



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 THE NEW PAA PRESIDENT

Dear PAA Members,

The annual meeting of The Potato Association of America is always one of the highlights of my year, and has been ever since I went to my first one in Boise, ID in 1985. The 100th annual meeting this past summer in Grand Rapids, MI was very special for many reasons, including the opportunity to celebrate this event in the historic Amway Grand Plaza Hotel where the second ever meeting of this association was held in December, 1915. I want to extend my personal thanks to LAC Co-Chairs Dave Douches, Chris Long and Mike Wenkel and their team for the fantastic organization of that event. If you were not there you really missed an opportunity to reconnect with old friends in the potato industry, and meet new ones from around the world. I hope you will consider attending the 2017 meeting. I know the LAC is very excited to be hosting the 101st meeting this summer in Fargo, ND. You can read more about their plans and find out how to register and submit an abstract in this newsletter.

It seems like we always come back from the PAA meeting and go right into the frenzy of harvest without a chance to even take a deep breath and look forward to the next year. With fall closing in and most field work coming to an end, now is a great time to outline a few areas of focus for this coming year.

Since we are on the subject of the annual meeting, you may have noticed some of the activities that have been initiated to increase our outreach to graduate students. Participation in the Frank L. Haynes Graduate Student Research Award Competition has been building every year, and the quality of the presentations has definitely enhanced the program at the annual meeting. However, we wanted to use some of the funds from the endowment to better connect graduate students with each other, and to have an opportunity to interact with PAA members as a way to foster their interest in continuing their careers in potato science. To that end, Dr. Nora Olsen organized a terrific culinary event for the graduate students in MI, and the comments we received back were very positive. I plan to work with the Fargo LAC to continue this effort.

Another relatively new addition to the program has been an invited international speaker. This activity is also made possible by the PAA endowment account that many of you have generously supported. We plan to continue this activity at the 2017 meeting. Hector Lozoya and his International Relations Committee are currently accepting nominations for speakers.

One important topic of discussion during the 2016 Business Meeting was the proposed revisions to the PAA Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws. A committee was established last year to work through needed revisions that will bring these documents into compliance with current laws and procedures, and

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OCTOBER

MEETINGS & EVENTS

December

[02: Potatoes NB Annual Genl Mtg](#)

Florenceville, NB

January 2017

[04-06: Potato Expo2017:](#)

San Francisco, CA

[18-19: ID Potato Conf & Ag Expo](#)

Pocatello, ID

[24-26: Wash/OR Potato Conf.](#)

Kennewick, WA

[Jan 30-Feb 1: 2017 Winter Potato Conf.](#)

Mt Pleasant, MI

February

[07-09: 2017 UW Ext & WPVGA](#)

[Grower Edu & Conf & The Industry Show.](#)

Stevens Point, WI.

**FIRST CALL FOR PAPERS, POSTERS & AWARDS
TO BE PRESENTED AT OUR 101ST ANNUAL MEETING**

The Call for Papers to be presented at the **101st Annual Meeting** of The Potato Association of America, to be held **July 23-27, 2017 in Fargo, North Dakota**, USA will be presented in the next issue of the *PAA Insider*. Abstracts will be submitted online at <http://paa.apexabstracts.com>. Guidelines for submitting abstracts will be provided in the Call for Papers and on the abstract website. **The abstracts will be accepted starting in January 2017 and the abstract submission deadline is March 24, 2017.** Questions can be sent to Carrie Wohleb, PAA Secretary, at cwohle@wsu.edu.



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 2017 101st Annual Meeting in Fargo, North Dakota. 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.

Instructions for HLM nomination, selection procedures and desired candidate information can be found on the PAA website: <http://potatoassociation.org/membership/committees/honorary-life-member>



Completed HLM nominations and all supporting documentation should be submitted electronically in MS Word or PDF format to Past President Loretta Mikitzel, and are **due by March 24, 2017.**

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

Loretta Mikitzel, 2015-2016 President
loretta.mikitzel@gnb.ca



"Outstanding Extension Project Award"

Dear PAA members,

PAA recognizes good potato extension work annually; however it was missed for a few years.

This is an appeal to seek nomination(s) for the **"Outstanding Extension Project Award"**. Please forward your nomination(s) with a brief description of the project work by the individual or a group, and a note as to why the nominee deserves to be recognized. For complete

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Outstanding Extension Project Award

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information and instructions for nominating, see the Outstanding Extension Project Award link at: <http://potatoassociation.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/05/2017-Outstanding-Extension-Award-Instructions.pdf>

The recognition will be at the **2017 PAA annual meeting at Fargo, North Dakota, July 23-27.**

Sincerely,

Vikram

Vikram Bisht

Past-Chair, PAA Extension Section.

vikram.bisht@gov.mb.ca

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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)** of The Potato Association of America to be held at the 101st Annual Meeting in Fargo, North Dakota.

The purpose of the FLHGSRAC 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 24, 2017**
2. Graduate students **must be members** of The PAA and may not use their advisor's ID.
3. First place winners from previous PAA meetings are not eligible to participate.
4. Research reported must have been done while a graduate student.
5. The paper must be orally presented. Poster papers and symposium presentations do not qualify for the GSRAC.
6. Students are required to submit abstracts for papers they wish to present in the Competition.
7. No new students may register after the deadline or at the meeting.
8. 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.

**Membership information is found on The PAA website at: <http://potatoassociation.org/membership>

General Criteria for Judging:

Papers and presentations will be judged on the following basis:

- A. Abstract (16.6%)
- B. Organization (16.6%)
- C. Effective use of time (16.6%)
- D. Effective use of visuals (16.6%)
- E. Presentation style (16.6%)
- F. Impact of the research (16.6%)

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

Final Letter from Outgoing President

It has been a privilege serving PAA as President this past year. As in previous years, the Executive Committee and Section Chairs met during the year via conference calls and emails. I thank each participant for taking the time to make our meetings productive and helping to move a strong PAA forward. I am proud that PAA has so many dedicated and active members. Our Administrator, Lori Wing, as always, efficiently handled all aspects of The PAA office.

During the year the Executive Committee has worked hard to continue the restructuring of PAA that was started by Andy Jensen after the annual meeting in Maine. We are making good progress on updating PAA's bylaws, and reorganizing PAA's structural and financial management. There will be a lot of changes coming this year and next in preparation for the imminent retirement of our Treasurer Larry Hiller and Administrator Lori Wing. Change is never easy but it is necessary for PAA to continue to thrive in the future. Throughout this transition period and after, what PAA stands for, what PAA does, in other words the heart and soul of PAA, will remain the same.

We celebrated our 100th Annual Meeting last July in Grand Rapids, Michigan. I wish to recognize Co-Chairs Mike Wenkel, Chris Long and David Douches who hosted an excellent and enjoyable meeting. The venue, food, well planned sessions and great social events will be remembered for a long time.

As immediate past president I am responsible for receiving nominations for Honorary Life Membership. If you know of someone deserving of this award, please see the announcement in this *Insider* for nomination details. I will also be soliciting nominations for Vice President and Directors. We will have two openings for Director in 2017. If you are interested or know someone who might be, please contact me.

Thank you again for the opportunity to serve as PAA president.

Loretta Mikitzel, President 2015-2016

New President's Letter

Cont from Page 1

set the stage for the future governance of this association. Key messages heard in this discussion were that the election process for Directors and Officers needs to more clearly spelled out; and that there needs to be a clear plan of transition from the old Bylaws to the new ones when those documents are approved by the membership. The committee is currently working to address the concerns that were raised, with plans to present a revised document to the PAA membership prior to the 2017 meeting.

An ad-hoc committee headed by President-elect Shelley Jansky is evaluating proposals from several professional management companies to take over the financial and administrative duties of PAA. This effort is aimed at developing a management structure that does not rely so heavily on volunteers to conduct the day to day business of this association.

As your newly elected President, I hope that I can continue the good work of Past-President Loretta Mikitzel in moving the PAA forward into its second century. Loretta, along with all the other Directors, Officers and Section Chairs that are listed in this newsletter do so much behind the scenes to ensure the success of PAA, and I want to thank them all for their contributions to this association. There are three volunteers and one staff member that I really need to single out for their contributions. John Bamberg (Editor-in-Chief), Larry Hiller (Treasurer) and Carrie Wohleb (Secretary) put in countless hours every year in service to PAA. Our Administrator, Lori Wing, has ably staffed the PAA office in Maine for over 19 years, handling the day to day business of this association, and keeping people like me on track. PAA could not be successful without the dedicated service of all of these fine people.

We will continue the practice of having monthly conference calls to allow the Executive Committee to conduct the business of the association, and to deal with the important issues outlined above. If you have any ideas or concerns that the EC needs to address, please feel free to contact us at any time.

Mike Thornton
President 2016-2017

101ST Annual Meeting – The Potato Association of America
July 23 - July 27, 2017, Fargo, North Dakota USA

The 2017 LAC is excited to host the 101st Annual Meeting of The Potato Association of America July 23-27 in Fargo, North Dakota. The theme of our meeting is "The Center of Potatoes"

The conference hotel is the Holiday Inn, where the much remembered meeting was held in 1998. This facility is the place for hosting meetings in our region and is consistently praised for their hospitality, service and culinary skills. All meeting and sleeping rooms at the Holiday Inn were refurbished in 2016 and will meet all your comfort needs. The PAA negotiated rate is \$115/night. There is complimentary high speed internet in each guest room and common areas, indoor pool, fitness center, restaurants, a lounge and casino. The hotel is conveniently located directly across the street from West Acres, the largest shopping mall between Minneapolis and Seattle, and at the intersection of Interstate 94 and Interstate 29. The hotel is just five minutes from the Fargo International Airport with airline connections through Chicago, Denver and Minneapolis on Delta, American and United airlines. Reservations can be made by contacting the Holiday Inn at www.holidayinn.com/Fargo or by phone [701-282-2700](tel:701-282-2700) / [800-315-2621](tel:800-315-2621). Be sure to mention that you are with "The Potato Association of America". Shuttles will be available for travel to the downtown area full of great restaurants and extensive beer selections.

The Annual Meeting will follow a condensed schedule similar to the models used the past two years. Registration begins on Sunday, July 23rd. Sunday afternoon will include some local tours, an opportunity to explore Fargo and an event for graduate students on some aspect of food from our region. Sunday evening will feature the President's Reception, A Taste of North Dakota featuring only products from our state, as the official kick-off to the meeting. Sessions start on Monday morning with concurrent sessions. A symposium planned by the Extension, Production and Management Section on new technology will follow in the afternoon to be held at the historic Fargo Theatre in downtown Fargo. Concurrent sessions will continue throughout the day on Tuesday followed by a poster session. Tuesday evening will be an offsite dinner with a Midwestern Scandinavian theme with hilarious entertainment and a live auction. There will be time to attend the Redhawks minor league baseball game after dinner depending on the schedule for those that love baseball. Wednesday morning will feature more concurrent sessions. The Annual Business Meeting will take place in the afternoon and will lead into the Banquet and Awards on Wednesday evening at the Holiday Inn. This will conclude official business

On Thursday, those that want to participate will have the opportunity to take a tour of NDSU or other agricultural related tour. During the week we plan tours and shopping opportunities for accompanying persons to local craft stores and woodland hikes. More information on the city of Fargo and sister city Moorhead can be found at www.fargomoorhead.org. Additional information will continue to be available on our website as details are finalized. Continue to look for future editions of the PAA Insider for new information. We look forward to bringing you to Fargo for yet another spectacular and fun meeting. Plan now to attend PAA 2017 with us.

Gary Secor, Andy Robinson and Susie Thompson
PAA LAC 2017 Co-Chairs

PAA Information

2016-2017 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President: Mike Thornton
Pres-Elect: Shelley Jansky
Vice-President: Rich Novy
Secretary: Carrie Huffman
 Wohleb

Treasurer: Larry Hiller

Financial Officer: Bret
 Nedrow

Past-Pres: Loretta Mikitzel

Editor-in-Chief: John
 Bamberg

Directors:

Andre Gagnon
 Kent McCue
 Mark Pavek
 Asunta 'Susie' Thompson
 Paul Bethke

SECTON CHAIRS:

Breeding & Genetics:

Joe Kuhl

Certification:

Jeff McMorran

Extension, Production & Management:

Ken Frost

Physiology:

Sastry Jayanty

Plant Protection:

Ken Frost

Utilization & Marketing:

Bret Nedrow

101ST ANNUAL MEETING

July 23-July 27, 2017

Fargo, North Dakota

The *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; **Website:** <http://potatoassociation.org>

PAA News From Members, About Members, and the Administrator

It's been awhile since I shared current donors to The PAA Endowment Fund so listed below are donors who have generously contributed in 2016. Wouldn't you like to see your name listed the next time this is published? Send in your gift to The PAA office (address listed below in sidebar) and designate it to The PAA Endowment Fund or the Frank L Haynes Graduate Student Research Award Fund, both are worthy causes and worth any amount you wish to donate. Thank you for caring, ~ Lori

Maher Alsahlany
 John & Ingrid Bamberg
 Dilson Bisognin
 Tina Brandt
 George Burkholder
 Nathan Butler
 Bill & Maureen Campbell
 Jose A Caram Souza-Dias
 Joseph Coombs
 Emmet Dalton
 Rob Davidson
 Henry De Jong
 Dave Ellis
 Todd Forbush
 James Frank
 Mary Jo Frazier
 Curtis Frederick
 Zenaída Ganga
 Robert Gareau & Loretta Mikitzel
 Andrea Garcia
 Darin Gibson
 Joe Guenther
 Dennis Halterman
 Don Halseth
 Dalton Hard
 Deb Hart
 Mel & Dilys Henninger

Larry & Jan Hiller
 Zach Holden
 David Holm
 Robert Hoopes & Margaret Savoie
 Pam Hutchinson & Tom Salaiz
 Keith Kelling
 Mary Lemere
 Richard & Ellen Leschek
 Hector Lozoya
 Katie McGlew
 Kent McCue
 Jeff Miller
 Leigh Morrow
 Patrick Morris
 Felix Navarro
 Nora Olsen
 John Pierre
 Keith Schulz
 Joe Siczka
 Joe Sowokinos
 Choi Sunglin
 Susie Thompson
 Richard & Karen Veilleux
 Mike Wenkel/MPIC
 Christine Wentworth
 Lynn Woodell

Notes from the Administrator

Can you believe that it is November already and we're heading towards the end of another year. Just a housekeeping item to think about:

The first round of renewals have been sent out by our online accounting software. Just like last year, you were given the option to go into PayPal (PP) and pay it right then and there. You do not have to have a PP account, this belongs to PAA and we pay all fees. You just need to put in your name, the **address** that your **CC invoice** is sent to and CC information. You'll receive a receipt once the transaction has gone through. When you call and give me your CC information because you don't use PayPal, that is exactly what is going to happen. I'm just going to turn around and put it through using it. Please try it out before calling because I don't always receive the correct invoice address. I have to turn around and contact you for assistance. I appreciate those who have paid so promptly and also your continued support of PAA through membership!

Have a Happy Holiday Season as it now approaches ~ Lori ~