



Illinois Soil Classifiers Association Newsletter

Winter-February 2019

Upcoming Events:

44th Annual Meeting March 16th,
Champaign, IL

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Message from the President

Submitted by Mark Bramstedt

By now, you all have probably heard the expression, “It takes a village”, which was popularized by then First Lady, Hillary Clinton in 1996 with her book of the same title. That expression is rumored to have come from an old African proverb about the effort it takes to raise a child. That expression also applies to ISCA. It takes the membership of the Association to raise it up, to make it strong, to have an impact. ISCA is not just run by the 6 elected officers of the Executive Council, nor by the 6 men and women, who chair the standing committees. The success of this organization comes from the membership. This last year, 2018, was a great example of how that worked for ISCA.

During 2018, the first segment of the Soils of Illinois Tour was launched, followed the next day by an informative and instructive field conference on soils and septic. Both events were professionally developed and both events were well received by those who attended. These events were only successful, because of the involvement of the membership. The list of those who helped plan the event (even from the years before who built the foundation), those who helped select the field sites, and those who did much of the background work that often goes unnoticed, was quite extensive. The event also included a field practicum for certification for a couple of our members. The whole thing was a wonderful example of how ISCA should (and often does) function. We function as a village.

Here is a list of those members (in no particular order) who had some hand in our Fall Soils of IL Tour and/or the Septic Conference: Ted McCannon, Alicia Metzger, Dale Calsyn, Don Fehrenbacher, Bruce Putman, Mike Konen, Brad Cate, Bill Teater, Doug Gaines, Rachel Welch, Karla Petges, Sarah Smith, Kristine Ryan, Bill Kreznor, Pat Kelsey, Ken Anderson, Tom Copenhaver, Scott Wiesbrook, Mark Bramstedt, Charles Frazee, Mary Beth Falsey, Josh Litwiller, Todd Soukup, and Jenwei Tsai. There were so many who helped, I hope that I didn’t miss anyone. I apologize, if I did. Thanks to all!

For 2019, we will need your help, again. ISCA will co-host the Central States Forest Soils Workshop in southern IL, as well as take care of the regular business of the Association. Don’t wait to be asked to help. Volunteer to our new President or to one of the Committee Chairs. 2019 will provide a good opportunity for those down south to help out in your “neck of the woods”. With our association being scattered across the state, our Committee Chairs may not know you to ask you. So, don’t wait for an invitation to help. Volunteer! Remember, “It Takes A Village!”

44th ISCA Annual Meeting

March 16th, 2019
Illinois Natural History Building,
1816 S. Oak St., Champaign, IL

Name _____

Number Attending _____ (\$20/person)

Total Payment \$ _____

Please register by **March 9** so that we can get a head count for lunch. Assorted BBQ meats and sides will be catered from the Black Dog Pub. Please fill out the above information and mail with a **check** (payable to ISCA to the following address):

Chuck Frazee
65 Gaffney Road
Divernon, IL 62530

Or register online with a major credit card at illinoissoils.org through **PayPal**

This meeting will provide **PDH for **category C**—attendance or participation in seminars, tutorials, clinics, workshops, symposia, in-house courses, field tours/ exercises, or technical presentations made at meetings, conventions, or conferences.**

Speaker for the Annual Meeting: Dr. Bradley Miller



Bradley Miller is an assistant professor at Iowa State University working to advance soil mapping in the 21st century. He earned his M.S. degree in Soil Science from Iowa State and Ph.D. in Geography from Michigan State. Before joining the faculty at Iowa State, he conducted digital soil mapping research at the Leibniz Centre for Agricultural Landscape Research near Berlin, Germany. A common theme in his research has been understanding lessons from the past as a guide for how to make the best use of new technologies. This approach caught the attention of the International Union of Soil Sciences who awarded Bradley with the Dan Yaalon Young Scientist Medal in Rio de Janeiro last summer. His current research includes utilizing current soil survey data to study the evolution of glaciated landscapes as well as the optimization of sampling design and covariate stacks for digital soil mapping.

2019 Election Ballot and Candidate Bio

Ballot for 2019 ISCA Elections

Voting rights are for Full Members only. Please vote for one candidate for each office by placing an X next to the name. See the candidate biographies on the next page for more information about the candidates.

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

President-Elect

Alicia Metzger

Write-in candidate for President-Elect _____

Vice President

Sarah Smith

Alan Stone

Write-in candidate for Vice President _____

Treasurer

Chuck Frazee

Scott Wegman

Write-in candidate for Treasurer _____

Submit your ballot: You may **bring your ballot** to the 2019 ISCA Annual Meeting or you may vote prior to the Annual Meeting by **mailing your ballot** to **Scott Wiesbrook** at **1816 S. Oak St., Champaign, IL 61820**. Please **seal your ballot** in a separate envelope and mark it with "Ballot" on the outside of that envelope and make sure to include your return address so we know you are an eligible voter. I simply record who has voted and then pass the unopened ballots on to the nominations committee at the annual meeting. Mailed ballots must be received by March 15th, 2019 in order to be counted.

2019 Election Ballot and Candidate Bio

Candidate Bios for 2019 ISCA Election

President-Elect – Alicia Metzger

Alicia Metzger currently works as the soil scientist/wetland scientist in the wetland division at V3 Companies, where she has been employed since 2011. As the main field lead, she is responsible for classifying site soils and identifying hydric soil indicators for wetland delineations and prairie and wetland restoration or mitigation projects. She recently became certified with ISCA, of which she has been an active member of since 2007. She has been involved in ISCA as a member of the Newsletter Committee, Chair of the By-Laws Committee, helped teach a Hydric Soils course, and planned the Fall 2018 tour. As a student, she studied at Northern Illinois University where she earned her Bachelor and Master's degree in Geography. During her time there, she was also fortunate enough to be involved in six collegiate soil judging competitions both as a competitor and coach. Her master's research, conducted under the guidance of Dr. Mike Konen, focused on soil carbon storage within the soils of the deciduous, transition, and boreal forests of Lake Superior Provincial Park, Canada. In her spare time, she enjoys spending time with her husband, two children, and two dogs. They like to spend time outdoors and traveling.

Vice President – Sarah Smith & Al Stone

Sarah Smith earned a B.S. degree in Soil and Crop Science from UW-Platteville in 2014, and an M.S. degree in Geography, with an emphasis in soils, from Northern Illinois University in 2016. She has worked as a Pathways Intern (Summers 2012 to 2016) and as a Soil Scientist in the Aurora MLRA office (November 2016 to present). Over that time, she has assisted on multiple SDJR/EVAL projects and update field projects, including investigating Catlin on the Illinois till plain and Drummer on stream terraces and outwash plains. She joined ISCA as a student member and became a full member in 2016. This past fall she was part of the committee that organized the soils tour in northern Illinois.

Al Stone graduated from University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point in May 1991 with a bachelor's degree, majoring in water resources management with geology and soil science minors. He earned Master's degrees in earth science from Western Michigan University in 1996, and environmental engineering from Milwaukee School of Engineering in 2005. He is a licensed professional geologist in Illinois and a certified groundwater professional through National Ground Water Association. His professional experience includes monitoring well installation and design, groundwater and soil sampling, soil classification, elevation surveys, and soil and ground water remediation. He is currently training for and studying to be a soil classifier, and plans to become certified this year. His training includes gaining practical experience doing soil evaluations with Jim Hornickel, and taking continuing education courses. Other interests include hiking, fishing, and spending time with his wife Cathy, daughter Katelyn, and dog Mr. Peabody.

Treasurer – Scott Wegman & Chuck Frazee

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

Chuck Frazee is a Charter member of ISCA. He has been the treasurer of ISCA for 25 years. Chuck received his PhD from the University of Illinois in 1969. He taught at South Dakota State University as an Assistant Professor from 1969 to 1975. Chuck began his own consulting company, Frazee Soil Consulting, in 1975 working in Sangamon and surrounding counties.

The Gift for Really Hard to Buy for People — A Septic Tank and More

Submitted by Don Fehrenbacher



The scene above from the 1960's Andy Griffith Show inspired the title of this story. Andy and Barney were sitting on a front porch in Mayberry, North Carolina and Barney was fretting about making one of his largest purchases, a car.

“Last big buy that I made was for my mom's and dad's anniversary present.”

“What did you get 'em?” Andy asks.

“Septic tank,” Barney replies.

Andy turns slowly to Barney and asks, “For their anniversary?”

“Yeah, oh they're really hard to buy for. Besides it was something they could use. They were really thrilled, 2 tons of concrete all steel reinforced.”

After a long pause Andy says, “You're a fine son, Barn.”

Viewing this I knew that Barney's parents (the Fife's) needed an entirely new septic system, not just a tank. I wondered what caused the failure and who was responsible. Maybe Barney should have spent his money hiring an attorney to get these answers and what if I was embroiled in the lawsuit?

The Fife's litigation strategy first identified everyone involved with the failed septic system, including me. In discovery, the parties were required to provide all “documents, [and] tangible things” “relevant to any party's claim or defense.”¹ This included my report, field notes, published methods, standards of protocol, and statutory guidelines. During the depositions, it was painful to explain that part of the work was lacking under critical review. “I have 40 years of experience, I'm a scientist, I can't be bothered by cumbersome rules of procedure, and it takes too long.” Or worse, “I wasn't aware of that...” The process was more nerve wracking as the Fife's attorney had hired an expert witness to assist them. The suit fell under tort law because there were no contracts between the parties, though if they had existed it probably would have created contract and tort liability.²

The Gift for Really Hard to Buy for People — A Septic Tank and More

“The most common basis for tort liability is negligent conduct” and there are “four elements:

- 1) a duty of reasonable care,
- 2) breach of duty,
- 3) causation, and
- 4) resulting damages.”³

In this case, it was argued that the defendants' duty rose to a higher standard of care by “statutory authority” based on the requirements in the State Sewage Disposal Code. Also, it was cited that the defendants had superior knowledge and skill that required them to “...use care which is reasonable in light of their superior learning and experience and any special skills...”² The earlier statements about “40 years of experience” and “I'm a scientist” gave credence to a finding of a higher standard. The statement, “I cant' be bothered” was one argument used for a ruling of breach of duty. It wasn't looking good, but what about causation?

The proof of “legal or proximate cause” held out my hope of exoneration, if only one of the accused was found to be the primary cause of the septic failure. The “but for” rule could have placed the blame on a solitary defendant because “but for” their actions or inactions the system would not have failed. Nevertheless, the court found all of the defendants' conduct was “a material element and substantial factor in bringing about [the failure.]”² This “substantial factor” rule has been generally accepted in lawsuits against multiple defendants with liability distributed among those found negligent. The Fife's were awarded damages based on the total harm they suffered plus legal and court costs. Barney truly was a fine son.

Assuming the court only awarded economic damages, what were the limits to liability? The price of services not rendered well or the cost of a new septic system? What if the home site was found to be unsuitable for a septic system by competent witnesses? In an eerily similar case in the real state of North Carolina, not fictional Mayberry, a person that conducted a soil evaluation of two lots was found negligent. The plaintiffs were awarded the cost to “purchase a replacement lot; move their modular home to the new lot, and prepare the new lot for placement of the home.”⁴ Total award of damages was about \$110,000. In other places the award would have had a considerably higher price tag.

If you thought that I wrote this story from a defendant's point of view, you were wrong. I was the expert witness hired by the Fife's attorney. There were no real winners for soil classifiers in this story, but one had to pay and the other got paid, it all depended on your point of view.

¹ Houck, M.M., C. Funk & H.A. Feder. 2018. Successful Expert Testimony. CRC Press.

² Keeton, W. Page, ed. 1984. Prosser and Keeton on the Law of Torts. Fifth Addition. West Publishing.

³ Glannon, Joseph, W. 2015. The Law of Torts, Examples and Explanations. Fifth edition. Wolter Kluwer

⁴ RUSSELL's v. N.C. DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES. No. Carolina Court of Appeals No. COA12-801, 21 May 2013.

Looking Back — 2001 ISCA Fragipan Tour

Submitted by Chris Cochran

Below are materials submitted by Chris Cochran. Chris was the Program Committee Chair in 2001 and scheduled the Summer/Fall meeting around a Fragipan Tour in and around Clark County on September 14-15, 2001. The meeting was held at Richard's Farm Restaurant in Casey, Illinois contrary to what was stated in the description due to either weather or availability of power. Ron Collman and Mark Bramstedt helped identify the members that attended the event. Chris' daughter, Tiffany, who was 14 at the time photo-bombed a few shots in the restaurant.

ISCA Summer/Fall Meeting

Dear Member,

- The Illinois Soil Classifiers Association is holding its annual Summer/Fall meeting at the Red Oak Picnic Area in Lincoln Trail State Park near Marshall, Illinois in Clark County this year. The meeting and dinner will be held Friday, September 14, 2001 beginning at 7:00 pm. sharp.
- Our guest speaker is Melody Arnold, Macon County Conservation District. She will speak about the prairie and early settlement in this part of Illinois.
- A tour of soil pits featuring fragipans and/or soils with fragic characteristics will be conducted on Saturday the 15th. Transportation and lunch will be provided by ISCA for those attending the tour. A lively discussion is expected. All views are welcome.
- For those wishing to camp for the night, over 200 sites are available with electricity. Campsites cost about \$11/night. Tent camping is available for \$6/night. A brochure describing the 1023-acre park and 137 acre lake is enclosed with this mailing. Boat rentals are also available.
- For those of you who do not wish to "rough it", a block of 10 rooms has been set aside for our membership at Peak's Motor Inn, 107 E. Tretz Drive, Marshall, IL 62441; 1-800-646-7325 until August 31. Cost for the motel is \$39.94-single and \$47.95-double occupancy. This motel is 7 miles north of the picnic area. Other motels are in the area so getting a room shouldn't be a problem.
- Dinner will be catered by *Richard's Farm Restaurant*. The cost per attendee is \$10, which includes the dinner, tax and gratuity, payable in advance (see reservation form on following page). The dinner is mouth-watering and should please everyone --- there will probably be enough for seconds.

Menu:

BBQ pork loin, fried chicken, au gratin potatoes, green beans, pasta salad, slaw, seasoned salad, rolls, butter, coffee, tea, chocolate sheet cake, and fruit cobbler

- The meeting/dinner will be outdoors under a *ramada* with a great view of the lake through the trees. Rest-room facilities and a playground for the kids are close by. Parking is ample. The average temperature for September 14 is 80°F. with an average low temperature of 56°F. There is about a 10% chance that it could rain, however the ramada is large enough to seat 150 people comfortably. Insect repellent should keep away biting insects, so come prepared for a great time!!!

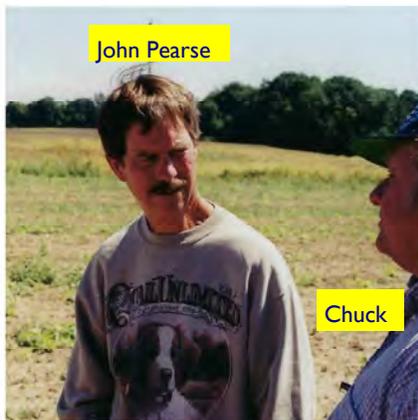
Hope to see you there. If you have any questions you can call or email Chris Cochran, Program Committee Chair, Ron Collman, or Sam Werner at (217) 581-7873; email Chris.Cochran@il.usda.gov or Karla Hanson at (630) 505-7819; email Karla.Hanson@il.usda.gov.

Submitted by Chris Cochran

Looking Back — Photos from 2001 ISCA Fragipan Tour



Leon



John Pearse

Chuck



Karla

Sam Werner

Les Bushue

Leon Follmer



Don Johnson

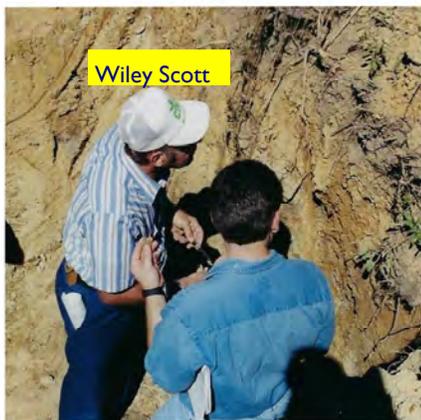


Karla Petges

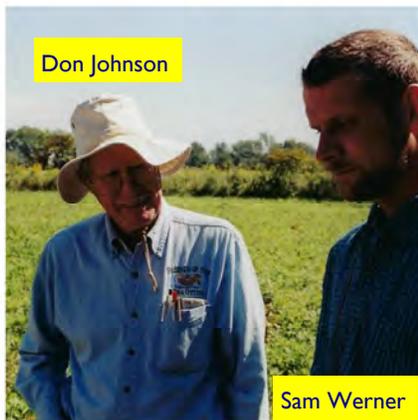


Earl Voss

Ken Gotsch



Wiley Scott



Don Johnson

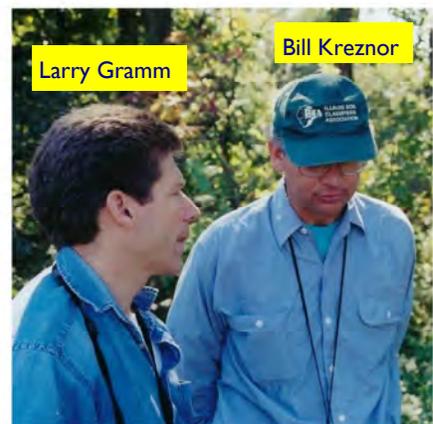
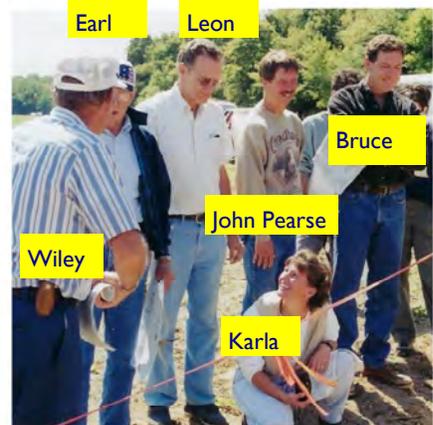
Sam Werner



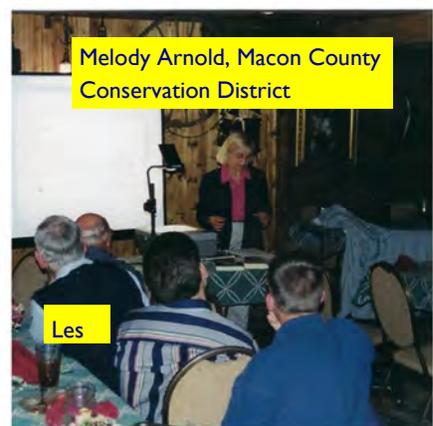
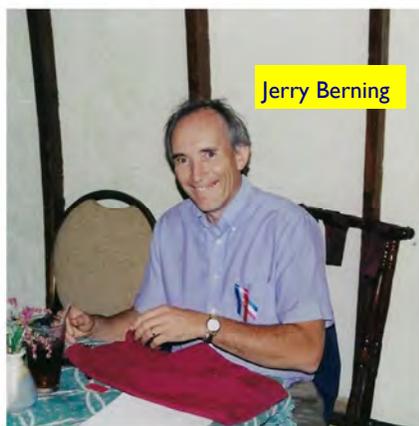
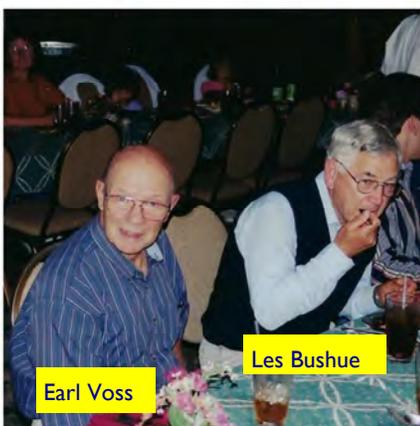
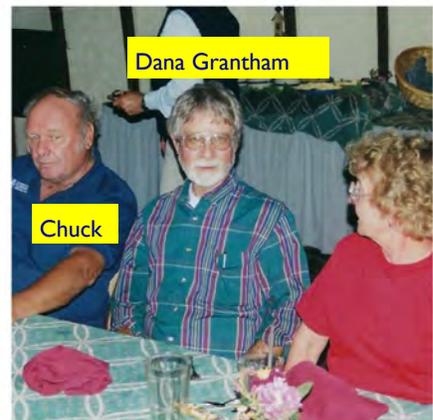
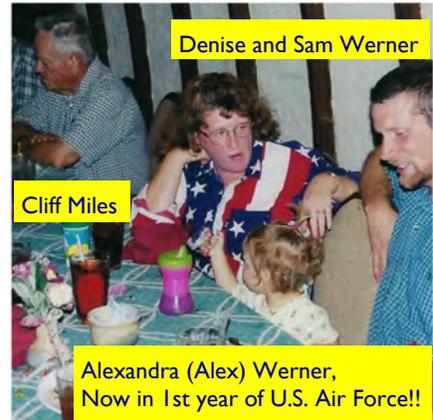
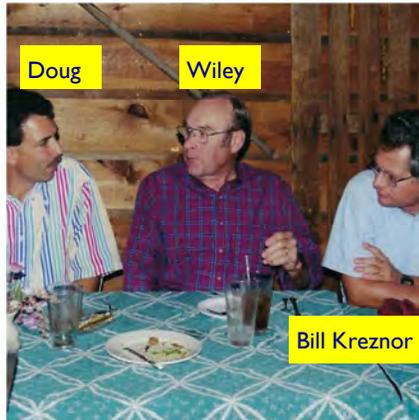
Bruce Putman

Bill Kreznor

Looking Back — Photos from 2001 ISCA Fragipan Tour



Looking Back — Photos from 2001 ISCA Fragipan Tour

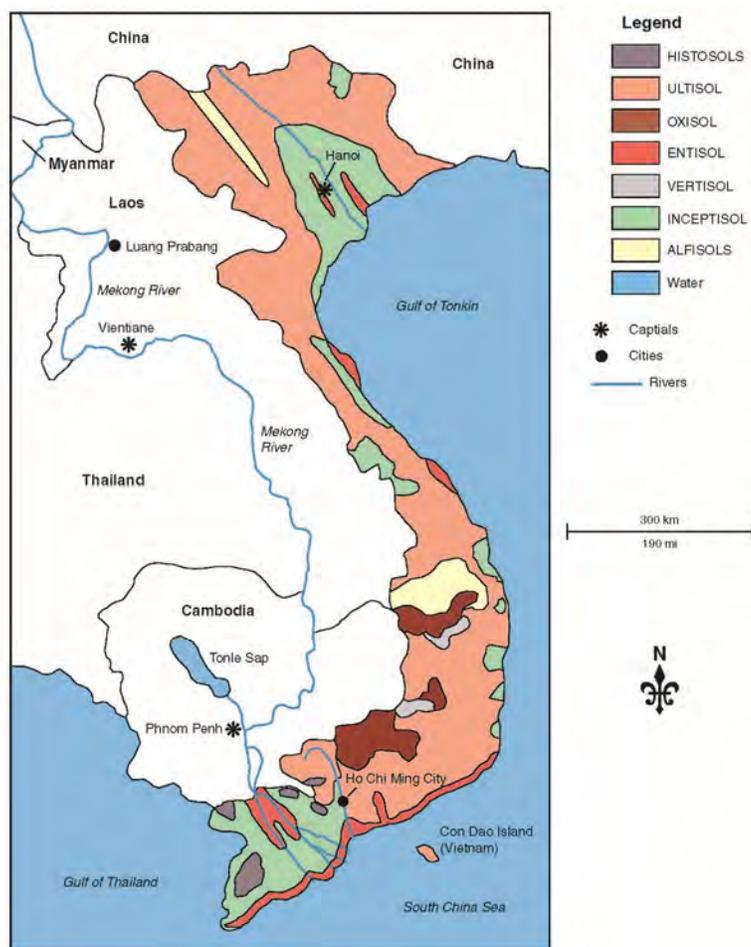


Long-Term Fate of Agent Orange and Dioxin TCDD Contaminated Soils and Sediments in Vietnam Hotspots

Submitted by Ken Olson

Full article can be found at:

https://file.scirp.org/pdf/OJSS_2019022115214447.pdf



Soil map of Vietnam

Based on FAO/UNESCO preliminary definitions, legend and correlation table for the soil map of the world. World Soil Resources Report No. 12; Rome, 1964. Adapted from Moormann (1961). Map by Mic Greenberg. Reprinted with permission from Open Journal of Soil Science 2017, 7:34-51.

Abstract :

The soils, tropical climate, and network of canals and rivers of southern Vietnam have created one of the most diverse tropical jungles and intensely cultivated landscapes of Southeast Asia. This paradise has a long history of numerous wars, foreign occupations, and most recently the Second Indochina War (aka the Vietnam War 1965-1972) which defoliated rain forests and ancient wetland mangroves and left behind contaminated soil and sediment hotspots. During this war, the United States (US) military sprayed 80 million liters of Agent Orange contaminated with the dioxin TCDD in a guerrilla war against communist insurgents. Agent Orange was a synthetic plant growth regulator comprised of equal amounts of two herbicides 2,4-dichloro phenoxyacetic acid $C_8H_6Cl_2O_3$ (2,4-D) and 2,4,5-trichlorophenoxyacetic acid $C_8H_5Cl_3O_3$ (2,4,5-T). TCDD, the dioxin, 2,3,7,8-tetrachlorodibenzodioxin ($C_{12}H_4Cl_4O_2$) was an unintended byproduct of the accelerated combustion process used in the manufacture of herbicides containing 2,4,5-T. Agent Orange has frequently been blamed for soil and sediment contamination and long-term human health problems; however, the true source of harm is the dioxin TCDD. Agent Orange has a short half-life of days and weeks after application to vegetation, and has not been found to persist, after 50 years, in the water or soils of southern Vietnam. However, the half-life of dioxin TCDD depends on where it is deposited and varies from 1 to 3 years on soil surfaces that have been fully exposed to sunlight, to as long as 20 to 50 years or more when buried in tropical subsoils, and more than 100 years in river and sea sediments. Dioxin TCDD was heavily concentrated in the US Air Force bases in Vietnam where the herbicides were stored, loaded on planes and helicopters for aerial spraying, and used extensively around military base perimeter fences as a security measure to prevent surprise attacks. Bien Hoa Air Force base, 40 km northeast of Ho Chi Minh City, continues to be one of the mega-hotspots where after 48 years the dioxin TCDD levels in fish and shrimp are still high and fishing is banned in ponds and lakes adjacent to the airbase. Although expensive, one of the most effective remediation to dioxin TCDD contaminated soils is incineration which is the recommended method of dioxin TCDD disposal.

What would you like to see in the Newsletter?

Dear ISCA member,

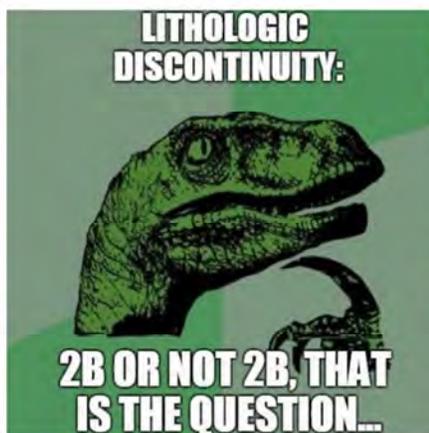
I came across these soil comics online and I hope they bring as much nerdy joy to your day as they bring to mine. I want to thank you for letting me be the Chair of the Newsletter Committee for the past 3 years. I just want to reach out and see, if there are anything you would like to see more or less in the Newsletter.

Please send your comments to: Newsletter@illinoissoils.org

Thank you again and hope you had a wonderful 2018.

Sincerely,

Jenwei Tsai



www.illinoissoils.org

BUSINESS NAME

ISCA Newsletter Staff

89 Kings Highway
Dover, DE, 19901

Phone: 302-739-9326

Email:

Newsletter@illinoissoils.org

Submissions

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

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

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

Publication Schedule

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



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

ISCA on Facebook

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



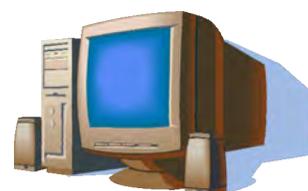
ISCA Newsletter Committee is looking for pictures of its members, past or present, to include in future newsletters.

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

www.illinoissoils.org

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

Better yet... make it your home page!



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

www.illinoissoils.org/news

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

Change of Address Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

*Mail to: Scott Wiesbrook, ISCA Secretary, 1816 S. Oak St., IL 61820



Illinois Soil Classifiers Association Newsletter

Spring-July 2019

Upcoming Events:

Central States Forest Soils Workshop
Oct. 8-10, Carbondale, IL

Celebration of Life—Larry Sabata
Aug. 24, Sterling, IL

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Message from the President

What a spring we've had! I recently heard May 2019 described as the wettest May on record with 3 times the average amount of rain for the month. I hope that these soggy conditions didn't impede your work too much! All this rain and flooding turns my thoughts to infiltration (or lack thereof). With many of our Certified Members conducting soil evaluations for septic system suitability throughout the state, as well as estimated seasonally high-water table evaluations in DuPage County (my neck of the woods), infiltration is becoming an even more important branch of soil science.

As soil scientists, we know the speed in which a soil infiltrates water can directly influence the quality of our groundwater as well as the water quality of our rivers, streams, and lakes. Poor infiltration can cause localized and regional flooding. In farm fields, infiltration capacities of soil will impact crop production. With new requirements for green infrastructure being implemented by the EPA, stormwater infiltration practices and low impact development in new construction projects are the new standard. I see this as an opportunity for the ISCA to become more involved in guiding these rules and practices to help guarantee that our Illinois soils are properly considered when designing for stormwater infiltration and green infrastructure. The wealth of knowledge in this group and the many years of experience in classifying soils, designing septic systems, evaluating soil compaction, determining soil health, and measuring soil infiltration rates should not be overlooked or underutilized as these practices develop and evolve over the coming years.

Below is the list of the 2019 Council as well as the Committee Chairs, Appointments, and Board members who have graciously volunteered to serve. We are always looking for ISCA members to be involved with the Committees or assisting the Special Appointees in their duties. So, if you are interested in helping out, just send an email stating your interest to Council@illinoissoils.org and we will make sure it gets to the right person.

-Mary Beth Falsey

2019-2020 ISCA Committees

2019 ISCA Council

President- Mary Beth Falsey

Secretary- Scott Wiesbrook

Past President- Mark Bramstedt

President Elect- Alicia Metzger

Vice President- Al Stone

Treasurer- Chuck Frazee

2019 ISCA Committee Chairs and Appointments

Constitution, By-Laws, and Legislative Committee- Josh Litwiller, Chair. Members: Todd Soukup, Bill Teater

Ethics, Certification, and Membership- Brad Cate, Chair. Members: John Ford, Bruce Houghtby

Public Relations and Education- Sam Indorante, Chair. Members: Ron Collman, Erik Gerhard, Dave Rahe, Kristine Ryan

Technical Advisory Committee- Bruce Putman, Chair. Members: Brad Cate, Mark Bramstedt, Don Fehrenbacher, Clayton Heffter, Mike Konen, Bill Kreznor, Bruce Houghtby, Doug Gaines, Bill Teater

Newsletter- Jenwei Tsai, Chair. Members: Dennis Keene, Alicia Metzger, Rachel Welch

Special Appointee to Advisory Commission- Don Fehrenbacher

Webmaster- Mark Bramstedt

Historian- Bill Kreznor

Nominations- Mark Bramstedt

Certification Board

Paul Brown '22

Mike Konen '22

Robert Tegeler '21 - Secretary

Roger Windhorn '21

Robert McLeese '20 - Vice Chair

Galen Litwiller '20 - Chair

39th Annual Central States Forest Workshop

Healthy Soils, Healthy Forests
 October 8-10, 2019



Base Location, Lodging, and Registration

Holiday Inn and Conference Center, 2300 Reed Station Pkwy,
 Carbondale, IL 62901 Carbondale, Illinois

Sponsors

Illinois Soil Classifiers Association
 USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service
 USDA-United States Forest Service
 Illinois Department of Natural Resources-Pyramid State Park
 Southern Illinois University, Forestry and Agriculture
 University of Illinois, Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences

Illinois Department of Agriculture - Mines and Minerals
 University of Missouri Soil Health Lab

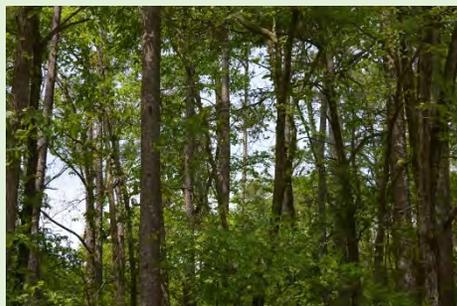
- * Society of American Foresters will hold concurrent session and allow CEUs for members
- * Illinois Soil Classifiers will hold concurrent session and allow CEUs for Certified Soil Classifier members

Site locations

LOCATION 1: Pyramid State Park

Site 1: Natural regeneration with plantation on un-restored Strip mine land Dry-Mesic, Mesic, Wet-Mesic, and Wet sites; Upland Forest; Hardwoods*, Short-leaf Pine, Cottonwood - Well drained to Very Poorly drained soils

Species and Soils
 Soil Pits/Cuts



Site Indices
 Soil Characterization
 Soil Health Data
 Interpretations



Soil Health Data
 Interpretations
 Species and Soils
 Soil Pits

Site 2: Plantation on restored strip mine land Wet to Wet-Mesic, sites; Flatwoods and Upland hardwoods; Poorly to Somewhat Poorly drained soils; Fine-silty and Fine-loamy families

Site Indices
 Soil Characterization



Site 3: Riparian development study along Strip mine lake; Mesic and Wet-mesic site Poorly and Somewhat Poorly drained soils

LOCATION 2: Site 4: Comparison site(s) of Natural Area Southern Flatwoods Upland Location: Site to be determined ?? Flatwoods, Wet-Mesic, Mesic to Dry-Mesic Upland Forest; Poorly drained to Well drained soils



- Species and Soils
- Soil Pits
- Site Indices
- *Comparison Site to adjacent farmland (Similar soils)
- Soil Characterization
- Soil Health Data
- Interpretations

LOCATION 3: Sites 5 and 6: Kincaid Lake US Forest Service Management area

- Management of Forest – Mesic to Dry mesic Upland Forest, Well drained and moderately well drained bluff soils.
- Invasive Species Control Practices
- Sediment Management in lower Johnson Creak above Kinkaid Lake
- Species and Soils
- Soil Pits
- Site Indices
- Soil Characterization
- Soil Health Data
- Interpretations



LOCATION 4: Sites 7 and 8: Trail of Tears State Forest Comparison site(s) of Natural Area Mesic to Dry-mesic Upland Forest

- Management of Forest
- Sediment Study following fire
- Species and Soils
- Soil Pit
- Site Indices
- Soil Health Data



39th Central States Forest Soils Workshop

Healthy Soils, Healthy Forests

October 8-10, 2019

Workshop Headquarters: Carbondale Holiday Inn Conference Center
2300 Reed Station Pkwy, Carbondale, IL 62901

There is a Facebook Page and tickets are now on sale on Eventbrite:
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/39th-annual-central-states-forest-soils-workshop-tickets-63481701478>

Scheduled Agenda (Tentative 4/23/19)

Tuesday, October 8th

- Morning (travel)

- Afternoon

- **Evening** (introductory presentations, poster presentations, novel research, other topics?, social)

o Registration (4-6pm)

o Presentation topics (6-8pm)

Introductions and Workshop History

Bob Dunker? Kevin McSweeney? Dean Spindler? History of Captain Mine and Restoration

Review of Booklet Information about the Locations and sites- LOGISTICS

Soils/Trees/Geology of the area

SIU Forestry Program

o Social (8-9pm)

Wednesday, October 9th

- **Morning** Bus(es) leave at 7:30! depart, 45 minutes travel time 7:30a-8:15a) Location 1: Pyramid State Park

o SITE 1 Natural regeneration with planted pines on un-restored Strip mine land, (45 minutes on-site; 8:15a-9:00a--**Snacks/Refreshments--**) (depart, 30 minutes travel 9:00a-9:30a)

o SITE 2 Plantation on restored strip mine land Wet to Wet-Mesic flatwoods and upland hardwoods types (1 hour on-site; 9:30a-10:30a) (depart, 15 minutes travel; 10:30-10:45a)

o SITE 3 Riparian development study along Strip mine lake Wet-mesic and Wet Ecotypes for erosion control, Somewhat poorly and Poorly drained restored soils. (45 minutes on-site; 10:45a-11:30a) **LUNCH (11:30a-12:00p)** (depart, 30 minutes travel; 12:00p-12:30p)

LOCATION 2: *????

o *SITE 4 Natural Comparison Site Flatwoods (1 Hour on-site; 12:30p-1:30p)(depart, 30 minutes travel; 1:30p-2:00p)

39th Central States Forest Soils Workshop

Healthy Soils, Healthy Forests

October 8-10, 2019

Workshop Headquarters: Carbondale Holiday Inn Conference Center
2300 Reed Station Pkwy, Carbondale, IL 62901

Scheduled Agenda (Tentative 4/23/19)

Wednesday, October 9th (Continued)

- **Afternoon** Location 3: Kinkaid Lake-Johnson Creek Management Area USFS (2 Hours on-site; 2:00p-4:00p)(depart, 45 minutes travel; 4:15p-5:00p)

- o SITE 5 Sediment Control of Lower Johnson Creek above Kinkaid Lake
- o SITE 6 Forest Management Area

HOTEL Clean-up (5:00p-5:45p) (depart, 25 minutes travel; 5:45-6:10p)

- **Evening** (6:30-8:30pm, banquet)

- o Dinner Giant City Lodge
- o Presentation topics (Soil and Forestry Information and Interpretation Delivery, Wine Country) 1-hour total)
- o Business Meeting

Thursday, October 10th (7:30-12pm)

- **Morning** (Depart 8:00a, 1 hr travel) Location 4: Trail of Tears State Park, Illinois (2 hours on-site; 9:00a-10:45a--**Snacks/Refreshments**) (11:00a **Board BUS for Return to Hotel OR Locals Depart from Site**)

- o SITE 7 A Return to the Black Walnuts visited 12 years ago
- o SITE 8 Forest Management and sedimentation study following controlled burn
- o ???Additional site -- Time permitting????
- o Snacks/refreshments

- **Afternoon** (Adjourn/Travel)

39th Annual Central States Forest Soils Workshop Registration
Healthy Soils, Healthy Forests

Location Base: Carbondale, Illinois
 October 8-10, 2019

LODGING RESERVATIONS

A BLOCK OF ROOMS IS RE-
 SERVED AT: HOLIDAY INN,
 2300 REED STATION
 PKWY, CARBONDALE, IL
 62901 (618)-549-2600
 *ROOM RATES WILL BE AT OR BELOW

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Zip: _____ Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Business/Affiliation: _____

Dietary/Special
 needs: _____

If more than one attendee, attach a list with the above information
 or copy the form.

Registration includes 2 meals (Wednesday boxed lunch & banquet), bus
 transportation, field book, and break snacks.

Early Bird Registration (Before September 1, 2019)

Regular Attendee: \$140 each X (number) _____ = \$ _____

Student Attendee: \$75 each X (number) _____ = \$ _____

Late Registration (After September 1, 2019)

Regular Attendee: \$200 each X (number) _____ = \$ _____

Student Attendee: \$135 each X (number) _____ = \$ _____

Banquet only for Spouse and Guests: \$25.00 each X(number)
 _____ = \$ _____

Additional Hotels in the vicinity:

Hampton Inn, 2175 Reed Station Pkwy, Carbondale, IL 62901

Days Inn and Suites, 2400 Reed Station Pkwy, Carbondale, IL 62901

Days Inn, 1295 Harmony Ln, Carbondale, IL 62902

Quality Inn, 1415 E Main St, Carbondale, IL 62901

Best Western, 801 N Giant City Rd, Carbondale, IL 62902

Super 8, 1180 E Main St, Carbondale, IL 62901

Tickets can be purchased at the link below:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/39th-annual-central-states-forest-soils-workshop-tickets-63481701478>

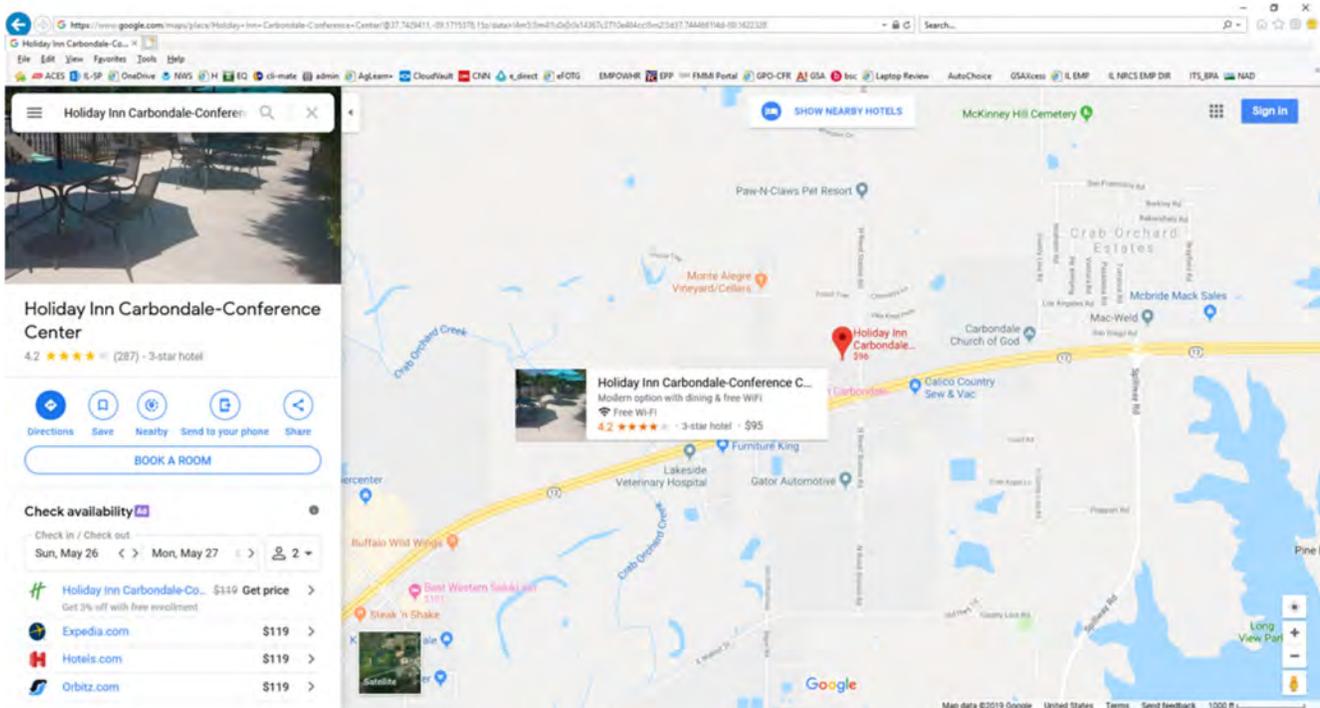
OR Fill out hardcopy and mail with a check to:

Dena Anderson – IASPC Sec-Treas

2600 N. State Hwy 7

North Vernon, IN 47265

Questions about registration process? Call Dena at 812-953-4155 (office) or 812-525-6433 (cell)



<https://goo.gl/maps/rSAr4iNTxZ59ZxEP6>

**Banquet Menu (Giant City State Park):
Family Style Chicken Dinner (The Best!), Tea/coffee
Please let us know if you have any special meal requests.**

**Base Location is Carbondale, Illinois
Tour locations are Pyramid State Park, Kincaid Lake and Johnson Creek USFS,
Giant City State Park, and Trail of Tears State Park, Illinois**

The Workshop will begin with registration at 4:00-6:00 PM on October 8, 2019.

The Workshop will end at 12:00 PM on October 9, 2019.

A Block of Rooms has been reserved at the Holiday Inn Conference Center at the Federal Government rate of \$94.

Celebration of Life—Larry R. Sabata

Submitted by Steve Zwicker

Many of us knew Larry as the Whiteside County Soil Survey Leader (published survey 1995) who accepted a job with NRCS in Topeka, Kansas. Larry worked with the NRCS for 39 years. He mapped soils for six different county soil surveys in Iowa and Illinois. The counties he worked in Iowa were Clinton and Dubuque. The counties in Illinois were Macoupin, Madison, Whiteside, and Washington. After mapping, he spent approximately 5 years working as a Soil Conservationist in Wyoming and Minnesota. In 1996, he had the opportunity to accept a position as a Soil Scientist in Topeka, Kansas and did so until his retirement in November 2016. In Kansas he worked as a Resource Soil Scientist and most of his time was devoted to performing Farm Bill wetland determinations. Larry passed away in Topeka, Kansas on April 25, 2017. Larry's widow, Lois Sabata, has planned a service of Celebration of Life in Sterling, IL on August 24 so those who knew Larry when he was working in Whiteside County may attend and celebrate his life. Please see the below announcement from Lois for more information.

Larry R. Sabata

SUNRISE: NOVEMBER 3, 1951

SUNSET: April 25, 2017



Lois Ann and Cassandra would like to invite you to a
Celebration of Life Get Together in Loving Memory of

LARRY R. SABATA

Saturday, August 24, 2019 from 2:00 to 5:00pm at

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH
2224 Avenue J, Sterling, Illinois

Please **RSVP** by August 1, 2019

E-mail: llcsabata-topela-ks@att.net Text: 815-441-0605



2019 Annual Meeting Write-up

Submitted by Josh Litwiller

The 43rd ISCA Annual Meeting was held on March 16 in Champaign. Thirty-seven people enjoyed a lunch of slow cooked meats and delicious sides. Following lunch, President Mark Bramstedt welcomed everyone and announced this year's Burton W. Ray Award winner - Grace Trankina from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Next, speaker Dr. Bradley Miller from Iowa State University gave a presentation titled, "Bridging Soil Survey Knowledge and New Geospatial Technologies." The business meeting concluded the event and the newly elected President Mary Beth Falsey said a few words.

If you have not attended the Annual Meeting in some time, you might consider coming next March. Though we work in all parts of the state, this meeting provides a time each year to come together as Soil Classifiers and plan what's next for our association.

****Alicia Metzger was this year's recipient of the prestigious "Bent Auger" Award.****



Photo Credit: Alicia Metzger

Calumet Soils: Soils-Based Green Infrastructure Design

Submitted by Kristine Ryan

This article was written and submitted by Kristine Ryan (MLRA soil survey office leader) NRCS, Aurora, Illinois, and David A. Grimley and Andrew C. Phillips (principal research scientists and Quaternary geologists) and Mary Pat McGuire (assistant professor of Landscape Architecture), University of Illinois to the National Cooperative Soil Survey (NCSS) Newsletter.

Across the urbanized Calumet region of Chicago, rainwater, rather than soaking into the soil, lands on impervious surfaces and runs off to local waterways or to gray infrastructure (pipes, tunnels, treatment plants, etc.). Exacerbated by increased urbanization and climate change, this flow pattern creates basement backups, street flooding, combined sewer overflows into waterways, and discharges into Lake Michigan. Resolving this coastal problem involves understanding that our urban stormwater challenges result from land cover changes that disrupt natural hydrology by hardening the landscape. To reverse this condition, science-based solutions are needed to restore the lost functioning of the landscape.



Figure 1.—Bob Tegeler (soil survey project leader, retired) providing training to student and professional researchers.

The Aurora MLRA Soil Survey Office staff assisted the lead researchers at the University of Illinois (U of I), including the Department of Landscape Architecture and the Illinois State Geological Survey (ISGS), in the development of a green infrastructure (GI) design project. This collaborative project uses a hydrogeologic basis that taps into ecosystem services provided by anthropogenic soils to help restore natural stormwater performance and protect the quality of life and property in the region.

Today, there is an increased interest in soils data by urban and regional planning agencies. These agencies want this information in order to promote green infrastructure that can: restore natural function to the regional landscape, compensate for underperforming gray infrastructure, promote onsite benefits, and adapt to climate change. The design research for this project will join scientific data with surface conditions of urban landscapes to generate new performative relationships between stormwater, underlying soils, and areas of recurring flooding. Scientific knowledge is integrated into GI urban design scenarios to produce a regional design approach that can be used to resolve urban flooding and protect adjacent rivers and the Lake Michigan system.

The Aurora MLRA Soil Survey Office completed the initial soil survey of Chicago and Cook County in 2012, combining new (initial) soils data for 300,000 acres with the soils data for 300,000 acres of previously mapped soils in DuPage County and parts of Cook County from the 1979 soil survey. The 2012 survey and its ancillary data (e.g., hillshade maps and surficial geology maps) were used by the Aurora staff to help the lead researchers in site selection. The Aurora staff recommended location within their project area based on ease of access and on landforms that would capture the variability of the soils of the Calumet region. Soils that formed on glacial Lake Chicago, ancestral beach ridges, and associated sand dunes were prioritized. These areas represent the dominant soil parent materials in the Calumet region, the materials into which green infrastructure may be built.

The Aurora staff worked with U of I and ISGS to analyze what soil properties should be evaluated at the selected site based on their project goals. It was decided that grain size analysis and saturated hydraulic conductivity (Ksat) would be measured, and that data would be used in their GI design modeling for the Calumet and Midlothian municipalities. The methodology directly ties GI site selection and implementation design to the underlying geologic soils and their modeled infiltration capacity.

The Aurora and Springfield MLRA Soil Survey Offices provided equipment and onsite expertise and training. The Aurora staff joined the researchers at the sites and assisted in collecting soil samples with the hydraulic probe. Using a hydraulic probe was a learning opportunity for the researchers. Its use promoted efficiency and provided a better continuous sample compared to that from a soil auger or probe. The soil cores were described according to NRCS standards. Samples were taken back to the university for further examination, detailed descriptions, and analyses. While the soil samples were being pulled and initially described in the field, the Amoozemeters were used to obtain Ksat data for each site at two different depths. At each site, the Aurora staff worked with the student researchers (Avery Clark and Piotr Szocinski), training them on sampling and description methods.

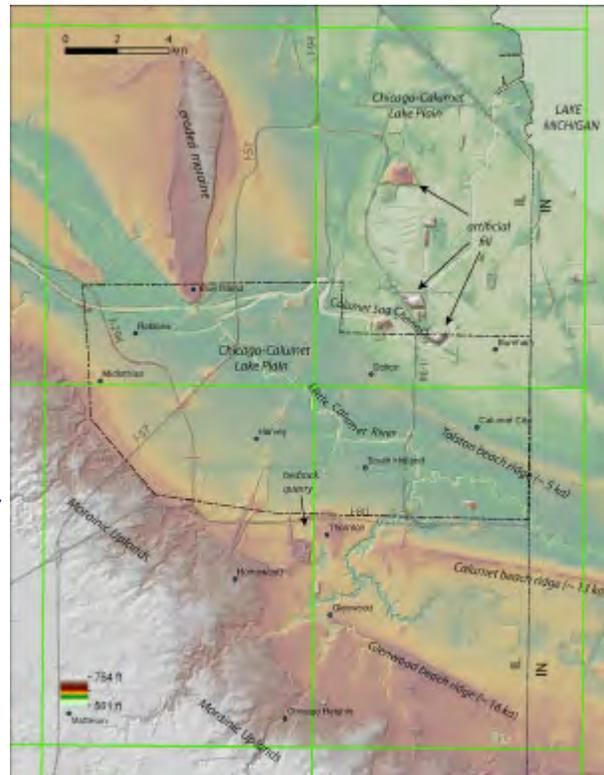


Figure 2.—Communities in the Calumet, Illinois, regional landscape. Map compiled from public data by D. Grimley, Illinois State Geological Survey.

Collaboration and field work began in the summer of 2018 and will continue until the end of 2019. NRCS will aid and provide technical expertise for the duration of the project. Additionally, the Aurora staff has been involved in a few outreach and update meetings in Midlothian and Calumet City with the lead researchers to answer questions about soils. Most of the local elected officials and activist community groups are unaware that a soil survey exists for their communities. These meetings are a good way to promote the Soil Survey, explain how Cook County's soil survey can be used to address their resource concerns, and assess the needs of the community.

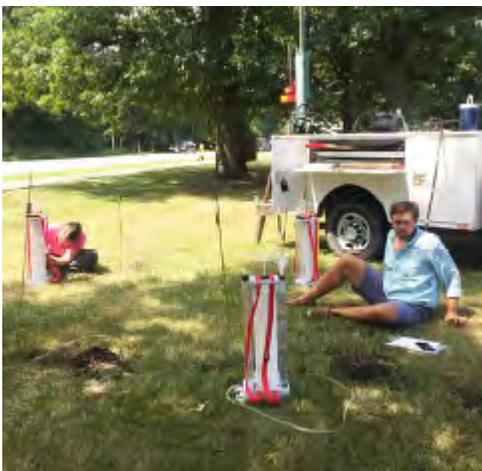


Figure 3.—Kristine Ryan and Avery Clark using Amoozemeters, with probe truck in the background.

It also is an opportunity to describe how the Aurora staff is improving the urban soil survey by updating the map unit concepts and soils data through ongoing database and field projects. The needs of the planning agencies and partners are revealed through this collaboration, which can help direct future projects. Gaps in the soils data are noted and can be drivers in the development of future field projects that address the resource concerns of the urban community.

Are you running a consulting business, a public service, a charity, or something in the middle?

Submitted by Brad Cate

As has been mentioned previously in newsletter articles: for new people to become certified, there must be an incentive. It would be gratifying if that incentive simply consisted of the prestige and personal satisfaction of attaining certification. Indeed, at the stage in our careers that many of us find ourselves (lets charitably say middle age is in the rear view), those may be incentive enough. But, what would be the motivation for someone considering a degree and ultimately a career in soil science consulting? Obviously the answers include the prospect of making a comfortable living.

Others have pointed out what kinds of fees and workloads permit that essential mentoring/training period. Yet, some of us are fee-constrained by those practicing in the same or nearby locales. The question is, are those imposed constraints necessary or ethical? Based on my inquiries, purchasing health insurance from the market requires a commitment of \$18K-single to \$24K+-family, annually. For those of us fortunate ones with that nut covered, it should not be a consideration when deciding fees. If one has the luxury of a primary income (primary job/pension/retirement) and health coverage (employer/spousal employer provided, retirement benefit health insurance, or Medicare), why charge an hourly or per job fee that unfairly competes and ultimately discourages certification of new classifiers? A take no prisoners mentality? A lust for "all the marbles"? A feeling that our skill set is worth less than other professionals? A desire to help people financially?

Since we're in the consulting business, we are all carrying both general and professional liability insurance, correct? What would be your impression of someone hired to repair your car, drill your well, perform that cosmetic surgery you've been coveting, or engineer a truss system for your new pole building if you found out they carried no insurance? Would you like to invest in a truck mounted probe but feel the cost isn't justified? That's a clue that something is wrong with either your business model/fee structure or constraints induced by the local market/competition. I've heard many of us charge an additional fee for mileage but does that include your portal to portal hourly investment as well?

Along with charging fees commensurate with other professions, there is a responsibility to provide our customers with professional quality documents. That typically requires an investment in software and learning. We're "scientists" so we should never throw in the towel on learning, right? I've heard from some that we should provide the minimally required information and let the end users "figure it out". Wait a minute! Aren't we the ones who have the training and experience to "figure it out" and are paid to help those end users? Or, should we leave it up to chance that they use our information appropriately with a favorable outcome? I've also heard the statement that the more information you provide, the more you increase your liability. In my experience, the more you don't say and rely on someone else to "figure it out" increases your liability. Putting our skill set to work while leaving things we should/could have said on the table is not the work of a consultant but a technician. Fortunately for the technicians, at least they usually have an employer with ultimate liability.

There is a finite amount of work. Those of us consulting are competing for pieces of the same pie. Charging a fee comparable with other professions, allows more of us, existing and future consultants, to enjoy that pie. Those who enjoy financial advantages gained outside of our consulting businesses should be leading the way in making this profession lucrative and viable in the long term. Make no mistake, as we gray bulbs slowly wink out one by one and are not replaced, others with registration or licensing minimally related to soils will step in and fill those voids. I hope they do so without reservations about maintaining profitability.

New Member Bio

Welcome To ISCA Liz Miernicki!!!



Liz Miernicki is a research technician in Dr. Andrew Magonot's Soils Lab at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Her research interests primarily lie in Pedology, Soil Enzymology, and Urban Agriculture focused on heavy metal contamination. She holds a Bachelor's of Science degree in Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences and a Master's of Science degree in Crop Science with concentrations in Urban Agriculture both from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Outside of work, Liz has volunteered with USAID Farmer-to-Farmer in the Dominican Republic and bakes often.

Farm Progress Show 2019

Submitted by Troy Fehrenbacher

ISCA SOIL PIT DEMONSTRATION

The ISCA is once again asking for volunteers to assist with the soil pit at the Farm Progress Show! The show runs **Tuesday, Aug 27th through Thursday, Aug 29th** and will be at the permanent site in Decatur on the north side of Richland Community College.

We need 2 to 3 volunteers for each shift on each day. The morning shift will run from **8:00 am to 12:00 noon**. The afternoon shift will run from **12:00 noon to 4:00 pm**. As usual, shifts will be filled on a first come, first served basis. The soil pit will be in the same general location as before on the east side of the show by the Partners in Conservation tent.

Free gate passes will be available to all volunteers. Passes are good for the entire day so please feel free to take time and explore the show before or after your shift.

Please contact **Troy Fehrenbacher** to sign up.

Work contact information (M-F 7:00-4:00)
(217) 345-3901 x117
Troy.Fehrenbacher@usda.gov

Personal contact information
(217) 218-1266
tfehrenbacher@hotmail.com

Please note that Troy **will not** have phone or internet access **July 13th through August 4th**. If you would like to volunteer for a shift during these dates, please send a request to Troy.Fehrenbacher@usda.gov and he will respond when he gets back.



Soil Texture Project Update

Submitted by Bill Teater

The texture project has taken a back seat this spring due to our work load. Lots of rain has created more failures and more investigations.

Enough of excuses. Several buckets of completed samples were given to Brad Cate. He will host the repository of samples. Duplicate samples will also be delivered to the NRCS State Office.

We have some samples getting lab data done and we have some in my garage waiting to be crushed.

If you would like to help with the project, future targets to be sampled this year would be all kinds of outwash soil textures (loam, clay loam, sandy loam, and silty clay loam).

www.illinoissoils.org

BUSINESS NAME

ISCA Newsletter Staff

89 Kings Highway
Dover, DE, 19901

Phone: 302-739-9326

Email:

Newsletter@illinoissoils.org

Submissions

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

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

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

Publication Schedule

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



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

ISCA on Facebook

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



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

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

www.illinoissoils.org

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

Better yet... make it your home page!



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

www.illinoissoils.org/news

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

Change of Address Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

*Mail to: Scott Wiesbrook, ISCA Secretary, 1816 S. Oak St., IL 61820



Illinois Soil Classifiers Association Newsletter

(Super Late) Summer-October 2019

Upcoming Events:

2020 Annual Meeting TBD

2020 Hydric Soils Workshop TBD

Inside this issue:

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ISCA on Facebook	8

Message from the President

Now that summer is drawing to a close and school is starting for the year, I'm starting to think about continuing education for us big kids. The ISCA has offered a Hydric Soil Course several times over the years in the northern Illinois area. It's entirely planned and instructed by ISCA members and is always well attended by environmental consultants, recent graduates, and other folks interested in learning more about hydric soils. We are in the process of planning another one for spring 2020. So, keep an eye out for an upcoming Save the Date. I'd also like to put this question to the membership: What kind of classes or educational opportunities would you like to see the ISCA offer? We have a wealth of knowledge in this group and plenty of opportunity to offer educational services. It could be an on-site course, a mentorship, internship opportunities, or online resources. Additionally, what kinds of topics do you want to learn about? Hydric soils, septic systems, basic soils 101, kids' education, or field trips? What locations are these services in demand? Feel free to send me your requests for consideration! If there's enough demand we could offer additional classes. And, if you're able to help with planning, teaching, or hosting a class, let me know! I can be reached at President@illinoissoils.org.

-Mary Beth Falsey

SORRY!!!!
-Jenwei



Sorry about the tardiness of this "Summer" issue. My summer flew by with fieldwork. I also got an opportunity to start a soil judging team at the University of Delaware right after Labor Day. We competed in the Region I Regional and came in 5th in Group Judging and placed 5th Overall Team out of 10 schools. We'll be heading to the Nationals in the Spring of 2020 which will be hosted by the Ohio State University.

New Member Bio

Welcome To ISCA Brandon Mueller!!!



My name is Brandon Mueller, and I am currently employed as a soil scientist at William R. Kreznor & Associates, Inc. I graduated from the University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point in May of 2019 with my bachelor's degree in Soil & Land Management. Additionally, I minored in Wildlife Ecology & Management and I completed my certification as a Wetland Professional in Training. While in college, I participated in one regional collegiate soil judging competition and one national collegiate soil judging competition. My experiences at both of these contests helped me come to the realization that I wanted to make a career out of classifying soils. Shortly after graduation, I moved to Woodstock, Illinois where I began working alongside fellow ISCA member, Bill Kreznor, conducting on-site soils investigations. Bill is acting as my mentor as I pursue the necessary credits and experience needed before taking the exams to become a Certified Professional Soil Classifier. When I am not classifying soils, I enjoy kayaking, biking, rock climbing, hiking, fishing, woodworking, golfing, and playing soccer.

2019 Farm Progress Show

Submitted by Troy Fehrenbacher



The Farm Progress Show was back in Decatur this year August 27-29. This may have been the best three days of weather the show has ever seen! Some rain prior to the show on Monday made parking a little difficult the first day but the weather that followed was perfect with sunshine and temps in the 70s and 80s. It always amazes me how many countries are represented at the show. We have folks show up from all across the globe! The soil pit is a great way to connect with the visitors and share information about soils, farming systems, and the challenges we all face. I think most ISCA members who work the soil pit learn as much from the visitors as the visitors do from us.

We couldn't have the soil pit at the show, if we didn't have members volunteer their time and help out. The members make this a success so many thanks go out to all of those who helped. Those helping this year were Roger Windhorn, Bob McLeese, Bill Kreznor, Brandon Mueller, David Rahe, John Ford, Mark Bramstedt, Steve Zwicker, Rick Francen, Bob Tegeler, Mark Stelford, Clay Robinson, Scott Wiesbrook, and Troy Fehrenbacher.

The show will be back in 2021. If there are any suggestions, please be sure to let me know!

Looking Backward: an essay recalling events in the history of the Illinois Soil Classifiers Association

The Short and Curious Life of the Illinois Pedologists Association

Submitted by Bill Kreznor, ISCA Historian

“Have regard for your name, since it will remain for you longer than a great store of gold.” Ecclesiasticus 41:12

“What’s wrong with Soil Scientist?” Unidentified member of the Ethics, Registration, and Membership Committee, 1978

Almost commensurate with the founding and incorporation of the Illinois Soil Classifiers Association (ISCA) in 1975 was the push for licensing or registration of Soil Classifiers with the state of Illinois. The Ethics, Registration, and Membership Committee (ER&MC) coordinated the effort to gain recognition for our profession through licensing or registration. Joe Fehrenbacher, Professor of Pedology at the University of Illinois (Figure 1) chaired this committee. It consisted of as many as nine members (almost 15 percent of the membership at that time) representing professionals employed in the public and private sectors and academia.



Figure 1. Joe Fehrenbacher, chair of the Ethics, Registration, and Membership Committee.

The ER&MC worked with several state legislators over a period of 2 to 3 years. A bill for licensing of Soil Classifiers (The Illinois Soil Classifiers Licensing Act) was drafted in 1977 and legislative hearings were held, but the bill died in the committee and never got to the floor for a vote. Engineers and Engineering Geologists, professions that were licensed by the state, voiced objections. The bill defined a “Soil Classifier” as having “knowledge of the physical, chemical and biological aspects of soils”. It defined “Soil” as “the naturally occurring accumulation of mineral and organic matter occupying the upper part of the unconsolidated portion of the earth’s surface ...”.

Engineers argued that they classify and interpret properties of soils and sediments, and the practice performed by a Soil Classifier could be interpreted as being in the realm of engineering practice. Also, the ER&MC was informed that the Illinois Department of Registration and Education was considering a moratorium on licensing new professions and intended to review the need for licensing of selected existing professions.

The ER&MC attempted a slightly different approach. This included pressing harder for the legislation by direct contact with additional state legislators while rallying private consumers of soils information (land developers, sanitarians, land appraisers, realtors, farmers) to do the same.

In August 1977, the ER&MC proposed changes to the bill to make it more palatable to the engineers and geologists. The phrase containing "... physical, chemical, and biological aspects of soils" and other similar references were dropped and replaced with "pedological aspects of soils" and "pedological processes", and "pedologically developed soil profile". The ER&MC recognized that, after all, Soil Classifiers practice the art and science of pedology. Perhaps "Soil Classifier" is too narrow of a term. The ER&MC met in February 1978 and a suggestion was made that ISCA should change its name to the Illinois Pedologists Association. The ER&MC polled its nine members. Five were against a name change, two supported the change, one thought either name would be all right, and one member didn't say. Still, the ER&MC decided to bring the name change issue before the entire membership at the next annual meeting. The committee would also ask two additional questions relating to registration/licensure of federal employees and whether the ISCA should continue to pursue registration/licensing.

At the 3rd Annual Meeting of the ISCA on 4 March 1978, the 45 members who attended (out of a total membership of 61) were polled on the three questions. The members in attendance overwhelmingly supported changing the name to Illinois Pedologists Association (IPA) (Figure 2). The results of the poll were reported to the Executive Council when they met on 26 April 1978. This meeting took place during a Soil Scientist Workshop, and about 50 members were in attendance. A motion was made and seconded to make the name change. It passed unanimously.

Recognition of the name change by others occurred quickly thereafter in correspondence regarding the newly formed ARCPACS (Figure 3) and to request support for the 22nd Annual Region III Collegiate Soil Judging contest to be hosted by the University of Illinois (Figure 4). The first official use by the IPA itself was in the August 1978 Newsletter that announced the Summer Meeting to be held in Springfield. Interestingly, perhaps as a testament to the frugality of our Association, the old ISCA stationery was still being used at the end of 1978.

The 4th Annual Meeting on 24 February 1979 featured a program titled with "Illinois Soil Classifiers Association" and not "Illinois Pedologists Association" (Figure 5). This likely was not an oversight. Under Old Business on the meeting agenda, the name change to IPA was revisited. It was determined that the Council vote in April 1978 to put the question of the name change to the membership was not in accordance with the Constitution. The question required a vote to amend the Constitution and this required the question to be submitted to the membership two-weeks before the meeting during which the vote is taken. Two-thirds of those voting members present would have to vote "Yes" in order to amend the Constitution and officially change the name to the Illinois Pedologists Association. An "Important Notice" memo had been submitted to the membership two weeks prior to the 4th Annual Meeting explaining that the question needed to be re-submitted. It was. Thirty-five voting members were present. Fifteen voted "Yes" for the name change and 20 voted "No". And so, we remain the Illinois Soil Classifiers Association.

ISCA Year Survey, April, 1978

Should all government employees doing soil classifying work in Illinois be required in ISCA's proposed registration bill to be registered?		Should the name of ISCA be changed to Illinois Pedologists Association?		Should ISCA continue to push for a registration bill in the Illinois Legislature?	
Question 1		Question 2		Question 3	
yes	No	yes	No	Yes	No
1				1	
36	9	33	12	36	9
45 total		45 total		45 total	
45 votes out of 61 members = 73.77% turnout					

Figure 2. Results of the membership poll regarding registration and name

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE · DEPARTMENT OF AGRONOMY · URBANA, ILLINOIS 61801

June 15, 1978

Mr. Steven E. Zwicker
 President, Illinois Pedologists Association
 R #1, Box 12
 Harmon, IL 61042

Dear Mr. Zwicker:

According to our common colleague, R. A. Pope, there has been some discussion among your membership about the relatively new American Registry of Certified Professionals in Agronomy, Crops, and Soils (ARCPACS).

Figure 3. Correspondence regarding ARCPACS that uses the IPA moniker.



COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA - CHAMPAIGN

July 5, 1978

Mr. Steven E. Zwicker, President
Illinois Pedologists Association
R.R. #1, Box 12
Harmon, IL 61042

Dear Steve:

Illinois will host the regional collegiate soil judging contest this October 13 and 14. About 50 students from the East North Central region are expected to compete. Although the contest will be largely supported by volunteer labor, some modest funding is required for team and individual trophies and plaques.

Figure 4. Request for support to the IPA for Region III Collegiate Soil Judging contest.

ILLINOIS SOIL CLASSIFIERS

ASSOCIATION



4th ANNUAL MEETING

COUNTRY INN
RESTAURANT

Champaign, Illinois

12:00 Noon

February 24, 1979

Figure 5. Program for the 4th Annual Meeting.

www.illinoissoils.org

BUSINESS NAME

ISCA Newsletter Staff

89 Kings Highway
Dover, DE, 19901

Phone: 302-739-9326

Email:

Newsletter@illinoissoils.org

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- Winter (February)
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ISCA on Facebook

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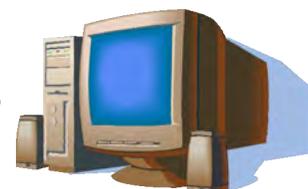
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www.illinoissoils.org

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

Better yet... make it your home page!



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

www.illinoissoils.org/news

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

Change of Address Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

*Mail to: Scott Wiesbrook, ISCA Secretary, 1816 S. Oak St., IL 61820



Illinois Soil Classifiers Association Newsletter

(Super Late) Fall-January 2020

Upcoming Events:

45th Annual Meeting March 21, 2020

Hydric Soils Workshop April 30—May 1, 2020

Inside this issue:

Message From the President	1
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New Member Bio	4
Update on IEHA Conference	5
Speaker Reminder	5
Farewell Kristine!!!	6
Soil's Comic	6
ISCA on Facebook	7

Message from the President

Save the Date,

The 45th Annual ISCA Meeting is scheduled for March 21, 2020 at the Forbes Natural History Building in Champaign. More information to be sent in February.

The ISCA Hydric Soil Course will be held in Kane County on April 30 - May 1, 2020. The flyer about it is included below. More information to be sent about this in the spring.

A Book Review,

With winter starting, we have not only shorter days but also less field work to keep us busy, so why not pick up a book? I thought this was a great story and wanted to share it. If you're a soil scientist looking for a good book to read, check it out:

The Worst Hard Time: The Untold Story of Those Who Survived the Great American Dust Bowl by Timothy Egan (2006)

These true Dust Bowl stories profile several families through their experiences during this monumental environmental catastrophe. The best part about the book, in my opinion, was that it also gives first hand accounts of WHY the Dust Bowl happened. Starting with the Homestead Act in the Great Plains, it describes the early farming efforts of the short grass prairie and the misunderstanding of many farmers on soil management and farming techniques in these dry regions. It even profiles Hugh Hammond Bennett, the first Chief of the Soil Conservation Service. It talks about the pounds, feet, and acres of soil that moved through the air. Soil color is described in the massive dust clouds (although not in Munsell terms). This book is not only a great history tale, but also a lesson on soil management and the balance of natural ecosystems. Also very entertaining for a non-fiction book! I highly recommend it.

And a Soil Joke!

Why did the B and C horizon decide not to have kids?
Turns out one of them wasn't parent material!

Happy Holidays!

-Mary Beth Falsey

ISCA 45th Annual Meeting

The Certification Board has approved the following PDH amounts that can be reported for the upcoming Annual Meeting on **March 21, 2020**.

12:00 Opening Remarks/Call for Ballots	1 PDH
1:00 Keynote Speaker	1 PDH
2:30 Business Meeting	1 PDH

Total of 3 PDHs in Category C can be reported if attend all agenda items, starting at noon.

Meeting registration form, speaker bio, election ballot, and candidate bios will be included in the next issue of the Newsletter.



Illinois Soil Classifiers Association

SAVE THE DATE

April 30-May 1, 2020



For updates, visit:
Illinoissoils.org

Hydric Soil Course
Day 1: Introduction to
Hydric Soil Indicators and Soil
Properties
Day 2: Disturbed & Problem
Soils

Cost: \$200

Location: Kane County
Government Center



New Member Bio

Welcome To ISCA Erin Bush!!!



Erin Bush is the Resource Conservationist at the Champaign County Soil & Water Conservation District. She recently finished her Master's of Science degree in Agronomy from Kansas State University where she developed a commodity crop productivity index for Kansas based on inherent soil properties using soil survey data. Erin's primary interest is in Pedology, as she enjoys seeing new soil profiles and understanding their genesis and landscapes. She has had the opportunity to travel through participating in soil judging and hopes to keep learning and educating about soil science!

ISCA Speakers at Illinois Environmental Health Association (IEHA) Conferences 2019

Submitted by Don Fehrenbacher

Apr 30 - May 1: Bill Kreznor spoke at the IEHA Annual Education Conference - Central Chapter held in the ISU Alumni Center, Normal, IL. Bill's presentation was entitled "Soils of Illinois - Adventures in Soil Testing." He talked about onsite soil investigations for both septic systems and stormwater management. About 40 were in attendance and several participants expressed a high interest in the subject. IEHA hosted a student poster session for graduate and undergraduate students from ISU and U of I - Springfield.

Sept 16 - 17: Doug Gaines' presentation at the IEHA Annual Education Conference - Southern Chapter in Marion, IL was called "Soils, Origins and Use (Septics)." He discussed some common issues with onsite investigations including distance between soil borings, vertical separation and curtain drains. About 60 were present and he received a number of questions. Doug shared that several new participants were present that were previously unaware of ISCA and the work of Soil Classifiers.

Nov 4 - 5: Don Fehrenbacher spoke at the IEHA Annual Education Conference at Starved Rock Lodge, Oglesby, IL. The title of his presentation was "The Role of Soil Classifiers in Onsite Wastewater Treatment in Illinois." About 75 attended the main session that Don spoke at. His presentation included the history of soil classification, soil research related to OWT, and a discussion about K_{sat} and its relationship to loading rates. There were some lengthy discussions after the presentation with IEHA and IALEHA members.

Annual Reminder to Speakers from ISCA

Submitted by Don Fehrenbacher

Making a presentation to a health department, environmental health/ septic contractors conference or other user group and giving the appearance that you represent ISCA?

Your Council decided a few years ago that if members of ISCA are asked to make such a presentation that you should contact the Council to determine if your presentation's content is consistent with ISCA technical opinions and viewpoints.

As ISCA is actively pursuing improved technical understanding of soils related codes and ordinances, ISCA wants to feel confident that the "best and consistent" message is being provided to our users. You may not know that official ISCA representatives were involved in the writing of many existing codes and ordinances and are presently engaged in revisions and interpretations of these regulations. So again, if your soil's expertise is requested by a regulatory agency or user group, contact the Council for assistance.

Farewell Kristine and Congrats!!!

Submitted by Kristine Ryan

My time in Illinois and with the NRCS has given me many opportunities in my career. From ISCA field days and tours to lengthy mapping details out-of-state, my skills have been developed and honed by working with various people and in various areas. I have been fortunate to work with and be supported by skilled and experienced soil scientists in public and private sectors. I've had incredible mentors within the Illinois NRCS that have helped me, trained me, and supported me. For this, I am so grateful.

Now, it's time for a new adventure. It's time to learn new soils and work with new people. And I'm excited to share with you that I have accepted the South Carolina State Soil Scientist position in Columbia, South Carolina! I will begin my new position on March 1st.

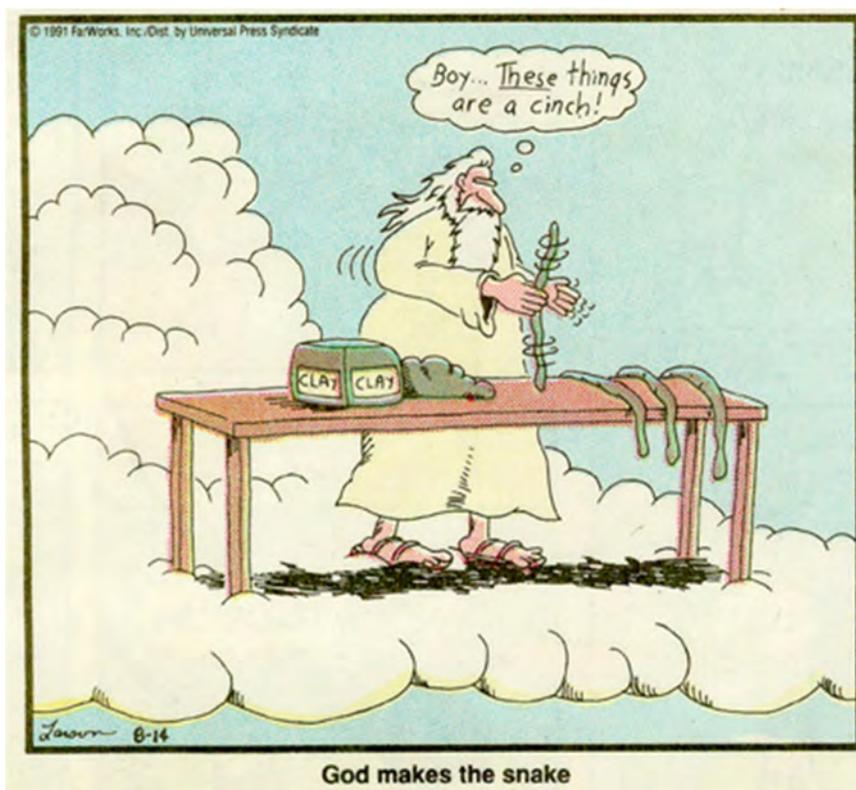
Again, thank you for all the opportunities and keep in touch!

- Kristine

Soil's Comic

God determines Soil Plastic Limits

Submitted by Bob Darmody



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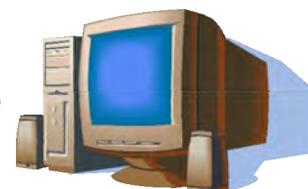
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Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

*Mail to: Scott Wiesbrook, ISCA Secretary, 1816 S. Oak St., IL 61820