



PAA INSIDER

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF
THE POTATO ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

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DON'T MISS



102ND
ANNUAL
MEETING

The Potato
Association
of America

July 22-26,
2018

Boise, Idaho
USA

See page 8

LETTER FROM THE NEW PAA PRESIDENT

“The PAA is like a family.” I’ve heard this statement many times over the years and have wondered how to reconcile this statement with the role of a professional society, which is, well, professional. However, over time, I have come to appreciate the importance of inter-personal connections among scientists. These connections are at the heart of the concept of family, whether we are talking about siblings or scientists. We are wired to seek common bonds in all aspects of our lives.

Our PAA family comes together once a year to celebrate our common bond – potato science. At our annual meeting, we make new

connections and strengthen established ones. This year, 240 delegates came together in Fargo, North Dakota, for a meeting to remember.



Graduate student award winners celebrate the PAA’s recognition of their hard work. From left to right, Ryan Alpers (3rd place), Jaebum Park (4th), Graham Ellis (2nd), Maria Caraza Salas (1st), and Natalie Kirkwyland (5th).



Graduate students got a taste of Norwegian culture by learning to make lefse. Members of the Sons of Norway Lodge provided the expertise needed for making these super thin potato pancakes.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



Congratulations are in order for the new Honorary Life Members, Allan French, Rob Davidson, and Jeff Suttle.

Graduate students were given the rare opportunity to make lefse at a workshop organized by Susie Thompson; delegates learned about decision support tools and technologies in a symposium organized by the Extension, Production and Management section; ample food for thought was provided by 78 oral and 14 poster presentations; 22 graduate student competition entries were judged and five were selected for recognition; three new Honorary Life Members were welcomed; two outstanding AJPR papers were acknowledged, and Lori Wing was recognized as our administrator for 20 years. Lori has been the face of the PAA and will be missed in her retirement, but will continue to be a valued member of the PAA family.

The Local Arrangements Committee, Andy Robinson, Gary Secor, and Susie Thompson deftly straddled the fine line

between science and social interactions. They thought of everything that would help ideas to flow freely, include a bottomless keg of locally brewed PAA beer.

Now that we have our feet firmly planted in the 21st century, I think we are in a good position to evaluate our goals for the PAA in the coming decades.

The PAA is unique in its position as a commodity-specific research organization with its own commodity-specific professional journal. This has both advantages and disadvantages. As we experience at our annual meetings, PAA members are linked by a common passion for all things potato. On the other hand, it is challenging to imagine ways in which we can reach out beyond our potato universe to scientists who may not see an obvious connection to our research endeavors.



Our tireless Fargo hosts were Local Arrangements Committee chairs Gary Secor, Susie Thompson, and Andy Robinson.



President Mike Thornton describes Administrator Lori Wing's long and storied career with the PAA.



AJPR Editor-in-Chief John Bamberg presents the outstanding research paper award to Dennis Johnson (top) and the outstanding review paper award to Helen Tai, who accepted on behalf of Hielke DeJong.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

As you may know, we have hired a management company (AMR in Ann Arbor, MI) to help us run the daily affairs of the PAA. Our new administrator, Angela Richardson, and others at AMR have been busy transitioning the office from Maine and helping us to systematically assemble and maintain our records. Angela will answer if you call the PAA phone number (734-239-8022) or send an email to paaoffice@potatoassociation.org. If you ever get a glimpse behind the scenes of the PAA, you will quickly discover that we are a surprisingly complex organization. We regularly attend to a diverse array of items, including membership and associated fees, AJPR publications and page charges, donations and endowment funds, annual meeting planning and management, the website, communication with members, budget preparation, taxes, and insurance, among other things. With AMR on board, we hope that the PAA leadership can now focus on what it will take to keep

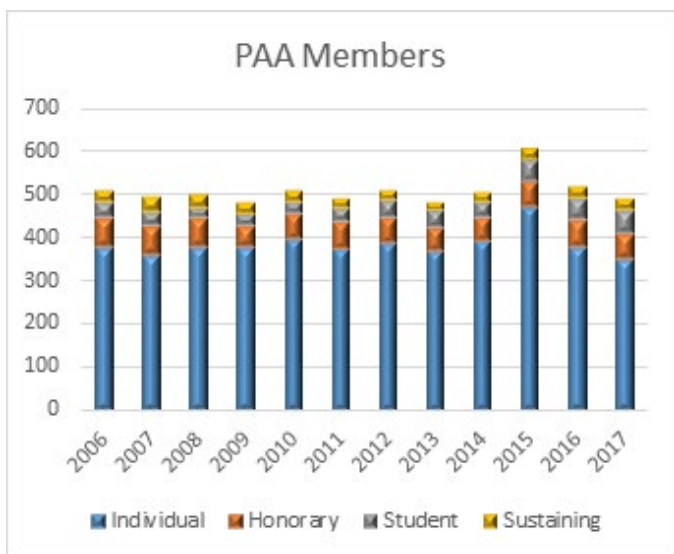
our organization strong and relevant to potato scientists. We are updating and streamlining our bylaws, which outline the rules under which we operate. We are exploring new ways to communicate with members and to allow regular dialog within PAA groups such as the sections. Finally, we are aiming to strengthen ties with our potato industry sister organizations, especially Potatoes USA and the National Potato Council, through involvement in the Potato Expo and the Potato Research Advisory Committee.

As I follow in the footsteps of Mike Thornton, I know I have big shoes to fill. He led us with a steady hand and sensible head while we dealt with unexpected changes in the PAA last year. Mike was able to creatively address challenges while engaging the PAA leadership throughout the year. In addition, treasurer Larry Hiller has been instrumental and tireless during these times of transition. He is our

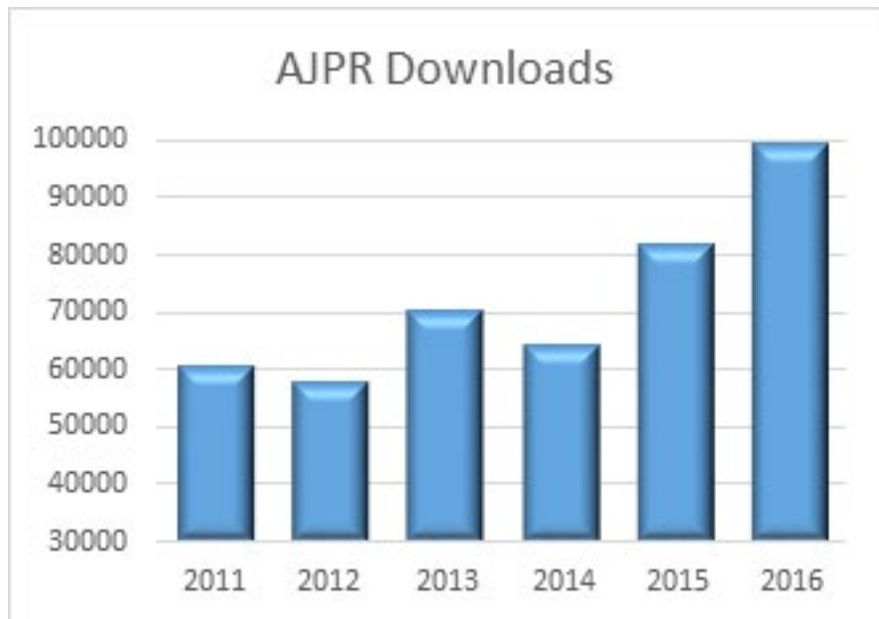
institutional memory and a devoted supporter of the PAA. Three cheers for Larry and Mike!

In preparation for the year ahead, I have been reviewing PAA records to see our trajectory for important association metrics. First of all, for the past 12 years, our membership has held steady at about 500 members, ¾ of which are individuals. While individual member numbers have declined in recent years, student membership has increased, likely due to in part to the popularity of the graduate student competition. We need to keep a close eye on our membership data and work on ways to maintain and perhaps even increase membership.

Our annual meeting is the one opportunity for the PAA membership to come together. It is important for us to keep this meeting relevant, especially as funds for travel become more difficult to secure and more meetings compete for our travel plans.



CONTINUED ON PAGE 4



We have had incredibly enthusiastic and well-organized local arrangements committees in recent years. They can be credited with keeping attendance nearly steady at about 250 delegates. We must carefully consider the needs of our delegates as we plan future venues, dates, and events for annual meetings.

Finally, the AJPR is our major vehicle for accomplishing our mission of disseminating scientific information. Springer provides us with an annual report full of interesting statistics. These reports are available in the members only section of the PAA website. I think the most revealing data set is the number

of downloads of AJPR articles. In 2016, nearly 100,000 full-text article requests were successfully processed through SpringerLink. This number has been increasing over time, and this must be a favorable reflection of the visibility of AJPR and interest in the articles we publish. This year, we would like to experiment with ways to use social media to improve exposure to AJPR content.

As we move into a new PAA year, I am pleased to report that the organization is financially sound, has a solid base of members, and continues to be a leading voice for science-based information about the potato. I urge you to be engaged in our “family” and let us know what we can do to stay relevant in your professional lives.

*Shelley Jansky, President
2017-2018*

PAA INSIDER CONTACT INFORMATION

ADMINISTRATOR NOTE

As PAA’s new administrator, I am excited to contribute over 13 years of experience as a nonprofit manager to grow the association’s capacity to accomplish its mission. I look forward to connecting with you.



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The *PAA Insider* is published twice per year, in the spring and fall.

FIRST CALL FOR PAPERS, POSTERS & AWARDS TO BE PRESENTED AT OUR 102ND ANNUAL MEETING

This is the first call for papers to be presented at the 102nd Annual Meeting of the Potato Association of America, to be held July 22-26, 2018 in Boise, ID, USA. PAA members are invited to present papers dealing with all facets of

the potato industry. Authors are required to submit abstracts for papers they plan to present, whether orally or as a poster. At least one author must be a current member of the PAA. Graduate students who are PAA members are encouraged

to present oral papers and enter the Frank L. Haynes Graduate Student Research Award Competition. Authors of invited papers for the Symposium are also requested to submit an abstract.

PAA ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

Abstracts for the Annual Meeting can be submitted online at <http://paa.apexabstracts.com>

This website requires you to login. If you have not already setup an account (note this account is separate from the one you setup for your PAA Membership), click "Setup New Account" and follow the instructions to create a login. If you have submitted abstracts through this website before but forgot your password, click "Reset Password". Once you are in the system, on the left side of the screen

click "My Titles and Abstracts", and then click "Add New Title/Abstract". The abstract text can be written in the box provided or you can copy and paste your text from a word editing document. The maximum length of abstract text is 300 words. If you would like to save the abstract, without submitting, click on "Save Changes". To go back to a saved abstract, login and click on "My Titles and Abstracts" and select the abstract you want to edit. Abstracts can be edited until the deadline, which is March 12,

2018. When you are ready to submit, click "Save and Submit".

Further details about the presentations, such as the length of oral presentations and poster dimensions, will be provided on the abstract submission website and in the second and final call for papers in January. If you have questions, you can contact 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 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 2018 102nd annual

meeting in Boise, Idaho. 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 Mike Thornton, and are due by March 10, 2018. This is the first call for Honorary Life Membership nominations!

*Mike Thornton, 2016-2017
President
miket@uidaho.edu*

OUTSTANDING EXTENSION PROJECT AWARD

PAA recognizes good potato work annually. 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 more complete information and instructions for nominating, see Outstanding Extension Project Award on the PAA website.

The recognition will be given at the 2018 PAA annual meeting in Boise, Idaho July 22-26.

*Ken Frost, 2016-2017
EPM Section Chair*

FRANK L. HAYNES GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH AWARD COMPETITION

This is the first call for the Frank L. Haynes Graduate Student Research Award Competition (FLHGSRAC) of the Potato Association of America to be held at the 102nd annual meeting in Boise, Idaho.

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. Author(s) must be a graduate student at the time the abstracts are due March 12, 2018.
2. 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>

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 FLHGSRAC.
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 supplied by the LAC.

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, USDA/
ARS Vegetable Crops Research Unit, 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

I would be lying if I didn't admit to feeling both gratitude and a sense of relief in having completed my term as President of the Potato Association of America. It truly is an honor to be elected to serve in a leadership role for this great family of potato scientists, and I am humbled that you entrusted me to lead the Executive Committee this past year. Capping the year with an unforgettable annual meeting in Fargo was a great way to finish my term. I want to extend my personal thanks to LAC Co-Chairs Andy Robinson, Gary Secor and Susie Thompson and their team for the fantastic organization of the meeting.

I also want to thank all the Officers, Directors and Section Chairs for the many hours spent participating in our monthly Executive Committee conference calls, special meetings, and the annual business meeting. A special thanks goes to Susie Thompson and

Kent McCue who have completed their terms as Directors. Kent will continue on the Executive Committee as Vice-President, while Susie has agreed to take over as Chair of the Site Selection Committee. I want to welcome Roy Navarre and Helen Tai to the Executive Committee as new Directors. And of course I am looking forward to working closely with our new President

*THANKS AGAIN FOR
A MEMORABLE YEAR
AND FOR ALLOWING
ME TO SERVE AS
PRESIDENT OF PAA.*

— MIKE THORNTON

Shelley Jansky to continue moving PAA forward this year. All of these people are fine examples of the commitment and dedication to this organization we see throughout our membership.

As the Immediate Past President, I have the pleasure of serving as chair of the Honorary Life Membership Committee. Honorary Life Membership is the highest award presented by this association, and we have many deserving members that have contributed much to the potato industry and this association. Please see the announcement in this Insider issue for nomination details. I will also be chairing the Nominations Committee, and as such will be soliciting names to place on the ballot for Vice President and two Directors. If you are interested, or know someone that might make a good officer, please contact me.

Thanks again for a memorable year and for allowing me to serve as President of PAA.

Mike Thornton, 2016-2017 President

2017-2018 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President: Shelley Jansky
President-Elect: Rich Novy
Vice-President: Kent F. McCue

Secretary: Carrie H. Wohleb
Treasurer: Larry Hiller
Past-President: Mike Thornton

*Chair of the Finance/Endowment Fund
Committee:* Bret Nedrow
Editor-in-Chief: John Bamberg

DIRECTORS

Andre Gagnon
Mark Pavek

Paul Bethke
Helen Tai

Roy Navarre

SECTION CHAIRS

Breeding & Genetics: Vidyasagar
(Sagar) Sathuvalli
Certification: Mia Kirk/Andrew
Houser

Plant Protection: Ken Frost
Physiology: Nora Olsen

Extension, Production, Management:
Robert Gareau
Utilization & Marketing: Rebecca
Jones



102ND ANNUAL MEETING – THE POTATO ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA JULY 22-26, 2018, BOISE, IDAHO USA

The Idaho LAC is pleased to host the 102nd Annual Meeting of the Potato Association of America at the Boise Centre, Boise, Idaho, USA from July 22 to 26, 2018. Please join us in networking and exchanging the latest research, information and ideas to move potato science forward. Come interact with others from the potato industry, tour Idaho agriculture, and experience Idaho outdoor activities and urban downtown fun.

Bring your family/accompanying person - there are many great activities to experience in Boise and the surrounding area. You are less than 3 hours away from Sun Valley, 4 hours to Craters of the Moon National Monument, and 6 hours to Yellowstone National Park by car.

The meeting will be held at the Boise Centre located in downtown Boise at 850 W. Front St. The host hotel is the Grove Hotel which is a very short walking distance to the Boise Centre. The President's reception on Sunday July 22nd and the Annual Banquet on Wednesday July 25th will be held overlooking the Boise area from the

top of Jack's Urban Meeting Place (JUMP). Monday will begin with section meetings, followed by oral presentations including an industry-related session, and an afternoon on "Impact of Quarantined Pests on Potato Production" sponsored by the Pest Management and Certification Sections. Enjoy a Boise Hawks baseball game in the evening. Oral sessions will be scheduled Tuesday followed by a poster-session. An outdoor Basque Block Party with food and traditional dance will allow us to experience Idaho culture on Tuesday evening. The live auction benefiting the PAA Endowment Fund will add fun and laughter to the event. Oral sessions will continue on Wednesday with the annual Business meeting in the afternoon and then back to JUMP for our evening festivities. Agriculture Tour of "wine and hops" and whitewater rafting will be exciting options to explore Idaho on Thursday July 26th.

The PAA host hotel is the Grove Hotel (grovehotel.com) with complimentary WiFi, fitness club and spa, complimentary shuttle to and from the airport, and a restaurant and lounge. Rooms are available at the discounted rate of \$169 plus tax if booked no later than June 29, 2018. Reservations may be at <https://reservations.travelclick.com/76224?groupID=2005480#/guestsandrooms> or by calling the hotel (direct at 208-489-2222 or

toll free at 888-961-5000) to make reservations. Please be sure to mention our group code of "Potato Association of America" to receive our discounted rate. Additional PAA reserved rooms are available at the Hampton Inn and Suites Boise-Downtown and the Safari Inn. Check the PAA2018 website for additional information on lodging.

The Boise Airport is served by six airlines and is only minutes from downtown.



An agriculture tour...

Please visit the website at www.uidaho.edu/paa2018 for additional information. Check back often as we will continue to add details as they become finalized. We look forward to seeing you in 2018 in Boise, ID.

*PAA LAC2018 Committee and
Co-Chairs Nora Olsen and Bret Nedrow*

MEETINGS AND EVENTS

DECEMBER 2017

[4-5: NCC215 Potato Breeding and Genetics Technical Committee Meeting](#), Holiday Inn Chicago O'Hare Airport

Contact: Benoît Bizimungu, Benoit.Bizimungu@AGR.GC.CA, Committee Chair

JANUARY 2018

[10: Potato Business Summit](#), Rosen Shingle Creek, Orlando, Florida

Sponsored by United Potato Growers of America, UPGC, and PMANA

[10-12: Potato Expo](#), Rosen Shingle Creek, Orlando Florida

[17-18: University of Idaho Potato Conference](#), Pocatello Idaho.

Contacts: Kasia Duellman, kduellman@uidaho.edu Co-Committee Chair

Pamela Hutchinson, phutch@uidaho.edu Co-Committee Chair

[23-25: Washington Oregon Potato Conference and Trade Show](#)

FEBRUARY 2018

[6-8: Wisconsin Grower Education Conference and Industry Show](#), Holiday Inn, Stevens Point, WI

[20: Northern Plains Potato Growers Association Research Report Conference](#), Alerus Center, Grand Forks, ND

[21-22: International Crop Expo](#), Alerus Center, Grand Forks, ND

[27: Minnesota Area II Potato Growers Short Course](#), Jack and Jim's, Duelm, MN

Special Editor Notice: Extension, Production and Management

We are seeking a senior editor to replace Samuel Essah, who will become the AJPR Editor-in-Chief in August 2018. Note: This position could also be done jointly, as co-Senior Editors. If anyone would like to volunteer or has a suggestion for this position, please contact Robert Guareau at (506)391-6521 or rm.gareau@gmail.com