



# INSIDER

The Official Newsletter of the Potato Association of America

Vol. 5, No. 2 April 2001

## Letter From the President

**T**he 85<sup>th</sup> annual meeting, April 22-26, 2001 in St. Augustine, Florida, is just a few weeks off. It is another milestone in the history of the PAA!

Dr. Pete Weingartner and his LAC have done an excellent job. Hopefully, you have already completed your registration and made a room reservation.

Remember, this year you can even register on the Web. Just go to the PAA web page at <http://www.ume.maine.edu/PAA> and click on "Meetings 2001". See the website for details.

Our Secretary, Steve James, states that 147 abstracts, the largest number since 1993, have been submitted. This includes 37 Posters.

The number of graduate papers is down slightly, due to the meeting coinciding with the academic year. The PAA Executive Committee acknowledges and thanks Eden BioScience and Mark Russell for providing financial support for this year's Graduate Student Awards.

Since last August, our membership has increased by 82, or 8.8%; an encouraging trend. Our total is now 1013 with 181 from Canada, 564 from the U. S., and in addition, an impressive 268 from 52 other countries. My thanks go to Rikki Sterret and Duane Preston for their efforts in the membership area.

This year's theme is "Potato Plant Health into the New Millennium." The Symposium reflects the Vision 2000 Committee's goal of improved interaction between PAA and the potato industry. The title is "The Impact of New and Emerging Diseases and Technologies on Potato Certification". Speakers from the Pathology/Entomology and Certification Sections will discuss soil-borne diseases and pests.

After the Symposium, Monday afternoon, breakout sessions will give further attention to soil-borne vectored diseases and soil-borne fungi concerns. Come to listen, learn, and contribute during all the sessions.

This year's Awards Banquet will be a relaxed event. With the World Golf Village Renaissance Resort as our mood setter, you may choose to dress like a golf-pro for the evening. The temperatures should be in the high 60's to low 80's F. The President Elect and Vice-President will do their best to identify the best-dressed lady and gent in golf-pro attire.

Finalize your plans now. Come and enjoy all that the beautiful and historical St. Augustine area has to offer.

See you in Florida.

**Oscar Gutbrod, Pres.**

## Dates

### April

22-26: 85th Annual Mtg of the PAA, St. Augustine, FL. Hosted by the Univ. of Florida/IFAS Hastings Res. & Edu. Ctr. For more information contact Pete Weingartner at (904) 692-1792 or visit the conference web site (<http://www.ifas.ufl.edu/~conferweb/paa/>), by phone (352) 392-5930 or by fax (352) 392-9734, Email: [MKTatlock@mail.ifas.ufl.edu](mailto:MKTatlock@mail.ifas.ufl.edu).

### June

04-09: Fifth National Congress of Food Science & Technology. Huancayo, Peru. Contact: Ing. Delfredo Capcha, 064-248152 x201

### July

11-14: NPC summer meeting in Mt. Vernon, WA at the Cotton Tree Best Western. For more info: <http://www.npcspud.com>.

### August

7-9: Empire Farm Days, Rodman Lott and Son Farm, Seneca Falls, NY. Call Melanie Wickhamat (877) NY-SPUDS

24-25: Barnesville Potato Days Festival, Barnesville, MN. Visit [PotatoDays.Com](http://PotatoDays.Com) or call (800) 525-4901

29-Sept. 1: Idaho Grower Shippers Assn. meeting, Sun Valley Resort, Sun Valley, ID. Call (208) 529-4400

## Inside Information

### News from Headquarters

### E-mail receipt of newsletter

Starting this month, those who requested to have their newsletters delivered via E-mail will receive this issue that way. If there is anyone else who wants to receive it via their E-mail address, please let me know. Because of the increasing size of the mailing list, I am only going to use **one** E-mail address per person. Please let me know which one you want to keep on your record. For those of you receiving the Insider by E-mail this time, you won't receive the brochure for submitting abstracts for the 2002 meeting. However, you will find all the information and instructions on it on the IHC website at: <http://www.IHC2002.org>. If you would like a hard copy, please let me know and I'll send one.

### Manuscript Billing

For those of you who are publishing your articles in the Journal, please **do not** send any payment before it has been published and the business editor has sent you an invoice with the total charges. He still needs a PO number submitted, but do not submit for payment.

Lori Wing  
Administrative Assistant

# Graduate Student Awards: Reviewing the Past Decade

**N**ow that I have completed my last act as Chair of the Graduate Student Competition Committee, sending out the critiques to this year's competitors, I would like to take this opportunity to reminisce. I joined the committee in 1991 when Steve Love was Chair and became Chair for the 1994 competition after Creighton Miller (Jr.).

The graduate student competition began in 1976 with 7 papers. That number ranged from 2 to 9 until 1986. From 1986 to 1988 there was a surge of 14 to 17 presentations followed by a plateau period of 8 to 14. In 1996, the number of papers jumped to between 17 and 22 and has stayed there since.

Over the past ten years there were changes and clarifications in the rules and procedures of the competition. The major ones are:

**1991:** Critiques began to be compiled on each student's presentation and sent to that student. These critiques gave the Committee's opinions on strengths and weaknesses, and suggestions for improvement.

**1991:** A fourth place award was established.

**1993:** The rule was added that a first place winner could not compete again in the competition in following years.

**1993:** Also in that year, it was clarified and added to the 'Instructions' that the presenter cannot be an undergraduate student

**1994:** The rule on graduate student identification was defined as one who was currently a graduate student or was one at the time that the call for Abstracts was issued. That is a student who finished a graduate degree in the winter would still be eligible to present their graduate work at the summer PAA meeting (or spring as this year).

**1995:** It was clarified and made official that all graduate student presenters would be entitled to a free banquet ticket.

**1996:** The PAA decided that all graduate student presenters would receive a

certificate acknowledging their participation in the competition.

**1996:** Due to the surge of graduate student presentations to 21, a fifth place award was established.

**1997:** The rule was added that a graduate student could only make one presentation as part of the competition.

**1997:** The PAA decided to make clear that the student or a co-author on the Abstract must be a member of the PAA.

**1997:** The LAC rules were amended to indicate that all student presentations are to be made prior to the poster session during which the Committee will meet to go through the presentations. The poster session is to be scheduled last before the tours.

**1999:** On-line submission of Abstracts was inaugurated.

**2000:** Dr. Kathleen Haynes, the current Chair for the Florida meeting, initiated an endowment for the awards in this competition in honor of her late husband Dr. Frank Haynes. This competition had been financially supported by NatureMark for the past eight years through an annual donation.

**2000:** The PAA Executive Committee reaffirmed that only oral presentations will be considered for the competition; posters and symposia are excluded.

Some other milestones worth noting: Starting 1997, I began to announce the different countries of origin of student presenters. In 2000, the first graduate student from a university outside of North America, from Korea, participated in the competition making it truly international.

So, as the decade has closed and I bid adieu, the graduate student competition is doing well under the most capable direction of Dr. Haynes. I thank the PAA and its Presidents of this decade for the honor and privilege to serve as this Committee's Chair.

Alexander Pavlista  
University of Nebraska

# 85th Annual Meeting of The Potato Association of America

April 22 - 26, 2001

St. Augustine, Florida

“Potato Plant Health into the New Millennium”

## PAA 2001 UPDATE

### Program Agenda

The PAA 2001 program committee has developed an outstanding program built around the theme, “Potato Plant Health into the New Millennium”. The meeting will open with a Symposium entitled “Impact of New and Emerging Diseases and Technologies on Potato Seed Certification”. Topics of the Symposium will include an overview of seed certification, presentations on vectored and nonvectored soil-borne pathogens, statistics of sampling for soil-borne diseases, and methods of pathogen detection. The speakers include Drs. Rob Davidson, Colorado State University; Derek Brown, Scottish Crop Research Institute; Gary Secor and Neil Gudmestad, North Dakota State University; Ramon Littell, University of Florida; and Dallice Mills, Oregon State University. In the afternoon following the Symposium, there will be 14 presentations based on the disease topics discussed in the morning Symposium. During the week, there will be mini-symposia on both late blight and tuber skin set. We will have a record of 147 presentations, including 37 posters. In addition to the large number of presentations, there is a wide array of recreational activities planned including the traditional agricultural tour and barbecue.

### Special Events & Conference Tours

Fiesta Tours in St. Augustine is handling all tours, including the Agricultural & Research tour and the barbecue (listed as “Spudtacular” Fun Florida event) and recreational activities! Please fill out the PAA Friends & Family Special Events and Excursions registration form, which was in the brochure and is on the conference website: <http://www.ume.maine.edu/PAA/business.htm>, E-mail: [rrbinc@bellsouth.net](mailto:rrbinc@bellsouth.net); Web site: <http://www.fiestatours.com/>

### Air Transportation

Jacksonville International Airport is the closest airport located 45 miles north of St. Augustine. Their web site is <http://www.jaxport.com/air/jia.cfm>, and lists a wealth of info from flight schedules to ground transportation services. Daytona Beach International Airport is the next closest airport (53 miles south of St. Augustine): <http://www.volusia.org/airport/>

### Ground Transportation

AVIS has given PAA 2001 participants' special rates available a week prior and following the meeting dates. This discount will be honored at any AVIS location in Florida. Please call 1-800-331-1600 and state your AVIS worldwide discount (AWD) number is J866365.

East Coast Transportation has non-private van service available from Jacksonville International Airport to the WGV Renaissance Resort. Please call East Coast at 1-800-829-7433 (*minimum of 12 hours notice needed*). Prices are listed below:

Number of Passengers	Per Person One Way (includes gratuity)
1	\$66
2 – 10	\$35.64

Evans Transportation, Inc. (Fiesta Tours) has a deluxe van service from Jacksonville and Daytona Beach airports. Prices are PER TRIP (*not per person*). Fares can be evenly divided between passengers sharing the van. Gratuity is not included in the price and is left to discretion of those receiving service (15-20% is customary). Please call Evans Transportation at 1-888-275-8902 [24 hour mobile: 904-808-8077] (24 hour advance notice is required). Prices are listed below:

Number of Passengers	Per Trip One Way (gratuity not included)
1-4	\$55
5-8	\$65
9-1	\$75

Other transportation services are available from Jacksonville International Airport, and that information can be found on their website.

### For More Information

Check the PAA 2001 website: <http://www.ume.maine.edu/PAA/business.htm>

# Publishing Your Manuscript

I've been trying to think of things to put in this newsletter that would interest our members and also provide some guidance and understanding of how different things work within the PAA. One common concern is the process for submitting and publishing a manuscript. I hope the following will help everyone to understand better.

## Step One:

Manuscripts are received at PAA Headquarters where they are opened and recorded in the log by the Administrative Assistant (that's me). Each manuscript is given a tracking number at this time. At each stage of publication I am notified of the manuscript's progress.

An "Author's Release Form" is sent to the corresponding author. It is his or her responsibility to obtain signatures from all authors and return it to headquarters within two weeks. I also check that at least one author is a member of the PAA and, if not, that an application is included with the release form. The manuscript may not be published until these steps are completed. An E-mail is accepted from authors who live outside the U.S. or Canada.

## Step Two:

A copy of the cover letter, abstract and first page of manuscript is faxed to the editor-in-chief (Bud Platt currently). He decides which senior editor will do the evaluation. He then e-mails me a letter to be sent with the manuscript package to the senior editor of his choice. This step saves time and money by eliminating the transfer of manuscripts to and from Canada.

## Step Three:

Next, I send 3 copies of the manuscript to the senior editor assigned. The original is kept here with any pictures, charts, or drawings that are used if it is accepted for publication. Once the senior editor's receive the package, they send it off to their reviewers who evaluate content. Authors are generally notified within 8 weeks of submission whether the manuscript is accepted, rejected, or needs modification. When a manuscript is returned to the author for modification it should be returned to the senior editor within 6 months, otherwise it may be considered withdrawn.

## Step Four:

After the senior editor hears back from his reviewers and the decision has been made whether to accept, reject or modify the manuscript, the Editor-in-Chief is notified. He sends a letter to the author, with a copy to the technical editor (Barbara Harrity currently) and me with the decision. The senior editor sends the technical editor the accepted manuscripts along with an electronic copy of the article. She edits each paper, checking for spelling and grammar, standardizing abbreviations, author information

on the front page, measurement units, and symbols. She also checks citations in the text against the literature cited to make sure names and dates are correct.

After editing the manuscript, and if there are only minor changes, she corrects the electronic version, prints out a fresh copy, gathers the figures, and sends everything to the business editor (Ron Knight currently). If Barbara has questions about the manuscript, she contacts the author via email and asks him/her to either make the corrections and send a new electronic file (when there are major issues), or to clarify the point(s). She also proofreads the whole issue at the blueline stage and creates the author and subject indexes published in the journal.

(NOTE: Barbara would appreciate it if you remember that photocopies of figures are usually not acceptable for publication. Figures that accompany the final revised draft of a manuscript must be either the originals or good photographic prints. Also, any electronic figures, such as charts, should not be embedded in the text of the document.)

If the manuscript has been rejected, all the materials are sent back to the editor-in-chief who notifies the authors and returns the information to them. I am notified to pull the manuscript and hold it for one year.

## Step Five:

Once the article has been received by the business editor, he checks it to make sure all components (especially figures) are publication quality. If they are, he will mark the copy, write any special instructions, and send the article to the typesetter. The article is logged out and dated in the business editor's log. The article is now in the pre-publication flow.

Once the article is typeset, then Ron receives two sets of page proofs from the typesetter. He keeps one set, mails the other set of page proofs, original copy, and a reprint order form to the author, and logs the mailing date.

The author then reads page proofs, makes changes and corrections, fills out reprint form, and returns everything to the business editor, who logs the return date. The article now is in the next-to-last phase before publication.

Assuming there are no problems or complications, the article takes its place among others by date of acceptance in order of publication. Generally, an article will be published four to six months after the date of acceptance.

There are occasions when an article will take longer than six months to be published. An abundance of articles or failure of an author to return proofs and reprint order form promptly may extend the publication date beyond six months.

I hope this explanation of the publishing process will now make it easier for current and future authors to understand what is involved and why the time frame is so long in completing.

Lori Wing, PAA Administrative Assistant

# PAA Members in the news

This issue of the Insider brings us mourning the passing of several of our Honorary Life Members in the PAA.

**Geddes W. Simpson** passed away on Dec. 28, 2000 at the age of 92. Geddes received his HLM status in 1975. He was born in Scranton, Penn. in 1908, graduated from Bucknell in 1929 with an AB in Zoology. He completed his AM in insect morphology in 1931 and his PhD in economic entomology in 1935 at Cornell Univ. Though he trained in insect morphology and economic entomology, he was often claimed by plant pathologists because of his pioneer work with insect-transmitted potato viruses. He spent most of his 55 year career at the Univ. of Maine at the Maine Agricultural Experiment Station and the College of Life Sciences and Agriculture. At the time of his retirement in 1974, he was acting as editor-in-chief for the PAA. Dr. Simpson was associated with many activities beyond his professional duties and was always there to lend a helping hand.

**Earl F. Spencer** recently passed away at the age of 85. He received his HLM status in 1978 after being a member and staunch supporter of the PAA for over 30 years. He was born in Burden, Kansas in 1915, but at an early age his family moved to Jerome, Idaho. He attended the Univ. of Idaho and graduated in 1940 with a B.S. in Agronomy and Agricultural Education. After graduation, he taught vocational agriculture at Shelly High School. In 1947 Earl joined the Idaho Crop Improvement Assn. where he headed the seed potato certification program for 30 years. After retiring, he continued to help the seed potato certification programs in Montana and Colorado until he was 80. In Dec 1993, the NPC named him as the seed potato researcher of the year.

**James W. Watts** was killed in a car accident on Jan. 31, 2001. He received his HLM status in 1979. Jim grew up in Berwick, Penn. and after high school went to work in the storages of the Wise Potato Chip Co. (later to be changed to Wise Foods) before serving in the Armed Forces during WWII. Following the war, he returned to Wise Foods and was still working with them at the time of his death. Jim has always been a dedicated supporter of the potato industry. Of all his contributions, one of his most significant impact has been in the development of improved chipping varieties. With Jim's support, Wise Foods began in 1957 to finance a graduate

assistantship in potato breeding at the Penn. State Univ. In his memory the "James Oscar Watts Memorial Potato Research Endowment" has been established. The income from this fund will provide financial support for potato research in the Dept. of Plant Pathology at Penn State.

**Garnet R. Johnston, known as "Gary" throughout the NA potato world, passed away on Oct. 10, 2000. Gary received his HML status in 1980. He was born near Guelph, Ontario, Canada in 1916 and raised on his family farm. He received his bachelor's degree from the Ontario Agricultural College at Guelph in 1949 and in 1951 received his master's specializing in cereal chemistry. In 1953 he took over Norm Thompson's position as Agriculture Canada's potato breeder/tester on select potato cultivars adapted to Ontario.** Through the years Gary became an important part of the network of NA potato breeders who exchanged their latest information. Besides being a faithful attendee at PAA meetings, Gary was co-chairman of the 1973 meetings at Guelph, served as director of the association, member of the Breeding & Genetics section, the site selection committee and the editorial board.

On a lighter note, **Neil Gudmestad** of North Dakota State Univ. was presented the 2000 Meritorious Service Award at the 19th Annual Seed Seminar in Las Vegas in December 2000. Neil is a member of the Certification Section and the Pathology/Entomology Section in the PAA. He has been a strong supporter of the PAA for many years.

**Amy Sherman**  
National Potato Council

**Nell I. Mondy**, Class of 1953, Cornell Univ., was recently awarded an "Alumni Outstanding Award" from the College of Agriculture & Life Sciences. Nell is professor emerita of toxicology in the Div. of Nutritional Sciences, College of Human Ecology where she has served for more than 40 years in teaching, research & extension. Her research interests have been in plant biochemistry as it relates to human nutrition, especially in factors affecting potato quality. In 1983, Nell was awarded her HLM status with the PAA. Her specialization is in the biochemical & nutritional aspects of fresh and processed potatoes. She was a member of the Site Selection committee for many years, has published in the Journal, and is a member of the Physiology & Utilization sections.

## PAA Background

### PAA Executive:

**President:**

Oscar Gutbrod

**President-Elect**

Joe Guenther

**Vice President:**

Bud Platt

**Secretary:**

Steve James

**Treasurer:**

Dave Lambert

**Past-President:**

Steve Love

**Directors:**

Larry Hiller

Ed Lulai

Greg Porter

Rikki Sterrett

Sam Thornton

**Editor-in-Chief:**

Bud Platt

**Technical Editor:**

Barbara Harrity

**Business Editor:**

Ron Knight

**Annual Meeting:**

April 22-26, 2001

St. Augustine, FL

PAA Insider is published bi-monthly, starting in January and alternating with the American Journal of Potato Research, by the PAA, 5715 Coburn Hall, University of Maine, Orono, ME, 04469. E-mail [umpotato@maine.edu](mailto:umpotato@maine.edu); Website: <http://www.ume.maine.edu/PAA> - Tel (207)581-3042, Fax (207)581-3015. The Editor is John Walsh, McCain Foods Ltd, Florenceville, NB, Canada. Tel (506) 392-3237, FAX (506) 392-8338, E-mail [jrwalsh@mccain.ca](mailto:jrwalsh@mccain.ca)

## Position Announcements

### Agronomist Position:

McCain Foods is the world's largest manufacturer of frozen potato and appetizer products. McCain Foods USA has an opening for a self-motivated Agronomist at our plant site in Easton, Maine or other locations. This is a challenging and rewarding position reporting to the Vice-President of Agriculture. Candidates must have a Master's degree or higher in agronomy or plant physiology with considerable experience in potato applied research and extension. The ideal candidate will have excellent interpersonal communication skills and the desire to work in a team environment. The successful candidate is expected to participate in the Northeast regional McCain agronomy group in carrying out effective research and grower support programs to increase yield and quality

of potatoes grown for McCain Foods. Extensive working knowledge of research methods, statistics, computer applications (database, word processing, and spreadsheets) will be required. Summary: Conduct experiments and investigations in field crop problems and develop new methods of growing crops to secure more efficiencies in production, yield and quality. Will conduct extension work to promote new techniques and best practices. Inquiry by email at [lsmorrow@mccain.ca](mailto:lsmorrow@mccain.ca) to determine if this position remains open.

Application/Resume should be sent to:  
Human Resources  
McCain Foods USA  
PO Box 159  
Easton, Maine 04740

## Current Donors to The PAA Endowment Fund

(through 02/28/01)

*Uzi Afek*

*Martin Cipar*

*Trevor Clayton*

*Dennis Corsini*

*Victor Deffo*

*Santiago Delgado-Sanchez*

*Horia Groza*

*Joe Guenther*

*Donald Halseth*

*Kathy Haynes*

*Creighton Miller*

*Montana Seed Potato Center*

*Novartis Crop Protection, Inc.*

*Frito-Lay, Inc.*

*Ed Plissey*

*Potato Grower Magazine*

*Ed Radcliffe*

*Al Reeves*

*Bruce Riggie*

*Safries Pty. Ltd. (McCain Foods)*

*Mohamed Sedegui*

*Sam Thornton*

*Kazuo Watanabe*

*Pete Weingartner*

## Current Donors to the Frank L. Haynes Graduate Student Award Fund

(through 02/28/01)

*Wilma Bowman*

*James Bryan*

*Kathleen Haynes*

*Melvin Henninger*

*Suzanne Hurtt*

*Creighton Miller*

*Greg Porter*

*Bruce Riggie*

*Joseph B. Siczka*

*Richard Tarn*

*Christian Thill*

*Chris Voigt*