



Ohio's Professional Soil Scientists

2021 Winter Newsletter Volume 48, Issue 1

Message from our president – Jeff Glanville

Greetings everyone. Hope you all are well.

2020 was a challenging year. I hope that you and your families came out better in the end. We should always look for the good in things. I try to see other sides; try to find positives in challenging situations, etc. I also try to think about “what if?” What if things hadn’t gone as they did? Would the outcome have been better or worse?

It’s hard to be an optimist sometimes. Despite what we may be dealt, I believe it’s good to always be thankful. Just about everything in our lives this past year – home life, our jobs, other activities, etc. – has been upended to some extent. That includes meetings and other activities within our organization.

Our winter meeting is scheduled for February 25. It will be a virtual meeting this time, using Ohio State’s Zoom account. Other than that, we plan to have the technical program and the business meeting largely as they normally are. We will host a practice session the day before the meeting, to make sure everyone can get in and to make sure we all know how to use the Zoom functions. I might have to get City Barbecue for dinner that night, to make it feel a little more normal.

I would like to thank the other members of our executive council, and everyone else who helped with AOP business, this past year. And thank you also to our members. We have a great group (sorry for the pun) and I’m excited to see where we go in the future.

Finally, please renew your membership and send in your dues if you haven’t done so already. Remember that you can do this with a check, or with a credit card on our web site. I was tardy myself in sending my check to Rick. But he received my payment in less than a week. To pay by credit card, go to our web site, and the “Store” menu choice. Here is the direct link:

https://www.ohiopedologist.org/store/c1/Featured_Products.html

Until we meet, stay safe. Please contact me or any of the other council members with questions, comments, or concerns.

Pres. Jeff

AOP ANNUAL WINTER MEETING – ON LINE
Feb 25, 2021, Thursday

8:30 Check-in/waiting room

9:00 Welcome and Announcements, Jeff Glanville -Message from the President

9:15 Professor Ira D. Sasowsky (University of Akron): Hydrology of an unusual karst landscape in north-central Ohio

9:30 Trevor Dwyer, B.S. (University of Akron): Physical and chemical properties of water from karst springs in NC Ohio

9:45 George S. Bullerjahn, Ph.D. (Bowling Green State University): Characterization of the submerged springs in Sandusky Bay, and relevance to their biogeochemistry

BREAK 10 minutes

10:10 – 10:40 Dr. M. Scott Demyan , OSU: Dr. M. Scott Demyan
Assistant Professor, soil and environmental mineralogy

"Monitoring, recording, and verification; How should soil carbon characterization and modeling play a role in soil carbon markets?"

10:40 – 11:10 Ashly Dyck, OSU Master's Student: "Making Ohio Soil MEM-orable: using the Microbial Efficiency-Matrix Stabilization Model to explain C storage in Ohio Soils."

BREAK 10 minutes

11:20 – 11:50 Dr. Brian Slater , OSU, Associate Director and Professor

11:50 – 12:20 Dr. Sakthi Subburayalu, Central State University, Research Assistant Professor

12:20 – 1:00 Lunch Break

1:00 – 1:15 MENTORING CERTIFICATION CANDIDATES

Megan Conklin – Experiences in attempts to obtain required experience credits.

Dan Michael- Past and present experiences with mentoring

Nathan Wright – Business Considerations of mentoring

1:15 Business Meeting

Updates from ODA, NRCS, Soil judging, New AOP display, AOP Consultant List and Map, Officer Reports, Newsletter, Election results of President Elect and Member at Large

Practice Login Meeting will be conducted the day before the actual day of the seminar. This will allow you to figure out login details on your computer or other device prior to the day of the meeting.

The AOP Practice Zoom session occurs on Feb 24, 2021 from 1 to 2 pm.

AOP Winter Meeting Registration Link:

<https://osu.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJwvf-CtrjwjHNYTVw3lbt3pco4jklOQTIFh>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Join by weblink:

<https://osu.zoom.us/j/95810006266?pwd=UTh6SjJxU2ZwajA4MkhKR0s4S3hPUT09>

Meeting ID: 958 1000 6266

Password: 282411

Dial by phone:

+1 646 876 9923

Meeting ID: 958 1000 6266

Password: 282411

***There will be no registration fees for this seminar. Free CE Credits!
No travel time or expenses! Log on and Join Us!***

Future meeting announcements and cancelations

I will continue to send notices of webinars and on-line conferences that either do qualify for or could qualify for Continuing Education Credits. I'm working with the Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District (where I still serve as an Associate Board Member after all these years, back to 1974) as they continue to develop a series of on-line educational opportunities, many of which would be of interest to soil scientists.

From Jerry Bigham

Here is another opportunity to sign up for the interactive CFAES annual research conference. These links are not activated so contact the College. Jerry thinks you can register as a "Community Guest".

I am also intrigued about the 2021 Hemp Growing Season program. I first learned about the benefits to the soil from growing hemp from Kentucky soil scientists early in this century when they began lobbying for the legalization of the crop. With the incredible soils impacts from growing tobacco and cotton, having another cash crop that actually benefitted the soil is a game changer for farmers in the areas where hemp easily grows. It is a sustainable crop that has hundreds of uses and until recently, we had to import all we used. Did you know that the first "Levi jeans" made for the 1849 Gold Rush miners were made from hemp?

News

Register for the CFAES Annual Research Conference

The CFAES Annual Research Conference will take place on Thursday, April 8, 2021 (virtually) beginning at 12:30 pm and concluding at 2 pm. The agenda will consist of a question and answer session with Dr. Rattan Lal, 2020 World Food Prize Laureate, announcements of the research award winners, an update on the CFAES research enterprise, and the annual poster competition for graduate and undergraduate students.

[Register Now](#)



2021 Hemp Growing Season

The Ohio Department of Agriculture has announced that the **2021 Hemp Growing Season** Application process is now open through April 9, 2021. CFAES has a procedure for new and continuing research, that can be found [here](#). Contact [Lori Kaser.37@osu.edu](mailto:Lori.Kaser.37@osu.edu) with any questions.

A message from our new treasurer

Your Dues Due?

Thanks for being a member of the Association of Ohio Pedologists. You are a member of a unique group of Science Professionals. Being a member of the AOP affords you several benefits. Networking with similar professionals, networking with unfamiliar professionals, educational programs, great newsletter, CEU's, good food, just to name a few benefits. Being a member also requires you to pay your dues in a timely manner. It doesn't cost much to be a member, and stay a member:

Professional - \$40.00

Affiliate - \$20.00

Student - \$20.00

If you aren't sure if you have paid for the current year, contact Rick Griffin, AOP Treasurer at: rgriffin1741@gmail.com; AOP in the subject line would help. Keep your membership up to date. It keeps our organization strong, informative and relevant to your professionalism.

Or mail your dues to:

Rick Griffin, Treasurer

937 Laurel Av.

Zanesville, OH 43701

Annual Dues payments

Name: _____

Please provide contact information:

Street Address _____

City, State, Zip Code _____

Email Address _____

Phone number _____

Association of Ohio Pedologists Membership Dues for 2021

For members approved as Professional.....\$40

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

Category of Membership (circle one): Professional, Affiliate Member, Student Member, Honorary

(No annual dues)

AOP Dues Amount: _____

Contributions to the Scholarship Fund: _____

Make checks payable to AOP and send to:

Rick Griffin, Treasurer

937 Laurel Av.

Zanesville, OH 43701

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: _____

In addition, we would like to hear from you regarding membership and meeting topic ideas.

Are there individuals, either potential new members or former members that you would suggest being recruited to join AOP?

Are there topics that you would like to see covered, either as annual meeting program topics or as summer workshop topics?

You can provide input to Rick Griffin at the address above, to any other member of the executive committee, or let us know during discussion at the upcoming annual meeting.

Absentee Ballots

Absentee voting

Eligible voters (i.e. members) may request an absentee ballot from the Secretary, if unable to attend the Annual Meeting. Please contact Scott Demyan via email at demyan.4@osu.edu, to request an absentee ballot. The absentee ballots will be tabulated at the Annual Meeting during the regular voting.

Best,

Scott

Dr. M. Scott Demyan

Assistant Professor, soil and environmental mineralogy

School of Environment and Natural Resources

The Ohio State University

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Columbus, Ohio 43210

USA

office: +1-614-688-3349

An Equipment Scholarship opportunity

We will be announcing our equipment scholarship winners in the next newsletter.

Ohio State University AOP Scholarships

An update from Rick Griffin and Matt Sullivan RE: AOP Scholarship Fund. We now have an additional \$785.00 in the scholarship fund that has been donated through AOP this year. Others are donating straight through to Ohio State. We will consider what to do with these funds during the Business portion of the Annual Meeting.

If someone would like to donate directly to Ohio State to the fund, they should put the following on the check and in the letter: AOP (Pedologist) Fund 314160

The address to mail the check is:

College of Food, Agriculture and Environmental Sciences

Office of Advancement

Suite B100 Riverwatch Tower

364 West Lane Avenue

Columbus, OH 43201

We Need Your Help for the new AOP Display

New AOP Promotional Display

Our old tri-fold promotional display was outdated in information and modality. Council decided that there was a need for a PowerPoint show to promote the Association as well as pedology/soil science as a field of study and a profession. This show is one which any member would have permission to use for the promotion of the Association and its goals. It will be present on our website for download (a "ppt" file). All it would require to run is Microsoft PowerPoint Viewer and a computer for use. It could be projected on a computer projector for use in larger format.

A tentative PowerPoint "slide" show has been created, but we encourage your input. Although Council knows of the education and training required in our field and the many activities and applications of soils, if you would like to make sure that your unique ideas are incorporated, please contact us. What we would especially like is high quality, digital photographs of soil profiles and landscapes which are significant to Ohio ("jpeg" format). In order to be "high quality", the photographs need to be well-lit, in focus, and ideally include something for scale (e.g. a tape measure or a person). We can't guarantee that your ideas or photographs will be included, but if selected, it would be particularly useful for photographs to include 1) the photographer's name, 2) company or government entity to which the image belongs, and whether you/they grant permission for re-use. We're sorry that there will be no remuneration for your input, but heck, we're a non-profit!

There will be a presentation of the Beta Version of the PowerPoint Slide Show at the Annual Meeting. Kathy is still gathering photos so keep those JPGs coming. Maybe the viewing to the show will inspire more of you to submit your favorite images.

Send input and files to kathryn@sasowsky.com

Memorials for recently departed friends

From Jerry Bigham, the passing of Dr. Don Eckert, January 6, 2021. I will be pleased to print memories about Don in upcoming newsletters as has become our method of communication during these Covid-19 days.

Here is the link: <https://www.rutherfordfuneralhomes.com/obituaries/Donald-Eckert-2/#!/TributeWall>



Obituary for Donald Eckert

Donald James Eckert, age 71 of Dublin, passed away on January 6, 2021 at Kemper House in Worthington, Ohio where he had resided for most of 2020. He "fought the good fight" against Alzheimer's Disease and Cystic Fibrosis.

He was born on August 30, 1949 in Akron, Ohio and was the son of Dr. Joseph J. and Mary "Kay" Bouton Eckert. Both of his parents worked in the medical field; their career choices may have contributed to Don's interest in science. A proud member of the Akron Firestone HS Class of

'67 he excelled in math and chemistry. A National Merit Scholarship finalist, he was in the top 1% of high school students nationwide. He enjoyed creating science fiction stories, participating in track and in the Latin Club. At that time, he was a member of Westminster Presbyterian Church in Akron.

He earned his B.S. in Psychology at Michigan State University and was active in the Tau Delta Phi social fraternity. He then pursued a Master's Degree in Psychology at the Ohio State University, partially funded by a National Institute of Health grant. Taking time to earn money for future graduate school, he worked at Ace Rubber in Akron, providing him an opportunity for reflection regarding his future. His love of the outdoors, coupled with his chemistry background led him to earn a Ph.D. in Agronomy at OSU. He remained there for about 35 years first working with the Cooperative Extension Service throughout most of Ohio's 88 counties and progressing to teaching, research and administration. Initial focus was on soil fertility and no-till farming. He loved the interactions with students, advising the Agronomy Club and developing some solid relationships. His sense of humor served him well throughout his work life; work took him to most of the continental U.S., Europe, Africa and Australia. He was the Associate Chairman of the Agronomy Department and when it was absorbed into the School of Natural Resources, he served as their Assistant Director until his retirement.

He treasured his friends from graduate school: Jim Adams, Edd Gatliff and Marty Schmidt. He and Jim loved fishing and Frisch's Big Boy outings for many years and often took in baseball games. He cherished a lifelong friendship with Joel Kent of Worthington, bonding in the 4th grade in Akron. Fishing, fly tying, trains, travel, and gardening occupied his retirement. Many happy times were spent with dear friends Wendy and Tony Manfredi of Lakewood, especially at Cleveland Indians baseball games. Particularly enjoyable was the time spent at the Ohio Wildlife Center nearby. His volunteer duties included caring for the raptors, helping the children at day camp and outreach with animal ambassadors. At Halloween events, he dressed up as a fox, which all ages enjoyed!

He was predeceased by his parents and a sister-in-law, Sharon Nall of Mayfield Hts, Ohio.

He leaves behind his loving wife of 42 years, Holly Shumway Eckert, his brother Rick Eckert (wife Michelle) of Colorado Springs, CO, his brother Bill of Louisville, KY and special cousins Judy Marshall of FL and Chris and Dan Hurley of Gahanna, Ohio. His many rescue pets were much loved and will meet him at the Rainbow Bridge.

A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date with inurnment at the Rose Hill Cemetery in Akron, Ohio. If desired, donations may be made to the Ohio Wildlife Center, 6131 Cook Road, Powell Ohio 43065 www.ohiowildlifecenter.org or the Alzheimer's Association, 1379 Dublin Rd, Columbus, OH 43215.

Holly extends her appreciation to the caregivers at Kemper House of Worthington who enhanced his last year of life.

Letters to the Editor

With these issues of the Newsletter, we are reaching out to a much larger audience. We critically need to grow the number of Certified Professional Soil Scientists (CPSS) in Ohio if we are going to meet the needs of the state in the future. Since the typical pathway to reach Certification takes nine years (4 year undergrad in Soil Science or related field including five core courses, one year internship with a CPSS,

four more years of experience with oversight from a CPSS and an examination), we are not quickly going to grow our ranks before those of us who are performing most of the work in the state decide we are too old or simply die off. Therefore, the Executive Council has decided that it is important to reach out to you. Our natural partners, staff at county soil and water conservation districts and public health departments to encourage you to cross train to take up the challenge as the older generation decides it's time to lay down our soil probes. We already have members of AOP from soil and water conservation districts and public health departments. Additional staff from those organizations comes to our annual meetings and/or field days for training. Links to this Newsletter is being sent to each soil and water conservation district and public health department in the state, in hopes that the dialogue will be expanded.

This section of the Newsletter belongs to you, our members and future members, in the hopes that if we communicate with each other, we can find pathways to move forward to train the next generation. Please send your letters and/or responses to the Editor at AOPEditor2020@gmail.com and I will include them in upcoming issues of the Newsletter which is developed and disseminated quarterly.

Megan Conklin <mconklin@ccbh.net>

to jweatherington.rice@gmail.com, AOPEditor2020@gmail.com

Good afternoon Dr. Weatherington-Rice,
You were generous enough to speak to me last year and gave me some excellent advice on how to get started on my path to becoming a CPSS.

(For background, I am the Sewage Program Manager at the Cuyahoga County Board of Health).

Since then, I have enrolled in North Carolina State University's Soil Science Certificate Program, and I am currently taking my second class. My concern now is to start attempting to find ways to complete my apprentice field studies. When we last talked, we discussed that it is difficult to find other soil scientists to shadow. I think that problem persists, as I have reached out to three different ones, and have been politely refused for various reasons.

When we last spoke, you had talked about trying to organize some sort of training. I am not currently a member of AOP, but have no problem joining, especially if it puts me in contact with everyone. But I am more than happy to help organize this effort. If you have any recommendations, please let me know.

Thank you,
Megan

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We have since reached out to Megan and have invited her to be one of the speakers at the Annual Meeting during the section of how we continue to reinvent ourselves. She has agreed to be a conduit into the world of Registered Sanitarians here in Ohio who wants to cross train.

A One Part Newsletter

This ends the Winter 2021 Newsletter. We wanted to focus on getting everyone prepared for the Zoom Annual Meeting on February 25th. We will return to the two part newsletter with the Spring issue. I have already collected some very interesting articles for your CEU reading pleasure.