

Eighty-fourth Annual Meeting of The Potato Association of America

July 23-27, 2000
Sheraton Colorado Springs
Colorado Springs, Colorado USA

“The Potato in the New World – Past, Present and Future (moving into the Millennium and Beyond)” is the theme of PAA 2000. A hearty western welcome to the Centennial state ... the land of high mountains and golden plains. Colorado’s potato industry exemplifies this year’s theme, bringing together a rich past into the present and aggressively seeking a productive future. Looking into the new millennium, we welcome you to the Eighty-fourth Annual Meeting of The Potato Association of America. Your hosts include

Colorado State University
Colorado Potato Administrative Committee (Areas II and III)
Colorado Certified Potato Growers Association
Agri-Business serving the Colorado and North American
Potato Industry

General Information

The REGISTRATION FORM is included with this information to assist in planning your activities during the meetings and to help the local arrangements committee (LAC) to coordinate conference activities. Please complete the REGISTRATION FORM and return it with your payment to PAA 2000, 0249 East Road 9 North, Center, CO- 81125 prior to June 15, 2000 to avoid late registration charges. Questions about registration may be handled by phone: (719) 754-3496 extension 10, FAX: (719) 754-2619 or, e-mail (attn: Christina Zinn at slvctr@coop.ext.colostate.edu). The LAC will also assist you with additional activities pre- or post-meeting.

Location

Colorado is a modern western state melding both the old and the new into one cohesive unit. With a population of just over 4 million and a land area slightly over 104,000 square miles, Colorado has enough room to mix the rural agricultural areas with the urban centers. Boasting a huge stretch of the Rocky Mountains to the west and a substantial portion of the Great Plains to the east, Colorado is a vacationer’s paradise.

This variance of terrain leads to two national parks, several national monuments and spawns numerous activities including skiing, hiking, camping, fishing, hunting and photography. It also provides the backdrop for incredible diversity in agriculture ranging from production of staples such as potatoes, wheat, corn, alfalfa, onions, dry beans and livestock to specialty crops such as popcorn, quinoa, at the higher elevations, and cut flowers. Coloradan’s share a sense of the past found in many western states with a genuine hope for the future which comes out in their friendly day to day approach to life.

Colorado Springs is located on Colorado’s Front Range, seventy miles south of Denver, at the base of Pike’s Peak. Famed for its scenery and historical reference, Colorado Springs has numerous activities and ambiance for even the most discerning taste, ranging from beautiful golf courses and rock climbing, to world class shopping. Colorado Springs is home to the U.S. Air Force Academy, the Olympic Training Center and the Pro Rodeo Hall of Fame. Summer conditions in Colorado Springs are mild, with temperatures rarely exceeding 90 degrees F, with low relative humidity. Typically, it is shirt-sleeve weather during the day with light jackets or sweaters recommended for evening.

Conference Headquarters

Sheraton Colorado Springs Hotel, 2886 South Circle Drive, Colorado Springs, CO 80906. Phone: (719) 576-5900, FAX: (719) 576-0507, Reservations (toll free): (800) 576-5470

The Sheraton Colorado Springs Hotel will be the PAA 2000 conference headquarters. The Sheraton has an indoor and outdoor pool, tennis and basketball courts and a putting green. There is also a fitness center, two restaurants and a night club on the premises. The Hotel is close to a small shopping mall and is near Interstate 25 to allow for easy access. There is a complementary airport shuttle that runs daily from 5:30 a.m. until 11:00 p.m.

Please make your reservations directly with the Sheraton Colorado Springs Hotel and indicate you are with the Potato Association of America. The Hotel has blocked out over 200 rooms for this conference at a special rate of \$109.00/night for single or double occupancy. These rooms will be held until June 22, 2000, so plan to make your reservations prior to that time.

Travel

Colorado Springs has a modern international airport with numerous flights daily. While there is no official airline for PAA 2000, most major cities are served by direct flights from several airlines with United being the major carrier. Booking flights and accommodations early is desirable due to the popularity of the Colorado Springs area as a summer get-away destination. Another option which you might consider is flying into Albuquerque, New Mexico and driving to Colorado Springs. The scenery is spectacular and can add much to your trip. Your travel plans should be indicated on your REGISTRATION FORM.

Car Rentals / Additional Lodging*

The Colorado Springs airport has all major car rental agencies. The LAC recommends making rental reservations early to guarantee selection. A list of car rental agencies follows with additional hotel listings if needed. You may desire a car since there are many activities and sites within driving distance of the conference headquarters.

Car Rental Agencies

Alamo:	(719) 574-8579	(800) 327-9633
Avis:	(719) 596-2751	(800) 331-1212
Budget:	(719) 574-7401	(800) 527-0700
Hertz:	(719) 596-1863	(800) 654-3131
National:	(719) 596-1519	(800) 227-7368

Additional lodging is located within two blocks of the conference headquarters, however, room rates will not likely be less than the special rates given by the Sheraton.

Doubletree Hotel World Arena, 1775 East Cheyenne Mtn. Blvd., Colorado Springs, CO (800) 222-8733

Fairfield Inn by Marriott, 2765 Geyser Dr., Colorado Springs, CO (719) 576-1717

Residence Inn by Marriott, 2765 Geyser Dr., Colorado Springs, CO (719) 576-0101

*Hotel and car rental reservations should be secured by individual delegates.

Conference Activities

President's Reception: All registrants are invited to attend the President's Reception at the Sheraton Colorado Springs Hotel on Sunday evening from 6:30 to 9:00 p.m. A menu featuring Colorado food products and beverages will be served. While there is no charge for this function, it is helpful if you indicate your plans to attend on the REGISTRATION FORM.

Tuesday Barbeque: Tuesday afternoon delegates will have the opportunity to visit one of Colorado's 14,000'+ mountains, Pikes Peak, or spend time shopping and seeing the sights in the quaint town of Manitou Springs. This will be followed by a barbeque/shish kabob featuring elk, venison, buffalo and beef at the Bear Creek Nature Park.

Program: Technical papers will be presented in concurrent sessions Monday afternoon and Tuesday and Wednesday mornings. Papers can be presented with 35 mm slide or overhead format. Additionally, a projector for use with the Microsoft Powerpoint format will be available. Presenters are required, however, to provide their own computer and confirm compatibility with the system prior to their presentation. The LAC would like each presenter to indicate how their presentation will be formatted for scheduling purposes. Posters will remain in place from Sunday afternoon until Wednesday afternoon. Post-meeting tours will be offered on Thursday, July 27th.

2000 Symposium: The 2000 Symposium, "Emerging Trends in Potato Utilization" sponsored by the Utilization and Marketing Section will feature presentations on topics ranging from potato nutrition, update on olestra, new directions in marketing, public acceptance of GMO's and food safety to utilizing process potatoes on a global scale.

Additional Meetings: Section meetings will be held Monday and Tuesday mornings and Monday evening. The Annual Business meeting will be held on Wednesday afternoon from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. The PAA Awards Banquet will take place Wednesday evening from 7:00 to 9:30 p.m., following a one hour social. During the Banquet, new Honorary Life Members and winners of the Graduate Student Paper competition will be announced. The Banquet will feature grilled Filet Mignon with Colorado specialty potatoes and other accompaniments.

Industry Tour: There will be a post-meeting tour on Thursday, July 27th to the San Luis Valley, Colorado to visit Colorado's primary potato production area. Stops at the San Luis Valley Research Center, and seed and commercial grower operations are planned.

Family and Friends Program

The following tours will be offered during the course of the conference for family and friends, and delegates.

Monday, July 24th. Colorado Springs tour: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Tour the U.S. Air Force Academy campus highlighted by a visit to their world famous chapel. Then drive through the breathtaking scenery of the Garden of the Gods, a series of red sandstone cliffs and rock formations with a stop at the Gift Shop and Visitor's Center. Finally, move to Old Colorado City for a walking and shopping excursion which includes seeing the Simpich Character Doll Factory and the Michael Garman Galleries. A box lunch and guide are included with this tour.

Monday, July 24th. Zoo and Cave of the Winds tour: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Visit the Cheyenne Mountain Zoo, housed on the slopes of Cheyenne Mountain. This zoo contains over 500 animals including wonderful great ape and tiger exhibits (even white tigers are here). Then move on to Old Colorado City for a walking and shopping excursion with lunch on your own. After this, travel into the Rocky Mountains for a trip back in time at the Cave of the Winds. There you will take a mile walk through giant limestone columns and flowstone, and see many other exciting sights.

Monday, July 24th. Melodrama dinner and show: 6:00 - 11:00 p.m. Finish off your day at the Iron Springs Chateau Melodrama where you will be served a family style dinner followed by a hilarious vaudeville style play. This is one of the few productions where the audience is able to participate.

Tuesday, July 25th. Olympic Training Center: 8:30 - 11:00 a.m. Visit the heart of the U.S. Olympic training effort. This complex is supported by private donations and is used for training of the U.S. Olympic team.

Tuesday, July 25th. Manitou Cliff Dwellings: 8:30 - 11:00 a.m. Individually explore dwellings built into the cliff and gain a better understanding of the Anasazi Indians by visiting the two museums and gift shop on site.

Tuesday, July 25th. Pikes Peak tour: 12:30 - 5:00 p.m. Travel to the base of Pikes Peak and board the Cog Railway for an unparalleled trip to the summit of this 14,110' peak. The trip to the top offers a spectacular view of the Front Range of Colorado and the gift shop has many "one of a kind" items. Please be advised that at this height, altitude sickness may be a problem. If you are pregnant or have cardiac or respiratory problems, it is advised that you first consult with your physician prior to making the ascent.

Tuesday, July 25th. Miramont Castle/Manitou Springs tour: 12:30 - 5:00 p.m. For those individuals not interested in braving the high country, this tour offers a chance to see a historic landmark; a 28 room mansion with several architectural styles, a tea room and a collection of miniature scenes from the Pikes Peak area. Following this, you will have the opportunity to walk and shop in the national historic district of Manitou Springs. This village is full of unique shops, galleries and eating establishments, enough for even the most discerning tastes.

Tuesday, July 25th. Bear Creek Nature Park: 6:00 - 9:30 p.m. Your day will finish with a barbeque featuring shish kabob style cuisine of elk, venison, buffalo and beef and all the accompaniments. The Bear Creek Nature Park has several acres of grass, volleyball courts, walking areas, etc. to unwind and enjoy the Colorado summer.

Wednesday, July 26th. Royal Gorge tour: 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Travel to the world's highest suspension bridge across the Arkansas River. The view is incredible and you have the opportunity to take the tram car ride across the gorge or descend into the canyon via an incline railway. There are also many exhibits in the area. After this, continue to Buckskin Joe's to tour an authentic western town. Lunch at the Gold Nugget Restaurant is included.

Thursday, July 27th. Industry tour: 7:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m. Take a bus ride down to the San Luis Valley, one of the original stopping points along the old Spanish trail. This high mountain valley (7600' in elevation) is home to over 500,000 acres of irrigated agricultural production, including 90% of Colorado's potato production. Visit the San Luis Valley Research Center, certified seed and commercial operations and obtain a better understanding of the industry in this region of the country. Lunch will be provided.

Thursday, July 27th. Fine Arts tour: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. This tour offers a stop at the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center to view art of the southwest and west as well as more contemporary works. Then you will drive along the area known as "Millionaire's Row" where the founding fathers of Colorado Springs first located. Next is a stop at the county courthouse where the Pioneer's Museum is located. This museum features items related to the history and culture of the Pikes Peak region. Finally, you will visit the Pro Rodeo Hall of Fame to learn about one of the west's oldest traditions, the rodeo. Lunch will be on your own.

Thursday, July 27th. Horseback riding at the Academy stables near and in the Garden of the Gods: 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. (Either one or two hour rides available, must be 8 years or older and weigh less than 250 pounds.)

Thursday, July 27th. Hiking on your own through the Garden of the Gods: 12:00 - 4:00 p.m. Experience this incomparable scenery up close and personal. Box lunch is provided.

All tours have a minimum number of people necessary thus, some tours may be canceled if the minimum number is not obtained.

Additional Information: If you have questions or need additional information please contact:

Local Arrangements Committee Registration

Robert Davidson, Richard Zink and Susie Thompson
0249 East Road 9 North
Center, CO 81125 U.S.A.
Phone: (719) 754-3496
Fax: (719) 754-2619
e-mail: slvctr@coop.ext.colostate.edu
athomps@coop.ext.colostate.edu

Ms. Christina Zinn
0249 East Road 9 North
Center, CO 81125 U.S.A.
Phone: (719) 754-3496
Fax: (719) 754-2619
e-mail: slvctr@coop.ext.colostate.edu