



# INSIDER

The Official Newsletter of The Potato Association of America

Vol. 11, No 4, October 2007

## Letter From the "NEW" President

### Dates

"The past is the beacon to the future; without it, we move like earthworms through darkened soil" (A.P., 1992)

I am humble and proud to have become your new President for this year. It is with deep admiration of the PAA that I accept this honor and plan to move The Association further in this changing world. While doing so, we should always keep the past in our minds to light up the path of our future. I will continue the teleconferences of the Executive Committee started by Past President Thornton throughout the year. We will be tackling many challenges ahead and following through on many plans.

\* The transition of AJPR to Springer for publication is in progress and we will update its status at every meeting. Issues concerning effects on certain membership categories are already being straightened out with Springer. Other issues concern market income and page charges.

\* Web-site development is well underway. But, we need the Sections to prepare their home page. Some Sections have chosen a small committee to do so already. Material submissions should be ready in December for inclusion. Also, there are places on the web-site for which assistance would be highly appreciated.

\* There are several meeting and calendar issues that will be addressed. Do we change our fiscal year to a calendar year to conform with membership collection and AJPR income? This winter, a survey will be sent out to the membership to determine wishes or opinions on moving to a biennial meeting format and whether elections should be electronic.

\* Our Treasurer with assistance from the Finance Committee will be preparing for audits of the past four years.

\* The LAC Advisory Comm. will be finalizing an update on the LAC Guidelines. They will present clarifications and modifications on the Contingency and Speaker's Funds. The issue of insurance will be refined.

\* The Past Presidents will be updating the Honorary Life Membership procedures.

\* The Membership Comm. has plans to pro-actively inform and recruit at the Seed Seminar and other National Potato Council meetings. Renewing more active participation of graduate students in our meetings is a key issue that we will address.

\* There are updates of the Constitution and By-Laws that we will be considering especially with regard to descriptions and duties.

\* Discussions on the Extension Section's proposal for an Extension Award is scheduled for the Spring.

\* Future collaborations with the EAPR and plans for the Year of the Potato are key elements to our future and will be pursued.

As you can see we have a busy calendar ahead of us and hope to accomplish many things as our Association moves forward. To help us, we need every member to do what they can. Encourage memberships, encourage graduate students and be active in PAA. Think about committees that you would be effective in and make an impact. Consider being a PAA Director and an Officer. Yes, there is work to be done; rewards and self-fulfillment are great benefits that will come to you.

Alexander Pavlista  
President, 2007-2008

### November

**6-7:** Montana Seed Potato Sem, Bozeman, MT. MT Seed Potato Certification Prog. Info: 406-994-3150

**12-14:** 2007 PGA Annual Genl Mtg, Kananaskis, AB, Canada. Info: <http://www.albertapotatoes.ca> (calendar of events)

**28-29:** British Potato 2007, Yorkshire Events Center, Harrogate, U.K. Info: <http://www.potato.org.uk/>

### December

**06:** NPC Potato Ind Out look Summit, Branson, MO. Info: Hollee Alexander, [holllee@nationalpotatocouncil.org](mailto:holllee@nationalpotatocouncil.org) ph: 202-682-9456

**06-08:** NPC Seed Seminar (same info as above)

### January 2008

**10-14:** 2008 NPC Annual Mtg. Marco Island, FL. Info: Hollee Alexander, [holllee@nationalpotatocouncil.org](mailto:holllee@nationalpotatocouncil.org) ph: (202) 682-9456

**10-12:** USPB Admin Comm Winter Mig (in conjunction with NPC Ann Mtg), Marco Island, FL. Info: Robin Vest, [vest@uspotatoes.com](mailto:vest@uspotatoes.com)

**23-24:** Manitoba Potato Production Days, Brandon, MB, Canada. Info: <http://www.mbpotatodays.ca>

## First Call for Papers

This is the First Call for Papers to be presented at the 92<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting of The Potato Association of America. This meeting will be held August 10-14, 2008 at the Adam's Mark Hotel, Buffalo, New York, USA.

PAA members are invited to present papers dealing with all facets of the potato industry. Applied research and Extension-oriented submissions suitable for a grower-oriented half-day afternoon session are encouraged. Graduate students who are PAA members are encouraged to enter the Frank L Haynes Graduate Student Research Competition.

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. The abstracts for all papers (oral, poster and Graduate Student Research 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 on a portable USB drive. Display boards will be provided for the poster papers.

Abstracts will be accepted until March 21, 2008. Submit abstracts as an e-mail attachment to [loretta.mikitzel@gnb.ca](mailto:loretta.mikitzel@gnb.ca) with "PAA Abstract" as the e-mail subject. Abstracts submitted after that date will be returned to the author.

### Abstract submission checklist:

1. Title
2. Author(s) with Presenter's name underlined
3. Body of Abstract: Combination of title, authors and body *not to exceed* 2,000 characters, including spaces
4. PAA Membership Number of one author
5. Presentation Method (oral, oral-grad student, poster)
6. Section (breeding, plant protection, etc.)

Prior to submitting your abstract, please read and follow the formatting guidelines that are on the PAA website now [[http://www.umaine.edu/paa/08abstract\\_sub.htm](http://www.umaine.edu/paa/08abstract_sub.htm)] and will be posted on the conference website [<http://www.hort.cornell.edu/PAA2008/>] as soon as it is available.

Please direct questions to the undersigned.

Loretta J. Mikitzel  
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39 Barker Lane  
Wicklow, NB Canada E7L 3S4  
Phone: (506) 392-5199 Email: [loretta.mikitzel@gnb.ca](mailto:loretta.mikitzel@gnb.ca)

### 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 of the PAA, 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 2008 Annual meeting in Buffalo, New York. 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. Additionally, HLM awards can be given to individuals outside of the PAA. Nominations must be submitted on the official HLM nomination form available on the PAA website: <http://www.umaine.edu/paa/hlmform.htm>. The selection procedure and desired candidate information is also available. Completed HLM nominations and all supporting documentation should be submitted to the Past President and are due by March 21, 2008. New this year: please try to submit your applications electronically if at all possible.

Sam Thornton  
Syngenta Crop Protection, Inc.  
1767 Road F.5 NE  
Moses Lake, WA 98837 USA  
Phone: 509-764-2243 - Fax: 509-764-2243  
Cell: 509-760-3671 - EM: [sam.thornton@syngenta.com](mailto:sam.thornton@syngenta.com)

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!

Sam Thornton  
2006-2007 Past President

### Frank L Haynes Graduate Student Research Competition Papers

This is the First Call For Papers to be entered in the Graduate Student Awards Competition (GSAC) to be held at the 91st Annual Meeting of The Potato Association of America.

....Continued on Page 3

First Call for Papers (ALL)

....Continued from Page 2

The purpose of the GSAC 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 21, 2008.
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 GSAC.
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 21, 2008.
6. No new students may register after the deadline or at the meeting.

7. Winners will be announced and honored at the annual banquet. Free banquet tickets will be provided by PAA for all graduate students participating in the GSAC.

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%

Five awards will be presented in the amount of \$350 for 1st place, \$250 for 2nd place, \$150 for 3rd place, \$100 for 4th place, \$100 for 5th place.

For more information, contact:

Dr. Kathy Haynes, Chair

PAA Grad Student Awards Competition

USDA/ARS: Veg. Lab.

10300 Baltimore Ave.

Beltsville, MD 20705

Phone: 301-504-7405

E-mail: haynesk@ba.ars.usda.gov

## Farewell from your immediate Past President

**M**y how time flies when you are having fun. This past year has flown by at an amazing pace. I am proud of what we as an executive committee have accomplished in negotiating and signing the Springer Publishing contract and getting a new and improved website to the pre-launch phase.

I believe that we have some very strong leadership in place for the PAA that will lead us successfully into the coming years.

Having said that I must urgently remind each and everyone of you that to continue to be successful we must grow. When you are at any meetings that pertain to potatoes over the next 11 months please look actively for new member candidates. Urge those who have been members and have chosen to drop out of the many benefits of being a PAA member. It is up to each and everyone of us to keep this wonderful society alive. Please take that responsibility seriously.

I wish you all a successful 2007 and look forward to seeing you in Buffalo next year.

Sincerely, Sam Thornton  
PAA P resident 2006-2007

## Passports needed again for Western Hemisphere Travel

October 1, 2007

After a four-month reprieve, U.S. citizens must again present a passport when flying to and from Canada, Mexico, the Caribbean, and Bermuda.

The next WHTI deadline is January 31, 2008, when the Department of Homeland Security plans to begin implementing those WHTI provisions relating to land and sea travel. At that point, U.S. and Canadian citizens will need to present either a WHTI-compliant document or a government-issued photo ID, such as a driver's license, plus proof of citizenship, such as a birth certificate. Then at some point—expected to be later in 2008—WHTI will be fully implemented, meaning that U.S. citizens entering the U.S. by sea or land from within the Western Hemisphere will have to present acceptable documentation, such as a passport or a U.S. passport card. The exact day will be announced with 60 days' notice in the Federal Register.

"I will send out an announcement as soon as I hear more and keep all you travelers informed as details change."

Lori Wing, PAA

Welcome to Buffalo  
The Potato Association of America  
92nd Annual Meeting  
Buffalo, New York USA  
August 10-14, 2008

**B**uffalo, NY is the site of the 92nd Annual Meeting of The Potato Association of America. The Adam's Mark Buffalo-Niagara Hotel (<http://www.adamsmark.com>) is the location of the meeting on 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.

A block of rooms has been reserved at \$109.00 per night. The facility is a first-class conference center with spacious meeting rooms conducive for formal and informal exchange of information and fun social activities. In addition the hotel has free high-speed internet, an indoor swimming pool, fitness center, excellent dining room, and a sports bar. Nearby is Buffalo's theater district, baseball park, and sports arena. A short walk from the hotel is the Lake Erie shoreline, Erie Canal/Museum, and a floating Naval Museum.

The meeting will follow a traditional schedule with registration beginning on Sunday and a reception Sunday evening. The formal program will kick off with a Utilization Section Symposium on Monday morning. Oral and poster presentations will be scheduled during the remainder of the week. We will focus one afternoon session on applied research and extension to enhance grower and industry participation. Accompanying persons tours will be available throughout the week and Wednesday features an agricultural tour and one to Niagara Falls. For individuals interested in both the agricultural and the Niagara Falls tours, there will be other opportunities for trips to the Falls.

A silent auction with proceeds going to the Endowment Fund will be held on Monday evening. Planned activities include an evening "Taste of Buffalo" (the city not the animal) barbecue, a talent/variety show, and biking in Canada. We need to know who is willing to share their talents (singing, dancing, musical instrument, magic tricks, joke telling, etc. alone or as a group) with us and to find out from colleagues the talents of bashful members so that they can be encouraged to participate. Henry DeJong (75 yr old HLM) has some interesting suggestions. He is soliciting sponsorship for him to bike from his home in Canada to and from the meeting (88 miles round trip). Proceeds will go to the Haynes Endowment. For bicyclists Henry suggests a scenic ride from the Peace Bridge to Niagara Falls as an option. (Now here is a man of action.)

During the week, there will be plenty of fun activities for accompanying persons including sight-seeing tours and even time to shop.

Upstate New York is a beautiful area with many interesting things to see and do. More information is available at <http://www.visitbuffaloniagara.com> and <http://www.iloveny.com>. We hope you will be able to join us for a meeting designed to exchange information on potatoes and to provide an environment for social interaction. We plan to have a GREAT TIME! Watch our website for constant updates: <http://www.hort.cornell.edu/PAA2008/>

Donald E. Halseth ([deh3@cornell.edu](mailto:deh3@cornell.edu))  
Joseph B. Sieczka ([jbs5@cornell.edu](mailto:jbs5@cornell.edu))  
LAC Co-Chairs

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## World Challenge 2007 Award

Now in its third year, World Challenge 2007 is a global competition that seeks out development projects and businesses that not only make a profit but also put something back into the community. The competition, which is organized by the UK's BBC World and Newsweek magazine, in association with Shell Company, seeks to reward individuals or groups that truly make a difference through enterprise and innovation at a grass roots level.

There are 12 finalists for this award that includes our colleagues at the International Potato Center (CIP) for their T'ikapapa Initiative. T'ikapapa is an initiative of CIP's Papa Andina Partnership Program and the Peruvian INCOPA (potato) platform.

T'ikapapa is a marketing concept that links small-scale, resource-poor farmers from the Andean highlands in Peru to expanding urban markets, utilizing potato biodiversity to create new market

opportunities. In Peru, T'ikapapa was awarded the Enterprise Creativity Award in 2005. The initiative then went on to gain international recognition after receiving one of the United Nations' 2007 SEED Awards - Supporting Entrepreneurs for Environment and Development. That award was announced by Mr. Achim Steiner, Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) during the World Economic Forum, in Davos, Switzerland this year.

The World Challenge winner will be selected by popular vote with a deadline of November 15. To vote for any of the 12 finalists go to: [http://www.theworldchallenge.co.uk/2007\\_finalists.php](http://www.theworldchallenge.co.uk/2007_finalists.php)

Dr. Pamela Anderson, Dir Genl, CIP - [p.anderson@cgiar.org](mailto:p.anderson@cgiar.org)  
Dr. Andre Devaux, CIP - [a.devaux@cgiar.org](mailto:a.devaux@cgiar.org)

## Members in the News & Other Potato News

Bryan Hopkins sent me the following letter to share with members: I've moved from the Univ of Idaho to Brigham Young Univ (Provo, UT) and plan to continue potato work as long as the grant money is available. Not many potatoes in Utah, but I'm only 2 hours from Idaho. I have a 50% teaching/50% research appointment in the Plant & Wildlife Sciences Dept. My research is focused in the newly transitioned Environmental Science group in this dept. As such, I will continue to evaluate soil, nutrient, and water management techniques to maintain agronomic viability while minimizing environmental risks (particularly with nitrogen in groundwater, phosphorus in surface water, and carbon sequestration in soils). Brigham Young University is sponsored by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (Mormon) and has nearly 30,000 students enrolled. BYU has a very strong international focus due to a high number of foreign students and students that have served international church missions and, as such, I look forward to doing more international potato work.

Bryan G. Hopkins  
hopkins@byu.edu

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Peru's Vice-Minister of Agriculture, Ing Eufrosina Hilda Santamaria Rubio, will travel to the United Nations in New York on October 18th for a presentation in conjunction with the proclamation of the International Year of the Potato 2008.

Greg Scott

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Beginning in November 2007, Bryan Bowen will be spending a year in Germany working with a private company, NORIKA (NORIKA GmbH applies both conventional and modern biotechnological methods in potato breeding and propagation.)

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European Association of Potato Research News -

~ EAPR INVITATION ~

Dear Colleague,

The 17th Triennial Conference of the European Association for Potato Research [EA{R}] will be held at the ARO-Palace Center and Transilvania University in Brasov, Romania, on July 6 to July 10, 2008.

On behalf of the EAPR and Romanian organizers a warm welcome will be given to all scientists and potato experts from all over the world who will participate to this international forum, in the International Year of Potato [IYP].

Please visit the web site <http://www.eapr2008-brasov.htm> for the latest update of the program.

Make plans with your colleagues to attend the Conference.

Yours sincerely,  
Dr. Sorin Claudiu CHIRU  
President of EAPR

### GENERAL INFORMATION

Congress Dates: July 6 to July 10, 2008

Place: ARO-Palace & Transilvania Univ, Brasov, Romania

Address of the Organizing Committee:

INCDCSZ-Natl. Inst. of Res. & Development for Potato & Sugar Beet; Brasov 500470, Brasov; Fundaturii 2,

Brasov, Romania; <http://www.potato.ro>

Tel.: 00-40-268-474647 Fax: 00-40-268-476608

E-mail: [EAPR2008@potato.ro](mailto:EAPR2008@potato.ro)

Congress Web: <http://www.EAPR2008-Brasov.com>

Contact persons:

(Organizing Committee): Sorin Chiru

(Scientific Committee): Gheorghe Olteanu

(Congress Secretariat): Cristina Comanelea

**ABOUT THE CONGRESS:** In the International Year of Potato, the Congress is an interactive forum where scientists and potato experts can meet and share their thoughts and identify solutions for "a potato in a changing world".

The topics cover all the classical subjects of the potato industry related to the future challenges.

Plenary lectures, parallel sessions, poster presentations and workshops have been organized.

**TOPICS:** Potatoes as source of benefic substances for health Advances in genomics and genetic modification. Topics in breeding and variety development. Seed potato production systems and micropropagation innovations Physiology of the potato: new insights and repercussions for crop management. Major threats of pests and diseases and their integrated crop management. Breakthroughs in agronomy including precision and organic farming. Breakthroughs in potato utilization and product development. Advances in plant modelling and application in practice and science Food safety, sustainability, traceability and best agricultural practice. Potato crop growth, development and management in climate change. Rapid potato evolution in developing countries. Changing role of potato in Central Europe Topics and oral presentations based on scientific committee selection are introduced by invited speakers.

\* The official conference language will be English.

To give more information about Romanian potato industry and Romanian style of life, scientific excursions, social events and special accompanying person excursions have been organized.

2007-2008

## PAA Background

### Executive Committee

**President:**  
Alexander Pavlista

**President-Elect:**  
Chuck Brown

**Vice President:**  
Phil Nolte

**Secretary:**  
Loretta Mikitzel

**Treasurer:**  
Al Bushway

**Past-President:**  
Sam Thornton

**Directors:**  
Bill Campbell  
Don Halseth  
Phil Hamm  
Leigh Morrow  
Susie Thompson

**Editor-in-Chief:**  
John Bamberg

**Technical Editor:**  
Luanne Coltman

**Annual Meeting:**  
August 10-14, 2008  
Buffalo, New York  
<http://www.hort.cornell.edu/PAA2008/>

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## Members in the News

Prof. Jack Hawkes, Emer Prof of Plant Biology at the Univ of Birmingham, England and Honorary Life Member of PAA, died on Sept. 7, 2007 in Reading England at the age of 92.

The son of the head of a technical college, John Gregory Hawkes was born on June 27 1915 in Bristol and educated at Cheltenham Grammar School. From an early age he displayed an intense interest in botany, and he went on to Christ's College, Cambridge, graduating at the top of his class in the area of Natural Sciences. He then undertook doctoral research on potato genetics under the direction of the noted potato breeder Radcliffe Salaman, and was chosen by the director of the Commonwealth Bureau of Plant Breeding and Genetics to be a member of a potato collecting expedition to Peru and Bolivia. Before the expedition Hawkes visited N.I. Vavilov and potato scientists in the Soviet Union who had already carried out potato collecting expeditions in the Andes.

Starting in Lima, the expedition traveled 9,000 miles through Peru, Bolivia, Argentina, Ecuador and Colombia, finishing eight months later in Panama. It collected many samples of seeds and plants as well as 1,164 potato accessions that formed the basis of Hawkes's doctorate in 1941, describing 31 new wild and five new cultivated species.

Hawkes served as botanist at the Commonwealth Bureau of Plant Breeding and Genetics until 1948 when he was the founding director of the Colombian Ministry of Agriculture's Potato Research Station in Bogotá. Three years later he returned to Britain to work at the Agricultural Research Council's potato genetics station. In 1952 he was appointed lecturer in taxonomic botany at Birmingham Univ., where he remained for 30 years, becoming Prof. of Plant Taxonomy in 1961.

Hawkes undertook more than a dozen potato collecting expeditions to most countries in SA. He used these collections for a lifetime of research on potato, employing morphological data, crossing relationships, and serology, the latter an emerging field of chemotaxonomy.

Hawkes wrote, co-wrote or edited 242 publications from his first in 1941 to his last in

2004. He was a member of many international committees: Eucarpia (European Assoc. for Research in Plant Breeding) gene bank committee; Royal Botanical Gardens, Kew; scientific advisor and germplasm collector to the US Potato Genebank. In 1975 he served as VP of the 12th Intl Botanical Congress in Leningrad, where he was awarded a Congress Medal. In 1989 he was elected as an Honorary Life Member of The Potato Association of America. In 1984 he was awarded the Linnean Medal for Botany; president of the Linnean Society of London from 1991 to 1994. He was appointed a member of the Order of the British Empire in 1994.

Hawkes married, in 1941, Barbara Leather, a sociology student. She predeceased him by two years. They had two daughters followed by twin sons. For full write-up, read his obituary at: <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/main.jhtml?xml=/news/2007/09/21/db2101.xml>

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Neil Gudmestad, professor of plant pathology, recently was honored as one of seven faculty chosen for the inaugural North Dakota State University Distinguished Professors award. He and other recipients were chosen because of their outstanding research, leadership, and teaching records. Gudmestad joined NDSU as a tenure-track assistant professor in 1985. He has served the pathology section of The Potato Association of America as chair, vice-chair, and director. He also has been on the editorial board of the *American Potato Journal* and associate editor of *Phytopathology*. He has received many honors during his career, including the ND Agricultural Experiment Station's Research Scientist of the Year-Early Career, and Excellence in Research Award-Senior Career, the Red River Valley Potato Growers Association Meritorious Service Award, the National Potato Council Researcher of the Year, and the university-wide Fred Waldron Excellence in Research Award. As a recipient of the University Distinguished Professor award, he will receive funding stipends to supplement salary and academic activities.