

ASSOCIATION OF OHIO PEDOLOGISTS

OHIO SOIL PROFESSIONALS

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

4/27/2018

## President's Message



### "What I learned from Coach Henderson"

Coach Henderson came to our little Texas high school at the beginning of my sophomore year. He was fresh out of college and was hired to be the new basketball coach and to teach a required course in civics. Being a boy's basketball coach in Texas was not an easy job because Texas was, is, and will probably always be football country. Why should a guy waste time on other sports when

success is defined on the gridiron?

If coaching boy's basketball was tough duty, teaching a required course in civics was probably even harder. But Coach Henderson seemed to relish the assignment. During our first class he asked if anyone could provide a definition of "civics." The starting QB on our football team took the bait. He responded with confidence that civics was just a fancy name for "government." Coach Henderson pounced. He told us that studying government was like a spectator learning the rules of football in order to be an armchair quarterback. *CIVICS*, on the other hand, was about actually playing the game and playing it well. Civics was about knowing the rules but also accepting the rights and practicing the responsibilities of citizenship.

My high school years began during the Kennedy administration. Kennedy's politics were not exactly popular in Texas, but Coach Henderson loved his speeches and the very quotable elements they contained on citizenship and leadership. Almost every week, he would present the class with one of JFK's now famous one-liners. Some you probably all recognize include

*"For of those to whom much is given, much is required."*

"

*Civility is not a sign of weakness, and sincerity is always subject to proof."*

*"Let us never negotiate out of fear. But let us never fear to negotiate."*

*"The problems of the world cannot possibly be solved by skeptics or cynics whose horizons are limited by obvious realities."*

*"For courage — not complacency — is our need today. Leadership — not salesmanship."nd so, my*

*fellow Americans, ask not what your country can do for you – ask what you can do for your country.*”One of Coach Henderson’s favorites was: *“One person can make a difference, and everyone should try.”*

His interpretation of this last quote was that one person, by virtue of position or wealth or personality, can sometimes advance a cause, but more often than not, problems are solved by a lot of committed people working together toward a common goal.

So, what is my point? Quite simply, AOP needs the help of each and every one of its members if we are to make a difference. We are a small organization, and many of our members long ago earned the right to be spectators if they choose. But if we don’t have enough people in the game, we can’t function or even know what issues our members think are important. We obviously need enthusiastic people to serve as officers and committee members, so if you are interested in a future leadership or service role, please contact a member of the Executive Council. We also need ideas, opinions, and thoughtful criticism from everyone. A good start would be to return the short survey that can be accessed directly through this link

<https://www.ohiopedologist.com/survey.html>

You can also find the survey through the AOP homepage by hovering over the *Membership* heading on the top ribbon menu. Your guidance will be of great value to the Executive Council as it attempts to develop future programming.

Respectfully,

**Jerry Bigham**

## 2018 AOP Executive Council Members

<b>President:</b>	<b>Jerry Bigham (jerrybigham.1@gmail.com)</b>
<b>President-Elect:</b>	<b>Duane Wood (dwood8830@gmail.com)</b>
<b>Past President:</b>	<b>Larry Tornes (<a href="mailto:larrytornes@aol.com">larrytornes@aol.com</a>)</b>
<b>Treasurer:</b>	<b>Jon Gerken (jgerken47@gmail.com)</b>
<b>Secretary:</b>	<b>Joe Ringler (<a href="mailto:ljenvironmental@gmail.com">ljenvironmental@gmail.com</a>)</b>
<b>Editir:</b>	<b>Mike Plunkett (<a href="mailto:mplunket@columbus.rr.com">mplunket@columbus.rr.com</a>)</b>
<b>WebMaster:</b>	<b>Matt Lane (mr.mattlane@gmail.com)</b>
<b>Members at Large:</b>	<b>Terry Priest (priestterry12@gmail.com)</b> <b>Bill Schumacher (bcschumacher@msn.com)</b>

### Calendar of Events:

- **Certified Crop Adviser (CCA) Exams- Aug. 3 - various locations**
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- **AOP Summer Workshop – Aug. 7 - OARDC, Wooster, OH**
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- **World Congress of Soil Science - Aug. 12-17 - Rio de Janeiro, Brazil**
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- **2018 Ohio SCS/NRCS Retirees Luncheon - Aug 22 - MCL Cafeteria at 5240 East Main Street, in Whitehall, OH**
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- **Earth Science Week “Earth as Inspiration” - Oct. 14-20 - various locations**
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- **16<sup>th</sup> Annual Central Ohio Storm water and Erosion Control Expo - Oct. 4 – Franklin County Fairgrounds, Hilliard, OH**
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- **SSSA Fall Certification Exam - Nov. 16 - various locations**
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- **SSSA Annual Meeting - Jan. 6-9, 2019 - San Diego, CA**

If you know of an upcoming local, regional, national or international event that might be of interest to our members, please submit the name, date, location, and any available link to our Editor.

## **AOP Summer Workshop: Soil Quality or Soil Health – What’s the Difference?**

The concept of “soil quality” dates back to the 1990’s when there was a push to find parallel’s to the widely accepted concepts of air quality and water quality. Since then, the notion of “soil health” has become increasingly familiar to the public as the result of a media blitz (see NRCS logo), and has even given rise to the non-profit Soil Health Institute in Morrisville, NC (watch the U-tube video at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Eo8kUio-ERA>)



So what’s the difference between soil quality and soil health? Are these just “warm and fuzzy” concepts without practical relevance? Are there ways to actually quantify either? Find the answers to these and other questions at the AOP Summer Workshop that is scheduled for August 7 at the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center in Wooster, Ohio. Watch for more details in forthcoming newsletters.

## Annual Meeting Wrap Up

The 2018 Annual AOP Winter Meeting was held on February 15 at the Nature Center in High Banks Metro Park with a total of 53 registrants and near full attendance. Mother Nature contributed unseasonably warm weather.

President Larry Tornes opened the program by introducing new members from the previous year. These included Richard Scharf, Kaitlyn Benson, Daniel King, Scott Demyan, and Mark Flowers. Once again, WE WELCOME THESE NEW AFFILIATE AND PROFESSIONAL MEMBERS TO AOP.

**Technical Program:** The morning technical program focused on the impact of energy distribution systems on soil and water quality in Ohio. Guest speakers included Mr. Dale Arnold, Director of Energy Policy for the Ohio Farm Bureau; Dr. Ted Auch, lead researcher for the non-profit FracTracker Alliance; Mr. Joe Ringler, private consultant engaged in pipeline construction monitoring; and Dr. Steve Culman, Extension Soil Fertility Specialist for Ohio State University. Their individual presentations were followed by a panel discussion in response to questions from the audience.

Following a hearty lunch featuring City Barbecue and plenty of social time, the technical program concluded with a presentation from Dr. Darrell Schulze, Professor of Soil Science at Purdue University, in which he described and demonstrated SoilExplorer.net, a software and multi-layer

database for exploring soil properties and landscapes using mobile devices.

**Awards:** The family of Norris Williams was presented an Honorary Membership that was posthumously awarded to Norris at the 2017 Annual Winter Meeting. President Tornes also presented a 2018 Honorary Membership to Mike Angle, Assistant Chief of the Ohio Geological Survey, for his outstanding collaboration and use of soils information in geologic research and education. Frank Gibbs, Julie Weatherington-Rice, and George Derringer received Pedologist Merit Awards and John Allen was presented a Distinguished Service Award for their efforts in organizing and implementing the autumn workshop that was jointly hosted by AOP and the Indiana Association of Professional Soil Classifiers. Finally, Mike Plunkett was awarded a Certificate of Appreciation for his dedicated work as Editor of the AOP Newsletter.

**Officer Elections:** Jon Gerken, Joe Ringler, and Mike Plunkett were nominated and elected to new terms as AOP Treasurer, Secretary, and Editor, respectively. Duane Wood was nominated and approved as President-Elect, and Bill Schumacher was elected for service as a Member at Large.

**Reports:** Minutes from the 2017 Annual Meeting were approved along with the Treasurer's financial summary for the past year, which showed a total net worth for the organization of \$41,790. Mike Plunkett reported that the current available balance in the OSU undergraduate scholarship fund is \$7,340 and that a single \$1000 scholarship had been awarded in 2017. Jon Gerken noted that an additional \$820 had been received for the fund as part of the 2018 meeting registrations. Julie Weatherington-Rice led discussion regarding the role of AOP in recruiting and training new, private sector soil scientists. This topic was a carry over from the 2017 meeting. As in 2017, no conclusions were reached and the issue will continue to be an item for consideration by the Executive Council in the coming year.

*Joe Ringler, Secretary*



**Joe Ringler describing pipeline construction in NW Ohio and the “mother of all soil pits.”**



**Michael Angle presented the Honary Member Award by Larry Tornes**

Julie Weatherington-Rice and George Derringer receiving their work on the Illinoian Till Training session held in September 2017.

*There is a formatting problem with this photo that I haven't able resolve. But I did want to recognize them. The word to pdf conversion does not work properly.*



**Larry Tornes  
presenting  
Norris  
Williams  
family with  
Honorary  
Member  
Award.**

## Flashback

The 1972 Ohio State University Soils Team placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Indiana Regional Contest. The coach and team members are captured in these photos.



Neil Smeck, Dan Michael, Richard Hiller, Steve Davis, Mike Plunkett, George Derringer, (not shown – Dan Crowner)

**Note: of the five students 3 became soil scientists and 2 soil conservations for the SCS. This why we try to support the teams.**

## Soil Scientist Named OSU-CFAES Associate



**March 30, 2018:** Dr. Gary Pierzynski has accepted the appointment of CFAES Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Education and Director of the Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station (OARDC). He will join the College on July 1, 2018.

Gary comes from Kansas State University where he is a University Distinguished Professor and Head of the Department of Agronomy. He is incoming president-elect of the American Society of Agronomy and previously served as president of the Soil Science Society of America.

Gary received his Ph.D. in soil chemistry from The Ohio State University in 1989, and his B.S. and M.S. degrees from Michigan State University in 1982 and 1985, respectively.

## Member Survey- Please give us your feedback

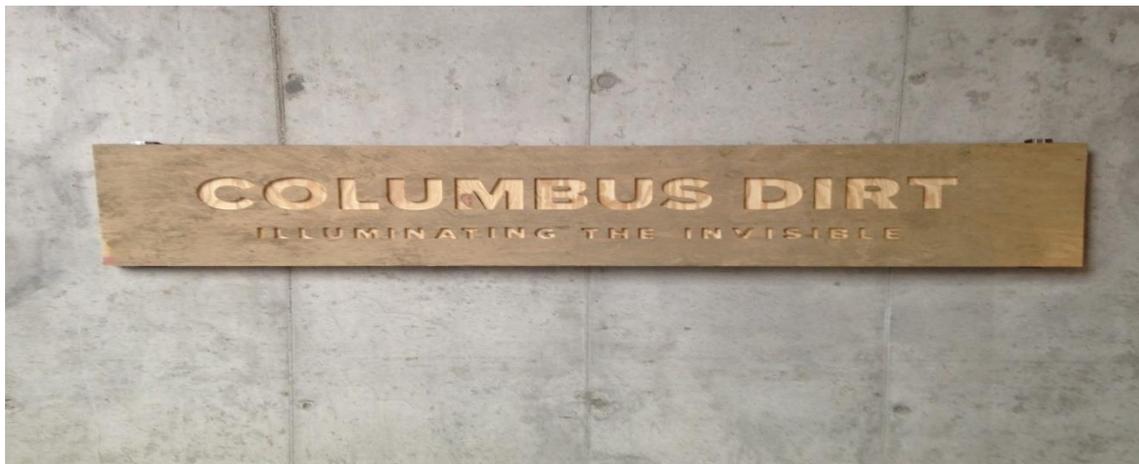
The character of AOP has changed significantly since it was founded years ago as a professional organization for soil scientists, most of whom were agency personnel focused on completing the Ohio Soil Inventory. Today's more diverse membership is healthy, but it also presents a challenge to the development of programming that is attractive to most everyone. The Executive Council needs your feedback to meet that challenge. In case

you didn't make it to the end of the President's message, please consider completing the short survey that can be accessed at:

<https://www.ohiopedologist.com/survey.html>

You can also find the survey through the AOP homepage by hovering over the *Membership* heading on the top ribbon menu. Only three short responses (highlighted by an asterisk) are required to submit the survey, but the opportunity to give more detailed answers is also provided. Please give us your thoughts.

## Columbus Soil Art Exhibit



The Banvard Gallery in the OSU Knowlton School of Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and City and Regional Planning recently hosted the exhibition *COLUMBUS DIRT: Illuminating the Invisible* that was designed and prepared by Dr. Paula Meijerink and 15 of her landscape architecture students. The exhibit focused on the diversity of disturbed soils in the Columbus Metropolitan Area and their potential use as ecologically friendly building

materials. Display materials included a soil chandelier comprised of 137 soil samples suspended from a map of the metro area to show sampling locations, a rammed earth wall incorporating different organic materials (including old books), and a prominent copy of the Franklin County Soil Survey Report. Dr. Meijerink is searching for a permanent home for the display. If interested, be aware that the floor of the exhibition area had to be reinforced to support the weight of the rammed earth wall! Although the exhibition closed on March 30, you can still visit by means of a narrated U-tube video accessible at:

[https://knowlton.osu.edu/event/columbus-dirt-illuminating-invisible?utm\\_campaign=UMAR%20onCampus%20Today%2003262018&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=EOACLK](https://knowlton.osu.edu/event/columbus-dirt-illuminating-invisible?utm_campaign=UMAR%20onCampus%20Today%2003262018&utm_medium=email&utm_source=EOACLK)

## **Marvin Bureau passes away at 92 years old.**

Many of you worked with Marvin in the 1960s and 1970s. Below is a very abridged version of his quite enlightening obituary. I liked being around Marvin he had great sense of humor and personality. I included most his SCS service. The full obituary can be seen at: <http://www.the-daily-record.com/obituaries/20180424/marvin-bureau-92-wooster>

He worked for the SCS for 32 years, completing the soil surveys for four counties by walking, sampling and mapping countless individual farms. Through much of the 1970s, the area office operated out of Coshocton, and he commuted during the week to a spartan apartment there, to allow his children to remain in school in Wooster.

In 1980, he left federal service to work for the Health Department of Wayne County. Shortly thereafter, he entered private consulting for the health

departments of several counties and came to know many people over a wide area through his services

During his second three decades of soils work, Jeannine was his, “live-in secretary” taking care of the office side of the business. Marvin finally retired in 2011, after 63 years of professional soils work.

They traveled as a couple to Hawaii and Europe (Marvin comforted there by bogus, family-invented currency exchange rates), repeatedly to Alaska, and by small motor home around the country. They were active members at Trinity United Church of Christ of Wooster since 1956.

Surviving are his son, Jeffrey and wife, Linda (Hoffer) of Wooster, and a son, Todd and wife, Barbra (Belfield) of Hope, Alaska; a son-in-law, Robert Felty and wife, Kathy of Columbus; a granddaughter, Sarah Felty of Columbus; grandsons, Nathan, Shane and wife, Alli (Mills) Bureau of Wooster, and Liam Bureau of Hope, Alaska; as well as numerous other relatives.

Marvin was preceded in death by his brother, William; and a sister, Dot; his dear wife, Jeannine; and a daughter, Shauna, a loss that one wishes no parent should have to bear.

Services will be Friday, April 27 at 2 p.m. at McIntire, Bradham & Sleek Funeral Home, 216 E. Larwill St. Wooster, with the Rev. Dr. Kevan Franklin officiating. Burial will be in Wooster Cemetery.

Friends will be received Thursday, April 26 from 6-8 p.m. at the funeral home, or one hour prior to the services on Friday. Online condolences may be left for the family at [www.mcintirebradhamsleek.com](http://www.mcintirebradhamsleek.com).

In lieu of flowers, gifts may be made to Brookdale Hospice, 3380 Brecksville Road, Suite 101, Richfield 44286. Phone 440-892-6212.