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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by James Cassidy

Hello OSSS members!



James Cassidy, at the Drew's Road Overlook, sampling a piece of diatomaceous lacustrine mudstone on Stop 2 of the 2011 OSSS Summer Tour.

OK then! First things first! We have a very interesting, fun and exciting winter meeting coming up so stick with me and keep reading! As I stated in the last edition of the Sharpshooter, the OSSS Winter Meeting 2013 will be held in Troutdale, OR (east of Portland), on February 28<sup>th</sup> and March 1<sup>st</sup> at the fabulous McMenamins Edgefield Inn! If you've never been to the Edgefield you are in for a treat – reason enough to take a couple of days off work! Google it and see for yourself! The Edgefield is a great place for our OSSS Winter Meeting—so good, in fact, this will be the third time the OSSS has held the winter meeting at this location! The first time was a-way back in the olden times when Scott Burns was President. (By the way, it was also the first meeting to have beer available at the meeting – a tradition that lives on! Thanks, Scott!) The second time was three years ago, when Danny

Moreno was President. And this, being my second run at OSSS presidency, we're back here again and thus fitting, our theme this year is definitely shaping up as "Generations in the OSSS – What's Hot in Oregon Soils." In addition to this OSSS theme we are again combining forces with part two of the Soil Quality Network headed up by Teresa Matteson (incoming OSSS President for 2013-2014 – generations! See how it works?). Our combined meeting will have one keynote speaker and two separate tracks of talks to choose from, and finish up back together at a soils panel featuring our own Danny Moreno, among others! Seriously, there's lots going on at this meeting so pay attention—it is going to be super fun! Talks range from the practical to the reductionist big science in areas of bio-char, soil microbiology, algae nutrient trials, disease management, and bio control. See the schedules inside this issue (abstracts available on the website) to see what we have in store for you! It is going to be eye-opening for real!

This two-day event starts with a terrific Keynote Speaker, Greg Retallack from the University of Oregon. Greg will be setting the tone by telling us about global cooling by grassland soils (wha?) in the geological past and near future. Clearly Greg's talk is very topical and of the moment, and he is a great speaker with a style and a presentation that you are going to find VERY engaging (really, he's good!). The rest of day one is all about getting out into the field! That's right! Field trips on day one! – What a concept. Here you can choose from two separate field trips offered by both the OSSS and the Soil Quality Network (transportation and box lunch included!). The OSSS field trip will be led by the great Scott Burns (what more needs to be said? The man is a legend). Scott is taking us to three, freshly dug soil pits at Dabney State Park. We are talking classic soil geomorphology here! In case you didn't know, the field trip is in the middle of a *Frisbee golf course* so, if you want to bring your Frisbees along, show us how it's done babe! The other field trip, being presented by the Soil Quality Network, has a number of stops on farm sites with practical, hands-on activities for visual soil assessment, soil water holding capacity, and estimating soil moisture by feel and appearance. Both trips will have a nice break for lunch – again, included in your registration! Afterward, we are all back to Edgefield for a talk and the OSSS/SQN Social Hour and student Poster Session with no-host bar (I am introducing an official OSSS cocktail or two). There is lots of student involvement this year so there will be plenty of NEW things to see and learn about. A dozen or more posters will be *flash-presented* to introduce you to what is happening in soil science research at our local

universities – really cool topics and amazing students (the future of the OSSS!). We will conclude day one with our OSSS Annual Business Meeting to bring you up-to-date on this year’s elections, treasury report, new ideas, student interns, and proposal to increase member rates to keep up with increased expenses (\$50 for regular membership, \$25 for students, sustaining membership \$75, and putting the lifetime membership at \$500). We will have an open mic and I’ll play some banjo, read some poems...what have you got? Show us!

Dinner is on your own at one of five restaurants on the grounds, and there are four to five pubs and a movie theater too, so sign up, get a room, and enjoy life!!! (a block of rooms is still available for OSSS/SQN folks until January 28). Student lodging update—Two family rooms have been reserved for \$25 per flop and after that, we can send you to the \$30 bunks in the hostel rooms!

Try to get some rest because on Friday we get started bright and early at 8:00am with a couple of talks over a full breakfast! Then at 9:30 we are offering two tracks of talks, both SQN and OSSS. The OSSS sessions are featuring What’s Hot in Oregon Soils! Rapid-fire, 15-minute student presentations from cutting-edge of soils research at our universities as well as a few newly-minted young soils professionals will share what they are doing, why, and where. The young whippersnappers’ presentations will be followed by presentations from the previous generation giving us the long view – where we’ve come from and how the next generation fits into our soil science story. A dialogue between what came before and who is coming on-board is what we are shooting for. Our two speakers and former presidents, Allen Makinson and Scott Burns, will give us these talks - Soil Science Experience Speaks.

Also, in there somewhere, is a great lunch and an on-site groundwater project tour presented by PSU students, as well as a speed mentoring session for all the students who are attending!!! The day concludes with a Panel Discussion including our former president, Danny Moreno. And don’t forget, you can get your CEUs for attending this meeting.

A great meeting with great field trips, food, and fun - What’s not to love? Our whole community of old-timers, our current cadre of soils peeps and professionals, and the next generation too (lots of students! 30 by last count!)? Please note that there is a “Fund the Future” space on the registration form inside (and on the website). This is to help cover partial expenses for our undergrad and graduate student attendees for registration, transportation, and lodging – without the next generation, there is no future. Not to get heavy on you but...help us bring in more students to this community and give generously and Fund the Future of the OSSS. We want to keep our student involvement as economical as possible – no soils student should be turned away because they don’t currently have the funds to come and participate in the societies activities. A special thanks to the OSU Department of Crop and Soil Science for offering to pay the registration costs for all of our student presenters! That’s how we create the future – we believe in it! That’s what’s hot in soils!!! To the future!!!! Forward!!! See you at Edgefield.

Alternative Lodging within 1.5 miles from McMenamins:

<b>Travelodge East Portland/Gresham</b> (0.28 Miles from Edgefield Winery)	<b>Holiday Inn Express Portland East - Troutdale</b> (0.79 Miles from Edgefield Winery)
23705 NE Sandy Blvd, Troutdale	477 NWPhoenix Dr, Troutdale
From <b>\$42</b>	From <b>\$76</b>
<b>Motel 6 Portland East - Troutdale</b> (0.54 Miles from Edgefield Winery)	<b>Comfort Inn Troutdale</b> (1.06 Miles from Edgefield Winery)
1610 NW Frontage Rd, Troutdale	1000 NW Graham Rd, Troutdale
From <b>\$45</b>	From <b>\$89</b>
<b>Best Western Plus Cascade Inn Suites</b> (0.67 Miles from Edgefield Winery)	<b>Days Inn And Suites Gresham</b> (1.37 Miles from Edgefield Winery)
23525 NE Halsey St, Wood Village	24124 SE Stark St, Gresham
From <b>\$89</b>	From <b>\$53</b>

~ DRAFT MEETING AGENDA ~



## OSSS Winter Meeting and Soil Quality Network 2013

February 28<sup>th</sup> and March 1<sup>st</sup>

Location: McMenamins Edgefield

<http://www.mcmenamins.com/Edgefield>

2126 S.W. Halsey St.

Troutdale, OR 97060

Local: (503) 669-8610

Elsewhere: (800) 669-8610

[edge@mcmenamins.com](mailto:edge@mcmenamins.com)

**Block of rooms held until January 28, 2013!**

For **LATE BREAKING UPDATES**, please check our web page at: <http://www.oregonsoils.org/>, click "EVENTS" and select the links to **Agenda** and/or **Registration**!

### Day 1: Thursday, February 28, 2013

<b>Time</b>	<b>Session</b>
7:00am	Registration/Continental Breakfast
8:00am	Welcome/Housekeeping – Moderator - <b>Ballroom</b>
8:15am	Opening Session – Keynote Speaker: <b>Greg Retallack</b> , University of Oregon Topic: Global cooling by grassland soils in the geological past and near future
9:15am	Break
9:30am	TOUR travel – OSSS and SQN 2013
10:00am	Tour Stop #1 – site pending <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• OSSS – Dabney State Park Soil Pits with <b>Scott Burns</b> – Soil Geomorphology</li><li>• SQN – Visual Soil Assessment – <b>Graham Shepherd</b>, BioAgriNomics, Ltd.</li></ul>
12:00pm	Lunch – location TBD (provided with registration)
1:00pm	Tour Stop #2 – site pending <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• OSSS – Dabney State Park Soil Pits with <b>Scott Burns</b> – Soil Geomorphology</li><li>• SQN rotating sessions<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Soil Water Holding Capacity – <b>Jeff Mitchell</b>, UC Davis</li><li>○ Estimating Soil Moisture by Feel and Appearance – <b>Ron Raney</b>, NRCS</li></ul></li></ul>

3:00pm Travel – Return to McMenamins Edgefield

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3:30pm Break

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3:45pm Soil Ethics – **Phil Scoles** – **Ballroom** (confirmation pending)

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4:00pm **Social Hour and Poster Session—*Toasting and Postering!*** – **Blackberry Hall**  
– No-Host Bar

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5:30pm **OSSS Annual Meeting** – All welcome! – **Blackberry Hall**  
Conclude with Open Mic that may include:

- Entertainment: music, soil poetry, “dirty stories,” etc.

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**Dinner/Evening on your own – continue networking!!!**

## **Day 2: Friday, March 1, 2013**

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8:00am Breakfast and Speaker (included in registration) – **Ballroom**  
**Carrie Sanneman**, Willamette Partnership, Topic: Nutrient Tracking Tool

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9:00-9:25am **Garrett and Matteson** – **Ballroom**, Topic: Oregon’s Soil Quality Movement!  
SQN Database and Website

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9:30am **Concurrent Sessions**

### **Session A – Blackberry Hall**

*Oregon Society of  
Soil Scientists – What’s Hot*  
9:30 – 11:00 am ~

OSU Student Presentations

Young Professional Spotlight – **Meghan  
Krueger**, *Flexibility and Communication  
Balance Technically Sound*

**John R. Yeo**, *Phytophthora Root Rot  
Disease of Blueberry*

**Shannon B. Andrews**, *Fertilizer Value of  
Algae Meal*

**Myles Gray**, *Biochars for Filtration and Water  
Retention*

11:05 – 11:30 am

Soil Science Experience Speaks, **Allen**

**Makinson**, Topic: *The Previous Generation’s  
Contribution – The Long View in Soil Science*

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### **Session B - Ballroom**

*SQN 2013: SQ Related to  
Water Quality and Quantity*  
9:30 – 10:30 am

**Jeff Mitchell**, UC Davis

*Soil Quality – Global Perspective*

*Assessments/Results, Relate work to Water*

*Quality and Quantity, Outreach to Farmers – tools  
and strategies*

10:35 – 11:30 am

**Brendon Rockey** – Rockey Farms, Center, CO

*Holistic Potato Management* – Taking a realistic  
and economic look at the vital role of soil biology  
in potato production, as well as the importance of  
diversity in plant species in farming operations.

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11:35am **McMenamins Groundwater Project Tour** – 20-minute formal presentation  
followed by small groups led by PSU students to visit project well sites –  
**Blackberry Hall**

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12:15- **Lunch** Fajita Buffett lunch (included in registration) with primary speed mentors –  
12:45pm **Blackberry Hall**

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12:45- **Speed Mentoring** – plus 2 more sessions x 15 minutes each  
1:15pm

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1:15pm Break

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1:30pm **Concurrent Sessions**

**Session A – Blackberry Hall**

*Oregon Society of*

*Soil Scientists – What’s Hot*

1:30 – 3:00 pm ~

OSU Student Presentations

**Megan McGinnis**, *Soil Enzyme Activity in  
PNW Douglas-fir Stands*

**Marci Burton**, *Denitrifier Communities in  
Forest Soils*

**Ryan Stewart**, *How Swelling Clay Soils Swell*

3:00 – 3:30 pm

Soil Science Experience Speaks, **Scott  
Burns**, *Using Soils to Interpret Landscape  
History and Predict Future Land Use  
Problems*

**Session B - Ballroom**

*SQN 2013: SQ Related to*

*Water Quality and Quantity*

1:30 – 3:30 pm

**Graham Shepherd**, BioAgriNomics, Ltd., New  
Zealand

*Virtual Soil Assessment*

*Soil Health Related to Water Quality and Quantity*

*Outreach to Farmers – Tools and Strategies*

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3:40pm Wrap-up Panel Discussion Topic: Soil Quality Related to Water Quality and  
Quantity – **Ballroom or Blackberry Hall** (TBD)

Panelists:

- **Rick Fasching**, NRCS
- **Todd Jarvis**, OSU Institute for Water and Watersheds
- **Brian Rabe**, Cascade Earth Sciences
- **Daniel Moreno**, OSU – Water Resources Engineering

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4:15pm Adjourn

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## Thanks to Our Meeting Sponsors!



Oregon Society  
of Soil Scientists



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For more information on student opportunities and lodging, contact:  
Alicia Leytem, [leytema@gmail.com](mailto:leytema@gmail.com)

### Continuing Education Units:

This workshop is approved by the SSSA for **10 CEUs in soil and water management for certified crop advisors (CCA)**

Oregon State University Extension Service offers educational programs, activities, and materials without discrimination based on age, color, disability, gender identity or expression, marital status, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or veteran's status. Oregon State University Extension Service is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

This event will be made accessible upon request. Please call 541-766-3551 for information. If you have a physical disability that requires special considerations in order for you to attend the Soil Quality Network 2013 / OSSS Winter Meeting, please notify Amy Garrett at 541-766-3551 by February 1, 2013.





**Soil Quality Network 2013 and OSSS Winter Meeting**  
February 28<sup>th</sup> and March 1<sup>st</sup>

**Location: McMenamins Edgefield**  
<http://www.mcmenamins.com/Edgefield>  
2126 S.W. Halsey St.  
Troutdale, OR 97060  
Local: (503) 669-8610



More information and online registration at <http://www.oregonsoils.org/>

**Registration**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**Please provide the following information:**

1. Select your preferred track. (check one)  What's *HOT* in Oregon Soil Science?  Soil Quality Network 2013
2. Dietary preference (check all that apply)  vegan  vegetarian  gluten-free  dairy-free
3. Handicap needs?  Yes please specify: \_\_\_\_\_
4. Did you attend SQN 2012? (check one)  Yes  No
5. Do we have permission to **post your name and contact information online** as an attendee? (check one)  Yes  No

**Conference Registration (check one)**

- |  |            |
|--|------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Current Member of   | <b>Fee</b> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SWCS membership number _____  | \$150      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> OSSS membership number _____  |            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: Professional Natural Resource Society and number _____         |            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SQN registration + OSSS membership (renewal or new)                   | \$185      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SQN registration + <b>new</b> SWCS membership                         | \$195      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Non-member  | \$200      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Undergraduate Student   | \$50       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Graduate Student  | \$75       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Late registration: <b>after February 8, 2013</b>                      | \$225      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fund the Future (extra donation for student rooms and transportation) | \$_____    |

**METHOD OF PAYMENT - Choose One.** Payment must accompany application.  
**All payments are non-refundable and must be made in U.S. dollars.**

- Check enclosed for above amount - Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Mail check & registration to: **OSSS**  
 Credit Card  Visa  AmEx  MasterCard PO Box 391  
Corvallis, OR 97339

Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration \_\_\_\_\_ Verification Code \_\_\_\_\_  
Address (for card) \_\_\_\_\_ City & State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone number \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Oregon Society of Soil Scientists PO Box 391, Corvallis, OR 97339 (503) 836-7645

## OUR PRESENTERS FOR THE 2013 WINTER MEETING



Graham Shepherd

Graham Shepherd from New Zealand has developed field methods for evaluating some physical and biological aspects of soil quality in diverse cropping systems as described in his book [Visual Soil Assessment: Field Guide](#), 2nd Ed. His methods have been adapted by the [Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations](#). Visual Soil Assessments may be useful for Extension agents, conservationists, farmers and other agricultural professionals who evaluate soil quality in the field and develop educational programs. During SQN, Graham will conduct interactive in-field Visual Soil Assessment (VSA) training, lecture on the science behind VSA, and discuss how the assessments tie to water quality and quantity. On the first day of the workshop, you will participate in an interactive field demonstration of the Visual Soil Assessment (VSA) method as a quick and effective tool to assess the condition of the soil and performance of the plant. The soil and plant scores will be compared with each other and the management options discussed as to how to improve those aspects of the soil and plant that are only in moderate or poor condition. On day two, Graham will give a two-hour presentation covering the use of the Visual Soil Assessment (VSA) method as a quick and easy to use tool to assess the environmental footprint of a farm with specific reference to carbon sequestration, nutrient loss into the groundwater and waterways and greenhouse gas emissions into the atmosphere.



Greg Retallack

Topic: *Global Cooling by Grassland Soils in the Geological Past and Near Future*

Description: Major innovations in the evolution of vegetation such as the Devonian origin of forests created new weathering regimes and soils (Alfisols, Histosols), which increased carbon consumption and sequestration, and ushered in the Permian-Carboniferous Ice Age.

Similarly, global expansion of grasslands and their newly evolved, carbon-rich soils (Mollisols) over the past 30 million years may have induced global cooling and ushered in Pleistocene glaciation. Grassland evolution has been considered a consequence of mountain uplift and tectonic reorganization of ocean currents, but can also be viewed as a biological force for global change through coevolution of grasses and grazers. Organisms in such coevolutionary

trajectories adapt to each other rather than to their environment, and so can be forces for global change. Some past farming practices have aided greenhouse gas release. However, modern grassland agroecosystems are a potential carbon sink already under intensive human management, and carbon farming techniques may be useful in curbing anthropogenic global warming.



Carrie Sanneman

Topic: Nutrient Tracking Tool

Description: [Nutrient Tracking Tool](#) (NTT) is a web-based application for estimating the nutrient and sediment load leaving a farm field through surface water runoff and leaching below the rooting zone. Designed and developed by the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), USDA Agricultural Research Service (ARS), and Texas Institute for Applied Environmental Research at Tarleton State University (TiAER), NTT can be used to quantify the water quality benefits of different agricultural management systems and conservation practices. Carrie will discuss how the tool works and how.



Jeff Mitchell, California Conservation Tillage Crop Production Systems



Daniel Moreno has a B.S. in Environmental Science and an M.S. in Soil Science, and is currently working towards completing a Ph.D. in Water Resources Engineering at OSU. He worked for Benton County Environmental Health for five years where he specialized in evaluation, design, and construction inspections of septic systems. He has developed best management practices for surface applied chemicals and effluent in tiled agricultural lands. Currently, he is collaborating with the City of Woodburn and CH2MHill to assess the efficacy and design criteria of natural alternatives to wastewater treatment discharge using constructed wetlands, poplars for high irrigation, and hyporheic discharge. He also works as a local soil environmental consultant with Oregon Hydrologic Designs, serves in several committees, and is a past president of the OSSS.



## McMenamins Edgefield Room Rates

Stay with us often? Join our [\*Frequent Guest Program\*](#) and enjoy your 7th night on us!

The guestrooms at Edgefield vary in size and feature whimsical artwork, comfy chenille-covered beds, and vintage furnishings. Many of our rooms also feature original porcelain sinks and cotton bathrobes. There are no televisions or telephones in the rooms. We do offer complimentary WiFi around the restaurants and in the Library. Guests may choose from rooms with private bathrooms or “European-style,” with conveniently located common bathrooms down the hallway.

Our hostel rooms offer bunk beds and individual lockers. Rates are for one bed in either a men's or women's sleeping quarter. Hostel beds are filled on a first come, first served basis.

*Please note:* Elevator access is only to the first 2 floors.

<b>Check-in is at 3 p.m.; check-out is at 11 a.m. Rates vary seasonally. Based on double occupancy. Sorry, pets are not allowed.</b>	
Suite with private bath	\$120–\$155
European-style King	\$90–\$115
European-style Double Queen	\$90–\$115
European-style Queen	\$70–\$105
Family Room (up to six people) 1 King, 2 Bunks	\$150–\$175
Twin (single occupancy)	\$50
Hostel Bed	\$30

**Make your reservations [online](#) or  
call – (800) 669-8610 or (503) 669-8610**  
*Same day reservations must be made by calling the hotel.*

- Room and package rates are the same for single or double occupancy. Add \$15 per person after double occupancy. Children age six and under stay free.
- Credit card and ID are required at check-in.
- Add 13.45% city, state and county lodging tax to all room rates and overnight packages.
- Cancellations made less than 48 hours before arrival time are subject to penalty.
- All overnight packages are subject to availability and are excluded from major holidays.
- Sorry, no pets allowed.
- Rates are subject to change. All packages include European-style lodging.

# OSSS 2013 Winter Meeting

## Student Presentations/Posters (Subject to change)

### ***PRESENTATIONS***

**Shannon B. Andrews**, OSU Crop and Soil Science

Advisors: Jennifer J. Hang, David D. Myrold

Title: *Fertilizer Value of Algae Meal*

**Marci Burton**, OSU Department of Crop and Soil Science

Advisor: David Myrold

Title: *Denitrifier Communities along N Gradients in Boreal Forest Soils*

**Myles Gray**, OSU Soil Science and Water Resources Engineering

Advisors: Markus Kleber and Maria Dragila

Title: *Designing Biochars for Filtration and Water Retention: The Roles of Porosity and Surface Hydrophobicity*

**Meghan Krueger**, Recent OSU Graduate: Young Professional Spotlight

Project/Location: Ecological Site Inventory and Soil Survey of BLM land in Southern Malheur County; Vale, OR

Title: *Everything Changes: Why Flexibility and Communication are Great Balances to Being Technically Sound*

**Megan McGinnis**, OSU Crop and Soil Science

Advisor: Dave Myrold

Title: *Soil Enzyme Activity Varies Among Second-Growth Douglas-fir Stands of the Pacific Northwest*

**Ryan Stewart**, OSU Water Resources Engineering

Advisor: John Selker

Title: *How Swelling Clay Soils Swell – Results from a Field Study in Chile*

**John R. Yeo**, OSU Department of Crop and Soil Science

Advisor: Dan M. Sullivan and Jerry Weiland

Title: *Understanding and Managing Phytophthora Root Rot Disease of Blueberry*

### ***POSTERS***

**Stephany S. Chacon**, OSU Crop and Soil Science Department

Advisor: Markus Kleber

Title: *FTIR Spectromicroscopy of Soil*

**Fumiaki Funahashi**, OSU Crop and Soil Science

Advisor: Jennifer Parke, David Myrold

Title: *Effects of Solarization and Biocontrol on Soilborne Phytophthora spp. in Container nurseries*

**Amy Garrett**, OSU Extension Service – Small Farms Program

Advisor: Teresa Matteson, Benton SWCD

Shannon Andrews and Alicia Leytem – OSU Soil Science Graduate Students

Title: *Beyond the Harvest - Celebrating the Season and Planning for the Next*

**Adam Lindsley**, OSU Soil Science

Advisor: Jay Noller

Title: *Mapping Soil Properties: Correlates of Soil Liquefaction in the Historical Record*

**Matthew McClintock**, OSU Soil Science

Advisor: Julie Pett-Ridge

Title: *Topographical Controls on Dust Deposition in the Luquillo Mountains, Puerto Rico*

**Virginia Murphey**

Advisor: Dr. Kate Lajtha

Title: *Soil Organic Matter Dynamics under Asymmetric Versus Symmetric Warming Treatments on a Temperate Oregon Grassland***Jennifer Summering, OSU Crop & Soil Science**

Advisor: Markus Kleber

Title: *Accelerated Solvent Extraction as a Proxy for Aging of Biochar - A Research Plan***Yulin Sun, OSU Soil Science**

Advisor: Jay Noller

Title: *Soil Erodibility Factor as Determined Through Advanced-Computing Morphometric Analysis of Soil Surveys***Nathaniel Tisdell, OSU Crop and Soil Science**

Advisor: David Myrold

Title: *Bacterial Response to Changing Water Potential***OSSS TREASURER'S REPORT – FISCAL YEAR 2011-12***by Ryan Stewart*

This report summarizes the OSSS membership, income and expenditures for the Fiscal Year 2011/12 (July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2012). Cash reserves as of June 30, 2012 are also shown.

**Membership:**

<b>Membership Type</b>	<b>Total</b>
Lifetime	17
Sustaining	7
Regular	25
Student	4
Associate	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>54</b>

**Income:**

<b>Income Type</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Interest	Business Checking Account	\$3.58
Dues	Membership Dues*	\$903.41
JB Good	Contributions to the JB Good fund*	\$93.54
Summer Tour	Summer Tour 2011 Fees*	\$1,518.22
Advertisement	Stevens Water Monitoring Systems, Inc.	\$180.00
Other	Miscellaneous Deposits	\$186.26
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$2,885.01</b>

\*Net amounts, after Paypal fees have been assessed.

**Expenditures:**

<b>Expenditure Type</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Legal Fees	Incorporation of Business	\$ (900.00)
Legal Fees	State Incorporation Fee	\$ (50.00)
Supplies	Business Checks	\$ (30.39)
Meals	Summer Tour 2011 Food - Yummy's Cuisine	\$ (650.00)
Advertisement/Postage	Newsletter	\$ (297.22)
Advertisement	Promotional Stickers	\$ (269.50)

Rent	Summer Tour 2011 Lodging	\$ (600.00)
Rent	P.O. Box	\$ (58.00)
Rent	Web Site Hosting Cost	\$ (119.40)
Meals	Winter Meeting 2012 Food	\$ (147.65)
Travel	Student Lodging for Winter Meeting 2012	\$ (697.55)
Educational Support	Support to OR Chapter SWCS for Winter Meeting 2012	\$ (500.00)
Legal Fees	State Corporate Fee (To be Claimed in FY2012/13)	\$ (50.00)
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$(4,369.71)</b>

**Cash Reserves (as of June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2012):**

Bank of the Cascades	\$2,253.35
Umpqua Bank	\$506.78
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,760.13*</b>

\*\$1,117.54 of the total balance is reserved for the J.B. Good Scholarship Fund

## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

### ~ Ryan Stewart ~

I was born in New Mexico but spent most of my childhood near Sacramento, CA. I went to Cal Poly San Luis Obispo for my undergrad (Mechanical Engineering) degree and moved to Portland in 2003. I worked two years at a wastewater treatment plant where I got really interested in water resources. My wife and I then spent two years in Bolivia working for the Peace Corps, where I was a basic sanitation volunteer helping to design and build water systems, rainwater catchment tanks, and waterless bathroom systems.

In 2008, we moved to Corvallis and began grad school. I entered the Water Resources Engineering program and began to get interested in soil as a part of my research in vadose zone hydrology. I finished my masters in 2010 and then started a PhD project researching hydrologic processes in vertisols. Since I am studying soil as much as hydrology, I decided to get a minor in soil science as part of my PhD.

As far as my involvement in OSSS, former OSSS President Daniel Moreno shares an office with me and so I went to a Winter Meeting to support him and see what it was all about. The next year Cory and Josh Owens encouraged me to run for OSSS Treasurer, a role I have been in for two years. I've really enjoyed being a part of the OSSS board as the organization undergoes some exciting organizational changes.

My favorite area of study in soils is soil physics due to the direct relevance to my research and to vadose zone hydrology, but I also really enjoy the soil chemistry aspect. I've found that it is very difficult to understand clay behavior without understanding soil chemistry. I also find soil morphology pretty interesting.

Right now I'm trying to finish up my PhD by the spring. I'm currently working as a Graduate Research Assistant, and will be looking to continue in research after I graduate. If anybody has any great job leads, let me know!

My hobbies right now are photography, cycling (and all things bike-related), playing the occasional game of pickup basketball, trying to keep my 10-month-old daughter entertained, and doing home improvement projects.



Ryan Stewart posing in front of the Salta de Chillan, a waterfall in Chile near his field study site.

# OSSS BOARD ELECTION 2013

Time to vote for some new board of director officers

## Ballot for Election of Officers

### Vice President/President-Elect

Markus Kleber

or

Write-in \_\_\_\_\_

### Eastside Director

Meghan Krueger

or

Write-in \_\_\_\_\_

## Brief Introductions

### Markus Kleber

Markus currently is an Oregon State University Associate Professor of Soil and Environmental Geochemistry working in the Department of Crop and Soil Science. His current work focus is on the interface processes between organic matter and mineral surfaces, including mineral surface properties, organic matter properties, bonding mechanisms, adsorption processes, mineral microbial interactions and organic matter turnover dynamics. Markus has diplomas from the University of Hohenheim, Stuttgart, Germany. He has worked at the prestigious Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory in the Earth Science Division as a Geological Scientist and has worked as a scientist at the Institute of Soil Landscape Research, Leibniz-Centre for Agricultural Landscape and Land Use Research, Munchenberg, Germany. Markus is teaching two soil classes at OSU – Soil Resource Potentials for the spring term and Mineral-Organic Interactions during the winter term. Markus is happy and honored to run for Vice President/President Elect for the Oregon Society of Soil Scientists for the 2013 and 2014 terms.

### Meghan Krueger

A love for food and a passion for learning found Meghan Krueger a Bachelor's Degree in Soil Science from Oregon State University, spring 2012. Upon graduation, Meghan was selected for an entry level Soil Scientist position for the Malheur County Soil Survey. For the past year, Meghan has been working as a Soil Scientist with Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) contracted by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in Malheur County. NRCS Soil Scientists Jim Dorr and David Rand are Meghan's soil mapping coworkers who work alongside BLM Plant Community Specialists, Charlie Tackman and Bob Williams. Together they create a cohesive team performing an Ecological Site Inventory and Soil Survey of BLM land in Southern Malheur County. To prepare and get a taste for NRCS work, Meghan spent two summers as a student intern. NRCS provided training for both east and west sides of Oregon. Microscopically, macroscopically, taxonomically, chemically and physically intrigued, Meghan looks forward to the endless possibilities of pushing the soil's limits for producing global food security.



## Official cocktail for the OSSS 2013 Winter Meeting!

(and you thought Cassidy was kidding around in his "President's Message"!)

### Soil Science Society Brown Russian:

Rocks glass, fill with ice cubes (or frozen river rocks)  
1 oz. kahlua  
1 oz. cold espresso  
Add evaporated milk until it begins to look like 7.5YR 5/3 Brown Russian



Served blended or horizionated. If made correctly, it resembles perfect Spodosol down to the E horizon. Add a sprig of Douglas-fir for stirring.

## DATES TO REMEMBER



**February 28 – March 1, 2013:** Oregon Society of Soil Scientists Winter Meeting, McMenamins Edgefield, Troutdale, OR. Visit our events page for the latest information and registration: [http://www.oregonsoils.org/?page\\_id=5](http://www.oregonsoils.org/?page_id=5)

**March 2, 2013:** OSU Small Farms Conference, LaSells Stewart Center, Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR. Check out their events page for the latest information and registration: <http://smallfarms.oregonstate.edu/sfc>

**March 8, 2013:** Washington Society of Professional Soil Scientists Winter Meeting, Wenatchee, WA. Check out their events page for the latest information: [http://www.ieway.com/wspss/wspss\\_events.html](http://www.ieway.com/wspss/wspss_events.html)

**Spring, 2013:** 2013 National Collegiate Soils Contest, Platteville, WI. More information to come.

**June 3-6, 2013:** International Union of Soil Sciences, Global Soil Carbon Conference, Madison, WI. Group conference that focuses on soil C in space and time, soil C properties and processes, soil C in relation to soil use and management, and the role of soil C in sustaining society and the environment. Visit their web page for more information: <http://iuss-c-conference.org/>

**August 1-3, 2013:** Oregon Society of Soil Scientists, Secrets of the Soil Summer Tour 2013, Southern Oregon Coast, Harbor Bench, Old Growth, Cranberry Bogs and Sand Traps! More information to come. [http://www.oregonsoils.org/?page\\_id=5](http://www.oregonsoils.org/?page_id=5)

**November 3-7, 2013:** ASA-CSSA-SSA International Annual Meeting, Tampa, FL.

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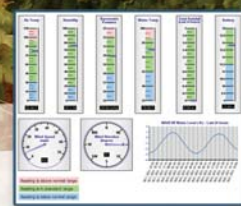
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## Sharpshooter

The *Sharpshooter* is the official newsletter distributed to the members of the Oregon Society of Soil Scientists. Published quarterly by the Oregon Society of Soil Scientists. Address changes or inquiries about membership to:

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Corvallis, OR 97339

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All articles and advertisements submitted are subject to room available basis.

## News items

Remember all articles submitted to the *Sharpshooter* can be emailed to the Sharpshooter editor (see below) in most any text, http, or word processing format. Pictures are best in 300 dpi jpg format.

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