

The two Joes' connections span generations

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Leadership roles

Uncanny is the word. Potlatch Joe is president of the Idaho Grain Producers Association and used to be on the Idaho Wheat Commission.

Genesee Joe is on the wheat commission and used to be on the grain producers association executive board.

Potlatch Joe has been a member of the grain producers association as long as he's farmed and joined the executive board in 2014. He joined the wheat commission in 2002, recommended for the position by Genesee Joe.

Genesee Joe joined the grain producers association in 1999 and held executive positions in 2009-2013. He joined the commission in 2014, replacing Potlatch Joe, and served as chairman in 2016.

The Joes have never served on the same board at the same time but both have served as the wheat commission's liaison to the association.

Does having the same name ever cause a problem?

"Oh, a couple of times," Genesee Joe said.

Occasional mistakes

Once in a while, one Joe will get an email intended for the other Joe. And Potlatch Joe once accidentally canceled a hotel reservation made by Genesee Joe.

"I got ready to check in and they had me down for two rooms," he said. "I hadn't thought about it and I said, 'There must be a mistake there.'" On a previous occasion, the commission made a reservation for him, and he'd made a reservation for himself. So he canceled the "extra" room.

When Genesee Joe checked in later, he didn't have a room, but the hotel accommodated him, Potlatch Joe said.

He's since begun to register at hotel meetings as "Potlatch Joe."

"It turns out hotel clerks have a hard time believing two people are going to check in with the same name on the same date," Genesee Joe said.

Several differences

Not everything about the two Joes is exactly the same.

Genesee Joe begins wheat harvest around July 20 south of Lewiston and harvests near Genesee around Aug. 9.

Potlatch Joe begins his harvest around Aug. 1.

"We farm in completely different environments, in terms of soil type particularly," Potlatch Joe said.

"We have wheat in common, but our rotational crops



"Genesee Joe" Anderson and "Potlatch Joe" Anderson share a moment outside a Moscow, Idaho, coffee shop on April 18.



Genesee Joe loads boxes onto a truck at his farm in Genesee, Idaho.



Potlatch Joe does maintenance May 19 at his farm in Potlatch, Idaho.

have been a little different," Genesee Joe said. He plants chickpeas and spring wheat, while Potlatch Joe tends to plant more grass.

Potlatch Joe has been married to his wife, Pam, for 54 years.

Genesee Joe and his wife, Leslie, were married on Feb. 18.

Genesee Joe enjoys riding motorcycles and river rafting. He and Leslie also like to tool around in a recreational vehicle and go hiking.

Potlatch Joe and Pam go dancing, although not as often as they used to. Pam is on the board of directors of Clearwater Power Co., and he tries to go with her when she travels.

The Joes went to a dance hall during the 2017 Commodity Classic in San Antonio, Texas, as part of a small group.

"It was fun," Genesee Joe said. "(Potlatch Joe is) kinda modest, but he's probably still likely to be the best dancer you'd see out on the floor."

When Genesee Joe and Leslie were married, Potlatch Joe and Pam attended their wedding reception.

But the two farmers mostly see each other at industry meetings.

"The wheat business brings us together many times over the winter," Genesee Joe said.

"We find ourselves at the same places quite a lot," Potlatch Joe agreed.

Family roots

Despite the names, there's no relation between the two Joes.

Potlatch Joe is of Scottish descent, while Genesee Joe is of Norwegian ancestry.

But their connection still spans generations.

Genesee Joe's father, Andy, was one of Potlatch Joe's mentors. Before he even started farming, Potlatch Joe toured Andy Anderson's farm and hog-feeding operation as part of a university soils class.

"And by the way, my dad

was (called) Andy as well," Potlatch Joe said.

Also, Potlatch Joe's grandson now works for a fertilizer company in Potlatch. Before that, he worked for the same company in Genesee, where he and Genesee Joe got to know each other.

Genesee Joe on Potlatch Joe: "We all have examples, or mentors, that helped form us, and I'd be proud to say that Potlatch Joe is one of my mentors," Genesee Joe said.

In particular, he said he's learned about the political and research processes from Potlatch Joe.

"Those are two things that I listen real closely to when he's speaking," he said.

Potlatch Joe on Genesee Joe: Potlatch Joe wasn't ready to leave the wheat commission, and says he likely never would have.

"I thoroughly enjoyed it," he said. "It was a real opportunity to make some differences."

He served concurrently

on both the commission and grain producers association's boards for seven months in 2014. Only when Genesee Joe became available to join the commission did Potlatch Joe feel comfortable resigning.

"I was confident he was going to carry on a whole lot of the things that were important to me, and to the industry," Potlatch Joe said. "And he's done that."

Industry leaders

Both Joes possess a wealth of knowledge, said Blaine Jacobson, executive director of the wheat commission.

"The wheat industry is made more robust by having both of them involved in leadership positions in the state," Jacobson said.

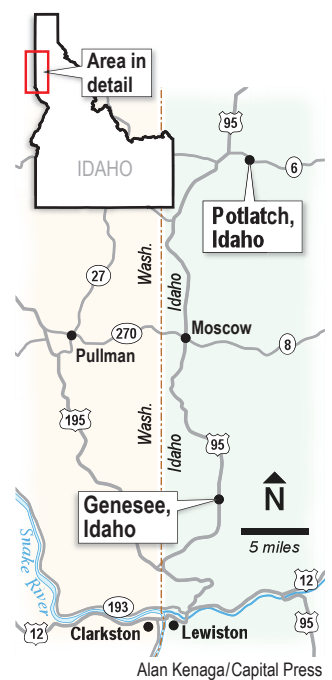
Potlatch Joe brings "great perspective," Jacobson said.

"He knows things that have been tried, he knows things that have been successful, yet at the same time, he's not locked into tradition," Jacobson said. "He's an innovator in bringing new technologies into wheat, and so the entire Pacific Northwest benefits because of his endless curiosity."

Genesee Joe brings optimism and positivity, Jacobson said.

"I've never seen anybody be able to click with a customer the way Genesee Joe does. He's got a knack for building a rapport with visiting trade teams (or) out making a visit at their place of business," Jacobson said. "I visited one customer with him and within

15 or 20 minutes, the two of



them were making plans to go on a motorcycle ride."

Another Joe

The minister of the church Potlatch Joe attended while growing up was also named Joe Anderson.

"That really got confusing," Potlatch Joe said. "Between seventh and eighth grade, I'd gone to 4-H camp and met this girl. We were corresponding with love letters back and forth, and the preacher got one of them. So having a name the same can be pluses and minuses."

Did the preacher say anything?

"Oh yeah," Potlatch Joe said. "I never did live that down."

Looking ahead

Some of Potlatch Joe's winter wheat looks good, while some got way too much moisture. He was unable to plant "a fair amount" of spring wheat, due to 7 inches of rain that fell in March.

He doesn't expect his winter wheat to yield anywhere near as much as last year's crop.

Genesee Joe's wheat benefited from recent sunshine and warm weather. He predicts his yields will vary.

"Some fields will be above average, and then some suffered from excess moisture," he said. "They'll struggle to hit average."

Genesee Joe and his new bride recently moved to a house near Lewiston, but he and his brother will continue to farm their land near Genesee. He expects to still be known as "Genesee Joe."

Both Joes speak highly of the connections they've forged.

"Teams that are successful like each other," Potlatch Joe said.

"That respect morphs into friendships," Genesee Joe said.

An immediate application of carbon tariffs is unlikely

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Such tariffs would have been calculated with "methodological consistency" across all trading partners, otherwise they'd be subject to WTO dispute and retaliation procedures, Suppan said.

"You couldn't apply it to just one country," unless it's part of a specific trade agree-

ment, he said. "It would have to be done across the board."

Suppan said he doesn't know of any carbon tariffs being applied on nations in the past, and it's especially tough to envision in regard to the U.S., given its tremendous leverage in global trade.

"I think it's pretty unlikely there would be any kind of re-

lated carbon tariff in the near future," he said.

Mexico and Canada are major oil suppliers to the U.S., so it's hard to imagine they'd want to jeopardize those exports by imposing a carbon tariff, said Desmond O'Rourke, an agricultural economist specializing in world fruit marketing.

China is also heavily dependent on exports to the U.S., he said. "The potential retaliation against China could be enormous."

As for the European Union, much of the recent moral outrage over the U.S. leaving the Paris accord may just be "hot air" that wouldn't justify trade sanctions, O'Rourke said.

"It's a multidimensional international bargaining issue," he said.

While an immediate application of carbon tariffs is unlikely, walking away from the deal "will complicate future trade negotiations for the Trump administration," said Ben Lilliston, IATP's climate policy director, said in an email.

The WTO and the United Nations are anticipating that existing trade rules will increasingly conflict with climate policy under the accord, he said.

"By removing itself from the Paris Agreement, the U.S. will have less standing as these discussions move forward," Lilliston said.

'We have no idea where the end product is going to end up'

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Five other applications to grow or process hemp are pending, WSDA hemp coordinator Emily Febles said.

Palmer's planting of hemp June 6, next to a field of corn, highlighted a daylong workshop on growing and processing hemp. The farm's crops include corn, peas, bluegrass seed, hay and buckwheat. Palmer said that he hopes hemp can become another crop to put in rotation. "With commodity prices down," he said, "most crops that we're growing are not very profitable."

He said that he expects to harvest waist- to chest-high hemp by the end of September.

What will happen then remains unclear. Hemp seeds can be eaten raw or used as an ingredient. The fiber can be used for a variety of products, including textiles and building materials. WSDA rules require that hemp grown in Washington be processed in state.

Processing the fiber will take more capital investment than harvesting the hemp as a grain, Sharp said.

"We have no idea where the end product is going to

end up," he said. "Until someone writes us a check, the risk is still there."

While the market is uncertain, the planting was a celebratory event. Sharp described the emotional ups and downs of just getting seeds to put in the ground.

Because fertile hemp seeds are a federally controlled substance, WSDA had to obtain permission from the Drug Enforcement Administration to import seeds from Canada. There were some snags at the border, Sharp said. "One piece of paper out of order, and the seed doesn't come across the line."



Grant County farmer Shane Palmer, left, and Cory Sharp of HempLogic prepare to plant hemp June 6 near Moses Lake in Central Washington. Palmer is the first Washington grower to plant the newly lawful crop.

Don Jenkins/Capital Press