served on the Ethics, Certification and Membership Committee. Bob is a Certified Professional Soil Classifier with ARCPACS.

Ken Anderson is project manager with the Kane County Department of Environmental Management. Ken has been employed by Kane County for over 16 years. Ken has been a member of ISCA since 1989. He has served as President, Vice President and on various committees. Ken is a Certified Professional Soil Classifier with ISCA. He earned a B.S. degree in Watershed Management and Natural Resources Management, with a minor in Soil Science at UW-Stevens Point. He is married to a beautiful wife named Julie and has been blessed with 3 wonderful daughters named Savannah, Sierrah and Shaynah.

ISCA Member is New State Soil Scientist in Wisconsin

Donald Joe Fehrenbacher was recently selected as the NRCS State Soil Scientist for Wisconsin. Don reported for duty in Madison in December 2004. He started his career as a soil science student intern with the Soil Conservation Service in the 1974. Les Bushue was his first supervisor. Don worked on the Iroquois County soil survey, was the survey leader for a brief time in White County, was the survey leader for the Ford County Soil Survey and contributed soil mapping to other county surveys as well. Don graduated from the University of Illinois with both a bachelor's degree and a master's degree. He was the Area Soil Scientist in northeastern Illinois for many years and is well known inside and outside of the agency as the one to contact if you really want to know about soils in that area. Don is a charter member of ISCA and has held the offices of President and Vice President and has been actively involved in the organization from its on-set. Over the past months he has worked as a Resource Planner with NRCS, though he considered himself to be a soil scientist first. Don is definitely an "out-of-the-box" thinker and is able to bring new ideas and innovations to his many projects. He also has the ability to remove the technical jargon in his discussions about soils so that the common user is able to understand the information. He always looks out for the user of the soil survey information. Don is working with former ISCA member Carl Wacker, Assistant State Soil Scientist and current member Karla Hanson Petges who had recently moved to Wisconsin as well. He is certified with ISCA and also registered as a soil scientist in Indiana. Don has been a co-worker, supervisor, mentor and friend to many of us. We wish him all the best. If you would like to reach Don, you may contact him at Don.Fehrenbacher@wi.usda.gov or at (608) 662-4422 x275

Submitted by Mark Bramstedt

ISCA – Producer of State Soil Scientists

The Illinois Soil Classifiers Association is privileged to have had several of our current or past members serving as an NRCS State Soil Scientist. Seven ISCA members hold or have held this position. I doubt that any other state soil scientist association can claim this feat. The following is a list of all the current or former ISCA members who know the title of State Soil Scientist personally. Congratulations to their hard work.

Don Fehrenbacher, Wisconsin
Tyrone Goddard, New York
Michael Lilly, Mississippi
Charles Love, Georgia
Rex Mapes, Ohio
Robert McLeese, Illinois
Earl Voss, Illinois

Submitted by Mark Bramstedt

WELCOME NEW 2004 MEMBERS

ISCA had a fairly active growth during the 1st half of 2004. Ten new members joined our organization, and we wish to offer them a continued welcome. We hope they will find membership with ISCA to be both informative and educational. The following is a list of our new members. Please take the time to greet them at the upcoming Annual Meeting or during one of the many training sessions held through-out the coming year.

Brad Boggess	Associate Member	Rock Falls NRCS/MLRA Office
Brad Cate	Full Member	Georgetown, Delaware
Greg Clark	Full Member	Charleston NRCS/MLRA Office
Troy Fehrenbacher	Associate Member	Charleston NRCS/MLRA Office
Rick Francen	Associate Member	Springfield NRCS/MLRA Office
Frank Heisner	Full Member	Rock Falls NRCS/MLRA Office
Jacey Jones	Full Member	Carbondale NRCS/MLRA Office
Heidi Peterson	Out of State Member	Davenport, Iowa
Zach Weber	Associate Member	Charleston NRCS/MLRA Office
Jennifer Wollenweber	Student Member	Northern Illinois University

Professional Soil Scientist Survey

This past year the Soil Science Society of America (SSSA) and the United States Consortium of Soil Science Associations (USCOSA) conducted an electronic survey on the needs of soil scientists. Margie Faber, President of the New England Society of Professional Soil Scientists was the lead coordinator. The SSSA managed the operations of this electronic survey.

Margie presented the results of this interesting and informative survey during the Professional Soil Scientists Roundtable at the SSSA annual meeting in Seattle, Washington on November 2, 2004. The title of Margie's presentation was "Meeting the Needs of Professional Soil Scientists – Summary of Survey Results".

Attached for your information are the results of this survey entitled "Professional Soil Scientist Survey Results" prepared by Margie Faber. We encourage you to share the results this excellent survey on the desires and concerns expressed by soil scientists throughout the United States with your membership. These results are also posted on the USCOSA web site at [Http://soilsassociation.org](http://soilsassociation.org) under What's New.

Best Regards,

Jim Culver, Advisory Group, USCOSA

Professional Soil Scientist Survey Results

Margie Faber

The Soil Science Society of America and the U.S. Consortium of Soil Science Associations conducted an electronic survey of professional soil scientists in the spring of 2004. Nearly 900 soil scientists from the U.S. (and a few from other countries) completed the on-line survey. The compiled results of the survey are summarized below.

The percentages are based on the number of people who answered each specific question.

Question 1: Please check the following terms that describe your current position (check all that apply) (897 responses)

- Soil scientist for a federal agency, state agency, or local government agency (38%)
- Soil scientist working for a university (27%)
- Self-employed soil scientist (15%)
- Soil scientist for a company other than my own (12%)
- Not currently employed as a soil scientist (8%)
- Retired (5%)

Question 2: How long have you been a soil scientist? (845 responses)

- 21 to 30 years (28%)
- 11 to 20 years (23%)
- More than 30 years (19%)
- 6 to 10 years (14%)
- 5 years or less (13%)
- Never been (3%)

Question 3: What is the highest degree you have received? (845 responses)

- PhD degree (44%)
- B.S. degree (28%)
- M.S. degree (24%)
- Other (3%)

Question 4: Are you an ARCPACS certified soil scientist and/or soil classifier? (834 responses)

No (63%)
Yes (37%)

Question 5: Are you licensed by a state as a soil scientist? (842 responses)

No (83%)
Yes (17%)

Question 6: Are you certified as a soil scientist and /or soil classifier? (234 responses)

No (68%)
Yes (32%)

Question 7: What can the Soil Science Society of America do to promote certification and licensing and to support professional soil scientists? (548 responses)

1. Work with states / state societies on soil legislative matters and certifications / licensing. (18%)
2. Continue, support, and increase visibility of ARCPACS with SSSA (10%)
3. Lobbying to support soil science and ARCPACS soil scientists in federal legislation and with state and federal agencies (8%)
4. Provide compelling reasons why one should be certified (8%)
5. Promotion of profession to the general public, high school students, other professions (7%)
6. More applied training, business information, networking opportunities, affordable newsletters, SSSAJ summary articles (7%)
7. Vigorous promotion of discipline / certification at university, 2 & 4 year college levels (6%)
8. Don't know (5%)
9. Minimize interference and maximize recognition from engineers / geologists, etc. (3%)
10. Consider qualifications other than coursework (experience, academic papers) (3%)

Question 8: Please list the following professional soil science societies where you hold membership. (775 responses)

1. SSSA or ASA, no regional or state soil society (42%)
2. SSSA or ASA and a state or regional soil society (24%)
3. Only a state or regional soil society (16%)
4. No membership in soil society (10%)
5. NSCSS, SWCS or other national soil society and a state or regional soil society (5%)
6. NSCSS, SWCS or other national soil society, no state or regional soil society (3%)
7. International soil societies (2%)

Question 9: What specifically does each society do to address your professional needs? (all answers by a respondent were categorized) (633 responses)

1. Meetings (25%)
2. Publish journals and books (21%)
3. CEU opportunities, training, workshops (21%)
4. Keep me informed on events, issues, research, education (19%)
5. Networking (19%)
6. Not much, nothing (12%)
7. Platform for exchange of ideas (8%)
8. Legislative (federal, state including licensing) issues (7%)
9. ARCPACS certification (7%)
10. Newsletters / email announcements (6%)

Question 10: What else do you wish they would do to address your professional needs? (answers not tied to question 8, may refer to state, regional, or national soil society) (449 responses)

1. Nothing more / not sure (16%)
2. More training, meetings, workshops for non-academic soil scientists (local, webcast, internet based) (14%)
3. Lobby, work with national / state representatives (mostly certification/licensing) (12%)
4. Increase visibility, promote the profession (not directly certification/licensing related) (12%)
5. More practical articles and information on applied research, education, environmental soil issues (7%)
6. Provide more job listings and career development advice (4%)
7. Business training, insurance (3%)
8. Grants information, provide funding (3%)
9. SSSA – less focus on ag and academia, less bureaucracy (2%)
10. Cheaper price for membership, subscriptions to journals, attend meetings (2%)

Question 11: How else do you address your professional needs? (525 responses)

1. Read, internet, self study (30%)
2. Meetings, workshops, field days, classes (19%)
3. Networking (19%)
4. On the job training or work colleagues (14%)
5. Work with other societies and disciplines (9%)
6. Professional service (5%)
7. Nothing (3%)
8. Certification (1%)

Question 12: What websites (if any) do you use to find out information about soils? (each website mentioned is logged separately) (572 responses)

1. soils.usda.gov (NRCS) (51%)
2. SSSA-ASA (Tri Societies) (21%)
3. University/Extension (14%)
4. Don't use the web (9%)
5. Many unspecified websites (9%)
6. Unspecified USDA sites (6%)
7. Google search (5%)
8. Other federal agencies (4 %)
9. SSSSNE (2%)
10. State agencies (2%)

Question 13: Would an applied online magazine / journal focused strictly on practical issues to professional soil scientists be of interest to you? (794 responses, 431 comments)

Yes (75%)

No (25%)

Comments for Question 13:

1. Soil science application articles (27%)
2. New technologies / modeling / GIS articles (10%)
3. Soil surveys / soil maps / soil survey databases (9%)
4. Basic soil science articles (chemistry, properties, etc.) (8%)
5. Synopses of current research (7%)
6. Practical / current issues soil scientists face (6%)
7. Soil taxonomy / NRCS updates (5%)
8. State issues / licensing / legislation (4%)
9. Employment (listings, info, statistics) (4%)
10. Case studies (3%)

Question 14: Have you ever attended a national soil society meeting? (829 responses, 131 comments)

Yes (76%)

No (24%)

Comments Question 14:

1. Practical applied topics and discussions
2. Better location
3. Cheaper cost
4. Time off work
5. Employer does not support attendance
6. More field trips
7. Hands on demonstrations
8. Other meetings more valuable to me

Question 15: What are your number one short term and your number one long term concerns as a soil scientist? (635 responses)

The top 10 concerns overall:

1. Recognition of profession
2. Declining # students and university soil science departments
3. Job security and job opportunities
4. Funding (research, programs, agencies)
5. Keeping skills/knowledge up to date and using the latest technologies
6. Agricultural sustainability and soil erosion
7. Certification, licensing, and registration
8. Finding work
9. Soil science as a viable science and profession
10. Future of NRCS and soil survey program

Top 10 Short term concerns:

1. Recognition of the profession (public, legal, regulatory, marketplace)
2. Finding work
3. Low funding (for research, programs, agencies)
4. Declining number of students and university soil science programs
5. Keeping skills/knowledge up to date and using the latest technologies
6. Job security and career advancement
7. Certification and licensing
8. NRCS budget cuts/reduction of number of soil scientists

9. Business issues
10. Technical soils issues

Top 10 Long term concerns:

1. Public understanding of importance of soils
2. Declining # students studying soils, few to recruit for jobs
3. Recognition of soil scientists, erosion of the profession by engineers, etc.
4. Job security and job opportunities
5. Research issues (funding, etc.)
6. Soil science as a viable science and profession
7. Maintenance of competency, acquiring new knowledge and technologies
8. Agricultural sustainability and soil erosion
9. Future of NRCS, short supply of soil survey expertise
10. Regulatory recognition of soil science

Top 10 unspecified concerns:

1. Better visibility of profession/erosion of profession by others
2. Declining # students and university soil science departments
3. Job and job security
4. Agricultural and soil sustainability/soil quality
5. Societal appreciation of soils
6. Acceptance of soil science by environmental regulators and policy makers
7. Certification and state licensing
8. Keeping up with science and technology
9. Soil scientists and/or others doing soils work with less than adequate education
10. Funding

Question 16: Do you feel there are obstacles that hinder your success as a professional soil scientist? (742 responses) What are they? (437 comments)

Yes (56%)

No (44%)

Comments Question 16:

1. Lack of recognition and competition from other disciplines (45%)
2. Money (12%)
3. Low demand for soil scientists (4%)
4. Gender/ethnicity issues (4%)
5. Getting information and tools (3%)
6. Limited career advancement opportunities (2%)
7. Societies and soil science is too conservative, cliquish, and/or academic (2%)
8. Politics (2%)
9. I am my only obstacle! (2%)
10. Communication (2%)
11. Bureaucracy (2%)
12. Association of soil science with agriculture (2%)
13. Notion that I need a PhD to get anywhere (2%)

Steps to Achieving Soil Science Licensing in Your State

The Soil Science Society of America (SSSA) with help from licensed soil scientists that had experience in helping to get soil science licensing established in their state produced this document. It is a tool to help other soil scientists establish licensing in their state. It is also important to have uniformity between state licensing acts to help with reciprocity issues.

These are practical steps learned by those with the experience. Please realize that what worked in one state may not work in all states. Be flexible and approach the process in a positive manner, wanting to find solutions. Don't be confrontational and realize this may be a long process and success may not come on the first attempt. Don't give up. Determination and persistence are important. The staff and members of SSSA are willing to help. Their contact information is at the end of this document.

One major advantage and you will want to share this with contacts throughout this process is that SSSA's Council of Soil Science Examiners (CSSE) has already created the exams for your state to use in the licensing process. This is a major asset to getting licensing started.

Why is Soil Science Licensing important?

1. Protection of public health, welfare, safety and property.
2. Promote the profession (higher salaries, greater name recognition, greater respect for the profession).
3. Protect the profession by preventing abuses in the practice of soil science by untrained or unprincipled individuals.
4. Protect the profession by preventing other professions from excluding soil scientists from performing work that they are qualified to do.
5. Establish creditability for the practice of soil science equivalent to that of other professions (engineers, geologists, surveyors and architects).
6. Define the practice of soil science as a profession by establishing standards of ethical conduct and professional responsibility.

Step 1: Basic Analysis

1. Identify a core group of soil scientists, representing the major segments of soil science. Government, private sector, academia.
2. Define the mission: To protect life, property, health, and public welfare through regulation of the practice of soil science in the State; to define the practice of soil science as a profession by establishing minimum standards of ethical conduct and professional responsibility and by establishing professional education and experience requirements; and to prevent abuses in the practice of soil science by untrained or unprincipled individuals.
3. How does it benefit the profession, the licensee and the citizen of the state? Be prepared to explain and defend to the state legislature including real life examples for your state. Know the difference between licensing, certification and registration.
4. Is the group willing to invest the time (multiple hours per week when legislature is in session over multiple years) and money (tens of thousands) to see this through to the end? If not, quit now.
5. The core group takes it to the larger soil science audience (use professional gatherings or organize one). Is the larger group willing to invest the time and money to see this through to the end? Are all sectors of the profession committed to obtaining and maintaining their license indefinitely as well as promoting licensure to their employees and students? If not, then the core group better re-think licensing because it probably isn't financially sustainable.
6. Define the practice of soil science for your state. Develop the definitions you plan to use. Review statutes from other licensing states.

Step 2: Strategy Time

A. Analyze parallel professions.

1. Identify the groups in your state that are licensed and those that are not, such as, geologists, engineers, landscape architects, land surveyors and any others that are appropriate.

2. Identify key personal contacts within the professions listed in number one. Focus on individuals in other professions that the core group knows will be supportive. Educate other professionals about the benefits to them regarding soil science licensure including shared liability.
3. Obtain copies of existing statutes and rules for the professions that have them in your state. Obtain copies of soil science statutes and rules in other states. (See resource list for web site links.) Begin thinking about how to draft a proposed bill for your state. (The bill becomes the language for the act.)

This is a logical time to hire a lobbyist or you will need to do the following alone. Some states have spent from \$15,000 to \$25,000 (2004 dollars) to get licensure through the first legislative session. Some states have had to go through multiple legislative sessions before achieving licensure. Typically the cost for additional legislative sessions is less than the first.

Keys to look for in a lobbyist:

- a. Lobbyist needs to have experience in natural resource issues.
- b. Preferably understands the thinking of scientists.
- c. Experience with key legislative committees.
- d. Lobbyist needs to be non-controversial, non-polarizing and highly respected.

B. Analyze state legislature/Governor's office

1. Determine the general climate towards new licensing acts in both the executive and legislative branches.
2. Identify politicians in both houses that you know or believe would be receptive to sponsoring or supporting the bill.
3. Evaluate the legislative process including the committees and sub-committees most likely to be involved. Identify the chairs and ranking committee members and who in your group knows them.
4. Identify the legislators for all of your members in the group and tell them to get to know them now.

C. Analyze state regulators and regulations in the natural resource, environmental, public health, agriculture and revenue departments.

1. Identify key agencies and staff to determine who are supportive and work with them to develop reasons to present to the legislature that licensing is needed.
2. Analyze the regulations to determine which would be affected. Identify areas within current regulations where the public health, welfare, safety and property are not adequately protected without licensure.
3. Identify areas within regulations where soil scientists are qualified to perform work but currently are not allowed to do so because they are not licensed.

D. Analyze budgetary requirements to get the bill passed and to operate the program.

Checkpoint: Have you identified anything that would keep you from moving forward at this time? If yes, wait until the obstacle is removed or take action to remove it. If no, proceed.

Step 3: Developing the plan

1. Make an integrated assessment of all data collected to this point.
2. Determine whether you are going to work with another profession or go it alone. If yes, start a dialogue with the other profession. Going it alone, to maintain the soil science profession's identity, is preferable unless political or financial reasons prohibit it.
3. Are all sectors of the profession (government, private practice and academic) still committed to obtaining and maintaining their license indefinitely as well as promoting licensure to their employees and students? If yes, it may be feasible to go it alone, short term and long term.
4. Develop a draft bill that addresses: (items to consider, see licensing states' web sites for additional examples)

- a. Definitions
- b. Penalties
- c. Exemptions and limitations
- d. Board make up and training of its members
- e. Powers of the board
- f. Records and reports – Disposition of funds
- g. Licensing required (corporate, partnerships, firms, individuals)
- h. Eligibility – Application
- i. Examinations
- j. Professional soil scientists – Qualifications
- k. Soil scientists-in-training – Qualifications
- l. Issuance – Form – Evidence
- m. Registration fees
- n. Expiration and renewal
- o. Re-issuance
- p. Code of ethics
- q. Disciplinary actions – Grounds
- r. Disciplinary actions – Procedure
- s. Seals; requirements and its use

Step 4: Implementation

Strategy is important. Understand and determine what works in your state with respect to timing of bill introduction. If you don't know this, you probably need a lobbyist.

1. Divide the core group into:
 - a. Bill Drafters
 - b. Coordinators of Political Contacts
 - i. potential bill sponsors and co-sponsors
 - ii. all other legislators
 - iii. appropriate committee chairs and members
 - iv. every soil scientist in the state must contact their representative and insist that they support the bill
 - c. Fund Raisers
2. Track the bills after introduction.
3. Be prepared for timely contacts with legislators and their staffs while the bills are moving through committee.
4. Develop a contact list of soil scientists willing to testify at committee hearings on short notice. They must be committed to drop what they are doing and attend a meeting on very short notice. This is very important!

Step 5: After the Legislation is Passed

1. Maintain legislator and regulatory contacts.
2. Stay engaged in the rule process and informed about other legislation and rules that may impact this program. Use political connections to ensure that soil scientists are on boards and commissions that are responsible for passing regulations that would affect the practice of soil science.
3. Be aware that start up funding will be required and understand what your state government will expect.
4. Prepare administrative, licensing, code of professional conduct and compliance and enforcement rules.
5. Develop continuing education requirements.

6. Re-analyze budgetary requirements for operating this program.
7. Identify soil scientists willing to serve on the licensing board and agreeable to the appointing body or individuals.

Resources and Contacts

States' web sites for licensing acts:

Maine Code

<http://janus.state.me.us/legis/statutes/32/title32ch73secO.html>

Minnesota Code

<http://www.revisor.leg.state.mn.us/arule/1800/3910.html>

New Hampshire Code (listed as "natural scientist")

<http://www.state.nh.us/jtboard/home.htm>

North Carolina Code

<http://www.ncblss.org/>

<http://www.ncblss.org/hbill0826.html> (direct to the act)

North Dakota Code (classifiers)

<http://www.state.nd.us/lr/cencode/t43.html>

Go to: 43-36 Professional Soil Classifiers

Texas Code

<http://www.tbpg.state.tx.us>

Wisconsin Code

<http://drl.wi.gov/dept/codestats.htm> (look under Geology)

Soil Scientists:

Bob Kendall, Georgia, bob@kendallassociates.net

Dawn Tracy, Minnesota, dtracy@co.scott.mn.us

Jim Culver, Nebraska, j4culver@aol.com

Kevin Martin, North Carolina, kmartin@sandec.com

Murry Milford, Texas, mmilford@tca.net

Jerry Tyler, Wisconsin, ejtyler@wisc.edu

SSSA Contact:

Luther Smith, lsmith@agronomy.org

608-268-4977

Submitted by Mark Bramstedt

ILLINOIS SOIL CLASSIFIERS ASSOCIATION

MINUTES

ISCA COUNCIL MEETING

September 10, 2004

Eureka Field Office, Eureka, Illinois

Present:

Mark Bramstedt, President
Bill Kreznor, Vice President
Bruce Putman, President Elect
Chris Cochran, Secretary
Chuck Frazee, Treasurer
Ken Gotsch, Chair of Ethics, Certification, and Membership Committee
Jim Hornickel, Program Chair
Ken Anderson, Member
Earl Voss, Member

President Mark Bramstedt called the Council Meeting to order at 3:45 PM.

Mark thanked Jim Hornickel for putting together the summer meeting and soils tour.

The current agenda and the minutes of the July 23, 2004 meeting held NRCS HQ in Champaign were unanimously approved.

Secretary's Report—Giddings soil auger eBay auction is to begin September 12 at 5pm. Bidding to begin at \$250. Sold \$35 of ISCA hats at summer meeting. Need ISCA shirts; only 5 remain. Samples of possible replacement shirt designs were shown to the Council.

At this point Bramstedt interjected that a State Soil shirt was being contemplated. Roger Windhorn was to chair the committee to design the shirt via a contest. Discussion then drifted as to whether or not a replacement ISCA shirt was even needed. Kreznor stated that "Drummer" shirts could be sold to the public and the proceeds given to the Smithsonian Soils Exhibit. Cochran stated that he did not think shirts of this nature would sell in sufficient quantities to generate a profit. A decision was made by consensus to table the subject until the contest was completed.

Treasurer's Report—Income for the period from May 20—September 9 was \$155.14 and expenses were \$114.25 leaving a balance of \$12,222.57. Chuck stated that \$1725 was received for the workshop last winter but no expenses were submitted.

Bramstedt said he would follow-up with Todd Soukup.

Certification Board—Should have elected officers 30 days after annual meeting. Didn't occur. Board is autonomous. Kreznor volunteered to follow-up and set up teleconference for election of officers.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Ethics, Certification & Membership—Ken Gotsch stated we have 2 applicants for membership. Troy Fehrenbacher and Jacey Jones, both Associate member apps. Membership is being reviewed by the committee. John Tandarich has failed to tender his membership fees as a follow-up to his application. A membership certificate was issued after June 3rd, 2004 upon notification from Ken Gotsch indicating he was now a new member. Since payment has not been received, his membership in the organization is now voided and his name is stricken from the rolls. @ the meeting Gotsch received approval from other "Membership" committee members to approve Troy Fehrenbacher for membership. Ken introduced Troy Fehrenbacher' membership to the Council for consideration as a recommended member to ISCA. Cochran made motion to approve Fehrenbacher for membership. Kreznor seconded it. Approved unanimously. Jacey Jones will be considered after the committee reviews the application. See Next.

On Monday, September 27, 2004, 8:20 AM Mark Bramstedt made a motion by e-mail to accept the recommendation from the Ethics, Certification, and Membership Committee chairman Ken Gotsch that Jacey Jones be approved as an Associate Member of the Illinois Soil Classifiers Association.

Bramstedt also asked for the Council's opinion of conducting such business through e-mail, noting that if anyone disapproved of this method, no business would be conducted by e-mail.

Bramstedt's motion was seconded by Chris Cochran (through e-mail) on Monday, September 27, 10:30 AM. All Council members voted Yea (through e-mail) to approve the motion. The last vote came on Tuesday, 9/28 at 9:58 PM. Motion unanimously approved.

The question of conducting such business through e-mail was approved by all Council members. However, one member commented that he was "a little leary of approving new members by e-mail because I do not have

any information about the person. A brief statement of education, work experience etc. would be helpful." Fortunately, the Membership Committee had enclosed such information in their recommendation for Jacey. We will request that the Membership Committee continue to provide this kind of information.

Thank you for your quick response to this issue. Chuck, would you notify Chris when you have received Jacey's membership fee? Chris, would you add this e-mail to the official minutes of the Council and would you also take the necessary steps to issue the certificate to Jacey Jones once Chuck has received Jacey's check?

Action completed. (e-mail meeting adjourned?)

Thanks, again, to all.

Mark W. Bramstedt
Soil Scientist / Soil Classifier

Note: Jacey's check was received by Chuck Frazee on 9/10/2004.

Finance – No report.
Newsletter – No report
Nominations – No report
Public Relations and Education – No report.
Program Committee – No report
Historian – No report.
Technical Criteria – No report
State Advisory Commission on Private Sewage Disposal – No report

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Mark Bramstedt brought up the concept of having members calibrate their soil texturing annually using lab samples.

The next meeting will be held on December 3rd, 2004 at 10:00 AM at the Bloomington Field Office, Bloomington, Illinois.

The meeting adjourned at 4:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted
Chris Cochran, Secretary

ILLINOIS SOIL CLASSIFIERS ASSOCIATION
MINUTES
ISCA COUNCIL MEETING
December 3, 2004
Normal Field Office, Normal, Illinois

Present:
Mark Bramstedt, President
Bill Kreznor, Vice President
Bruce Putman, President Elect
Chris Cochran, Secretary
Ken Gotsch, Chair of Ethics, Certification, and Membership Committee
Jim Hornickel, Program Chair
Roger Windhorn, Historian

President Mark Bramstedt called the Council Meeting to order at 10:15 AM.

Mark B. asked for any additions to the agenda. Motion by Bill K., seconded by Bruce P to approve the agenda and minutes of the September 10, 2004 meeting held Eureka Field Office in Eureka, IL was unanimously approved.

Secretary's Report – Membership certificates were issued to Troy Fehrenbacher and Jacey Jones. Troy was issued an ISCA hat at the Intro to Soils class at Allerton Park. Jacey will be issued a hat at the annual meeting in March.

Treasurer's Report – Income for the period from September 9—November 29, 2004 was \$3692.11 and expenses were \$738.69 leaving a balance of \$15,176.19.

Chuck stated that \$3,550 was received from the e-Bay auction of the Giddings soil probe. Expenses from the sale were \$12.50. e-Bay is expected to charge an additional \$60.00 for the auction. The net proceeds from the auction is estimated to be \$3,477.50. The cost of Soil Survey Horizons has risen from \$15 to \$17/member/year. This will cost the Association an extra \$200/year. An increase in member dues was entertained to cover these costs.

A discussion ensued regarding a dues increase. The Constitution states that the dues will be determined by the Executive Council and then approved by the membership by a majority at the annual meeting. A decision to put this topic on the agenda at the next council meeting in March was made. A motion to approve the Treasurers report was made by Chris C. (upon clarification from Chuck re. e-Bay expenses—done 12/4), Bill K. seconded. Approved unanimously.

Certification Board – Bill Kreznor reported as of October 1, 2004 Steve Elmer-Chairman, Paul Brown-Vice Chairman, Bill Kreznor-Secretary/Treasurer. Dues notices have been sent out. 44 members are certified.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Constitution, By-Laws – No report

Finance – No report

Newsletter – Matt wants to put out a Newsletter in December. Something about the new members may be included.

Ethics, Certification & Membership – Ken Gotsch stated that applications have tapered off since the MLRA employees joined. A definition of "Out-of-State" membership will be developed by the committee and submitted to the Council at a future meeting.

Nominations – No report-good luck to Mark Stelford

Public Relations and Education – No report.

Program Committee – Jim Hornickel reported that several speakers were interested in sharing their projects/programs with us at the Annual Meeting. Ken Gotsch brought up the point that we held our last speaker (Dan Rooney @ Rend Lake) off until after the end of the business meeting, which ran way past schedule. He stated that that wasn't right. We should set a time for the speaker and allow him to stay or go after his talk. A general agreement was enjoined.

Meeting will be held Tuesday night, March 1, at the NRCS all employees meeting in Decatur, IL.

Cochran entertained a motion to allow Jim Hornickel to autonomously set up the meeting, dinner, etc. and selecting a speaker. Bruce Putman seconded. Approved.

Subsequent email from Mark B. indicated Valerie Breunig, involved with the Smithsonian effort has agreed to be our speaker. Lodging and per diem will be provided as necessary. Further -- Jim discussed the \$500 fee with the hotel, again. Since a large number of our membership will be staying at the hotel, that will probably reduce the cost to \$0 (\$500 - the rate of each ISCA member's room = \$0 or less. Hey, maybe they should pay us!). However, we still need to put a \$100 deposit on the room. This arrangement was agreed upon through email by the Executive Council.

Cochran suggested that a block of 10-15 rooms be reserved for our members (non-NRCS) and held until February 15 at the Holiday Inn so reservations are not a problem.

Historian – Roger Windhorn is in the process in "pretty-ing-up" the files. Past ISCA officers are now listed on a spreadsheet.

Technical Criteria – Bruce Putman requested that we dissolve the committee.

State Advisory Commission on Private Sewage Disposal – Don Fehrenbacher is leaving. Expect a recommendation from him. Bruce P. suggested that this be moved to the Public Relations and Education Committee. Mark decided to leave it open until we find out what is happening to it.

Smithsonian Soil Exhibit – Bill Kreznor reported that Illinois chapter of the SWCS agreed to contribute \$1000. A plaque is made and placed near the exhibit for those contributing \$1000 or more. Individual ISCA members will be encouraged to contribute as well. It is tax deductible.

OLD BUSINESS

Giddings sold for \$3550. As a point of interest, Carl Jacobi of O'Fallon, Mo. was the successful bidder. According to e-Bay records the bid escalated from \$2352 to \$3550 in the last 28 seconds of bidding. Nine separate bids were entered during this interval.

Mark B. mentioned that ISCA might get an infiltrometer from NRCS to auction off for future proceeds.

Loading Rate Keys completed and ready for use by the State when they revise the State code. Bruce recommended that the State be notified that we have something for them. Mark B. volunteered to contact the State Health Department and inform them of the Keys availability.

State Soil T-Shirt—Roger W., Mark B., & Bob Tegeler formed a committee to develop a State Soil T-Shirt. NRCS is not allowed to provide people or money toward shirt development. Several designs were presented. Long sleeve cost \$15-16 and short sleeve cost \$12-13. The Council recommended the purchase of 150 short-sleeve and 50 long-sleeve until we see how they are selling (assuming there is not a significant penalty for quantity purchases); cotton only shirt; the word “Drummer” written down the long the sleeve is to be avoided. Cost was estimated to be around \$3000. Council also recommended that “Draper’s” quote (if used) not be changed for political correctness. If possible, use the photo of Drummer since it was better than the artistic version of Drummer. The Executive Council did not make a motion to authorize expenditures of ISCA funds for this endeavor however the implication from the recorded conversation is that \$3000 would be acceptable based on the discussion. Shirts will be sold to recover costs. Awards of shirts will be made on a case-by-case basis.

Field Class/Exam –thought was to have class and exam at Allerton Park in October on a Thursday (3rd week). Exam would be on texturing based on lab samples. ISCA could be joint sponsor of this project with NRCS. Credit for CEUs would be given.

NEW BUSINESS

Nomination Committee needs—President (elect) and Vice-President nominations are needed. Bruce P. needs to identify a NewsLetter chairman.

Misc—Dues notices to the general membership are to be sent out December 7, 2004.

The next meeting will be held on March 1st, 2005, right after the Annual Meeting at about 8:00 PM at the Decatur Holiday Inn, Decatur, Illinois.

The meeting adjourned at 12:25 pm.

Pizza served after the meeting.

Respectfully submitted
Chris Cochran, Secretary

FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT MAKE PLANS NOW!

51st MIDWEST FRIENDS OF THE PLEISTOCENE FIELD CONFERENCE:
STREATOR, ILLINOIS
May 13-15, 2005

- BIG ICE MEETS BIG RIVER - **Quaternary history, environments, and processes** **in the Ancient Mississippi River valley region of** **north-central Illinois**

As one of several events we are planning in celebration of the centennial of the founding of the Illinois State Geological Survey in its modern form, the ISGS will host the 51st Midwest Friends of the Pleistocene field trip on May 13-15, 2005, in Streator, IL.

The trip will focus on an area of north-central Illinois in which glaciers of the Lake Michigan lobe repeatedly overrode the ancient course of the Mississippi River during the Illinois and Wisconsin Episodes, preserving thick, complex, valley-fill sediments and diverting the river to into its present course about 20, 300 ¹⁴C years ago. Deposits of the Ancient Mississippi River (AMR) are exposed in central Illinois along tributaries of the Illinois River, which follows part of the course of the AMR and which itself deposited an important glacial-fluvial record, as it drained the margin of the retreating late Wisconsin glacier. Big ice did meet a big river, indeed several times in central Illinois, and the result is a fascinating and important record of the middle and late Quaternary.

We will gather in Streator (65 miles southwest of Chicago) the evening of Friday May 13, spend Saturday May 14 examining Wisconsin and Illinois Episode glacial diamictons and fluvial deposits exposed by tributaries to and in terraces of the Illinois River. We will return to Streator for the night. On Sunday May 15 we will visit the east side of the Illinois Valley to examine the Sangamon Geosol, Wisconsin loesses, and Illinois and Wisconsin Episode glacial diamictons and fluvial sediments. Our buses will return to Streator to adjourn around 1 p.m.

The field trip fee of \$110.00 will include the welcoming reception, field trip guidebook, two breakfast buffets, two lunches, banquet on Saturday night, refreshments in the field, and bus transportation on Saturday and Sunday.

Make checks for field trip fee payable to: University of Illinois - FOP

Remit payment to:

Ms. Denise Sieving
Illinois State Geological Survey
615 East Peabody Drive
Champaign, IL 61820

Registration deadline is April 15, 2005.

No refunds for cancellations after April 21, 2005.

The Town & Country Inn, 2110 N. Bloomington Road, Streator, has been reserved as the headquarters for the meeting and is the only motel that can accommodate our group in the immediate vicinity. Streator is easily accessible. From I-80, take IL Route 23 south at Ottawa about 18 miles to the motel on the north edge of Streator. From I-39 take Route 18 east about 11 miles to Streator, then IL 23 north to the motel. From I-55 take Route 17 at Dwight to Route 18 to Streator, then Route 23 north to the motel. The Town & Country Inn is located in the northern part of Streator on the west side of Route 23. A room cost of \$45.00 plus tax per night has been negotiated (refer to "Geological Conference" when calling). **Make your own room reservations and pay the Town & Country Inn directly (815-672-3183).** Camping is not available in the immediate area.

We won't know you are coming until we get your money. Confirmation of registration will be sent via e-mail, so include your e-mail address with your check. We will provide paper receipts on site.

Two important points: 1) you should be prepared for strenuous hikes and wet conditions on both field days, and 2) because of logistical constraints at several sites, we must limit the number of registrants to 130.

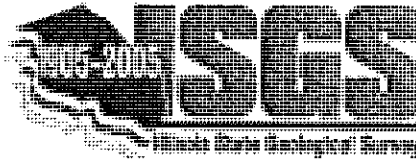
Topics to be discussed in the field include:

- Illinois and Wisconsin Episode fluvial and eolian deposits preserved in and near the courses of the Ancient Mississippi and Illinois Rivers
- the complex record of multiple Illinois and Wisconsin Episode glacial diamictons
- history of incision, valley fill, blockage, and diversion of the Ancient Mississippi River
- glacial depositional processes near the margin of the Lake Michigan glacial lobe
- Sangamon and Farmdale paleosols -- their characteristics and significance
- new 1:24,000 scale surficial geologic mapping of the Middle Illinois River Valley

If you have questions, please contact trip organizers Don McKay (217-333-0044, mckay@isgs.uiuc.edu), Dick Berg (217-244-2776, berg@isgs.uiuc.edu) or Ardith Hansel (217-333-5852, hansel@isgs.uiuc.edu), Tim Kemmis (217-244-2516, kemmis@isgs.uiuc.edu) or Andy Stumpf (217-244-6462, stumpf@isgs.uiuc.edu).

PLEASE PASS THIS NOTICE TO OTHERS WHO MAY BE INTERESTED!

TO ASSURE YOUR SPOT, MAKE ROOM RESERVATIONS
PAYMENT BEFORE April 15, 2005!



EARLY AND SEND

Ballot for 2005 Elections

President

_____ Clayton Heffter

_____ Pat Kelsey

Vice-President

_____ Ken Anderson

_____ Bob Tegeler

Treasurer

_____ Chuck Frazee

Mail to:

You may vote prior to the annual meeting by mailing your ballot to Chris Cochran, 1515 Casselbury Lane, Champaign, IL. 61822. Please, mark "Ballot" on the outside of the envelope. Mailed ballots must be received by February 28th, 2005.

**ISCA 30th Annual Meeting
Registration**

Name _____

Address _____

Number in Party _____

Meal _____ x _____ = _____

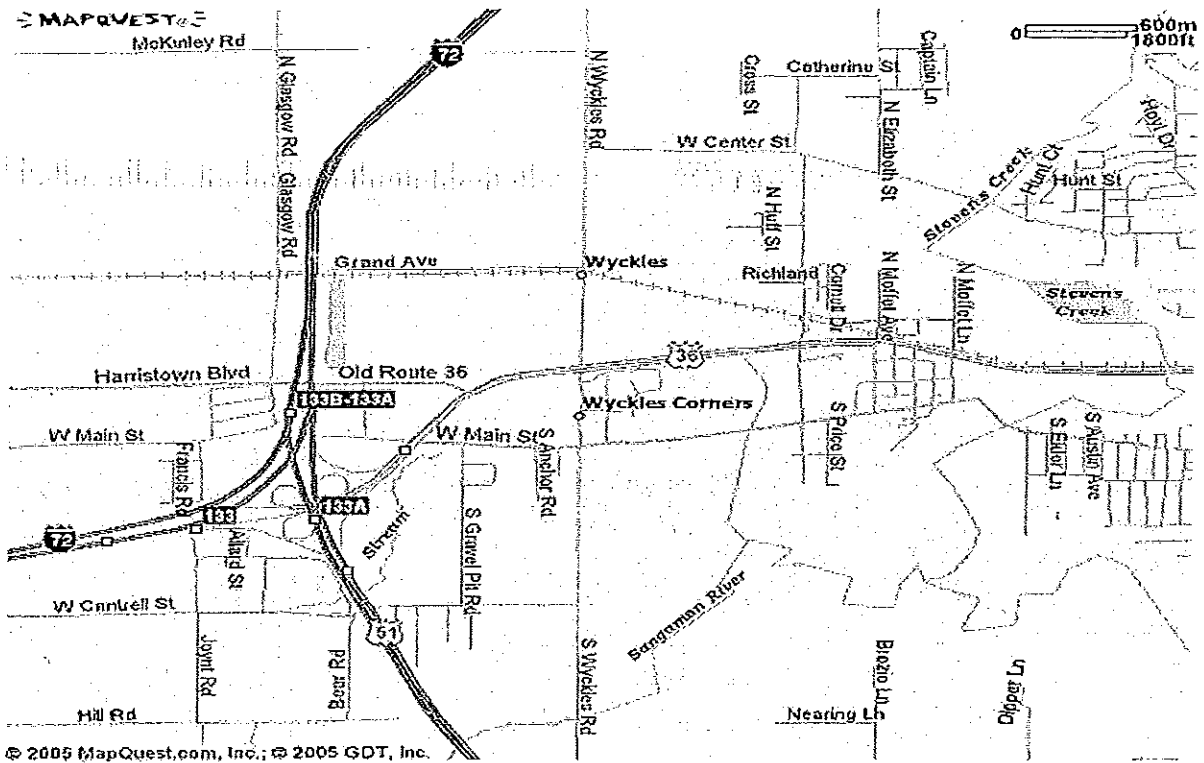
Cost: \$15/person – includes a plate dinner with choice of chicken or beef. Select your choice of meat on the registration form.

Deadline for meal reservation:

February 24

Send reservations with payment or call in reservations to:

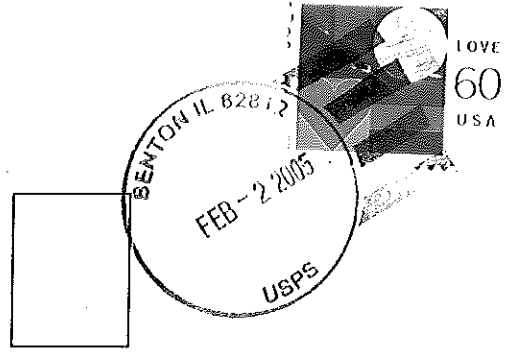
Jim Hornickel
104 Cornell Dr.
Normal, Illinois 61761
309-862-0007



2005
Annual
Meeting
Location

**Where: Holiday Inn Select
Conference Hotel** – The Hotel is
located on the west side of Decatur at
the intersection of U.S. Rt. 36 and
Wyckles Road.

Matt McCauley
1571 Club Road
Carterville, IL, 62918



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Mark W. Bramstedt
USDA NRCS
1001 E. Grant St., Suite A
Watseka, IL 60970

60970#1832





Illinois Soil Classifiers Association Newsletter

Spring 2005

Upcoming Events

- **Early Fall ISCA Meeting - East Central Illinois.** Come see soils behind, on top of, and in front of the Shelbyville Moraine.

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Message from the President

I would like to encourage our membership to participate in upcoming ISCA sponsored activities. The annual ISCA Summer Meeting is one example where we spend time in the field discussing current soils related issues and findings. Over the past couple of years we have looked at the variability of loam tills in Northern Illinois and visited the Central Illinois soils along the Illinois River. Late summer or most likely early fall, our plans are to visit East Central Illinois and check out the soils north of, on top of, and south of the Shelbyville Moraine. Lunch is provided at our cost, the atmosphere is more informal than at the annual winter meeting, and the weather is always better. So be there!

Our website keeps getting better. The address is www.illinoissoils.org. Mark Bramstedt has done a great job to build this up and keep it current. From the web site you can find out about upcoming events and programs, find contact numbers and address of many ISCA members, and view our most recent version of the Membership Handbook.

As a final comment, one surprise I had from our annual winter meeting was the great success of the Drummer t-shirt sales. I bought some as gifts and gave one to my son's high school science teacher. He loved it. My son told me his teacher wore it to the Northeastern Regional Envirothon, so I guess the word gets out about the Illinois State Soil in unexpected ways.

Regards
Bruce Putman
815-338-6218
putman@mc.net

Illinois State Soil T-Shirts Still Available

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

Short Sleeve -- \$12
Long Sleeve -- \$14
Shipping and Handling \$5 per order

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

Order by calling Chris Cochran (217) 345-6767
E-mail : chris_cochran@prodigy.net



Steps to Achieving Soil Science Licensing in Your State

(The following is an excerpt from a report by SSSA. It may be seen in its entirety at the website given at the end of the report on page 3.)

The Soil Science Society of America (SSSA) with help from licensed soil scientists that had experience in helping to get soil science licensing established in their state produced this document. It is a tool to help other soil scientists establish licensing in their state. It is also important to have uniformity between state licensing acts to help with reciprocity issues.

These are practical steps learned by those with the experience. Please realize that what worked in one state may not work in all states. Be flexible and approach the process in a positive manner, wanting to find solutions. Don't be confrontational and realize this may be a long process and success may not come on the first attempt. Don't give up. Determination and persistence are important. The staff and members of SSSA are willing to help. Their contact information is at the end of this document.

One major advantage and you will want to share this with contacts throughout this process is that SSSA's Council of Soil Science Examiners (CSSE) has already created the exams for your state to use in the licensing process. This is a major asset to getting licensing started.

Why is Soil Science Licensing important?

1. Protection of public health, welfare, safety and property.
2. Promote the profession (higher salaries, greater name recognition, greater respect for the profession).
3. Protect the profession by preventing abuses in the practice of soil science by untrained or unprincipled individuals.
4. Protect the profession by preventing other professions from excluding soil scientists from performing work that they are qualified to do.
5. Establish creditability for the practice of soil science equivalent to that of other professions (engineers, geologists, surveyors and architects).
6. Define the practice of soil science as a profession by establishing standards of ethical conduct and professional responsibility.

Step 1: Basic Analysis

Step 2: Strategy Time

Step 3: Developing the plan

Step 4: Implementation

Step 5: After the Legislation is Passed

Resources and Contacts

States' web sites for licensing acts:

Maine Code

<http://janus.state.me.us/legis/statutes/32/title32ch73secO.html>

Minnesota Code

<http://www.revisor.leg.state.mn.us/arule/1800/3910.html>

**“Why is Soil
Science
Licensing
important?”**

New Hampshire Code (listed as "natural scientist")
<http://www.state.nh.us/jtboard/home.htm>

North Carolina Code
<http://www.ncblss.org/>
<http://www.ncblss.org/hbill0826.html> (direct to the act)

North Dakota Code (classifiers)
<http://www.state.nd.us/lr/cencode/t43.html>
Go to: 43-36 Professional Soil Classifiers

Texas Code
<http://www.tbpg.state.tx.us>

Wisconsin Code
<http://drl.wi.gov/dept/codestats.htm> (look under Geology)

Soil Scientists:

Bob Kendall, Georgia, bob@kendallassociates.net
Dawn Tracy, Minnesota, dtracy@co.scott.mn.us
Jim Culver, Nebraska, j4culver@aol.com
Kevin Martin, North Carolina, kmartin@sandec.com
Murry Milford, Texas, mmilford@tca.net
Jerry Tyler, Wisconsin, ejtyler@wisc.edu

SSSA Contact:
Luther Smith, lsmith@agronomy.org
608-268-4977

This entire report may be viewed at the following website for the Soil Science Society of America.
http://www.soils.org/certification/pdf/how_to_soil_cert.pdf

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 greg.clark@il.usda.gov

- ISCA ball caps available for \$9 (includes S&H). Contact Chris Cochran at chris_cochran@prodigy.net

ILLINOIS SOIL CLASSIFIERS ASSOCIATION ISCA COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

March 1, 2005

30th ISCA Annual Meeting

Present:

Mark Bramstedt, President
 Bill Kreznor, Vice President
 Bruce Putman, President Elect
 Chris Cochran, Secretary
 Chuck Frazee, Treasurer
 Jaimee Hammit, Constitution, By-Laws, & Legislative Chair
 Jim Hornickel, Program Chair
 Ken Gotsch, Ethics, Certification, & Membership
 Bob McLeese, member

President Mark Bramstedt called the Council Meeting to order at 5:00 PM. Bramstedt asked for any additions or corrections to the minutes of Feb. 4, 2005 teleconference. Motion made and seconded to approve the minutes as amended through e-mail was approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report – Frazee passed out copies of the treasurer's report for the period of Nov. 29, 2004 thru Feb. 28, 2005: Opening Balance--\$15,176.19; Income--\$3,173.64; Expenses--\$1,476.07; Closing Balance--\$16,873.76. Frazee indicated he would give full report at the Annual Meeting that would follow in 1 hour. Proceeds from the auction of the Giddings soil probe were \$3,477.63 after expenses. Frazee indicated that we never received a bill for the winter workshop in DuPage County. Bramstedt indicated that he believed they would not bill us. Frazee went on to say that the cost of Soil Survey Horizons has gone up and is costing the Organization about \$190 more per year than the previous year. A dues increase may be in order to cover ever-increasing costs. Motion made and seconded to approve the treasurer's report was approved unanimously

Annual Meeting Agenda – Bramstedt passed around the agenda for the annual meeting and requested additions and corrections. Bramstedt discussed the agenda. Motion was made, seconded and approved to accept the agenda as written.

New Business

Soil Judging—Bob McLeese reported National Soil Judging Contest will be held in Auburn, AL this coming April. McLeese requested that the ISCA help with student expenses. Motion was made and seconded to allocate \$400 and 4 Drummer t-shirts to the students from Illinois to help defray miscellaneous expenses. Motion was approved. McLeese agreed to handle the details of getting the shirts and money to the students.

Meeting adjourned at 5:40 pm. Council regrouped at the Annual Meeting which followed.

Respectfully submitted
 Chris Cochran, Secretary

ISCA 30th ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES March 1, 2005 Holiday Inn & Convention Center Decatur, Illinois

Welcome, and opening remarks by Mark Bramstedt, ISCA President
 Meeting commenced at 6pm with an invocation by J. Wiley Scott. Dinner followed.

Michael Konen introduced Luther Smith, Vice President and Executive Director of Certification Programs, Soil Science Society of America who spoke about the Smithsonian Soils Exhibit and Certification. **(see picture page 12)**

A ceremony followed where Luther Smith accepted a check from ISCA for the amount of \$3477.63, which will be used for the Smithsonian Soils Exhibit. **(see picture page 11)**

54 members and guests were in attendance.
President Mark Bramstedt called the business meeting to order at 7:45 PM.

Secretary's Report – Chris Cochran. As of March 1, there were 98 paid members. There are 10 members that are delinquent. Last year there were 88 paid members at this time. Cochran read the minutes from the last annual meeting. Motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report - Charles Frazee reviewed income and expenses for the past year. Balance at beginning of year was \$10,328.26. Balance at end of year was \$16,309.05. See page 8 for detail.

Standing Committee Reports:

Certification Board Report – Bill Kreznor gave report. Expenses were \$38.15

Total number of CPSCs as of 1 March 2005: 42 (44 in 2003)

Delinquent members: 2

New Applications: 1

Members submitting CEUs 6 March 2004 through 28 February 2005: 13

Certification Board Members with terms expiring in 2004: Steve Elmer and Dana Grantham

Other activities: One certification Board meeting was held via e-mail on 29 September 2004.

Certification Board Members: Paul Brown; John Doll; Pat Kelsey; Steve Elmer; Dana Grantham

State Commission on Sewage Disposal – Don Fehrenbacher. No report. Don has left to become State Soil Scientist of Wisconsin.

Committee and Ad Hoc Committee Reports:

Constitution, By-Laws & Legislative – Jaimee Hammit. The Committee developed 4 tasks to complete in 2004. The first two tasks were to update the ISCA Handbook and create a new PDF for the ISCA website. The committee has made the changes to the Handbook and we are now working on correcting the formatting. This should be completed shortly and once we have a final document, we will create a new PDF for the ISCA website.

The other 2 tasks involved evaluating the definition of "experience" under the membership section of the handbook and the definition of an "out-of-state" member. The committee did not get to these tasks in 2004, but would like to tackle these in 2005.

Here are the questions I developed after speaking with Mark Bramstedt about the issue of experience:

--We may want to keep it ambiguous, but if not, what qualifies as a year of experience? Many members do not work for NRCS and some may not even do soils classification on a daily basis. Do we define a minimum amount of hours spent doing soils classification? A percentage like ARCPACS requires for certification? If we decide to be more specific, we will have to come up with a proposal to be reviewed at the Council Meeting.

For "out of state" member:

--Currently, an Out-of-State Member is any member who resides in a state other than Illinois that has an organization of professional soil scientists, and who is a member of that organization, and who does not practice soil classifying in Illinois. Some people may live in WI and work in IL, so they would not be allowed to be an out-of-state member. "Out-of-state" dues are cheaper and we could potentially lose members. If we decided to change this definition, we would need to come up with a proposal to present at the council meeting.

Ethics, Certification, & Membership – Ken Gotsch.

Committee Members: Bryan Fitch; Jesse Kurylo; Bruce Putman; Bill Teater

New ISCA Members – for 2004

FULL: Brad Cate; Greg Clark; Frank Heisner; Jacey Jones;

ASSOCIATE: Brad Boggess; Troy Fehrenbacher; Rick Francen; Zach Weber;

STUDENT: Jennifer Wollenweber

OUT OF STATE: Heidi Peterson

2005 Agenda:

Process new applicants (ongoing); Review definition for out of state membership; Review Certification Standards

Nominations – Mark Stelford. Three officers to be elected. President Elect– Clayton Heffter & Pat Kelsey.
Vice President – Ken Anderson & Bob Tegeler. Treasurer – Chuck Frazee.

Finance – Bill Kreznor.

The ISCA Finance Committee for the year 6 March 2004 through 1 March 2005 included Bill Kreznor, Vice-President and Chair, Ken Anderson, and Ann Mason.

The Finance Committee met on 2 February 2005 and conducted an audit of the financial records of the Association for calendar year 2004. The records were found to be accurate and in good order. The Finance Committee thanks ISCA Treasurer Chuck Frazee for his thoroughness and cooperation.

A budget for the Association is attached. ISCA is on solid financial ground. The treasury has experienced a substantial increase in funds, about \$6,000.00, over the last five years. This is mainly the result of the sale of the Giddings probe and income from a few very successful workshops. The 2005-2006 budget shows a deficit of \$3,460.00. This is due to two one-time expenses: our contribution to the Smithsonian Soils Exhibit + \$3,470.00 and the purchase of State Soil shirts +\$2,400.00. The Finance Committee expects the State Soil shirt expenses will be recaptured in 2-3 years. As such, the difference between income and expenses is expected to remain minimal.

Finally, ISCA dues currently stand at \$25.00. Dues cover the cost of a \$15.00 subscription to *Soil Survey Horizons*.

Beginning in 2005, that subscription will increase to \$17.00. Given the solid financial footing upon which ISCA currently sits, the Finance Committee does not recommend a dues increase for the year 2005-2006. However, that option should be explored if expenses for 2006 and beyond are anticipated to increase significantly.

Public Relations and Education – Doug Gaines.

I accepted the Chair position of the committee after Don Fehrenbacher accepted a position in Wisconsin as State Soil Scientist. Below is a brief synopsis of what I was aware of from 2004 and the possible direction of 2005. Illinois State University hosted the 44th Annual National Collegiate soil judging contest April 22 & 23. The judging was held at 2 different sites in McLean County. The University of Wisconsin, Platteville was the overall winner this year. The 2005 contest will be hosted by Auburn University. The 2004 Illinois Land Improvement Contractors Association (ILICA) Conservation Expo was held at the Robert & Richard Lasser Farms in Anchor, Illinois - McLean County August 24 -26, 2004. ISCA was involved with assisting with the displays, etc. Some of the conservation practices implemented during the expo were: Field Windbreak - Filter Strips - Grassed Waterway - Pond - Shallow Water Area for Wildlife (Constructed Wetland) - Water & Sediment Control Basin (Dry Dam)

Also at the expo were displays of: A Soil Pit - Pipeline Safety - Septic Suitability Analysis - Septic Tank Installation

ISCA had an eBay auction of a Giddings soil probe in September to raise funds for the Smithsonian Soils Exhibit. The auction netted \$3,477.63.

The definition for the Burt Ray Award was changed; Burt Ray Award -Requirements for the award is outdated. A proposal to change the requirement for the award to simply state that the recipient "...is an individual from an Illinois Collegiate Institution who has attained the highest score in the Region 3 Soil Judging Contest." Motion so made and approved. Winner in 2004 was: Edwin Winzeler.

The survey entitled "Professional Soil Scientist Survey Results" prepared by Margie Faber were published in our January newsletter. The Soil Science Society of America (SSSA) and the United States Consortium of Soil Science Associations (USCSSA) participated in the survey.

Todd Soukup has been finalizing the "Guide to Interpreting Your Soil Report" septic brochure designed to help homeowners understand the soil evaluation as it relates to septic systems.



2004 Burt Ray Award Winner
Edwin Winzeler

Plans for 2005 are to develop a new ISCA brochure. Our current brochure was developed in the early 80's. So 25 years later with technology changes and our field's changes, it's time to update who we are.

Coming in May - the 51st Midwest Friends of the Pleistocene Field Conference to be held in Streator, Illinois, May 13-15, 2005.

Program – Jim Hornickel. Conducted Geomorphic Tour along the Illinois River along with the Illinois Geological Survey September 10, 2005. 27 members attended.

Smithsonian Soils Display – Bill Kreznor.

The ISCA Smithsonian Soils Exhibit Committee consisted of Mike Konen (State Liaison), Bill Kreznor, Bob McLeese, and Dave Rahe.

The Committee began developing a list and making contacts with potential corporate sponsors.

The Illinois Chapter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society made a contribution of \$1,000.00. Individual donations from ISCA members have also been made. Among these donors are Les Bushue, Mike Konen, Bill Kreznor, and Bruce Putman. ISCA auctioned on eBay a trailer-mounted Giddings probe donated to ISCA. Net proceeds of \$3,477.63 from the sale will be donated. Illinois has raised about 48% of our goal of \$10,000.00.

The Committee coordinated a mass mailing to Soil Science Society of America members in Illinois at the end of last year. Much remains to be done. The Committee welcomes any ideas or assistance concerning the fundraising effort. ISCA members are encouraged to contact any of the Smithsonian Soils Exhibit Committee members. Members are also urged to promote this effort among their personal, professional, and corporate contacts.

To view a rendering of the exhibit and to track donations, please visit the website (www.soils.org/smithsonian/).

The Smithsonian Soils Exhibit Committee encourages all ISCA members to support our profession and foster the objective of our Association: promote the wise utilization of the soil resource. We ask that each member make a generous, tax-deductible donation in 2005.

Historian - Roger Windhorn.

The ISCA Historian serves as an ad hoc “committee” established to document and record our past accomplishments. For this reason, there are generally no “new” committee reports during the course of the year!

We currently have a filing system that organizes ISCA activities on a yearly basis. We have notes, newsletters, annual meeting reports, lists of officers, committee heads, certified members, etc. We also have selected photos from a number of past activities, although there are several with no identity! Our lists are not 100% complete for every year, especially those that go back fifteen years or more. We have also developed an Excel spreadsheet that lists all members (current presently to 2003) and lists all offices they have held and committees that they have chaired. As a side comment, I might add that one item that was and still is very confusing is that lists of officers, committees, annual reports, etc. are listed in newsletters and secretary minutes for a particular *calendar* year rather than the actual *business* year of the Association. This often leads to confusion as to the exact year that a person held office or served on a committee. Suggestion is to be more explicit in listing which *business* year it was since this is the way we are organized.

I strongly encourage the Executive Council to continue to provide a Member List, Certified List, Officer List, Committee Chair List, and all Newsletters for the given business year to the Historian after the Annual Meeting. Once I receive these, the spreadsheet can be updated and our history can be recorded.

T-Shirt – Roger Windhorn.

Committee consisted of Roger Windhorn, Bob McLeese, Bob Tegeler, & Mark Bramstedt. Selected State Soil “Drummer” as design. Ordered 200 shirts. Long sleeve and short sleeve. Shirts sell for \$14 and \$12 respectively. We make about \$1.50/shirt.



Example of the State Soil Displays that will be used for the Smithsonian Soils Exhibit.

Treasurer's Report for 2004

Balance Opening - \$ 10,328.26 (01/01/04)

Income:

Annual Meeting	\$ 345.50
Dues	2620.00
Certification	700.00
Internet	130.00
Interest	60.40
Shirts	64.00
Bookmarks	55.10
Caps	60.00
Fall Meeting	10.00
Soil Tubes	75.00
Soil Monoliths	5.00
Giddings Soil Probe	3550.00
Winter Workshop	1750.00

	\$ 9425.00

Expenses:

Administration	\$ 281.11
Certification Board	78.94
Annual Meeting	1034.95
Annual Meeting - 2005	100.00
Fall Meeting	304.35
Soil Survey Horizons	1170.00
Ebay (Giddings Sale)	72.37
Winter Workshop	402.49

	\$ 3444.21

Balance Closing - \$16,309.05 (12/31/04)



ANNOUNCEMENT

Currently, 64 ISCA members receive this newsletter through the U.S. Mail. In order to keep administrative costs down, we will no longer mail out the newsletter. Instead, you will be notified through email when the current/next newsletter is available on our web site. Exceptions will be made for those of you who do not have computers or email addresses. If, for any other reason, you wish to continue to receive the newsletter through the U.S. Mail, contact Chris Cochran at chris_cochran@prodigy.net.

The ISCA Newsletter can be downloaded in PDF format from our web site at:

<http://www.illinoissoils.org/news.htm>



Old Business:

Key for determining loading rates. Distributed at meeting and is on web page.

New Business:

ISCA BUDGET: 2005

	2004		2005	
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual
<u>Income</u>				
Annual Meetings		355.50	450.00	
Dues		2620.00	2700.00	
Certification		700.00	700.00	
Internet		130.00	0.00	
Interest		60.40	80.00	
Shirts		64.00	1200.00	
Bookmarks		55.10	40.00	
Hats		60.00	50.00	
Soil Tubes		75.00	50.00	
Monoliths		5.00	0.00	
Giddings probe		3550.00	0.00	
Workshops		1750.00	1750.00	
Soil Cards		0.00	0.00	
TOTAL		9425.00	7020.00	
Expenses				
Administration	-400.00	-281.11	-600.00	
Annual Meetings	-1050.00	-1339.30	-1200.00	
Certification Board	-100.00	-78.94	-200.00	
Workshops		-402.49	-500.00	
Soil Survey Horizons	-1100.00	-1170.00	-1360.00	
Awards	-300.00	0.00	-300.00	
Public Relations	-350.00	0.00	-350.00	
Miscellaneous	-100.00	0.00	-100.00	
Smithsonian Exhibit		0.00	-3470.00	
T - Shirts		0.00	-2400.00	
State Soil		0.00	0.00	
Farm Progress Show		0.00	0.00	
TOTAL	-3400.00	-3271.84	-10480.00	
Surplus or (Deficit)		6153.16	-3460.00	

Motion to approve budget was seconded and approved.

2005 Field Class – Bramstedt reported that ISCA, in cooperation with NRCS, will host a field class to help hone the skills of soil classifiers. It will be held the 3rd week of October at Allerton Park near Monticello, IL. This will also provide certified members the opportunity to obtain CEU's to maintain certification.

Bent Auger Award – Roger Windhorn. Award started in 1977. Paul Youngstrom was the first recipient. Purpose of award is to recognize an individual who has distinguished him or herself by an act of legendary faux pas or gaffe (real, imagined, made up, or even an egregious lie). Karla Petges was last year's winner. This year's winner is Brian Fitch for driving a probe into a swarm of hornets. **(see picture page 12)**

Election Results – Mark Stelford. Clayton Heffter – President Elect; Bob Tegeler – Vice President; Chuck Frazee – Treasurer.

Presidents Prerogative – Mark Bramstedt thanked his cabinet and chairs for their work. Mark also honored the Charter Members this being our 30th year.

Passing the Gavel – Bruce Putman accepted the gavel for 2005. **(see picture page 12)**

Closing Comments – Bruce Putman announced committee chairs:

Constitution, By-Laws, & Legislative – Jaimee Hammit

Ethics, Certification and Membership – Ken Gotsch

Nominations – Mark Bramstedt

Public Relations & Education – Doug Gaines

Finance – Bob Tegeler

Newsletter – Greg Clark

Program – (open)

Bruce and the members thanked Mark Bramstedt for his service with a round of applause.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15PM. A short Executive Council Meeting followed.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Cochran, Secretary

**ILLINOIS SOIL CLASSIFIERS ASSOCIATION
ISCA COUNCIL MEETING (2nd) MINUTES
March 1, 2005
30th ISCA Annual Meeting**

Present:

Bruce Putman, President

Mark Bramstedt, Past President

Bob Tegeler, Vice President

Clayton Heffter, President Elect

Chris Cochran, Secretary

Chuck Frazee, Treasurer

Doug Gaines, Education & Public Relations

President Bruce Putman called the Council Meeting to order at 9:30 PM.

Approval of Officers – J. Wiley Scott and John Pearce were nominated to serve on the Certification Board. Bramstedt made a motion to approve their nomination. Cochran seconded. Approved. Putman outlined the other Chairs:

Jaimee Hammit – Constitution, Legislative, and By-Laws

Doug Gaines – Education & Public Relations

Nominations – Mark Bramstedt

Finance – Bob Tegeler

Newsletter – Greg Clark

Program – (open)

Ken Gotsch – Ethics, Certification & Membership

Motion was made and seconded to accept the candidates for the various committee chairs. Motion was approved.

The next Executive Council Meeting is scheduled for Friday, May 6, 2005 at 10am at the Bloomington NRCS Field Office.

Agenda Items for next Meeting:

- * Discuss Jim Hornickel's suggestion of honoring members' work on State Soil at next Council Meeting.
- * E-mailing newsletter to reduce costs and work of Newsletter Chair.
- * Review duties for each position as outlined in the Constitution.
- * Doug would like input on the direction the Education and Public Relations Committee should be going.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45pm

Respectfully submitted

Chris Cochran, Secretary

Updated Membership Handbook on the Web

Over the past two months, the Constitution, By-Laws, and Legislative Committee along with past president, Mark Bramstedt, have made corrections to the ISCA Membership Handbook, reflecting revisions which took place in 1997 and 1999. The previous version on the web was only current through 1995. Along with the technical edits, formatting changes were made and links to the major sections of the handbook were established in the Table of Contents.

Update on Fundraising Goal for Smithsonian Soil Exhibit

As of April 2005, the total funds raised by all 50 states is \$271, 475. 14 states have reached their fundraising goals and 8 are more than halfway to reaching their goals. The 3 states at the top of the donation list are California (\$16,387), Texas (\$13,548) and Montana (\$12,000).

Illinois has currently raised \$6,277.63. The ISCA donation from the auction of the Giddings probe accounts for \$3,477.63. ISCA members have also made private donations to the exhibit.

The May 2005 issue of the CSA News has an article about the ISCA donation from the sale of the Giddings probe. This can be viewed on page 28 or on the web at <http://www.asa-cssa-sssa.org/news.html> if you are a member of one of the societies and have a log in.



Mike Konen and Mark Bramstedt present Luther Smith with a check from ISCA for the Smithsonian Soils Exhibit acquired through the sale of a Giddings soil probe.



Pictures from the 30th Annual Meeting

Counter Clockwise

1. Luther Smith, SSSA, guest speaker
2. Roger Windhorn campaigning to Chuck Frazee for Ipava as the state soil with John Doll in the background. Somebody please tell Roger the voting is already over!
3. Charter member Cliff Miles and his wife Margaret enjoying the meeting.
4. Brian Fitch accepting the Bent Auger Award (Roger Windhorn presenting)
5. Passing of the gavel (Mark Bramstedt to Bruce Putman)



www.illinoissoils.org

ISCA Newsletter Staff
683 Castle Drive
Charleston, IL 61920

Phone: 217-345-6767
Fax: 217-345-7307
Email:
greg.clark@usda.gov

Submissions

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

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

Publication Schedule for 2005-2006

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



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.

Editor's Ramblings

None of us have worked with Microsoft Publisher or a newsletter before, so this is a work in progress. Please be patient..

As we understand, the newsletter is suppose to come out 4 times a year. With this in mind, we have tentative plans to publish the newsletter the first week or so of the following months: August (Summer), November (Fall), February (Winter) and May (Spring). If you have information you would like to see in the newsletter, please try and get the information to the newsletter committee before the first day of the above months. For example, if submitting information for the Summer newsletter, try and get information to us by the last week of July. Your help with submitting material in a timely manner will help us to stay on a schedule with publishing the newsletter.

If you have questions or suggestions about the newsletter, please let us know.

Newsletter Committee

2005 Illinois Soil Judging Team

The University of Illinois Soil Judging Team, with help from ISCA, attended the Intercollegiate National Soil Judging Contest in Auburn, Alabama this past April. They placed 6th out of 22 teams. **Congratulations to the team for their excellent finish in the contest!**



Team members are: Lindsay Reinhardt, Olivia Dorothy, Edwin Winzeler and Andy Brantner.



Illinois Soil Classifiers Association Newsletter

Summer 2005

Upcoming Events

ISCA Council Meeting
August 26, 2005

ISCA Fall Meeting and Tour
October 7, 2005

Central States Forest Soils
Workshop October 11-13,
2005

ISCA and NRCS Co-
sponsored Field Exam for
Soil Classifiers and Soil
Scientists October 20, 2005

Illinois Cooperative Soil
Survey Annual Planning
Conference September 14,
2005

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Message from the President

During our last Executive Council meeting we created a subcommittee to review the current requirements for soil classifier certification. Ken Gotsch was nominated to chair the committee and has already formed a subcommittee to review and propose modifications to the requirements for certification. Specifically, his group is working to revise the 500 hours required for certification and to propose a more achievable standard.

The Summer/Fall meeting has been scheduled and will be held in Clark and Edgar Counties in Southeastern Illinois in early October. The tour will include the examination of several soil series and an overview of the current soil survey update process. I again encourage the membership to attend this tour since it is a great opportunity to see the soils in an area you may not be familiar with and to meet other soil scientists from throughout the state.

Regards
Bruce Putman
815-338-6218
putman@mc.net

COMMITTEE TACKLES CERTIFICATION STANDARDS

The Ethics, Certification and Membership Committee has been reviewing the standards and requirements for ISCA certification. The initial work began early this year with committee members commenting on the overall certification requirements. This comment period preceded a work-group subcommittee established by the Ethics, Certification and Membership Chairperson, Ken Gotsch. This subcommittee consisted of Mark Bramstedt, John Doll, Dana Grantham, Clayton Heffter, Bruce Putman and Wiley Scott. Five members of this working subcommittee met at the NRCS Field Office in Normal on July 14, 2005 to forge a revised version based on comments received including the working subcommittee's own personal experience. A draft revision was achieved and will be presented to the ISCA Council for review. Formal approval and adoption requires approval by the ISCA Council followed by notification to ISCA membership culminating in a formal vote. More information is to follow.

Ken Gotsch, Chair
Ethics, Certification and Membership Committee

ILLINOIS SOIL CLASSIFIERS ASSOCIATION

MINUTES

ISCA COUNCIL MEETING

May 6, 2005

Bloomington, Illinois

Present:

Mark Bramstedt, Past President

Greg Clark, Newsletter Chair

Bob Tegeler, Vice President

Bruce Putman, President

Chris Cochran, Secretary

Chuck Frazee, Treasurer

Clayton Heffter, President Elect

Ken Gotsch, Ethics, Certification, & Membership

President Bruce Putman called the Council Meeting to order at 10:10 AM.

Putman called for a motion to approve the Agenda. Motion so made, seconded and approved. Putman called for a motion to approve the minutes for the two previous Council Meetings and the Annual Meeting all held on March 1, 2005. Cochran indicated that there was a change in the minutes regarding the Treasurer's report. Motion was made, seconded and approved to approve the minutes as amended. (The amended minutes were published in the Spring 2005 ISCA Newsletter.)

Secretary's Report – Drummer T-Shirts. Of the 200 shirts ordered, 106 remain. 0-medium; 40-large; 49-xlarge; 5-xxlarge; 12-xxxlarge. Remaining inventory is valued at \$1,322.

Treasurer's Report – Frazee passed out copies of the treasurer's report. Opening balance as of March 1, 2005 was \$16,873.76; Income-\$2,133.82; Expenses-\$7,971.20; Closing Balance as of May 5, 2005 is \$11,036.38. Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report was made, seconded and approved unanimously.

Certification Board – Bill Kreznor. One applicant received favorable reviews by the Board. An exam is to be scheduled. The Board is currently reviewing CEUs submitted by 13 CPSCs.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Constitution, By-Laws and Legislative – Jaimee Hammitt. No report.

Ethics, Certification and Membership – Ken Gotsch. Sent questionnaire to CPSC members regarding certification requirements. Two members responded. Ken will follow up.

Finance – Bob Tegeler. Rick Francen and Steve Suhl are committee members.

Newsletter – Greg Clark. Greg passed out drafts of newsletter for review and approval. Ken Gotsch commended Greg and his committee for a good job.

Nominations – Mark Bramstedt. No report.

Public Relations and Education – Doug Gaines. Need brochure for ISCA and follow up on Todd Soukup's work on Understanding your Soil Report.

AD-HOC AND SPECIAL APPOINTEE REPORTS

Program – Greg Clark. Putting a tour together across Shelbyville moraine/outwash plain/ Illinoisan till.

Historian – Roger Windhorn. No report.

State Advisory Commission on Private Sewage Disposal – Bruce Putman. Bruce appointed Mark Bramstadt to chair this position. Chad Morman from the Illinois Dept. of Public Health will be notified of this appointment.

Smithsonian Project Coordinator – Bill Kreznor. Over \$6000 raised in Illinois. State Liaison Mike Konen will prepare letters to conservation groups and farm organizations this summer. ISCA members are encouraged to contact Bill or Mike regarding potential donors.

USCSSA Teleconference – Bob Tegeler. 15 individuals participated in the teleconference. Notes cover the last 4 agenda items:

Item 6 -Meeting the Needs of Professional Soil Scientists Survey of 2004. Are there some critical items that we could identify as priority for the USCSSA?

Possible priorities discussed include:

- On-line journal that goes beyond the scope of *Soil Survey Horizons*
- Field trips for hands on training
- The declining number of soil scientists at universities
- Better promote a soil science curriculum at universities
- Possible decline in Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) funding
- Summarize the survey in *Soil Survey Horizons*
- Send out survey results again, as a word document, if needed

Item 7 - Concern on decline in Soil Pedology programs at universities. How can State Soil Societies/Associations support a strong Pedology program at their universities?

- Send letters of support to university heads for their efforts in support of pedology programs
- Express concern over pedology staff reductions at some universities
- Survey land grant universities next winter to determine the number of soil scientists on staff in pedology departments
- Urge universities to offer BS degrees in soil science

Item 8 - What State Soil Societies/Associations are doing to promote soils education for youth and others.

- Promote state soils to youth, by use of soil tubes
- One SWCD is trying to develop a soil tunnel
- Put educational material on the web site
- Consider a Journal of Life Sciences and Education
- Work on getting educational information out to the public

Item 9- Update on new MLRA concepts of production soil survey.

- Try to get more people in field mapping (more like a soil survey operation)
- Roger Risley (MN) discussed MLRA procedures in Minnesota. He stressed that the soil survey should not be limited by county or state boundaries, but should be on a geomorphic basis.

OLD BUSINESS

- ▷ Membership Handbook – On web.
- ▷ Recognition of those who worked on State Soil – Jim Hornickel to be asked to head up committee.
- ▷ E-Mail Newsletter – Discussion centered on sending email to members notifying them that future Newsletters will be posted on the Web. Members wanting Newsletters mailed will have to request it. Motion was made by Clayton Heffter, seconded by Mark Bamstedt to “send Newsletter to ALL Members one last time, notifying them that future Newsletters will be by email unless they request otherwise.” Motion carried.
- ▷ State Loading Rate Chart – posted on web. Need to put a disclaimer that this is not for general use. Members need to use current chart. Chart on web is proposed.

NEW BUSINESS

- ▷ Cliff Miles’ request – Bruce will contact Doug to contact Cliff for recommendation.
- ▷ Summer Meeting Agenda and location – In progress
- ▷ Roy Mahnesmith’s request – Long discussion ensued. Ken’s committee will need to make recommendation on future alternative means for certification. Motion was made to approve Roy Mahnesmith’s request for alternate means for certification. Motion was defeated. Bruce will contact Roy to explain the Council’s action. Ken will have ideas by next meeting.
- ▷ Hydric Soils Training – To be held on June 30-July 1 in Sycamore, IL.

Meeting adjourned at 12:20 pm.

Next council meeting has been changed to August 26, 2005 at 10am in Bloomington.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Cochran, Secretary

ISCA Fall Soils Tour

The ISCA Fall Tour will be hosted by the Charleston MLRA Soil Survey office on October 7th, 2005. Plans are to evaluate soils north, south, and on the Shelbyville Moraine. The tour will take place in southern Edgar County and the northern part of Clark County. The stops will include a chance to evaluate a soil with a paleosol. Lunch will be provided by ISCA and will be at Mill Creek Park in Clark County. An overview of the process of NRCS soil survey updates will be included as part of the tour.

Mark Friday, October 7th, 2005 on your calendars and make plans to attend the ISCA Fall Soils Tour.

Registration, agenda, hotel information, etc. will be sent out around the first part of September.



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 greg.clark@il.usda.gov

- ISCA ball caps available for \$9 (includes S&H). Contact Chris Cochran at chris_cochran@prodigy.net

Illinois State Soil T-Shirts Still Available

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

Short Sleeve -- \$12

Long Sleeve -- \$14

Shipping and

Handling \$5 per order

Order by calling Chris Cochran (217) 345-6767

E-mail : chris_cochran@prodigy.net

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



Mr. Bruce Putman, President
Illinois Soil Classifiers Association
1200 Portage Lane
Woodstock, Illinois 60098

March 30, 2005

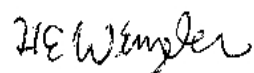
Edwin Winzeler
407 East Green Street #2
Urbana, Illinois 61802

Dear Mr. Putman,

I was honored to receive the Burt Ray award last fall at the regional Soil Judging competition at Purdue University. Our team placed third among the teams there and qualified for the national championship in Alabama. Two of us from the team have continued on and we have added two new teammates. We are hoping to perform even better at this coming competition on April 7th.

I would sincerely like to thank the ISCA for recognizing my efforts to succeed at competitive soil judging with such a generous award. With my winnings I have decided to purchase equipment that will be useful to me as a soil scientist.

Sincerely,



Edwin Winzeler

Edwin is currently a summer trainee with the Charleston MLRA. He has assisted with editing manuscripts and field-work in Coles and Macon Counties, participated in order one mapping and training in Lake County, and practice mapped areas in Coles County. He will be finishing his degree at the University of Illinois this year.



Mr. Bruce Putman, President
 Illinois Soil Classifiers Association
 1200 Portage Lane
 Woodstock, Illinois 60098

March 30, 2005

Andy Brantner, Olivia Dorothy,
 Lindsay Reinhardt, and Edwin Winzeler
 University of Illinois Soil Judging Team
 1102 South Goodwin Street
 Urbana, Illinois 61802

Dear Mr. Putman,

We would like to thank you and the members of the Illinois Soil Classifiers Association for your generosity in supporting our team as we head to the National Soil Judging contest in Auburn, Alabama this spring. We are eager to represent Illinois well by winning the competition.

Though none of us has direct experience of the Ultisols common in Lee County, Alabama, Dr. Darmody, our coach, will train us for a week on the soils there. In the mean time we have been studying the taxonomic and natural history aspects of the soils by examining published soil survey reports. We have also textured numerous soil samples to develop our skills in using the textural triangle. Once we arrive in Alabama we believe we can gain the first-hand knowledge of the region's soils necessary for winning the competition by means of intensive field investigation before the competition begins.

The generosity of the ISCA has gone a long way toward meeting our expenses in Alabama and has made it easier for us to commit to our task. On a less instrumental level, it is inspiring to realize that the ISCA recognizes what we are attempting to do so much as to grant support. We appreciate the support and will do our best to earn it.

Sincerely,

Edwin Winzeler
Edwin Winzeler

Lindsay Reinhardt
Lindsay Reinhardt

Olivia Dorothy
Olivia Dorothy

Andy Brantner

Andy Brantner

Go Illini!



ISCA Hosts Hydric Soils Course

An ISCA course “Hydric Soils for Wetland Determinations” was held June 30-July 1 in Sycamore in DeKalb County. The course focused on using the “Field Indicators of Hydric Soils” and was attended by private consultants and some employees of state and federal agencies. Twenty seven people attended the course (29 paid) which had a limit of 30 participants. Five of those attending were ISCA members (ISCA members received a 50% discount). Since the course covered some basic soils information, it was targeted to the non-soil scientist or to soil scientists who were unfamiliar with



the Field Indicators of Hydric Soils. The 2-day course actually covered quite a bit of material and it included both lecture and field activities. The first day was pretty grueling. It started at 9:30 AM and finished at 9:00 PM. In the two days, two field trips were taken to Shabbona



State Park where the participants were able to see several different soils representing many of the hydric soil indicators. The participants described and evaluated the soils to determine which indicator(s) the soils might meet. In another field activity the participants used the indicators to determine the boundary between a hydric soil and a non-hydric soil. The dry conditions of spring and early summer made it more difficult to sample the soils, but we had plenty of mallets on hand to get the soil probes into the ground.

This course was organized by several ISCA members in NE Illinois who work with consultants in wetland determinations. These ISCA members had noticed a lack of understanding of hydric soil properties in many of the reports that they receive from consultants that deal with wetlands. The course was established to provide consultants and others who work with wetlands a better understanding of hydric soil properties and to provide some training to help the consultants provide better documentation when describing hydric soils.



ISCA members on the planning committee were: Jaimee Hammit, Clayton Heffter, Ken Anderson, Pat Kelsey, Dale Calsyn, Mark Bramstedt, Jennifer Wollenweber, and Todd Soukup. All the instructors for the course were ISCA members, as well. Instructors included Jaimee Hammit, Clayton Heffter, Ken Anderson, Pat Kelsey, Dale Calsyn, Mark Bramstedt, Roger Windhorn, Ken Gotsch, and Steven Zwicker. Dale, Mark, Roger, Ken and Steve also served as the field instructors.

The course evaluations were almost all positive and several comments requested or suggested that we host another hydric soil course in the near future. It appears that the course was a great success! Thanks to all those who were involved in both the planning and the instruction.

Submitted by Mark Bramstedt

The Soil Scientist Association of Tennessee (SSAT) and NRCS will be hosting the

25th Annual Central States Forest Soils Workshop

October 11-13, 2005

Great Smoky Mountain National Park.

NRCS has been conducting a soil survey in the park since 1999 and has sampled many pedons.

A block of rooms has been reserved at the Holiday Inn (full service) in Cherokee, North Carolina. Contact numbers are: 800-Holiday or 828-497-9181. Let the hotel know you are with the "**Forest Soils Workshop**" or give them the group code "**FSW**". The guaranteed rate for two double beds is \$64.00 + taxes. A room with a king bed is available for \$74.00 + taxes.

Early registration for the workshop is **\$69 per participant**.

For more information or to register by mail using the registration form, log on the NRCS website: www.tn.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/soils/CSFSWS/CSFSWS.html.

Make plans now to attend!

ISCA and NRCS to Co-sponsor a Field Exam for Soil Classifiers and Soil Scientists

The purpose of this exam is to test and fine-tune the skills and abilities of Illinois soil scientists and soil classifiers in identifying soil properties in the field. This exam will be an opportunity for each soil classifier to evaluate his or her skills in identifying color, texture, structure, limiting layers, and other basic soil properties. Often times, soil classifiers work alone in the field and do not have a way of comparing their field evaluation with other soil classifiers. The Field Exam will provide an opportunity for discussion of some of the basic issues in field identification and interpretation of soils. The field exam will use the approved "[Key for Determining Sewage Loading Rates](#)" (from the Illinois Department of Public Health, Private Sewage Disposal Licensing Act and Code <http://www.ilga.gov/commission/jcar/admincode/077/07700905ZZ9996amR.html>) and procedures and nomenclature from the USDA [Soil Survey Manual](http://soils.usda.gov/technical/manual/) <http://soils.usda.gov/technical/manual/> and the USDA-NRCS [Field Book for Describing and Sampling Soils](http://soils.usda.gov/technical/fieldbook/) <http://soils.usda.gov/technical/fieldbook/>.

Copies of the "Key for Determining Sewage Loading Rates" will be available. All those attending are encouraged to bring their soil description gear. Suggested items to bring include: Munsell color book, water bottle, tape measure, 100 foot tape or measuring wheel, compass, knife, pencils, clipboard, textural triangle and any field guide or other reference material. There will be some extra field gear available for you to use if you do not have a specific item. You do not need a soil probe or shovel. The field exam will be considered an "open book" exam, so any reference material may be used. This is a voluntary exam and the results of the exam will not be kept as an official record of the individual member. The exam is not required for certified soil classifiers however, the ISCA Executive Council strongly encourages all practicing members to attend and welcomes the attendance of all members. The field exam will qualify for continuing education units. Here are the details of the exam day:

Date: **Thursday, October 20, 2005**

Time: Attend one of two sessions - morning (9:00-12:00) or afternoon (1:00-4:00)

Where: Allerton Park, 4-H camp, west of **Monticello, IL** (see map following page– use the north entrance)

Cost: None – one of the many benefits of being an ISCA member

All ISCA members and soil classifiers are encouraged to attend.

All NRCS soil scientists are encouraged to attend.

Advanced registration is required

Register by contacting:

Mark Bramstedt (e-mail preferred)

USDA-NRCS

1001 E. Grant St., Suite A

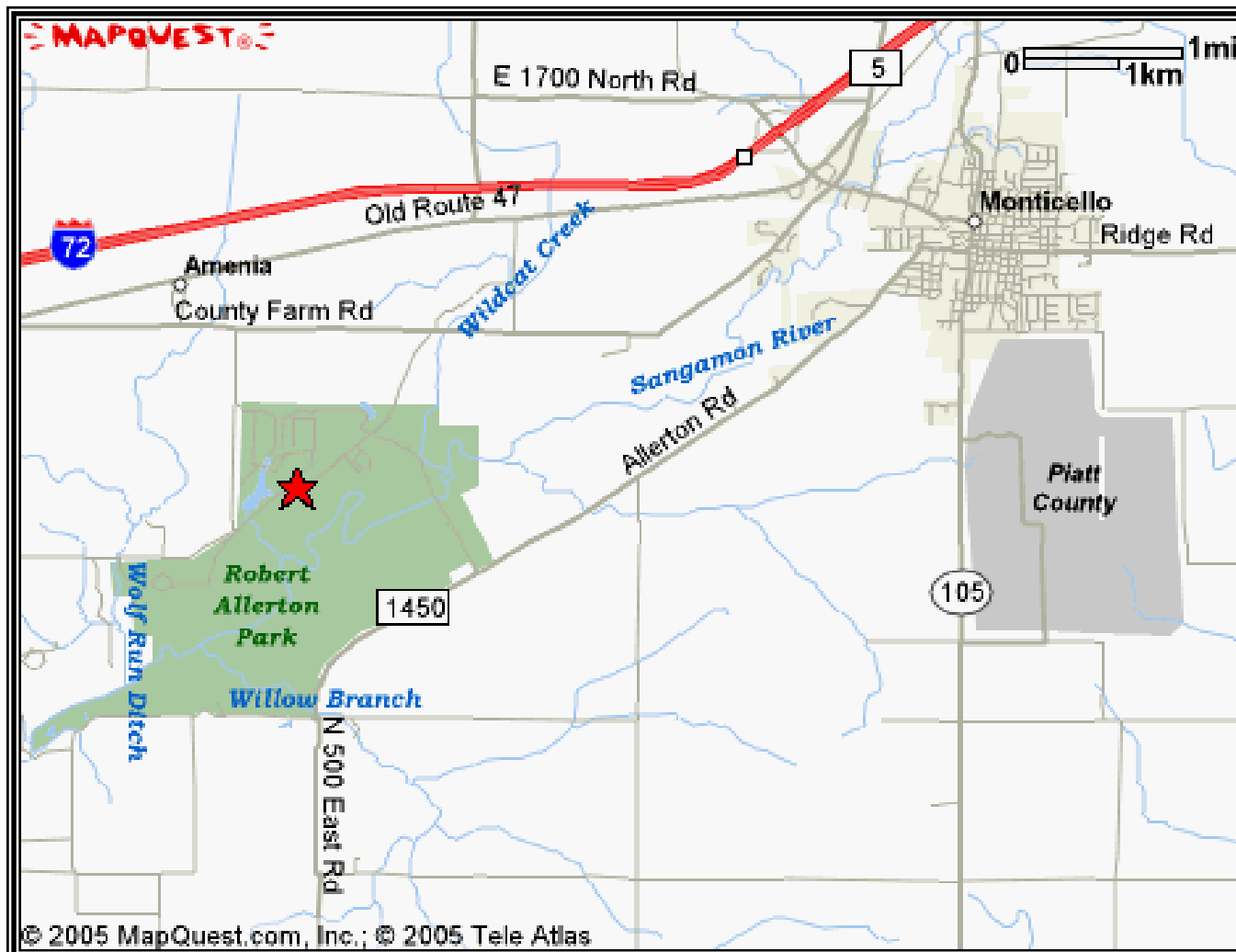
Watseka, IL 60970

815-432-6639 x113

mark.bramstedt@il.usda.gov

Registration Deadline: October, 11, 2005

PLEASE INDICATE YOUR SESSION PREFERENCE



© 2005 MapQuest.com, Inc.; © 2005 Tele Atlas

Location of Soil Scientist Field Exam. Allerton Park, 4-H camp, west of Monticello, IL



ANNOUNCEMENT



Currently, 17 ISCA members receive this newsletter through the U.S. Mail. In order to keep administrative costs down, we will no longer mail out the newsletter. Instead, you will be notified through email when the current/next newsletter is available on our web site. Exceptions will be made for those of you who do not have computers or email addresses. If, for any other reason, you wish to continue to receive the newsletter through the U.S. Mail, contact Chris Cochran at chris_cochran@prodigy.net.



The ISCA Newsletter can be downloaded in PDF format from our web site at:

<http://www.illinoissoils.org/news.htm>



United States Department of Agriculture



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

August 8, 2005

Dear Illinois Soil Survey Cooperators and Supporters:

The 2005 Illinois Cooperative Soil Survey Annual Planning Conference will be held on Wednesday, September 14, 2005, at the NRCS State Office, 2118 West Park Court, Champaign, Illinois. The purpose of the Conference is to bring our cooperators and other soil survey supporters up-to-date on soil survey activities in the state.

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

An MLRA Soil Survey Project Leader/Resource Soil Scientist work session will convene at 1:00 pm after the work planning conference. It will adjourn at 12 noon on Wednesday, September 14. You are invited to attend all or part of the work session.

We will be looking for input from the group on soil survey related issues that need to be addressed this next year. Please RSVP to Jean McConkey by September 9, 2005 at 217/353-6635.


Sincerely,

WILLIAM J. GRADLE
State Conservationist

Attachment

cc:

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



www.illinoissoils.org

ISCA Newsletter Staff
683 Castle Drive
Charleston, IL 61920

Phone: 217-345-6767
Fax: 217-345-7307
Email:
greg.clark@il.usda.gov

Submissions

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

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

Publication Schedule for 2005-2006

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



2005 ILLINOIS COOPERATIVE SOIL SURVEY WORK PLANNING CONFERENCE

Wednesday, September 14, 2005

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

- **Convene 9:30 am**
- **Opening Remarks**
- **Status Reports by Cooperators**
 - » **Natural Resources Conservation Service**
 - » **Illinois Department of Agriculture**
 - » **Illinois State Geological Survey**
 - » **Illinois Department of Transportation**
 - » **Association of Illinois Soil and Water Conservation Districts**
 - » **University of Illinois**
 - » **UI Cooperative Extension Service**
 - » **United States Forest Service**
- **Other Reports**
- **Discussion**
- **Adjourn 12:00 Noon**
- **LUNCH**
- **MLRA Project Leaders/Resource Soil Scientists Work Session**

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.



Illinois Soil Classifiers Association Newsletter

Fall 2005

Upcoming Events

- **ISCA Annual Meeting**
Details will be in the Winter Newsletter to be published in February.

Inside this issue:

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Message from the President

As the end of 2005 approaches, we can look back over the year with appreciation for the many accomplishments ISCA has experienced. We have updated and improved our ISCA newsletter. An ambitious committee is well on their way to revising our certification standards to be more achievable. Great opportunities for professional improvement and education were available throughout the year and throughout the state. The "Hydric Soils for Wetland Delineations" workshop and the ISCA Field Exam/Field Day are two examples where our membership could get hands on training in soils classification. The Summer/Fall Meeting in East Central Illinois had a strong turnout and offered another great opportunity for "getting a feel" for Illinois soils.

Most importantly, I feel we have an outstanding group of people willing to commit personal time to make these opportunities available. I extend my gratitude to them for making this year a success for ISCA. I hope to see you at the Annual Meeting in 2006. Have a great holiday season.

Regards,

Bruce Putman
815-338-6218
putman@mc.net

Illinois State Soil T-Shirts Still Available

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

Short Sleeve -- \$12

Long Sleeve -- \$14

Shipping and

Handling \$5 per order

Order by calling Chris Cochran (217) 345-6767

E-mail : chris_cochran@prodigy.net

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



2006 ISCA DUES NOTICE
for
Non-Certified Members

Dear ISCA Member,

November 14, 2005

ISCA dues for 2006 are due and payable on or before January 1, 2006.

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: ILLINOIS SOIL CLASSIFIERS ASSOCIATION

As stated in Article II of the ISCA Membership Handbook, any member shall be listed as "**delinquent**" if dues remain unpaid for **sixty (60) days after the due date**. He/she shall be **dropped** from the membership rolls of the Association if dues remain unpaid for **ninety (90) days after the due date**. The request of such person for readmission must be accompanied by the dues for the current year plus any reinstatement fee, which the ISCA Council shall prescribe.

Annual dues shall be as follows:

Full members	\$25.00	Associate members	\$25.00
Affiliate members	\$5.00	Out-of-State members	\$5.00
Retired members	\$5.00	Student members	\$5.00
Honorary members	Fee waived		

Dues postmarked after February 28, 2006 will be subject to a \$5.00 late fee for existing members (pending Executive Council decision).

Benefits of membership in the Illinois Soil Classifiers Association:

- Newsletter quarterly
- Attend Fall and Spring Meetings for fellowship, training, and CEUs
- Free lunch at the Fall meeting (a \$7-10 value)
- Free ISCA ball cap upon joining
- Membership in a professional organization
- A say in our organization's policy and direction
- Full and Associate members receive a subscription to "Soil Survey Horizons" (\$17 value)
- Web site access and listing

Detach address form on back page and mail dues and requested information to:

Charles Frazee, ISCA Treasurer
 65 Gaffney Road
 Divernon, IL 62530

****This will be the only renewal notice that will be sent out.****

A Change of Address Form is attached to the back page of this newsletter. Please return with your dues payment if changes have occurred with any of the categories listed. If you do not return the Change of Address form, please be sure it is clear who the renewal payment is for to help out the ISCA officers who process this information. (ex. company checks without the members name)

Thanks

Fall Soils Tour a Success

Nearly 40 ISCA members and guests showed up October 7 for the 2005 ISCA Fall Tour in Edgar/Clark Counties. Starting off cold and windy, it turned out to be a great day to show off the soils above, on, and below the Shelbyville Moraine in eastern Illinois.

The tour kicked off with registration at Mill Creek Park in Clark County. Everyone piled into the vans and cars to warm up on the way to the Dana pit, where the fun began. Greg Clark discussed the geographic location and soil properties, before opening it up for discussion. The pit was located just above the Shelbyville Moraine and the soil was developed in loess over Wisconsin till.

When everyone was done digging and debating, the tour proceeded to the Senachwine pit, located on the moraine. Clark briefly introduced the soil and the site location. Senachwine is a well drained soil formed in as much as 18 inches of loess and the underlying calcareous loamy till.

After much intelligent discussion, the crew returned to Mill Creek Park for a hot catered meal from Mill Creek Restaurant. Barbeque, beans, and coleslaw followed by “goopy” cake put a smile on every face. A brief council meeting was held immediately after, allowing some time to digest before the afternoon portion of the tour.

Upon arrival at the third site, Bob McLeese discussed the MLRA concept and the soil survey update process. He then handed it over to Troy Fehrenbacher, who introduced the Sexton silt loam and its geographic location just below the Shelbyville Moraine. This poorly drained soil, formed in loess and the underlying outwash, has a prominent E horizon. Again, much discussion followed.

The fourth and final site, also just below the moraine, was in a Blair-Atlas unit. The somewhat poorly drained Blair silt loam formed in silty deposits and the underlying till and strongly developed paleosol. After great debate, the group returned to the park and the tour was completed.

A big thanks to Greg Clark and Troy Fehrenbacher for making the 2005 ISCA Fall Tour a huge success. It provided a wonderful variety of soils and opportunity for good conversation with fellow ISCA members. Thanks to all those who attended and offered their opinions of the showcased soils.

Submitted by Zach Weber.

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 greg.clark@il.usda.gov

- ISCA ball caps available for \$9 (includes S&H). Contact Chris Cochran at chris_cochran@prodigy.net

Fall Soils Tour Pictorial



Dana Pit — Photo courtesy of Leon Follmer



Senachwine Pit — Photo courtesy of Leon Follmer



Sexton Pit — Photo courtesy of Leon Follmer



Blair Pit — Photo courtesy of Leon Follmer

Fall Soils Tour Pictorial (Continued)



Bob McLeese, State Soil Scientist, explaining the current soil survey update process. Photo courtesy of Leon Follmer.



Digging the Blair Pit.



Tour attendees checking out the Dana Pit. Photo courtesy of Mark Bramstedt.



Preparing the pit face.



Introduction at Dana Pit. Photo courtesy of Mark Bramstedt.



It's hard to find good help these days!

ILLINOIS SOIL CLASSIFIERS ASSOCIATION

MINUTES
ISCA COUNCIL MEETING
August 26, 2005
Bloomington, Illinois

Present:

Bruce Putman, President
Clayton Heffter, President Elect
Mark Bramstedt, Past President
Bob Tegeler, Vice President
Chris Cochran, Secretary
Troy Fehrenbacher, Newsletter Committee
Ken Gotsch, Ethics, Certification, & Membership

President Bruce Putman called the Council Meeting to order at 10:00 AM.

Putman called for a motion to approve the Agenda. Motion so made, seconded, and approved. Putman called for a motion to approve the minutes for the two previous Council Meetings and the Annual Meeting all held on May 6, 2005. Motion was made, seconded, and approved to approve the minutes as amended.

Secretary's Report – Cochran stated that he would like a digital copy of Council reports to help him with the minutes and increase accuracy.

Treasurer's Report – Copies of the treasurer's report were circulated. Opening balance as of May 5, 2005 was \$11,036.38; Income-\$4,389.18; Expenses-\$370.14; Closing Balance as of August 23, 2005 is \$15,055.42. Net income from the Hydric Soils Course was \$3910.27. Treasurer's Report for May 5, 2005 – August 23, 2005

Balance in Account – May 5, 2005	11036.38
Income:	
Dues	55.00
Interest	18.18
State Soil Shirts	28.00
Soil Survey Horizons Refund	13.00
Hydric Soils Course	4275.00

	4389.18
Expenses:	
Administration	5.41
Hydric Soils Course	364.73

	370.14
Ending Bank Balance – August 23, 2005	15055.42

Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report was made, seconded and approved unanimously.

Certification Board – Bill Kreznor. Although the Board has held no formal meetings since 1 March 2005, it has conducted business via email, regular mail, and telephone. The Board reviewed and processed CEU submissions from 13 CPSCs. Some Board members had questions relative to CEU classification. An item will be prepared for the ISCA website and/or next newsletter reminding CPSCs to carefully consider the categorization/classification of submitted CEUs. The Board completed reviewing and processing one application for certification. Ken Gotsch successfully completed the requirements for certification effective 23 August 2005. Official notification has been sent. His certificate and membership card are being prepared.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Constitution, By-Laws and Legislative – Jaimee Hammitt. No report.

Ethics, Certification and Membership – Ken Gotsch. Notified Council that three individuals applied for membership. Kristine Ashpole – Associate Member, and Paul Youngstrum and Patrick Ver Halen for Affiliate Memberships. Motion was made, seconded and approved them as members.

Certification group met and provided Council copies of a Draft certification standard. (see below)

Finance – Bob Tegeler. No report.

Newsletter – Troy Fehrenbacher. Troy said most members are now getting the newsletter by email. Mark Bramstedt said he would include an Adobe download link on the ISCA web site so people having problems could get the latest version of Adobe. Putman congratulated the committee for their excellent work.

Nominations – Mark Bramstedt. No report.

Public Relations and Education – Doug Gaines. Submitted draft of brochure for review. Requested comments and mark-up. Previous brochure was last updated in mid-1980s. Council recommends that the brochure be reviewed by the Public Relations Committee.

AD-HOC AND SPECIAL APPOINTEE REPORTS

Program – Troy Fehrenbacher – see Old Business

Historian – Roger Windhorn. No report.

State Advisory Commission on Private Sewage Disposal – Mark Bramstedt. No report.

Smithsonian Project Coordinator – Bill Kreznor. No report

USCSSA Teleconference – Mark Bramstedt. They asked when and where we meet. Will provide link on their web site to our site.

OLD BUSINESS

Hydric Soils Course– Mark Bramstedt.. 27 attended. Clayton Heffter congratulated the instructors for putting on an excellent program. There is interest in putting this on again next year. Bob Tegeler recommended that ISCA budget \$500 next year for this program.

Recognition of those who worked on State Soil– Jim Hornickel is interested in pursuing this. The Council approved \$300 for plaques/awards for those involved. Presentation will be at winter meeting.

Certification Standards Work Group Report – Comments will be compiled and presented to the Council in a second draft in December. The final form will be presented in the newsletter at least 30 days before the Annual Meeting. It will then be submitted to the membership at the Annual Meeting for a vote

ISCA Field Exam – October 20, 2005 at Allerton Park. Texture, coarse fragments, soil color, etc will be evaluated. 3 hours in the morning and the afternoon. Lab data is available to help hone your skill. The hope is to move this around the state in future years.

ISCA Fall Tour – Greg Clark and Troy Fehrenbacher are organizing the tour. The tour will look at the Shelbyville moraine with soils in the Wisconsin till plain; outwash plain, and Illinois till plain. Meeting will commence w/registration at Mill Creek Park at 9:30am on October 7. Lunch will be provided by Mill Creek Restaurant. Pulled pork BBQ, baked beans, coleslaw, and cherry chocolate and butter pecan cake for dessert.. A motion was made, seconded, and approved to appropriate up to \$500.00 to cover food and other expenses of the Fall Tour and Meeting.

2005 ISCA Membership List – Sent to Council on July 4. An updated list will be sent by October 7. By-Laws require that we publish the list annually; names, addresses, and telephone numbers 1 month before the annual meeting. Privacy issues were discussed. It was decided that this has not been a problem and we will continue to publish the list until it becomes an issue.

NEW BUSINESS

Wayne Tomlinson – Voted to re-instate Wayne to Associate Membership.

Farm Progress Show – ISCA to cover the cost of Soil Monolith Campaign brochures.

Drummer T-shirts – North Cook SWCD requested t-shirts for their Northeastern Illinois Envirothon. Request was approved if the SWCD maintains the integrity of the shirt by working through the ISCA T-shirt committee. Due to the amount requested, the Council recommended that the SWCD work directly with the supplier.

David Krumwiede – Requested support for HS outreach programs. Bruce Putman will contact David to discuss his proposal.

Meeting adjourned at 12:24 pm. Next meeting will be October 7, 2005 at Noon in Mill Creek Park near Clarksville, Illinois.

Respectfully submitted
Chris Cochran, Secretary

ILLINOIS SOIL CLASSIFIERS ASSOCIATION

MINUTES ISCA COUNCIL MEETING

October 7, 2005
Mill Creek Park
Clarksville, Illinois

Present:

Bruce Putman, President
Mark Bramstedt, Past President
Bob Tegeler, Vice President
Chris Cochran, Secretary
Chuck Frazee, Treasurer
Troy Fehrenbacher, Program Chair
Greg Clark, Newsletter Chair
Ken Gotsch, Ethics, Certification, & Membership Chair
Doug Gaines, Public Relations and Education Chair
Wiley Scott, member
Earl Voss, member

President Bruce Putman called the Council Meeting to order at 1:15 pm.

New Business – Bramstedt notified the Council that the ISCA Web site domain name had expired the first week of October. Since this was unexpected and access to our web site was denied, Bramstedt renewed our domain name for 5 years at the cost of \$19.99/year or \$99.95 for the term. Bramstedt requested reimbursement. Cochran noted that this situation should and will fall under exigency rules and reimbursement made on that basis alone.

Bramstedt further noted that the Advisory Commission for the septic code is reviewing and will be submitting revisions to the code. The Commission requested comments on the proposed changes. Bramstedt sent out copies of the revisions to the original ISCA committee, which developed the original table. Specifics in the table were discussed. A lengthy discussion ensued. Scott brought up Bramstedt's suggestion that new requirements be tied to the table instead of rewording the requirements each time a change is required. The table could be updated as needed without rewording the requirements each and every time. Discussion ensued about the absorption rate value for soil group 5E in Exhibit B (The Key). As submitted that value is 0.57 g/d/sq.ft.. It is the only soil group in the table with that value, and would require a new line in Exhibit A and renumbering all subsequent design groups in the exhibit. The group agreed to submit the value for soil group 5E as 0.62 g/d/sq.ft.. Putman suggested that we, as ISCA, should stay out of the specific wording of the new requirements as it related to the separation distance between the bottom of the trench to any limiting layer. The current code says 'should', and the proposed changes used the word 'shall'. Bramstedt will bring this to the Commission. Gaines informed the Council that he was also approached for comments and will do so as an individual.

Motion to adjourn was made by Bramstedt, seconded by Cochran. Ayes have it.

The Council joined the rest of the membership on the Fall Soils Tour. Meeting adjourned at 1:30 pm.

At the first stop after the meeting, Bruce Putman presented Kristine Ashpole her Associate member certificate and welcomed her into the Association. Bob McLeese, State Soil Scientist for Illinois, presented a discussion on the soil survey update that is ongoing in Illinois.

The President will determine the next meeting. Emails to that effect will be sent to the Executive Council.

Respectfully submitted
Chris Cochran, Secretary

ISCA Accepting Nominations for Officers

Nominations are currently being accepted for the Executive Council positions of President Elect, Vice President, and Secretary.

There is also a vacancy on the Nominations Committee which currently consists of Mark Bramstedt, Past President and Chair and Wiley Scott.

If you are interested in running for an office or filling the vacant position on the Nominations Committee, contact Mark (mark.bramstedt@il.usda.gov) or Wiley (jwscts@earthlink.net).

The committee says if you do not contact them, they will be contacting you.

If you have been looking for an opportunity to help out the ISCA in a bigger way than just your membership, here is your opportunity.

Submitted by Greg Clark based on information from the Nominations Committee.

NRCS / ISCA Field Exam Cancelled

The NRCS / ISCA Field Exam that was to be held on October 20, 2005 at Allerton Park (near Monticello, IL) was cancelled due to horrendous rain.

Instructors Wiley Scott, Roger Windhorn, Ken Gotsch, Steve Zwicker, Mark Bramstedt and Bob McLeese had prepared a great event complete with soil pits and lab data. The ISCA thanks the instructors for their hard work.

The Field Exam will be rescheduled for 2006. It may be held in connection with the NRCS Hydric Soils course in June 2006 (Northern Illinois) or October 2006 in connection with the NRCS Intro to Soils course (Monticello) or possibly both dates. Check future newsletters for information concerning the rescheduling of this event.

Submitted by Greg Clark based on information from Mark Bramstedt.

2006 ISCA Annual Meeting

Planning is underway for the 2006 Annual Meeting. The current plan is to have the meeting sometime in March. No specifics are available at this time. More details will be in the Winter Newsletter that will be published in February.

Regards,

Troy Fehrenbacher
Program Chair

ISCA Newsletter Staff
683 Castle Drive
Charleston, IL 61920

Phone: 217-345-6767
Fax: 217-345-7307
Email: greg.clark@il.usda.gov

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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.

Soil Survey Institute Comes To Illinois

The first annual Illinois Soil Survey Institute was hosted on the Jim Killian Farm in Lexington, Illinois from October 31 to November 10. This two week institute was designed to provide newer NRCS soil scientists the opportunity to develop their soil mapping skills and apply soil-landscape relationships. Institute participants were under the guidance of "wise old sages", experienced ISCA Certified Professional Soil Classifiers, during their mapping exercise.

The current soil survey update process does not allow new soil scientists the opportunity to experience how a soil survey was performed from start to finish. Therefore, participants approached the mapping area in a project soil survey setting. The established mapping area was part of the Money Creek and Lexington townships. The instructors kicked off the institute with a geomorphology tour of the mapping area which focused on soils around the Bloomington Moraine. The remainder of the two weeks consisted of the new soil scientists mapping assigned sections of one of the townships. Participants had to take notes, locate possible taxonomic unit description sites, and more importantly, join each other with a seamless join.

In April there will be another two week session at the same location. Participants will have a field correlation, select taxonomic unit descriptions, be on their way to production mapping potential, and most importantly, using the tacit knowledge acquired through their mapping experience to apply the soil-landscape paradigm.

Submitted by Troy Fehrenbacher.



NRCS Soil Scientists at the 2005 session of the Illinois Soil Survey Institute. Photo Courtesy of Roger Windhorn

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