



# Illinois Soil Classifiers Association Newsletter

Fall/Winter-January 2022

## Upcoming Events:

Annual Meeting      March 5th

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## Message from the President

Submitted by Josh Litwiller

### President's Message – Winter Newsletter 2022

I hope you all had a safe and productive 2021. At this time of year my work usually slows down. But that's not a bad thing. It's a great time to catch up on bookkeeping, plan for the coming year, or simply go at a slower pace. It's also nice to stay inside during the cold, single digit days in January. For me, and I suspect for some of you, this part of the year is a natural time of thinking over the last year about the things that went well and the things that still need work. I've done some thinking about our association in the same way. My perspective isn't the same as all of yours. I have not been a member as long as some of you. But, I have seen some shifts, even in the short years I have been a part of the association.

For one, I have noticed an increased contribution from newer members. I'm encouraged by this and have hopes for the future involvement of these members. I am one of the relatively newer members, and I've been glad to know and learn from those who have been around longer. In the last couple years the association has had newer presidents as well. I think we are seeing increased involvement from members of different ages and backgrounds.

Another shift I have noticed is that our association is certifying more individuals each year. As more classifiers retire, new classifiers have become certified and trained by them. This is an important step for an association. Those of you who worked on updating the requirements for certification a few years back did a good job in predicting the need. These changes allowed me and others to become certified, and I know of new candidates who are in the process of certification because of these updates.

The certification requirements are not the only updates to be implemented. Thanks to Scott Wiesbrook and his co-authors, the Illinois Soil Evaluation Field Book for high school soil judging has also been updated. More teachers and students are now participating in soils in a revise way. Scott held several workshops for high school ag teachers in which he went through each of the new rules in detail. He spent much of the fall helping teachers set up various contests as well as assisting soil classifiers with judging the soil pits using the new rules. For many of the high school students this may be the first time they are exposed to a soil pit. It's a great opportunity for us as classifiers to plant a seed of interest in them. I realize that most of the high school students will not go into a career of soil science. Most of the kids fill out their score cards without even getting into the pits.

## President's Message Cont.

But there are also a few students who are interested and do listen. Plus, as high school students consider what college degree to pursue, their experience in a soil pit may have an impact. This year was my first year helping at a contest and I plan to continue doing so in the future. I hope you will consider doing the same. Not only will you get to describe a soil pit but you'll also have the chance to teach soils to someone learning them for the first time. A clear explanation with some enthusiasm can go a long way for a student.

The last shift I've noticed in the ISCA is increased collaboration amongst soil classifiers who work in the private sector doing on-sites for septic systems. We have held two very successful fall workshops, one in 2018 and just recently in October, in which classifiers compared descriptions in multiple soil pits. This type of collaboration will only help us better serve our clients. I hope these fall workshops continue. I know that not all of you analyze soil for septic systems but the opportunity to describe soils together for any purpose helps us all.

As I said at the beginning, I see our association from a limited perspective while many of you have seen the changes and shifts occur over decades. I am interested in how you think the association has changed over the years, both in good and bad ways. Are there things we can still improve? I'm sure there are. Please feel free to contact the executive council if you have thoughts about our association. Or, better yet, consider joining a committee to make those ideas a reality.

I hope all of you had a wonderful time with your families over the holidays. We will be meeting in person at the annual meeting on March 5th. I hope to see all of you there.

Sincerely,  
Josh Litwiller  
ISCA President

## Proposed Wording Change in the ISCA Constitution

Submitted by Josh Elmer

The ISCA Council proposes a modification to the Membership categories in Article IV. This proposed change will simplify the Membership categories by combining some and eliminating one that hasn't been used. This modification requires a two thirds vote from the membership during the annual meeting. Below are the proposed wording changes for your consideration. If passed, the proposed wording will replace the current wording.

### Current wording.

Article IV Section 2. There shall be classes of membership as follows:

- a. Full Member
- b. Student Member
- c. Affiliate Member
- d. Honorary Member
- e. Out of State Member
- f. Retired Member

Article IV Section 3. Membership Qualifications

- a. Full Member shall be one who meets the minimum Federal civil Service requirement for Soil Scientist (Classification and Mapping). A Bachelor's degree and at least 15 semester credit hours in soil courses or closely related courses are required. Related courses can account for only 20% of the required 15 credit hours.
- b. Student Member shall be any undergraduate or graduate student pursuing a Soil Science curriculum approved by the Executive Council.

## Proposed Wording Change in the ISCA Constitution

- c. Affiliate Member shall be one who does not qualify under a or b but who desires to participate in the advancement of the profession.
- d. Honorary Member shall be one whom the Association desires to honor because of outstanding contributions to the profession, state, or nation.
  - 1. Honorary Full Member shall be an Honorary Member who meets the qualifications of a Full Member and to whom is granted all the rights and privileges of a Full Member.
  - 2. Honorary Affiliate Member shall be an Honorary Member who is not a soil classifier as defined in Article II, Section 1.
- e. Out-of-State Member is any member who resides in a state other than Illinois, who qualifies under a, and who does not practice soil classifying in Illinois.
- f. Retired Member is any member who has retired from the occupation and practice of soil classifying and has been a Full Member of the Illinois Soil Classifiers Association for the last five years prior to retirement.

The **Proposed** wording is as follows:

Article IV Section 2. There shall be classes of membership as follows:

- a. Full Member
- b. Affiliate Member
- c. Honorary Member
- d. Retired Member

Article IV Section 3. Membership Qualifications

- a. Full Member shall be one who meets the minimum Federal civil Service requirement for Soil Scientist (Classification and Mapping). A Bachelor's degree and at least 15 semester credit hours in soil courses or closely related courses are required. Related courses can account for only 20% of the required 15 credit hours.
- b. Affiliate Member shall be one who desires to participate in the advancement of the profession but does not possess the experience, educational requirements, or the desire to be a Full Member.
- c. Honorary Member-One who meets the qualifications of a Full Member and to whom is granted all the rights and privileges of a Full Member who the Association desires to honor because of outstanding contributions to the profession, state, or nation.
- d. Retired Member is any member who has retired from the occupation and practice of soil classifying and has been a Full Member of the Illinois Soil Classifiers Association for the last five years prior to retirement.

These changes will also require additional wording changes in the By-Laws.

Article IV-Dues (**Current Wording**)

Section 1. Annual dues shall be as follows:

- a. Annual dues for Full Members shall be \$25.00 payable by January 1 to the Treasurer upon receipt of dues notice. These dues may be changed by the Council (Article V of the Constitution).
- b. Annual dues of Affiliate Members shall be \$5.00 payable by January 1 to the Treasurer upon receipt of dues notice. These dues may be changed by the Council (Article V of the Constitution).
- c. Annual dues of Out-of-State Members shall be \$5.00 payable by January 1 to the Treasurer upon receipt of dues notice. These dues may be changed by the Council (Article V of the Constitution).
- d. Annual dues of Retired Members shall be \$5.00 payable by January 1 to the Treasurer upon receipt of dues notice. These dues may be changed by the Council (Article V of the Constitution).
- e. Annual dues of Student Members shall be \$5.00 payable by January 1 to the Treasurer upon receipt of dues notice. These dues may be changed by the Council (Article V of the Constitution).
- f. Annual dues for Honorary Members are waived.

**New Proposed Wording**

Section 1. Annual dues shall be as follows:

- a. Annual dues for Full Members shall be \$25.00 payable by January 1 to the Treasurer upon receipt of dues notice. These dues may be changed by the Council (Article V of the Constitution).
- b. Annual dues of Affiliate Members shall be \$5.00 payable by January 1 to the Treasurer upon receipt of dues notice. These dues may be changed by the Council (Article V of the Constitution).

## Proposed Wording Change in the ISCA Constitution

Additionally, There are multiple places in the Constitution and By-Laws that mention "Honorary Full Members". With this proposed change, everywhere that "Honorary Full Members" appears, it will be replaced with simply "Honorary Members".

Examples of this change in the Constitution would be:

Article IV, Section 4 (Membership Privileges), Subsections b, c, and d. Current wording is as follows:

- “
- b. Voting privileges are limited to Full Members and Honorary Full Members.
  - c. Only a Full Member or Honorary Full Member shall hold the office of President, President-Elect, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer.
  - d. Only a Full Member, Honorary Full Member or Retired Member shall serve as a committee chairperson.”

Article VII, Section 2, Current wording states, "Only Full Members and Honorary Full Members in good standing shall be eligible to hold the office of President, President-Elect, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer."

Article VIII, Section 1, Current wording states, "Nominations for elective offices shall be made by the Nominations Committee which shall consist of the immediate Past-President as chairperson and two other Full Members or Honorary Full Members in good standing."

Changes in the By-Laws would include:

Article VIII, Section 4, Subsection a, which currently states, "The Constitution, By-Laws, and Legislative Committee shall consist of not less than three Full Members or Honorary Full Members"

Article VIII, Section 5, Subsection a, which currently states, "The Ethics, Certification, and Membership Committee shall consist of not less than three Full members or Honorary Full Members."

Finally, there would be two necessary changes to the ISCA Application for Membership found at the end of the By-Laws. On the first page, where the applicant would place a check next to the Membership Class that they are applying for, "Student Member" and "Out-of-State Member" would both be eliminated. Additionally, on the third page of the application, the current wording of, "Are you a Full or Honorary Full Member of the Illinois Soil Classifiers Association?" would need to be replaced with, "Are you a Full or Honorary Member of the Illinois Soil Classifiers Association?"

## Save the Date— Annual Meeting

**2022 Annual Meeting will be held on **March 5th** in Champaign!**

More information about the meeting, the candidate biographies, and the election ballot will be sent out once it's available via email.

Dr. Andrew Margenot from Crop Sciences has agreed to be our speaker for the meeting. Abstract will be sent out via email as we firm up plans.

Thank you for your patience and looking forward to see you in person!

## ISCA- Producer of State Soil Scientists -(2005 Winter Newsletter revisited)

Submitted by Mark Bramstedt

Two members (one current member, one former member) of ISCA are the latest additions to the list of State Soil Scientists with connections to The Illinois Soil Classifiers Association. Gary Hankins was recently selected as the SSS in Georgia and Jericho Winters was recently selected as the SSS in Oregon. Congratulations to these two and to all who have achieved this leadership role!

ISCA is privileged to have had several of our current or past members serving as an NRCS/SCS State Soil Scientist. In 2005, when this article was first written, there were seven ISCA members on this list. Today, sixteen ISCA members hold or have held this position. I doubt that any other state soil scientist association can claim this feat. The following is a list of all the current or former ISCA members who know the title of State Soil Scientist personally. Five of those listed are still actively serving in the role of SSS. Congratulations to their hard work. (Dates are given or estimated, where known)

Lindo J. Bartelli, Illinois (1954-1961)  
Bruce B. Clark, Illinois (1938-1942)  
Ronald D. Collman, Illinois (2012-present)  
Donald J. Fehrenbacher, Wisconsin (2004-2009)  
Tyrone M. Goddard, New York (2000?- )  
J. Gary Hankins, Georgia (2021-present)  
A. A. Klingebiel, Illinois (1946-1954)  
Michael E. Lilly, Mississippi (2004? - ?)  
Charles L. Love, Georgia (2007? - ?)  
Robert L. Mcleese, Illinois (1988-2011)  
Kristine A. Ryan, South Carolina (2020-present)  
Jennifer L. Smith, Wisconsin (2021-present)  
Eugene N. Steely, Illinois (1942-1946)  
Gary R. Struben, Illinois (2011-2012) Indiana (2012- 2020)  
Earl Voss, Illinois (1968-1988)  
Jericho Winter, Oregon (2021-present)

## Legislation designating Drummer as State Soil turns 20

Submitted by Liz Miernicki

This year marks the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Drummer silty clay loam as the state soil of Illinois! On August 2, 2001, Illinois Governor George H. Ryan signed House Bill 605 designating Drummer silty clay loam as the official state soil. This fine-silty, mixed, superactive, mesic Typic Endoaquoll faced multiple hurdles before officially representing the soil resources of Illinois. Please take some time and check out ISCA's website to read more about how Drummer came to be our state soil! <https://illinoissoils.org/drummer/>



Photo: Drummer pit on U of I's South Farms...doing what it does best.



Photo: A crayfish chimney next to the Drummer pit on U of I's South Farms.

Photo: Drummer pit on U of I's campus that is used for classes.



## Soils of Alaska: Cold Region, Permafrost-Affected, and Arctic Soils

NRM 489/689 U of Alaska Fairbanks

Submitted by Robert Darmody

Last summer I took a little trip to Alaska. It was as a graduate student enrolled at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. The trip was organized primarily by Dr. John Galbraith, Professor, School of Plant and Environmental Sciences at Virginia Tech. He had assistants on the trip including Dr. Yamina Pressler, Assistant Professor of Soil Science and Restoration Ecology at Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo. Local talent included Dr. Alexander (Sasha) Kholodov, Research Assistant Professor, Permafrost Laboratory, Geophysical Institute, at the University of Alaska Fairbanks; and Mark Clark, who is the retired NRCS State Soil Scientist. There were 15 fellow graduate and undergraduate students along on the trip and I could have easily been the grandfather of some of the younger ones. I have worked in the arctic-alpine of Europe but didn't have the opportunity to visit similar soils and landscapes in North America, so I paid my UKF tuition and hopped on a plane to AK.

First of all, what is the Arctic (Fig. 1)? Arctos is Greek for bear, and the Arctic region derives its name from the stellar constellation of Ursa Major, the Great Bear. A geographical definition of the Arctic is the area north of the Arctic Circle ( $66^{\circ}32'N$ ), the area of the midnight sun. Climatically, the Arctic is defined as the area north of the  $10^{\circ}C$  July isotherm. Treeline, the border between forests and tundra, is also used as the boundary. The treeline corresponds with a climate zone where the cold Arctic air meets warmer air masses from farther south.

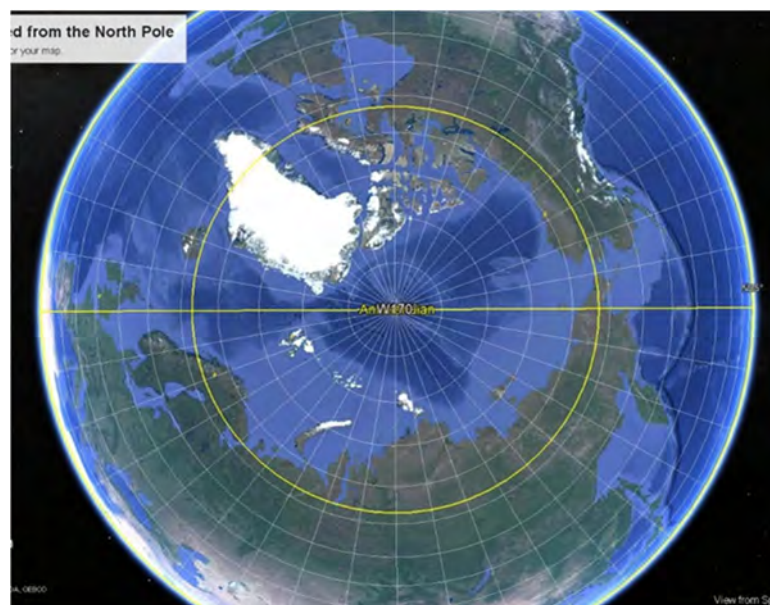


Figure 1. The arctic circle is the darker latitude line at  $66^{\circ}32'N$ , if you look closely, you might see the pins at the southern and northern locations of the trips locations at Palmer and Deadhorse, plus my field research site near Abisko Sweden. Also in the view is Svalbard, my most northern location where I visited previously.

## Soils of Alaska: Cold Region, Permafrost-Affected, and Arctic Soils

And at those high latitudes you can find permafrost, that's been in the news lately because it is melting (Fig. 2). A big objective on the trip was to investigate permafrost and discuss the implications of it disappearing.



Figure 2. Locations of Permafrost in the Northern Hemisphere.

The trip started with flying into Anchorage after passing all the UAKF covid protocols. Our first location was in Palmer, a short drive (by Alaska standards) from Anchorage.

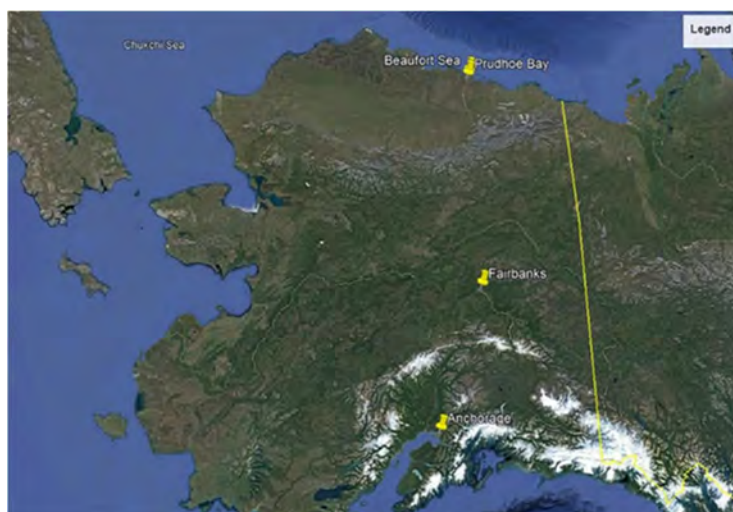


Figure 3. Locations in Alaska involved in the tour: Anchorage, Fairbanks, Deadhorse (Prudhoe Bay).



## Soils of Alaska: Cold Region, Permafrost-Affected, and Arctic Soils

As you know, soil temperature is a big part of soil classification and Alaska is a rather cold place and the soil temperature regimes on the trip included Ice, Hypergelic, Pergelic, Gelic, and Cryic (Fig. 4). We probably saw all of the regimes, but detailed soil temperature records were not available (Table 1).

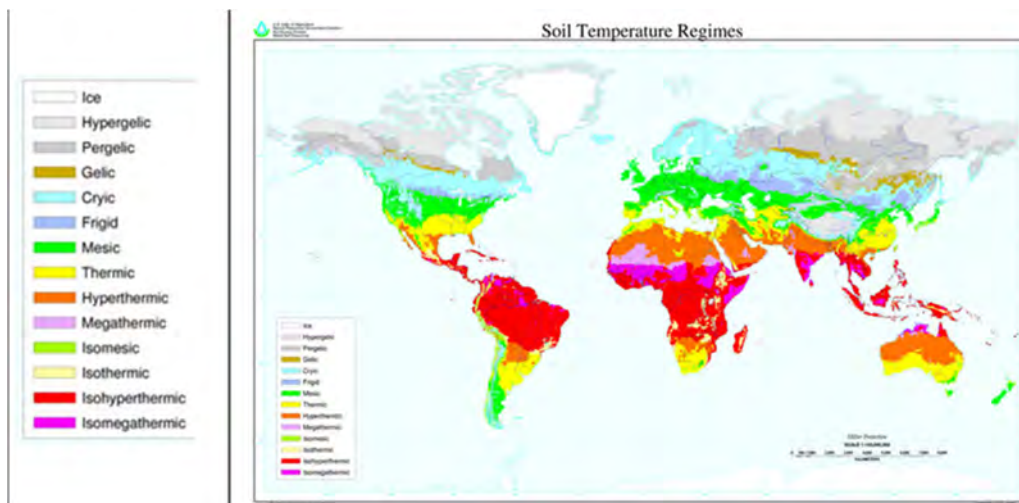


Figure 4. USDA NRCS Soil Temperature Regimes.

Table 1. Cold Region Soils in Soil Taxonomy

Order	Suborders		
Gelisols	Histels	Turbels	Orthels
Andisols	Cryands	Gelands	
Entisols	Cryorthents	Gelorthents	
Inceptisols	Cryepts	Gelepts	
Mollisols	Cryolls	Gelolls	
Spodosols	Cryods	Gelods	
Histosols	In Great Groups		



Our first overnight was at the Matanuska Research and Extension Center in Palmer. The tour guide provided the Lat-Lon of the stops, in this case, 61.565961, -149.251245. We camped on the lawn of the research center office building, the easiest campsite on the trip (Fig. 5). Near the center is a Musk Ox farm. We never got to see this iconic animal on the tundra in the far north, so this view will have to do (Fig. 6). We also visited the [Alaska Plant Materials Center](#), located on a massive stream terrace without underlying permafrost (Fig. 7). Pervious forest to farm demonstration fields further north on the UAK Fairbanks campus that were underlain by permafrost ended up with spectacular thermokarst features.

Figure 5. Campsite at the lawn of the Matanuska Research and Extension Center in Palmer. We camped here three nights. To the right is Dr. Galbraith.

## Soils of Alaska: Cold Region, Permafrost-Affected, and Arctic Soils



Figure 6. Musk Ox dozing in the near perpetual sunlight at the farm at Palmer.



Figure 7. Agricultural field research at the Alaska Plant Materials Center, Palmer.

Not too far away from Palmer is the Matanuska Glacier, (61.801802,-147.812976). Access is privately owned, and after paying an entry fee, we took a guided hike on the glacier (Figs. 8, 9).



Figure 8. View of the Matanuska Glacier from the access parking lot. For scale, look for tiny figures on the left which is the guided tour that proceeded us.



Figure 9. The class on the glacier. That's me in the yellow parka.

The next day we drove to Hatcher Pass (61.780556, -149.21325) to see soils on steep slopes under varying vegetation (Figs. 10, 11, 12)

## Soils of Alaska: Cold Region, Permafrost-Affected, and Arctic Soils



Figure 10. Hiking upslope in Hatcher Pass.



Figure 11. We made detailed soil descriptions at every soil stop on the trip, mostly.



Figure 12. Side by side soil "biscuits" from adjacent pedons, on the left an Andosol, on the right, a Spodosol. Different vegetation species account for the soil differences despite otherwise identical factors of soil formation.

## Soils of Alaska: Cold Region, Permafrost-Affected, and Arctic Soils

When we left Palmer, we headed towards Fairbanks and the University (64.858604,-147.851096). We stayed one night in our tents at Denali NP (63.730747, -148.896715), where we heard a ranger talk, but couldn't see the mountain because it was too cloudy. At Fairbanks we stayed at Sven's Basecamp Hostel, a bunch of 4-man tents with bunks and wooden floors and pay showers. We were there for three nights. While at Sven's we visited the CRREL Permafrost Research Tunnel near Fox (64.951382,-147.620981). This isn't a thing many people get to do, and we were impressed (Figs. 13, 14, 15).



Figure 13. Entrance to the CRREL Permafrost Research Tunnel.

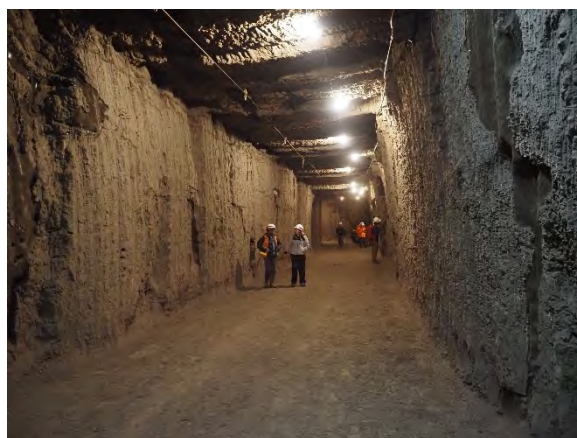


Figure 14. Inside the CRREL Permafrost Research Tunnel.



Figure 15. Me posing by a relict ice wedge, deep below the surface and within the permafrost tunnel. I used to show my students ice wedge casts at the Fairmont Quarry in Vermilion County, so this really got my attention.

Another day trip out of Fairbanks was to the Fort Knox Gold Mine (64.9972198, -147.361658). We got to see the post-mining reclaimed soils (Figs. 16,17) and hold a 20-pound gold bar (Fig. 18).

Figure 16. Post-mining landscape at the Fort Knox Gold Mine.



## Soils of Alaska: Cold Region, Permafrost-Affected, and Arctic Soils



Figure 17. Post-mining soil at the Fort Knox Gold Mine. It was quite rocky and dry, very low in organic matter.

Also near Fairbanks is the Alyeska Pipeline Viewing Point (64.929102, -147.629356). I had a friend in grad school who worked at the pipeline when it was under construction as a soil boring logger. He made about 25% of what the heavy equipment operators made and they called him the “Pebble Pimp” (Fig. 19).



Figure 19. The Alyeska Pipeline Viewing Point. The Alaska Oil Pipeline is elevated for the most part and has cooling fins to prevent the permafrost from being impacted. It is the reason that there is essentially any infrastructure north of Fairbanks.



Figure 18. Me holding a 20-pound gold bar at the Fort Knox Gold Mine (that’s about \$520,000 these days). Note the Mastodon tusk that the miners found while gold-digging.

## Soils of Alaska: Cold Region, Permafrost-Affected, and Arctic Soils

Not too far away we viewed a Turbel near the town of Clear (64.245505,-149.176393). The landform was an extensive floodplain (Fig. 20). In preparation for our push north, where supplies are scarce, Dr. Galbraith did some shopping at the Fairbanks Walmart (Fig. 23), and we really packed the vehicles (Fig. 24).



Figure 20. Landscape near Clear AK, an alluvial feature, near level and poorly drained.



Figure 21. We dug down to the permafrost table. Note the incorporate organic matter in the ice.



Figure 22. It did not take long for the permafrost to begin to melt in the summer heat.

## Soils of Alaska: Cold Region, Permafrost-Affected, and Arctic Soils

In preparation for our push north, where supplies are scarce, Dr. Galbraith did some shopping at the Fairbanks Walmart (Fig. 23), and we really packed the vehicles (Fig. 24).



Figure 23. Dr Galbraith with a weeks' worth of rations for our push north. Note it is mostly undergraduate pleasing vittles.



Figure 24. Undergraduates packing the vehicles for the big push north to Prudhoe Bay.

On the way north on the mostly dirt Dalton Highway the 500 miles to Prudhoe Bay (Fig. 25), an early stop was to observe the effects of the 2020 Isom Creek fire (65.8489132,-149.70858528) near Coldfoot (Figs. 26, 27).



Figure 25. The Dalton Highway, much of it is unpaved and traveled by overly large trucks. The dust makes travel challenging, all of our vehicles had cracked windshields.



Figure 26. The apply named Fireweed is an early colonizer of burned over areas. Given its remote location and dry summer weather, wildfires are common in the taiga.

## Soils of Alaska: Cold Region, Permafrost-Affected, and Arctic Soils



Figure 27. Soil profile at the Isom Creek fire, dark surface horizon is mostly charcoal and wood ash,



Figure 29. I was issued with a flare gun for Grizzley protection. First shell, shoot into the air, second shell shoot into the ground at the charging Grizzley's path, third shell, shoot the Grizzley in the face, then run away.

At highway milepost 166 you enter the Brooks Range, we stopped to take a group photo at the Arctic Circle Sign (66.555818, -150.810397) (Fig. 28). Our place to stay for two nights while exploring the area was at Marion Creek campground. Grizzly Bears frequent the local and we took measures to protect ourselves (Fig. 29). Day trips from Marion Creek included a visit to Sukakpak Mountain (Fig. 30) that supports a field with a series of palsas (67.596777, -149.772420). They are covered with soils that would class out as Turbels (Fig. 31).

As you go further north, permafrost becomes the norm. Sasha is a pro with the Cipro corer, a device to bore into permafrost. We typically would dig down to the permafrost table on the tundra (Fig. 32), while Sasha would power up the Cipro (Fig. 33), retrieving a beautiful permafrost core sample (Fig 34).



Figure 28. Class photo at the Arctic Circle sign along the Dalton Highway.



Figure 30. Sukakpak Mountain a prominent feature along the Dalton Highway.



## Soils of Alaska: Cold Region, Permafrost-Affected, and Arctic Soils



Figure 31. More exciting to soil scientist than the mountain scenery is at the base, the palsas. A curious landform along the Dalton at this location, a palsa is a periglacial feature essentially a frost boil generated by groundwater feeding into a freezing zone that grows until the insulating soil erodes off, thus exposing the ice and leading to the feature's demise.



Figure 32. Tundra excavated to permafrost table.



Figure 33. Sasha powering into the permafrost with the Cipre corer.



Figure 34. Permafrost core retrieved from about a meter below the surface.

Information of this class can be found below

## Alaska and Arctic Soils Field Tour 2022



The Alaska and Arctic Soils & Permafrost Field Tour is a summer class offered through the University of Alaska Fairbanks (1 credit, NRM 489/689) to participants from all walks of life. We travel from Anchorage to Prudhoe Bay, learning about permafrost, arctic soils, & ecology. **2022 Theme:** "Connections with Soil"

**Expression of Interest form is now open:** Reply soon via the link!  
(<https://forms.gle/BAJMoobi1Sv6sAV6>)

**Highlights:** Observe 25 soils from 7 Soil Orders, explore Matanuska glacier, hike in Denali National Park, meet leading permafrost and soils researchers, visit a permafrost tunnel, and follow the Alyeska pipeline. We will see patterned ground, sorted rock circles, and tundra rehabilitation. Fear not - the sun will not set on us!

**Dates:** Two weeks in mid-July (specific dates TBD)

**Cost:** \$1,750 to \$2,400 (plus airfare, gear, some meals and lodging)

**For more info:** contact Dr. Chelsea Duball ([duballc@gvsu.edu](mailto:duballc@gvsu.edu))

**Notes:** This is an intensive soils and ecology field course/trip with camping and picnic-style meals. It will require hiking on rough terrain and camping in all kinds of weather. Some introductory soil coursework or experience with soils is required. Students are expected to contribute to all group activities (digging, cooking meals, cleaning up, carrying gear, etc.). The tour is capped at 15 students who will register for NRM 489/689 course at the University of Alaska Fairbanks.

This trip has been recommended by the Soil Science Society of America. We gratefully acknowledge the Native Peoples on whose ancestral homelands we gather, as well as the diverse and vibrant Native communities who make their home in AK today, and commit to following Woodwell Climate's guiding principles for working in local northern communities.



[www.illinoissoils.org](http://www.illinoissoils.org)

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### Submissions

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

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

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

### Publication Schedule

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



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

## ISCA on Facebook

For those of you who want to keep in touch with ISCA members and others interested in soils in Illinois, join our group on Facebook. Search Facebook for "Illinois Soil Classifiers Association" and become a friend of ISCA. Anyone may post messages, announcements, pictures or events that may be of interest to our membership. This is a great venue for posting meetings of other associations or organizations who use soil information. This is also a great place to post pictures of recent projects, interesting soils, or maybe something unrelated to soils, but of general interest to the membership. If you don't have a Facebook account, it is easy to set up. Just go to [www.facebook.com](http://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](mailto:webmaster@illinoissoils.org) if you have any difficulty in accessing the ISCA Group or if you have any questions or comments.



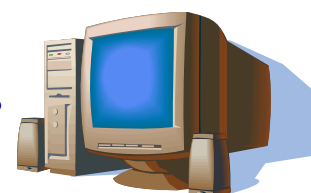
### ISCA Newsletter Committee is looking for pictures of its members, past or present, to include in future newsletters.

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](http://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 online version of this newsletter**

**[www.illinoissoils.org/news](http://www.illinoissoils.org/news)**

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### Change of Address Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

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