

NC Small Grain Growers Association: Board of Directors Meeting

The North Carolina Small Grain Growers held its annual summer board meeting last week, August 10th -11th, at the Sheraton Imperial Hotel and Convention Center in Durham. The meeting kicked off with a Field Trip to Cotton Incorporated, located in Cary, for a tour of the facility. Directors were able to see firsthand how cotton is cleaned, combed, made into yarn, colored, designed, and made into clothes. Everyone definitely left with a greater appreciation of how our clothes are made. The Board of Directors Meeting started Thursday afternoon and concluded Friday morning featuring various guest speakers from NC State University, National Association of Wheat Growers, NC Dept. of Agriculture, Feed the Dialogue, North Carolina FFA, and NCSGGA Scholarship Recipients. Committee Meetings were also held to conduct business for the association; reports were given Friday Morning to the full Board. Two action items came from Committees which the board approved unanimously, they were: The approval of Funding for 2017-18 Research Projects and the approval to send a letter to congress on behalf of the association to express our concerns and support for the Farm Bill and Crop Insurance for the 2017-18 Fiscal Year. I have attached the approved 2017-18 Research Project Funding in this email and it can also be found on our website at: <http://ncwheat.com/research/>

NC Corn Growers Association - Job Opening Announced

The North Carolina Corn Growers Association is announcing an opening for Executive Secretary of the association to be located in Raleigh, NC. The applicant should be available on or about December 1st, 2017. Resume should be sent to Dennis Waller, Search Committee Chairman, 879 Waller Road, Mt. Olive, NC 28365. Job description and duties can be furnished upon request to Mr. Waller at the above address, by email at Cath4143@gmail.com or calling at 919-920-5654. Closing Date for Applications is October 1, 2017.

Wheat Foods Councils E-Magazine: Kernels

The latest issue of Kernels, the Wheat Foods Council's e-magazine is now available, [click here](#) to open:

In this issue you will find:

- Message from President Tim O'Connor
- Hearing is Believing: Podcasts
- Continuing Her Quest for Gold
- Member Profile: Ardent Mills
- 2017 Idea World, the World's Largest Personal Trainer Convention and Expo
- Delicious Recipes
- August is National Sandwich Month

Enjoy! And don't forget to check out our many informational and educational resources available here: <http://wheatfoods.org/resources>

NCSGGA Scholarship Recipient Spotlight

Each year with Assessment dollars the NC Small Grain Growers Association awards 13 Scholarships through NC State University to qualified students with a focus in Agriculture. In a recent article in Morning Ag Clips one of NC Small Grain Growers Scholarship Recipients was highlighted for her acceptance into NCSU. We are proud and honored to be able to help support our future generation of agriculture leaders! Read the full article below:

From 4-H to the Brickyard

RALEIGH —Most high school seniors don't spend the summer after graduation studying livestock diagnostics and medical treatment. But MaryBeth Tyndall has always had a pretty good idea of the direction she wanted to go.

A dedicated 4-H member since the age of 9, Tyndall will already know her way around campus when she arrives in August as a freshman agricultural education major. She was just here for the 4-H Livestock Contest in July, her last one before finally becoming a CALS student herself.

Her specialty at the event is Skillathon, which requires students to study and retain extensive agricultural knowledge — like basic health standards for each species of livestock and tool identification.

"I'm kind of a nerd anyway, so I thought — using pen and paper to learn about livestock? That sounds fun!" Tyndall said.

She won the quality assurance division of the national Skillathon event in Kentucky last year — "I was shocked," she said, "there were so many serious competitors there!" — so this year's event was less stressful than in the past. Having grown up on a crop farm, Tyndall savored the chance to learn the nutritional value of the crops in relation to an animal's diet.

On the Tyndall family farm in Lenoir County, the fields are mostly tobacco, as well as crops like corn, soybeans and sweet potatoes.

Every summer, Tyndall and her younger sister pitch in to help harvest the tobacco. Her sister drives the tractor that pulls the harvester and trailer; Tyndall rides on the harvester itself, lifting heavy bundles of tobacco leaves from farm workers and arranging them onto the racking table.

The decision to come to CALS was an easy one. Tyndall loved CALS' stellar reputation and close-knit feel. The South Lenoir High School graduate earned scholarships from the Titmus Foundation, the NC Small Grain Growers Association and AgCarolina Farm Credit.

And there was another incentive. Tyndall's father, Johnnie Tyndall, is another CALS alumni.

"He never pushed NC State on me," she said, "but he's pleased it's where I want to go."

Source By: Chelsea Kellner, NC State University College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. To read the full article visit this website: <https://www.morningagclips.com/from-4-h-to-the-brickyard/>

National Association of Wheat Growers: Weekly Update

NAFTA Renegotiations Began This Week

First round of North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) renegotiations with Mexico and Canada are scheduled to begin this week, August 16-20, in Washington, D.C. NAWG will continue to take an active role in these negotiations.

EPA's Pruitt Gathers Input for WOTUS Redo

On August 08, 2017, Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Scott Pruitt held a roundtable with farmers, elected officials, and ag industry to hear feedback on re-writing the Waters of the U.S. Rule (WOTUS) under the Clean Water Act (CWA). The roundtable was held at the Iowa Farm Bureau in Des Moines. Pruitt told participants at the West Des Moines discussion that the Trump administration hopes to propose a new rule by March of 2018. The public is invited to submit comments at <http://www.regulations.gov>.

Protect Crop Insurance - Recess Engagement Guide

In preparation for the new Congress and upcoming farm bill debate, the Crop Insurance and Reinsurance Bureau (CIRB) and coalition partners collaborated to create a “Crop Insurance Myths vs Facts” resource guide that debunks common misconceptions about the crop insurance program. These resources can be found here: <http://cropinsurance.org/legislative-action-center/myths-and-facts/>

We encourage you to take this time of congress recess to amplify positive messages while Members of Congress are in their home districts/states. Please direct your messages to your local Representative/Senator.

Resources:

- [Click here](#) for a compilation of 50 state profiles including facts about crop insurance and politically-relevant information such as the number of AIPs servicing a given state, the number of agent jobs, the amount that farmers pay in crop insurance premiums, the percentage of family farms, and more.
- [Click here](#) for the letter sent by the crop insurance coalition to appropriators opposing cuts to the program.
- [Click here](#) for a one pager that explains the negative impact of AGI limits and premium assistance caps.

Engagement Opportunities:

- Reach out to your Representative or Senator’s local office via phone or email to share the importance of crop insurance to you and to ask them to continue to protect the program in the upcoming budget, appropriations, and farm bill debates.
- Consider attending a local event and speaking out about the importance of crop insurance. If you need help preparing, please contact CIRB staff.
- Consider writing an op-ed or letter to the editor of your local newspaper about crop insurance’s value to farmers and the rural economy.

NAWG President David Schemm’s August Letter to the States

July was a busy month for me in Kansas as well as in Washington, D.C. At home, we sprayed the wheat stubble for weeds, the summer fallow has all been worked, the corn is tasseled out, and the milo is heading out. Once all of this was finished, the Schemm family decided to take a quick breather before wheat drilling and fall harvest begins. There is an informative video on NAWG’s website of me walking through my harvest.

It was also a busy month for me in Washington. All of the officers had the opportunity to go to Annapolis for the U.S. Wheat Associates' summer board meetings. Growers face tremendous challenges when it comes to opening and maintaining export markets, but I am very impressed by the effectiveness of USW. We were able to sit down with the USW officers and have a good and frank discussion about the strategies that both organizations can utilize to increase each other's effectiveness. The friendship we've developed with both past chair Jason Scott and current chair Mike Miller has already paid dividends in the increased effectiveness of the two organizations! It is vital to the wheat industry that we have two strong national organizations. The National Wheat Foundation also met during the 2017 summer board meetings. One of the critical things that came from the Foundation meeting was the decision to establish a quality component in the National Wheat Yield Contest. Wheat is the largest food commodity grown in the US, and as people become more interested in the food they eat, quality becomes an increasingly important component in that process.

Right after the meetings in Annapolis, my family and I spent two days in DC touring. Since it was a "vacation", I tried not to schedule any Hill visits but wanted to swing by some of the Kansas offices and say hello to friends. It was unexpected when we ended up spending our day meeting with Dr. Marshall, both Senators Moran and Roberts, and going to the House gallery to watch Dr. Marshall's speech! Of course, I took advantage of the opportunity to discuss NAWG priorities and issues.

Later in July, I testified to the Senate Committee on Agriculture on the need for strong crop insurance, Title I, and credit programs in the Farm Bill. In my testimony, I spoke on how these past couple of years have been especially challenging for wheat growers who have had to deal with lower than normal prices which has contributed to a drop in planted wheat acreage. I argued that crop insurance is the most important safety net for farmers who have to deal with an unexpected disaster. This is a message we must continue to communicate to Congress and the media. Chandler and his team do a tremendous job of communicating this message, but the impact that all of us have as farmers when we communicate is unmatched. This has been quite evident when farmers like Ken Wood testified to the Committee at a field hearing earlier this year on the tornado and hail storm that hit his farm, when I talked about the blizzard and hail hitting my farm, and the drought facing the Northern Plains.

I also wanted to note some of the National Wheat Foundation's recent activity. On July 27, the Foundation and NAWG held a Wheat Summit that was initiated as part of the National Wheat Action Plan (NWAP) to bring together the wheat value chain and discuss big picture issues for wheat and where we can work together to ensure wheat productivity and profitability. Attendees took a general survey to identify priority issues and to help spur discussion. The overwhelming response was communication with the goal being to improve dialogue within the wheat value chain as well as with consumers. Other issues of importance that multiple attendees mentioned included technology, wheat quality, and trade/international market development.

I wrapped up July with a meeting with Rod Snyder, CEO for Field to Market. Rob and I visited fellow Kansas farmer Justin Knopf at his farm to present him with the Farmer Spotlight award from Field to Market.

The other officers have also been busy as well! On July 31, 2017, the House Agriculture Committee held a Farm Bill listening session in San Angelo, Texas where Ben Scholz talked about the price of wheat and NAWG's

Farm Bill priorities. In early August, Jimmie Musick and I attended the Oklahoma Wheat Growers Association Convention in El Reno, Oklahoma. We provided a brief update on NAWG's recent activities regarding trade and general ag policy, and discussed the value that NAWG provides to Oklahoma farmers.

August is already looking to be a busy month. I have a quick trip to Wichita for the Kansas Wheat meetings, then right after that I head to Seattle to visit BNSF, immediately followed by a trip to Michigan for their wheat meetings, and then a presentation at the BASF Grower Symposium, and then immediately head to St. Louis for meetings with Monsanto. I will then spend a short four days at home and then head to Bismarck, North Dakota for a tour/listening session with Chandler through North Dakota and South Dakota. I will then head directly over to Illinois for the Farm Progress Show. So, August will be busy working on your behalf!

Well, I always say it and I mean it, please reach out to me with comments, questions, concerns, or ideas. I don't have all the answers, but collectively we can find the solutions. As an officer of NAWG, I quickly realized that I cannot fully understand the dynamics and challenges that each of us face on our farm! I rely upon each of you to explain and help me better understand them! That is why I enjoy the listening trips and state meetings. The one thing that I can promise.....I will bring passion! I have always sought to do that as an officer, and will continue to do so!

NCSGGA Upcoming Events

September 9th / 2:30pm – 5:00pm
CALs Tailgate
PNC Arena
Raleigh, NC

September 15th / 5:00pm – 8:00pm
Family Fun Night
Mt. Vernon School
Raleigh, NC

September 29th / 8:00am - 2:00pm
Halifax County Harvest Days
4-H Rural Life Center
Halifax, NC

October 10th - 12th / 8:30a-2:00p
Stanly County Ag Awareness Week
Stanly County Agri-Civic Center
26032 Newt Rd # B,
Albemarle, NC 28001

October 13th / 8:30a - 2:30p
Agriculture Science Day
Red Oak Elementary School
5603 Red Oak Rd,

Red Oak, NC 27868

October 16th - 20th
Fall Wheat Industry Mtg. (NAWG)
Charleston, SC

October 24th - 26th / 8:30a-2:00p
Hoke County Ag Awareness Week
Hoke Robeson Gin
7480 Old Maxton Rd,
Red Springs, NC 28377

*Note***If you know of someone that does not have access to a computer/internet and would like to receive printed hard copies of the Wheat Beat please have them call Nikki Johnson at 919-809-8657 to setup a mailing delivery address. ****