



INSIDER

The Official Newsletter of the Potato Association of America

Letter From the President

Dear friends,

This past year has flown by as they all do when we get older. I have greatly appreciated all the support I have received from the Executive Committee. As always the support of our wonderful secretary Lori Wing has been invaluable to the day to day operation of our society. I would like to express my heartfelt thanks and appreciation to all these wonderful persons.

I am looking forward to seeing all of you who can attend our upcoming annual meeting in Idaho Falls. You will be able to see our new and exciting website on display as well as hear of our plans to move forward on the *American Journal of Potato Research* being published by the Springer company starting in 2008. The LAC for Idaho has planned a top rate program for us and I look forward to seeing you all there next month.

Sincerely,
PAA President Sam Thornton

Update from the Home Office

Just a reminder, before I start sending out July's invoices, that beginning in July 2007, you will see either an increase or a decrease in the amount of your dues owed. The PAA is going to a Calendar (Jan-Dec) year membership period so everyone's dues will become due by December 31st of each year. Depending on your type of membership, when you receive your invoice, it will show an addition with a Jul-Nov expiration date to the standard amount due for each month to bring you up to the 12/31/2008 expiration date. Or a decrease from the full amount if your expiration date is Jan-Jun, because you have already made a partial payment the previous year, to bring it up to an expiration date of 12/31/2008.

The following shows the amount you will be billed according to your expiration date. The rate change for Graduate Students \$2.00; Individuals & Groups \$9.00, and Sustaining Members \$42.00/month.

The membership application on the website now indicates that when you join, you are on this new time period as well so by Dec 31, 2008 everyone will be on the same schedule.

Invoicing renewal rates will be as follows: (Only Individual/Group rates will be broken down to show as an example.)

Individuals/Groups: Add \$9.00 (07/1/07-11/30/07) & Subtract \$9.00 (01/01-06/30/08)

07/31-12/31- \$145	01/31-12/31- \$ 91
08/31-12/31- \$136	02/29-12/31- \$ 82
09/30-12/31- \$127	03/31-12/31- \$ 73
10/31-12/31- \$118	04/31-12/31- \$ 64
11/30-12/31- \$109	05/31-12/31- \$ 55
12/31-21/31- \$100	06/30-12/31- \$ 46

Graduate Students: Add \$2.00 (07/01/07-11/30/07) & Subtract \$2.00 (01/01/08-06/30/08)

Sustaining Members: Add \$42 (07/01/07-11/30/07) & Subtract \$42.00 (01/01/08-06/30/08)

If anyone has questions, please let me know. Let's make this as easy a transition as possible.

Looking forward to seeing old friends at the upcoming meeting and meeting new ones I've dealt with throughout this last year. ~Lori

Vol. 11, No. 3 July 2007

Dates

August

21-23: Potato Russia, Moscow; <http://www.europoint-bv.com/events/?potatorussia>

September

5-6: Potato Europe 2007, Tournai, Belgium; <http://www.potatoeurope.be>

9-13: 4th Solanaceae Genome Workshop, Jeju Island, Korea; <http://www.solanaceae2007.org/>

12-14: Attack & Defence in Plant Disease (British Society for Plant Pathology); <http://www.bsppmeetings.org.uk/>

October

10-12: Int'l Potato Processing & Storage Conv 2007, Alberta, Canada. Info: David Brenchley, dbrenchley@crier.co.uk

26-30: PMA, New Orleans, LA; <http://www.pma.com>

Future Meetings:

PAA Website: <http://www.umaine.edu/paa/potmtgs2007.htm>

ASP Calendar of Events

2008-2015: Not just APS meetings, but all venues. You are able to add your own meetings to their calendar. <http://www.aps-net.org/meetings/calendar.asp>

2007 PAA Meeting Update

Register Now for the PAA 91st Annual Meeting in Idaho

Deadlines Are Approaching for the Annual PAA Meeting

We're looking forward to rolling out the welcome mat for everyone coming to Idaho Falls next month for the annual Potato Association of America meeting being held August 12 – 16, 2007. The theme for this year's meeting is "Healthy Potatoes for a Healthy World." We have a beautiful location for the meeting at the Shilo Inn Hotel and Convention Center with a spectacular view of the Snake River.

We're doing a couple of things differently this year compared to previous meetings. We have scheduled time on Tuesday afternoon for professional networking providing you an opportunity to meet with colleagues whom you only see at the PAA meetings. Also, some sections will meet that afternoon rather than on Monday evening. Several great tours and activities have been organized for accompanying persons on Tuesday as well as other days.

The second change you'll notice will be during the barbecue on Tuesday evening along the banks of the Snake River by the Shilo Inn. New for this meeting is a live auction to raise money for the PAA Endowment Fund. We'll be

holding our 4th Annual Silent Auction on Monday Night and you can read more about that in this Newsletter as well. Don't forget to bring items to sell or money to purchase items for these worthy causes. We're sure you'll enjoy the entertaining auctioneer we've lined up for the event.

We would like to make you aware of two deadlines rapidly approaching for those of you planning to attend the meeting. First, in order to get the group rate at the hotels (Shilo Inn, the conference headquarters or the LeRitz, a very short distance from the Shilo Inn), reservations must be made by July 20, 2007. Second, the deadline for early registration and a reduced rate for the meeting is July 23, 2007. To learn more about the meeting and to register, visit our website <http://www.conferences.uidaho.edu/PAA>.

So don't delay, come join us in Idaho Falls on August 12. Take this opportunity to meet with colleagues, exchange knowledge, and share the past. Or, better yet, create new memories in the great State of Idaho.

Submitted by:
William H. Bohl, University of Idaho
Glenn Letendre, Syngenta Crop Protection, Inc.
Co-chairs, PAA 2007 LAC

4th Annual Silent Auction & 1st Ever "Live" Auction Update

100% of the proceeds will benefit the PAA Endowment Fund

Time is running short. The August 2007 PAA Annual Meeting in Idaho Falls is just weeks away but there's still time for you to send your items for the 4th Annual Silent Auction!!

- **Location: Idaho Falls PAA Conference**
- **Bidding Starts: Monday at Noon**
- **Bidding Ends: Monday, Aug. 13, 8:00P**

Donated items will be accepted at the Registration Table Sunday (8/12/07) and continuing through 3:00 PM on Monday (8/13/07). (Silent Auction material will be displayed all day Monday for your bidding pleasure)!

*Don't forget....all donations are
tax deductible!*

Some items will be held over for a 'live' auction at the BBQ, Tuesday, August 14... two chances to buy some wonderful stuff! From what Bill has said, this is going to be a fun and exciting experience for all, so be sure to plan on attending this auction as well...and don't forget your wallets, credit cards and checkbooks!!

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

**Questions? Jan Mosley, 541-737-9711,
janet.mosley@oregonstate.edu**

Between now and the meeting, reminders on the auctions will be sent in e-mails and also posted on the PAA meeting website: <http://www.conferences.uidaho.edu/PAA>, but just remember we need "YOUR" help to make it a success!!

Welcome to New York State for the 92nd Annual Meeting of The Potato Association of America.

We will host our meeting at the Adam's Mark Buffalo-Niagara Hotel (<http://www.adamsmark.com>) August 10-14, 2008. The United Nations has decreed 2008 as the "International Year of the Potato" and we look forward to a productive, friendly and entertaining meeting and social events based on that theme. Buffalo, incorporated in 1832, is a city full of history, vibrant arts and culture, and natural beauty. New York State's second largest city with 1.2 million residents, Buffalo, resides on the Eastern shores of Lake Erie. Due to Buffalo's rich cultural heritage, visitors will find the city full of surprises. Buffalo is world renowned for its architecture, including five homes built by Frank Lloyd Wright. History buffs will discover the terminus of the Erie Canal on Buffalo's waterfront, President Theodore Roosevelt inauguration site, and Underground Railroad sites. The Albright-Knox Art Gallery is considered to house one of North America's top collections of contemporary art. The city's theatre district features no less than 14 theatres and performance spaces. A stroll through the Elmwood & Hertel Avenue districts will reveal funky shops and hip restaurant & dining

establishments. The Chippewa Entertainment District in downtown is another destination for those searching for a great pub, distinctive dining or live music. Upstate New York is famous for its many scenic natural resources – Niagara Falls, the Finger Lakes Region, and rolling hillsides of farmland. Agriculture is still the number one industry in the state and within 50 miles of Buffalo one can observe vineyards, dairy, grain, vegetable and potato production. More information is available at <http://www.visitbuffaloniagara.com> and <http://www.iloveny.com>

Buffalo is easily accessible by air, train or car. It's international airport is serviced by 10 airline companies (Air Tran, American Eagle, Comair/Delta, Continental, Jet-Blue, Northwest, Prior, Southwest, United and U.S. Airways). Amtrak offers modern, convenient train travel, including Empire Service and Maple Leaf trains. By car Buffalo is easily reached via the New York State Thruway (Interstate-90), and from Canada via the Queen Elizabeth Way (QEW).

Local Arrangements Committee Co-Chairs
Don Halseth and Joe Sieczka, Cornell University.

Zebra Chip: A New Disease of Potato

Neil C. Gudmestad and Gary A. Secor
Department of Plant Pathology, NDSU

Introduction

A new disease of potatoes called "zebra chip" (ZC), so named for the characteristic symptoms that develop in potato tubers from infected plants, has been documented by the research group at North Dakota State Univ (NDSU) to occur in commercial potato production fields. The disease was first documented in potato fields around Saltillo, Mexico, in 1994 (GA Secor, unpublished), and was first identified in the USA in the year 2000 in commercial potato fields in the Pearsall, TX, production area. Since that time ZC has spread to a number of other states, including NE, CO, KS, NM and CA. ZC was sporadically important economically until the 2004 and 2005 growing seasons when it caused millions of dollars in losses to both potato producers and processors in numerous locations. It also causes serious losses to the fresh market, tablestock and export potato industry, often causing the abandonment of an entire field.

ZC continues to be economically important in the fresh and processing potato producing areas of Mexico, particularly in the states of Coahuila and Nuevo Leon in northeastern Mexico, where it is called "papa manchada" (stained potato). In 2004, ZC incidence in this region was as high as 80% in some fields.

This area borders the winter potato production area in TX where ZC was found in the USA. The disease is also serious in potato

production areas of Guatemala, where it is named "papa rayada" (striped potato), and causes a serious problem of market potatoes, subsistence gardens, and processed potatoes.

NEBRASKA POTATO EYES [Vol. 19, Issue 1, Winter 2007 •
Alexander D. Pavlista, Ph.D.]

BREAKING NEWS: During the 80th Legislature, NFIB/Texas contracted \$1.6 million to do research on the Zebra Chip Disease that affects potatoes.

The disease isn't harmful to human health, but affects the taste of potato chips. In an April interview with the Observer, Chisum listed supporting the economy as an essential government role. He mentioned the zebra chip research specifically:

"Most people don't think much about- I mean, a sack of potato chips is a sack of potato chips. But that's a business for somebody out there. Many thousands of farmers across the state depend on us putting whatever assets we have to in order to stop this zebra chip from going through our potato crops and destroying that industry in the state of Texas. So the government has a role to play there. It's not just a handout to potato growers, it's a role that the government should play: to coordinate an investigation to see how to stop that."

Alexander D. Pavlista, Ph.D.

PAA Background

Executive Committee

President
Sam Thornton

President-Elect
Alex Pavlista

Vice President
Chuck Brown

Secretary
Loretta Mikitzel

Treasurer
Al Bushway

Past-President
Larry Hiller

Directors
Bill Campbell
Don Halseth
Phil Hamm
Phil Nolte
Susie Thompson

Editor-in-Chief
John Bamberg

Business Manager
Luanne Coltman

Annual Meeting:
August 12-16, 2007
Shilo Inn, Idaho Falls, ID
<http://www.conferences.uidaho.edu/PAA/>

PAA Insider is published quarterly starting in January. Contact: Lori Wing, Admin. Asst./Editor, Potato Association of America, 5719 Crossland Hall, Rm 218-220, Orono, Maine, Orono, ME, 04469-5719 USA. Phone: 207-581-3042; Fax: 207-581-3015; Email: umpotato@maine.edu; Web: <http://www.umaine.edu/paa>

Members in the News

At the beginning of this newsletter, we have sad news. We lost three members over the past couple of months:

Paul MacPhail passed away on June 16th after a courageous battle with cancer for the last couple of years. He was appointed by the Charlottetown, PEI, Dept. of Agric. & Forestry as their new potato specialist in June 2000. Paul was also a member of the PAA's Extension, Physiology and Production & Manufacturing Sections.

~~~~~

Honorary Life Member (HLM), Walter C. Sparks, 88, passed away on May 18th in Boston, Mass. of natural causes.

Walt obtained his BS and MS in Horticulture at Colo State Univ. He did his graduate work at the Univ of Minn & Wash State Univ. After serving as Instructor, Asst & Assoc Prof of Hort at Colo State Univ, in 1947, he left to become Assoc Horticulturist with the Univ of ID for 22 years.

He was a member of many professional and honorary societies, including the PAA where he was the Vice President in 1963, President-Elect in 1964, and President in 1965. And in 1969 he was awarded his HLM status.

He's received numerous awards and certificates for distinguished service in connection with his research on potatoes.

~~~~~

Norbert Maier passed away suddenly on May 1st in Australia. Norbert, who served SARDI (SA Research and Development Inst) and the former Dept of Agric for 30 years, was a driving force supporting development of the full spectrum of SA's horticulture industries in Virginia, the Mt Lofty Ranges, Murraylands, Riverland and the South East areas. Norbert's career was marked by groundbreaking insights in crop nutrition research and strong research leadership.

A Note From Bill Englar:

As you know I turned 75 in January. I have sold my laboratory pilot plant equipment assets to the Univ. of ID, Food Tech Ctr in Caldwell, ID in 2005 along with customer "good will" and a two-year consulting contract to the UIFTC. I currently maintain an office at the UIFTC in Caldwell, ID through the transitioning to retirement period that ends in June 2008. My facility (building) that is located in Moses Lake, WA is being re-tooled into a small winery that has been re-named Englar Food Laboratory LLC dba Dry Falls Winery which I will participate as a partner/owner along with four other family partners during my remaining retirement years. I have been a wine hobbyist for 37 years, so now the hobby is being turned into a business that hopefully will continue on for many years into the future. I hope to also continue consulting in a small way for the Potato Processing Industry until my health fails me.

~ Bill Englar ~
wenglar@englarfoodlab.com

~~~~~

Dave Thompson retired from Syngenta (Can) Inc. in PEI in February, and then turned around and celebrated his 60th birthday in June.

~ H. W. {Bud} Platt ~

\*\*I'm now enjoying the summer and helping Croplife's Atlantic Council address some of our industry Issues.

Retirement is good and I hope so will the boating, when we get some real summer weather ~Dave Thompson ~

~~~~~

Steve Marquardt has left his position at North Dakota Seed Department in Fargo, ND and moved into a new position at Potato Certification of Nebraska in Alliance, NE. His new e-mail address is skmarquardt@earthlink.net if you would like to write and congratulate him.