Soil Scientists in Montana Form Organization

John M. Galbraith

Mike Hosbein of Deer Lodge, MT led an effort to hold a meeting of persons interested in potentially forming a professional soil scientist organization. The first meeting was held in conjunction with a meeting of all SCS and SWCD employees in Montana. SCS State Soil Scientist Gordon Decker opened the meeting of about 50 persons at the Holiday Inn in Bozeman, MT at about 1700 h on January 26. Mike Hosbein presided over the rest of the meeting. Following a short discussion, a motion was made and passed to form a professional organization of soil scientists in Montana. The name chosen was Montana Organization of Soil Scientists (MOSS).

Officer elections were held, with Tony Rolfes of Bozeman elected President. Dan Shurtleff of Big Timber was elected president-elect. It was decided by consensus not to have a vice-president and to combine secretary and treasurer into one office. John Galbraith of Havre was elected secretary-treasurer, and Hosbein offered to serve as newsletter editor.

Dues were set at $5 per year. A motion to include subscription to the Soil Survey Horizons publication with membership dues was defeated.

The meeting adjourned at about 1800 h.

MOSS is intended to be made up of all interested soil scientists and classifiers who qualify for membership. The group will be strongest if it is composed of a variety of members from private industry; federal, state, county, and municipal government organizations; agribusiness companies; universities and colleges; agricultural research organizations; and the general public.

Anyone interested in information about the group is urged to contact John Galbraith at 1143 W. 16th; Havre, MT 59501.

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Mississippi Soil Classifiers Elect 1988 Officers

The 1987 Annual Meeting of the Professional Soil Classifiers Association of Mississippi was recently held at the Natchez Trace Inn in Tupelo, MS. A reception, banquet, business meeting, and training session were held at the meeting.

The training session began with a presentation about the latest research findings on soils with fragipans in Mississippi. Ph.D. candidate Carloss Gauggel presented extremely interesting research findings which may cause us to change the way we regard fragipans in Mississippi. The training session ended with a video tape about the U.S. system of soil taxonomy. Dr. David Pettry, and the soil genesis and morphology staff at Mississippi State University, helped prepare portions of this new video that has been distributed to soil scientists worldwide.

The banquet speaker was Charles R. Mullinnix from Tupelo, a widely known humorist and philosopher who had never worn "store-bought" underwear until he was 14-yr old. All attending the banquet agreed that his program was a unique experience.

Outgoing President Karl Miller presented a special award to agronomy student Ken Ainsworth, a member of the Mississippi State University Soils Team,