



OHIO PEDOLOGIST

Professional Soil Scientists

www.ohiopedologist.org

Annual Meeting Scheduled

Geothermal Site Planning Workshop held in October



The 2011 Annual Meeting will be held on January 20 at the Highbanks MetroPark Nature Center in Southern Delaware County, the location for many of the annual meetings in the past decade. Registration information and other details will be provided in the near future.

About 40 percent of AOP members attended the Geothermal Site Planning Workshop in October. Dan Michael and experts with whom he has worked were among the presenters for the two-day program, which included about 12 hours of educational activities.

Ad hoc Committee

President Derringer has appointed Joe Steiger to Chair the *ad hoc* Sewage Advisory Committee, which will provide input to Steve Miller, AOP's representative on the Ohio Dept. of Health's (ODH) Rules Advisory Committee (RAC). The RAC is expected to function at least through 2011, to help ODH build consensus support for the rules as they are being developed.

AOP members who desire to serve on the *ad hoc* committee should contact Joe at (740) 454-3734. So far, Larry Tornes and Larry Milliron have volunteered. Joe would like to have representation from throughout the state.



STATE RULES AND LICENSING OF SOIL SCIENTISTS - A PENNSYLVANIA PERSPECTIVE

Kathy Sasowsky recommended an article in the Pennsylvania Association of Professional Soil Scientists' (PAPSS) May 2009 newsletter for those of us who are interested in licensing soil scientists in Ohio. The article by Michael Lane ("Which Came First?") makes the connection between state administrative rules and licensing, suggesting that the two efforts go hand-in-hand. By serving on the

Dept. of Health's Sewage Rules Advisory Committee, Steve Miller and Matt Deaton (representing ODNR) can help to lay a foundation for adding Ohio to the list of 14 states (according to a Wikipedia website) that currently have licensing programs for soil scientists. The articles can be accessed by selecting the "May 2009" box on PAPSS' "News" webpage, at www.papss.org/news.htm.

GENERAL MEMBER NEWS

**Two Members Go West**

Erik Venteris left ODNr's Div. of Geological Survey this fall to accept a Spatial Modeling Research Engineer position with the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory in Richland, Washington. The laboratory is operated by Battelle Memorial Institute for the U.S. Dept. of Energy.

Andy Kleinschmidt left OSU Extension this fall to accept a position as Research Scientist for Pioneer Hi-Bred, a DuPont Business, in Johnston, Iowa. He is currently working with a team to guide the development of software for evaluating transgenic traits.

SSSA Award Winner

Student member Mitch Valerio placed first among 18 graduate students who submitted posters on their pedology (S-5 division) research for the Soil Science Society of America's annual meeting in November. The poster, entitled "Modeling Spodosol Distribution in Northern Idaho Landscapes," is based on research funded by NRCS for Mitch's Master's thesis at the University of Idaho. It can be viewed at a-c-s.confex.com/crops/2010am/webprogram/Presentation/Paper58744/SSSA_2010_Final.pdf.

Future Soil Scientists?

Member Frank Gibbs sent pictures of Ohio soil scientists' children getting acquainted with soil. Children of NRCS soil scientists Charlie and Melissa Hanner explored the soil pit (left) at a forestry field day in Fulton County. Callie Burgess was working with her dad, Past President Don Burgess in a corn field.

**Recent Deaths**

Sympathy is extended to Honorary Member Ed Redmond, whose wife Jane died on November 2.

Former member Sam Lehman died on November 22. He retired from NRCS in 1986 as a resource soil scientist. He served as project leader for soil surveys in three Southwestern Ohio counties.

Former OSU soil physics professor George Taylor died on October 7. He conducted research and taught soil physics during the most active years of the Ohio Soil Survey (1951-1985). Some of his research focused on benchmark soil series in Ohio, such as Hoytville, Miami, and Toledo.

Correction

A member reported that Richland County no longer requires that site evaluations for sewage treatment systems be done by soil scientists, correcting a report in the Summer edition.

Agency Leadership

Mike Wigginton resigned as State Soil Scientist in Ohio in August, to accept a resource soil scientist position in Lafayette, Indiana. Jared Beard, resource soil scientist for the eastern part of West Virginia, is currently serving as Acting State Soil Scientist for NRCS in Ohio.

Matt Deaton has served as ODNr's representative on the Ohio Soil Inventory Board since April. Board Chair Brian Slater has been OARDC's representative since 2007.

AOP MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION FOR 2010

Since the Summer edition of the *Pedologist* went out, seven more members have paid dues for 2010 and three new members have been added, bringing the current total to 74 members. The total includes 34 Pedologists, 22 Soils Professionals, 8 Affiliate Members, 7 Honorary Members, and 3 Student Members.

Currently, 24 members who are SSSA-certified are included on the "AOP Soil Consultant List" webpage, at ohiopedologist.com/soilConsultants.htm.

Those already on the list can provide updated information from a link on the webpage. Other members who are SSSA-certified can request to be added and provide pertinent information by using the same link.

Executive Council news



The Council met on November 12. President Derringer reported that he had signed the new memorandum of understanding with SSSA recommended by AOP's Board of Certification.

The Council contributed a total of \$1,000 to the land judging

teams of Wilmington College and Ohio State. Both teams competed at the regional contest held at Penn State in October.

The Council approved the applications of Matthew Lane and Logan Welker as Student Members. Matthew is a graduate student at Ohio State, and Logan recently enrolled in the online M.S. program at Iowa State. He is a Soil Conservation Technician with NRCS in Paulding County.

Much of the meeting was focused on planning for the annual meeting on January 20.



Online Soils Courses

North Carolina State University (NCSU) is offering six different internet-based soil science courses for spring semester in 2011. Affiliate Member Ray Burns, who received his M.S. degree in Physics at NCSU in 1990, has earned 9 semester hours of soils courses through NCSU's distance learning program in recent years.

More information about future course offerings can be obtained at www.soil.ncsu.edu/training/.

Meet Two New Members

Jason Undercoffer was approved as an Affiliate Member in May. He received his B.S. in Environmental Science in 2006 and his M.S. in Soil Science in 2009, both at Ohio State. Dr. Basta was graduate advisor for his research on "Monitoring Phosphorus Transport and Soil Test Phosphorus from Two Distinct Drinking Water Treatment



Residual Application Methods." Part of his research was conducted in the Grand Lake St. Marys watershed. He was a teaching assistant for the introductory soils lab course.

Jason has been working as an agronomist with

Integrated Ag Services for almost two years, helping clients in North Central Ohio to deal with soil fertility issues on their operations.

Barry Cavanna was approved as a Soils Professional in August. He retired from NRCS in 2003 as Assistant State Conservationist for Field Operations in Northeast Ohio. Since then, he has worked for Syar Industries, an aggregate company in Northern California, managing vineyards, rangeland, rock quarries, and a golf course on the company's real estate.

Barry still has a farm in Wayne County and travels back from California regularly. He is a Certified Professional Soil Scientist and, as owner of Hawkhaven Soils Consulting, frequently conducts onsite investigations for household sewage treatment systems when in Ohio. He owns one horse and plans to buy more when he moves back to Ohio in May.



Membership Dues for 2011

Information about annual dues and deadlines from the Bylaws: Article V specifies that annual dues are “payable to the Treasurer by January 1st of each calendar year.” Article II specifies that “all membership rights shall be withheld when annual dues are delinquent beyond three months after the due date,” and that “if delinquency is remedied in less than one year, all rights granted the membership shall be reinstated.”

Annual dues schedule set by the Executive Council in February 2007:

For members approved as Pedologists and Soils Professionals..... \$40

For members approved as Affiliate Members and Student Members.... \$20

Please complete the following form and mail it with your check for the appropriate amount made out to the “Association of Ohio Pedologists,” to

Mr. Jeff Glanville
AOP Treasurer
107 Southwind Dr.
Gahanna, OH 43230-3147

Name of member _____

Street Address _____

City, State, Zip Code _____

E-mail address _____

Category of Membership (circle one):

Pedologist Soils Professional Affiliate Member Student Member

Honorary (No annual dues, but please provide current contact information above.)

Total amount enclosed: _____

To help the 2011 Executive Council know more about current membership, please identify your “category of employment,” referenced in Article IV of the Bylaws regarding members of the Executive Council. (Please underline the one that is most appropriate):

Federal Agency State Agency Academic Institution

Private Practice Local Government

Other (Please describe.) _____