

The Potato Association of America



PAA INSIDER

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE POTATO ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

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

LETTER FROM THE PAA PRESIDENT

Dear PAA Members,

I know the growing season is well underway for many of you in the Northern Hemisphere, and I wish you a productive season. Here in New Brunswick snow is receding off the fields and the chill is starting to leave the air. We should be planting in a month's time. I am looking forward to it. With this letter I will give an update of what the Executive Committee has been working on so far this year.

Beginning with the next issue of the American Journal of Potato Research, the PAA logo will appear on the first page of each article. Branding the articles with our logo indicates PAA has approved the article for publication. It is also an excellent promotional tool for PAA. According to the latest Springer annual report, of the articles published in 2014, 10,340 were downloaded from the AJPR worldwide. With 69% of the visits to the AJPR website coming from Europe and Asia-Pacific, having the PAA logo on each and every article is a great way to expose the world to PAA.

The EC has been working closely with professional consultant Karen Bonaudi on updating the PAA governing documents, namely the Articles of Incorporation and Constitution and Bylaws. While the PAA EC and membership have been diligent over the years in updating our documents, they do require some renovation. Changes are necessary for several reasons: primarily to bring our documents into compliance with state and IRS laws and regulations; but also to streamline the language and operations for easier navigation and application; to maintain our values and culture; to minimize risks and exposure, legal and otherwise; and to help PAA grow. One of the streamlining activities is to separate out the procedures that are embedded in the current Bylaws— this will eliminate the need to vote on Bylaw changes each year at the Annual Meeting.

One month prior to the Annual Business Meeting in Michigan, the membership will receive copies of the updated Articles of Incorporation and Constitution and Bylaws. These documents will not look like our previous versions – this is part of the renovation process. Although the document format will change, what will not change is the essence of PAA, what PAA stands for and what PAA does. You are encouraged to review these documents and be prepared to vote at the Annual Business Meeting on August 3rd, 2016.

As mentioned in the January Insider, the EC is also working toward transitioning management and administration of PAA business to a non-profit support company. In the next few years, our Treasurer and Administrator will be enjoying their retirement. That would be the ideal time to hire the services of a group familiar with the workings of scientific societies such as ours to take over accounting and membership management, as well as acting as a permanent conference coordinator. We will take our time and transition slowly. The EC will begin entertaining proposals from potential companies soon.

I am really looking forward to the 100th Annual Meeting in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

(Continued on page 3)

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APRIL

MEETINGS & EVENTS

May/June

May 31-June 3:

[16th Virology
Sec of EAPR &
8th AM of PVY
wide org](#)

Ljubljana, Slovenia
Info: [Louise Zhang](#)

June

**21-22: [Crop
Transition Conf.](#)**
Minneapolis, MN
Info: [meetings@
unitedpotatousa.
com](#)

**29-30: 2016
Triennial EAPR
Sec Post Harvest
mtg**

Wageningen.
Info: [Dr Ian Toth](#)

**20: [Potato Virus
Detection Trng
Workshop](#)**

Othello, WA
Info: [pbg-potato
virus@cornell.edu](#)

July/August

**18-21-[EAPR 3rd
Powdery Scab
WS](#)**

Einsiedeln, Switz
Info: [Ueli Merz](#)

Attention Graduate Students!

I hope all of you are planning to attend the 2016 PAA annual meeting in Grand Rapids, Michigan July 31- August 4, 2016.

There is a new addition to the meeting this year—a graduate student networking activity on Sunday, July 31st. Please plan to join us for this fun adventure and get to know other graduate students and PAA members while experiencing and tasting the many culinary attributes of potatoes. **There is no cost to you to participate.**

The activity, a private culinary experience with potatoes will start at 10 am in the lobby of the Grand Amway Hotel with a short walking tour to the Downtown Marketplace. There we will have a demonstration class on working with potatoes as a raw material by making 'Masale dosa,' followed by manipulating potato starch by making 'Rosti' and 'Aligot.' Then the games begin—a 'gnocchi' making competition. Prizes will be awarded. We will end with a dessert of 'Biscuit de Savoie' (potato starch cake). A leisurely walk back to the hotel will return us in plenty of time for the President's Reception.

All graduate students are invited to attend regardless of participation in the Frank L. Haynes Graduate Student Research Award Competition. The activity is being funded by The Potato Association of America Endowment Fund.

Please plan to arrive in Grand Rapids early for this great networking activity. Please RSVP to Nora Olsen (norao@uidaho.edu; 208-423-6634) by July 1 if you are able to join us. Call or email with any questions.

3rd Powdery Scab Workshop

Monday 18th - Thursday 21st, July 2016
Einsiedeln, Switzerland

This will be the last opportunity to combine a visit of Switzerland with a scientific meeting on powdery scab of potatoes. The local organizer, Ueli Merz, will retire later this year. These workshops are always a good mixture of interesting talks, fruitful discussions and enjoyable social interactions with international scientists.

You will find more information on: http://www.spongospora.ethz.ch/Einsiedeln_2016/Index.htm
Please send the First Registration Form soon to ueli.merz@usys.ethz.ch

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Dear PAA colleague,

It is our pleasure to invite you to the **16th triennial meeting of the Virology Section of the EAPR**, which will be combined with the **8th annual meeting of PVY wide organization**. The meeting will be held from **May 31st to June 3rd 2016** in **Ljubljana, Slovenia**.

The meeting will cover different aspects of virus research in potatoes, ranging from diagnosis and detection to plant-virus interactions. We encourage scientists, students, growers, seed potato producers and plant health officers to attend this meeting.

See important dates and more detailed information in the attached First Announcement and on the meeting website: <http://www.eapr2016.si/> . We are looking forward welcoming you in Ljubljana

Adrian Fox, on behalf of the Virology Section of EAPR;
Christophe Lacomme, on behalf of PVYwide organization;
Marusa Pompe-Novak, on behalf of Organizing committee

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100th Annual Meeting – The Potato Association of America
July 31- Aug 4, 2016 Grand Rapids, MI

The 2016 LAC is looking forward to the 100th Annual Meeting from July 31 – August 4 at the prestigious Amway Grand Plaza Hotel in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Registration is open and can be accessed at: <http://www.experiencegr.com/mipotato/> or by going to <http://mipotato.com> and clicking on PAA Registration. There are numerous activity/tour options so please be sure to click through the entire schedule and sign up for these fantastic opportunities. This year, the 2016 LAC has worked to ensure that participants are able to see everything that both the city of Grand Rapids and Michigan agriculture has to offer. The early registration discount ends on **June 30th** so be sure to check it out before then! If you have any questions please contact Dave Douches - douchesd@msu.edu; Chris Long - longch@msu.edu, or Mike Wenkel - mike@mipotato.com

“SILENT AUCTION”

100% of the proceeds will benefit the PAA Endowment Fund

Have you started gathering auction items for the July 2016 PAA Annual Meeting?

Use your imagination and bring, or send, it for our biggest fundraiser of the year. From quilts, books, prints, potato-related items, humorous pieces. It doesn't have to be 'potato' related!!

- ◆ **Location:** Grand Rapids, Michigan PAA Annual Meeting
- ◆ **Bidding Starts:** Sunday, July 31st at Noon
- ◆ **Bidding Ends:** Tuesday, August 2nd at 3:00 PM

Donated items will be accepted at the Registration Table Sunday (July 31st) and continue through 2:00 PM on Tuesday (August 2nd).

(SA material will be displayed all day Monday for your bidding pleasure!)

The auction will wrap up following the poster session on Tuesday, August 2nd and **you must be present to win.**

Please share this information with family, friends, and sponsors who would like to support the Auction and the Endowment Fund.

**Can't make it to the meeting or don't want to bring it on the plane, send to: Dalton Hard, MPIC,
3515 West Road, Ste A, East Lansing, MI 48823**

Thank you for your support in whatever form it may be!! (Cash gifts are always Welcome!)

President's Letter

(Continued from page 1)

Planning of the 100th Annual Meeting celebrations are well underway. I think you will enjoy what we have planned. Nora Olsen has organized a social event on the Sunday before the meeting for the graduate students to get to know each other better while having fun cooking with potatoes. The LAC has organization of the program and activities well in hand. Abstract submission via the new online system appeared to go smoothly with very few glitches. It is shaping up to be a great meeting.

I hope to see you all in Michigan.

Loretta Mikitzel
President 2015-2016

PAA Information

2015-2016 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President: Loretta Mikitzel
Pres-Elect: Mike Thornton
Vice-President: Shelley Jansky
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 Wohleb
Treasurer: Larry Hiller
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Jeff Endelman

Certification:

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Extension, Production & Management:

Vikram Bisht

Physiology:

Rhett Spear

Plant Protection:

Steve Johnson

Utilization & Marketing:

Bret Nedrow

100TH ANNUAL MEETING

July 31-Aug 4, 2016

Grand Rapids, Michigan

<http://www.experiencegr.com/mipotato/>

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E-mail: umpotato@maine.edu;
Website: <http://potatoassociation.org>

PAA News From Members, About Members, and the Administrator

As I was going through my updates, I realized that I had never published the news that **1992 Honorary Life Member Donald A. Young** passed away on December 7, 2015. You may read his obituary at: http://www.yorkfh.com/memsol.cgi?user_id=1714308.

We also received the sad news that **1993 Honorary Life Member Robert W. Goth** passed away on March 14, 2016. His write-up is listed [here](#). Both members were respected with their knowledge about potatoes and will be missed by both growers and scientists alike.

Other News: I still have quite a few members who didn't renew their membership in 2016. I have turned over the list to Vice-President Shelley Jansky. She and her team will be contacting you over the next few weeks to remind you of this. All you will need to do is go into your profile and renew your membership, your invoice is waiting for you. You will definitely need to do this if you plan on attending this year's meeting in Michigan if you want to receive the \$100 registration discount. Why would you want to pay the extra \$100 and not receive the benefits vs renewing your membership and receiving all of the benefits you have in the past? Until the next issue, if you have questions or concerns, you know where I am. Best Wishes for a successful growing season, ~ Lori ~

Potato Virus Detection Training Workshop Washington State University Research Farm 1471 West Cox Road, Othello, WA Monday, June 20, 2016 ~ 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

This workshop will cover field identification of PVY (strains O, N-Wi and NTN), including visual identification of foliar symptoms on ~40 major cultivars. We will also have samples of different tuber symptoms from PVY, PMTV and TRV. In addition, we will be discussing and demonstrating new diagnostic assays for viruses and soil-borne vectors of some of the viruses.

We expect a high attendance rate because recent standardization of seed certification programs across the U.S. includes the requirement for documentation of inspector training. This workshop is planned for the week including the WSU Commercial Seed Lot Evaluation (Tuesday June 21) in Othello, the OSU Potato Field Day at the OSU Research and Extension Center, 2121 S. 1st Street, Hermiston, OR (Wednesday June 22) and the WSU Potato Field Day in Othello (Thursday June 23). Come and make a week of it! For more info: <http://pppmb.cals.cornell.edu/content/potato-virus-detection-training-workshop>

University and USDA experts at the Virus Detection Training Workshop will include:

- * Stewart Gray (USDA-ARS/Cornell)
- * Mark Pavek (WSU)
- * Alex Karasev (UID)
- * Jonathan Whitworth (USDA-ARS ID)
- * Amy Charkowski (UWI)
- * Nina Zidack (MtSU)

The workshop is part of a USDA NIFA Specialty Crops Initiative award titled "Biological and economic impacts of emerging potato tuber necrotic viruses and the development of comprehensive and sustainable management practices".

Tentative schedule:

- * 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. - Coffee and introductions
- * 10 a.m. to Noon - Field observations
- * Noon to 1 p.m. - Lunch (provided)
- * 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. - Demonstration and discussion of diagnostic assays
- * 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. - Field observations