



# THE 76TH ANNUAL INDUSTRY SHOW WAS A BLOCKBUSTER EVENT!

## WPVGA & UW Division of Extension hosted a packed Grower Education Conference & Industry Show

By Joe Kertzman, managing editor, *Badger Common'Tater*

When you've been hosting an Industry Show for 76 years and the momentum gained 12 months ago carries over into the current year's conference, it's a success before it even starts.

The Wisconsin potato and vegetable growing industry came out in full

force for the combined Grower Education Conference & Industry Show, February 3-5, 2026, at the Holiday Inn & Convention Center, in Stevens Point.

A collaborative effort between the Wisconsin Potato & Vegetable Growers Association (WPVGA)

and University of Wisconsin (UW)-Madison Division of Extension, the Grower Education Conference & Industry Show features researcher presentations and an established tradeshow under one roof.

Considered one of the best potato conferences in the nation, the Industry Show is a showcase for the state's established potato and vegetable production area, and a chance for agribusinesses to present their products and services.

Growers and industry professionals from across the Midwest and country converge on the show floor, meeting with associates, networking, and building new relationships, but also taking in a full slate of University Extension research reports on current

**Above & Left:** Equipment is strategically parked outside of the Holiday Inn & Convention Center, in Stevens Point, for the 76th Annual Industry Show.



issues affecting farmers everywhere.

In his opening remarks, WPVGA Executive Director Tamas Houlihan recognized not only UW Extension and base-funded researchers, but also invited speakers from Colorado, Idaho and Michigan, as well as representatives from Potatoes USA and the National Potato Council in attendance.

In its third year, the Student Education and Career Development Program is a fantastic chance for university, technical college, and high school students to attend the Grower Education Conference & Industry Show free of charge.

And attend they did! Thirty-nine students from area schools took the opportunity to learn about the agriculture industry, talk to exhibitors, attend presentations, and discuss future career opportunities.

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During the Grower Education Conference & Industry Show, WPVGA Executive Director Tamas Houlihan (right) presented Dr. Irwin Goldman with a plaque recognizing the professor's new role as the first Wisconsin Potato and Vegetable Grower KWS Chair. The chair position, created by the WPVGA, is named in honor of professors emeriti Keith Kelling, Jeffrey Wyman, and Walt Stevenson (KWS). As part of the Grower Education Conference, Dr. Goldman gave a presentation on "Breeding for Disease Resistance, Shape, Flavor and Nitrate Dynamics in Beet, Carrot and Onion."

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**MEET WITH EXHIBITORS**

Mike Copas, senior manager of global agronomy for McCain Foods, and several WPVGA Associate Division members met students on Tuesday morning for an introduction to the industry before accompanying them to the tradeshow to meet with exhibitors and learn about a myriad of business and career opportunities.

Students were also invited to attend “Agricultural Fundamentals 101” presentations by UW base-funded researchers in such areas as “Potato Irrigation Management,” “Potato Breeding and Genetics,” and “Potato Disease Basics: From Seed to

Storage,” as well as other conference sessions available to them.

The Student Education and Career Development Program is a valuable opportunity to expose developing professionals—the future workforce—to the Wisconsin potato and vegetable industry, and a chance for business leaders to showcase their companies, products, services, and career opportunities.

Agribusiness professionals populating booths on the sold-out show floor meet face-to-face with growers, retailers, brokerages, and other attendees to show off the latest

**Left:** Industry Show attendees who visited the Family Insurance Center booth were offered homemade potato donuts by, from left to right, Sandy Greening, Billy Lowney, and Eric Greening.

**Right:** Dale Nelson (right) of Nelson’s Vegetable Storage Systems took time to visit Scott Scheer at the Vista Financial Strategies, LLC booth during the 76th Annual Industry Show.

in products, machinery, tools, technologies, and services.

Spilling out into the parking lot of the Holiday Inn & Convention Center, the Industry Show provides an ideal venue to exhibit new tractors, trailers, planters, harvesters,



The Dynamic Alliance Roofing, LLC booth was a gathering place for, from left to right, Greg Hartjes of E-Con Electric; Ted Melby from Mid-State Technical College; Thad, Leah and Ruth Brown of Dynamic Alliance Roofing; and Brad Becker, E-Con Electric.



Chad Malek (left) of Specialty Potatoes & Produce discusses seed potato varieties with exhibitor Jake Mecham of Europlant America, LLC.



equipment, controls, crop protection products, software, and more that help potato and vegetable growers become more efficient farmers.

It is an ongoing quest for the stewards of the land to adopt and use environmentally friendly practices, fewer inputs and less water

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**Left:** Not only was the Food + Farm Exploration Center represented at the Industry Show by its new board president, Les Dobbe (left), but also by mascot “Sunny Sweet Corn,” and board member and WPVGA Executive Director Tamas Houlihan (right).

**Right:** WPVGA Associate Division Board Secretary Melissa Heise (right), of Swiderski Equipment, welcomes students attending the Grower Education Conference & Industry Show as part of the Student Education and Career Development Program. Through the program, which is in its third year, the WPVGA Associate Division invites university, technical college, and high school students to attend the conference and show, free of charge, to meet with exhibitors, attend Agricultural Fundamentals 101 researcher presentations, and learn about the vast number of business and career opportunities in the Wisconsin potato and vegetable industry.



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to achieve high yields and ever higher quality produce.

Industry Show exhibitors include implement dealers and manufacturers; crop protection and irrigation companies; fertilizer plants; ag lenders; insurance agencies; the technology sector; agriculture co-ops and associations; building contractors; seed suppliers; consultants and much more.

### GROWER ED CONFERENCE

Attendees capitalize on the opportunity to pre-register for one, two, or all three days of the Grower Education Conference so they can take part in research presentations covering issues directly affecting potato and vegetable farmers and agribusinesses.

In cooperation with the WPVGA Grower Education Planning Committee, Dr. Russell L. Groves puts together a comprehensive, timely, and information-packed lineup of research presentations.

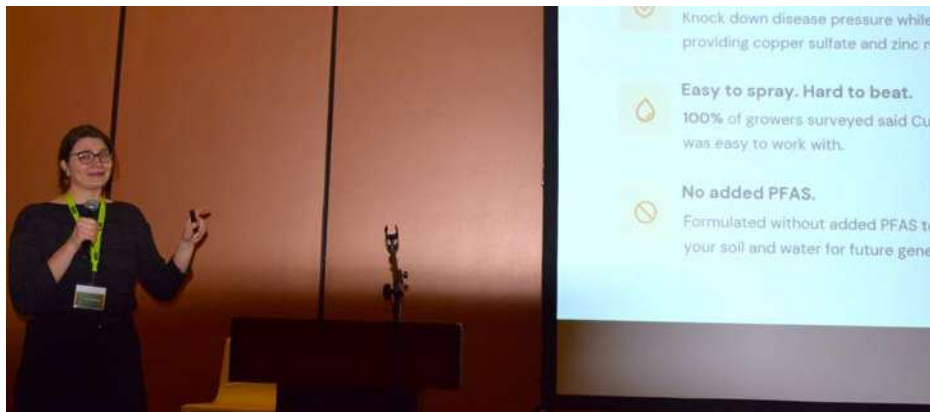
Timely session subjects this year

**Top Left and Right:** At lunch on Tuesday, February 3, WPVGA Executive Director Tamas Houlihan (gray suit in each image) recognized outgoing WPVGA board members John Bustamante of Wysocki Family Farms (first photo) and J.D. Schroeder, Schroeder Bros. Farms, for their dedicated service on the Board. John is the out-going board president.

20 BC'T March



Visiting WPVGA Director of Promotions & Consumer Education Dana Rady (left) at the United Potato Growers Cooperative of Wisconsin booth during the Industry Show are, from left to right, WPVGA Associate Division board member Brandon Taylor of EXIT Realty CW, Food + Farm Exploration Center Executive Director Alexandria Behrend, and WPVGA Associate Division board member Morgan Smolarek from McCain Foods.



In her "Bringing Value to Ag" session, Liga Astra Kalnina of VM Agritech introduced attendees to Curezin®, a new broad-spectrum fungicide. The Bringing Value to Ag portion of the Grower Education Conference gives exhibitors the chance to submit a proposal well in advance of the show, and, if it is one of four chosen by the WPVGA Associate Division, give a 12-minute PowerPoint presentation to growers and other industry professionals who are actively looking to learn about new products, services, technologies and advancements in the industry.



included the impact of the AIM Act on potato storage refrigeration; an update on elite potato varieties grown in Central Wisconsin; breeding for early blight resistance in potato; artificial intelligence-driven technologies for sustainable potato production; seed potato testing advancements; neonicotinoid alternatives; quantifying nitrate leaching; and fertility fundamentals.

University Extension specialists discussed soil microbiomes, breeding for resistance to Colorado Potato Beetle, benefits of soil moisture sensors, and economics of nutrient management and nutrient loss.

Potatoes USA Culinary Director Chef R.J. Harvey covered “Delivering Flavor: How Potatoes USA Is Driving Demand Through Culinary

**Left:** As part of the Grower Education Conference on Wednesday, February 4, Dr. Amanda Gevens, professor and associate department chair, UW-Madison Department of Plant Pathology, presented “Distinguishing and Managing Potato Tuber Blemish Pathogens.” She showed slides and asked attendees if they could name the disease that caused certain blemishes, and those in attendance did well.

**Right:** During the lunch break on Wednesday, February 4, National Potato Council Chief Operating Officer Mike Wenkel gave those gathered an overall perspective on federal and international priorities amid the significant policy changes occurring in Washington, D.C.

Innovation;” and Dr. Amanda Gevens, professor, UW-Madison Department of Plant Pathology, discussed “Distinguishing and Managing Potato Tuber Blemish Pathogens.”

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The 76th Annual Industry Show gave growers like Steve Worzella (left) of Worzella & Sons Inc. a chance to catch up with exhibitors such as Zach Mykisen (center) from Big Iron Equipment, Inc., and Jay Weidman (right), Ascendace Truck Centers.

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Damon Reabe, owner of Reabe Spraying Service, tackled “Aerial Application Technology: Past Present and Future;” and Jed Colquhoun, professor, UW-Madison Department of Plant and Agroecosystem Sciences, gave “A Look into the Future of Potato Weed Management.”

**PROCEEDINGS AVAILABLE**

Proceedings of the 2026 WPVGA & UW Division of Extension Grower Ed Conference are now online. To access a complete index of the proceedings, as well as .pdf versions of the presentations, research reports and poster abstracts, visit <https://wpvga.org>.

[conferencespot.org/event-data](https://conferencespot.org/event-data).

The Wisconsin Seed Potato Improvement Association and WPVGA Associate Division held their annual reception on the show floor, Tuesday evening, including delicious appetizers and refreshments.

The WPVGA Associate Division Banquet, Wednesday evening, is the premier social event in the Wisconsin potato industry, including a social hour with appetizers and refreshments, dinner, Industry and WPVGA Hall of Fame awards, and entertainment.

**Left:** Dr. Dennis Halterman, U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Agricultural Research Service (USDA ARS), presented “Breeding for Early Blight Resistance in Potato” at the Grower Education Conference.

**Right:** The Heartland Ag Tech crew, who make up the technology division of Heartland Farms in Hancock, Wisconsin, were out in force and in matching shirts at the Grower Education Conference & Industry Show. They are, from left to right, Terry Cao, Zach Gunderson, Ethan Sanders, Samuel Kier, Andrew Sanders, and Russ Sanders. Russ (far right) works with his two sons.

In addition to the annual Industry Awards and WPVGA Hall of Fame induction, drawings for cash prizes



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totaled \$2,000, including 10 \$100 cash prizes, two \$250 cash prizes, and a \$500 grand prize winner whose name was drawn after the awards banquet and during the evening’s entertainment—members of the Central Wisconsin Symphony Orchestra.

A nice way to cap off the Grower Education Conference & Industry Show, those who’ve made a significant impact on the Wisconsin potato industry were recognized during the banquet.

**Thank you** to all sponsors who made the 2026 UW Extension & WPVGA Grower Education Conference & Industry Show possible! Please see the ad thanking sponsors on page 29.

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At a brief meeting held immediately following the WPVGA Annual Meeting, February 5, in Stevens Point, the WPVGA Board of Directors elected Wendy Dykstra of Alsum Farms Inc. as its first-ever woman President for 2026. Dykstra succeeds John Bustamante of Wysocki Family Farms, who served as Board President in 2025. Serving on the 2026 WPVGA Board of Directors are, from left to right, John Hopfensperger (Treasurer), Jeff Suchon, Dykstra (President), Randy Fleishauer, Charlie Husnick, Josh Knights (Vice President), Andy Schroeder, and Brian Lee (Secretary). Inset is Lucas Wysocki.

## WENDY DYKSTRA IS THE FIRST WOMAN PRESIDENT OF THE WPVGA BOARD

### WPVGA Past Presidents:

- |                               |                             |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
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| Charles Creuziger (1955-59)   | Jim Bacon (2004)            |
| Emil Jorgenson (1960)         | Ron Krueger (2005)          |
| A.F. Hoeft (1961)             | Jeff Sommers (2006)         |
| Jack Diercks (1962-65)        | T.J. Kennedy (2007-08)      |
| Emil Perzinski (1966-68)      | Kevin Sigourney (2009)      |
| Louis Wysocki (1969-71)       | Mike Carter (2010)          |
| Lonnie Krogwold (1972-74)     | Kirk Wille (2011)           |
| Robert H. Diercks (1975-76)   | Brad Faldet (2012)          |
| Nick Somers (1977-78)         | Jeremie Pavelski (2013)     |
| Bob Guenther (1979-80)        | Larry Alsum (2014)          |
| Cy Sorrells (1981)            | Andy Wallendal (2015)       |
| Richard Pavelski (1982)       | Mark Finnessy (2016)        |
| Ernest Bushman (1983-85)      | Eric Schroeder (2017)       |
| Howard “Hod” Chilewski (1986) | Josh Mattek (2018)          |
| John Wolter (1987-88)         | Wes Meddaugh (2019)         |
| Steve Diercks (1989)          | Rod Gumz (2020)             |
| Robert Stodola (1990)         | Bill Guenther (2021)        |
| Bob Lapacinski (1991)         | Alex Okray (2022)           |
| Francis Wysocki (1992-94)     | Randy Fleishauer (2023)     |
| Jim Okray (1995)              | Charlie Mattek (2024)       |
| Terry Wex (1996-97)           | John Bustamante (2025)      |
| Robert Stodola (1998)         | <b>Wendy Dykstra (2026)</b> |

## WPVGA Honors Outstanding Service with Industry Awards

Agriculture professionals who've gone above and beyond recognized at banquet

The icing on the cake of the Grower Education Conference & Industry Show, the WPVGA Associate Division Awards Banquet not only recognizes annual Hall of Fame inductees, but also others for their outstanding service to the Wisconsin potato and vegetable growing industry.

Taking place Wednesday evening, February 4, a deserving group of award recipients was recognized.

The WPVGA Associate Division Business Person of the Year Award was presented to **Penney Hammer** of Progressive Ag Risk Management Specialists.

As a 25-year WPVGA Associate Division member and crop insurance agent, Hammer has helped growers recover losses from plant diseases and extreme weather and catastrophic events.

She and business partner Ray

Grabanski attend and support the annual Putt-Tato Open golf outing, the largest fundraiser for the Associate Division, and are event sponsors of the annual Industry Show.

Penney has been the secretary/treasurer of her local chamber of commerce and is involved in non-profits. It's a passion of hers to help the underserved of her community.

**Brittany Bula** was named the WPVGA Volunteer of the Year. Brittany grew up working on her family's second-generation farm, Bula Land Company, LLC, of Plainfield, a grower of potatoes, corn, peas and beans, with a trucking arm primarily focused on the safe transport of Midwest potato crops.

Brittany manages all office operations for the farming and trucking divisions. She has been an active member of the Wisconsin Potato



Penney Hammer

Growers Auxiliary for more than 10 years, serving for six years on the Auxiliary Board, including one year as president.

Brittany has enjoyed volunteer work with the Spudmobile and hosting Harvest Parties for students at the schools where the mobile educational unit visits.

She helped kickstart the "Potatoes in the Classroom" program five years ago and has sold baked potatoes at the annual WPS Farm Shows, in Oshkosh, and Harvest Fairs, in Milwaukee. Brittany is also a member of the WPVGA Promotions Committee.

This year's WPVGA Young Grower of the Year Award went to **Joe Seis**, owner and manager of Sterling Farms, LLC, a first-generation potato, vegetable, and grain farm located in Grand Marsh. Sterling Farms raises around 350 acres of russet, yellow, and creamer potatoes, plus canning crops and grain.

Joe performs and directs the main day-to-day operations of the 1,500-acre farm, and in 2022, he was invited to be a grower-member of Farmers of the Roche-A-Cri, one of Wisconsin's producer-led watershed



Brittany Bula



Joe Seis



Dr. Yi Wang

groups that focuses on cooperation and education between farmers and their non-farming neighbors.

Last year, Joe was elected to the Wisconsin Potato Industry Board, and in 2025, he and his family were



John Bustamante and Kirk Wille

featured on PBS's "Wisconsin Foodie" to help promote Healthy Grown potatoes.

The WPVGA Researcher of the Year Award was presented to **Dr. Yi Wang**, who has been actively engaged with

the potato and vegetable growers of Wisconsin for over seven years since she joined UW-Madison as a faculty member and a state extension specialist.

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She specializes in sustainable vegetable production and precision agriculture. Her research and extension efforts have encouraged the adoption of variable rate irrigation by growers to save as much as a million gallons of water per acre.

More recently, Dr. Wang conducted several years of research on innovative AI-driven technologies such as drones, robots, and machine learning to develop new decision support tools that precisely apply the right amount of fertilizer at the right time, reducing nitrate leaching in vegetable cropping systems.

As the out-going WPVGA board president, John Bustamante of Wysocki Family Farms, in Bancroft, presented the President's Award to his father-in-law, **Kirk Wille**, in grateful appreciation for his dedication to the industry and impact on mentoring future generations.

**Joe Kertzman**, managing editor of the Badger Common Tater, received the Agri-Communicator Award for excellence in communication and outstanding service to the potato and vegetable industry.

He publishes an outstanding monthly magazine while generating advertising revenue above projections for the WPVGA.

Joe attends and covers all major



Joe Kertzman

industry events and assists with the WPVGA's export expansion effort by helping Wisconsin host reverse trade missions for Canadian and Mexican buyers and attending trade shows in Mexico and Canada.

Joe also attended the National Potato Council's Washington Summit, in 2025, lobbying members of Congress. Joe has outstanding communication skills.

Special Industry Appreciation Awards went to **Trisha Grezenski** and **Brian Bushman** of Bushman Trucking LLC, in Galloway.

More than a year ago, the WPVGA



Trisha Grezenski and Brian Bushman

lost a valuable member of its team when Spudmobile driver George Neuber sadly passed away. After several months of searching for the ideal candidate to drive the Spudmobile, Brian and Trisha stepped forward as interim drivers.

Brian is a lifelong potato farmer whose 68-year career reflects the grit, pride, and evolution of Wisconsin's potato industry. He loves farming, shipping, and the trucking side of the business.

Trisha brings a strong background in trucking and a growing passion

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## 2026 INDUSTRY AWARDS RECIPIENTS

Associate Division Business Person of the Year:  
**Penney Hammer**

WPVGA Volunteer of the Year: **Brittany Bula**

WPVGA Young Grower of the Year:  
**Joe Seis**

WPVGA Researcher of the Year: **Dr. Yi Wang**

WPVGA Board President's Award: **Kirk Wille**

Agri-Communicator Award: **Joe Kertzman**

WPVGA Industry Appreciation Awards:  
**Trisha Grezenski** and **Brian Bushman**,  
**Dr. Russell Groves**, **Jerry Pierce**

Recognition of out-going WPVGA Board Members:  
**John Bustamante** and **J.D. Schroeder**

WPVGA Hall of Fame Induction:  
**Gary & Lynda Bula** and **Tom Wild**

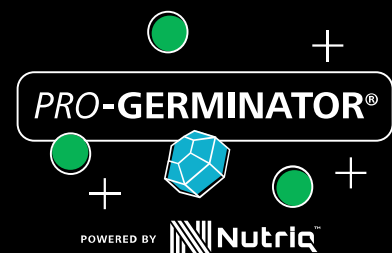


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**Dr. Russell Groves**



**Troy Fishler, Jerry Pierce and Paul Sytsma**

for agriculture. Trisha hauled potatoes for 12 years, gaining firsthand experience with the logistics of moving crops from farms to their destinations.

Most recently, Brian and Trisha have been sharing their knowledge, answering questions, and educating the public about potatoes and farming as interim drivers of the Spudmobile mobile education unit.

A third Industry Appreciation Award was presented to **Dr. Russell Groves**,

a Professor and Extension Specialist in the Department of Entomology at the University of Wisconsin (UW)-Madison, and a trusted partner and advocate for Wisconsin's potato and vegetable growers.

His work is grounded in listening to growers, understanding their challenges, and delivering practical, research-based solutions that improve pest management decisions while supporting the long-term sustainability

of Wisconsin agriculture.

He develops and expands insect pest management tools within the UW Vegetable Disease and Insect Forecasting Network to help producers proactively manage insect and disease risks across Wisconsin and beyond.

Russ is the driving force behind the annual Grower Education Conference, identifying speakers and topics and finalizing the agenda for what has become the best potato show in the country.

A fourth and final Industry Appreciation Award was presented at Tuesday's Industry Show luncheon to **Jerry Pierce** of the Hancock Ag Research Station (HARS), who is retiring this year from his longstanding job as the irrigation lead. HARS Superintendent Troy Fishler and Farm Manager Paul Sytsma presented Jerry with the award

During dinner and after the awards ceremony, members of the Central Wisconsin Symphony Orchestra entertained guests. During the entertainment, cash prizes were awarded to attendees lucky enough to have their names drawn at the banquet.

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# the **INDUSTRY** show



2026 UW-Madison Division of Extension and  
WPVGA Grower Education Conference  
and 76th Annual Industry Show

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## Tom Wild / Gary & Lynda Bula Enter the WPVGA Hall of Fame

**Tom Wild** of Wild Seed Farms Inc., Antigo, Wisconsin, and Gary and Lynda Bula, owners of Gary Bula Farms Inc., Oxford, were inducted into the WPVGA Hall of Fame at the industry's Annual Awards Banquet held February 4, 2026, in Stevens Point.

The WPVGA Hall of Fame honors lifetime achievement in the development of the state's potato industry. It is the intention of the WPVGA to continue to honor individuals who have made significant contributions to the potato industry in Wisconsin by making annual Hall of Fame inductions.

Tom Wild has been working on his family's potato farm since graduating from Antigo High School in 1968. Tom's father, Leonard, founded Wild Seed Farms in partnership with his father-in-law, Lukas Sikora, in 1948.

At that time, the farm raised cows, chickens, pigs and about 20 acres of potatoes on Antigo's north side.

The farm has expanded in acreage and technology over the years, with Leonard's children becoming involved in the potato operation. His son, Robert, has been with the farm since 1982, and Leonard's oldest son, Tom, and his wife, Caroline, took the helm of Wild Seed Farms in 1995.

In 2012, Tom and Caroline's oldest son, Dan, and his wife, Connie, became the fourth generation to own and live on the farm. Today, the farm raises 500 acres of certified Frito-Lay and Atlantic seed potatoes along with oats and clover.

### VIABLE PROFESSION

Inspired by leaders in the industry who could see that higher production costs and declining potato consumption needed to be addressed, Tom got involved on

committees and boards established to help keep potato production a viable profession.

He believed communication and cooperation between growers within local and state organizations and then on a national level would be the most efficient way to accomplish these goals.

Tom served on the Wisconsin Seed Potato Improvement Association, for which he was chairman of the Seed Promotion Committee. He also served on the WPVGA Inspection Committee. He was elected to the Wisconsin Potato Industry Board in 1992 and has served on it ever since, including 11 years as president.

He served on the WPVGA Promotions Committee for many years and continues to serve on the WPVGA Research Committee. He was honored with the WPVGA Volunteer of the Year Award in 1990.

Nationally, Tom was elected to the U.S. Potato Board (USPB) in 1988 and served two terms through 1994. He was on the USPB Executive Committee for four years and served as USPB chairman in 1992.

Tom had a special interest in promoting seed potatoes internationally and served on the USPB's Export Committee and Seed Task Force.

Tom says, "I want to thank all my growers and customers for allowing me to work with them over the years. After my wife, Caroline, and family, the next most important thing in my life is the opportunity to be involved in farming."

**Gary and Lynda Bula** of Gary Bula Farms, in Oxford, have been growing potatoes for a half-century. Today, they raise 4,500 acres of potatoes,



Tom Wild

sweet corn, green beans, peas, alfalfa, soybeans, and field corn.

The vegetables they grow for canning companies, along with silage corn, grain crops and alfalfa, are part of their crop rotation plan. They also grow 2,500 acres of potatoes, corn, soybeans, milo and sunflowers on their farm in Benton, Missouri.

In 1989, Gary and Lynda established the Benton potato farm in southeast Missouri, and later grew potatoes in Dixon, Illinois, for McCain Foods.

Staying diversified is part of their success, saying they see a necessity in diversifying the crops they grow while reducing their impact on the environment.

In Wisconsin, they grow approximately 850 acres of potatoes, with about half being used for frozen products, a quarter for chips, and a quarter as table stock and for the restaurant market.

Gary grew up in Antigo and is a third-generation potato grower. Lynda also

grew up in Antigo and says the sandy soil in Adams County, in addition to irrigation from the underground aquifer, makes for good potato growing.

Gary and Lynda are community minded and have worked well together for more than 50 years.

### FIRST WOMAN TO SERVE

In 1992, Lynda became the first woman to serve on the WPVGA Board of Directors, serving a total of 12 years. She served on the Government Affairs Committee, and as a representative on the Special Work Group on Producer Security.

Gary continues to serve on the WPVGA Chip, SpudPro, and Research committees.

As long-time sponsors and volunteers, Lynda and Gary devote several weeks during the summer organizing and promoting Grand Marsh's annual Corn 'N Tater Festival.

They have been active Adams County Farm Bureau members for decades, with Lynda having served on the Adams County Farm Bureau Policy Development Committee.

She also served on the American Farm Bureau Fruit, Vegetable and Nuts Committee, on the Adams County Women's Committee, and as a volunteer for Ag in the Classroom. Gary served as president of the Adams County Farm Bureau.

Gary says, "We want to provide our children and grandchildren with the opportunity to care for our farms the way we have, and to have the tools and resources to make better choices."

"That requires working with growers, researchers and partners," he adds, "and using new technologies and practices to grow food better and safer with a smaller footprint."

Congratulations to Tom Wild, and Gary and Lynda Bula on their inductions into the WPVGA Hall of Fame! The recognition and honors are well deserved. **BC<sup>T</sup>**



Gary and Lynda Bula

## Complete List of WPVGA Hall of Fame Members and Years Inducted

<b>1990</b> Joseph L. Bushman Ben H. Diercks Myron Mommsen Edward J. Okray John Okray W. James Prosser Lelah Starks James D. Swan Barron G. West Felix Zeloski	<b>1996</b> Charles M. Creuziger Alois (Al) Okray Joseph Jacob Okray Stanley J. Peloquin	<b>2006</b> <i>(Presented in Feb. 2007)</i> Don Kichefski	<b>2016</b> <i>(Presented in Feb. 2017)</i> Donald Hamerski Richard Pavelski
<b>1991</b> Henry M. Darling Robert H. Diercks Melvin E. Luther Albert M. Pavelski Henry L. Woodward	<b>1997</b> Anton (Tony) Gallenberg Howard F. Chilewski	<b>2007</b> <i>(Presented in Feb. 2008)</i> Walt Stevenson	<b>2017</b> <i>(Presented in Feb. 2018)</i> Nick Somers
<b>1992</b> Lawrence Krogwold Michael Patrykus John A. Schoenemann Clarence Worzella Louis E. Wysocki	<b>1998</b> Dave Curwen Francis Gilson Emil Perzinski	<b>2008</b> <i>(Presented in Feb. 2009)</i> Victor Anthony Jeffrey Wyman	<b>2018</b> <i>(Presented in Feb. 2019)</i> Dr. Keith Kelling
<b>1993</b> Champ Bean Tanner Ernest Bushman Melvin Hugo Rominsky Lawrence (Larry) Lapinski Wayne Brittenham	<b>1999</b> John J. Bushman James G. Milward	<b>2009</b> <i>(Presented in Feb. 2010)</i> John Landa Robert Stodola	<b>2019</b> <i>(Presented in Feb. 2020)</i> Larry Alsum Dick Okray
<b>1994</b> James Burns, Sr. Myron D. Groskopp James Wencel (J.W.) Mattek Hal Roberts	<b>2000</b> Dean Kincaid Henry V. Sowinski	<b>2010</b> <i>(Presented in Feb. 2011)</i> John H. Schroeder August Winkler	<b>2020</b> <i>(Presented in Feb. 2021)</i> Marv Worzella Norm Worzella
<b>1995</b> A.F. (Bill) Hoeft Bennett Katz Eugene Katz	<b>2001</b> <i>(Presented in Feb. 2002)</i> James J. Mattek Francis X. Wysocki	<b>2011</b> <i>(Presented in Feb. 2012)</i> Fred and Kathryn Meyer Howard "Skip" Tenpas	<b>2021</b> <i>(Presented in Feb. 2022)</i> Paul Miller
	<b>2002</b> <i>(Presented in Feb. 2003)</i> Robert Hougas Gerri Okray	<b>2012</b> <i>(Presented in Feb. 2013)</i> Steve Diercks Mike Finnessy	<b>2022</b> <i>(Presented in Feb. 2023)</i> Randy Van Haren
	<b>2003</b> <i>(Presented in Jan. 2004)</i> Larry Binning Peter Wallendal	<b>2013</b> <i>(Presented in Feb. 2014)</i> Myron Soik	<b>2023</b> <i>(Presented in Feb. 2024)</i> Ron Krueger
	<b>2004</b> <i>(Presented in Feb. 2005)</i> Jerome Bushman Harold Sargent	<b>2014</b> <i>(Presented in Feb. 2015)</i> Robert Helbach	<b>2024</b> <i>(Presented in Feb. 2025)</i> Kevin Bula Dianne Somers
	<b>2005</b> <i>(Presented in Feb. 2006)</i> Ed Wade	<b>2015</b> <i>(Presented in Feb. 2016)</i> Charles Cofer Robert Guentner	<b>2025</b> <i>(Presented in Feb. 2026)</i> Gary and Lynda Bula Tom Wild