Dear PAA Members,

A new calendar year has begun and many of us feel like we are falling headlong into another busy field season, making plans, hiring staff, rushing to and from classes, or, for paper shufflers like me, madly shuffling virtual papers to meet deadline after deadline. I want to use this space to ask you to consider including support of PAA in your planning for 2015.

The kind of support I am asking you for might be unexpected: plan to publish your strongest research paper of 2015 in our journal, the American Journal of Potato Research (AJPR). Or, is your lab beginning a new line of research and conducting a literature review? Are you emerging from several years of intense focus on a certain topic of research? Consider submitting a review article to AJPR. As I see it, there are a few main ways that publishing your best research and review papers in AJPR supports PAA:

1. **Impact factor.** The AJPR impact factor has increased substantially in recent years, but we can take it much farther. Better impact factor for AJPR benefits all the authors of the journal because more people around the world see every issue of the journal. Reporting creative research in AJPR will keep the journal’s impact factor going up.

2. **Finances.** Since our association with Springer began, the journal has become a major source of income for PAA through royalties that include a share of digital downloads, subscriptions sold, etc. A more popular and demanded AJPR brings in more funds for PAA, allowing more support of services and activities that you value.

3. **Fun!** If you are like me, you probably admit to enjoying receiving the issue of a journal containing your most recent creative and/or hard-earned research results. Better yet, you like to see a bunch of other good work surrounding yours in that issue. Enjoy that feeling, while supporting PAA, by publishing your proudest achievements in AJPR!

I have other suggestions for how you might support PAA, and I will get to those in the next issue of the Insider. For now, enjoy the winter, and good luck as we jump into spring!

Andy Jensen, PAA  
President 2014-2015
*** CALL FOR PAPERS, POSTERS & AWARDS ***

This is the Second and Final Call for Papers to be presented at the 99th Annual Meeting of The Potato Association of America, to be held July 19 - 23, 2015 at the Hilton Double Tree, Portland, Maine, USA.

PAA members are invited to present papers dealing with all facets of the potato industry. 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 (2010 or earlier version) on a portable USB drive.

Display boards will be provided for posters. Dimensions will be provided at a later date.

Abstracts will be accepted until Thursday, March 12, 2015. Submit abstracts as an e-mail attachment to cwohleb@wsu.edu with “PAA Abstract” as the e-mail subject. You will receive an email acknowledging receipt of the abstract. Abstracts submitted after that date will be returned to the author.

Abstract submission checklist:

1. Title
2. Author(s) and their affiliations - Presenter’s name underlined
3. Body of Abstract
   a. Maximum length of 2,000 characters for title, author(s) and body of abstract combined. This size limit includes spaces.
4. PAA membership number of one (1) author
5. Presentation method (oral; oral graduate student; poster)
6. Section (breeding and genetics; plant protection; physiology; utilization and marketing; extension, production and management; certification)

Only the first 2,000 characters will be printed in the program- please keep your abstract, including title, authors and their affiliations, within the maximum allowable length.

Prior to submitting your abstract, please read and follow the formatting guidelines that are posted on the conference website (to be announced at a later date) and on the PAA website (www.potatoassociation.org). Abstracts will be accepted until March 12, 2015.

Please direct questions to the undersigned.

Carrie H. Wohleb, Washington State University
Phone: (509) 754-2011 ~ Email: cwohleb@wsu.edu

Nomination 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 2015 99th Annual Meeting in South Portland, Maine. Nominated individuals should have made significant contributions to the potato industry and/or The PAA.

...Continued on Page 3
Nominations for Honorary Life Membership, cont.
Continued from Page 2...

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 and click on the ‘2015 Nomination Form’ link. 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 Nora Olsen and are due by March 12, 2015.

This is the Second and Final Call for Honorary Life Membership Nominations.

Nora Olsen, 2013-2014 President
norao@uidaho.edu

Frank L. Haynes Graduate Student Research Award Competition

This is the Second & Final Call for the Frank L. Haynes Graduate Student Research Award Competition (GSRAC) to be held at the 99th Annual Meeting of The Potato Association of America.

The purpose of the CSRAC 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 12, 2015.
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 via e-mail. Abstracts will be accepted until March 12, 2015.
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/membership-benefits

General Criteria for Judging:

Papers and presentations will be judged on the following basis:

A. Value of research: 10%  
B. Depth of research: 10%
C. Submitted Abstract: 10%  
D. Introduction of the presentation: 10%
E. Interpretation of results: 10%  
F. Summary of Presentation: 10%
G. Visuals: 10%  
H. Organization of the presentation: 10%
I. Delivery of the presentation: 15%  
J. Time: 5%

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

(Continued on page 4)
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 12, 2015 for this award to be presented at the 99th Annual Meeting in Portland, Maine. 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 12, 2015. For further information and nomination form, please see the website: http://potatoassociation.org/about-paa/paa-awards

Carrie Huffman Wohleb  
Washington State Univ Extension  
35 C Street NW - P.O. Box 36  
Ephrata, WA 98823  
Phone: 509-754-2011 x4367 ~ E-mail: cwohleb@wsu.edu

For those of you who have e-mail, you already know about the tragic passing of PAA Member Leslie Wanner on December 25, 2014. For those of you who don’t or have not heard, after a long 5-year battle with cancer, the cancer finally won. There will be a celebration of her life and all she brought to us, on Sat, Jan. 31st at 11 am at Woodend Sanctuary in Chevy Chase, MD. If you would like to be part of her celebration, you will find more information at: http://lesliecelebration.weebly.com/ or contact her son, Joffrey Peters at joffreyp@gmail.com.
99th Annual Meeting - The Potato Association of America
July 19-23, 2015 - Portland, Maine USA

The Portland LAC asks you to join us July 19-23, 2015 in Portland, Maine for the 99th Annual Meeting of The PAA. Portland is a welcoming city of 66,000 on the southern Maine coast. Lodging and meeting space will be in the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel in South Portland, 7 miles or 13 minutes from the downtown Portland waterfront. The DoubleTree was refurbished recently and is a perfect size-wise match for our event. These are links for the Greater Portland Area www.visitportland.com/ and Downtown Portland www.portlandmaine.com/. This year the meeting will follow a modified Sunday through Thursday format where the traditional agricultural tour will be held on Thursday. The Annual Business Meeting will be Wednesday afternoon and Wednesday evening the program will officially close with the Awards Banquet. On Sunday we are planning a golf outing and complimentary shuttle rides into downtown Portland. The President’s Reception will be Sunday evening at the DoubleTree. We look forward to your arrival on Saturday or early Sunday so that you may enjoy the area before the start of our meeting.

Monday kicks off with the Symposium hosted by the Physiology Section. Concurrent sessions will be held Monday afternoon, Tuesday and Wednesday morning. The meeting rooms at the DoubleTree are conveniently laid out to allow for easy networking during breaks. Most Section business meetings will be held Monday, but check the final program for details. The Poster Session will be Tuesday afternoon. The Silent Auction, also on Tuesday afternoon, will end promptly so that we can board shuttle buses down to the Maine State Pier. There we will take a charter passenger ferry ride out to Peaks Island to feast on a shore dinner of lobster and clams (other meal options will be available). We are expecting to hold the Live Auction while on Peaks Island. Proceeds from the auctions benefit The PAA Endowment Fund. Please remember to bring auctions items as well as cash or credit for bidding. Accompanying persons tours are offered for Monday and Tuesday. On Thursday, in addition to the Agricultural Tour, a Coastal Community Tour is also planned. More details on the tours will be available online. The PAA 2015 Portland conference website is www.paaannualmeeting.com and will be live on February 9th. Check it out for online and offline registration information, abstract submission, auctions, tours, travel information, and agenda items.

Registration

Included in this newsletter are the prices for registration, the shore dinner, the banquet, and special events & tours. Prices are subject to change prior to being officially published on the website on February 9. Registration may be made by phone or mail, but we encourage use of the online registration method. Just follow the direct link provided on the website. Have your PAA ID number and credit card ready. Your PAA ID is available in your personal profile on PAA website www.potatoassociation.org/. The phone, fax and mail contact is: The phone, fax and mail contact is Gail Wartell, USM Conference Services, P.O. Box 9300, Portland, ME 04104. Ph: 207-780-5960 ~ Fax: 207-228-8207.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Registration fees are</th>
<th>By June 1</th>
<th>After June 1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Members*</td>
<td>$430</td>
<td>$530</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student *</td>
<td>$260</td>
<td>$360</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-members*</td>
<td>$530</td>
<td>$630</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday Symposium**</td>
<td>$125</td>
<td>$125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accompanying person*</td>
<td>$310</td>
<td>$335</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A.P. ’Breakfast Club***</td>
<td>$110</td>
<td>$135</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Price includes Sunday Reception, three breakfasts and lunches, breaks and Awards Banquet. The Tuesday evening Shore Dinner is a separate purchase. **Price includes Monday breakfast, lunch and both breaks. ***Price is a less expensive alternative for accompanying persons only and includes the Sunday Reception and three breakfasts. Breaks and lunches are not included. Shore Dinner and Awards Banquet are separate purchases. Tuesday evening Shore Dinner tickets will be $55 each and extra Awards Banquet tickets will be $50.

Accommodations

Lodging at the twin towers of the DoubleTree by Hilton Portland Maine has been negotiated for a very reasonable rate of $139 for single or double. They have provided a customized registration site for us at:

(Continued on page 6)
PAA Information

2014-2015 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
President: Andy Jensen
Pres-Elect: Loretta Mikitzel
Vice-President: Mike Thornton
Secretary: Carrie Huffman Wohleb
Treasurer: Larry Hiller
Financial Officer: Bret Nedrow
Past-President: Nora Olsen
Editor-in-Chief: John Bamberg
Directors:
   Amy Charkowski
   Samuel Essah
   Shelley Jansky
   Rich Novy
   Asunta ‘Susie’ Thompson

SECTON CHAIRS:
Breeding & Genetics:
Alya Momotaz
Certification:
   Jeff McMorran
Extension, Production & Management:
   Andrew P. Robinson
Physiology:
   Jake Blauer
Plant Protection:
   Andrew Houser
Utilization & Marketing:
   Bret Nedrow

99TH ANNUAL MEETING
July 19-July 23, 2015
DoubleTree Inn
Portland, Maine USA

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 Information (Continued from page 5)

http://doubletree.hilton.com/en/dt/groups/personalized/P/PWMMMDT-PAA-20150717/index.jhtml?WT.mc_id=POG. Phone registrations may be done at (207)775-6161 or (800)445-8667. Be sure to mention the Group Name ‘THE POTATO ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA (PAA-2015)’ and Group Code ‘PAA’. Failure to mention this affiliation may result in higher rates which cannot be changed at check in. We have not blocked many rooms for Saturday night, so if the registration desk says the room block is full make sure this is not the reason. Nicole Cayer (207)756 6519 can assist if there are difficulties in the process. July is prime vacation time on the Maine coast and less expensive rates will be difficult to find. Please patronize our host hotel to help us attain our quota. The hotel is easy access from the Portland Jetport (2 miles) and Interstate 95. The hotel provides complementary hotel shuttle service. Across the street is the Maine Mall with many choices for shops and food. The address if arriving by auto is 363 Maine Mall Road, South Portland, Maine 04106. The guest room block and rate are only available until 5 PM (Eastern Time) June 24. Rooms, if available, are not guaranteed at the negotiated rate if booked after this cut-off time and date. Also, tell the hotel before or at check-in if your stay will be shortened, otherwise early departure will result in a 50% rate charge. The DoubleTree by Hilton has 219 guest rooms. Rates have not been negotiated with other hotels. There are at least a half dozen other hotels in the vicinity, but only one that would be considered a comfortable walking distance.

Travel

Do not book flights to Portland, Oregon. This meeting is in Portland, Maine. The Portland Jetport (PWM) www.portlandjetport.org has a brand new terminal and is served by Delta, JetBlue, Southwest, United, and US Airways. You will find there free Wi-Fi and Linda Beans Maine Lobster Café (try the grilled chees’n lobster) as well as other restaurants and amenities. Again, the DoubleTree by Hilton is 2 miles away and offers free shuttle service. Travelers might also consider Boston Logan Airport (BOS) and a 2-hour ride north to Portland by auto, Concord Coach Lines bus or Amtrak Downeaster. The bus and Amtrak terminal, Portland Transportation Center, is 5 miles or 10 minutes from the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel.

Events

The Sunday golf outing will start approximately at 8 AM at the Nonesuch River Golf Club http://www.nonesuchgolf.com/, an 18-hole championship golf course in Scarborough a short distance from the hotel. Tickets to a Monday night Seadogs baseball game are available. Accompanying persons may sign up for tours on Monday to Kennebunkport and the Seashore Trolley Museum, or Tuesday to Boothbay Harbor and the Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens. The Tuesday evening Peaks Island Shore Dinner will surely be a wonderful social experience. The Agricultural Tour on Thursday will visit a commercial farm and later their vodka distillery in Freeport. Meanwhile the Coastal Community Tour is being planned to make several scenic stops in the southern Maine area. Both tours should end by 3 PM on Thursday. Remember, donations to the Silent and Live Auctions are tax deductible so help us raise money to reach our Endowment Fund goal. We are excited to host The PAA 2015 meetings and look forward to seeing colleagues in Portland this summer.

Portland LAC Co-chairs, Leigh Morrow and Greg Porter