



INSIDER

The Official Newsletter of the Potato Association of America

Vol. 9, No. 4 October 2005

Letter From the New President

Considering Tradition – Tradition!! Tradition!! Such was the life and devotion of Tavya in “*Fiddler on the Roof*.”

And as Tavya’s five daughters grew into their marriages so was Tavya’s traditions challenged more and more. Traditions are important to all of us in many and varied ways. They certainly are to me. And we are definitely honored by several in The PAA. However, traditions often must be reviewed and re-evaluated as challenges are presented from changing times, technology, styles and customs. Just as Tavya had to reconsider his traditions and change or adopt new ways as his daughters matured, so are we all confronted with this challenge in a changing society and world.

The same is true for The PAA as we face a number of issues that impact our society: 1) decreased membership, 2) working operations, 3) publication guidelines and editorial procedures, 4) exploration of a global potato journal, 5) closer cooperation with our European colleagues, 6) a combined group of journal reviewers, working groups and sections, and 7) increased internet access for our website and journals. We have changed to electronic manuscript submission for our journal and annual meetings. More efficient review procedures and electronic accessibility for the journal are being studied. The *Insider* newsletter has been available electronically for some time. These endeavors will keep our professional organization and enhance our image in the potato world and general society. As a member of PAA we must all strive to share in the commitment of continuing a vibrant and healthy association.

Our Vision statement and goals will lead and push us as we wrestle with the best ways to keep our focus on critical potato issues and PAA at the forefront. We can keep our

Association as dynamic and energetic as we the membership want it to be. The executive committee believes that as a member of The PAA you share in this resolution.

Start Planning Now for 2006 –

The first week of October I traveled to Orono to visit Lori and Association personnel at the University of Maine. My goal was to put faces and names together, learn first-hand our operations, and learn as many facts about PAA as I could. Time was too short but we had a very productive exchange of ideas and plans. On the way back I stopped to visit our LAC and site for the 2006 annual meetings in Madison. What an exciting opportunity and experience we will have in store for us next year. The venue for the meeting is truly an event waiting to happen. Shelley Jansky and David Spooner are chairing a most enthusiastic and energetic committee to assure a memorable time for everyone. Agenda and plans for the week include the “traditional” PAA items but in addition will provide unique opportunities for sharing and interaction with the Solanaceae genomics working groups. Watch for details in this and subsequent newsletters, but mark your calendars now for the week of July 23-28, 2006, to be in Madison!! You will be happy you did!

Closing Thoughts –

There is little argument that we exist in an environment and world of constant change. And yet at the same time we strive to sustain those values and traditions that have made The PAA the outstanding and long-tenured professional society that it is today. We can pride ourselves in being a part of this effort and share in our responsibility for our future. Together we can and will make a difference!

Larry K. Hiller
PAA President 2005-2006

Dates

November

4-8: PMA Fresh Summit Conv & Expo, Atlanta, GA. Info: (302) 738-7100 or www.pma.com

6-10: ASA-CSSA-SSSA Ann Mtg, Salt Lake City, UT. Info: David Kral: (608) 273-8080 or www.asa-cssa-sssa.org/anmeet

16: United Fresh Potato Growers ID, Idaho Falls, ID. Info: (208) 535-8500 or www.unitedpotato.com

16-17: PGI Ann Mtg, Red Lion Hotel, Pocatello, ID. Info: PGI (208) 785-1110 or www.potatogrowersofidaho.com

December

30-Dec 1: British Potato 2005, Yorkshire, Harrogate, Info: bp2005@ccevents.co.uk

8-10: Potato Industry Outlook Summit & Seed Sem, Dearborn, Mich. Info: Barb Smith, barb@mipotato.com or (517) 669-8377

2006

Jul 30-Aug 4: The XXII Mtg of the Latin Am Potato Assn (ALAP), Toluca, Mexico, a tribute to John Niederhauser. Info: Hector Lozoya, lozoya@correo.chapingo.mx

Aug 20-26: 6th World Potato Cong, Boise, ID, <http://www.potatofoundation.com>. Info: Llyod Palmer, info@potatocongress.org

First Call for Papers

This is the First Call for Papers to be presented at the 90th Annual Meeting of the Potato Association of America. This meeting will be held July 23-27, 2006 at the Monona Terrace Convention Center in Madison, Wisconsin.

PAA members are invited to present papers dealing with all facets of the potato industry. Submissions suitable for the conference theme of "Solanaceae - Genomics meets Biodiversity" are encouraged. Graduate students that are PAA members are also encouraged to enter the Graduate Student Competition.

Authors are required to submit abstracts for papers they wish to present, whether orally, as poster papers or in the Graduate Student Competition. Abstracts will be accepted from January 9 to March 17, 2006 and should be submitted through the Wisconsin 2006 website: <http://www.hort.wisc.edu/PAA-Solanaceae>

The abstracts for all papers (oral, poster and Graduate Student 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. Electronic projectors will be provided for PowerPoint presentations. Display boards will be provided for the poster papers.

Steven R. James
COARC, 850 NW Dogwood Lane
Madras, OR 97741 Phone: 541-475-7107
E-mail: steven.james@oregonstate.edu

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 2006 Annual meeting in Madison, Wisconsin. 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 Past President and are due by March 15, 2006:

Rob Davidson
San Luis Valley Res. Ctr., CSU
0249 East Road 9 North
Center, CO 81125
E-mail: rddavid@coop.ext.colostate.edu
Fax: 719-754-2619

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!

Rob Davidson, Past President

Graduate Student Awards Competition Papers

This is the First Call For Papers to be entered in the Graduate Student Awards Competition (GSAC) to be held at the 90th Annual Meeting of The Potato Association of America.

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 15, 2006.
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 through the Wisconsin 2006 website: <http://www.hort.wisc.edu/PAA-Solanaceae>. Abstracts will be accepted from January 9 to March 17, 2006.
6. No new students may register after the deadline or at the meeting.

...Continued on Page 4

Welcome to PAA 2006 July 23-27, 2006 Madison, Wisconsin USA

The entire international Solanaceae community will be meeting together for the first time in Madison, Wisconsin on July 23-27, 2006. This meeting will be a coming together of The Potato Association of America (PAA; its 90th Annual Meeting), the International Solanaceae Conference (its Sixth Meeting, with meetings held every five to six years), and the Third Solanaceae Genome Workshop. The theme of the conference is "Solanaceae - Genomics meets Biodiversity." Details of this conference can be viewed at: <http://www.hort.wisc.edu/PAA-Solanaceae/>

The estimated number of participants at this joint conference is 500-800. There will be a single registration for all participants. Hotel contracts have already been made, and we encourage you to reserve your rooms as soon as possible to secure the room you want; it is critical that you identify yourself as a member of this conference to get the best rate.

Registration will be \$300 for all participants for the entire conference except for a reduced rate of \$175 for accompanying persons (who can attend all social events but not the scientific talks), students and single-day registrants. Late registration (after June 15) will be \$425. Those needing registration vouchers now for VISA applications should contact the registration company; see the website for these details. If you do not need this voucher now, please wait until after Jan. 9 to register for the conference.

The meeting will begin on Sunday evening with a general reception. Monday morning begins a series of invited talks for an inter-conference plenary session. Thereafter (beginning on Monday afternoon), the joint conference will consist of two parallel meetings: 1) the PAA (which will hold four concurrent sessions), and 2) the joint meeting of the Solanaceae Genome Workshop and the International Solanaceae Conference, which will meet together in a single session. All meetings will be held on the same floor of the Monona Terrace and participants are free to attend any session. On Tuesday evening there will be a wine and snacks social event during poster viewing, on Wednesday evening a barbeque, and on Thursday evening closing session banquets for the PAA and Solanaceae/Genomics groups.

Wednesday Satellite Sessions will provide opportunities for focus groups to meet. To date, satellite sessions are being organized for:

- Application of FISH in Support of Sequencing Plant Genomes: (Stephen M. Stack, Colorado State Univ)
- Tobacco: (Paolo Donini, Philip Morris Products, Switzerland)

- Translational Genomics: (Allen Van Deynze, Seed Biotechnology Center, California)

Note: There have been informal expressions of interest for satellite sessions in pepper and tomato, but we need to have a chair take on organizational responsibilities for these to occur. Those interested in organizing these sessions, or any other session, should contact David Spooner at 1-608-890-0309; email: dspooner@wisc.edu

In addition to the satellite sessions there will be agricultural and social tours on Wednesday.

Because of the unifying theme of the meeting and the numbers of people anticipated to attend, opportunities for oral presentations in the International Solanaceae Conference will be more limited than in previous Solanaceae conferences. Therefore, ample space for posters will be provided and we encourage poster contributions. The PAA will have ample time for oral presentations and a poster session. The scientific meetings will continue Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday, with Wednesday devoted to tours and satellite sessions.

The \$300 registration is a deal! This includes all scientific events including the Sunday opening wine and snacks reception, the Tuesday evening wine and snacks social/poster viewing session, the Wednesday satellite sessions, three breakfasts, three lunches, and snacks during breaks on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday. There will be a separate charge for the Wednesday evening barbeque, Wednesday tours, and Thursday evening banquet.

We are working on obtaining funds to defray partial expenses for students and other participants. These opportunities will be announced on the website when registration and abstract submissions open on January 9 (<http://www.hort.wisc.edu/PAA-Solanaceae/>)

The Monona Terrace is a premier convention facility with state of the art meeting and projection facilities: <http://www.mononaterrace.com/>

In addition, Madison, Wisconsin is a visitor-friendly city with the Wisconsin State Capitol adjacent to the Monona Terrace, and picturesque nearby State Street providing scores of venues for evening socializing: <http://www.visitmadison.com/>

Madison also offers a variety of housing options, from luxurious (such as the main conference hotel at the Madison Hilton adjacent to the Monona Terrace) to more affordable hotels within walking distance.

We look forward to welcoming everyone to next year's conference. ~ ~
Dave Spooner & Shelley Jansky
Co-Chairs, 2006 LAC

2005-2006

PAA Background

Executive Committee

President

Larry Hiller

President-Elect

Sam Thornton

Vice President

Alex Pavlista

Secretary

Steve James

Treasurer

Al Bushway

Past-President

Rob Davidson

Directors

Chuck Brown

Bill Campbell

Don Halseth

Phil Nolte

Susie Thompson

Editor-in-Chief

John Bamberg

Technical Editor

Barbara Harrity

Business Editor

Ron Knight

Annual Meeting:

July 23-27, 2006

Madison, Wisconsin

PAA Insider is published quarterly starting in January. Contact: Lori Wing, Admin. Asst./Editor, Potato Association of America, 5715 Coburn Hall, Room 6, University of Maine, Orono, ME, 04469-5715 USA. Phone: 207-581-3042; Fax: 207-581-3015; E-mail: umpotato@maine.edu; Website: <http://www.umaine.edu/paa>

Members in the News

It is with extreme sadness that I have to share the news to those that don't already know that we lost two of our longtime Honorary Life Members since the last Newsletter, John S. Niederhauser and Nell Mondy.

John S. Niederhauser passed away in his sleep on Friday, August 12th.

Niederhauser was a pioneer in international cooperation for the improvement of agricultural productivity worldwide. Known throughout the world as "Mr. Potato" for developing potato varieties resistant to late blight disease, his work has impacted agricultural production in more than 60 countries. In 1990, he was awarded the prestigious World Food Prize, the equivalent of the Nobel Prize in agriculture. In 1946, John joined the newly formed Rockefeller Foundation Mexican Agricultural Program and started studying potato production in Mexico. Due to the success of this work, the International Potato Center, now supported by CGIAR, was established in Lima, Peru, in 1971. In 1978, he established the Regional Cooperative Potato Program (PRECODEPA) in Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean. This cooperative program has grown to include 12 countries. Similar programs have been established throughout the world. The contributions John has made to the potato industry will be forever remembered through his work and the people whose lives he has touched. He was presented his Honorary Life Membership in 1965 in the PAA. Read the complete story about John in the GILB Newsletter: <http://www.cipotato.org/gilb/Pubs/newsltr/7nieder.htm>.

Nell Mondy passed away on August 25th. She was recognized worldwide for her research, which involved the study of plant biochemistry as it related to human nutrition and food, studying factors affecting the nutritive value and quality of potato tubers. Nell's research at Cornell ranged from determining the availability of iron in frozen vegetables, the effect of sulfur dioxide on living cells, and naturally occurring toxicants in food to the biochemical and nutritional aspects of fresh and processed potatoes. In 1987 she prepared a proposal on potato marketing that led to the formation of the Agriculture Research Service-National Potato Council (ARS/NPC) National Potato Research Program. The program resulted in millions of dollars in research funds being made available for the study of the quality and use of potatoes. She is listed in the National Woman's Hall of Fame and more than two dozen reference books. She's received numerous awards, including her work on behalf of the potato industry resulting in an Honorary Life Membership in the PAA in 1983. The complete story about Nell is on the Graduate Women in Science webpage: http://www.gwis.org/grants/bios/mondy_bio.htm

Creighton Miller was recently recognized by the Association of Former Students of Texas A&M University with its Distinguished Achievement Award in Teaching. The college-level award was presented "in recognition and appreciation of ability, personality and methods which have resulted in distinguished achievements in teaching."

Graduate Student Award Competition

Continued from 3

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