

Ohio Pedologist Newsletter
Vol. 4, No. 1 - March 1978
George Hall - Editor

It has been a long, cold, snowy winter and many of you have told me you are ready to get back out and get some acres. Both the Soil Scientists' Workshop and the Third Annual Winter Meeting of AOP were beset by weather problems but both were very successful. With the start of our third year as an organization we have an almost entirely new set of officers who promise to take off with the same enthusiasm displayed by their predecessors. This is your organization so if you have comments or concerns pass them on to the officers. Names and addresses of present officers appear in this newsletter.

Annual Winter Meeting - Jon Gerken

The meeting began with a luncheon at 12:00. After lunch Dave Johnston addressed the Association about the aspects of licensing, certifying, and registering members of a profession. The talk was followed by a discussion period.

President Joe Steiger opened the business meeting at 1:30. Jon Gerken read the minutes of the 1977 annual meeting.

The annual election for AOP officers and Executive Committee was held. Officers elected for 1978 are: Lyle Jones, President; Marvin Bureau, President Elect; Bob Parkinson, Secretary-Treasurer; George Hall, Editor. Committee members elected for the year are: Sam Lehman, Don Musgrave, Dale Garner and Neil Smeck. Joe Steiger remains on the Executive Committee as Immediate Past President.

Jon Gerken gave the financial report for 1977. The balance on January 1, 1977 was \$299.29. Total receipts were \$1,160.45. Total expenditures were \$388.86. Balance on hand December 31, 1977 was \$1,070.88.

Jon Gerken passed out membership cards for 1978 and membership certificates.

Cecil reported on the audit of the books for 1976 and 1977. The committee found all funds accounted for and all expenditures authorized.

A site for the summer meeting was discussed. Heuston Woods and Wright-Patterson area were suggested and the suggestions were passed on to executive council.

Joe commented on the need to maintain our membership roles and to add new members. He also suggested the organization try to find some type of community project to become involved in, and that members meet their state legislators and determine their attitudes toward registration.

Joe read the nomination of Dr. George Shafer for Honorary membership. Cecil moved the nomination be accepted by the Association. Keith Huffman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Dick Christman suggested a letter of appreciation be sent to Dave Johnston for addressing the Association.

Notes on David Johnston's Speech to AOP Annual Meeting - Joe Steiger

Definitions:

Registration - a listing of names of those active in a profession - no provisions for denying entry.

Certification - examination of qualifications to certify skills. Does not limit non certified persons from practice.

Licensing - Individual must have license to engage in profession based on exam.

Factors favoring Regulation:

1. Need to protect health or safety of public
2. Consumer unprepared to judge competence
3. Raises level of professional skill
4. Promotes public awareness of profession

Factors opposing Regulation:

1. Restricts entry - raises costs of services
2. Makes services scarce
3. Regulating boards more concerned with professionals than public
4. Exams are poor indicators of competence
5. Vague rules on morals and conduct
6. Lack of reciprocity limits mobility

Legal climate is adverse to licensing. There are more court challenges. Federal Trade Commission is studying antitrust actions. New Jersey study finds licensing needed only if:

1. unregulated practice is clear hazard to public welfare
2. need exists for skill
3. public not protected by other means such as market competition

Review of Soil Scientist Certification Laws - Most exempt everyone other than private consultants. Only 10 practicing in Ohio.

Merits of Certification in Ohio

Three conditions above are lacking since Federal and State agencies employ most soil scientists and set standards for their work. Consultants are seldom employed by the public. Local govt. and private firms can judge competence of individual consultants.

Executive Committee Meeting - Bob Parkinson

Meeting was called to order by President Lyle Jones in Townshend Hall at 10:00 AM, Feb. 11. The minutes of the last meeting were read and the treasurer's report was given.

The Executive Council decided to refund the cost of the Annual Luncheon to those persons unable to attend due to inclement weather. Regarding the sale of AOP business cards, Jim Kerr will be the new contact with the printer in Jackson, Ohio after Lyle Jones' departure. Concerning

news items for the AOP newsletter, the Council decided to award a cash prize of \$10 for the best newsletter article submitted by a member this year. Topics can range from general interest to specific and include work improvement suggestions, job openings statewide, etc.

Lyle Jones resigned as President of AOP, effective March 1, 1978, in order to work on a PhD program at University of Arkansas. He still plans to continue his membership with AOP. Marvin Bureau automatically becomes President effective March 1, leaving the position of President Elect vacant. The Council selected Dwain Waters for this position. Dwain had been the other candidate for that position at the annual meeting.

Three new memberships were reviewed and approved for Pedologist status: D. R. Mapes, D. L. Brown and L. K. Roth. The Council decided to financially support the OSU Soil Judging Team by donating \$100 to help fund their regional fall contest. In the event that this team should advance to the national contest, the Executive Council may decide to provide an additional donation on behalf of the AOP membership. It was pointed out that a number of field soil scientists have benefited from the training received by participating in these contests. There was also general discussion regarding the establishment of an interest earning account for AOP funds.

NEW NOTES FROM LANDS AND SOILS

Three new surveys will be in full swing when weather opens up for mapping. These include Ottawa with Don Musgrave as party leader; Sandusky with Jim Ernst, party leader; and Scioto with Floyd McCleary, party leader.

The final correlation has been completed for Cuyahoga County, and Seneca County will be done in March.

Lyle Jones has submitted his resignation to accept a research assistant position with the University of Arkansas where he will begin work toward his doctorate degree.

Ken Olson has accepted a position on the staff at Cornell University. Ken will be working as a soil survey representative for the state of New York in the soil survey program.

We regret losing both Lyle and Ken, but wish them and their families the very best in their new endeavors.

The Division has recently published the Soil Inventory Report on Lucas County; Butler County report is at the printers and Cuyahoga and Seneca County reports are in the mill for publication during the summer.

After paying all the bills related to the Soil Scientist Workshop held at Mohican State Lodge in December, there is a balance of \$10.03 which will be available to use for the next workshop.

News from the State Office

The soil scientist winter workshop was held at Mohican Lodge in December. We appreciate all the participation by everyone, especially those on the program. It was good to have representation from non-agency soil scientists that are in private practice.

We were fortunate to have held the workshop before the budget squeeze. We are pleased to note that everyone made it home safe after the workshop. The roads and weather were getting increasingly worse as the workshop ended.

Personnel -

Injuries have plagued some of our ranks. Denny Brown sustained a serious injury to his left wrist while removing snow from his roof. He reports that the cast can come off in a week or so.

Jon Gerken injured his back while splitting wood and has been off work a few days. We hope both men recover with no after effects.

Any more injuries from the "Winter of '78?"

New Soil Surveys -

New soil surveys have been received for Medina County and Miami County. This makes 33 modern, detailed soil surveys published for Ohio. Information and distribution meetings have been set.

New Project Soil Surveys -

Project soil surveys have been started in Ottawa, Sandusky, and Scioto Counties. Perry and Pike will start in April. A new soil survey party leader will be selected for Pike County.

OSU Ivy Towers

As most of you know Nick Holowaychuk will be retiring from OSU-OARDC on June 30, 1978. Plans are not complete but a get together is planned for the evening of May 26 (Friday) at the OSU Faculty Club to honor Nick.

It still looks like the new Agronomy-Natural Resources-Plant Pathology Building will become a reality. Space allocations have been made and all the staff is busy drawing up plans for laboratories and classrooms. The schedule calls for bids to be advertised December, 1978; opened January 1979 with ground breaking in the spring of 1979. Building time is estimated at three years so no one is packing boxes yet.

Neil Smeck, Jerry Bigham and George Hall along with 8 students will travel to North Carolina the week of March 20 to study the soils and geomorphology of that state. Stan Buol and Ray Daniels have promised to lead an interesting tour.

Assistant Director of OARDC, Richard Davis is retiring the end of April after 27 years with the station. Dick, the former Associate Chairman of the Agronomy Department will be moving south to another administrative position.

Stop Griping! Expert Says Snow Helps Ohio

The following article appeared in the Columbus Dispatch and 30 other Ohio newspapers. It is an AP condensation of an article from the Feb. 5 edition of the Warren Ohio Sunday Tribune. The original article had a picture of Norris and his two children digging carrots for their rabbits. Also left out of the AP article was the statement "Few people know the soils here more intimately than Williams, not only at the surface but underground". Good work Norris!

Warren, Ohio - Before Ohioans mutter foul words about this winter's record snowfalls, they ought to know how much the snow benefits the soil underneath, a state soil expert says.

"If people really understood the value of snow, there would be a lot less griping," said Norris Williams, soil research specialist for the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

Williams, who studies soils of Trumbull and Geauga counties, said snow prevents the ground from freezing, which keeps underground pipes from freezing and allows the water to soak more slowly into the ground to retard flooding.

"All this white stuff we're seeing this winter is a real blessing though it's hard to convince people of that," Williams said.

The snow also allows gardeners to dig vegetables that remain in the ground, he said.

Williams said because of the deep snows at his home in Warren, Ohio, he has been able to dig turnips and carrots for his children's pet rabbits.

"This would never be the case without a deep snow, because the vegetables would be locked in a tomb of brick-hard soil," he said.

Deep snows also protect winter wheat crops because there is less chance of the devastating heaving that causes roots to be torn from their moorings, he said.

Ground temperatures will remain two to four degrees, or more, warmer when covered by a deep snow, he said.

Newsletter Articles

In case you overlooked it, the Executive Committee approved the payment of \$10.00 for the best article to be printed this year - any takers!

1977 Financial Statement

	<u>Rec.</u>	<u>Dist.</u>
Balance Brought Forward	\$299.29	
1976 Dues	36.00	
1977 Dues	643.00	
1978 Dues	153.00	
1977 Annual Meeting	246.00	
1978 Annual Meeting	38.50	
Check for Business Cards	16.95	
Soil Survey Horizon Orders	27.00	
1977 Annual Meeting Banquet		\$232.91
Bank Charges		2.03
1977 Annual Meeting Speaker		20.00
Certificate Printing and Lettering		15.06
Dues Refunds		10.00
Printing of Const. and By-Laws		50.00
1977 Newsletters		21.16
Pop and Ice for Summer Meeting		20.75
Business Cards (check paid to AOP)		16.95
Totals	\$1,459.74	\$388.86

Balance 12-31-77 - \$1,070.88

Submitted by Jon Gerken

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