



# SSSSNE – May 30, 1974-2014

Jan 2nd - 55 MPH speed limit imposed by Richard Nixon

Jan 6th - In response to the 1973 energy crisis, daylight saving time commences nearly four months early in the United States

Jan 12th - "Joker" by Steve Miller Band peaks at #1

Jan 15th - "Happy Days" begins an 11 year run on ABC

Jan 18th - "\$6 Million Man" starring Lee Majors premieres on ABC TV

Feb 4th - Patricia Hearst (19), daughter of publisher Randolph Hearst, kidnapped by Symbionese Liberation Army

Feb 7th - Mel Brooks' "Blazing Saddles" opens in movie theaters

May 30<sup>th</sup> – Society of Soil Scientists of Southern New England formed.

Jun 6th - 47th National Spelling Bee: Julie Ann Junkin wins spelling hydrophyte

Aug 9th - Richard Nixon resigns presidency, VP Gerald Ford swears oath of office to become 38th US president

Sep 16th - Bob Dylan records Blood on the Tracks

Oct 3rd - Pele retires as soccer player

Oct 9th - Race riot in Boston due to "bussing"

Nov 30th - Most complete early human skeleton (Lucy, Australopithecus) is discovered by Donald Johanson, Maurice Taieb, Yves Coppens and Tim White in the Middle Awash of Ethiopia's Afar Depression

Dec 30th - Beatles are legally disbanded (4 years after suit was brought)

Dec 31st - Popular Electronics displays Altair 8800 computer

# Charter Members

- Mark H. Crouch - USDA NRCS
- Anthony T. Dore – retired
- Everette L. Francis – deceased
- Donald C. Fuller – deceased
- Phillip S. Gale
- G. Howard Gates\* – deceased
- Walter N. Gonick – retired
- Darrell G. Grice – retired
- Charles F. Hotz – retired
- Dennis Hutchison
- William Ireland, Jr.
- Edwin I. Minnick\* – retired
- Henry T. Moeller
- John R. Mott – deceased
- Dean D. Rector – deceased
- Charles A. Reynolds – deceased
- Edward J. Rubins – retired
- Edward H. Sautter – deceased
- Richard J. Scanu – retired
- Daniel G. Spangler
- Dale G. Sprankle
- Gary B. Stanke
- Everett C. A. Stuart – retired
- Eric I. Swenson
- Bruce W. Thompson
- Mark A. Townsend
- Barrie L. Wolf
- William R. Wright

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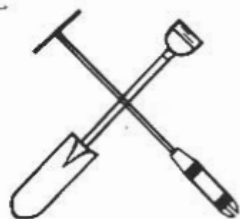
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# SPADE & AUGER

Vol. 1 No. 1  
(Summer 1977)

Newsletter of the Society of Soil  
Scientists of Southern New England

## EDITOR'S NOTE --

This is the first issue of what we hope will be a regular feature of our Society. As with any such venture, the success of this journal depends on you! You must help by sending in news items, stories, professional developments, etc. Please send your contributions to: Everett Stuart, 25 Preston Drive, North Kingstown, R.I. 02852. Also please advise me of any changes in your address.

## RECENT MEETING --

The last regular meeting of the S.S.S. of S.N.E. was May 25, 1977. Treasurer Bill Wright reported 39 full members and 7 associate members had paid their 1977 dues. Bill also provided a summary of the Society's Maryland soils tour held earlier in the spring. Member Lewis Ilgen was appointed to check into the possibility of a New Hampshire trip in the fall. President Gonick reviewed progress in the Society's effort to qualify members.

The guest speaker was Mr. James Aukerman, a member of the R.I. House of Representatives. Mr. Aukerman discussed the mechanics of developing and submitting bills for consideration by legislative bodies. He reviewed the proposed legislation to register soil scientists in Connecticut.

## "TRIPLE S" PHAMPHLET DUE OUT SOON --

The "Triple S" is about to release an informational pamphlet listing a brief resume of those full members who wish to be included. The Society recognizes two qualification classes of professional soil scientists in the private, state, and federal sectors: A. Full Qualification and B. Minimal Qualification. Those persons listed in the pamphlet will be qualified under one of these two classes.

## QUALIFICATION STANDARDS AND DEFINITIONS:

### A. FULL QUALIFICATION - Persons that meet the following:

1. Have a baccalaureate degree with 30 semester-hours, or equivalent, in the biological, physical, and earth sciences that meet the approval of the Society Board of Directors, and
2. Have four years or more of professional experience as a soil scientist in soil classification, mapping and interpretation that meet the approval of the Society Board of Directors.

### B. MINIMAL QUALIFICATION - Persons that meet the following:

1. Have a baccalaureate degree with 30 semester-hours, or equivalent, in the biological, physical, and earth sciences that meet the approval of the Society Board of Directors, and
2. Meet the requirements for GS-5 soil scientist as specified by the United States Civil Service Commission in the current Soil Science Series.

The pamphlet will be out shortly, as a special committee (headed by Society members Dean Rector and Ed Sautter) is rushing it to the printer. Copies will be available to members and other interested parties for a small fee.

Water Compliance, Solid Waste, Water Resources, the Conservation and Preservation units, the Department of Health, the Department of Community Affairs, and the Department of Planning and Energy Policy."

"We are now seeing an extensive utilization of the soil resource data in community development plans, sanitary landfill siting, on-site septic design approvals, erosion and sediment control planning, and many other proposed land use activities which require an evaluation of the carrying capacity of the resource base before proper design and approvals can be made. Most recently, the Soil Survey has been extensively used in defining and delineating prime agricultural lands in Connecticut."--- Dr. Hugo Thomas.

As a refresher for us all, we are reprinting the objectives of our Society--

1. To advance the profession of soil science as it relates to soil classification, mapping and interpretation.
2. To improve and maintain the stature of the professional Soil Scientist in Connecticut, Rhode Island, and Massachusetts.
3. To promote high quality standards among soil scientists.
4. To foster broader recognition of the need, use, and application of Soil Science in government and especially in the private business sector.
5. To cooperate with and counsel colleges and universities in adjusting curricula to the changing needs of the Soil Scientist.
6. To function as a communication medium between professional Soil Scientists, allied disciplines and professional organizations.
7. To cooperate with other disciplines and professional organizations to advance causes of mutual interest and concern.
8. To work toward state registration and certification of Soil Scientists.
9. To foster good land use and environmental programs through the use of soil resource information.

## NEWS BRIEFS--

Rhode Island soil mapping wraps up -- The soil survey in Rhode Island will shift from field mapping to map compilation work at the end of June. Supervisory soil scientist Dean Rector and soil scientist Everett Stuart will remain to work on the final report and assist in the utilization of the soils information. Four survey party members are leaving -- Dale Sprankle to Capitan, New Mexico; Craig Ditzler to Sparta, Wisconsin; Bruce Laskey to Virginia Polytech to work on his Ph.D.; and John Gagnon, a recent URI graduate, to New London County, Connecticut. The seventh member of the party, Bob Saritelli, is switching from a soil scientist to soil conservationist in Rhode Island.

Steve Elmer transferred in early May from Connecticut to Cambridge, Illinois. Steve will be party leader for the Henry County Soil Survey.

John Mott, field soil specialist with the SCS in Amherst, Massachusetts, retired in early June. John started with SCS as a soil conservationist, but spent the past 25 years as a soil scientist with the Service.

We wish all these fellows the best of luck.

## ----- Message to soil scientists from the Bible:

EXODUS 21 Verse 33-34

"If a man digs a well and doesn't cover it, and an ox or a donkey falls into it, the owner of the well shall pay full damages to the owner of the animal, and the dead animal shall belong to him."



# Rom's Restaurant





Bruce  
Thompson



Gene Grice and Ed Sautter





Everett Francis











New London  
Soil Scientist Lewis Ilgen mapping soils.  
*October 1964*

Henry T. Moeller





Dr. Harvey  
Luce





Apple Orchard, Cheshire

Kenneth Stevens making deep borings using an orchard auger for a soil survey for the Town of Cheshire.  
*August 1967*



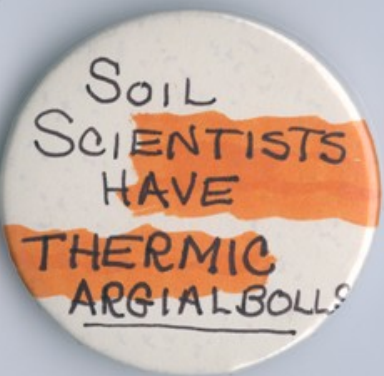


CLASSIFIED ADS--

Ed Sautter is producing innovative soil scientist buttons. You may want to look at Ed's display or ask how to get yours!

SAUTTER'S SAYINGS:

- What did the soil say to the plow?      Answer: "Not now John Deere!"
- Soil scientists never die: they just subside!
- Soil scientists have good potential!

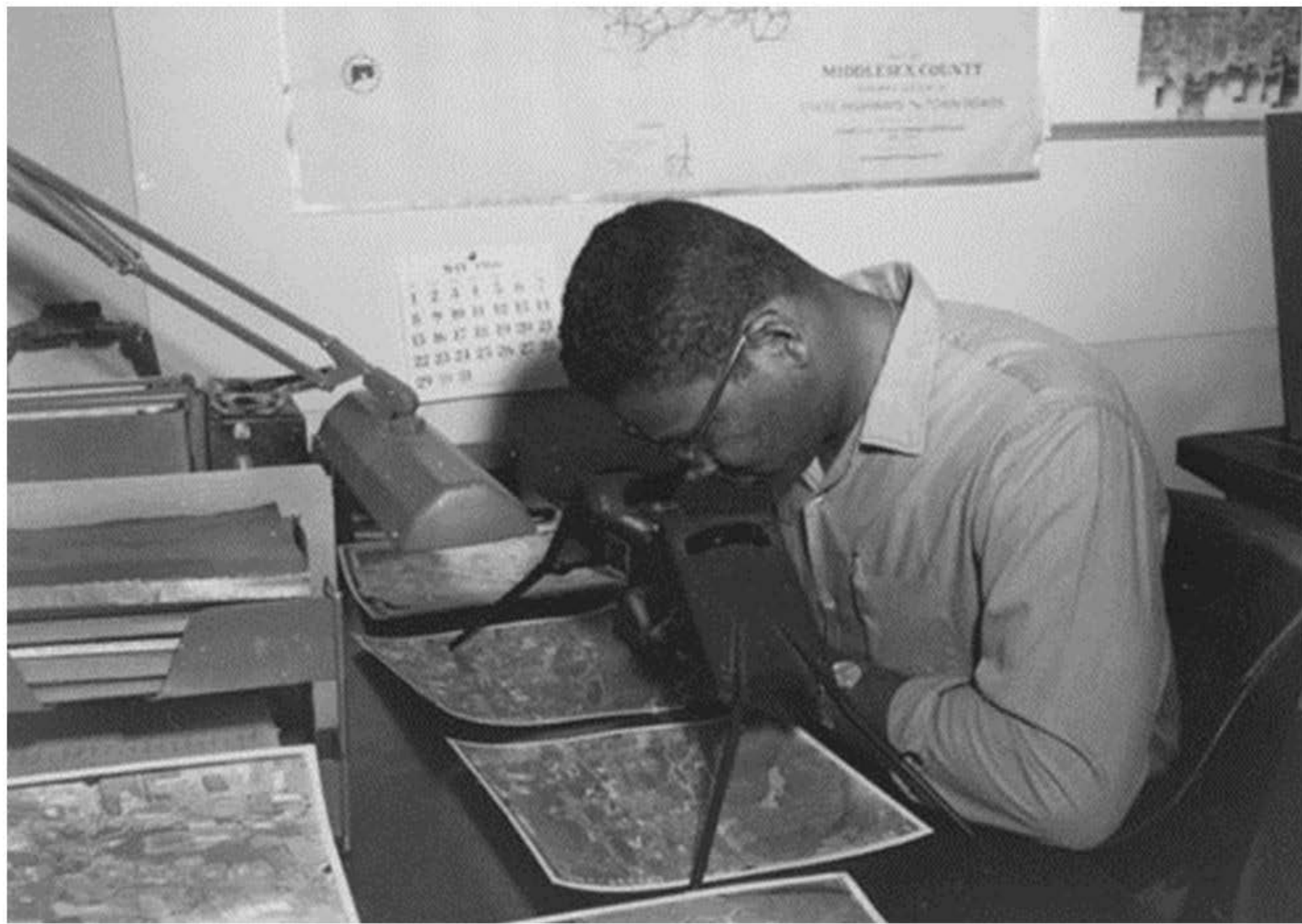












Haddam Work Unit Office  
Soil Scientist Plater Campbell studying aerial photographs  
as part of the soil mapping process.  
*May 1966*

Ev Francis











# Dr. William Wright and Margie Faber









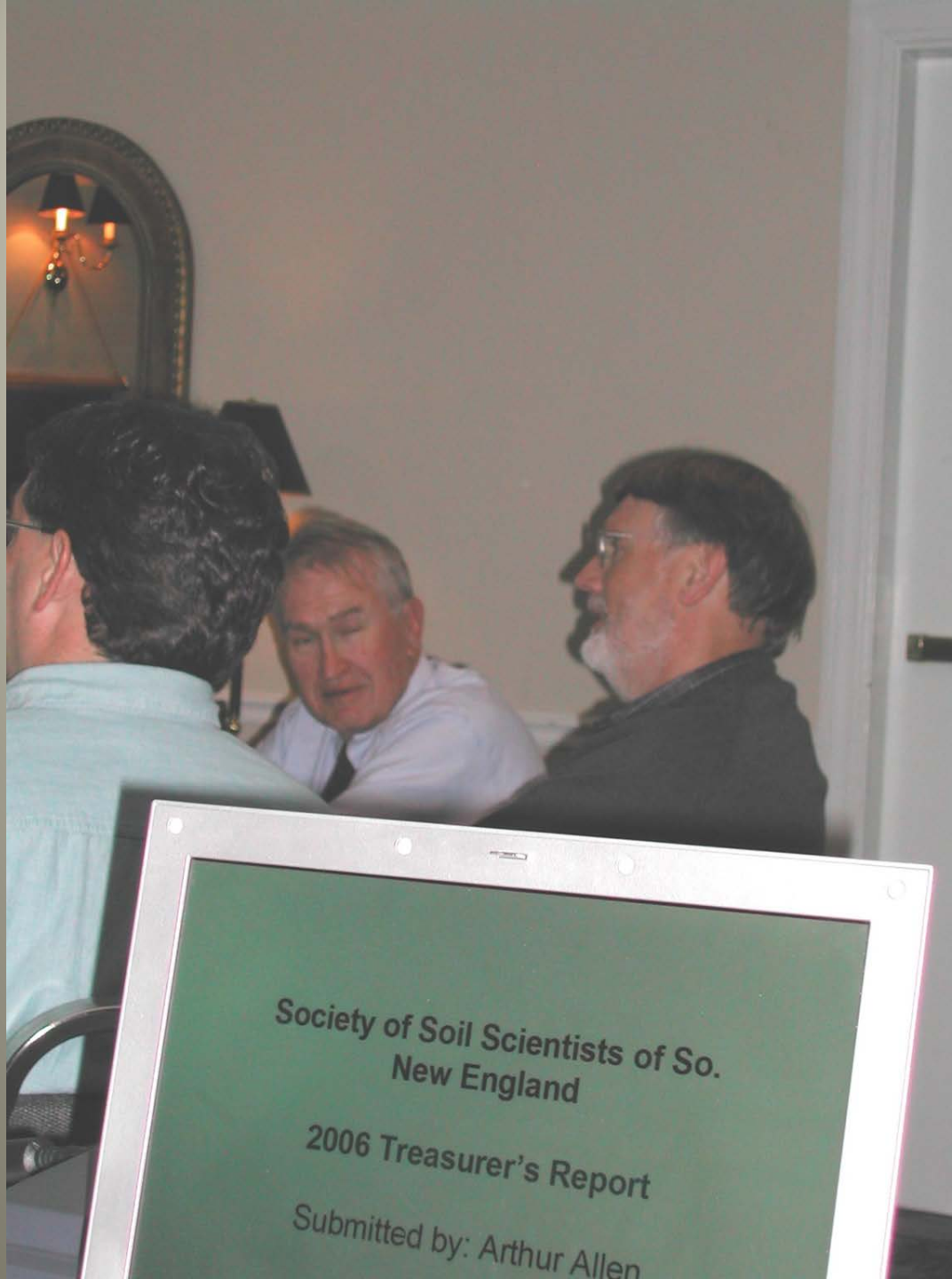
Brooklyn Work Unit Office  
Soil Scientist Dean Rector inking soil survey  
information on an aerial photo.

*November 1969*





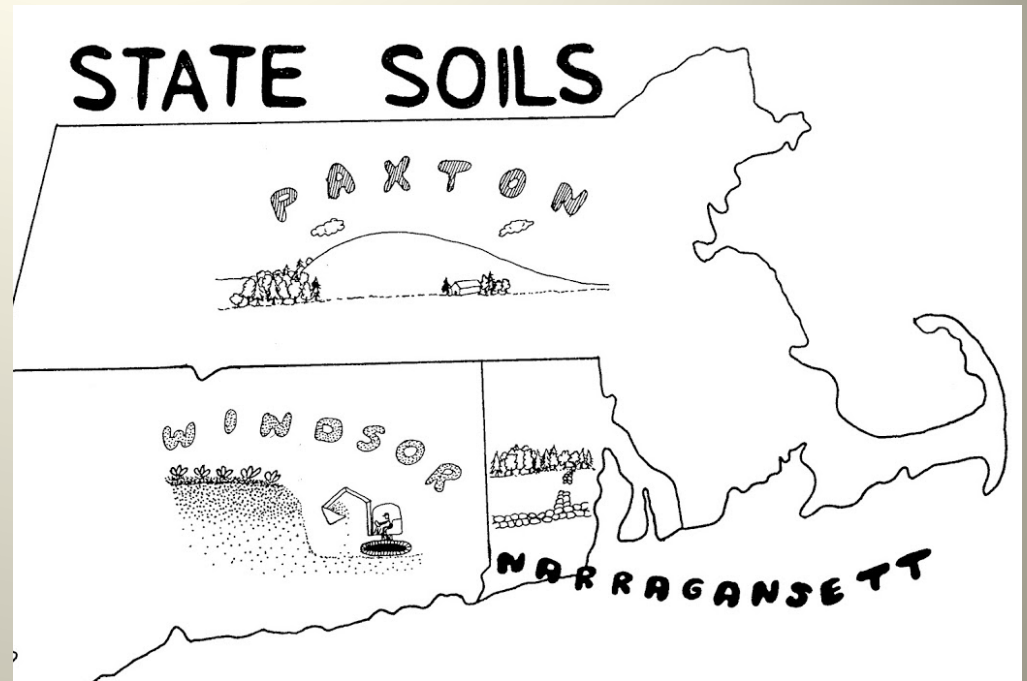
# Harvey and Dr. Peter Veneman





Pete  
Fletcher















Ed Sautter and Tom Peragallo









































EXIT

SOCIETY  
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Bill Taylor













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# Craig Ditzler



# The Evening Bulletin

Providence, Rhode Island, Friday, February 16, 1979

## Soil: If state needs a bug it can need dirt, too

By THOMAS E. WALSH

Journal-Bulletin Political Writer

PROVIDENCE — It was barely two years ago that the General Assembly had all it could do to restrain itself from declaring ricotta the state cheese, tuna the state fish and the praying mantis the state insect.

Now, if the Rhode Island Association of Conservation Districts has its way, the Assembly will throw caution to the wind and designate "Narragansett silt loam" as the official, bonafide, "state soil."

That's right, soil! The stuff that gets under your fingernails, into your kids' clothes, and circles your bathtub.

"Soil has a real image problem," said Lester E. Stillson, a conservationist, explaining why the association has sent letters to all 150 state legislators and Governor Garrahy to seek support for the state soil idea.

"When you think of soil what you think of is dirt," Stillson added.

"Something's dirt cheap, a house built on sand, a clod, mud. All the words related to soil are negative." But, he said, "You couldn't grow crops without the soil, everything we have is built on soil."

"The whole rationale behind this is to increase the awareness that something as basic as soil has a profound influence on everybody's life," Stillson said.

Stillson said he is not worried about the issue becoming a topic of rib-tickling legislative humor as was the case with the state cheese, tuna and bug propositions.

"No matter what happens, it would help fulfill our goals of awareness, even if it turns into a big joke in the eyes of the media and the local people," Stillson said.

And what exactly is "Narragansett silt loam?"

According to Stillson, it's one of the best types of soil to be found in Rhode



Island, and is particularly good for raising crops.

Presumably, then, one could take the official state flower (violet), or the official state tree (red maple) and expect them to prosper if their roots were buried in Narragansett loam, assuming, of course it becomes the official state soil.