



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 New Incoming PAA President

Fall has arrived and with it the main potato harvest here in New Brunswick. Wherever you are, I hope this year has brought or will bring a successful cropping season.

To begin, I wish to thank out-going President Andy Jensen, who efficiently guided us through the business of The PAA this past year, and for his insight to look to the future and take that bold first step to re-shape the long-term management of PAA. Congratulations to our new Vice President Shelley Jansky and our two newest directors, André Gagnon and Mark Pavek. I look forward to working with the new Executive Committee. Thanks go to Rich Novy and Shelley Jansky for their service as past directors.

The 2015 LAC Co-Chairs Leigh Morrow and Greg Porter are to be commended for putting on an exceptional meeting. The 99th meeting in Portland, Maine was extremely well organized and ran like a well-oiled machine. The program, venue and networking opportunities were excellent. The Tuesday Casco Bay ferry ride and shore dinner of Maine lobster on Peaks Island were great. Next year, will mark the 100th Annual Meeting in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Plans are underway to celebrate this landmark.

A significant milestone was achieved in Portland - the principle of the General Endowment Fund reached \$200,000+. Generous donations from Jim Crossland, Creighton Miller, Jr. and the Endowment Challenge Project that brought donations from the Provincial and State potato associations put the fund over \$200,000. Sincere thanks go to the founding members of the Endowment Fund Committee, Creighton Miller, Jr., Ed Plissey, Al Reeves, Mel Henninger and Robert Thornton; we are now reaping the benefits of their hard work. Kudos also go out to you, the membership, who in just 14 years have built the Endowment Fund to a level where we can now put the interest to work to strengthen PAA.

In this era of reduced budgets, increased responsibilities and limited travel, PAA can no longer rely on the goodwill of our members to oversee the management of our organization. In the coming year, I will continue the work started by Past President Jensen on developing policies and procedures for the long-term governance and management of The Association, including transitioning the financial aspects of PAA to a professional accounting firm. We are also investigating implementing online abstract submission, as well as procuring the permanent services of a conference coordinator to relieve LACs of the financial and contractual burdens that come with running the annual meeting. Adopting these activities will add stability to the future business workings of PAA.

PAA has remained vibrant and strong due to our members who

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**Volume 19
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October

23-25: PMA Fresh Summit
Georgia WCC
Atlanta, Georgia

November

04-05: Fall Variety Expo & Spudpro Mtg
Hancock Storage
Research Facility

17-19: 2015 Alberta Potato Conf & TS
Held in Red Deer
at the Sheraton

19-21: Eastern ID Ag Show & 20-21: Potato Conf

26-27: Western ID Ag show
Caldwell, ID

January 2016

26-28: Wash/Oregon Potato Conf
Three Rivers Conv
Ctr

Final Letter from Outgoing President

It was an exhilarating year as President of PAA, with so much to learn and details to work through as The Association conducted business and moved into its second century of serving the potato industry. I was especially proud of The PAA Executive Committee and section chairs for consistently attending our periodic conference call meetings and for their constructive participation. An organization like this cannot succeed without such active and caring volunteer leaders. And of course through it all, our staff person Lori Wing tends many details and processes so that we don't have to know about them. Thank you to all!

I look forward to my final year on the Executive Committee, under the terrific leadership of President Loretta Mikitzel. Plans are unfolding for continued work on the financial and structural reorganization discussed and approved at the Maine Annual Meeting. As to other emphases and directions for PAA, I leave that now to President Mikitzel!

I expect to see quite a few of you at the National Potato Council's Potato Expo in January. We will be asking attending PAA members to help us at the booth to engage with tradeshow attendees. Last year's Expo saw several new memberships, and I think the 2016 Expo could be even more successful if we as members work it well. We will also be asking for poster presentations at the Expo, organized by PAA President-Elect Mike Thornton.

Finally, as immediate Past President, I look forward to receiving your nominations for Honorary Life Membership, Vice-President and Directors. Thanks again for a memorable year and allowing me the opportunity to serve as President. It truly was an honor.

Andy Jensen
Past President 2014-2015

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EAPR Pathology and Pests Section Meeting

Sunday 7th - Thursday 11th, August 2016

Dundee, Scotland

We look forward to welcoming you to Dundee in 2016.

It gives us great pleasure to announce that the next meeting of the European Association for Potato Research (EAPR) Pathology and Pests Section will be held in Dundee, Scotland. This meeting covers research into potato pests and diseases with a focus on applied outcomes and attracts world-class speakers.

The program allows ample time for scientific presentations and an opportunity for participants to interact socially. The meeting will also include the chance to attend 'Potatoes in Practice', the largest field-based potato event in the UK.

To register your interest in the meeting or for any other enquiries please email:
eapopathology2016@hutton.ac.uk

Organizing Committee Chair: Ian Toth
Organizing Committee: Alison Lees and Sonia Humphris
Pathology Section Chairperson: Leah Tsror

For further information please visit: <http://www.eapopathology2016.eu>

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 2016 100th Annual Meeting in Grand Rapids, Michigan. 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.

Nominations must be submitted using the official HLM Nomination Form available on The PAA website: <http://potatoassociation.org/membership/committees/honorary-life-member>. The selection procedure and desired candidate information are also available in the same area on the website.

Completed HLM nominations and all supporting documentation should be submitted electronically in MS Word or PDF format to Past President Andy Jensen and are due by March 25, 2016.

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

Andy Jensen, 2014-2015 President
ajensen@potatoes.com

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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)** to be held at the 100th Annual Meeting of The Potato Association of America.

The purpose of the FLHGSAC 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 25, 2016**.

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 GSRAC.
5. Students are required to submit abstracts for papers they wish to present in the Competition. **The Call for Papers to be presented at the 100th Annual Meeting of The Potato Association of America will be published in the January issue of The PAA Insider and will include instructions for submitting the abstracts. The abstract submission deadline will be March 25, 2016.**
6. No new students may register after the deadline or at the meeting.
7. 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.
8. 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>

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

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First Call For Papers & Awards, cont.*(Continued from page 3)***Call for Nominations for Outstanding Extension Project Award**

The **Outstanding Extension Project Award** was developed in 2009 by the Extension Section (now Extension, Production & Management) of The PAA to recognize outstanding Extension projects or programs, printed publications, websites, workshops, newsletters, etc., that have made significant contributions to education on potatoes. At this time the Selection Committee is seeking nominations due by **March 25, 2016** for this award to be presented at the **100th Annual Meeting in Grand Rapids, Michigan**. Information pertaining to this award and the selection process is presented below:

A. Award Recipient Eligibility:

1. The nominated Recipient must be a member in good standing with The PAA. For team nominations, at least one person must be a member in good standing with The PAA.
2. Although the Recipient need not have an Extension appointment, the project or program must be related to Extension type activities. The project or program must be either on-going at the time of the Annual Meeting, the year of recognition, or have been completed no more than 30 months (2.5 years) prior to the Annual Meeting in the year of recognition.
3. The Recipient must attend the Annual Meeting to receive the award, unless exempted by the selection

committee because of extenuating circumstances.

4. Nominators do not have to be members of PAA.

B. Selection Process

1. No more than one Outstanding Extension Project Award will be presented at any Annual Meeting of The PAA.
2. The Selection Committee consists of the current officers of the Extension Section plus the past Extension Section chair who shall serve as Chair of the Outstanding Extension Project Award Selection Committee.
3. Nominators must complete the nomination form, that is available on the PAA website along with submitting a written review, not to exceed 1,000 words, of specific project or program being nominated for the Award.
4. At least two letters of support must also be sent to the selection committee chair.
5. Nomination form, written review, and letters of support must be submitted to the selection committee Chair no later than **March 25, 2016**. For further information and nomination form, please see the website:

<http://potatoassociation.org/about-paa/paa-sections/extension-production-management>

Andy Robinson, Chair

E-mail: andrew.p.robinson@ndsu.edu

Phone: 701-231-8732

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generously donate their time and efforts. Since the last meeting two individuals have assumed Chairmanship roles and I wish to show my appreciation to them: Andy Robinson for assuming the Chairmanship of the Outreach Committee responsible for keeping our website current and fresh; and Hector Lozoya-Saldana for accepting the Chairmanship of the Global Outreach Committee that works to strengthen relationships between PAA and international potato professionals. Our website and a strong international presence are two mechanisms to promote PAA as a leading professional organization. Another avenue to promote PAA is through the poster session at the NPC Potato Expo. I hope several of you are planning to present a poster at the 2016 Expo in Las Vegas next January.

I am proud to be a member of PAA and am impressed how PAA has evolved and been shaped by the input and efforts of the membership. Please help PAA move forward by being active in Sections, publishing quality research in the Journal, encouraging graduate students and attending the Annual Meeting.

For the past several years, the Executive Committee has conducted PAA business between annual meetings via regular conference calls. These calls will be continued during the coming year. If you have any ideas or concerns you want the EC to address, please do not hesitate to contact myself or any EC member.

Loretta Mikitzel
PAA President 2015-2016

**100th Annual Meeting
The Potato Association of America
July 31st to August 4th, 2016**

The 2016 LAC is excited to host the 100th Annual Meeting of The Potato Association of America.

The meeting will be held in **Grand Rapids, Michigan from July 31- August 4, 2016 at the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel.**

The Amway is currently five years running on the "Best Of" list for Smart Meeting Magazine with over 47,000 square feet of meeting space and four elegant ballrooms. The hotel has 682 guest rooms and our group is \$129/night for single or double occupancy (compared to a \$239/night regular charge). There is complimentary high-speed internet in each guest room and common areas, indoor pool, fitness center, and tennis courts. The Amway is conveniently located in the heart of the downtown Grand Rapids business and entertainment district. At the crossroads of both US-131 and I-196, the hotel is easily accessible and just a brief 18-minute drive from the Gerald R. Ford International Airport (GRR). The airport is serviced by six airlines with flights from 24 major market destinations. The average taxi service from the airport to the hotel will be roughly \$20. The cost to self-park will be \$19 and the cost to valet park will be \$29. Reservations can be made by logging onto www.ExperienceGR.com/MiPotato and clicking on Hotel Accommodations. Reservations are also available by calling (800) 253-3590. Be sure to mention that you are with "**The Potato Association of America**".

Grand Rapids offers numerous unique dining experiences with eight different dining options on site including Ruth's Chris Steak House and the Kitchen by Wolfgang Puck. Also be sure to check out the over 60 Michigan restaurants, countless museums and the downtown market that are all within walking distance of the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel. The Grand Rapids Metropolitan Area is home to over one million residents so there will be countless interesting places to check out. In fact, in 2012, Grand Rapids was named "Beer City, USA" because of the outstanding microbreweries located all

throughout the city.

The 100th Annual Meeting will follow a condensed schedule with registration beginning on Sunday, July 31st. Along with registration, there will be an opportunity to explore Grand Rapids, a morning golf outing and a fly fishing excursion. Sunday evening will feature the President's Reception, the official kick-off to the meeting. Sessions start on Monday morning with concurrent sessions. In order to promote grower to researcher interaction, there will be specific grower-focused sessions available as well. A symposium being planned by the Breeding and Genetics Section will follow in the afternoon. Concurrent sessions will continue throughout the day on Tuesday followed by a poster session and Silent Auction. Tuesday evening will be an offsite dinner with a venture to the Grand Rapids Art Museum to observe some of Grand Rapids' finest modern art. Wednesday morning will feature more concurrent sessions followed by a special guest speaker from Argentina, Marcelo Huarte. The Annual Business Meeting will take place in the afternoon and will lead into the Banquet and Awards on Wednesday evening. This will conclude official business. On Thursday, those that can participate will have the opportunity to take an agricultural tour. During the week there will be several tours and shopping opportunities for accompanying persons including excursions to Lake Michigan beaches, food processors and museums. More information on the city of Grand Rapids as well as registration can be found at www.ExperienceGR.com/MiPotato. Additional information will continue to be available on this site as details are finalized. Continue to look for future editions of the *PAA Insider* for new information. We look forward to bringing you to Grand Rapids for yet another spectacular meeting and helping you explore the amazing opportunities that Grand Rapids has to offer!

Dave Douches, Chris Long & Mike Wenkel
LAC Co-Chairs

PAA Information

**2015-2016
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

President: Loretta Mikitzel
Pres-Elect: Mike Thornton
Vice-President: Shelley Jansky
Secretary: Carrie Huffman
 Wohleb

Treasurer: Larry Hiller
Financial Officer: Bret
 Nedrow

Past-Pres: Andy Jensen
Editor-in-Chief: John Bamberg

Directors:

Amy Charkowski
 Samuel Essah
 Andre Gagnon
 Rich Novy
 Mark Pavak
 Asunta 'Susie' Thompson

SECTION CHAIRS:

Breeding & Genetics:
 Jeff Endelman

Certification:
 Jeff McMorran

**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/](http://www.experiencegr.com/mipotato/)

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 Member News

We've had another unhappy loss of a long-time PAA and HLM member **Dr. Franklin R. Fronck** passed away on July 25, 2015. He was well-known by everybody in the potato community for all the things he did both here in the US, as well as in other countries. I'm posting the link of his obit which he wrote himself and as requested by his wife, Sharon.

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Other News

For those of you who were able to attend this year's 99th Annual Meeting in Portland, Maine, it was a wonderful time for all...at least I didn't hear any complaints. The weather didn't always cooperate but the camaraderie among everybody there was excellent. Our annual Silent Auction and Live Auction brought with it a large variety of objects, both potato related and others not so much, but every penny it earned went towards reaching our \$200,000 goal to support The PAA Endowment Fund. The Silent Auction raised \$1,537.00 and the Live Auction raised \$1,930.00. But what put us over the top and allowed us to reach the \$200,000 goal this year was the generous gifts from Jim Crosslin and Creighton Miller. Now that we have surpassed our goal, we need to consider and decide on future activities and plans for its use.

~ Larry Hiller, PAA Treasurer

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Greetings from the Administrator

Hello All! It was great seeing so many familiar faces at this year's Annual Meeting and checking to see how each of you were doing since the last time we got together. But it was also nice to be able to finally meet those that all we've been able to do is chat through e-mail and an occasional phone call. I hope that you first-timers enjoyed the meeting and will be back for many years to come.

OK, the most important business to discuss is the **FIRST RENEWAL** for 2016. I will not be sending out the first renewal in October like I usually do. Only those with only an e-mail address will receive one. The renewal will be coming directly from Wild Apricot, PAA's accounting software that we used for the first time last year and allowed you to pay your dues online. Once you receive the notice, you will be able to go right to your personal profile, login and do the same again this year. If you do not remember your login, it's always your e-mail address. If you do not remember your password, just go to the Members Only section, fill in your e-mail address and the system will send it to you. Please let me know by the beginning of November if you haven't received a renewal request. Check your SPAM / TRASH mail to see if it shows up there before notifying me. Your server might not allow it to go through and I will send you an individual invoice or put one in the mail. For those who have paid for multiple years, I will be sending out a reminder that you don't have to pay anything for 2016. Your **SECOND & FINAL RENEWAL** will go out in November and if you haven't renewed by 12/31/2015, you will lose all privileges of your membership as outlined in the Constitution & ByLaws. You are receiving notice long before it's due so no excuse to not pay on time.

Also new starting this year, there will **no longer be multiple year payments**. This new system wasn't set up to do it and it has been causing a lot of problems to get it to accept them. I have to manually log them in and we're finding it doesn't always work, therefore, we're going back to single year renewals. For those who have already paid for multiple years, this does not affect you. I'll be waiting to hear from you soon,

~ Lori Wing, Administrator ~