



*History of Excellence
Future of Promise*

APS Centennial Calendar

On December 30, 1908, 54 persons gathered for the meeting of the American Society for the Advancement of Science in Baltimore, MD, and voted to form The American Phytopathological Society. They elected L. R. Jones as the first president. One hundred thirty plant pathologists, including 13 women, became charter members. The annual dues were 50 cents. In 1915, the society was incorporated “to promote investigation and advancement in plant pathology and cooperation among plant pathologists, to hold meetings for the presentation and discussion of the results of research and investigation, to exchange ideas and experiences, ... to stimulate and encourage members, ... and to publish ... contributions to plant pathology”. One hundred years later, APS is the largest society of plant pathologists in the world with almost 5,000 members, about one-third from outside the United States. But the main mission of our society remains unchanged. In the past, before faxes, e-mails, and the web, our society performed important functions for plant pathologists. It provided opportunities for members to meet and exchange ideas. It published journals in which the discoveries and advances of this young science were disseminated. Our society also facilitated professional development and education and provided a voice for public policy. Our centennial year gives us a chance to look back on the discoveries, technical advances, inventions, and theories upon which our science is built. These innovations have protected our crops to provide abundant food for the last century. With ever- increasing specialization and deeper discovery into the molecular and biochemical bases of plant-microbe interactions, it is easy to forget that these breakthroughs would not be possible without the research labors of previous generations of plant pathologists. This calendar provides a small sample of the foundations of our science. Visit the APS Centennial website over the next 12 months as we reveal more of our history. Make plans to attend the 2008 Centennial Meeting in St. Paul, MN, to celebrate our history of excellence and our future of promise.

Timothy C. Paulitz, Calendar Editor

Cleora J. D'Arcy, Chair, APS Centennial Planning Committee

APS Centennial Meeting • July 26-30, 2008 • Minneapolis, MN

www.apsnet.org/centennial

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