Dear PAA Members,

Sitting in the plane on my way home from the National Potato Council’s Potato Expo, asking myself what to distill down for the newsletter from all that has happened the last few months. My immediate memories of the Expo: over 1,500 attendees, an acre of booths hawking their wares, displaying new varieties, services, and technologies. Our PAA was among the mix with our booth, and Lori capably explaining who, what and why The PAA exists. In this vein I would like to ask members to provide some talking points concerning why you are a member and what you gain from your membership. She knows of at least 7 new members we gained. Job well done. Other members of Our Association generously luged posters that were placed in a prominent position and were viewed by everyone who walked down the hall. Sixteen posters were chosen to show the growers the science that provides the information that they need to make informed decisions. I would like to thank those who generously provided their time and information.

The Association’s members are expected to participate again next year when the Expo is held in January in Las Vegas. I think that The Association gains positive recognition from actively participating in the Potato Expo. Five concurrent sessions covered lots of topics, and as with most meetings, there was not enough time. Meanwhile, the NPC and other potato groups held meetings in conjunction. The Expo brought lots of potato people together and it is always nice to see and visit with my many friends. We were all saddened when learning of the passing of our good friend, Ed Plissey. His work on behalf of Our Association will be greatly missed.

Now to some business. The Executive Committee held its monthly teleconference Dec. 13, 2011. Several issues were brought forward that will require some serious thought from all those who attend the Annual Meeting. Section chairs have asked the EC to consider changing the format of the Annual Meeting by reducing the number of days and keeping to easily accessed cities. Leigh is working on a survey that will be sent to the membership for comment.

Other business of concern is the creation of the Symposium Committee as a standing committee to help with planning and funding the Annual Meeting’s symposium; proceeding with adjusting the procedure for nominations to allow for electronic voting; reviewing By-laws for the newly created Extension, Production and Management section, and reviewing the contract with Springer as any revisions need to be proffered in June 2012.

There are 12 standing committees that enable The Association. Among these is the Vision Committee. Several members have agreed to assist with updating the original vision plan’s goals and to develop and create an ongoing construct to enable a continued leadership role in the scientific quest for more knowledge of the potato. We have achieved many of the goals set out in the original vision plan. We have closer ties between public and private potato professionals and with other international potato associations. Our publication has gained stature. We have adapted some new technologies to improve communications and strive to be a major source of science-based information about the potato. With some good discussion I believe that we can develop and implement strategies to further these goals. In addition I have asked Hector Lozoya-Saldana, Jose A. Caram de Souza-Dias, and Hak-Tae Lim to assist Chuck Brown in the International Relations Committee. These committees along with the Outreach Committee can look forward to the day when the Endowment Fund can help us achieve our goals. We can achieve more with cooperative visions. Rob Davidson, Joe Guenthner, Peter Vander Zagg, Ron Voss, Sam Essah, John Bamberg, Hector Lozoya-Saldana, Jose A. Caram de Souza Dias and Greg Porter are members of the Vision Committee.

Bill Campbell, PAA
President 2011-2012

MEETINGS & EVENTS:

JANUARY 2012:
Stevens Point, WI
Info: http://portage.uwex.edu/agriculture/crops-soils/wpvga-grower-education-conference/

FEBRUARY 2012:
15-16: Intern’l Crop Expo.
Grand Forks, ND.
Info: 218-773-3633.

23-MAR 1: 2012 NPC-Potato Ind Leadership Inst.
Washington, DC.
Info: Hollee Alexander (hollee@nationalpotatocouncil.org)

27-Mar 01: NPC Potato D.C. Fly-In-Standing up for Potatoes on Capital Hill.
Washington, DC.
Info: http://www.nationalpotatocouncil.org/

MARCH 2012:
03-05: India Potato Expo 2012
New Delhi, India
Info: http://www.indiapotatoexpo.com/

MAY 2012:
27-30: 8TH ANN WPC
Edinburgh, Scotland
Info: http://www.wpc2012.net/
This is the Second and Final Call for Papers to be presented at the 96th Annual Meeting of The Potato Association of America, to be held August 12-16, 2012 at the Crowne Plaza Denver International Airport Convention Center, Denver, Colorado, USA.

PAA members are invited to present papers dealing with all facets of the potato industry. A special grower-oriented session is planned for Monday during the symposium on Phosphorus and during at least one of the oral presentation sessions where presentations dealing with PVY will be solicited. Applied research and extension-oriented submissions are encouraged for this half-day session. 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 Award Competition. The abstracts for all papers (oral, poster and Graduate Student Research Award 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 (2007 or earlier version) on a portable USB drive.

Display boards will be provided for posters. Dimensions should be 48” x 36”.

Abstracts will be accepted until Monday, March 26, 2012. Submit abstracts as an e-mail attachment to loretta.mikitzel@gnb.ca with “PAA Abstract” as the e-mail subject. You will receive an e-mail acknowledging receipt of the abstract. Abstracts submitted after that date will be returned to the author.

Prior to submitting your abstract, please read and follow the formatting guidelines that are posted on the conference website www.paa2012.colostate.edu and on the PAA website (potatoassociation.org).

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 2012 Annual Meeting in Denver, Colorado. 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 can 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/About%20the%20PAA/HLMCommittee.htm](http://potatoassociation.org/About%20the%20PAA/HLMCommittee.htm) and click on the “Nomination Form” link. The selection procedure and desired candidate information is 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 Don Halseth and are due by March 26, 2012.

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 **Second & Final Call** for Honorary Life Membership Nominations!

Donald Halseth
2010-2011 President
deh3@cornell.edu

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**Frank L Haynes Graduate Student Research Competition Award Papers**

This is the **Second & Final Call** For Papers to be entered in the Frank L. Haynes Graduate Student Research Competition Award (FLHGSRCA) to be held at the 96th Annual Meeting of The Potato Association of America.

The purpose of the FLHGSRCA 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 26, 2012.
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 FLHGSRCA.
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 26, 2012.
6. No new students may register after the deadline or at the meeting.
7. Winners will be announced and honored at the Annual Banquet. Participants 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](http://potatoassociation.org)**

**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%

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:

Dr. Samuel Essah, Chair
FLH Grad Student Res Competition Award
CSU, San Luis Valley Research Center
0249 East Road 9 North
Center, CO 81125
Phone: 719-754-3594 Ext.13; Fax: 719-754-2619
E-mail: sessah@lamar.colostate.edu

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**Call For Nominations for Outstanding Extension Project Award**

The **Outstanding Extension Project Award** was developed in 2010 by the Extension Section of The PAA to recognize outstanding Extension projects or programs, printed publications, websites, workshops, newsletters, etc., that have made significant contributions to education on potato. At this time the Selection Committee is seeking nominations due by March 26, 2012 for this award to be presented at the 96th Annual Meeting in Denver, Colorado. 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 The 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. Nominator must complete the nomination form, that is available on the PAA website, along with submitting a written review, not to exceed 1000 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 26, 2012. For further information, please see the website: https://www.potatoassociation.org/member-only/OutstandingExtensionProjectAward.htm

Chris Long
Chair, Outstanding Extension Project Award
Crop & Soil Science Dept., MSU
A-412 Plant & Soil Science Bldg.
East Lansing, MI 48824-1325 USA
PH: 517-355-0271 x193 FAX: 517-353-5174
EM: longch@msu.edu

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2012 PAA Meeting Update – 96th Annual Meeting
The Potato Association of America
August 12-16, 2012
Denver, Colorado, USA

The 2012 LAC is finalizing plans for the 96th Annual PAA Meeting. The hotel, the Crowne Plaza Denver Airport Convention Center (www.cpdenverairport.com) is ready to take reservations and has undergone some major renovations to their rooms. The price of $109 Single/Double/Quad occupancy is reasonable for the location and there are plenty of rooms available for the August dates. The complimentary shuttle is a ride of just minutes from Denver International Airport. The hotel location provides easy access to many of the primary routes into Denver and several nice dining sites are nearby. Please check the PAA meeting website for further information about other hotels nearby and registration information (www.paa2012.colostate.edu).

Of course, The PAA Annual Meeting is first and foremost a venue to discuss new science and feature our favorite vegetable, the potato. However, for those who are not so interested in this type of theme, several great tours and events have been lined up for the meeting. This list follows, but don’t be afraid to do some exploring on your own. We will have plenty of opportunity to do just that during the meeting. Members bringing their family and spouses should find numerous opportunities to keep both spouse and kids busy.

Saturday, Aug 11th: Guided fishing in and around Rocky Mt. National Park. Come enjoy a day long fly fishing adventure in some of the most scenic country around. All equipment including waders and flies will be provided, or you can bring your own. There will be one guide per three fishing participants and there should be plenty of fish to be had whether you are a beginner or advanced.

Sunday, Aug 12th:
Golf on a renowned 18 hole golf course. Denver is known for some of the finest golf courses in the country and we will be playing on one of these. We are planning on a hole by hole winner format with each hole worth between $50 to $100. The money won will be donated to the PAA Endowment Fund account in the name of the winner. The tournament structure is to be set up, but will be fun. The fees will include the green fees and cart rental, but clubs (if needed) will be on your own through the course.

Monday, Aug 13th:
1.) Colorado State Capital - Tour one of the most beautiful capital buildings in any state. Modeled after the US Capital with a gold plated dome and a thirteenth step exactly one mile above sea level, this is a tour worth taking.

Denver U.S. Mint - Produces more than 50 million coins daily. One of only two U.S. mints.
Monday, Aug 13th, cont.

**Byers House** - One of Denver's oldest (1883) elaborate Victorian mansions.

**16th Street Shopping Mall** - A mile-long pedestrian promenade which is lined with outdoor cafes and shops.

2.) **Butterfly Pavilion** - First stand alone insect zoo in the country. This enclosed paradise has more than 1,200 free-flying butterflies, spiders, scorpions, millipedes, centipedes, horseshoe crabs, sea stars, and walking sticks.

**Denver Aquarium** - A world-class aquarium that houses more than 15,000 fish, sharks, sea creatures, mammals, Sumatran tigers, and plants. Definitely a must see in Denver. Lunch at the aquarium restaurant.

3.) **Rockies vs. Brewers baseball game**. Watch the Rockies play from mid-range seats.

Tuesday, Aug 14th:

1.) **Gold Mine** - Take a chilly tour of an actual underground working gold mine. Also, be prepared to get your feet wet while panning for gold in a mountain stream.

**St. Mary’s Glacier** - A mile hike to see a spectacular glacier. Wear sturdy shoes and bring a light jacket for the day.

Lunch at the famous Beau Jo’s Pizza. Many famous people like to frequent this popular eating establishment.

2.) **Denver Zoo** - The 4th most popular zoo in the U.S. that is the home to more than 4,000 animals.

**Denver Museum of Nature and Science** - The 4th largest of its kind in the U.S. that features dinosaur exhibits, gems, treasures from around the world, an IMAX theater, a planetarium, and more.

3.) **Dinner Theater** - Murder mystery comedy dinner show. Work together with those at your table to solve the mystery. The setting is a Hawaiian luau, so wear your Hawaiian attire. Supper will consist of teriyaki chicken, white rice, salad, fresh fruit, butter & rolls, cream puffs, brownies, coffee and ice tea. There are vegetarian and gluten free plates available.

Wednesday, Aug 15th:

1.) **Rocky National Park/Estes Park** - A drive through Colorado’s Number 1 attraction. Drive over the Trail Ridge Road which is the highest continuous highway in the world and cross over the Continental Divide twice. Enjoy the panoramic view in all directions. Be prepared to feel a little of the altitude. A box lunch will be provided.

3.) **Horseback Riding** - Take a 2 hour horseback ride in the morning, have lunch on your own in Estes Park, and finish off the day with shopping in Estes Park’s unique shops.

Thursday, Aug 16th:

1.) **Denver Botanical Gardens** - Recognized as one of the top five botanical gardens in the country, these gardens span 23 acres and have more than 32,000 plants from around the world. For anyone interested in plants, this is one of the highlights in the U.S.

2.) **Quilt Shops** - Shop at some of Denver's finest quilting shops.

Finally, check the conference website ([http://www.paa2012.colostate.edu/index.html](http://www.paa2012.colostate.edu/index.html)) over the next couple of months for updates, and additional information. We are working on several of the details for the conference and will supply them as they become available. We are planning on a great meeting event in a very traditional, family oriented format, so take advantage. Let us know if there are any concerns or other things that you would like to see during the meeting. We will do our best to accommodate each request. Please come to experience some good old hospitality in Colorado, (August 12-16, 2012)!

Rob Davidson &
Your 2012 LAC Committee
The 96th Annual Meeting of the Potato Association of America  
August 12-16, 2012  
Crowne Plaza DIA Convention Center, Denver, CO

Ways to Register:

- Register and pay online with a credit card at conference website (www.paa2012.colostate.edu)
- Register by mail and pay by check or credit card. Complete and print this form and mail with check or credit card information to: Conference Services, c/o PAA 2012, 8037 Campus Delivery, Fort Collins, CO 80523-8037.
- Fax registration to Conference Services at (970) 491-7747
- Call Conference Services at (970) 491-6222 and ask to register for the PAA 2012 Annual Meeting in Denver, August 12-16, 2012
- You can find your PAA membership ID number at: http://potatoassociation.org/PAAMemberID.htm.

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**Required for confirmation purposes, participation roster and receipt**

Student Verification

I verify that the student listed above is a student:

Advisor's Signature

Print Name

Hotel Information: Crowne Plaza DIA Convention Center, Denver, CO. Please make your reservations early. Call the Crowne Plaza directly at (303) 371-9494 or 1 (800) 2crowne (Indicate PAA 2012) or register online by using www.cpdenverairport.com or by using the PAA 2012 website at www.paa2012.colostate.edu. Reservations can be made on or before July 27, 2012 before 12:00 Midnight (the cutoff date).
### PAA2012 Registration continued

#### Program, Event, Excursion Pre-registration

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<th>Program, Event, Excursion Pre-registration</th>
<th>No. of Attendees</th>
<th>Payment before June 15</th>
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<td>PAA-EAPR Members</td>
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#### Events

- **SoiCap Potato Genomics Workshop** - Sunday, August 12, (1-5 pm)
  - Adult: 
    - Payment before June 15: $45
    - Payment after June 15: $55

- **Agricultural Tour** - Wednesday, August 15 (7-4:30 pm)
  - Adult (children under 12 free): 
    - Payment before June 15: $40
    - Payment after June 15: $50

- **BBQ at City Park Pavilion in Denver** - Wednesday, August 15 (4:30-7:30 pm)
  - Adult (children under 12 free): 
    - Payment before June 15: $50
    - Payment after June 15: $60

#### Excursions

Please note: All excursions are available during the times listed. We will do everything to accommodate participants regardless of numbers attending.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Excursions</th>
<th>Adult</th>
<th>Adult (children under 12 free)</th>
<th>Adult</th>
<th>Adult (children under 12 free)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-meeting fishing in Rocky Mt. National Park - Guided with one guide per 3 participants. Please see details for equipment needed. Saturday, August 11 (7-5 pm)</td>
<td>$160</td>
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<td>Golf Tournament - (Sunday, August 12, (8-1 pm)</td>
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<td>Capital, Denver U.S. Mint, Byers House, &amp; 16th street shopping mall Monday, August 13 (8:30-3:30 pm)</td>
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<td>Butterfly Pavilion, Denver Aquarium Monday, August 13, (8:30-3:30 pm)</td>
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<td>Gold mine and glacier Tuesday, August 14, (8-5 pm)</td>
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<td>Denver Zoo and Nature and Science Museum Tuesday, August 14, (8:30-4:30 pm)</td>
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<td>Dinner Theater Tuesday, August 14, (5:30-10 pm)</td>
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<td>Rocky Mt National Park/Estes Park Wednesday, August 15, (7:30-5:30 pm)</td>
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<td>Estes Park - Horseback riding, shopping and lunch Wednesday, August 15, (8:30-5:30 pm)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Denver Botanic Gardens Thursday, August 16, (8:30-12:00 pm)</td>
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<td>Quilting shops Thursday, August 16, (1-4 pm)</td>
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#### Conference Questions

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**Cancellation Policy**

All cancellations must be received prior to Monday, August 1, 2012. Cancellations will be processed as quickly as possible less a cancellation fee of $50. After this date, cancellations will not be accepted.
The most heart-breaking news in this newsletter is the sudden passing of 1997 Honorary Life Member, Edwin S. Plissey. Ed passed away on 11/14/2011 after being diagnosed with leukemia only a few short days before. To read his full biography that was submitted with his Honorary Life Membership (HLM) nomination along with his obituary, go to: https://www.potatoassociation.org/member-only/Committees/Honorary%20Life%20Membership/1997HLMBiogs.htm#plissey

After receiving his HLM status, he continued to work on behalf of The PAA by playing a major part in the development of The PAA Endowment Fund, as well as being on the committee to create the PAA Insider newsletter. Those were just a couple of things which he was involved in, the list goes on. Ed loved The PAA and always had our best interest in his heart. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him, and all that he has done for the organization and industry will be visible until the end of time.

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POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT:
POSTDOCTORAL RES ASSOCIATE
Sweetpotato and Potato Breeding and Genetics Program/USDA-ARS Food Science Research Unit
Department of Horticultural Science, NC State University, Raleigh, NC 27695.

Applications: Apply online at https://jobs.ncsu.edu. See position number 00065250. For more information contact Dr. Craig Yencho, Email: craig.yencho@ncsu.edu, Phone (919) 513-7417; or Dr. Den Truong, Email: den.truong@ars.usda.gov, Phone (919) 513-7781.

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Update from the Home Office
Happy New Year everybody! Well, as President Bill mentioned, the Potato Expo 2012 in Orlando was very successful. We added 7 new members to date with possibly more coming in. The PAA badges went over great and everyone was more than willing to wear them and strut around with that little bit of extra head swelling because they are proud to be part of the greatest Association around. It also brought people to the booth to find out what it meant. Now it (Executive Committee) is our desire that members who received these buttons that attend any potato meetings wear these pins so that you once again represent PAA and get people talking. It was surprising just how many people had never heard of us. That needs to change.

Renewals...I still have a lot of people who haven’t renewed their membership for 2012. I spoke with several people at the Expo who said they would be sending it in, but I haven’t seen your check yet. I’m hoping this will remind you. Just a reminder that all your benefits have now expired and if you don’t renew by the time the first AJPR of the year comes out you will need to put in a claim with Springer Jnls to receive it. (This is your FINAL REMINDER.) Access to the Springer website will expire 01/31/12 so if you want a new password, get your dues into me so I may send you a new one. Most important, you won’t receive the discounted registration rate for the meeting. You know who you are, I’ll be waiting.

You will notice that I incorporated the registration form into the newsletter. You will be able to go print it off from the PAA newsletter website or the meeting website: http://www.paa2012.colostate.edu/registrar.html or you may photocopy these pages if you are going to mail in your registration.

Until next time, if you need anything, you know where to find me ~ Lori ~