



PAA INSIDER

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE POTATO ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

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

FINAL LETTER FROM OUTGOING PRESIDENT

Dear PAA Members,

It has been a privilege serving you as PAA President this past year. Previous Presidents and Executive Committee members have done an excellent job of getting The Association's business in order and our task was to maintain that momentum. The move to publish with Springer is working well and, in fact, our publication impact factor is on the rise. Our Treasurer, Larry Hiller, has spent a great deal of effort updating and simplifying our financial records. Finance chair Alexander Pavlista and his committee have done an excellent job providing guidance in budgetary matters and our bottom line is stable. One new area we are working on is to initiate on-line voting for all PAA members. Leigh Morrow has headed up this effort and look for more information on this in the coming months.

The EC utilized both monthly conference calls and at times daily e-mail exchanges to conduct PAA business. However, all of the electronic communication would not be effective without the help and guidance of our Secretary, Loretta Mikitzel, and our Administrator, Lori Wing. Loretta's extremely accurate minutes and encyclopedic memory help keep PAA business on track. Lori's dedication and institutional memory help the PAA be the friendly and helpful organization that it is. I would also like to thank John Bamberg, Editor-in-Chief of the *American Journal of Potato Research*, and all the Senior Editors who do an outstanding job of maintaining the high standards of our Journal. Also, Phil Nolte as Past President has shared many helpful suggestions on how to negotiate the ropes of The PAA.

I would like to welcome Kent McCue and Mike Thornton as the newest Directors on the Executive Committee. They will find this position to be interesting and provide insight into The PAA. Also, I want to thank retiring Directors Robert Gareau and Bret Nedrow for their three years of service. Robert was very helpful on international issues and Bret was instrumental in keeping EC meetings on track with his "rabbit hole detector" when we strayed a bit from the topic at hand.

As Immediate Past President, I have several important duties to perform, including chairing the Honorary Life Membership Committee. Honorary Life Membership is our Association's highest honor. If you feel you know someone who is deserving of this award, see the announcements elsewhere in this month's *Insider* for details on the nomination process. Another position I will chair this year will be the Nominating Committee for new officers and directors. Please be thinking about individuals for the Vice-President and two Director's positions and contact me with nominations.

A special recognition and thanks are due to our North Carolina hosts, with Craig Yencho as LAC chair, who provided an excellent and enjoyable Annual Meeting in 2011. The friendly southern hospitality, great comfort food, unique riverfront venue, well planned meetings and fun social functions will all be remembered for a long time.

I look forward to seeing everyone in Denver in 2012!

Don Halseth
President 2010-2011

Vol. 15, No. 4, 2011

October, 2011

MEETINGS & EVENTS:

NOVEMBER:

13-16: Entom Soc of Amer Mtg 2011. Reno, NV USA.

Info: www.entosoc.org

15-17: AB TS & Potato Conf. Calgary, AB Canada. Info:

www.albertapotatoes.ca/events.aspx?id=34

23-24: British Potato 2011. Harrogate, UK. Info: <http://bp2011.net/>

JANUARY 2012:

4-6: NPC PotatoExpo 2012. Orlando, FL. Info: www.potato-expo.com

4-7: USPB Exec Comm & Admin Mtgs. Orlando, FL. Info: Robin Vest (rvest@uspotatoes.com)

6-7: 2012 NPC Annual Mtg. Orlando, FL. Info: Hollee Alexander (hollee@nationalpotatocouncil.org)

18-19: ID Potato Conf & Ag Expo. Pocatello, ID. Info: 208-529-8376

FEBRUARY 2012:

15-16: Intern'l Crop Expo. Grand Forks, ND. Info: 218-773-3633.

23-MAR 1: 2012 Potato Industry Leadership Inst. Washington, DC. Info: Hollee Alexander (hollee@nationalpotatocouncil.org)

RECAP - 95TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE POTATO ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

By all accounts PAA2011 was a great success. For over 95 years The PAA had never met in NC, so it was time! Wilmington, NC on the banks of the Cape Fear River was indeed a great place to hold our meetings. Our final registration total tallied 185 guests. The attendance breakdown was as follows: 124 members, 30 non-members, 30 accompanying persons, and 9 graduate students, and 6 one-day registrants; representing 21 states, 9 countries, and 7 Canadian provinces. One of our guests came from as far away as New Zealand!

The LAC Committee received many compliments during and after the meeting about the level of organization, quality of the program, excellence of the service, and the great venue. The membership meetings, symposium, breakout presentations and sweetpotato minisymposium were all well attended. Everyone

enjoyed the agricultural tour visits to Wayne E. Bailey's and the NCDA & CS Horticultural Crops Research Station, their visit to the Battleship North Carolina across the river, and of course the pig pickin' and sunset cruise aboard the Henrietta III riverboat.

On behalf of the PAA2011 Local Arrangements Committee, I want to thank all of the PAA2011 LAC team members and The PAA membership for helping to make this a very successful meeting.

Best wishes,

G. Craig Yencho
LAC Chair, PAA2011

Letter from New Incoming President

PAA Members,

Since returning from the 95th meeting of The Potato Association of America in Wilmington, I have diagnosed late blight, ring rot, frost damage, leak, botrytis and white mold, and have heard tell of an acre or so of Allagash Russets that produced near 30 tons with good size tubers to boot, a nice feat. Cool dry weather was the best part of Alaska's harvest time this year. Aside from the weather, I owe much of these achievements to my participation in The PAA. The friends I have made during my membership and meeting attendance have provided me with a wealth of expertise that I would never have been able to achieve by myself in this far, frozen corner of America. The willingness of our society members to join in when questions are posted on our PotatoNet is another example of our commitment to the science of the potato. Is

it not amazing what one can learn from a question posed to a large group of knowledgeable professionals?

The last ten years have seen issues of reduced membership and financial infirmity. Our Association is for the moment in pretty good financial shape. Changes to the U.S. IRS tax rules concerning non-profit organizations necessitated revamping our business reporting. Al Bushway, Larry Hiller, Alex Pavlista and others have provided us with many hours of financially uncompensated time helping our Association comply. The word "hero" comes to my mind when I think of them in this context. During these years, The Association initiated and made inroads into accomplishing many of the goals of the Vision Statement we created in 2001. We have linked with

(Continued on page 3)

Incoming President's Letter

(Continued from page 2)

the National Potato Council and have an on-going presence at the NPC-sponsored, industry-driven Potato Expo. We have also continued interaction with the European Association for Potato Research and have a web site in place. The *American Journal of Potato Research* remains our anchor to respect. The smooth transition to Springer publishing and The Journal's continuing success owes much to John Bamberg. The word "hero" again comes to mind.

The Association relies upon membership dues to provide the funds necessary for it to perform its stated mission: "...collecting and disseminating the best technical and practical information relating to all aspects of potato production...". To this end The Association strives to find ways to fund activities that promote a continuing improvement of all that is potato. The Association can only perform these tasks with volunteer help and donated funds, both of which are sometimes in short supply.

My experience with The PAA has come through the annual meetings and attending as many of the talks as I could, looking for clues to help me better identify cause and effect. I get to talk potatoes for a whole week with the best folks on the planet, get to use three- and four-syllable words, mostly to annoy the folks from North Dakota and to recharge my zest. The energy that we all bring to the meetings is contagious and helps us deal with the administrators whose sole duty often appears to be making our lives miserable.

I understand that food is a primary requirement and, of the dozen or so plants that we eat, the potato is by far the most important. Its foes are equally enabled to thwart our efforts. From rice-and-pasta peddlers to the microbes that also want a piece of the action, we have persevered. Developing countries have discovered the nutritious potato, so

more potatoes are being planted and more conundrums are being discovered. The PAA's combined intellect and industry have enabled us to continue to try to feed the six billion and counting.

The many proponents of the potato around the world have formed groups such as ours. Through its vision statements, The PAA has endorsed enhancing our cooperation with other associations. I intend to contact these groups and offer cooperation. Jiwan Palta was successful in this vein as two of the five talks at the Wilmington symposium – "Breeding for Sustainable Production in a Changing Climate - Understanding the Physiological Basis of Genetic by Environment Interaction" – were presented by scientists from The International Potato Center (CIP). Wonderful.

What can we do next? Discuss an idea with a friend to work out the kinks, bring the idea to your section chair and pester others to help flesh out the details. A well-thought-out idea can be acted upon quite quickly by the Executive Committee. And remember, you have several hundred potato friends, and their contact information can be found in the Members Section of our website.

Bill Campbell
President, 2011-2012

Hi All,

Here is a "suggested proto-type" of our new badge that we hope members will wear when at potato events to promote our

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I'm A Proud Member of



The Potato Association of America

Florida. It's going to be in a round button format when finished. A picture of the 'official' badge will be in the January Insider. ~ Lori ~

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First Call for Papers for 96th Annual Meeting 08/12-16/2012

This is the **First Call** for **Papers** to be presented at the 96th Annual Meeting of The Potato Association of America, to be held **August 12-16, 2012** at the **Crowne Plaza Denver International Airport Convention Center, Denver, Colorado, USA**.

PAA members are invited to present papers dealing with all facets of the potato industry. A special grower-oriented session is planned for Monday during the symposium on Phosphorus and during at least one of the oral presentation sessions where presentations dealing with PVY will be solicited. Applied research and extension-oriented submissions are encouraged for this half-day session. Graduate students who are PAA members are encouraged to enter the Frank L Haynes Graduate Student Research Competition Award.

Authors are required to submit abstracts for papers they wish to present, whether orally, as a poster or in the Frank L Haynes Graduate Student Research Competition Award. The abstracts for all papers (oral, poster and Graduate Student Research Award Competition) presented at the Annual Meeting will be published in a post-meeting issue of the *American Journal of Potato Research*. Abstracts of papers listed in the meeting program, but not presented, will not be published in the *AJPR*.

At the Annual Meeting, all oral paper presentations will be of a uniform 15-minute length. Authors should plan a 12- to 14-minute presentation with the balance of time devoted to questions. Computer projectors will be available for PowerPoint presentations. Please bring your PowerPoint presentation (2007 or earlier version) on a portable USB drive.

Display boards will be provided for posters. Dimensions should be 48" x 36".

Abstracts will be accepted until Monday, **March 26, 2012**. Submit abstracts as an e-mail attachment to loretta.mikitzel@gnb.ca with "PAA Abstract" as the e-mail subject. You will receive an e-mail acknowledging receipt of the abstract. Abstracts submitted after that date will be returned to the author.

Prior to submitting your abstract, please read

Abstract submission checklist:

1. Title
2. Author(s) and their affiliations - Presenter's name underlined
3. Body of Abstract
[Maximum length of 2,000 characters. This size limit includes spaces.]
4. PAA membership number of one (1) author
5. Presentation method (oral; oral graduate student; poster)
6. Section (breeding and genetics; plant protection; physiology; utilization and marketing; extension, production and management; certification)

and follow the formatting guidelines that are posted on the conference website www.paa2012.colostate.edu and on the PAA website (<http://potatoassociation.org>).

Abstracts will be accepted until March 26, 2012.

Please direct questions to the undersigned.

Loretta J. Mikitzel
New Brunswick Dept of Agric, Aquaculture & Fisheries
39 Barker Lane
Wicklow, NB Canada E7L 3S4
Phone: (506) 392-5146 Fax: (506) 392-5102
Email: loretta.mikitzel@gnb.ca

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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 2012 Annual Meeting in Denver, Colorado.

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First Call for Nominations
(Continued from page 4)

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 can be given to individuals outside of the PAA.

Nominations must be submitted using the official HLM nomination form available on the P A A W e b s i t e : <http://potatoassociation.org/About%20the%20PAA/HLMCommittee.htm> and click on the "Nomination Form" link. The selection procedure and desired candidate information is 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 Don Halseth and are due by **March 26, 2012**.

All members should take the time to think about their colleagues and their service to the industry to see if they might qualify for HLM in The PAA. This is a wonderful award and recognition, but it can not happen without going through the nomination process.

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

Donald Halseth
2010-2011 President
deh3@cornell.edu

Frank L Haynes Graduate Student Research Competition Award Papers

This is the **First Call For Papers** to be entered in the Frank L. Haynes Graduate Student Research Competition Award (**GSRCA**) to be held at the 96th Annual Meeting of The Potato

Association of America.

The purpose of the GSRCA 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 26, 2012**.
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 FLHGSRCA.
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 26, 2012**.
6. No new students may register after the deadline or at the meeting.
7. Winners will be announced and honored at the annual banquet. Participants 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>

General Criteria for Judging:

Papers and presentations will be judged on the following basis:

- A. Quality of research and content: 60%
- B. Effectiveness of presentation: 40%

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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:

Dr. Samuel Essah, Chair
PAA Grad Student Research Competition Award
CSU, San Luis Valley Research Center
0249 East Road 9 North
Center, CO 81125
Phone: 719-754-3594 Ext.13; Fax: 719-754-2619
E-mail: sessah@lamar.colostate.edu

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Call For Nominations for Outstanding Extension Project Award

The **Outstanding Extension Project Award** was developed in 2010 by the Extension Section of The PAA to recognize outstanding Extension projects or programs, printed publications, websites, workshops, newsletters, etc., that have made significant contributions to education on potato. At this time the Selection Committee is seeking nominations due by **March 26, 2012** for this award to be **presented at the 96th Annual Meeting in Denver, Colorado**. 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. Nominator must complete the nomination form, that is available on the PAA website, along with submitting a written review, not to exceed 1000 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 26, 2012**. For further information, please see the website: <http://potatoassociation.org/>

Chris Long
Chair, Outstanding Extension Project Award
Crop & Soil Science Dept., MSU
A-412 Plant & Soil Science Bldg.
East Lansing, MI 48824-1325 USA
PH: 517-355-0271 x193 FAX: 517-353-5174
EM: longch@msu.edu

2012 PAA Meeting Update - 96th Annual Meeting
The Potato Association of America
August 12-16, 2012
Denver, Colorado, USA

The 2012 LAC is pleased to announce the 96th Annual Meeting of The Potato Association of America.

The 2012 LAC is pleased to announce the 96th Annual Meeting of The Potato Association of America. The meeting will be held in Denver, Colorado from August 12-16, 2012 at the Crowne Plaza Denver Airport Convention Center. The Crowne Plaza is located minutes from the airport in Denver's Gateway Park. There are plenty of rooms available (255) at the very reasonable price of \$109 Single/Double/Triple/Quad occupancy. This hotel features a complimentary 24 hour shuttle from the airport, complimentary high-speed internet in each room, fitness center and complimentary parking. It is located close to Interstate 70, one of the major routes through Denver and, thus, provides easy access to downtown and many of the events that Denver has to offer. There are several other hotels nearby (within easy walking distance) if the Crowne Plaza fills to capacity. Additionally, there are a variety of dining options featuring many different types of cuisine, again within easy walking distance. Room reservations can be made on line at www.cpdenverairport.com. Mention that you are with the PAA to obtain the meeting room rate.

The 96th Annual Meeting will follow the traditional schedule with registration beginning on Sunday, August 12th. There will be a pre-meeting fly fishing trip into Rocky Mountain National Park/Estes Park region on Saturday. Sunday morning we will be featuring a golf outing with players/teams winning sponsored holes for donations to go back to the PAA Endowment Fund. Sunday evening will feature the President's reception, the official kick off to the meeting. Sessions start on Monday morning with a symposium on Phosphorus sponsored by the Production and Management Section. Fol-

lowing the symposium will be the oral and poster sessions. They will be scheduled throughout the week. It is of note that on Monday afternoon there will be a solicitation of presentations related to PVY. We plan on having a grower's day on Monday to feature both the symposium and the PVY session at a reasonable daily rate. Wednesday will feature the Ag tour or, for those so inclined, a day in Estes Park with several events planned. Wednesday evening will have the BBQ with a special treat (if we can get everything organized). We plan to have a live auction during the BBQ with all proceeds benefiting the PAA Endowment Fund. The Thursday evening banquet will conclude the meeting.

During the week there will be several tours, shopping, etc. for the accompanying persons. More information on the city of Denver can be obtained at <http://www.denver.org>. The LAC is planning on several events including a trip to the 16th Street Mall in downtown Denver, an evening dinner theatre, museums, the botanical gardens, and several other options. This is a chance to get to know Denver and all of its exciting activities. During the Ag tour, we expect to visit a potato grower's operation in Northern Colorado featuring many specialty type cultivars, a farm with extensive acreage of melons, onion, and other crops, and hopefully, a tour of the National Center for Genetic Resources Preservation located on the campus of Colorado State University.

Please visit the website for meeting information at www.paa2012.colostate.edu. As tours and other events come together, the website will be updated, so please keep this in mind. We expect to have the full information, registration costs, etc. on the website by December 1st so make sure to stay tuned. Future editions of the PAA Insider will focus on other aspects of the meeting.

We look forward to hosting you in Denver, the Mile High City, for a great meeting, plenty of good times and good food, and the opportunity to see a slice of the high Mountain west with your friends and colleagues!

PAA Information

2011-2012

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President: Bill Campbell

Pres-Elect: Leigh Morrow

Vice-President: Nora Olsen

Secretary: Loretta Mikitzel

Treasurer: Larry Hiller

Financial Officer:

Alexander Pavlista

Past-Pres: Don Halseth

Directors:

A.J. Bussan

Kent McCue

Helen Tai

Mike Thornton

Craig Yencho

Editor-in-Chief: John Bamberg

SECTION CHAIRS:

Breeding & Genetics:

Dennis Halterman

Certification:

Pablo Guzman-Vargas

Extension, & Production &

Mgmt:

Loren Wernette

Physiology:

Paul Bethke

Plant Protection:

Phil Wharton

Utilization & Marketing:

Jeff Bragg

96TH ANNUAL MEETING:

August 12-16, 2012. Denver, Colorado USA.

<http://www.paa2012.colostate.edu/>

The PAA Insider is published quarterly starting in Jan. Lori Wing, Editor, The Potato Assn of America, 5719 Crossland Hall, Rm 220, Univ of Maine, Orono, ME 04469-5719 USA. Ph: 207-581-3042; Fax: 207-581-3015; EM: umpotato@maine.edu; Web: <http://potatoassociation.org>

Members in the News, Job Announcements, News from Administrator, etc.

Robert M. Gareau has been appointed the Business Development Director of the Centre de recherche Les Buissons. He began his duties on October 18 with his main mandate consisting in promoting the CRLB's development and supporting business development in Québec's seed potato sector. Robert said this appointment is a new challenge and a logical career move. "Québec is one of the rare provinces with its own potato breeding program. The development of new potato cultivars coupled with disease-free seed production are the basis for strategically positioning the Québec potato industry on foreign markets."

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**JOB POSITION AVAILABLE:** The Hermiston Agric. REC (HAREC) has a **full-time, 9-month, tenure-track Asst/Assoc Prof position with an academic home in the Dept of Crop & Soil Sci.** This position will provide leadership for statewide potato breeding, genetics and molecular biology research program focused on the genetic improvement of potato varieties in Oregon and the Pacific Northwest. Research emphasis will be on genetic characterization of advanced lines and varieties, germplasm development and collaborative work with others to improve traits for arthropod, nematode, and disease resistance, value-added processing, and nutritional/nutrient quality of the Oregon germplasm base. Other scientists in Corvallis, HAREC, and other branch experiment stations will cooperate in these efforts and support day-to-day operations of molecular program efforts. The incumbent is expected to also contribute to professional knowledge in genetics, cytogenetics, genomics, and/or molecular breeding, as well as student training and teaching.

The incumbent is expected to provide leadership for a successful State-wide potato Extension program to deliver information about new potato varieties, to teach and to mentor graduate students as described in the duties sections below.

For complete details and requirements, see: [https://jobs.oregonstate.edu/applicants/jsp/shared/position/JobDetails\\_css.jsp](https://jobs.oregonstate.edu/applicants/jsp/shared/position/JobDetails_css.jsp)

For additional information please contact: Philip Hamm; 541-567-832; [philip.b.hamm@oregonstate.edu](mailto:philip.b.hamm@oregonstate.edu) [https://jobs.oregonstate.edu/applicants/jsp/shaed/position/JobDetails\\_css.jsp](https://jobs.oregonstate.edu/applicants/jsp/shaed/position/JobDetails_css.jsp)

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NEWS FROM THE OFFICE

Hi All, the first round of 2012 membership renewal invoices were put into the mail on Monday, Oct. 17th. There is a letter included with them letting you know the format is the same as last year...you have two chances to send your dues into me by 12/31/2011 before it expires and all benefits end. So please send in your payment just as soon as you receive your invoice and you don't have to worry about missing out on any of your benefits. ****NEWS FLASH..I just received my first renewal and DAVE DOUCHES wins the kudos!!**

If you DO NOT plan on renewing, please let me know that as well so I don't keep bothering you. If you're retiring, however, do not forget the 'Emeritus' membership category that gives you all the same benefits except you don't receive the AJPR, but do receive the PAA Insider. Contact me for more details or read about it online under the Membership Categories: http://potatoassociation.org/members/membership_categories.html

As always, I'm here for all of you if you need help with anything...Happy Holidays early ~ Lori ~