

Ohio Pedologist

www.ohiopedologist.org

Dear AOP Members,

As I begin to write my first President's Message I have to keep telling myself that this is supposed to be our Spring Newsletter. The Cardinals, Chickadees, Nuthatches, Downy Woodpeckers and other assorted birds at my backyard feeders are currently enduring a driving snow storm. It seems as though "Old Man Winter" just doesn't want to quit. I would normally be getting excited about the first trout fishing trip of the year, but after looking outside and hearing the forecast for the next week, I think I will fight the urge to get too excited and have another cup of coffee instead. I know that eventually Spring will arrive – won't it?



President Buzard

I would like to begin by first thanking the membership for this opportunity to serve as President of our organization. Many of you that know me are aware that I can joke around at times and give the impression that I don't take things seriously. The urge to interject humor into this writing has already been successfully fought off (lucky for you) on several occasions. Rest assured that I do take things seriously – like fly fishing, hunting and being President of AOP.

AOP has benefited in the past by having excellent people step forward and serve on the Executive Council. This year is no different and I am very pleased to be a part of this fine group of people. I know I am speaking for the entire council when I say that it is our desire to do our best to serve the membership in 2005.

At the annual banquet I briefly mentioned the issues that I view as important and would like to emphasize as President of AOP. Every new President of AOP uses the Spring issue of the

Ohio Pedologist to enlighten the membership on his or her "vision" (a little political correctness there) of the organization for the upcoming year. I am no different in this regard and I will attempt to bring you out of the "darkness and into the light" at this time.

At the top of the list, I feel strongly that AOP should continue to provide the opportunity for the entire membership to earn CEU's if they chose to do so. This was an important item at our first council meeting. With the success of last year's workshop the council wants to make every effort to offer another one this year. The council reviewed ideas that were submitted by the membership and settled on a field day in northeast Ohio addressing Phase 2 of NPDES. A date of September 8th has been tentatively set. The workshop is in the initial planning stage but soil properties that relate to the location, and design of post-construction water quality BMP's would be the theme. It was felt that this would draw a more diverse group of professionals such as last year's workshop and give the membership the chance to interact with other professionals. Todd Houser has volunteered to head up preparations for this field day.

One of the first things I did as President was to try to get a status report of our standing committees. Several of these obviously are very active, such as the Certification and Awards Committees. However, the Educational and Membership Committees have not been very active lately. It might be wishful thinking, but I feel that our organization would benefit if all our standing committees were active with membership participation.

It is vital that our membership be involved and active within the organization. We all have commitments and obligations, but I would encourage the membership to participate when asked if at all possible. If you are unable to serve on a committee or help out on a field day but have ideas, please contact your representatives on the council with your sugges-

Inside this issue:

Association News	2
Forest Soils Wrksp	3
Summer Picnic	4
Smithsonian Soils Exhibit	5

2005 Directory of Officers

Rick Buzard, President
Tom Zimmerman, President-elect
Steve Prebonick, Past President
Todd Houser, Secretary
George Derringer, Treasurer
Steve Miller, Newsletter editor
Neil Smeck, Academic Rep.
John Allen, Federal Rep.
Lynn Roth, Private Rep.
Matt Deaton, State Rep.

ASSOCIATION NEWS

Continued from page 1

tions. Our organization will only remain strong if our membership stays involved.

Our newsletter has been and continues to be our main means of communication within AOP. I encourage the membership to continue to submit topics of importance and interest to our editor Steve Miller for publication in *The Ohio Pedologist*

As a follow up to the presentation at the annual meeting, the council had discussion pertaining to the criteria of the proposal for the Certified Soil Scientist category that was submitted by the certification board. Tim Gerber has asked to address the council at the next meeting to relay the certification board's latest ideas that pertain to the proposal. One of the council's concerns is that our requirements do not jeopardize our affiliation with ARCPACS. The Executive Council will continue to work with the Certification Board to resolve this matter.

The passage of H.B. 231 has prompted the Executive Council to question if AOP should have it's own representative to the ODH Sewage Advisory Committee to act in an advisory role during the development of the new sewage rules that come out of this bill. We have contacted ODH pertaining to this matter and will keep you informed of developments.

Tom Zimmerman is at work planning our next summer picnic. The feeling was to keep the picnic in a more central location this year, possibly at Malabar Farm for sometime in July. We will provide more details as they become available.

Once again thank you for this opportunity. I am looking forward to working with this year's Executive Council to serve the AOP membership. I think we are off to great start.

Sincerely,

President Buzard

Thank You, AOP!

Dear Larry,

I would like to express my sincere thanks to you and to the Association of Ohio Pedologists for presenting the the Distinguished Service Award at your annual meeting on January 13, 2005. I was very surprised and humbled in receiving this honor. It was a very enjoyable experience and your speaker was also fascinating.

I also want to express my appreciation to several members of your association that helped me with my soils education over the last almost 20 years. It was a pleasure to see many of them at your meeting. Please send my thanks to Dan Lemaster, Gordon Gilmore, Bob Hendershot, and Rex Mapes. I also owe my gratitude to many of the SWCD and NRCS people like Brady Koehler, Mark Scarpitti, and Dan Garver, who have helped me develop my soil evaluational programs, which helped me make more knowledgeable decisions regarding proposed residential developments.

In closing, it is obvious to me that we as local health department sanitarians would have a very difficult time evaluating soils for residential development without the assistance and insight we receive from soil scientist, NRCS, and SWCD personnel. Thanks again for presenting me with this honor and best wishes for the upcoming year.

Sincerely,

Gary Young R.S.

Membership Roster Update

If any members has edits to the AOP directory please contact Steve Miller. Steve periodically updates the roster posted on the website. Members are asked to check the information and note any changes that are needed. A hard copy directory will be published before the Winter Meeting in 2006. The information found on the website listing will be used for the printed directory.

Northeastern Forest Soils Conference 2005

The West Virginia Association of Professional Soil Scientists has invited NEFSC to join them at their Annual Meeting in 2005 during July. Mary Beth Adams and Stephanie Connelly will co-chair the meeting.

You are invited to southern West Virginia for the 2005 Northeastern Forest Soils Conference, held in conjunction with the annual summer meeting of the West Virginia Association of Professional Soil Scientists (WVAPSS). Come visit us July 18-21, 2005 in Logan County, WV, and spend time in the lovely forests and hills of southern West Virginia while meeting with your colleagues. You'll learn about the role of soils in mine land reclamation, and about soil development and important processes as affected by mountaintop removal and reforestation. In addition, we'll be looking at the effects of repeated fires on forest soils and the relationship of soils to productivity and various forest management uses. Finally, WVAPSS will host a hands-on workshop on collecting and preparing soil monoliths.

The Conference will be based in Logan County, West Virginia. The meeting will start on Monday, July 18, with a dinner, and an introduction to West Virginia's history and natural resources. Two and a half days in the field, with lots of soil pits, will follow, and the 2005 conference will adjourn on Thursday, July 21 at noon. A block of rooms has been reserved at the Best Western Logan Inn, in Chapmanville, West Virginia. Camping is available at near-by Chief Logan State Park, and there are other lodging opportunities available. More details about lodging and registration will be forthcoming shortly.

Please mark your calendars now for this exciting opportunity! If you have questions, please contact Mary Beth Adams (mbadams@fs.fed.us; 304-478-2000) or Stephanie Connolly (sconnolly@fs.fed.us; 304-636-1800).

Thornie Hole Awarded NRCS State Conservationist Award

State Conservationist Tony Kramer (New Jersey) presented Thornton (Thornie) J. F. Hole with the State Conservationist's Award on January 10, 2003, at NRCS Employee Appreciation Day. Nominated for this award by the Hammonton staff, Thornie retired from NRCS in 1994, but continues working as a volunteer with Hammonton Soils.

Thornie came to New Jersey in 1969 when the agency was still known as the Soil Conservation Service (SCS). He worked at the Mays Landing SCS field office as a Soil Scientist until 1973. From 1973-1979 he served as the Soil Scientist Party Leader at the Toms River field office. Thornie returned to Mays Landing as a District Conservationist from 1978-1989 and worked in Hammonton as a Soil Scientist from 1989-1994. A hard working, consistent and a dependable team player, Thornie actually trained numerous NRCS employees, many who still work with NRCS in New Jersey.

Thornie was born in Ohio on August 2, 1931. He graduated from Ohio State University and started his career with the Soil Conservation Service in 1952 as a student trainee in Columbus, Ohio. He started full time employment as a Soil Scientist in Tiffin, Ohio in 1954 where he performed Soils Mapping for Farm Planning. He worked on the Erie Co. Soil Survey during 1963-1966. He was part of the Soil Survey Party in Marietta, Ohio during 1966-1969.

Thornie's service and accomplishments include:

- co-authored 2 articles that were published in the Ohio Academy of Science.
- member of the NJ Association of Professional Soil Scientists and served as Secretary/Treasurer for a number of years.
- member of the Firman E Bear Chapter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society.
- assisted and/or completed the Atlantic, Cape May, Cumberland, Ocean, and Salem Counties soil survey reports.



In addition to his service through NRCS, Thornie served in the Army on Active Duty from 1955-1957, and spent 28 yrs. including active duty in the reserves and retired as a Lieutenant Colonel. Thornie resides in Egg Harbor City, NJ with his wife Joanne. He has 5 children and 8 grandchildren.

SUMMER PICNIC REGISTRATION AND SMITHSONIAN SOIL EXHIBIT DONATION



2005 SUMMER PICNIC
10:30AM July 9th, 2005
The Pugh Cabin
Malabar Farm

Lunch Buffet includes:
Two Pork Tenderloin Sandwiches
German Potato Salad
Baked Beans
Iced Tea

Cost is \$6 per person

Name _____

Number of people attending _____

Multiply number of people by \$6 and enter amount at right. \$ _____

Smithsonian Soil Exhibit Donation (Amount donated will be matched 1:1 by AOP) \$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____

Make Checks Payable to 'The Association of Ohio Pedologist.'

Mail to:

George Derringer
AOP Treasurer
819 Sue Lane
Dayton OH 45415-2134

If it's on the Internet, They will find it

From Jon Reedstrom.

I thought I should really share this little story with everyone. This should make everyone aware of how public we are getting, and that it is a good thing.

The day after the AOP Annual Meeting I was getting my messages and I received a call from a gentleman who said he was looking for some soils information. That, along with his name and phone number, was all he left me. Based on experience, I figured it was a septic question. I get a lot of those, and can almost tell by the tone of the messages.

Well, I returned the call, and low and behold, I was right. This man had been building his house in Medina County, and time had come to get soils information to provide to the Health Department so they could give him a system. He asked, "What kind of information can you give him?"

Well, the first thing I told him is that he would need to contact the Health Department and find out what would be required for their office to get him an approved system. He would also need to ask if they required a licensed or certified consultant to do any investigations or site evaluations. Since every County has different regulations, I was not sure what would be required.

I then told him that if the Health Department did require a con-

sultant I would not be available to do this, as there are legal issues with regard to my normal duties, but that the Soil and Water Conservation District has a list of AOP certified soil scientists that could possibly help him out. He was not aware of the SWCD or what they did. Since I thought that is where he got my name and number, I asked him how he came to contact me. His response was a little surprising. He located my information by searching the Internet and found the NRCS Ohio website. He said he thoroughly read through the website. Okay, so now I realize that anybody can look me up and call me.

I began to tell him that there is an AOP website... then he stopped me. He had already found the site on his own, read through it, and located the list of consulting soil scientists! He also told me that in making a few calls, some of the phone numbers on the list are no longer in service, **so if you are on the list, check your information and make sure it is current and working.**

I don't know if he ever got his system, or an investigation. I did learn this. There are people out there with enough knowledge and ability that they know how to use the web and will search until they find what they need. We need to keep the web page current and interesting. We can do ourselves great benefits by talking up the website, giving out the web address and promoting ourselves.

USDA AND SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION PRESENT SOILS DISPLAY

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16, 2005-The U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Smithsonian Institution will showcase a soils display this month at the National Museum of Natural History. The display features a soil monolith and introduces visitors to an expanded soils exhibit still being developed.

This first-of-its-kind exhibit will help educate millions of children and adults annually about the nation's soil resources and their economic value to a productive and vibrant society. "This exhibit is the foundation for various other soil and natural resource related themes the Smithsonian will feature this year and beyond," Agriculture Secretary Mike Johanns said. "The information in this exhibit demonstrates the impact of wise management decisions on cropland, range and pasture, forestland, gardens and homesites."

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service soil sci-

entists and others have been working with Smithsonian exhibit designers on a display of soil monoliths, which are soil profiles mounted and preserved on boards. The first soil monolith going on display features Menfro, the official Missouri state soil.

The display of all 50 state soil monoliths will become part of a larger interactive exhibit with hands-on activities and demonstrations. The exhibit will include an underground view of the hidden world of soil. The completed soils exhibit is scheduled to open in July 2006 in conjunction with the World Congress of Soil Science that will convene in Philadelphia.

The soils exhibit, sponsored by the Soil Science Society of America, has been in the planning stages for over two years. The exhibit is part of the Smithsonian museum's continuing "Forces of Change" program. Annually, 4 to 6 million people visit the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History.

For more information on the soils exhibit, visit <http://www.soils.org/smithsonian>. For information on understanding soils, visit <http://soils.usda.gov>.

AOP to Match Smithsonian Contributions One for One

In an attempt to increase the amount contributed to the Smithsonian Soil Exhibit the membership moved to have the organization match each dollar contributed one to one. AOP will only match membership contributions. As of now, we have raised approximately \$3,000. Our initial goal of \$10,000 is a long way off.

If you know of any organizations or businesses that would be interested in donating to the fund please contact either your AOP representative or Jeff Glanville (614-255-2507, jeff.glanville@oh.usda.gov), the appointed leader of Ohio's Smithsonian Soil Exhibit fund raising.

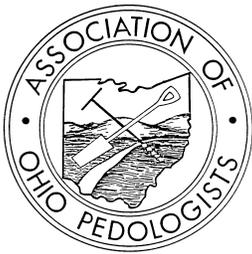
Donations can be made directly to the Smithsonian, of course these dollars will not be matched by AOP. For more information on direct donation go to <http://www.soils.org/smithsonian/>.

September 8, 2005 - AOP Summer Workshop, Cuyahoga County. The topic this year will be 'Storm Water Regulations and the Role Soil Scientists Have in Siting Proper Locations.'

October 11-13, 2005 - North Central Forest Soils Conference- Great Smokey Mountains

Ohio Pedologist

The Ohio State University
School of Natural Resources
Columbus, OH 43210



«Last Name», «First Name»
«Street»
«City, State, Zip»