



# PAA INSIDER

## THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE POTATO ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

MAKING THE WORLD A BETTER PLACE, ONE TUBER AT A TIME."

### FIRST LETTER FROM NEW INCOMING PAA PRESIDENT

October 2014

Full is upon us, and hopefully this year's season is wrapping up well for everyone with field work, and everyone with lab studies is looking forward to a winter of generating interesting results! The Administrator and Executive Committee of PAA are certainly charging ahead with the day-to-day as well as the long term needs of The Association and potato research.

As President of PAA, I am focusing on two main areas. First are the overall goals I think the Association should focus upon:

1. Promote the very best possible potato science;
2. Publish the best science possible in our terrific journal, *American Journal of Potato Research*;
3. Promote and support the best possible annual conference.

Quality builds on itself. Aiming for the best science, journal, and conference will carry with it more interest from the scientific community, more memberships in PAA, and therefore a stronger Association. A stronger PAA can only benefit the potato industry, which has achieved its strength in large part due to advances in research and their subsequent adaptation and adoption in the field.

My second area of emphasis as President of PAA is its long-term management and governance. The staff and executive committees of the past decades have done excellent work to keep PAA moving, to keep it up-to-date, fiscally solvent, and meaningful to its members and the industry. That said, the work is never done. I hope to make substantial progress toward a complete manual of policies and procedures for The Association, plus examine PAA's financial management and accounting with an eye toward the long-term, i.e. the coming few decades.

Besides my personal areas of emphasis, The Association will continue to work toward existing goals, such as:

- Active Sections that promote strong symposia;
- Building the endowment funds and making plans for uses of the funds that will strengthen The PAA and support the potato industry;
- Supporting graduate students, who are the future of PAA;
- Connecting The PAA with related organizations such as the National Potato Council, the U.S. Potato Board, the International Potato Center, and of course the European Association for Potato Research.

Like most previous PAA presidents have probably felt, I am honored to have been elected to this post, and have been impressed by just how much work is done throughout the year by the volunteer members of the Executive

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Vol. 18, No. 4,  
2014

October

MEETINGS &  
EVENTS

November 2014

**12-13: 49th Annual Montana State Univ Seed Potato Seminar.**  
Missoula, MT  
Info: 406-994-3150

**23-25: [Interpom Primeurs](#)**  
Kortrijk - Belgium  
Info: E-mail: [interpom-primeurs@kortrijkexpo.com](mailto:interpom-primeurs@kortrijkexpo.com)

December 2014

**09-11: [Great Lakes Fruit, Vegetable & Farm Market EXPO](#)**  
Grand Rapids, MI  
Dave Smith, 734-848-8899,  
[mivegcouncil@charter.net](mailto:mivegcouncil@charter.net)

January 2015

**7-9: [PotatoExpo 2015](#)**  
Orlando, FL  
Info: [questions@potato-expo.com](mailto:questions@potato-expo.com) or call 202-682-9456

**21-22: Maine Potato Conf**  
Caribou, ME  
Info: 207-764-3361,  
[jimdwyer@maine.edu](mailto:jimdwyer@maine.edu).

**26-29: [WA-OR Potato Conference](#)**  
Kennewick, WA  
Info: 509-766-7123,  
[bparker@potatoes.com](mailto:bparker@potatoes.com)

New President's Message, cont.  
(Continued from page 1)

Committee to keep The PAA vibrant and healthy. I hope some of you will be open to taking leadership roles in the future, helping to shape and mold The PAA into the best Association possible. Until then I hope that each of you will think about submitting your very best research papers to our journal, the *American Journal of Potato Research*. Also, a deadline is coming up for submission of abstracts for our meeting in Portland, Maine next summer. I hope many of you will submit talks for our conference in Maine and I look forward to a very interesting symposium put on by the Physiology Section. In addition to contributing your own research to The Association and attending our annual conference, one thing you can do to help Our Association is to encourage your colleagues to do the same, i.e. submit their best research to The Journal and to attend our conference. We should encourage all scientists who use potato as a research subject or are interested in any aspect of potato to report their research in Our Association's journal and conference regardless of whether they are members of The Association.

The current Executive Committee of The PAA is listed in this newsletter and these people I look forward to working with throughout the coming year. We will be meeting by conference call several times before the meeting in Portland, planning for the future and conducting the business of The Association. I want to thank each one of these Executive Committee members for volunteering their time to serve The Association. Of course we can't forget our one staff member Lori Wing who is always there independently keeping The Association's business going. Until we see each other again, good luck in your work with potato.

Andy Jensen, PAA  
President, 2014-2015

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### "UPDATE ON ENDOWMENT CHALLENGE PROJECT"

We have had a wonderful response to our Endowment Challenge Project that began at our Annual Meeting in Spokane. At least 12 members have participated so far but we need to highlight the tremendous response from our Canadian colleagues. Deb Hart of the Potato Growers of Alberta was so moved by the ultimate purpose of the challenge and not only fulfilled it from the PGA but also extended it to the other provincial potato associations. As a result of their tremendous responses, we have received \$200 payments from: the Potato Growers of Alberta; Peak of the Market, Manitoba; Ontario Potato Board; UPA, Quebec; Potatoes New Brunswick; and Prince Edward Island Potato Board.

Because The PAA Endowment Fund is very close to our goal of \$200K, the Executive Committee and members at the Annual Meeting made a commitment to meet that goal by our 2016 meetings (the 100th meeting of The Association). They invited members and member organizations to make a one-time donation of \$200. The University of Maine Foundation will match a portion of the donations made by the end of 2014. In addition, one PAA member has further challenged this effort with a commitment to match all payments of \$200 to the Endowment Challenge by the end 2014.

The Endowment Committee would like to extend this challenge to the entire membership, so get out your checkbook and send in your one-time \$200 donation, or any amount that you would prefer -- we will accept any and all amounts --to increase this Challenge amount. In order to be sure and give us enough time to transfer these funds to the University of Maine Foundation, it would be helpful to have donations by or around December 1st."

~ Larry Hiller, PAA Treasurer ~

### Challenge Supplement

Those of us who have had an active participation in The PAA know how important this society has been to our careers and to us personally. The PAA is not just a society where papers are written and presentations are made with the hope someone will read or hear them. It is a tight community that shares information

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## Nominations for Honorary Life Membership

One of the most significant ways to recognize outstanding contributions to the potato industry and to our organization, The Potato Association of America, is the awarding of Honorary Life Membership (HLM). This is the highest award bestowed upon an individual by The PAA. Each year at the Annual Meeting, this award is given to deserving individuals and is considered by many attendees the highlight of the Banquet.

PAA members are encouraged to nominate candidates for HLM to be presented at the 2015 99<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting in Portland, Maine. Nominated individuals should have made significant contributions to the potato industry and/or The PAA.

Contributions may come from activities related to research, extension, education, production, processing, marketing, utilization or any of the other facets of the potato industry which may be appropriate. HLM awards may be given to individuals outside of The PAA.

Nominations must be submitted using the official HLM Nomination Form available on The PAA website: <http://potatoassociation.org/membership/committees/honorary-life-member> and click on the '2015 Nomination Form' link. The selection procedure and desired candidate information are also available in the same area on the website.

Completed HLM nominations and all supporting documentation should be submitted electronically in MS Word or PDF format to Past President Nora Olsen and are due by **March 12, 2015**.

This is the **First Call** for **Honorary Life Membership** Nominations!

Nora Olsen, 2013-2014 President  
[norao@uidaho.edu](mailto:norao@uidaho.edu)

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## Frank L. Haynes Graduate Student Research Award Competition

This is the **First Call** for the **Frank L. Haynes Graduate Student Research Award Competition (GSRAC)** to be held at the 99th Annual Meeting of The Potato Association of America.

The purpose of the GSRAC is to promote graduate student participation in PAA through presentation of research papers at the Annual Meeting. Participants are also encouraged to submit manuscripts for publication in the *American Journal of Potato Research*.

### General Information

1. The author must be a current (or recent) graduate student at the time the abstracts are due **March 12, 2015**.

2. First place winners from previous PAA meetings are not eligible to participate.
3. Research reported must have been done while a graduate student.
4. The paper must be orally presented. Poster papers and symposium presentations do not qualify for the GSRAC.
5. Students are required to submit abstracts for papers they wish to present in the Competition via e-mail. Abstracts will be accepted until **March 12, 2015**.
6. **No new students may register after the deadline or at the meeting.**
7. Winners will be announced and honored at the Annual Banquet. Students who participate in the competition will receive a free Banquet ticket for themselves supplied by the LAC.
8. Graduate students must be members of The PAA and may not use their advisor's ID.

\*\*Membership information is found on The PAA website at:

<http://potatoassociation.org/membership/membership-benefits>

### General Criteria for Judging:

Papers and presentations will be judged on the following basis:

- A. Value of research: 10%
- B. Depth of research: 10%
- C. Submitted Abstract: 10%
- D. Introduction of the presentation: 10%
- E. Interpretation of results: 10%
- F. Summary of Presentation: 10%
- G. Visuals: 10%
- H. Organization of the presentation: 10%
- I. Delivery of the presentation: 15%
- J. Time: 5%

Up to five awards may be made at the discretion of the committee in the amount of \$500 for 1st place; \$400 for 2nd place; \$300 for 3rd place; \$200 for 4th place; \$100 for 5th place.

For more information, contact:

Paul Bethke, Chair  
PAA, FLH Grad Student Research Award Competition  
ARS:USDA:Vegetable Crops  
1575 Linden Drive  
Madison, WI 53706 USA  
**Phone:** 608-890-1165 ~ **Fax:** 608-262-4743  
**E-mail:** [paul.bethke@ars.usda.gov](mailto:paul.bethke@ars.usda.gov)

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## First Call For Papers & Awards, cont.

(Continued from page 3)

### Call for Nominations for Outstanding Extension Project Award

The **Outstanding Extension Project Award** was developed in 2009 by the Extension Section (now Extension, Production & Management) of The PAA to recognize outstanding Extension projects or programs, printed publications, websites, workshops, newsletters, etc., that have made significant contributions to education on potatoes. At this time the Selection Committee is seeking nominations due by **March 12, 2015** for this award to be presented at the **99th Annual Meeting in Portland, Maine**. Information pertaining to this award and the selection process is presented below:

#### A. Award Recipient Eligibility:

1. The nominated Recipient must be a member in good standing with The PAA. For team nominations, at least one person must be a member in good standing with The PAA.
2. Although the Recipient need not have an Extension appointment, the project or program must be related to Extension type activities. The project or program must be either on-going at the time of the Annual Meeting the year of recognition or have been completed no more than 30 months (2.5 years) prior to the Annual Meeting in the year of recognition.
3. The Recipient must attend the Annual Meeting to receive the award, unless exempted by the selection committee because of extenuating circumstances.

4. Nominators do not have to be members of The PAA.

#### B. Selection Process

1. No more than one Outstanding Extension Project Award will be presented at any Annual Meeting of The PAA.
2. The Selection Committee consists of the current officers of the Extension Section plus the past Extension Section chair who shall serve as Chair of the Outstanding Extension Project Award Selection Committee.
3. Nominators must complete the nomination form, that is available on the PAA website along with submitting a written review, not to exceed 1,000 words, of specific project or program being nominated for the Award.
4. At least two letters of support must also be sent to the selection committee chair.
5. Nomination form, written review, and letters of support must be submitted to the selection committee Chair no later than **March 12, 2015**. For further information and nomination form, please see the website:

<http://potatoassociation.org/about-paa/paa-awards>

Carrie Huffman Wohleb  
Washington State Univ Extension  
35 C Street NW - P.O. Box 36  
Ephrata, WA 98823  
**Phone:** 509-754-2011 x4367  
**E-mail:** [cwohleb@wsu.edu](mailto:cwohleb@wsu.edu)

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### “PAA MEMBER—POTATO WOMAN OF 2013”

The proportion of women in the potato field is significantly lower than that of men, but nevertheless we chose a woman this year that absolutely deserves to be placed in the spotlights, **Dr. Eugenia Banks**. Eugenia Banks is working as potato specialist for the Canadian Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA).

In his speech Gerard Backs describes her as follows: “Eugenia has a professional passion for potatoes and she is a true practitioner who knows that you actually have to be in the field to learn.” Dr. Banks is responsible for the trial fields, including one of the largest HZPC trial fields. She works tirelessly and takes care that also our trial field looks beautiful. She closely follows the trial fields and of course she is also present during harvest. Eugenia was also the first to spot “clone 30” on the trial field, which initially got the nickname WOW! thanks to good results in the field, nice round white tubers, good yield, uniform sizes and scab resistance. In the meantime, the variety is named “Whitney.” Moreover, Mrs. Eugenia Banks has a great deal of knowledge on potato diseases and pests. So you will regularly find her in the field to provide advices. People know and respect her and she is also invited as speaker on meetings. North American phytopathologists call her an expert in her field of expertise.

Since she is a practical thinker, she compiled the book, “Potato Field Guide.” This book helps to recognize diseases or pests with the help of photos. In no time the first edition will be sold out!

There are still many things to be said, but we can surely conclude that this lady has a great influence in the North American potato sector. Gerard Backs: “Eugenia, we have great respect for your contribution to the potato world and for that reason, you are our undisputed choice for “Potato Woman of 2013!” [Resource: *Relation Magazine HZPC* \* Year 15 \* number 14 \* December 13]

## **Final Letter from Outgoing President**

Dear PAA Members,

It was a great initial year in our next "100 years" as an organization. Thank you to all individual and sustaining members for the enthusiastic support of The PAA. We are currently 530 members strong with a dedicated motivation for advancing the potato industry. In this past year I have been so proud and amazed by the dedication and support of The PAA members and the people who are willing to volunteer and serve in executive roles. There are numerous committees and section leadership roles that require a commitment that each person graciously provided.

The combined efforts of Washington State University, the Washington State Potato Commission and industry representatives, and especially Dr. Mark Pavsek and Raina Spence, organized an outstanding and memorable Annual Meeting in Spokane. The historic and stately Davenport Hotel was an ideal venue to build upon our collegial relationships, hear the latest research in potato science, and to foster new ideas for global potato improvement. The 2014 Annual Meeting also had a special designation with an invited international visitor, Dr. Anton Haverkort of the Netherlands, sponsored by the International Relations Committee with generous funds designated and donated by the Colorado LAC. The Colorado LAC also provided funds to help defray travel costs for each graduate student who participated in the Frank L. Haynes Graduate Student Research Award Competition. The attention on international connections and graduate student participation was, and still is, a high priority for The PAA.

We greatly appreciate *Spudman* Magazine and Great American Media Services for their support of The PAA and giving us the opportunity to have our own PAA column in 2014. They have graciously allowed this partnership to continue for 2015. Please let me know if you have suggestions for research or

extension topics we should highlight in the 2015 columns.

The new and improved website is finished and looks fantastic. A very special thank you goes to Leigh Morrow and Kelly Wildman. Lori Wing was instrumental in the smooth transition to the new website and she continues to perfect the site.

Changes in executive leadership allow the organization to build upon previous ideas and to keep the momentum moving forward to strengthen The PAA. With her first year behind her, Carrie Wohleb did an outstanding job as Secretary of The PAA. Kudos go to Carrie for taking on this vital role for The Association. Alex Pavlista and Larry Hiller make a great team keeping us financially sound. Thanks goes to John Bamberg for overseeing the high quality nature of our journal. Thank you also goes to Kent McCue and Mike Thornton who completed their three-year terms as Directors on the Executive Committee. Mike Thornton will continue as Vice-President and Kent will continue as an active member of the Finance Committee. We are excited to welcome the two new Directors Amy Charkowski and Susie Thompson. Our new President Andy Jensen has some innovative ideas for The PAA so stay tuned.

I look forward to seeing members at the Potato Expo in Orlando and at our Annual Meeting in Maine. Please consider nominations for Honorary Life Membership, Vice-President and Directors and direct them my way. Thanks again for a memorable year and allowing me the opportunity to serve as President. It truly was an honor.

Nora Olsen  
PAA President 2013-2014

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### **A Message from Your Administrator~**

It looks like another growing season has come and gone without very many problems...at least none that I have heard about in this office. Congratulations to all of you. Best of luck with all the hard work that now begins once the potatoes are out of the ground.

It's also been a very busy year here in The PAA Office getting the new website up and running while taking care of all the daily chores. Helping new and old members find answers to questions that I'm not able to answer myself. I was able to meet a whole new batch of members at this year's meeting which is always a thrill being able to put a face with a name and e-mail address. Thank you for coming over and introducing yourselves if I didn't make it over to you first.

It's now that time of year when the first round of 2015 membership renewals will be going out. There will be a whole new format this year with the new website allowing us to do things differently and if all goes well, more efficiently. If I have an e-mail address for you, you will receive your invoice via e-mail instead of

by USPS. The purpose of this is because you will have a link by which you will be able to "point & click" and it will take you right to PayPal. You will be able to pay your dues right then and there. You shouldn't have the problems we've had in the past years in paying online and you will also have the option of paying with American Express and Discovery, along with Visa and MasterCard.

Don't panic though, I know not everybody will be able to pay by credit card through PayPal. You will still be able to pay by check (drawn on a US bank in US funds), bank transfer, and credit card that I may put in there for you if it has to be that way. Please do pay online if you are able since this will be the most efficient and cost effective way for PAA to use the new website. We specifically went with this design to make it easier for our members. If you have any questions, please let me know. Thanks for your continued support of PAA through membership!

~ Lori Wing, PAA Administrator~

Endowment Challenge, cont.  
Continued from Page 2

and develops long lasting personal relationships. The current challenge gives each of us an opportunity to double each \$200 donation and accomplish the goal of reaching the \$200,000 endowment. This opportunity exists for both active and those of us "retired" members. I've made my contribution.

~ Joe Sieczka  
PAA Honorary Life Member ~

### **PAA Endowment Committee Seeks Membership Input**

Larry Hiller has described the Endowment Challenge Project in an accompanying article. This fundraising event was created in an effort to help PAA reach the goal of having \$200,000 in the Endowment fund as we go into the **100th** meeting of our organization in 2016. As we approach that \$200K goal, we need to begin the vital process of deciding how we wish to put the projected \$8-10,000 of yearly income to good use. The Endowment Committee is turning to you--our fellow PAA members--for your suggestions on how we should utilize these funds. Please contact the Endowment Committee Chair, Phil Nolte ([pnolte@uidaho.edu](mailto:pnolte@uidaho.edu)) with your recommendations.

~ Phil Nolte  
Endowment Fund Committee Chair~

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### **NC State Receives Grant to Improve African Sweet Potatoes**

NC State Univ will receive \$12.4 million over the next four years from the Bill & Melinda Gates Fnd to improve a crop that is an important food staple in sub-Saharan Africa--the sweet potato. The grant will fund work to develop modern genomic, genetic and bioinformatics tools to improve the crop's ability to resist diseases and insects and tolerate drought and heat. Sweet potatoes are an important food security and cash crop with potential to alleviate hunger, vitamin A deficiency and poverty in sub-Saharan Africa. More than 13.5 million metric tons are produced in sub-Saharan Africa annually; they are predominantly grown in small plot holdings by poor women farmers. A priority crop for the Gates Foundation's Agricultural Development Program, the sweet potato has a complex genetic blueprint. Lack of knowledge about the crop's complex genome and lack of modern breeding tools for the crop currently hamper efforts to expand production.

[Dr. Craig Yencho](#), an NC State prof of horticultural science who heads the university's [sweet potato breeding program](#) in the Col of Agric and Life Sci, is the project director. He says that sweet potatoes have a number of valuable characteristics that make them an attractive African crop.

"Sweet potato is a hardy crop that can be planted in drought-prone and low-fertility soils," Yencho said. "Orange-fleshed sweet potatoes, which are an excellent source of vitamin A, rank first in nutritional quality among root and tuber crops grown in sub-Saharan Africa, providing vitamins for millions of people." He adds that - besides the crop improvement work - it's important to build a network of young scientists who can use the new breeding tools and techniques built in this golden era of genomics. "NC State has a long history of commitment to developing Africa's sweet potato breeding programs," Yencho said. "We will work very closely with the sweet potato breeding community to identify young breeders for advanced training to build long-term capacity in use of genomic breeding. During the project term, we will make efforts in training to ensure that new researchers and partners are fully capable of employing newly developed tools."

Chancellor Randy Woodson praised Yencho's work on sweet potatoes in Africa and in NC, which leads the US in sweet potato production. "Dr. Yencho's work on this important crop has led to a number of new varieties and improvements in sweet potatoes grown across the world, and is an excellent example of NC State's think-and-do mentality," Woodson said. "The international collaboration he'll head will use interdisciplinary teams to gain critical knowledge - and share that knowledge - to help feed a continent."

To read the full write up about the project, please see:

<http://news.ncsu.edu/2014/09/nc-state-receives-sweet-potato-grant/>

~ Craig Yencho  
PAA Member / Director 2011-2012 ~

**2015 PAA Meeting Update - 99th Annual Meeting**  
**The Potato Association of America**  
**July 19-23, 2015**  
**Portland, Maine, USA**

The 2015 LAC is pleased to announce the **99th Annual Meeting of The Potato Association of America.**

The meeting will be held in **Portland, Maine from July 19-23, 2015 at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel** located just two miles from the Portland International Jetport. We will have exclusive use of 13,000 square feet of meeting space in 10 rooms. The DoubleTree is only six miles from the Portland city waterfront. The hotel has 219 guest rooms and we have negotiated a very competitive price of \$139 /night for single or double occupancy. There is complimentary 24-hour shuttle from the airport, complimentary high-speed internet in each room, fitness center, pool and complimentary parking. The DoubleTree is located next to Interstate 95, the major route from other New England locations. Portland city downtown is easily accessible in 12-minutes as are many other coastal destinations. Summer lodging rates on the Maine coast are typically high and you will have a difficult time finding a better room rate than the offer from the DoubleTree, although there are several hotel choices within a quarter mile of the meeting. Reservations can be made by phone at 1-207-775-6161 or using Hilton Toll Free Reservations 1-800-445-8667. You must mention the group code, "PAA", to get the group rate. Web reservations can be made at <http://doubletree.hilton.com/en/dt/groups/personalized/P/PWMMMDT-PAA-20150717/index.jhtml>.

The Portland Jetport (PWM) is serviced by several major airlines with numerous direct flights from more than a half dozen major hub airports. Portland is also accessible by car from Boston in two hours or on Amtrak in two and a half hours. The Maine Mall is across the street from the hotel with many shopping and restaurant options. Those that prefer unique dining and shopping will want to make their way to the Portland waterfront and the Old Port area. Portland has the second highest per capita restaurant per person in the country so there are many eateries and microbreweries to try.

The 99th Annual Meeting will follow a condensed schedule with registration beginning on Sunday, July 19th. A pre-meeting activity is being planned as well as a Sunday morning golf outing. Sunday evening will feature the President's Reception, the official kick-off to the meeting. Sessions start on Monday morning with a symposium on Acrylamide sponsored by the Physiology Section. Concurrent oral sessions will follow in the afternoon. Concurrent sessions continue Tuesday morning and afternoon, then finishing with the poster session and Silent Auction. Tuesday evening our BBQ will feature a shore dinner and live auction with proceeds benefiting our Endowment Fund. Wednesday morning will feature more oral sessions with the Annual Business Meeting in the afternoon. The Banquet and Awards will take place Wednesday evening and conclude official business. On Thursday, those that can participate will have the opportunity to take an agricultural tour to a commercial potato farm and vodka distillery. During the week there will be several tours and shopping opportunities for accompanying persons, including excursions to L.L. Bean in Freeport. Portland is home to 65,000 inhabitants and sits in scenic Casco Bay along the Maine coast. More information on the city of Portland can be obtained at <http://www.portlandmaine.com/>. The LAC is working on a website for December with full information on registration costs and other meeting details. Future editions of the PAA Insider will focus on other aspects of the meeting. We look forward to hosting you in Portland for a great meeting with friends and colleagues with plenty of opportunity to experience the best of the Maine coast!

Leigh Morrow, Greg Porter &  
Don Flannery  
LAC Co-Chairs

## PAA Information

### 2014-2015 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

**President:** Andy Jensen  
**Pres-Elect:** Loretta Mikitzel  
**Vice-President:** Mike Thornton  
**Secretary:** Carrie Huffman Wohleb  
**Treasurer:** Larry Hiller  
**Financial Officer:** Alexander Pavlista/Bret Nedrow  
**Past-Pres:** Nora Olsen  
**Editor-in-Chief:** John Bamberg  
**Directors:**  
 Amy Charkowski  
 Samuel Essah  
 Shelley Jansky  
 Rich Novy  
 Asunta 'Susie' Thompson

**SECTON CHAIRS:**  
**Breeding & Genetics:** Aliya Momotaz  
**Certification:** Kent Sather  
**Extension, Production & Management:** Andrew P. Robinson  
**Physiology:** Jake Blauer  
**Plant Protection:** Andrew Houser  
**Utilization & Marketing:** Bret Nedrow

### 99TH ANNUAL MEETING July 19-July 23, 2015 Portland, Maine USA

PAA Insider is published quarterly starting in Jan. Lori Wing, Editor, The Potato Assn of America, 5719 Crossland Hall, Rm 219, Univ of Maine, Orono, ME 04469-5719 USA. Ph: 207-581-3042; Fax: 207-581-3015; E-mail: [umpotato@maine.edu](mailto:umpotato@maine.edu); Website: <http://potatoassociation.org>

## PAA Member News

I have the sad task of reporting the loss of another PAA member, **Donald Horneck**, on Sept. 28, 2014. He was a new member to PAA joining in May 2014, but was well known for his work at OSU Hermiston Extension office where he was currently a Ph.D Extension Agronomist - Professor. To read his full obituary, go to: [http://www.hermistonherald.com/obituaries/donald-don-horneck/article\\_a50c5ed8-497e-11e4-b508-23836761897b.html](http://www.hermistonherald.com/obituaries/donald-don-horneck/article_a50c5ed8-497e-11e4-b508-23836761897b.html)

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Dear Editor PAA Insider,

I would like to express my very high thankfulness for having reproduced my interview about my project "Planting Potato with Science" in the *PAA INSIDER* Vol 18.3 July 2014. The original interview I had given to Prof. Dr Falko Feldmann, scientist at The Julius Kühn-Institut JKI, Braunschweig, Germany who also kindly edited and published the interview at the Braunschweig Newspaper: *Phytomedicine-43*, Vintagem No 3, 2013. I would like if you could kindly have registered that I am very thankful to Dr Falko Feldmann and thanks also to my colleagues and sponsor (MICROGEO, bio-fertilizer) involved in this volunteer plant (potato) health science educational project.

Jose A. Caram S. Dias

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### Report on the 19<sup>th</sup> Triennial EAPR Conf, Brussels, Belgium 6-11 July 2014

In July, the European Association for Potato Research held a very successful 19<sup>th</sup> Triennial Conference in Brussels, the first visit of the Triennial to Belgium. EAPR President Jean-Pierre Goffart welcomed over 420 delegates coming from 56 countries covering the 6 continents, including members of The PAA, the Asociación Lationamericana de la Papa (ALAP) and the African Potato Association (APA). Thanks to the reciprocal agreement between the EAPR and The PAA, PAA members received registration at the EAPR member rate (saving €100). Delegates had the chance to attend 14 Keynote Lectures, which included 'Potato Storage Management: a Global Perspective' given by PAA

President Nora Olsen and 'The Contribution of the "SolCAP" Project to Potato Breeding' by David Douches, MSU. In addition, over 130 papers were given in concurrent sessions and approx. 170 posters presented.

The mid-week Excursion Day featured a choice of itineraries with scientific and technical visits (including research institutes and potato production and processing facilities) followed by cultural visits including the ancient cities of Tournai, Antwerp, Bruges and Gent, the site of the battle of Waterloo, the modern City of Louvain-la-Neuve University (UCL) and Ieper, where the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the start of First World War was commemorated. The Conference Dinner provided delegates with a fascinating insight into the folk culture of the medieval Belgian town of Binche in the form of the "Gilles", of whom a friend of EAPR President Jean-Pierre Goffart is a member. The Gilles, a traditional part of the carnival, paraded in front of the astonished diners wearing striking multi-coloured suits and hats with huge ostrich feather plumes to musical accompaniment.

At the meeting of the EAPR Council, held on the opening day of the Triennial, members were sorry to learn that Dr William Kirk, MSU, who was unable to attend the Conference, had offered his resignation as US Country Representative within EAPR. Dr Kirk had acted as US Country Rep since 2009 and helped foster good relations between the EAPR and The PAA. Many thanks for that!

At the General Meeting of the EAPR, held during the Triennial, a new EAPR Council was approved and Michel Martin will assume the office of President for the next three years, which will conclude with the 20<sup>th</sup> EAPR Triennial to be held in Versailles, France, July 9-14 2017.

Louise Cooke, AFBI Belfast,  
Northern Ireland  
EAPR Councillor with responsibility for  
co-operation with other societies  
(2008-2014)