Letter From the “NEW” President

It is indeed an honor and a pleasure to be your president for 2006/2007. I look forward to the challenges we as a society face in the coming year. Chief among those is the need to evaluate the Springer proposal for publishing our American Potato Journal of Research as to its impact on the quality of our journal and its potential impact on the PAA budget. We will have a recommendation for you the members of PAA for a vote by email by January 31, 2007.

Another challenge we face is updating our PAA website. I can assure you we will have something very special for you by May of 2007. We look for any additional input any of you might have to make our website the premier place we expect it to become.

As you can see I am not one to put a lot of unnecessary words down that are meant to inspire you to more fully participate in the furtherance of the PAA. I would challenge each of you to dedicate 30 minutes per week to the PAA in recruiting new members and sustaining members. We must continue to recruit and keep our members. I learned something valuable in my years in business and that is if you are not moving forward you are falling behind.

I look forward to your help and the help of the PAA Executive Committee in accomplishing these task and many more for the greater good of the PAA in the coming year.

Sam Thornton
President 2006-2007

Past President Farewell Letter

It does not seem possible that just a year ago now I was writing my first letter for my term as your president. Time has passed quickly and much has been happening to move our society forward. This past year has truly been a most enjoyable and rewarding experience for me both personally and professionally, and to you, the PAA membership, I extend a heart-felt ‘thank you.’ I would like to focus on just a couple major issues in this final letter.

The first would be the challenges continuing to face our society. In my first letter, I emphasize membership, outreach, and finance as critical issues. Our financial status has improved, we are taking major steps forward in outreach efforts, and novel approaches are being implemented to work on membership. But with our society based on one commodity, these issues will never go completely away. We recently completed another fantastic annual meeting held in Madison, with many new and positive accomplishments. But I would challenge us all to increase the attendance by our membership at future PAA annual meetings. These assemblies provide a very important opportunity to review past activities, report on current projects, and develop strategies for the future. Our meetings serve to keep members focused, united, and inspired. It would be nice to have a larger percentage of our membership attend! Your continuing officers know are making membership a high priority.

Our outreach program and efforts are another key issue for which we must continue strong forces ahead. This includes our relationships and collaboration with the European Assoc. of Potato Research (EAPR), other international societies, our website, and moving forward with our Vision! The President and Secretary of...Continued on Page 6

Dates

November
15-16: PGI Annual Mtg, Pocatello, ID. 208-243-1824
14-17: PG of Alberta Annual Genl Mtg., Red Deer, AB, Canada. Info: pga@albertapotatoes.ca
16: United Fresh Potato Growers of Idaho, Idaho Falls, ID. Info: 208-535-8500

December
7-9: 2006 Potato Industry Outlook Summit And Seed Seminar, Hyatt Regency, Chicago, IL. 715-623-7683

January 2007

ASP Calender of Events
2006-2010: Not just APS meetings, but all venues. You can add your own meetings to their calendar. http://www.apsnet.org/meetings/calendar.asp
First Call for Papers

This is the First Call for Papers to be presented at the 91st Annual Meeting of The Potato Association of America. This meeting will be held August 12-16, 2007 at the Shilo Inn, Idaho Falls, Idaho.

PAA members are invited to present papers dealing with all facets of the potato industry. Farm-friendly submissions suitable for an industry-oriented half-day 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 Graduate Student Competition. 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. Computer projectors will be available for PowerPoint presentations. Display boards will be provided for the poster papers.

Abstracts will be accepted until March 16, 2007. Submit abstracts as an e-mail attachment to loretta.mikitzel@gnb.ca “PAA Abstract” as the e-mail subject. Abstracts submitted after that date will be returned to the author.

Abstract submission checklist:
- Title
- Author(s)
- Abstract
- Combination of title, authors and body not to exceed 2,000 characters, including spaces
- PAA Membership Number
- Presenter
- Presentation Method (oral, oral – graduate student, poster)
- Section (breeding, plant protection, etc.)

Prior to submitting your abstract, please read and follow the formatting guidelines that will be posted on the conference website as soon as it is available.

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 2007 Annual meeting in Idaho Falls, Idaho. 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 16, 2007.

Larry Hiller
Dept. of Horticulture & Landscape Architecture, WSU
Pullman, WA 99164-6414 USA
Phone: 509-335-3446 Fax: 509-335-8690
E-mail: hillerl@wsu.edu

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!

Larry Hiller
2005-2006 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
You are enthusiastically invited to enjoy warm hospitality and incredible scenery at the annual meeting of the Potato Association of America in Idaho Falls, Idaho August 12–16, 2007. The meeting will be held at the Shilo Inn, the same location where the PAA meeting was held when Idaho hosted it in 1996.

A block of rooms has been reserved at the Shilo Inn for $80.00 per night. Information on room reservations will be forthcoming. Tentatively, registration cost will be $210. The barbecue will cost $20, awards banquet $30 and an agriculture or scenic tour $20. All are U.S. dollars and prices are subject to change. Final registration information will be available in January 2007.

The meeting will follow a traditional schedule on Sunday and Monday, but significant changes have been planned for Tuesday. There will be oral paper sessions on Tuesday morning, but three of the sections that usually meet Monday evening will meet Tuesday afternoon. Additionally, time has been scheduled Tuesday afternoon for professional networking. A poster session with authors present will follow the Tuesday afternoon break, which will blend into the barbecue that evening. In addition to the traditional silent auction, there will be a live auction at the barbecue to raise money for the PAA Endowment Fund.

Following oral paper presentations on Wednesday morning, meeting attendees can participate in an agriculture tour or a sight-seeing tour beginning at approximately 11:30 a.m. The tours will end with a catered meal at the Aberdeen Research and Extension Center. Tour participants will return to the hotel at about 8:00 p.m.

More oral paper presentations are scheduled for Thursday morning with the annual PAA business meeting in the afternoon. The PAA awards banquet will be Thursday evening concluding the meeting.

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

We hope you like the meeting schedule, and keep in mind that Yellowstone Park, Jackson Hole, Wyoming and other attractions are not far from Idaho Falls. Plan on bringing the family to enjoy all that Idaho has to offer.

Submitted by:
William H. Bohl, University of Idaho
Glenn Letendre, Syngenta Crop Protection, Inc.
Co-chairs, PAA 2007 LAC

---

Plan on Coming to Idaho for PAA 2007

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 16, 2007.
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 16, 2007.
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
The 2006 PAA meeting is now behind us and we look forward to the next meeting in Idaho as participants! This year’s meeting was unique as we met for the first time with the Intern'l Solanaceae Conference (meeting every six years) and the Solanaceae Genomics Conference (their third annual meeting). The combined meeting allowed us to attract a variety of contributors. This allowed us to obtain premiere space (the Monona Terrace), breakfasts and lunches as part of registration, internet services, a company for on-line registrations, and to hire a conference photographer. Please consult the conference website at http://www.horticulture.wisc.edu/PAA-Solanaceae/, where 350 high resolution photographs from throughout the meeting can be viewed and downloaded.

A symposium volume of the entire conference is in review in Acta Horticulturae, where we will summarize the meeting in detail “Experiences of the local organizing committee for a large scientific meeting.” Below are some of the statistics from the meeting.

Contributors to the conference, arranged alphabetically.

**Contributors**

- AMVAC
- Bayer Crop Science
- Bio S&T
- Chemtura
- DeRuiter Seeds
- J. E. Orr
- Koeltz Scientific Books
- Nelson’s Vegetable Storage Systems Inc.
- New England Biolabs
- Nunhems
- Philipp Morris
- R. D. Offutt Co.
- Simplot
- Spectrum Technologies Inc.
- Syngenta
- Syngenta Seeds
- USDA ARS
- USDA FAS
- UW Latin American & Caribbean & Iberian Studies
- Basic American Foods
- Beckman Coulter
- Black Gold
- Coloma Farms
- Dow Agro Farms
- KeyGene
- McCain Foods
- McCaın Foods
- NSF
- Pest Pros Inc.
- Promega
- Seminis
- Sipcam Agro USA Inc.
- Time Logic
- US Potato Board
- USDA CSREES
- UW Dept of Horticulture
- Program Total funds = $112,000

**Registration by class.**

- 331 early full conference
- 86 early students and post-docs
- 23 early companions
- 42 complimentary (30 invited speakers and 12 helpers or dignitaries)
- 4 early single day
- 42 late full conference
- 6 late student and post-doc
- 1 late companion
- 4 late single day

**Total: 539 registrants**

**Registrants by country.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Early Full Conference</th>
<th>Early Students and Post-docs</th>
<th>Early Companions</th>
<th>Complimentary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chile</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denmark</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ecuador</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethiopia</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ireland</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Romania</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taiwan</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turkey</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Venezuela</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guatemala</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mexico</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Puerto Rico</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russian</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Switzerland</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Zealand</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Argentina</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Israel</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Korea</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Korea</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USA</td>
<td>319</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total: 42 countries**

**Presentation detail.**

- Invited Solanaceae presentations........... 47
- PAA presentations................................ 100
- PAA posters........................................ 55
- Satellite Session Posters.................... 24
- Solanaceae session posters.................... 97
- Satellite session talks (from 10 satellite sessions)................................. 93
- Total talks and posters....................... 416
- Total authors on these talks and posters: 1050

David M. Spooner, Shelley Jansky, Alvin J. Bussan
2006 LAC Committee

---

**Re-launch of “Pest Management Section”**

Oregon State University has re-launched the Pest Mgmt Section on the Potato Info Exchange webpage: http://oregonstate.edu/potatoes.

The purpose of the website is to keep researchers and people from the industry up to date with the latest development on pest management in the Pacific Northwest, and hopefully beyond.

The contact person for the Pest Management section is: Silvia I. Rondon:

**Oregon State Univ, Extension Entomologist - Asst Professor**

Hermiston Agricultural Res & Ext Center, 2211 South First Street, PO Box 105, Hermiston, OR 97838

Phone: (541) 567-8321  Fax: (541) 567-2240

E-mail: silviarondon@oregonstate.edu
"2006 Frank L. Haynes Graduate Student Research Competition Report"

The members of the Graduate Student Competition Committee in 2006 were Kathy Haynes (USDA/ARS - Beltsville), Leslie Wanner (USDA/ARS-Beltsville), Mark Pavlik (Washington State Univ), Walter DeJong (Cornell Univ), Jeff Miller (Univ of Idaho) and Silvia Rondon (Oregon State Univ).

The awards were funded by the "Frank L Haynes Graduate Student Res Competion Award" endowment funds of the PAA.

Nineteen students participated in the competition: 10 Ph.D. and 9 M.S. students. They made presentations in the following sections: Breeding and Genetics (9), Plant Protection (4), Utilization and Physiology (1) and Production and Management (5). They were from ten institutions: Univ of Minnesota (1), Texas A&M University (1), North Dakota State Univ (1), Univ of Idaho (2), Nova Scotia Agricultural College (1), Michigan State Univ (1), Montana State Univ (1), Univ of Florida (1), North Carolina State Univ (1), and the Univ of Wisconsin (9).

The students came from nine countries: Argentina (1), Canada (1), Columbia (1), Guatemala (1), Northern Ireland (1), Peru (2), Rwanda (1), South Korea (1), and the USA (10).

The winners were:

1st place - Michael Copas
Production and Management, Univ of Wisc, M.S., USA, 'Influence of compaction and subsoil tillage on soil water movement and potato rooting patterns'.
Members in the News

The USA-Brazil successful demonstration of the sprout/seed-potato system (AJPR. Vol 82:6, 2005; PAA/Solanaceae-2006, Program & Abstract, p.187), as an inexpensive and sanitary way of moving potato propagating material (“seed”) by PAA members Jose A. Caram de Souza-Dias (Phytosanitary Center, Instituto Agronomico Campinas, Brazil) and Bill Campbell (Plant Material Center, Palmer, Alaska) will be, for the first time, commercially experimented in Brazil. One of the most traditional and highly qualified seed-potato producers, the R&F Lavouras Co. located in the Southern of Brazil, Itapetinga, SP, will be contracting small potato growers in the Northeast (over 2000 miles distant). The Northeast of Brazil is the most economic-social demanding region of the country. In the “Agreste” zone of this region, there is a microclimate where the mild winter-raining season (April thru August) is ideal for cropping potato.

The sprouts, which are usually considered “as trash stuff”, will be removed by R&F Lavouras Co from their certified virus-free tuber/seed-potato stocks before field plantings in mid May. The sprouts will be shipped via air-express service to two Brazilian Northeast potato producing states: Paraíba (PB) and Pernambuco (PE). Upon arrival, sprouts will be planted in pots, inside screenhouses (insect proof), supervised by Dr. Edson B. Lopes (EMEPA - PB); and Dra. Monica H. Cavalcante (Caruaru Municipal Agro Dept, PE). The sprout produced “pre-basic” minituber/seed-potato stocks, will be field planted (April-May, 2008) by local PB and/or PE potato growers to produce certified tuber/seed-potato lots (“Basic class”).

The underline of this pioneering commercial initiative is to exploit a unique region of the country where good tuber yields. The area also has a very low rate of viral contamination using minimal chemical inputs. Such rare “virus-free” field potato cropping conditions has been attributed to a peculiar agro-climatic ecosystem: one cropping season/year, followed by a 7-month severe drought and hot weather, resulting in a near total absence of volunteer potatoes, weeds and insect vectors.

Under the R&F Lavouras contract, all field produced virus-free certified seed-potatoes lots (“Basic Seed”) in PB or PE, that originate from their sprouts, will be purchased by the company. It is expected that the sprout/seed-potato system will be an economical/social/sanitary and agro-ecological scheme of producing high grade “Basic Seed”, not only for the potato crop in the Northeast of Brazil, but also in other countries where healthy seed-potato stocks are most needed.

Jose A. Caram de Souza-Dias, Brazil
Bill Campbell, Alaska

Past President Farewell Letter

EAPR were in attendance at our meetings in Madison, several good discussions and interactions were achieved with them, and supported unanimously by the Executive Committee and the entire membership at our annual meeting. More information will continue to unfold during the coming year. Likewise, serious discussions and planning stages were focused our Journal and possible relations with Springer Publishing. Again, this will be a matter of discussion and decision during this next year. Be sure to keep informed through our newsletter and email to the membership.

The Potato Association of America is nearing its 100th year as a professional society. We continue a strong history of tradition and a enjoy the positive challenges of new opportunities and growth. This is the sense of dedication and pride that I know our current slate of officers have for the society and will hold high the determination for great achievements in the year to come. Let us all help and give them our full support.

Larry K. Hiller
Past President 2005-2006