



Illinois Soil Classifiers Association Newsletter

Winter-February 2014

Message from the President

Upcoming Events:

39th Annual Meeting March 22
56th Midwest FOP field conf. May 31 - June 1

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It's past Groundhog Day and still winter. Some of us have gotten tired of it as it seems longer and colder than usual. Many people have short memories when it comes to the weather, but those of us who deal with the weather in our vocations seem to have a "longer" memory concerning the weather change. There I said it: change; I started the year speaking of change within ISCA. We are upon a big change for many as the new Illinois Department of Health (IDPH) regulations and Federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) rules take effect. Many Soil Classifiers may realize a change in more work (and possibly more headaches as well), while others may not notice a change at all. The new IDPH code has great potential for additional work for Classifiers in Illinois with the abolishment of percolation tests. Much of this will depend on the economy and how the new code is interpreted. The new EPA rules also show a possible need for Classifiers, however there are still many unanswered questions and unknowns involved. A new change to add: a new farm bill has just been signed into law. I have not had the time to scrutinize it myself, and I assume many others have not **either, so at this point we don't know if or how that may affect the Illinois Soil Classifiers Association.**

I would like to part by saying it has been an enjoyable privilege to serve as your president this year. I have had a great team of officers and committees to work with who made my job very easy. In March I will hand over the reins to Bruce Putman who **will use his talents and vision to guide ISCA for the next years' changes, and there will be changes.** ISCA must continue to change some aspects in order to remain viable and useful, however we will not change our focus on promoting the wise use of soils and educating the public as to who we are.

Respectfully,

Doug Gaines
President, ISCA
618/459-8619
President@illinoissoils.org

Position Announcement

Job Title(s): Wetland Soil Specialist

Location: Champaign, Illinois

Closing Date: 02/28/2014

Wetland Soil Specialist

Illinois Natural History Survey (INHS)

Prairie Research Institute (PRI)

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

INHS is seeking one (1) individual to be a part of the field research team in the INHS wetland science program for the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT).

Project description: This IDOT funded, long-term program focuses on wetland delineations and mitigation throughout the state of Illinois. This position will be located in Champaign, Illinois.

Job description: Primary position function is to identify and record hydric soil field indicators, make hydric soil determinations (according to the Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual (including applicable regional supplements and Field Indicators of Hydric Soils in the United States), interpret surface hydrology, and determine the boundaries of hydric soil units during on-site wetland determinations. Assist with the delineation of wetlands by analyzing soils and hydrology in IDOT project areas. Prepare technical reports describing the results for IDOT. Participate and coordinate with the Illinois State Geological Survey in long-term wetland mitigation projects, including locating and evaluating potential mitigation sites, assisting with site design, designing and implementing monitoring programs. Respond to requests for scientific/technical information, requests for speaking engagements, and serving on internal committees. Independent research and presentation/publication of results, particularly concerning wetlands, is encouraged.

Qualifications: Must possess the minimum of a Bachelor's degree in an appropriate discipline; Master's degree is preferred. Must be able to classify and map soils, identify hydric soil units, interpret soil survey reports, and interpret wetland hydrology. Must have scientific knowledge and skills necessary to collect and analyze field data for the completion of wetland studies; and strong verbal and written communication skills to translate surveys and research findings into appropriate management recommendations, reports and presentations to co-workers, supervisory staff, and scientific and lay communities. Knowledge of prairie soil types is desired. Familiarity with current federal wetland determination methods and current wetland restoration techniques desired. Competency with GIS and/or databases is a plus. Must be willing to travel overnight throughout Illinois and work under adverse weather conditions.

Salary: \$35,000 - \$50,000 per year commensurate with experience and education.

This is a regular, academic professional, full-time grant supported 12-month position. The estimated starting date is April 21, 2014.

Continued on next page

Position Announcement (continued)

Benefits: Generous vacation and sick leave. State Universities Retirement System. Group health, dental, vision and life insurance.

Applications must be received by February 28, 2014. To apply, all candidates must submit an online profile through <https://jobs.illinois.edu> by the close of the posting period. Qualified candidates must upload a letter of which details qualifications noted above, curriculum vitae, working e-mail address, and the names, addresses, phone numbers, and e-mail addresses of three professional references. All requested information must be submitted for your application to be considered. Incomplete information will not be reviewed.

For further information please contact Angela Young, Human Resources, Illinois Natural History Survey, 217-244-7793, younga@illinois.edu.

For technical questions, please contact: Paul Marcum, Search Committee Chair, marcum@illinois.edu.

The University of Illinois is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer. The administration, faculty, and staff embrace diversity and are committed to attracting qualified candidates who also embrace and value diversity and inclusivity. www.inclusiveillinois.illinois.edu

T r a d i n g P o s t

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

2014 Bent Auger Award - Call for Nominations

It is once again time to select a new winner of the prestigious Bent Auger Award. As its name suggests, this award is given each year to an individual or group of individuals who **displays "excellence" in the field. Qualifying events/situations are numerous and unrestricted.** Stories do not have to be true, but are preferably based on partial truth. If you know anyone who is deserving of this award for 2014, please bring his/her nomination to the annual meeting in Champaign on March 22.

Competition can be fierce, so make sure your story is well prepared and fully exaggerated. This award has been held by many of the leaders and founders of the ISCA. It is a great honor and looks good on any resume.



Illinois Soil Classifiers Association Council Meeting

Thursday January 30, 2014
Pontiac NRCS Field Office
Pontiac, Illinois

The council meeting was called to order by President Doug Gaines at 10:00 AM.

Attendees: Doug Gaines-President, Vice President-Scott Wiesbrook, Bruce Putman-President Elect, Frank Heisner-Past President, Chuck Frazee-Treasurer, Bob Tegeler-Secretary, Jerry Berning, Mark Bramstedt, Brad Cate, Don Fehrenbacher, Todd Soukup, and Steve Zwicker.

Secretary's Report – The minutes from the November 14, 2013 Council Meeting were approved with edits on a motion by Bruce Putman and second by Chuck Frazee. Bob reported that a second dues notice was sent to non certified members. Ten members have not paid their dues to date.

Treasurer's Report - **Chuck reviewed the Treasurer's Report for January 1, 2013 to January 1, 2014, which showed an ending balance of \$21119.25. He also reviewed the Treasurer's report for November 14, 2013 through January 29, 2014, which showed an ending balance of \$21365.83. It was mentioned that an expense for next year could be for a National Soil judging contest. It was also mentioned that last year's recipient of the Burt Ray Award has not received an award check. The recipient's sponsor needs to submit a request for the check. Chuck mentioned that he has not received any expenses from Dr. Hammer that are related to the Forest Soils Workshop. Seed money for the workshop could be sent to Ohio once they confirm that they will be the host this year. The Treasurer's Report was approved with a motion by Scott Wiesbrook and second by Frank Heisner.**

Committee Reports

Certification Board – Chairperson Todd Soukup, reported that the Certification Board has one application for certification pending. Incoming CEUs are being reviewed. There are two unpaid certified members at this time. The new exam is under review, including an update to the classification section of the exam. The old exam will include these updates as well. Todd inquired about lab data that could be used in relation to the classification section of the exam. Bob Tegeler will send Todd the web address of the National Cooperative Soil Survey Soil Characterization database. The exam pedon will be reviewed for any needed changes, and possibly a new pedon with the same classification. There are no plans, at this time, for a field practicum as part of the exam, but it could be considered as part of the exam and/or for CEUs. Once the draft of the exam is completed, it could be sent to Dr. Mike Konen for review, with a specific response time identified. Jerry was unable to locate the second exam.

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

Ethics, Certification, and Membership – **Mark Bramstedt discussed Jen Wollenweber's suggestions to streamline the membership application process, by using fillable forms that would be available on-line. Applicants would be able to pay via pay pal. One application form would be used, it would clearly identify the specific sections that would need to be completed, depending on the type of membership that the applicant is seeking. These types of changes would require a change in the By-Laws, since the application is currently in the By-Laws. A motion was made by Bruce Putman with a second by Frank Heisner to move the application form from the By-Laws to an Appendix. The motion passed. This proposed change will need to be approved by ISCA members at the upcoming Annual Meeting. The proposed change will need to be sent to members two weeks in advance of the Annual Meeting. The Ethics, Certification, and Membership Committee will work with the Constitution, By-Laws, and Legislative Committee to develop a proposal for the Annual Meeting. If this proposal is approved by ISCA members, then future changes to the membership application form could be made with Executive Council approval.**

Lex Bledsoe was approved as a Full Member with a motion by Frank Heisner and second by Bruce Putman.

Finance – Chairperson Scott Wiesbrook reported that his committee is in place. He reviewed his tentative budget for the upcoming year. Future budget items include expenses for the Region 3 Soil Judging Contest which will be held at Blackhawk College. ISCA could possibly pay for the plaques that will be awarded. Bob Tegeler will send Scott a breakdown of members by membership types. This will enable Scott to estimate the amount of money that will be received from membership dues.

Newsletter – No report.

Nominations - Frank is working on the ballot. The ballot needs council approval before it can be sent out to ISCA Members.

Public Relations and Education – Chairperson Jerry Berning. A discussion ensued regarding the topic to be discussed at the annual meeting. As a result of the recent IDPH code changes, and the USEPA General NPDES Permit for surface discharge of wastewater; it was decided that Jerry will provide training, at the annual meeting, on identification of Waters of the US and the use of soil and site characteristics to estimate how far effluent will move before reaching Waters of the US. It was agreed that consistency statewide is needed if ISCA Certified Soil Classifiers are going to make this determination. Jerry will send his formula, for review by those in attendance today, for determining how far effluent will move before reaching Waters of the US. Bob Tegeler will send the web address of the NRCS National Engineering Handbook to those in attendance today. This handbook contains a guide for determining the Hydrologic Soil Group. It was also decided to offer this training on February 24th at the Springfield MLRA Soil Survey Office.

Ad Hoc Committees

Webmaster – No report.

Historian – Steve Zwicker mentioned that an article discussing the Forest Soils Workshop was in the ISCA Newsletter.

Appointee to State Advisory Commission on Private Sewage Disposal – No report.

Old Business

Illinois Sewage Code - EPA Waters of the US (curtain drains) - The sewage code and Waters of the US were discussed earlier in the meeting. It was decided that curtain drains will also be discussed at the meeting on Feb. 24th.

Mentoring Program - President Gaines mentioned that an ISCA member expressed interest in working with a mentor. Brad Cate will work with the individual.

Multi-Year Plan - An Ad Hoc committee will be established to work on a multi - year plan. Chairperson will be Frank Heisner or Brad Cate.

Possible Joint meeting with Indiana Soil Classifiers on September 12, 2014 - A decision will be made regarding this meeting, at a later date.

Spanish version of the “Illinois-Understanding Soils” brochure - Bruce Putman will discuss this with his son to see if would be able to assist in the development of a spanish version of the brochure. Mark Bramstedt will send the document to Bruce.

New Business

Annual Meeting - March 22nd was set as the first choice for the annual meeting, with March 29th as a back-up. **Jerry Berning will contact Biaggi’s Restaurant in regard to catering the noon lunch. Scott Wiesbrook will submit a request for a meeting space at the Forbes Natural History Building.**

Involvement with On-Site Wastewater Professionals of Illinois Inc. (OWPI) - President Gaines **raised a question regarding an ISCA vendor booth at next year’s OWPI meeting, even though we are not a vendor.** The cost is \$500.00. Another option would be to take out an ad in their newsletter. President Gaines will check with OWPI regarding options to promote ISCA. Could our website be put on their website? No further action was taken at this time.

Chat room for soil discussions within ISCA - It was mentioned that there is a site like this on the ISCA **Facebook site, as well as an “Ask a Soil Classifier” section on the ISCA web page. Mark Bramstedt will check out the possibility of setting up a forum on the ISCA web site.**

Notice on ISCA web site- A notice will be placed on the ISCA web site informing members that the USEPA general NPDES permit regarding surface discharge and impact on Waters of the US takes effect on February 10. The newsletter committee will send a notice, via email, to members informing them that on Feb. 24th, a training session will be held regarding the updated IDPH Private Sewage Code, which became effective January 1st and the requirements for the USEPA General Permit for New and Replacement Surface Discharging

Wastewater Treatment Systems which goes into effect February 10.

2014 Central States Forest Soils Workshop - A motion was made by Frank Heisner with a second by Scott Wiesbrook to provide \$3,000.00 in seed money to the host of the 2014 Workshop. The motion passed.

Region 3 Soil Judging Contest - A motion was made by Bruce Putman with a second by Todd Soukup to provide \$500.00 for the contest. This money will be in addition to the \$500.00 allotted for the National Soil Judging Contest. The motion passed.

Curtain Drains - An Ad Hoc committee was created to establish a guide for use and effectiveness of curtain drains. Todd Soukup volunteered to serve as chairperson, Doug Gaines, and Bruce Putman will also serve on the committee. Other members can also volunteer to serve on the committee.

Soil Judging Contests - A regional contest will be held in the fall of 2016, and a National Contest will be hosted by NIU in 2017.

The next meeting will be held prior to the annual meeting on March 22.

The meeting adjourned 12:30, with a motion by Bruce Putman and second by Chuck Frazee.

These minutes are in draft form and will be approved at the next Council Meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Tegeler
ISCA Secretary



1-30-14 Council Meeting --Jerry Berning describes training needed for ISCA Soil Classifiers, who may soon be called upon to do site evaluations for sewage disposal systems, relative to NPDES permits.

39th Annual Meeting Illinois Soil Classifiers Association Saturday, March 22nd, 2014 Champaign, IL

Where: Forbes Natural History Building, Champaign, IL

Registration: 11:00

Opening Remarks: 11:50

Lunch: 12:00

Guest Speaker: 12:45

Business Meeting: 1:45

The 39th annual meeting of the Illinois Soil Classifiers Association will be held Saturday, March 22nd, 2014 at the Forbes Natural History Building, University of Illinois, same place as the last three years. The Forbes Natural History Building is located at 1816 South Oak St., Champaign, IL. This is within the Research Park southwest of the Assembly Hall. Parking is free.

Please use the registration form on the next page to make a reservation by March 17th, 2014. The cost of the meal and registration is \$25.00. Please, make checks payable to ISCA or pay online. Same day registrants cannot be guaranteed lunch.

This year's guest speaker will be Chad Moorman, IDPH Private Sewage Program Manager. Chad's presentation will center around the updated IDPH Private Sewage Code which became effective January 1st and the requirements for the USEPA General Permit for New and Replacement Surface Discharging Wastewater Treatment System which went into effect February 10. These changes present additional opportunities for Soil Classifiers. As perc tests are no longer allowed, soil evaluations will be required. To be covered by the general NPDES permit, owners and operators must submit a written determination that concludes that an individual or soil based cluster system and all other alternatives to a surface discharging system are not technologically feasible. That determination should require a soil evaluation. The identification of Waters of the US and how far the surface outlet has to be from those waters are issues under discussion. Soil classifiers who will be onsite for the soil evaluation may be asked to evaluate the soil and site characteristics to determine if a permit is needed. Counsel and committee chairmen are reviewing guidelines for making those determinations.

Please join us at the annual meeting for the discussion.

Driving Directions:

Find maps and directions on the Illinois Natural History Website at <http://www.inhs.illinois.edu/organization/maps>



<https://maps.google.com>

Ballot for 2014 ISCA Elections

Voting rights are for Full Members only.

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

See the 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

Mark Bramstedt

Don Fehrenbacher

(write-in candidate for President-Elect) _____

Vice-President

Kristine Ryan

Todd Soukup

(write-in candidate for Vice-President) _____

Submit your ballot:

You may bring your ballot to the 2014 Annual Meeting or you may vote prior to the Annual Meeting by mailing your ballot to Bob Tegeler, ISCA Secretary, 124 Joan Drive, Divernon, IL 62530. Please seal your **ballot in a separate envelope and mark it with "Ballot" on the outside of that envelope. Mailed ballots must be received by the Friday before the Annual Meeting in order to be counted.**

Clip and Send by March 17, 2014 ...Clip and Send by March 17, 2014...Clip and Send by March 17

ISCA 2014 Annual Spring Meeting Reservation

March 22nd, 2014

Illinois Natural History Survey, Champaign, IL

Name _____

Number Attending _____ (\$25/person)

Total Payment _____

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

Chuck Frazee
65 Gaffney Road
Divernon, IL 62530

If you can make it, we'd like to hear
from you by March 17th, 2014. Thanks!

You can also pay online using the PayPal link on our website.

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

2014 Candidate Biographies

The Nomination Committee presents the following slate of officers for nomination:

President-Elect – Mark Bramstedt and Don Fehrenbacher; Vice-President – Kristine Ryan and Todd Soukup.

Please see their biographies below and use the ballot on the previous page to cast your vote.

President-Elect

Mark Bramstedt

Mark is a certified member of ISCA and has been active with the association since 1978. He has served on various committees and the certification board, and previously held the offices of president and vice-president. He is currently on the Ethics, Certification and Membership Committee and serves as the webmaster for ISCA. Mark lives in Yorkville, IL and is the NRCS Resource Soil Scientist for northeastern and east-central Illinois.

Don Fehrenbacher

Don worked for the Illinois NRCS Soil Survey for over 33 years and two years as Area Resource Planner in northeast Illinois. He served as the State Soil Scientist of Wisconsin for five years and ended his federal career as program manager of the regulatory branch for the St. Paul District of the Army Corps of Engineers. He is presently consulting part-time.

Vice-President

Kristine Ryan

I received my B.S in Plant and Soil Science with an emphasis on soils from Southern Illinois University at Carbondale in 2003. I accepted a soil scientist position with the Illinois NRCS in 2004. I have worked on soil survey update projects in Northeastern Illinois, Order 1 soil survey mapping projects for the Lake County Forest Preserve District, and I was also on the crew that completed the Cook County initial urban soil survey. I also detailed to Georgia in 2009 and Wyoming in 2012 to help in their completion of their initial soil surveys. Currently our office is working on the Soil Data Join Re-correlation initiative (SDJR), the Ashkum Saturated Hydraulic Conductivity project, and we hope to work on some identified MLRA field projects this summer.

I received my Masters of Public Health (MPH) from Benedictine University in Lisle, Illinois, in 2010. I focused my studies on community gardens and soil contamination. I have become increasingly interested in these topics since I began my career. I have been a shareholder of a Naperville Community Supported Agriculture (CSAs) for many years. I hope that in the future I can merge my love of soils and natural resources and my MPH and become more involved in community gardening and the local food movement.

Todd Soukup

Todd Soukup received a B.S. in Agronomy from Iowa State and a M.S. in Soil Science from North Dakota State. After working with the SCS as a soil scientist in North Dakota for five years, he accepted a position with Environmental S/E in Glen Ellyn, IL, working primarily with wetlands for almost three years. In 1997 Todd started his own company performing soil science and ecological management services. Todd has been actively involved in ISCA and most recently served on the certification committee. Currently, Todd splits his time between his business in Illinois and a small farm in Iowa that he and his wife, Jan own.

Preliminary announcement for the 56th Midwest Friends of the Pleistocene field conference
Quaternary geology and geoarchaeology of the lower Ohio River Valley, sw Indiana

Ron Counts (USGS) and Bill Monaghan (IGS/IU), leaders

Angel Mounds, Evansville Indiana, May 31st – June 1st

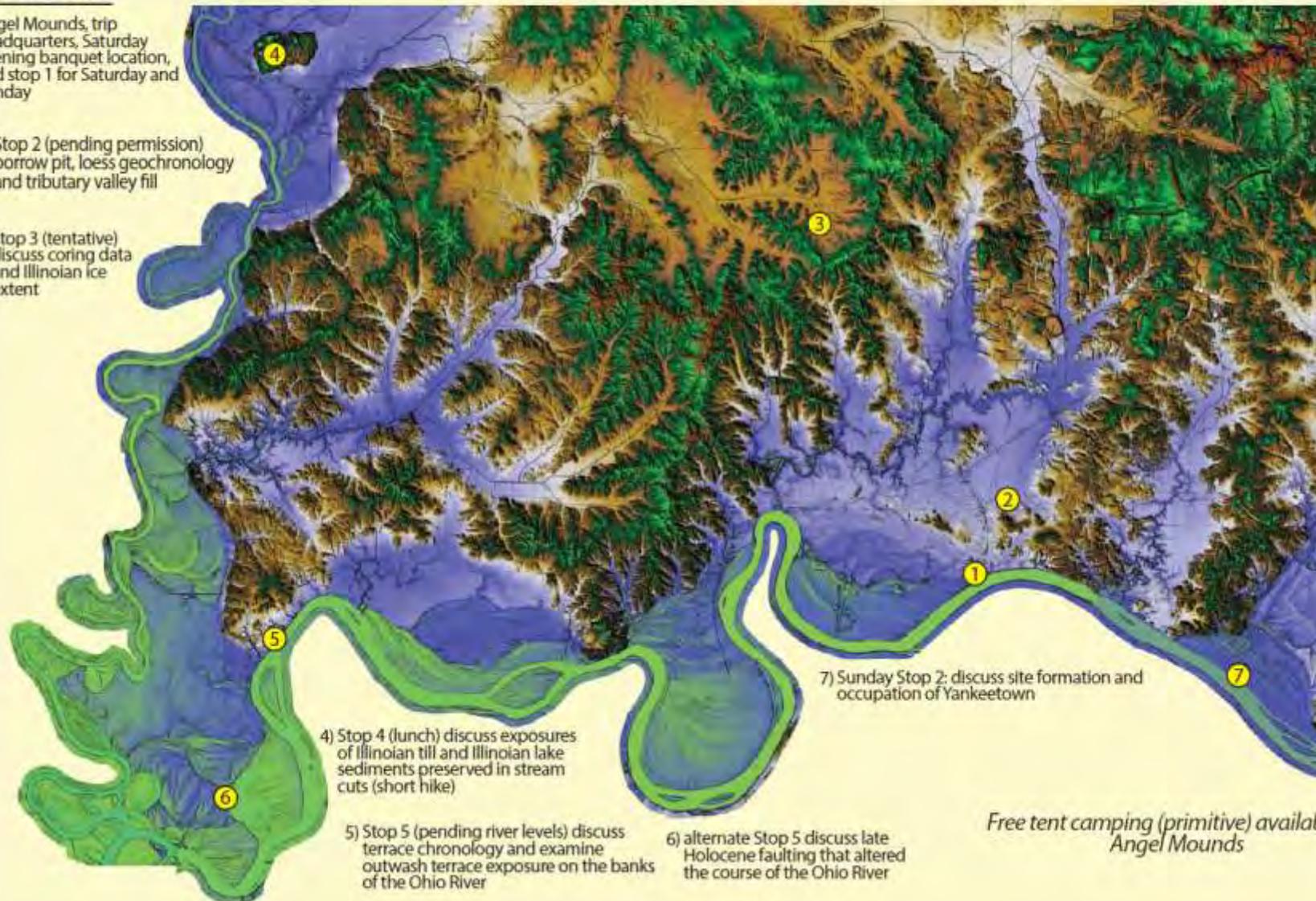
Mark your calendars! More details will soon follow

Tentative Schedule

1) Angel Mounds, trip headquarters, Saturday evening banquet location, and stop 1 for Saturday and Sunday

2) Stop 2 (pending permission) borrow pit, loess geochronology and tributary valley fill

3) Stop 3 (tentative) discuss coring data and Illinoian ice extent



4) Stop 4 (lunch) discuss exposures of Illinoian till and Illinoian lake sediments preserved in stream cuts (short hike)

5) Stop 5 (pending river levels) discuss terrace chronology and examine outwash terrace exposure on the banks of the Ohio River

6) alternate Stop 5 discuss late Holocene faulting that altered the course of the Ohio River

7) Sunday Stop 2: discuss site formation and occupation of Yankeetown

Free tent camping (primitive) available at Angel Mounds

Days Gone By

MEMBERS AND GUESTS WHO ATTENDED
THE ISCA SUMMER MEETING
HIDDEN SPRINGS STATE FOREST
SEPTEMBER 15, 1984



FRONT ROW (left to right): Dana Grantham, Tonie Endres, Steve Zwicker, Bob Darmody, Leon Follmer, Scott Martin.

SECOND ROW: Egide Nizeyimana, George Vance, Wells Andrews, John Doll, Sam Indorante, Nan Gray, Fred Awalt.

THIRD ROW: Margaret Miles, Brian Fitch, Laurie King, Mark Bramstedt, Sue Mravik, Pam Thompson, Dave Rahe, John Tandarich, Dave Cremeens, Carl Wacker, Mike Walczynski, Kim Kroger, Lyetta Awalt, Laura Craft.

FOURTH ROW: Cliff Miles, Wiley Scott, Mike Lilly, Bill Kreznor, Wilbur Chrudimsky, Bruce Putman, Steve Fischer, _____, Charles Love, Mike Walker, Lester Bushue, Ada Bushue.

www.illinoissoils.org

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Newsletter@illinoissoils.org

Submissions

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

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

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

Publication Schedule

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



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

ISCA on Facebook

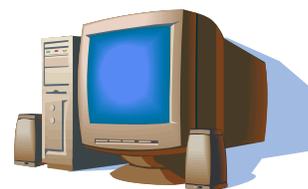
For those of you who want to keep in touch with ISCA members and others interested in soils in Illinois, join our group on Facebook. Search Facebook for “Illinois Soil Classifiers Association” and become a friend of ISCA. Anyone may post messages, announcements, pictures or events that may be of interest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



ISCA Newsletter Committee is looking for pictures of it's members, past or present, to include in future newsletters. Submissions can be sent electronically or hard copy to the staff address, see above and left. Please include a narrative for the caption! If hard copies are sent please indicate if they are to be returned otherwise photographs will be retained in an archive photos file.

www.illinoissoils.org

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



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

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

www.illinoissoils.org/news

.....**Cut**.....**Cut**.....

Change of Address Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

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



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Illinois Soil Classifiers Association Newsletter

Spring has finally arrived, and what a winter it was. In Northern Illinois where I work we were unable to take a truck into the field for almost 2 months due to the snow. By nearly all accounts it was the most severe winter in over 30 years. For your reading pleasure I have included in the newsletter a picture of my drill truck on a site that had to be cleared of snow before we could perform a soil test. There was 4 feet of snow in places on this lot.

This year will be very dynamic for the ISCA. Numerous committees are working on issues ranging from on-site waste disposal concerns and regulations to modifications in certification. These proposed certification changes include changes in reporting of CEU's and possibly at a later date proposed changes in required experience to become a Soil Classifier.

We are approaching completion of a standard that Soil Classifiers may utilize to aid in the identification of Waters of the U.S. for surface discharge. Also, at the request of the Illinois State Health Department a suggested interim standard for septic field curtain drain standards is nearing completion.

The development of a new multi-year plan with an approximate timeline to develop these ideas and many others is in draft form and will be released to the membership in the near future. At the core of all this we have an outstanding group of people willing to commit their personal time to make improvements to our organization and industry. I extend my gratitude to those who dedicate some of their own personal time to volunteering, with this organization and others.

Regards,

Bruce Putman, President ISCA
815-338-6218
putman@mc.net





Illinois Soil Classifiers Association

ADVANCED HYDRIC SOIL COURSE

June 26-27, 2014



Sponsored By:

DuPage County
Stormwater Management

Forest Preserve District
of DuPage County

Kane County Division of
Environmental & Water
Resources

Natural Resources
Conservation Service



Northern
Illinois
University

This is an advanced soils course utilizing both classroom and hands-on field training intended to assist in the identification of hydric soils using Soil Taxonomy and the Field Indicators of Hydric Soils in the United States (Version 7.0). It also enables participants to accurately document soil characteristics using the Regional Supplement to the Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual: Midwest Region (Version 2.0). Although this course will cover the basics of hydric soils for those with less experience, it also will present more difficult examples of identifying hydric indicators of sandy soils and disturbed soils.

WHERE: Visitor Center
James "Pate" Philip State Park
2050 W. Stearns Road, Bartlett IL

COST: \$75.00 (\$35.00 for ISCA Full Members)

REGISTER: www.illinoissoils.org (by Monday, June 23)

Please find an agenda and additional details on the back.

ADVANCED HYDRIC SOIL COURSE

June 26-27, 2014

Field experience in hydric soil determination and wetland delineation is recommended. This course is intended for individuals responsible for hydric soil identification and wetland delineations with previous experience in hydric soil identification.

Topics to be Covered:

- Basic Soil Properties
- Formation of Redoximorphic Features
- Soil and Landscape Relationships
- Water Flow through Soils
- Corps Delineation Manual- Midwest Supplement soil form
- Hydric Soil Field Indicators Guide
- Sandy Soil Indicators
- Disturbed and Problem Soils

THURSDAY

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| 8:30 - 9:00 A.M. | Registration |
| 9:00 - 11:30 A.M. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introductions and Overview • Basic Soil Properties, Soil Taxonomy • Formation of Redox Features • Soils/Landscape and Water Flow • Midwest Supplement soil form • Review of how to use indicators |
| 11:30 A.M. - Noon | Soil Texture Exercise |
| Noon - 1:00 P.M. | Lunch (on your own) |
| 1:00 - 3:30 P.M. | Hydric Soils in the Field
(Meet at Outdoor Pavilion) |

FRIDAY

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| 9:00 - 9:15 A.M. | Recap of Day 1 |
| 9:15 - 9:45 A.M. | Disturbed and Problem Soils |
| 9:45 A.M. - Noon | Field Identification of Indicators
(Disturbed and Sandy Indicators) |
| Noon - 12:15 P.M. | Review of Field Activity |
| 12:15 P.M. | Adjourn |

Participants should be prepared for weather conditions, handling soils, and walking to field locations. Please bring a clipboard or notebook for note taking, a Munsell Color Book and shovel.

Order your ISCA or NRCS gear here: Caps, Hats, and Polo shirts.

Fill out the form below to order new ISCA or NRCS clothing articles. A pdf of this form is also on the ISCA Home Page on the internet. Follow the links in the order form to see details about the style and color choices for each item. You may order as many styles and colors as you wish. The caps, hats and polo shirts will have the ISCA logo embroidered in one color and the NRCS logo in blue and green. The color of the ISCA logo will be coordinated to the color of the item you choose. For example, if you choose a black cap with khaki trim, the logo will probably be embroidered in khaki. The color will be at the discretion of "B & Company Designs."

Be proud of ISCA and order several styles and colors! No "extras" will be ordered, so now is the time! NRCS employees can now order what they want instead of what someone else wants them to wear.

ORDERS MUST BE RECEIVED BY **June 30**

If you wish to save on delivery charges, we ask that you pick up your order at one of the following locations (or make other arrangements with the contact person). If you wish, you may pay an additional fee for mail delivery. Expected delivery date is about July 15. You will receive an e-mail when the orders have arrived.

NE Illinois - Mark Bramstedt, 268 Baltrusol Ct., Yorkville, IL 630-553-0494, mbramstedt@sbcglobal.net

NW Illinois - Frank Heisner, 207 East 3rd Street, Prophetstown, 815-499-4681, ptownfrank@gmail.com

SE Illinois - Zach Weber, 8048 North 1150th St., Newton, 618-783-2999, zweber@hotmail.com

SW Illinois - Sam Indorante, 708 Solitude Dr., DuQuoin, 618-967-4509, sjindorante@gmail.com

East Central Illinois - Bob McLeese, 1076 Bucks Pond Rd, Monticello, 217-621-7510, r.mcleese@yahoo.com

West Central Illinois - Bob Tegeler, 124 Joan Drive, Divernon, 217-625-7603, r.tegeler@comcast.net



Sample of mid-profile cap. To reduce costs, "illinoissoils.org" will NOT be added to the caps with this order as it was in previous orders.



Logo for left chest area of shirts or the front of hats and caps.

ISCA and NRCS Clothing Order Form

Please enter the quantity, color, logo and total price for each item. Complete the form and mail with a check payable to "Illinois Soil Classifiers Association" to Mark Bramstedt, 268 Baltrusol Ct., Yorkville, IL. You may also email the form to mbramstedt@sbcglobal.net and snail mail the check to the address above. *Items are offered at our cost with no profit to ISCA or any member.* **ORDERS MUST BE RECEIVED BY June 30**

Name: _____ Address _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____ Pick-up Location: _____

For pick-up, circle: NE, NW, SE, SW, E-Central, W-Central, or Delivery

Listed price includes embroidery costs and 7% Illinois sales tax. Add \$2.00 for tall sizes or sizes >XL. Contact Mark Bramstedt (mbramstedt@sbcglobal.net) if you have questions.

Specify Color, Logo (ISCA or NRCS) Size, and Quantity. To view the items, click on the link or copy and paste it into your browser. Once at the site, you may need to click the image to bring up more color options.

Style	Website	Color	Logo	Size	Qty	Price	Total
Premium Low Profile C830	http://www.portauthorityclothing.com/servlet/portAuthority?cat=Port-Collection&style=C830			one size		\$14.50	
Ladies Premium Low Profile LC830	http://www.portauthorityclothing.com/servlet/portAuthority?cat=Port-Collection&style=LC830			one size		\$14.50	
Garment-Washed Low Profile PWU	http://www.portauthorityclothing.com/servlet/portAuthority			one size		\$13.00	
Ladies Garment-Washed, Low Profile LPWU	http://www.portauthorityclothing.com/servlet/portAuthority?query=lpwu&cat=Port-Collection			one size		\$13.00	
Vintage Low Profile C835	http://www.portauthorityclothing.com/servlet/portAuthority			one size		\$13.00	
Medium profile, Tri-color 9500	https://www.ssactivewear.com/ShopNow/Item.aspx?ID=2175&ColorStyleID=0			one size		\$13.00	
Camo (variety) C851	http://www.portauthorityclothing.com/servlet/portAuthority?cat=Port-Collection&style=C851			one size		\$14.00	
Mid Profile, Mesh Back C818	http://www.sanmar.com/sanmar-servlets/CatalogBrowser?productId=C818&prodimage=&swatch=Black/%20Shock%20Green&top=Y			one size		\$13.00	
Outback Hat HCF	http://www.sanmar.com/sanmar-servlets/CatalogBrowser?productId=HCF&prodimage=&swatch=Navy/Canvas&top=Y			one size		\$18.75	
Bucket Hat PWSH	http://www.sanmar.com/sanmar-servlets/CatalogBrowser?productId=PWSH&prodimage=&swatch=Berry&top=Y			S/M or L/XL		\$16.25	
Polo K500	http://www.portauthorityclothing.com/servlet/portAuthority?cat=Port-Collection&style=K500					\$24.00	
Ladies Polo L500	http://www.portauthorityclothing.com/servlet/portAuthority?cat=Port-Collection&style=L500					\$24.00	
Sport-Tek Polo ST655	http://www.sanmar.com/sanmar-servlets/CatalogBrowser?productId=ST655&prodimage=&swatch=Purple/White&top=Y					\$32.50	
Ladies Sport-Tek Polo LST655	http://www.sanmar.com/sanmar-servlets/CatalogBrowser?productId=LST655&prodimage=&swatch=Gold/White&top=Y					\$32.50	

Add \$8.00 if you want mail delivery: _____

Total Enclosed: _____

www.illinoissoils.org

BUSINESS NAME

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

Phone: 618-453-5579
Fax: 618-453-5578
Email:

Submissions

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

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

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

Publication Schedule

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



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

ISCA on Facebook

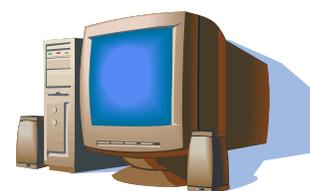
For those of you who want to keep in touch with ISCA members and others interested in soils in Illinois, join our group on Facebook. Search Facebook for “Illinois Soil Classifiers Association” and become a friend of ISCA. Anyone may post messages, announcements, pictures or events that may be of interest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



ISCA Newsletter Committee is looking for pictures of it’s members, past or present, to include in future newsletters. Submissions can be sent electronically or hard copy to the staff address, see above and left. Please include a narrative for the caption! If hard copies are sent please indicate if they are to be returned otherwise photographs will be retained in an archive photos file.

www.illinoissoils.org

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



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

www.illinoissoils.org/news

.....**Cut**.....**Cut**.....

Change of Address Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

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



Illinois Soil Classifiers Association Newsletter

Summer-August 2014

Message from the President

Upcoming Events:

Joint Field Practicum and Fall Tour with Indiana Sept. 11-12
Central States Forest Soils Workshop Oct. 14-16

Inside this issue:

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Advanced Hydric Soil Identification Course 2-3
ISCA joins IAPSC for Fall Tour 4-9
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Days Gone By 12

One topic that has received considerable discussion this year is the development of a field practicum to objectively assess the skills of current and prospective Soil Classifiers. Numerous states have similar programs in place and our organization has been reviewing these to see if implementation would be beneficial to ISCA. The benefits of a field practicum include helping members become more consistent with current methods of soil description and classification. We all have our own way of describing soils even though established standards exist. A practicum would address individual weaknesses and promote uniformity. Another benefit would be the ability to assess skills of prospective applicants who want to become Soil Classifiers. How this field practicum would be designed and implemented is open for discussion. This would be a voluntary program; there is no intention of making a practicum mandatory for anyone.

To better understand how this can work, we are holding a joint meeting this Summer/Fall with Indiana on September 11 and 12 to learn more about their utilization of a field practicum and if it might be something we can work into our organization. The details of the meeting location and dates are in the current newsletter and I encourage everyone to attend.

Regards,

Bruce Putman, President ISCA
815-338-6218
putman@mc.net

ISCA Holds Advanced Hydric Soil Identification Course

On June 26 and 27, 2014, the Illinois Soil Classifiers Association offered an Advanced Hydric Soil Identification course at James “Pate” Philip State Park in Bartlett, IL. The class was intended for individuals responsible for hydric soil identification and/ or wetland delineations with previous experience in hydric soils. The course was co-sponsored by DuPage County Stormwater Management, Kane County Division of Environmental and Water Resources, Natural Resources Conservation Service, and Northern Illinois University.

The course planning committee included ISCA members Ken Anderson, Mark Bramstedt, Mary Beth Falsey, Clayton Heffter, Mike Konen, and Jennifer Wollenweber who all contributed in organizing and coordinating the course. The planning committee wanted the class to have a more advanced component as well as covering basic hydric soil identification. We hoped to gear the class not only to those new to hydric soil identification, but also to more experienced delineators and soil scientists. Based on the attendees, we believe this was successful. The participants had all ranges of experience, from new delineators with little soils experience, to seasoned soil scientists with many years of experience. This enhanced the course with opportunities for discussion. Participants were not only able to learn from the instructors, but from one another as well.

The course included a classroom and field component on both days. ISCA member Ken Anderson moderated the course over the two day session. The first day consisted of classroom lectures in the morning at James “Pate” Philip State Park Visitors Center. Mike Konen, CPSC/CPSS and ISCA member presented on Basic Soil Properties and Formation of Redox Features. ISCA member Roger Windhorn, CPSC/CPSS presented on Soils, Landscape, and Water Flow. Mary Beth Falsey, ISCA member presented on the Hydric Soil Field Indicators Guide. Following the lectures, the class headed outside for a texturing exercise on the grounds of the Visitor Center. Participants practiced texturing from unlabeled buckets filled with different soils. In the afternoon **there were field exercises in identifying hydric soils at the nearby Pratt’s Wayne Woods Forest Preserve.** Instructors Bramstedt, Falsey, Heffter, Konen, Windhorn each manned soil pits along a transect from a wetland to an upland area. Course participants took turns at each pit classifying the soils and identifying hydric indicators with guidance from the instructors.

On day 2, ISCA member Mark Bramstedt recapped day 1 and presented on Problem Soils in the Visitor Center classroom. **We then headed out again to Pratt’s Wayne Woods Forest Preserve for another field exercise in identifying hydric soils focusing on disturbed and sandy soils.**

The course was a success with over 30 registered participants. We received a lot of positive feedback on the course evaluation forms. The course planning committee has already discussed holding similar courses every two years, with the next course planned for 2016. We encourage suggestions from ISCA members on future course topics relating to hydric soil identification. If you have any recommendations for future course topics, please send them to Mary Beth Falsey at Falsey@dupageco.org.



Instructor Heffter and participants during the day 1 field exercise.

Advanced Hydric Soil Identification Course (continued)



Above: Instructor Windhorn and participants during the day 1 field exercise.

Below: Instructors Falsey, Konen, and Bramstedt during the class summary at the end of day 2.



ISCA Joins Indiana Association of Professional Soil Classifiers (IAPSC) for Fall Tour

2014 Fall Tour

Indiana Association of Professional Soil Classifiers (IAPSC)

Indiana Association of Professional Soil Classifiers **Fall Tour**

Location: John S. Wright Forestry Center
1007 North 725 West in West Lafayette.

Camping at Ross Camp
9225 W 75 S
West Lafayette, IN 47906

UTM Zone 16, 496713.54E 447541.55N, NAD 83

When: September 12th, 2014

Agenda (Eastern Daylight Savings Time)

- 9:00 -10:00 – **Registration:** Dena Marshall IAPSC Secretary/Treasurer
- 10:00-10:05 **Welcome and Introductions:** John Allen, IAPSC President
- 10:05-10:15 **Area Welcome:** Jane Hardisty, NRCS State Conservationist; Becky Ross, NRCS NW Area Conservationist
- 10:15-10:45 **Visualizing Soil Landscapes With iPads:** Darrell Schulze, Professor of Soil Science, Purdue University
- 10:45-11:05 **Wetland Reserve Program Field Visit Overview:** Jeff Cannaday, NRCS NW Area Engineer; Mike Wigginton, NRCS NW Area Resource Soil Scientist

- 11:05-12:15 **IAPSC Business Meeting**
- 12:15 - 1:00 **Lunch and Door Prizes**
- 1:00 - 1:20 **Tour Sewage Treatment Facility at Martell Forest/Wright Center:** David Ortel, Indiana State Department of Health
- 1:20 – 1:30 **Load Buses to go to WRP Site**
- 1:30 – 3:00 **Tour Wetland Reserve Program Field Sites:** Dean Craig, Landowner
- 3:00 **Adjourn**

The Indiana Association of Professional Soil Classifiers (IAPSC) is a not-for-profit organization of soil scientists who are interested in the field study and evaluation of soils.

John Allen, President
Dr. Darrell Schulze, Past President
Joanne Mosher, President Elect
Dave Ortel, Vice President
Dena Marshall, Secretary-Treasurer
Norm Stephens, Pedestal Editor

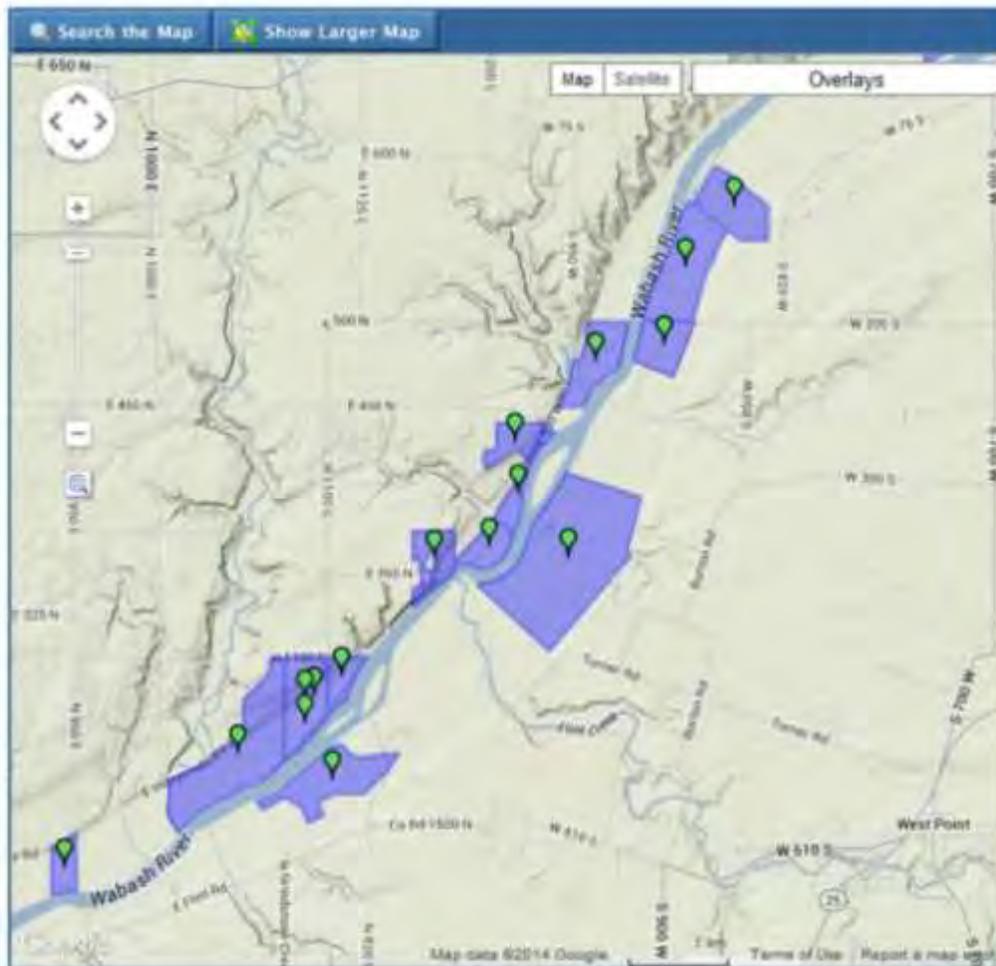
<http://www.isco.purdue.edu/irss/iapsc.html>

IAPSC Fall Tour

September 12, 2014

The 2014 IAPSC Fall Tour will take place in the Wright Center at the Purdue Martell Forest. The tour highlights include presentations as well as viewing the onsite sewage treatment facility at Wright Center, and a field trip to a 500 acre Wetland Reserve Program (WRP) conservation easement. The Wabash and Erie Canal also ran through the area. There are quite a few WRP easements in this area. This particular WRP site was purchased as a conservation easement and the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) provided technical assistance for the design of several structures to control water for wildlife habitat. Soil investigations in the area included muck and other mineral soils as well as shallow to bedrock soils. We will discuss the soils at the site and the engineering design considerations needed on what some would consider "problem soils". Below is a map of easements in the area as well as a photo of the site we will be visiting.

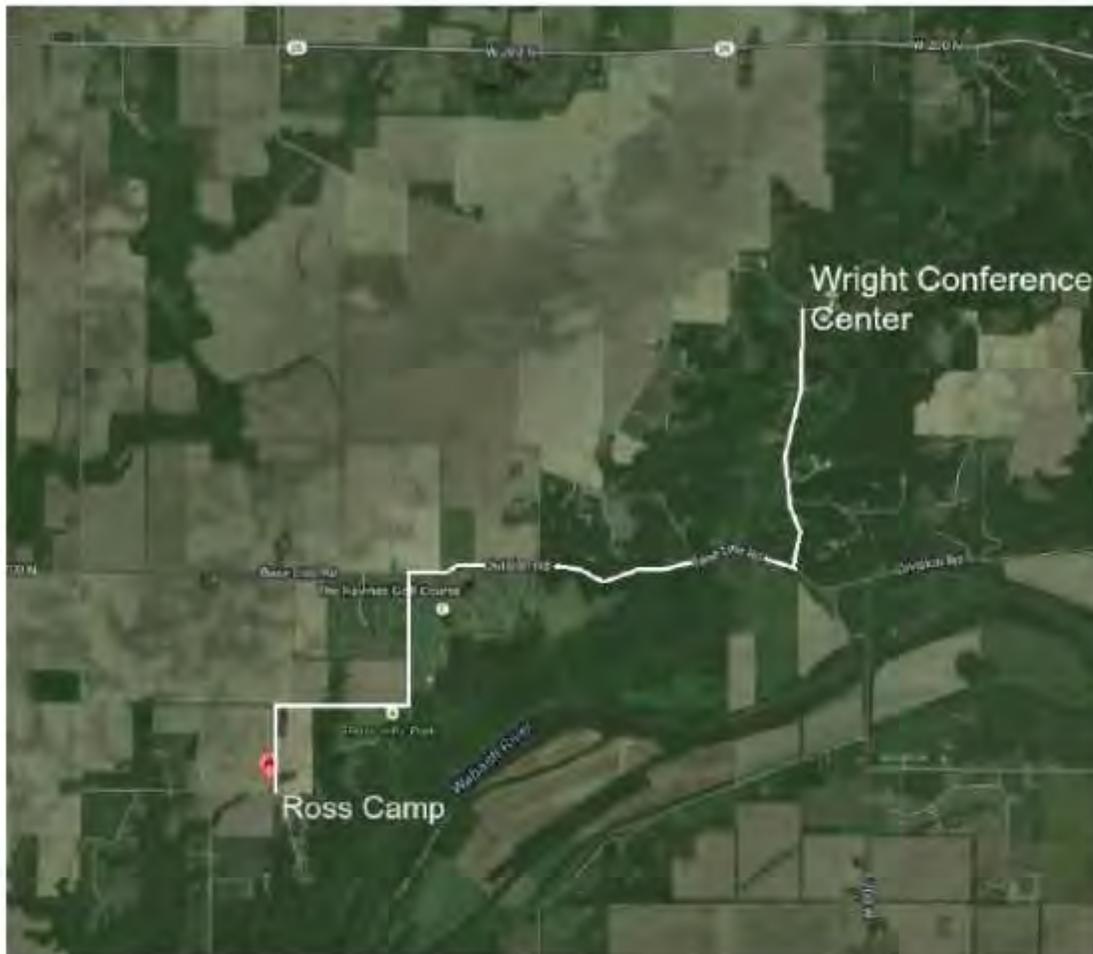




[Martell Forest](#) is in the Central Till Plain in Tippecanoe County. It contains a total of 477 acres with 398 acres of forest. The property is 8.5 miles from the Purdue University, West Lafayette campus. Martell forest is used for research and teaching by forestry students, and the students from other disciplines. Martell Forest is the site of the [John S. Wright Forestry Center](#), a research, teaching, and conference facility located at **1007 N 725 W, West Lafayette, Indiana**. Built in 2002-2003 at a cost of \$4 million, the 17,000 sq. ft. Center is a state-of-the-art facility with teaching and research laboratories, office space for faculty and staff, two greenhouses, and a conference center. In addition to the Wright Center, Martell Forest is home to the John L. Van Camp Arboretum, a collection of 100 trees native to Indiana.



If we have enough people interested, on Thursday afternoon/early evening we can visit the onsite sewage system at Ross Camp. Dave Ortel is the contact.



A campout associated with the 2014 IAPSC Fall Tour will take place at [Ross Camp](#), located 11 miles west on South River Road (Division Street) from the intersection of State Road 26 and US 231 in West Lafayette. The 200 mostly wooded acres is adjacent to Ross Hills Park. A paved entrance brings you into the campground that has 15 modern sites with 20/30/50 amp electrical hookups at each site. A handicap accessible shower/restroom building is centrally located amid the modern sites. Five campsites (1, 2, 3, 14, and 15) which can accommodate 5 vehicles and up to 10 tents, have been reserved for Thursday night September 12 (see the website for additional camp rules). We will try to "claim" the 17'x33' picnic shelter located in the campground which is available on a first-come, first-served basis. If more campsites are needed or you plan to stay for additional nights, here is the necessary information: Fees: Modern - \$21.00/night. Primitive - \$5.25/night. Camping reservations cannot be made online or via email. For Ross Camp campsite reservation information and availability, telephone the Tippecanoe County Park Department administrative office at 765-463-2306. E-mail reservations not accepted.

2014 FALL TOUR REGISTRATION FORM

For Friday September – 12th

**Registration fee includes lunch.
Help us keep costs low by registering early.**

Send in your check today!

Registration Fee \$15.00 postmarked before September 6th.

LATE FEE after 09/05/2014 - \$20.00

If at all possible register before September 5th.

Make checks to I.A.P.S.C. Inc.
Clip and mail to Dena Marshall:
1451 E. Millstone Rd.
Westport, IN 47283
Questions, Call Dena at 812-525-6433, or 812-591-3770

Name(s): _____

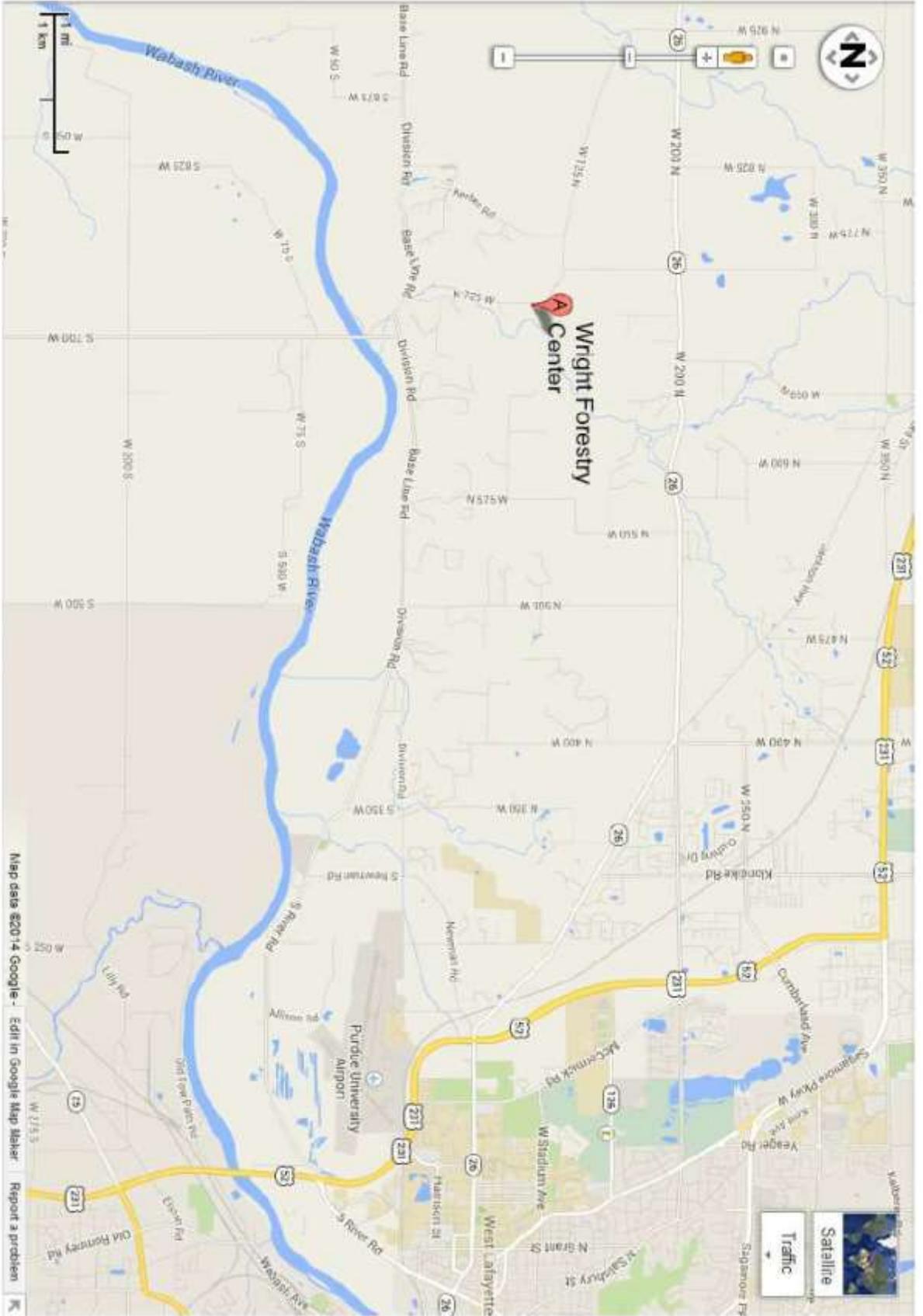
Members please update the following, if needed:

Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone No: _____
E-mail address: _____

Field Practicum

A field practicum will be held on Sept. 11 in the same vicinity as the meeting on the 12th (see pages 4-9). ISCA members can participate in that as well, at no additional charge. The field practicum will be held at 9:00 and again at 1:00. More details will be available regarding the practicum in the near future. Details will also be available at the Indiana Registry of Soil Scientists web site: <http://www.isco.purdue.edu/irss/>, under current announcements.

This will be an excellent opportunity to hone your soil classifying skills. Please make plans to attend.



Map to John S. Wright Forestry Center—location of Fall Tour near West Lafayette, IN.

34th Annual Central States Forest Soils Workshop

Background

The Central States Forest Soils Workshops came into existence during a Lake States Forest Soils Council Meeting at Bloomington, Indiana in the fall of 1979. Individuals from Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Missouri, and Kentucky met and decided to form their own group in order to focus more on the soils and forests of the Central States Region. The name "Central States Forest Soils Workshop" was chosen for the group as a means of identifying the geographic region and to signify the intent that the organization was to be a working group dedicated to field trips, on-site discussions, and learning experiences. Six states are involved: Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Missouri, Ohio, and Tennessee. As the conference moves from state to state, adjoining states are extended an invitation for Major Land Resource Areas in common.



2014 Trip Overview

The 2014 workshop will be hosted by Ohio on October 14-16 in the Wayne National Forest near Athens.

This conference will be concentrating on the following subjects:

- Ecological Site Descriptions in conjunction with the Forest Service (Wayne National Forest unit)
- Inherent soil properties of the region
- Forest management techniques and their relation to soil mapping/interpretations

These subjects will be covered over 2 days, with 2 field trips.

	Date	Time	Action
Tuesday	Oct. 14	3:00:00 PM	Business meeting - Round Table for Research needs, Current issues
		4:30:00 PM	Adjourn for day
		5:30:00 PM	Social Gathering
		6:00:00 PM	Dinner/Speakers on Area Soils, Geology and Forest Resources
Wednesday	Oct. 15	8:00:00 AM	Gather for field trip
			Vinton Furnace Tour, covers Ecological Site Descriptions, soils and forestry
			Soil Resources, Use and management
		5:00:00 PM	Return to Athens, OH
Thursday	Oct. 16	8:00:00 AM	Field Trip to wetland mitigation site, focus on forestry, ESD's and soils
		12:00:00 PM	Adjourn

Forest Soils Workshop (continued)

Logistics and Cost Overview

This conference has been planned with a minimum of overhead. The meeting spaces have been secured using state agency partnerships and have no cost associated with them. The main expense will be travel costs. Also, we will be collecting \$75 registration/person to provide dinner in conjunction with the Tuesday evening meeting, and lunch the following day. Also, the registration fees will be used to produce meeting materials such as maps, lab data, etc. Participants are asked to bring a high capacity vehicle, such as a mini or passenger van, as we opted not to use a charter bus. We will caravan from Athens to the Vinton Furnace and spend the first day there. The second day we will caravan to a **Wetland Mitigation site to discuss ESD's, soils, and forestry** implications in wetlands.

A block of rooms at the government rate (\$83/night) have been reserved at the Baymont Inn, Athens.

Baymont Inn & Suites Athens
20 Home Street, US 33 at US 50
Athens, OH 45701
740-594-3000

For questions, contact:

Steve Baker

O: 614-255-2483

C: 614-940-8227

steven.baker@oh.usda.gov



Trading Post

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

Days Gone By



Recognize any of these soil scientists from the 1979 Soil Scientist Workshop? This is just one half of the group. The other half will appear in our next newsletter!

Voss

DATE: 3/12-15/79 NO.
 SUBJECT :SOIL SCIENTISTS WORKSHOP
 PHOTOGRAPHER:
 LOCATION :CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS
 CAPTION :

1st Row: J. Fehrenbacher, B. Tegeler, L. Reinebach,
 (L to R) M. Hodges, D. Calsyn, S. Felt

2nd Row: W. Scott, E. Voss, R. Harner, C. Miles, F. Awalt,
 D. Grantham, H. Gehant, W. Fitzgerald, S. Elmer.

3rd Row: J. Paschke, J. Berning, D. Rahn, W. Andrews,
 P. Youngstrum, D. Frey, D. Towery, P. O'Grady.

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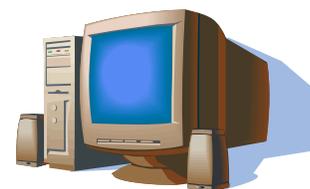
For those of you who want to keep in touch with ISCA members and others interested in soils in Illinois, join our group on Facebook. Search Facebook for “Illinois Soil Classifiers Association” and become a friend of ISCA. Anyone may post messages, announcements, pictures or events that may be of interest 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.



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



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Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

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



Illinois Soil Classifiers Association Newsletter

Fall-November 2014

Message from the President

Inside this issue:

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58th Annual ASA Region 3 Soil Judging Contest	2-5
ISCA joins IAPSC for	6-7
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Over the last several years it seems as though much of our efforts within ISCA have been directed towards consulting related concerns. There have been some important issues that needed to be addressed but I feel in the future we should direct more of our efforts towards public awareness of what we are. Our organization is much more than consulting and we should do more towards educating the general public about soil science.

One idea in development is a multi-day field trip that includes some of our more representative soil series and geographic areas. This trip would be designed to be accessible to the general public. It would be broad in scope and suitable for those with a limited knowledge of soil classification. The field trip would cover about a third of the state over several days; people could sign up for one day or multiple days depending on their interest. If successful, we would in following years cover the remaining part of the state with additional field trip(s). If this is something you might be interested in helping with or have some suggestions for implementation we would be interested in hearing from you.

Regards,

Bruce Putman, President ISCA
815-338-6218
putman@mc.net

58th Annual ASA Region 3 Soil Judging Contest

The 58th Annual American Society of Agronomy Region 3 Soil Judging Contest was held in northwestern Illinois October 8-11. The contest was co-hosted by Black Hawk College – East Campus (BHE) and the University of Illinois (UI). Fifty-four students from 8 teams participated overall, with additional students from 3 community college teams participating as well. The winners are listed in the tables below. Plaques were provided by the Illinois Soil Classifiers Association.

Scott Wiesbrook, Illinois Natural History Survey (INHS), was the superintendent of the contest, while the head official was Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) State Soil Scientist Ron Collman. Andrew Larson, professor at BHE, provided sites, food, and even dug all the practice pits. Other ISCA members who served as officials and helped describe practice or contest pits included Ian Kenney (INHS), Steve Elmer (NRCS, Ret.), Steve Zwicker (NRCS, Ret.), and Brad Cate (private consultant). Complete descriptions were made for 8 practice pits and 6 contest pits. Soils described included Hapludolls, Hapludalfs, Argiudolls, Endoaquolls, Argiaquolls, and an Argialboll.

The contest consists of 4 pits judged individually and 2 pits described collectively as a team by each school. The individual contest pits were located on the Philip Wiesbrook family farm (operated by Andy Wiesbrook) south of Mineral in Bureau County. The group contest pits were located north of Geneseo in Henry County on land operated by the Samuelson family. Practice pits were located in southern Henry County on the DeDecker and Johnston family farms and on land owned by BHE. Steve Elmer and Tom Anderson (private consultant) graciously donated the use of their probe truck to collect samples for analysis. Rick Ganschow, Jacob Samuelson, and Charlie Decrane provided and/or operated backhoes to excavate the pits. Soil particle size analyses were conducted in Dr. Michelle **Wander's (UI) lab at the by Scott Wiesbrook and Jenwei Tsai (INHS). Pallets were provided by Brandon Hall (former two time NACTA national soil judging champion, BHE and UW-Platteville) and West Central FS. Pit monitors for the contest were Ian Kenney, George Geatz (INHS), Brandon Hall, and Drew Cotton (BHE).**

I am very grateful to all those individuals who helped out in any way. The event was a success because of all the hard work, time, and treasure expended by all the volunteers, landowners, and donors. There is no better way to get young people interested in a career in soil science than soil judging, and we couldn't do it without help from all quarters. Thanks again to everyone who helped support soil judging this year!!!

Scott Wiesbrook

p.s. 300+ more pictures are available in the photo section of Mike Konen's Facebook page.

Soil Judging Results

Overall Results (top 4 eligible for Nationals):

Rank	School	Overall Point Total
1	Purdue University	3235
2	UW-Platteville	3207
3	Northern Illinois University	3173
4	University of Illinois	3025
5	UW -Steven's Point	2991
6	UW- Whitewater	2758
7	UW-Madison	2722
8	Ball State University	2570

Group Judging Results:

Rank	School Name	Total Group Score
1	Northern Illinois University	517
2	UW -Steven's Point	474
3	Purdue University	461
4	University of Illinois	458
5	Ball State University	456
6	UW-Platteville	450
7	UW- Whitewater	428
8	UW-Madison	410

See pictures from
the contest on the
next 2 pages.

Individual Results:

Rank	Name	School #	Total
1	Maggie Shoue	Purdue University	954
2	Betta McGaughey	Purdue University	928
3	Brittany Iverson	UW-Platteville	924
4	Alec Kueter	UW-Platteville	913
5	Brian Maule*	Northern Illinois University	910
6	Tom Lund	Northern Illinois University	907
7	Vincent Conte	University of Illinois	881
8	Shelbi Louck	Purdue University	880
9	Danielle Morgan	UW-Platteville	876
10	Katie Fagan	Purdue University	869
*Denotes Burton W. Ray Scholarship Award Winner			



Ron Collman, Scott Wiesbrook, and Ian Kenney describe a contest pit (Mapped as Plano SIL).



Ron Collman, Steve Zwicker, and Scott Wiesbrook describe a contest pit (Mapped as Plano SIL, but had 54 cm of colluvium on top of buried horizons).



Ron's favorite pit of the contest! (Mapped as Coyne L) Alluvium over windblown sand (with a little organic at surface), over a truncated paleosol formed in glacio-lacustrine sediments. Below the water level was outwash.



Pit Monitor Ian Kenney cleans out a pit during the contest while students contemplate their answers.

ISCA Joins IAPSC for Fall Tour

ISCA would like to thank the Indiana Association of Professional Soil Classifiers (IAPSC) for hosting a joint fall workshop near West Lafayette, Indiana on the 11th and 12th of September. Approximately 11 ISCA members attended. The first day was reserved for a field exam administered at Purdue's Agronomy Farm by the Indiana Registry of Soil Science Board. The exam consisted of describing 2 soil pits and texturing approximately 9 samples. The description format closely resembles that used in collegiate soil judging. Horizonation, colors, textures, structure, landform, soil order, slope, aspect, and several other attributes were described and or selected from a pick list. The Indiana Registry requires that certified classifiers take the exam at least once every 3 years to maintain certification. The exam scores are intended to alert an individual as to which academic or field skills, if any, may require improvement and are not issued as a pass or fail grade.

Day two began at John S. Wright Forestry Center with a welcome followed by a presentation on Visualizing Soil Landscapes with iPads by Dr. Darrell Schulze. Dr. Schulze demonstrated an iPad application that combines geospatial soil, drainage, elevation, hillshade, and other data layers into an easy to use portable tool that includes GPS positioning capability. Most of this information is also available in Illinois but must be pulled together separately from several databases using GIS software. With his application, little experience is required to be off and running. If only we'd had these kinds of tools back in the day of mapping (or have the opportunity to remap)!

Following an overview of the afternoon tour, business meeting, and tasty but healthy lunch we were shown an advanced treatment unit resembling a recirculating sand filter serving the forestry center. Spray heads distribute the effluent over small coupons of bioreactive plastic rather than the typical sand/gravel media. Apparently this system is no longer installed due to some serious remediation issues (i.e. removal, pressure washing, and replacement of the media in the chamber) because of media clogging if the system is overloaded. This is a good reminder for us to be open to new technology but cautious in its adoption.

The afternoon tour visited a Wetland Reserve Program constructed wetland in the Wabash River bottoms adjacent to the Wabash and Erie Canal. Using control structures, a variety of moist soil and emergent habitats in both mineral and organic soils were created primarily for duck hunting.

As many of you know, one reason ISCA held a joint conference with Indiana is because we are exploring ways to amend the experience required to become a soil classifier. With few active soil surveys, it is becoming exceedingly difficult to satisfy the current experience definitions. The Council and committees are looking at the possibility of implementing a field exam/practicum to insure that **applicants who aren't able to obtain structured mapping experience can describe, classify, and interpret soils** in addition to passing a written exam. Also, like the Indiana "Exam", ISCA is considering proposing periodic participation in an exam structured workshop with the intent of bringing areas where we've diverged from the norm or need to improve to our individual attention. Look for more information in the spring newsletter and/or at the annual meeting.

-submitted by Brad Cate

See pictures from
the Fall Tour on
next page.



Participants discuss the organic content at the Dean Craig Wetland site.



Group photo taken at the Dean Craig site.

Days Gone By



Recognize any of these soil scientists from the 1979 Soil Scientist Workshop? This is just one half of the group. The other half appeared in our last newsletter!

DATE: 3/12-15/79 NO.
 SUBJECT : SOIL SCIENTISTS WORKSHOP
 PHOTOGRAPHER:
 LOCATION : CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS
 CAPTION
1st Row: L. Vancil, M. Lilly, S. Donath, T. Goddard
 (L to R)
2nd Row: M. Bramstedt, R. Sims, S. Higgins, H. Mount,
 B. Currie, M. LaVan.
3rd Row: R. High, E. Voss, S. Zwicker, I. Watterson,
 J. Doll, J. Steinkamp, L. Acker, P. Waldo,
 L. Bushue, C. Wacker, W. Fitzgerald.
4th Row: K. Gotsch, B. Schoepfel, S. Martin, R. Windhorn,
 B. Kreznor, G. Hamilton, M. Kuhn, M. Walker,
 J. Simpson, B. Pope.
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Submissions

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

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

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

Publication Schedule

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



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

ISCA on Facebook

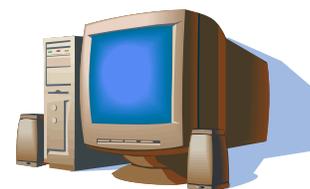
For those of you who want to keep in touch with ISCA members and others interested in soils in Illinois, join our group on Facebook. Search Facebook for “Illinois Soil Classifiers Association” and become a friend of ISCA. Anyone may post messages, announcements, pictures or events that may be of interest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



ISCA Newsletter Committee is looking for pictures of it's members, past or present, to include in future newsletters. Submissions can be sent electronically or hard copy to the staff address, see above and left. Please include a narrative for the caption! If hard copies are sent please indicate if they are to be returned otherwise photographs will be retained in an archive photos file.

www.illinoissoils.org

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



ISCA Newsletter
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