



PROFESSIONAL SOIL SCIENTISTS ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS

Texas Soil Profiles

2021 PSSAT Officers

President - Shanna Dunn, USDA-NRCS, Corpus Christi

President-Elect - Jamey Douglass, USDA-NRCS, retired, Temple

Vice-President - Lauren Selph, West Texas A&M University, Canyon

Treasurer - Travis Waiser, USDA-NRCS, Kerrville

Editor - Jon Brandt, TerrEval Consulting, Corpus Christi

Past-President - Laurie Kiniry, USDA-NRCS, retired, Moody

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Annual Meeting - Online via Zoom on February 8, 2022, at 7:00 pm

This year's annual meeting will be held online again, using the Zoom platform. It is not necessary to have a Zoom account nor install Zoom on your computer to attend the meeting. You can access meeting through your Browser (please review instructions on Page 2 if you don't want to create a Zoom account nor install the program). If you do have Zoom installed on your phone or computer, please ensure the application is updated before the meeting.

Attendance will be easiest using a desktop computer/laptop that has a webcam and microphone; however, the webcam and microphone are not necessary, as you can obtain an audio connection with your telephone. It is possible to install Zoom on a smartphone - so that is another option people may use.

You **MUST** register to attend the meeting. You will be receiving an email with a registration invitation. In case you don't get the email, you can also click on the link below to register. Please do this before February 8th. Once you register, you will be provided with the information necessary to join the meeting. You will also receive a confirmation email.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZludOGorj8vHdLB7tgQighYoAmK8u8mDevb>

Phone Number for Audio, if you're NOT using a webcam or attending via cell phone (with Zoom app installed). It is a toll call to Houston (should be free if your cell service or landline has toll-free calling): 346-248-7799

Annual PSSAT Online Meeting Instructions

Note: after you log in to the meeting, you will first be placed in a “waiting room” and then be admitted to the meeting. This extra step is being done to ensure that someone from the public, who’s accessed the registration link from our website, is not allowed into the online meeting. That screen is shown at the bottom of this page.

The screenshot shows a Zoom meeting page with several key elements and annotations:

- Zoom Logo:** Located in the top left corner.
- System Dialog:** A white box at the top right contains the text: "This site is trying to open Zoom Meetings. https://us05web.zoom.us wants to open this application. [] Always allow us05web.zoom.us to open links of this type in the associated app". It has "Open" and "Cancel" buttons. A red arrow points from the text "you can click Open." to the "Open" button.
- Text:** "If you do have the Zoom app on your phone or computer, you can click **Open**."
- Text:** "Once you install Zoom Client, click **Launch Meeting** below"
- Launch Meeting Button:** A blue button with the text "Launch Meeting". A red arrow points from the text "you can just click **Launch Meeting**." to this button.
- Text:** "If you don't want to create a Zoom account or download/install the app on your phone or computer, you can just click **Launch Meeting**."
- Links:** "Don't have Zoom Client installed? [Download Now](#)" and "Having issues with Zoom Client? [Join from Your Browser](#)". A red arrow points from the text "When it does, click on the [Join From Your Browser Link](#)" to the "Join from Your Browser" link.
- Footer:** "Copyright ©2021 Zoom Video Communications, Inc. All rights reserved. [Privacy & Legal Policies](#)"

Please wait, the meeting host will let you in soon.

PSSAT 2022 Annual Meeting

40th Anniversary of PSSAT

Throughout the coming year we'll be including newsletter articles and website postings that commemorate the founding of our organization. Please send photos, memories, or any other item that may be interest to other members, to help celebrate four decades of soil science advocacy and fellowship among colleagues.

Salute to PSSAT Treasurers

Twenty-one people have served as Secretary/Treasurer (eventually reclassified solely as Treasurer) since the founding of our organization. This position is responsible for managing our finances, making sure dues are paid, and keeping records, among other duties. We'd like to recognize the members who have taken on this important responsibility and provided our organization with an essential service. Here is a list of all who have served PSSAT in this position. A big thank you to all!

PSSAT Treasurers			
Tom Feuerbacher	1983	Sidney Paulson	1995-1997
Wayne Gabriel	1984	Dan Kowalski	1997-1999
Mike Golden	1985	Nellie Frisbee	1999-2001
Levi Steptoe, Jr.	1986	Eddie Bearden	2001-2003
Don Hatherly	1987	Kelly Attebury	2003-2005
Earl Blakely	1988	Jamey Douglass	2005-2007
Samuel E. Brown, Jr.	1989	Lindsay Lang	2007-2010
Jamey Douglass	1990	Richard Reid	2010-2013
Don Sabo	1991-1993	Chance Robinson	2013-2017
Dennis Brezina	1993-1995	Travis Waiser	2017-current

Dwain Daniels Retirement

Dwain Daniels retired from the Central National Technology Support Center in Fort Worth last month. The following is excerpted from the Weekly Update: NRCS Soil and Plant Division, dated January 7, 2022:

*"If you walk into a Soil Survey office today, you'll hear these newer technical terms, like geodatabase, terrain derivatives, spatial analysis, topology, gSSURGO, etc. these terms are second nature to them. They don't even think about these terms they are as common to them as the names of their own children, siblings, or pets. Interestingly, 20 years ago these tech terms didn't exist in a soil survey office. In fact, 20 years ago, these terms would have been quite foreign to the soil survey office. So, who is responsible for this plethora of new technical terms? Two of the major culprits are **Dwain Daniels** and **Steve Peaslee**. It is these two, Dwain at the Central National Technology Support Center, and Steve at the National Soil Survey Center who were the very pioneers of introducing GIS to Soil Survey Offices.*

*We can safely say between **Dwain Daniels** and Steve Peaslee they have interacted one on one with more soil Scientists than any person in the 120+ year history of Soil Survey. Dwain has taught the spatial analysis and other GIS courses for over 15 years; the Spatial Analysis is a required course for soil scientists. Steve's Soil QA/QC tools reside on every soil scientist's computer from the Regional Offices on down to every soil survey office. Steve is the go-to guy for the Soil Data Viewer application and SSURGO template databases. Without the QA/QC tools there would be no Web Soil Survey. It is Dwain and Steve's development of tools and process that are now Standards in how soil survey analyzes spatial data and create, modify, and deliver the spatial soil data to the public. These processes are now written in the National Soil Survey Handbook, used not only by the NRCS and the National Cooperative Soil Survey (NCSS) but internationally by those countries creating their own soil survey programs. Their influence, whether Dwain and Steve know it or not, is international. Between them, they have created some of the greatest GIS tools and processes for modern Soil Survey, but it is not the tools or processes that made these two great -- it is their willingness to share their knowledge. They are two of the most effective teachers and leaders the agency has ever produced. Soil Survey and conservation are near and dear to their hearts as both Dwain and Steve come from strong farming backgrounds. Dwain still lives on the family farm in Texas and Steve has his farm in Kansas. Soil survey is personal them. In this day of measuring outcomes, we can see the successful outcomes in the quality of soil survey products that are produced today, and that success can be directly attributed to the efforts of Dwain and Steve."*

PSSAT Absentee Ballot

February 8, 2022

Nominees:

President-Elect (2-year term): Cole Patton, Soil Scientist, (USDA-NRCS),
Bryan

Vice President (1-year term): Dr. Richard Griffin, Professor/ Research
Scientist, (Prairie View A&M University),
Prairie View

Write-In Nominees:

This ballot is for PSSAT Members who will **not be attending the online meeting**, as the 2022 Annual Meeting will be held remotely. Please circle the nominees' names if you concur with the Nomination Committee's selections. You can also nominate alternative members to the above positions. Return your ballot in a sealed envelope with "BALLOT" written on it. Placed sealed envelope in a 2nd envelope and mail to Travis Waiser. His address follows: **Travis Waiser, 146 Deer Park Ln., Kerrville, TX 78028**. Please mail ballots before January 24th, so they will arrive in time for the ballots to be counted at the Annual Meeting on February 8th (you may want to mail them even sooner, as first-class mail services have been running slower than in the past).