

**Professional Soil Scientists Association of South Dakota
Annual Meeting**

**Thursday and Friday, June 14-15, 2012
Wall, South Dakota**



Hi all,

The PSSASD meeting will be held June 14th and 15th in Wall. The afternoon of the 14th there will be a tour of the Badlands starting at 1:00 pm MST at the Badlands National Park headquarters. Friday will be the normal PSSASD meeting with talks and a business meeting which will be held at the Wall Community Center. I have reserved a block of rooms under NRCS at the Best Western Plains Motel in Wall. **The room rate is \$106 and reservations need to be made 30 days prior to the 14th after which the rooms will be released.** The phone number is 279-2145.

Since the meeting is almost half way through the year, it would be good to mail your dues to Lance Howe. See the form on the last page.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Kent Cooley

Area Resource Soil Scientist

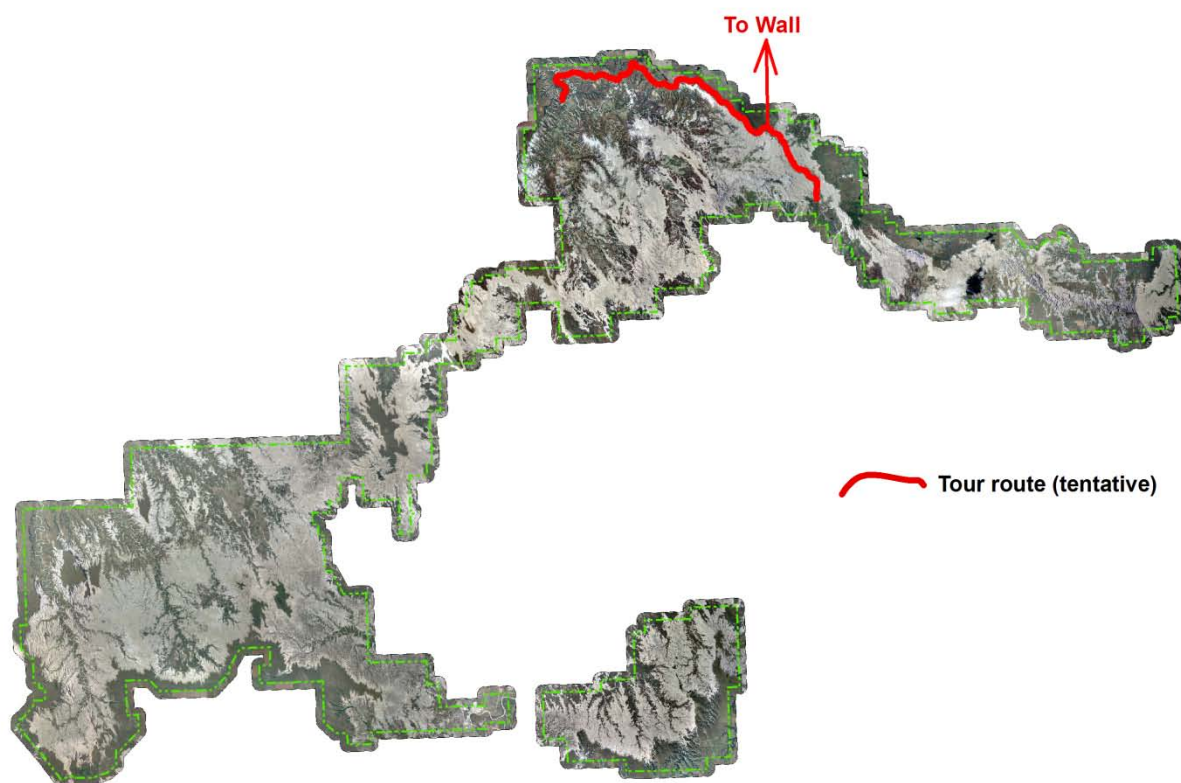
ARCPACS Certified - CPSS
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Rapid City Field Support Office
414 E Stumer Road
Rapid City, SD 57701
(605) 343-1643 ext.130

Executive Board

Kent Cooley - President
Jeff Hemenway - President Elect
Walt Riedell - Vice President
Lance Howe - Secretary / Treasurer
Wayne Bachman - Past President

Badlands National Park Field Tour

The Rapid City Soil Survey Office will be hosting a tour of the Badlands National Park the afternoon of Thursday June 14. This tour is part of the “roll-out” of the recently updated soil survey of the Park. We will be observing soils, landforms, geology, and other features of interest at selected stops along the highlighted route, below, which covers the major physiographic regions within the Park. (The actual sites are still being determined, and need to be approved by the Badland National Park.) The tour will begin out of Wall, South Dakota, starting at 1 p.m. MDT, and should be returning to Wall around 5. Maximizing carpooling is encouraged on this tour because of the Park’s restrictions on off-road parking.



Badlands National Park, South Dakota

Call for Papers for the 2012 Spring Meeting

The paper session of annual meeting will be held on Friday, June 15, 2012 at the Wall Community Center, in Wall, SD. If you are interested in giving a presentation on a project, trip, or interesting topic, or presenting a poster, please contact Walt Riedell (605-693-5207 or Walter.Riedell@ARS.USDA.GOV). The agenda will be sent out in the May newsletter. Registration will begin at 7:30 am with the meeting starting at 8:00 am. The business meeting will be conducted immediately after the presentations and a tentative adjournment around 2:00 pm.

Nomination Committee

Wayne Bachman, Denise Miller, or Anthony Bly may call you and ask that you volunteer to serve as an officer for 2011-2012. Please accept the request if possible.

Editors Alluvium

Hope to see you at Wall. It will be interesting to have a tour of the Badlands along with the professional paper session. Please call Walt if you have something you would like to share with the group.

See you then,

Bruce

South Dakota State University Soil Judging Team Qualifies for 2012 National Soils Contest

On September 25-30, 2011 South Dakota State University (SDSU) and the SD Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) hosted the Region 5 Collegiate Soil Judging Contest in the Pierre and Fort Pierre area of SD. Eight universities from Region 5 participated. Region 5 includes the states of Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, South Dakota, and North Dakota. Soil judging provides practical experience in evaluating the physical and chemical properties of soils important in making land use decisions. Soil forming factors (including site characteristics), soil classification, land use interpretations, and soil morphology are all key parts of the judging process. The top four teams at this regional competition qualified for the 2012 National ASA Soil Judging Contest in West Virginia. The top four teams were 1st - Iowa State University (ISU, with 2070 points), 2nd - University of Nebraska (UNL with 2029 points), 3rd - University of Minnesota (UMN with 2017 points), and 4th - South Dakota State

University (SDSU with 2016 points). There were 61 students participating in the contest for individual honors. The top individual was - Ben Butcher (ISU with 485 points). Individuals that placed from the SDSU team were Bri Wegner (18th - 450 points), Emily Helms (22nd with 448 points), Tyann Slepikas (23rd with 446 points), Colin Tobin (28th with 439 points), Kerry Kelly (29th with 438 points), and Dustin Voss (30th with 437 points). Other team members are Laura Schwengel, Matt Mehlhaf, Shaina Sabel, Angela Kutzbach, and Jesse Cameron .The top three teams in the group part of the completion were 1st - ISU (with 690/868 points), 2nd - UMN (with 682 points), and 3rd – SDSU (with 670 points). The Team and the Plant Science Department thank the Professional Soil Classifiers of SD for their continued support and commitment to soil judging activities. We could not have a program without your support. The SDSU Soil Judging team is coached by Doug Malo, Distinguished Professor of Plant Science in the College of Agriculture and Biological Sciences.



Members of Soil Judging team from Left to Right: Dustin Voss, Matt Mehlhaf, Colin Tobin, Angela Kutzbach, Laura Swengel,

Emily Helms, Kerry Kelly (tall man), Tyann Slepikas, Doug Malo, Brianna Wegner, and Shaina Sabel



Promise Soil Individual Contest Site with Laura Swengel (right) from SDSU



Hurley Soil Team Site with the SDSU team judging.

SDSU Soil Lab

The SDSU Soil Laboratory is still here and can do any non commercial type samples (soils and plants). So anything NRCS has we can run, just give me a call at 605 688-4770 or email at Ronald.Gelderman@sdstate.edu. Our analytical capability has increased with the addition of an ICP last year. Anthony's new lab can handle all commercial samples your growers may have.

Thanks

Ron

Anthony Bly Manager of AgLab Express

AgLab Express is a Barber family adventure, conceived within the last year and accelerated into existence by the closing of the soil testing lab at SDSU. The Barbers were born and raised near Sioux Falls and have lived and worked in South Dakota, Minnesota, and Iowa all their lives. The lab specializes in analysis of soil, plant tissue, and manure.



Anthony Bly, Lab Manager

In charge of methods and procedures, Anthony ensures our testing is performed accurately and expeditiously.

Anthony has 20 years of experience in soil fertility and testing research.

Contact Anthony by cell phone at 605-690-4563 or email him at anthonybly@aglabexpress.com

Thomas Schumacher Retires from South Dakota State University



Dr. Thomas Schumacher retired from SDSU on December 22 after 20+ years of service to students, the state, the region, the nation, and the world. His research and teaching were second to none. I think the words that best describe Tom are faith, family, friends, and Foreign Service. Tom was committed to his faith and it shows in all his dealings with others. His commitment to family is one we can all try to follow and emulate. Tom was committed to his friends and colleagues at SDSU, ARS, NRCS, and professionally. He has numerous friends and colleagues around the world as well as right at home. His work and caring attitude for others was demonstrated in the many research grants and awards he received. Finally, I want to highlight his commitment to students, both foreign and domestic and foreign scientists. He is always trying to make the world a better place by enhancing understanding among all cultures and working toward peaceful resolution of disagreements. I cannot think of a better person to call as a colleague. SDSU was indeed fortunate to have had Dr. Thomas Schumacher as a staff member for this significant period of time. We wish him well in his future endeavors.

Rick Bednarek Selected as State Soil Scientist in Iowa



Rick Bednarek became the Soil Quality Specialist in August 2007. He came to South Dakota from Southwest Iowa where he was the Area Resource Soil Scientist. In May of 2009, he replaced Dan Shurtliff as Assistant State Soil Scientist, after Dan went to Nebraska as their Assistant State Soil Scientist. November 7, 2011, Rick started his new position as State Soil Scientist in Iowa. Rick says he enjoyed his time in South Dakota, has many fond memories, and he misses all his friends.

Welcome Katrina Wilke to South Dakota



Help us welcome Katrina Wilke to the NRCS Soil Survey “family” in South Dakota. Katrina is the new Senior Soil Scientist in the Rapid City office. She started her new position here January 1. Katrina comes to us from the regional soils office (MO) in Bismarck, North Dakota, where she started her NRCS career as the Rapid Carbon Assessment Coordinator for MO7. Before moving to Bismarck, Katrina received a BS in Bioenvironmental Sciences and an MS in Soil Science, both from Texas A&M University.

Katrina is originally from Galveston, Texas and before deciding to pursue a career in soil science, performed with various professional ballet and modern dance companies. She is married to Steven Wilke and has a chocolate lab named Cocoa. Katrina and Steven are bicycle enthusiasts and love the challenges offered by the Black Hills area. We hope the Wilke’s enjoy their time in Rapid City as much as we’re going to enjoy having them here.

Gary Lemme has been named director of the Alabama Cooperative Extension System



Gary Lemme has been named director of the Alabama Cooperative Extension System. Lemme, a soil scientist by training, comes to Alabama Extension from South Dakota State University, where he was a professor in the Department of Plant Science. A former dean of the College of Agriculture and Biological Sciences, he holds both bachelors and master's degrees from SDSU and a doctorate from the University of Nebraska. The presidents of both universities say Lemme brings the type of leadership Extension requires as it continues to adapt to the changing needs and demands of its clients. In addition to his tenure at SDSU, Lemme has held leadership positions at several land-grant institutions, including Michigan State University, the University of Minnesota and the University of Hawaii.

Wayne Bachman Retires



Wayne Bachman, soil scientist, retired on December 31, 2011 after almost 37 years of service. Wayne started his career as a Student Trainee on the Beadle County soil survey crew in 1975. After graduation from SDSU in 1976, he was assigned to the Turner County soil survey. In addition to working in Huron and Parker, Wayne also worked in Burke, Dupree, Webster, Brookings, Huron (again), and Canton. During his career, he authored the Ziebach County Soil Survey and the Day County Soil Survey. Since moving to Canton in 1997, he has worked almost entirely with wetland issues. After enjoying 2 days of retirement, Wayne and Karen Cameron-Howell set up their own wetland consulting business and are now busier than ever. So much for relaxing.

Remember – Collecting Monoliths of the Houdek State Soil 1990



Iroquois, SD Left to Right: Back - Bruce Kunze, Eugene Preston, Loren Schultz, Tom Schumacher, Kent Cooley, Karl Krueger. Front – Dan Brady, Jim Millar, Wayne Bachman

Minutes of PSSASD Annual Meeting

March 9, 2011 Huron, SD

President Wayne Bachman called the meeting to order.

SECRETARY REPORT

Lance Howe, Secretary, gave report. Motion by Rick Bednarek to accept report, seconded by Cindy Steele and motion passed.

TREASURER REPORT

Lance Howe, Treasurer, gave report. Motion by Eugene Preston to accept report, seconded by Tom Schumacher and motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

Committee Reports:

None

Website:

Tom E. Schumacher gave report and stated that he purchased another year for the PSSASD website. Tom stated that our previous host site has changed from SDSU to another server since SDSU will not allow us to house the PSSASD website.

Texture and Structure Kits:

Lance Howe gave a report on the year's sales of soil texture and soil structure kits to high schools as reference material.

Collegiate Land Judging 2011:

Wayne Bachman handed out a Collegiate Soils Judging Contest Report prepared by Kent Cooley. The group discussed what needed to be done for the contest and that there has been travel approval from NRCS to allow the soil scientist in SD assist in getting the pits ready for the contest in Pierre.

SWCS/SRM/PSSASD joint meeting report:

Wayne Bachman gave a report on the joint meeting held October 5th & 6th, 2010 and that Bruce Kunze and himself were the only 2 participants from PSSASD and the numbers from all organizations were down.

Nominations Committee:

Rick Bednarek reported the following nominations:

President Elect: Jeff Hemenway

Vice President: Walt Riedell

Gregg Carlson stated a motion that nominations cease and to accept the slate of candidates.

Bruce Kunze seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Bruce Kunze assumed the Office of the President in the absence of Kent Cooley.

Bruce presented Outgoing President Wayne Bachman with a plaque for his service.

NEW BUSINESS

Land Judging Endowment Fund:

Lance Howe gave a report on the status of possibly starting an endowment fund for the SD high school land judging teams to attend Nationals. Discussion covered where to set up an endowment and what type of an endowment should be started. Tom E. Schumacher asked, "What do we do if not enough money is raised to fund an endowment?" Alan Olness talked about setting up a renewal date or timeline when setting the endowment up with a foundation.

After several comments, Rick Bednarek stated a motion to pursue the endowment fund with the principal officers as the endowment committee. Jeff Hemenway seconded the motion and the motion passed.

With no further business:

Alan Olness stated a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Wayne Bachman seconded the motion.

The motion passed.

Submitted by: Lance Howe, Secretary

Membership Dues Notice

If you have not paid your PSSASD membership dues for calendar year 2012, please mail your \$15.00 dues.

Send payment to: Lance Howe, Secretary-Treasurer, PSSASD
224 E. 13th Ave
Redfield, SD 57469

Name _____

Address _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____

Email address _____

Payment Enclosed _____