



INSIDER

The Official Newsletter of the Potato Association of America

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Letter From the President

The Internet. What a marvelous tool. We have at our fingertips things that not long ago could only be obtained with some money, time or effort. Now it almost seems costless, timeless, and effortless.

You can use the Internet to access information about the 2002 Annual Meeting of the Potato Association of America. Here is the website address: <http://www.ume.maine.edu/PAA/2002annualmeet.htm>. It is not too late. You can use the website to register and reserve a hotel room.

I have heard from some PAA members who regularly attend PAA Annual Meetings but are reluctant to attend this one. They usually cite meeting format and costs as reasons.

The meeting format will definitely be different, since PAA is meeting jointly with the International Horticultural Congress. Different doesn't mean something is not as good; it can be better. The schedule includes traditional PAA events mixed in with exciting IHC events.

The registration fees are higher this year, but US members should note that the prices are quoted in Canadian dollars. To estimate the US price, multiply by 60%. Cheap airfare could help your budget. Northwest Airlines is offering special low fares to Canada

this summer. There is also good news about meals. PAA sponsors are buying breakfast for PAA members Monday through Friday. (*BASF & Headline Fungicide, Griffin LLC USA, Griffin LLC Canada, J.R. Simplot Co., PEI Potato Board, United Agri-Products, Ag-services Canada, and Humpty Dumpty Snack Foods*).

Thankfully our PAA sponsors were generous again this year. Without their support, fees would be higher. Among those stepping forward with large donations were Bayer Agriculture Canada and Bayer Value US, sponsors of the President's Reception and Syngenta Crop Protection USA & Canada, sponsors of the Awards Luncheon.

I have also heard from some PAA members who had questions about the agenda. To answer them I went to the website for the latest information. As I write this in June some meeting details are still evolving. To get the updates, use that marvelous tool – the Internet.

All the best to PAA members and their families,

Joe Guenther
President, 2001-2002

Dates

July

14-19: EUROPEAN ASSN FOR POTATO RES. TRIENIAL CONFERENCE 2002, Freien und Hansestadt Hamburg in the international Congress Centrum, Hamburg, Germany. Contact: <http://www.eapr-2002.de>

14-16--POTATO MARKETING ASSOCIATION OF NORTH AMERICA SUMMER MEETING, Concourse Hotel, Madison, WI. Contact: Stacy Steckbauer, (715) 623-7683; e-mail: ssteck-bauer@potatowis.org

16--CENTRAL WISC. POTATO FIELD DAY, Hancock Agricultural Research Station, Hancock, WI. Contact: Chuck Kostichka, (715) 249-5961

17--ANTIGO AREA POTATO GROWERS TOUR, Langlade County Agricultural Research Station, Antigo, WI. Contact: Ken Williams (715) 627-6236

August

20 - WSU-MT. VERNON POTATO FIELD DAY starting at 4 pm. For directions to Mt. Vernon, WA, for further information, contact Debra Inglis at dainglis@wsu.edu

News From Headquarters

Plans continue to come together for the 2002 annual meeting. For those with Internet access, keep an eye on our website because changes are getting made almost daily for times and locations of activities. The LAC is doing a great job on trying to make this meeting an excellent one so we won't get lost in the big picture.

I have been working on listing the Journal abstracts and author indexes on the website. Posted so far are, this year (Vol. 79) and will update as each issue comes out. Also Vols. 78, 77, & 76 are available. You may find it on the website at: <http://www.ume.maine.edu/PAA/pubs.htm>. I will not be able to provide copies of the full MS. Contact the authors or your local library for them.

A question for the membership: Would you like to see the subject indexes put on for each issue or is having the author index and abstracts enough? I will be bringing this up at the meeting for discussion. For those not attending the meeting direct your thoughts to headquarters and I will take them to the meeting with me.

Looking forward to seeing you in Toronto!

Lori Wing
Admin Asst/Webmaster

86th Annual Meeting of The Potato Association of America PAA-IHC Joint Meeting August 11-17, 2002 in Toronto, Canada

General Information:

The 2002 Annual meeting is just around the corner! In this age of computers, your best source of information regarding the International Horticultural Congress, the PAA events at the Congress, the scientific program, and the city of Toronto is the web.

For PAA specific information, such as committee meeting times and places, as well as information on the scientific programs concerning potatoes go to: <http://www.ume.maine.edu/PAA/2002annualmeet.htm>

For information regarding the entire International Horticultural Congress, including complete scientific program, as well as useful information regarding travel, accommodations, etc. go to: <http://www.ihc2002.org>

Check these sites often, as changes to the program, schedule and locations will be posted there. The previous PAA Insider newsletters also contain useful information to plan your trip to Toronto.

Registration:

For general registration to the Congress, go to the Toronto Metro Convention Centre. (Ask at your hotel reception desk for directions). The MCC is walking distance from the Hilton Hotel. If you are unable to pre-register, there will be on-site registration at the Convention Centre. I believe one-day registration will be available on-site as well (at \$200/day), although this had not been confirmed at time of writing. The registration desk at the Convention Centre will also have lots of general information about tourism in Toronto as well as the Congress tours, and is the departure point for the Congress tours.

IMPORTANT: For PAA-specific registration, go to the Convention Level (one below the lobby) at the Toronto Hilton Hotel. This registration won't cost you any money, but you will receive a PAA-specific program containing the graduate student competition program, list of nominees for PAA executive committees, Hilton Hotel information, etc. This will also be where you get your tickets to the President's Reception, (Ballroom, Hilton Hotel, Sunday August 11, 2002, 4-5 pm), and the PAA Awards Banquet Luncheon (Ballroom, Hilton Hotel, Friday August 16, 11:30 am-2:00 pm). While these events are free of charge to you, thanks to the kind sponsorship of Bayer and Syngenta, respectively, you **MUST** register for them and obtain a ticket.

PAA registration desk hours (Convention Level, Hilton Hotel):

Sunday, August 11: 9:00 am – 5:00 pm
Monday, August 12: 8:00 am – 6:00 pm
Tuesday, August 13: 8:00 am – 6:00 pm
Thursday, August 15: 8:00 – 11:00 am

For those who have not RSVP'd to me regarding these PAA events, I would greatly appreciate your response as soon as possible. Feel free to e-mail me at lcopp@uoguelph.ca or fax me the following information at 1-519-824-6631.

____ Number of attendees requiring a PAA program (including non-member graduate students)

____ Number of "accompanying persons" attending Congress

____ Number of people attending the PAA President's Reception, Sunday August 11, 4 - 5 pm, Toronto Ballroom, Hilton Hotel

____ Number of people attending the PAA Annual Awards Banquet Luncheon, Friday August 16, 11:30 am – 2 pm, Toronto Ballroom, Hilton Hotel.

Continued on page 3...

PAA 2002 Meeting Update
continued from page 2

International Connections:

One of the goals of the PAA is to increase its international profile. This Congress offers a chance to do just that. Many international potato scientists will be participating in the four-day Potato Symposium and the seven PAA-sponsored evening workshops. Those scientists who are presenting in the symposium oral and poster sessions, and

the seven workshops have been invited to join the PAA at the President's Reception and Awards Banquet. Please make them feel welcome and encourage them to join the PAA.

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Leslie Copp
Chair, LAC for PAA at IHC2002

PAA Members in The News

Joan Davenport was granted tenure and promoted to Associate Professor at Washington State University in March 2002. Joan is a soil scientist working at WSU's Irrigated Agriculture Research and Extension Center in Prosser, Washington, where she conducts research in the area of soil fertility and plant nutrition. She is a past Chair of the PAA Production and Management Section and continues to conduct research on potato nitrogen responses.

Joan Davenport

Edward D. Jones, Prof. Emeritus of Plant Pathology at Cornell University, has published a new book, "The Uihlein Farm of Cornell University and Development of Potato Seed Stocks by Tissue Culture." The book contains a history of Cornell's Uihlein Farm at Lake Placid, NY. Prof. Jones served as an extension plant pathologist at Cornell for more than 30 years, responsible for the NY State foundation/certified seed potato program and the development of the Uihlein Farm. He is a career-long member of PAA receiving HLM status in 1986, and chaired the Certification Section that developed standards for the first National Seed Potato grade that was

enacted into law in 1972. Copies of his book may be ordered directly from Prof. Jones at: P.O. Box 191, Wild Rose, WI-54984; (920) 622-3696.

**Mike Powers, Acting Dir.
Media & Tech. Svcs, Cornell Univ.**

The Faculty of Agriculture of the University of Naples "Federico 11," the second oldest University in the world (established in 1224) gave Dr. Stanley Peloquin an Honorary Degree for his extensive and outstanding research in the field of plant science. The official ceremony was held May 31, 2002 at the Aula Magna of the Faculty of Agriculture and was attended by the Chancellor of the University of Naples and by the Deans of each Faculty. During the ceremony, Dr. Peloquin gave a lecture on potato breeding genetics and evolution.

Prof. Luigi Frusciant

Bullfrog Films will soon be releasing the video "Hot Potatoes" on potato late blight and its global threat. The film examines the problem from plant geneticist, Dr. John Neiderhauser's decades-long quest to breed blight-resistant potatoes, to a Washington State farmer's experience with using chemical sprays, to peasant farms battling blight in the Peruvian Andes, the birthplace of the potato. The

medium of this video has high potential in terms of educating, informing and enlightening the public. For information and a preview copy, contact: Kelly Makowiecki, Bullfrog Films, P.O. Box 149, Oley, PA-19547, E-mail: sue@bullfrog-films.com

Kelly Makowiecki
Bullfrog Films

The University of Florida, IFAS, Hastings REC laboratory facilities are being closed for budgetary reasons following 78 years of research and extension service to the north Florida potato industry. The resident Horticulturist and Plant Pathologist are being transferred to their respective departments on the Gainesville campus. The potato research farm will remain in service as a research and demonstration site, but will be managed through the University of Florida, IFAS, Pine Acres Plant Science Unit located near Citra Florida. Field offices are being established at the research farm to accommodate faculty having active projects at the site. Existing mail and e-mail addresses, and phone numbers of Pete Weingartner and Chad Hutchinson will remain in effect until later in the summer.

Pete Weingartner

PAA Background

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Toronto, Canada

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2003 Annual Meeting Update

Plans for the 2003 PAA annual meeting to be hosted by Washington State University and the Washington potato industry are progressing at an accelerated pace. The 2003 meeting will be held at the West Coast Grand Hotel in Spokane, Washington, August 10 to 14, 2003. The tentative program outline is similar to many of the annual PAA meetings in the past, with a President's Reception the evening of Sunday, August 10. Concurrent sessions are to be held during the afternoon of Monday, August 11. Monday morning is allocated to the traditional section-sponsored Symposium. Tentative plans are to have the customary three concurrent sessions Tuesday morning divided into discipline areas as dictated by the subject matter available.

One of the three concurrent sessions scheduled for Tuesday afternoon will be identified as a session with presentations of special interest to growers and other industry personnel. This day's program will culminate in the traditional BBQ and the industry attendees will be encouraged to attend. Wednesday will be devoted to tours including an industry tour and tours of various topics intended to appeal to both the registrants and accompanying family and friends. The traditional Awards Banquet will be held on Thursday evening. Post conference tours will be scheduled for Friday, and plans are in review to provide opportunities for a post-meeting cruise to Alaska.

**Andy Jensen, Bob Thornton,
Rick Knowles, LAC 2003**