It was an interesting, informative and fun annual PAA meeting held August 15-19 in Corvallis, Oregon. The LAC chairs Philip Hamm and Russ Ingham and their crew conducted a very successful and productive meeting and are to be commended for all their time and hard work. There were 130 paper and poster presentations, a symposium on the sustainability of potato production hosted by the Extension Section, a SolCap workshop, seven section meetings, three tours, the annual business meeting and awards banquet all compacted into four days. Attendance was 209 from 22 states, 6 provinces, and 11 counties, which attests to the diversity and strength of our organization. We do represent the scientific and educational efforts which support the potato industry of the US and that of the world.

I always look forward to the annual meeting to visit with old friends, make new acquaintances and learn from this very dedicated group.

Thanks are in order for our outgoing President, Phil Nolte, who very effectively and efficiently guided us through association business this past year with such good cheer. Also congratulations to our new Vice-President, Leigh Morrow and our newest director, Helen Tai. The PAA leadership has attempted to be proactive by watching for new trends and needs of our clientele, as well as trends in academia, industry and governmental agencies. While our membership appears to be stable, we need to be always on the watch for new members as they represent our future. This past year PAA members provided talks and posters at the Potato Expo in Orlando, FL in January – a good venue to showcase what we do and to make important linkages with industry and potato organizations such as the NPC and USPB.

In this world of nearly instant communication the PAA is utilizing electronic technology to conduct organization business, foster communication among the potato community, and conduct our mission of education. E-mail technology has helped speed along EC business – I was on the road driving home from Oregon and had several PAA messages before I could even get to eastern Oregon! Our Extension list-serve (hosted by Oregon State) is a very valuable resource to the potato community – numerous requests for information are met with numerous responses, usually within hours of their being posted. I should mention that many consider this dialog (and the ability to see all the responses) important to their research and Extension responsibilities as it helps them keep more current with what is being asked and the related responses. Our new PAA website is now up and active (http://potatoassociation.org), it has a very modern look and functionality, and Lori Wing deserves a lot of credit for seeing this through. Our new PAA website helps promote our professional organization and illustrate the many benefits of being a member, such as electronic access to old PAA publications (thanks to our association with the publisher Springer), newsletters and upcoming events nationally and internationally.

As a member of the PAA, I ask that we all watch for opportunities where the PAA can provide information, support or other activities. Be thinking about where we should be going in the future so we can develop the needed programming. We need to be constantly looking for stimulating ideas, food for thought (yes, the pun was intended), to help us best position the organization for the many challenges ahead. If anyone has comments, ideas or concerns please feel free to communicate these to myself or anyone on the EC.

Don Halseth
PAA President 2010-2011
First Call for Papers

This is the First Call for Papers to be presented at the 95th Annual Meeting of The Potato Association of America, to be held August 14-18, 2011 at the Hilton Wilmington Riverside Hotel, Wilmington, North Carolina, 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 (2007 or earlier version) on a portable USB drive.

Display boards will be provided for posters.

Abstracts will be accepted until Monday, March 21, 2011. Submit abstracts as an e-mail attachment to loretta.mikitzel@gnb.ca 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
   Maximum length of 2,000 characters. 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 or 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 (http://paa2011.org) and on the PAA website (http://www.potatoassociation.org).

Abstracts will be accepted until March 21, 2011. Please direct questions to the undersigned.

Loretta J. Mikitzel
PAA Secretary
NB Department of Agriculture and Aquaculture
39 Barker Lane
Wicklow, NB Canada E7L 3S4
Phone: (506) 392-5146
Email: loretta.mikitzel@gnb.ca

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 2011 Annual Meeting in Wilmington, North Carolina. 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://paa2011.org. 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 Phil Nolte and are due by March 21, 2011.

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!

Phillip Nolte
2009-2010 President
pnolte@uidaho.edu
Frank L. Haynes Graduate Student Research Competition Papers

This is the First Call for Papers to be entered in the Frank L. Haynes Graduate Student Research Competition Award (GSRCA) to be held at the 94th Annual Meeting of The Potato Association of America.

The purpose of the GSRCA 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 Ameri J of Potato Res.

General Information
1. The author must be a current (or recent) graduate student at the time the abstracts are due March 21, 2011.
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 21, 2011.
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

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 $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. Samuel Essah, Chair
PAA Grad Student Awards Competition
Colorado State University
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

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 21, 2011 for this award to be presented at the 95th Annual Meeting in Wilmington, North Carolina. 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 21, 2011. For further information, please see the website http://potatoassociation.org/

Robert H. Garreau
Chair, Outstanding Extension Project Award
Potatoes NB
P.O. Box 7878
Grand Falls, NB E3Z 3E8 CANADA
Phone: 506-473-3036 Fax: 506-473-4647
E-mail: rgareau@potatoesnb.com
The 2011 LAC is pleased to announce that the 95th Annual Meeting of The Potato Association of America will be held August 14 – 18, 2011 at the Hilton Wilmington Riverside Hotel in Wilmington, North Carolina. For details on the Wilmington Hilton, please see http://www.wilmingtonhilton.com/. Our conference hotel is located on the Cape Fear River in beautiful downtown Wilmington, NC. It is located on the boardwalk and is surrounded by lots of historical features, including the historic Battleship North Carolina. There are plenty of attractions and dining options within walking distance of the hotel to enjoy, as well as several great beaches just a short drive away. For more information on this part of North Carolina and what it has to offer please visit http://www.capefearcoast.com/.

The conference hotel is only 5 miles from Wilmington International Airport and it has a free shuttle. For those seeking a larger airport with more connections and airlines you may want to consider flying into Raleigh Durham International Airport (RDU), which is roughly 2.5 hrs north of Wilmington and an easy drive down I-40 east to Wilmington. Room reservations can be made online and we have secured a room rate of $149 per night (single or double). Please mention that you are with the PAA when booking to get the special rate. We expect that golf will be available on Sunday morning prior to the beginning of the Conference.

The meeting will follow a traditional schedule with registration beginning on Sunday, and the President’s reception Sunday evening. The delegate program will kick off on Monday morning with a symposium organized by the Plant Breeding and Genetics, and Physiology Sections. As usual, oral and poster presentations will be scheduled throughout the week, and Wednesday will feature tours and an evening BBQ. A Silent Auction, with proceeds going to the Endowment Fund, as always, will be a guaranteed crowd pleaser during our BBQ. We will conclude on Thursday evening with the banquet.

The LAC is currently working on our tour programs (during and after the meeting). But, they will certainly include a visit to the beach, as well as an agricultural tour and visit to one or two agricultural research stations operated by NC State University and the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, and deep sea fishing. Of course, a sweetpotato tour component will likely be included since Craig is a member of the LAC! Please visit our website at http://paa2011.org/ for updates and registration information. Information will be continually updated there, but also stay tuned for more information regarding the PAA 2011 meeting in future editions of the PAA Insider.

See y’all at the beach in Wilmington!

PAA 2011 LAC Committee

94th Annual Meeting of The Potato Association of America ReCap

2010 Annual Meeting a Success

Our annual meeting in Corvallis OR this past August was reportedly enjoyed by all who attended. The meeting, situated on the main campus of Oregon State University, provided an nice avenue for reacquainting with friends and colleagues, and learning the latest on potato research. There were 209 participants, made up of 126 regular members, 21 non-members, 23 students, 15 one-day attendees, and 24 accompanying persons. Eleven countries were represented, 6 Canadian Provinces and attendees also came from 22 US states. Those folks enjoyed the BBQ at a local winery, the wine tour or tours to the Oregon Coast or an agriculture tour that included a stop at Kettle Chips along with a tour of general agriculture in the Willamette Valley.

Philip B. Hamm
LAC Co-Chair
Fare Thee Well from the Past President

Fellow members of PAA:

It has been a distinct pleasure and an honor serving you as PAA President this last year. As these things go, it was a relatively quiet year for PAA. This was due in large part to all of the time and effort that has gone into modernizing our Association over the last few years on the part of previous presidents and Executive Committee members. Much of their efforts are now coming into fruition. As I pass the gavel, there is also much to be optimistic about. Our finances are up to date and we were able to add a little to our bottom line. Not only that, our Association actually enjoyed a net gain in membership last year, a welcome trend in view of the times.

My deepest appreciation goes out to those who helped to make my tenure go so smoothly. A special thanks to PAA Secretary, Loretta Mikitzel, our new Treasurer, Larry Hiller, and to our incomparable Administrator, Lori Wing, who seems to have a handle on almost everything. I would also like to recognize John Bamberg, Editor-in-Chief of the American Journal of Potato Research and all of the Senior Editors who did their usual professional job of maintaining the high standards of our Journal. It is due to the efforts of people like these that our Association and our Journal enjoy such a good reputation.

As immediate Past President, I’m not allowed to go immediately to pasture. In fact, I have several important duties to perform, one of which is to chair the Honorary Life Membership Committee. Honorary Life Membership is our Association’s highest honor. If you feel you know someone who is deserving of this award, see the announcement elsewhere in this month’s Insider for details on the nomination process.

As immediate Past President, I’m not allowed to go immediately to pasture. In fact, I have several important duties to perform, one of which is to chair the Honorary Life Membership Committee. Honorary Life Membership is our Association’s highest honor. If you feel you know someone who is deserving of this award, see the announcement elsewhere in this month’s Insider for details on the nomination process.

In closing, I’d like to recognize our Oregon hosts, who did a spectacular job with this year’s annual meeting. From first-rate facilities to first-rate tours and food, a good time was had by all. Congratulations, Phil Hamm and Russ Ingham, on a job well done!

Hope to see you all in Wilmington, NC next year.

Phillip Nolte, PAA President 2009-2010

Message from the Homefront

A lot has happened since the last Newsletter...the 94th Annual Meeting took place and I made my first trip to Oregon. I was told the weather was always cool, but I was led down the wrong path. It was 98F when we landed in Portland, Oregon and the van that took us to the hotel had no air conditioning. That was a very long and hot 2-1/2 hour ride, but Leigh Morrow and I are tough Maineiacs and made it successfully. It was great seeing all my old members from the past years and meeting new members for the first time. There were also a lot of people there that hadn’t been able to come to meetings for a few years or had switched jobs but showed up to say Hi. That was a great surprise.

For those of you unable to attend I brought up several things in my report that need to be available to all.

~ As always...if you have an e-mail or address change, please let me know so that I may make updates throughout the system.
~ I am getting ready to send out the first round of 2011 membership renewals. When you receive it, please take the time to write out your checks, fill in your credit card information or pay online right then so you won’t have to receive a second

Continued on Page 6...
Members in the News

It was with great sadness that we lost another PAA Honorary Life Member (HLM) on August 29. James E. Bryan received his HLM status in 1992. He grew up with a love for potatoes and entered the Univ of Idaho in 1948. His schooling was interrupted by the Korean conflict for 2 years while in the Army, then came home and received both his B.S. and M.S. degrees in agricultural education in 1956. He taught vocational agriculture for four years before beginning his formal potato career as Area Potato Extension Specialist with the Univ of ID located in Bingham County.

In 1966, Jim joined forces with Dr. Richard L. Sawyer and the NCSU potato program in Peru building a seed program. This was the beginning of a 25-yr relationship with Peru. When the program ended he moved to the newly created Intern'l Potato Ctr (CIP) in Lima as Seed Production Specialist. There he had the leadership role in all aspects of seed production. At CIP he was known as “Mr. Potato” for his detailed knowledge on utilization of germplasm in developing countries.

Since 1961, Jim had been an active PAA member, serving as Director of The Association, Chair of Membership and Intern'l Relations Committees, as well as being active in the Certification Section. He was also an avid potato stamp collector and sending them to other collectors all over the world.

PRESS RELEASE: PAA Sustaining Member, Pest Pros Inc, Plainfield, WI has been granted a trade mark for its Storage Potato Disease Risk Indexing system to be known as STORECAST. The system is the first of its kind potato storage disease and inventory management tool. Based on molecular disease diagnostic techniques known as PCR (polymerase chain reaction), STORECAST measures the storage disease risk for soft rot, leak and pink rot. Late blight, dry rot, silver scurf, early blight and black dot can also be included in the pathogen screen. Two seasons of data from 2008 and 2009 on 64 fields comparing storage rot forecasts to the final storage rot outcome show a 76 percent accuracy rate for close or full agreement on processed potato varieties. Over the two seasons only a 3 percent rate of seeing substantially more rot than expected occurred. Pest Pros Inc. is currently pursuing licensing agreements with others to provide the system in other areas. Pest Pros Inc. has been in the potato crop consulting and plant disease diagnostic business since 1984. For more information: http://www.pestprosinc.com

Randy Van Haren, 608-572-0248

Pest Pros Inc., Plainfield, WI has been granted a trade mark for its Storage Potato Disease Risk Indexing system to be known as STORECAST. The system is the first of its kind potato storage disease and inventory management tool. Based on molecular disease diagnostic techniques known as PCR (polymerase chain reaction), STORECAST measures the storage disease risk for soft rot, leak and pink rot. Late blight, dry rot, silver scurf, early blight and black dot can also be included in the pathogen screen. Two seasons of data from 2008 and 2009 on 64 fields comparing storage rot forecasts to the final storage rot outcome show a 76 percent accuracy rate for close or full agreement on processed potato varieties. Over the two seasons only a 3 percent rate of seeing substantially more rot than expected occurred. Pest Pros Inc. is currently pursuing licensing agreements with others to provide the system in other areas. Pest Pros Inc. has been in the potato crop consulting and plant disease diagnostic business since 1984. For more information: http://www.pestprosinc.com

Randy Van Haren, 608-572-0248

Pest Pros Inc., Plainfield, WI has been granted a trade mark for its Storage Potato Disease Risk Indexing system to be known as STORECAST. The system is the first of its kind potato storage disease and inventory management tool. Based on molecular disease diagnostic techniques known as PCR (polymerase chain reaction), STORECAST measures the storage disease risk for soft rot, leak and pink rot. Late blight, dry rot, silver scurf, early blight and black dot can also be included in the pathogen screen. Two seasons of data from 2008 and 2009 on 64 fields comparing storage rot forecasts to the final storage rot outcome show a 76 percent accuracy rate for close or full agreement on processed potato varieties. Over the two seasons only a 3 percent rate of seeing substantially more rot than expected occurred. Pest Pros Inc. is currently pursuing licensing agreements with others to provide the system in other areas. Pest Pros Inc. has been in the potato crop consulting and plant disease diagnostic business since 1984. For more information: http://www.pestprosinc.com

Randy Van Haren, 608-572-0248