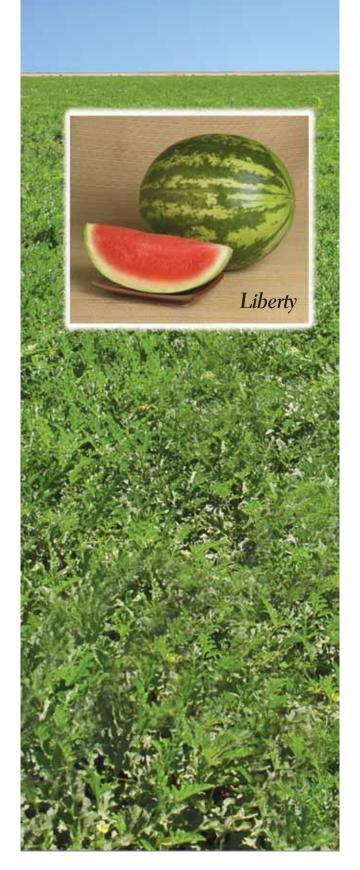


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"Liberty out-yielded anything I've had. I've never seen anything like it."



Billy Williamson, Williamson Produce, Wilson, North Carolina

In North Carolina:

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"One of our pieces of land was just an old 12-acre sand field. Never had a crop, never even had fertilizer on it, so poor it wouldn't even grow weeds. We put in 1,728 Liberty plants per acre on plastic with drip irrigation and just granular fertilizer. With a quicker growing vine that covers the ground better, there was less sunburn, that's a big thing. The yield was *fantastic*, the best out of our 300 acres in Georgia! We're going to plant more—Liberty's been mighty good to us."

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The Vineline is published bi-monthly by the National Watermelon Association, serving the industry Nationwide since 1914. All rights reserved, except where otherwise noted. Printed in the USA. To subscribe or to change the address of a current mailing, please call the NWA office in Plant City.

Subscription rates: USA and Canada, no charge to NWA member. All others, U.S. subscriptions, \$30.00 per year (U.S. Dollars); Canadian Subscriptions, \$40.00 per year (U.S. Dollars); Other foreign subscriptions, \$50.00 per year (U.S. Dollars). Single copy price \$6.00 plus postage.

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Celebrating 25 Years 1981-2006

President's Message



Holiday Greetings to our Watermelon Family and Friends,

As I write this, Thanksgiving has just passed and Christmas is fast approaching. I do hope each of you had a wonderful Thanksgiving, spent with family and friends.

For some in our industry this is a slower time, when you can reflect upon the past season and prepare for the upcoming season. For others in our industry you are in the busy season of the winter watermelon deal. As president of the NWA, it is truly gratifying and I am very appreciative, to be able to walk into most any supermarket in America and find watermelon being displayed and sold no matter what month it is. This in it self shows me two things:

- 1. The world is certainly becoming a smaller place, and ...
- 2. It wasn't too many years ago that finding a watermelon in a store, in December or January would only have been a dream. But thanks to dedication, research and promotions within our industry, this dream has become a reality! Now we can enjoy "Nature's Treat" all year long! In my opinion, this is something we can be truly thankful for.

By now you should have received your convention registration packet for the 93rd annual convention, if you haven't, please contact us immediately. Debbie, myself and our entire family, cordially invite you to attend the very first NWA convention to be held in North Carolina, February 22nd – 26th, 2007 at the historical and beautiful Grove Park Inn and Resort in Asheville. We, along with the NWA staff, are putting the final touches on what we hope to be one of the best conventions ever. We really want you to come and enjoy "A Slice of North Carolina" in our beautiful mountains.

From Debbie and I, to you and your family, we wish each of you a most safe, joyous, and Merry Christmas! And a prosperous and Happy New Year!

Please remember until next time, continue to "eat more melons"! You can find some wonderful and very attractive decorating ideas and recipes for the holidays using our own "Nature's Treat" at www.watermelon.org.

Brent Jackson

NWPB Resources At Your Fingertips!

food safety

industry news

research projects

Check Out the Industry Section of Your Web site, www.watermelon.org.

Tuning in to the latest industry news, tools and resources is just a click away when you visit the password-protected industry section of your NWPB Web site at www.watermelon.org.

Gain Marketplace Muscle

Your NWPB has developed a category management section in the industry area where all the latest consumer research and data-supported merchandising tips are housed. Visit today to get a leg up on the competition.

Access Voluntary Food Safety Guidelines for the Watermelon Industry

These Guidelines serve to assure your buyers you are doing everything possible to ensure safe product. Did you know we have them in English and Spanish?

. Research

In the industry area, you may access research reports and information that contributes to the long-term success of the industry, ranging from research into watermelon disease control and prevention, pest control and prevention, to food safety and nutrition research.

» American Heart Association Certification

The NWPB has worked with the American Heart Association to create PLU labels for red seeded and red seedless watermelon that display the heart checkmark. According to the AHA, nearly 90 percent of consumers find the heart checkmark helpful when making purchasing decisions. The heart checkmark helps boost sales, which translates into moving more watermelons out of the growers' fields and into consumers' homes. From the main section, click on Resources to find out how you can use this tool in your own marketing materials.

In the industry area you may also order free promotional materials, access shipping reports and provide feedback to the NWPB about your concerns, requests and questions.

To log in to the industry section, simply go to www.watermelon.org. Look for the industry box on the lower left-hand side of the page and type in your password. If you have any questions about logging in to the Web site just contact the NWPB staff, toll-free, at 1-877-599-9595.

get connected at www.watermelon.org!



News from the National Watermelon Promotion Board



Mark Arney Executive Director

Culinary Institute of America

The National Watermelon Promotion Board (NWPB) participated in a program at the Culinary Institute of America (CIA), Greystone, called "Flavor, Quality and American Menus." As a silver level contributor, NWPB representatives were provided with on-going participation in a four-day, interactive forum with more than 45 key decision-making food service executives from top restaurant chains and food service outlets throughout the country. Gordon Hunt and Mark Arney met Chef Harry Schwartz in California to present and be part of the program.

On the agenda, watermelon was included in sponsor exchanges, receptions and presentations. The welcome reception and tasting included watermelon recipes that were developed by the Culinary Institute chefs. The sponsor exchange and reception hosted Gordon and Chef Harry at a booth, demonstrating watermelon salsa and other Chef Harry watermelon recipes, as well as distributing literature like our popular brochures, recipe cards, and food service informational sheets.

Gordon and Harry were given a time slot to present on watermelon menu items, food service successes, and the future of watermelon in the restaurant industry. At the Market Basket Exchange, Chef Harry served on a team and was challenged to create, prepare and present items for the day's lunch menu. On the final day, Chef Harry created an accompaniment to an artichoke appetizer called a Tri-Level Shooter that wowed the crowd, including the top chef at the CIA!

Tri-Level Shooter

- Bottom layer: A maceration of grape skin and grape flesh with the juice removed.
- Middle layer: Made up of pureed mango, grapefruit, some lemon and a little sugar.
- Top layer: Made up of pureed watermelon and watermelon concentrate to stabilize.
- The garnish: Strips of grapefruit rind caramelized in a chocolate Anheuser Busch beer, then mixed with sugar and infused with soy sauce.



Chef Harry's Tri-Level Shooter



In the kitchen with Harry



Gordon and Concentrate



Mark with Yellows

American Dietetics Association Show

The American Dietetics Association (ADA) Show was once again a big hit for watermelon! For the fourth year the communications department had a booth at the American Dietetic Association Food and Nutrition Conference and Exposition. Thousands of nutrition professionals attended the show, thoroughly combing the expo floor for dietary information to make recommendations and develop eating programs for their patients and clients. This show is a great way for NWPB to reach this group of dietary influencers who are looking for information on nutritious foods, especially produce. We will continue to attend the show and look forward to spreading the word about watermelon again next year.

Produce Marketing Association Show

The NWPB would like to thank everyone who stopped by the booth and who attended the watermelon industry reception in San Diego. If you noticed, our Chef Joe had his own demo space and you may even have seen him doing celebrity cameos at some other booths. Those associations and companies enjoyed his entertaining style of watermelon carving as much as the show attendees! Not only have we received tremendous feedback about our party, but we've been tipped off that our party is "always one of the best during PMA." We look forward to seeing everyone in Houston next year!



Where did this year go so quickly? Many of us say that same thing year after year, don't we? Well, a good year it was for most in the Watermelon Industry.

Short supplies for most of the year provided higher than normal returns, which helped our farmers and shippers. Retail prices were high as a result of short supplies, with quality as good as it has been for some years. Overall, the industry has told us that this was a good year for them. Congratulations!

Your Association had a very productive year as well. We hope to capture and share the key highlights across these next two pages of The Vineline, and share the details at the 2007 Chapter Watermelon Conventions and the NWA Convention. Here are the highlights of what we are doing for you, our Members, our Investors, and our Friends.

Scientific Research Programs

Vine Decline --- The Florida version of vine decline research was accelerated by the University of Florida working with two USDA labs and the State of Florida in spring and fall trials at the research station as well as two cooperating watermelon farms. The findings have been verified to be virus-related and transmitted by the whitefly, and possibly will be released in 2007 with grower recommendations.

Phytophthora --- North Carolina State University continued its research on phytphothora capsici through the use of Captan, currently not permitted for use on watermelon. We are hopeful that their research results, once published, will help us to request Captan use to deter phytophthora on

MWA Year in Review...

USDA commitments --- Watermelon, along with other melons, received the largest federal research commitment in history from the USDA, amounting to over \$6.56 million in FY 2006. We continue to work with the USDA to maintain federal commitments to research, and increase the federal support levels that we currently have for the watermelon industry.

Research Group --- The NWA is communicating with the Watermelon Research and Development Working Group. Researchers from 16 states and 9 countries make up their membership, which is chaired by Dr. Benny Bruton from the USDA in Lane, Oklahoma. We hope to encourage many of the group's members to make an annual visit with us at the NWA convention to work closely with us.



Watermelon Queen Program

Candice Fralish, our 2006 National Watermelon Queen, along with our Promotions Coordinator, Eleanor Bullock, had a good year of promotions that included every NWA chapter. One of the major highlights include the taping of a special on The Discovery Channel, and an increase in promotional activity from the previous year. We have much more to share at the NWA convention.



Public Affairs 9 nitiatives

Immigration --- Comprehensive Immigration Reform through the U.S. Congress quickly became a weekly lobbying opportunity for the NWA, and continues to be at the top of our priority list. We are hopeful that the 100th Congress will finally take the issue up, debate it fully, and develop a comprehensive plan that will provide the migrant labor that we need to plant, harvest, pack and ship our crops.

Health Care --- A federal bill to allow small businesses and associations (such as the NWA) to negotiate national health care coverage was passed by the U.S. House, and approved by all of the Senate Republicans (less one). Now that the Senate is controlled by the Democrats, we are hopeful that they will move the bill to floor debate, and send it to the President's desk for approval in early 2007.

Farm Bill --- In September 2006, the EAT Healthy America Bill (H.R. 6193) was introduced in the U.S. House for the future development of the 2007 Farm Bill. This was an 18 month weekly project through the NWA and 17 other agriculture groups, all coming together in a unified effort to gain support for specialty crops. The bill is very comprehensive in scope, and is





sponsored by over 75 legislators in the U.S. House, in a bi-partisan fashion.

W.I.C. Rule --- The NWA supported a rule change by the USDA to finally allow the purchase of FRESH fruits & vegetables through the Women, Infants & Children's program, which is the first major revision to the program in over 30 years. The nutrition of those in need (especially in W.I.C. participants) is vital to the long term nutritional needs and our fight against obesity and diabetes.



Washington, DC Fall meetings

The NWA Executive Committee along with the Watermelon Queens & Coordinators converged on Washington in mid-September to support the NWA's lobbying efforts. The feedback received suggests that it was a great success for the NWA. Over 40 legislative offices were visited on Capitol Hill to discuss the highest of NWA priorities, while delivering a watermelon for each Congressional office to enjoy. An event was held with the Deputy Secretary of Agriculture and key executives at the USDA which included watermelon sampling. Finally, a unique meeting was held with the White House staff to discuss the highest priorities, and has developed interest in D.C.'s Intern program from a couple of the chapter queens. The event was very timely, and allowed the NWA to show support for our priorities with key legislators, as well as appreciation for on-going support that we receive.

Marketing Initiatives

Specialty Crop Grant --- The NWA worked with the USDA and other agriculture groups in 2006, which resulted in the release of \$7 million in grants to the Departments of Agriculture in each state. We have encouraged each NWA Chapter to make contact with the state grant administrators to get watermelon on the list for marketing funds.

Ethanol --- In mid 2006, the NWA began to investigate the development of a new market for un-sell-able watermelon, and how we could convert it into ethanol or other bio-energy products. The investigation, as well as a beginning research project with the

University of Georgia and a test project in Florida in 2007, continue to develop. More information will come as it arrives. The NWA is excited about the potential to create a new market for the part of the watermelon crop that does not provide any revenue or profits currently.

Lycopene --- How would you like to buy lycopene tablets from the vitamin shelf in your grocery or drug store? You may be able to do that in the near future, and help to create this new product with your un-sell-able watermelon. This is another new market project that the NWA is investigating to increase grower returns and profits from a previously unknown market.

Proclamation --- Apples, Grapefruit, Potatoes and many other fruits & vegetables have their annual Month-long



designation; Why not Watermelon? We are working with the U.S. Congress and the White House to try to gain a federal proclamation that will designate July each year as National Watermelon Month. That federal designation will provide countless marketing opportunities to us, and the NWPB, to promote watermelons in ways that we never have before.

And, as if that were enough, we're not done yet. We continue to work with your Officers and Board of Directors to evolve the NWA into the world class organization that it can and will be in the coming years. Additional projects that we are working on or getting ready to work on include:

Chapter Membership Development
(existing and new chapters)
Membership Growth program
(individual, company and corporate)
Federal U.S. Postage Stamp for
Watermelon
Food Safety seminars for the
Watermelon Industry
Tax status investigation for leased
pallet taxes by State

We hope that you will join us at the upcoming national convention in Asheville, North Carolina to learn the details of these initiatives, programs and projects that we are doing for you, our Watermelon Family. Thank you for your support, and for being part of a wonderful Family. Happy Holidays!

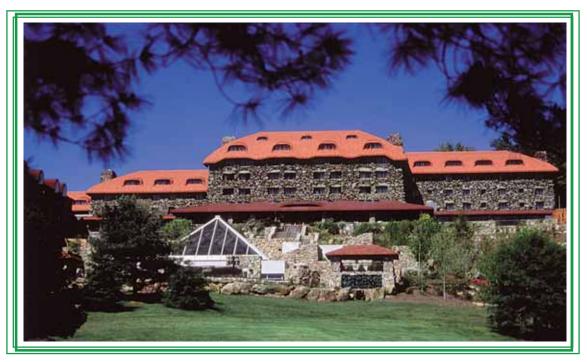


2006

The National Watermelon Association 93rd Annual Convention.

Let's celebrate our achievements and enjoy fellowship at the magnificent...





Wednesday, February 21st thru Sunday, February 25th

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National Watermelon Association or NWA Group Code: 67W7I7

Hotel Convention Reservation Deadline – January 26, 2007

Please call the NWA Office with any Inquiries – 813.754.7575 or 800.838.0209

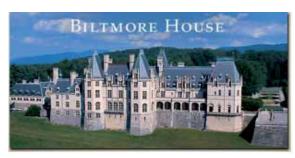
Or Log on To:

www.nationalwatermelonassociation.com

The 93rd annual NWA Convention in Asheville, North Carolina is filled with Entertainment, Relaxation and a Magnificent Tourist Adventure. Join us in February to enjoy a Slice of North Carolina!

Golf at the Grove Park Inn Resort Country Club, a 104 year old course from the famous designer, Donald Ross





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Bulk Bin Packaging, Nunhems



National Report

Greetings from NWA! Candice and I hope each of you have a safe, healthy and happy holiday season! Make your plans now to attend our National Convention in Asheville, North Carolina. Brent and Debbie Jackson have an exciting convention planned! See you there!

NWA STORMS CAPITAL HILL

Our Executive Director, Bob Morrissey set up a very successful visit to our Nation's capital, September 14th and 15th 2006. We had scheduled visits to Congressional offices. Candice and I joined the California- Arizona team of, Jim Auchard, Ramon and Barbara Murillo. We went to the offices of Senator Jon Kyl, Senator Barbara Boxer, and Senator Dianne Feinstein's. We also stopped by Senator John McCain's office. We delivered personal size watermelons to each office. All the groups discussed issues affecting our watermelon industry. We served watermelon at the USDA to a very large crowd of dignitaries. It was great to have so many members, as well our State and National Queen Representatives attend these events. That afternoon we were in the White House Old Executive building auditorium. We listened to speakers from the White House staff, briefing us on issues of Immigration Reform, 2007 Farm Bill and Small Business Health Care Reform.

Thank You Bob Morrissey for all your hard work setting up this event, to NWA for sponsoring, and the CAWA team for including us! These events were followed by NWA's annual Fall Board meeting.

ILLIANA SPONSORS WATERMELON EVENTS

We began at the Indiana Capital with the Lt. Governor, Becky Stillman, and Director of Agriculture, Andy Miller. The Governor proclaimed August Watermelon month in Indiana. The proclamation was presented to Illiana Queen, Ali Vice, Runner-up Lindsay Owens, and our National Queen Candice Fralish, during a visit to the State House in Indianapolis. They received excellent press coverage for the event. Special thanks to Anita Field for helping make this possible!

We had three teams of Queens, Candice, Ali, and Lindsay covering two Kroger stores a day, for two days doing in-store demos. The girls did an awesome job, during this busy race week in Indianapolis! The Kroger promotions were sponsored by Wabash Valley Growers, Midwest Marketing, and President of IWA, Dennis Mouzin and Mouzin Brothers. Thanks to each of you! During our stay in Indy we were also joined by Stephanie Duda, 2005 National Queen for a visit! It was great to see Stephanie!

To help celebrate Watermelon month in Indiana, Anita set up a Watermelon Feast on the Circle in Indy. What a terrific day, free, fresh cut, ice cold samples for everyone! It was a huge success! Bob Morrissey, Chef Harry from NWPB with his Watermelon Painted Motor Home and many other NWA and IWA members, as well as 2000 National Queen, Brooke Chattin Heider were in town for the event!

The culmination of the week's activities was attending the famous Brickyard 400 race at the Indianapolis Raceway. We had special passes to the pit area, and Ali and Candice were listed in the program book as lap sponsors. The sponsors that made this possible were, Wabash Valley Growers, Midwest Marketing, Mouzin Brothers, Nowaskie Melons, and Sun State Produce. Thank You! What an experience for the girls! Special thanks to Illiana Watermelon Association for sponsoring us!

MAR-DEL ASSOCIATION SPONSORS

We were pleased to be sponsored to the Maryland and Delaware area for outstanding watermelon promotions! Some of these included; a Sam's Club promotion, Watermelon at the Sharptown Carnival, Delmar Elementary School visit, Special Watermelon Event at the Browse About Bookstore, Beach Boardwalk Watermelon Giveaway, Rehoboth Beach Mayors office visit, the annual Laurel Auction Block and Auction, Evans Farm Produce promotion, (where I enjoyed a visit from my 1990 National Queen Juley Nelson Harper, husband Dale, daughter, Daisy and Mom, Thea), our annual Crab Feast at the Old Mill, where we were joined by a large number of Mar-Del members. We attended the special Millsboro, Delaware 5-K run event and the Arnold Mack Melon Ball. where a good time was had by all! We loved the excellent media coverage from WBOC, and Fox channel 47, radio from Froggy 99, the Wave 99.2 and a host of area newspapers, and trade papers. We enjoyed the company of Kathryn Onken, Mar-Del Queen and Coordinator Allison for this exciting promotion packed few days in the area. They did an awesome job with the schedule as always! Allison and Kathryn worked really hard! We were thrilled to also be joined by Jenna Stanford, Georgia Queen, and Coordinator Julie Akins for a portion of the promotion! It is always a pleasure to travel to this area. Thank You Mar-Del Watermelon Association for sponsoring us to these awesome promotions!

SUN FRESH AND DELK PRODUCE SPONSOR

We left Mar-Del, off to Richmond, Virginia for Kroger promotions, and the Carytown Watermelon Festival. This promotion was sponsored by Sun Fresh Produce, and Delk Produce. The Carytown Watermelon draws the largest crowd of any event in Richmond, with over 100,000 people attending! Now that's a crowd! Candice was a real hit! She signed autographs, posed for pictures and helped with the Kroger booth. Kroger did a great job promoting this event as well as the next three days of in-store promotions! People came to the festival with cameras in hand, to pose with Candice. We spent the following three days in the Richmond area Kroger stores. Special thanks to Mike Davis and Bob Coates for making our promotions so successful! Thank You Sun Fresh, Mr. James Carlton, and Freddie Ellis, Delk Produce for sponsoring us to Kroger!

McMELON SPONSORS GIANT PROMOTIONS

We headed to the Baltimore, Maryland area for some exciting promotions for Giant sponsored by McMelon, Arnold, Chandler, and John Mack. We worked with Shayne Taylor, Merchandiser in Produce Sales for Giant. The following two and half days were a huge success, as they welcomed our Queen! Candice passed out samples, recipes, stickers and coloring books to all the Giant Shoppers. She assisted the Giant customers in selecting the perfect McMelon Seedless! Thank You Arnold and McMelon for sponsoring us to Giant!

WARREN PRODUCE SPONSORS WAL-MART EVENT

Candice and I headed to the outskirts of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, near Lancaster County for a one day blitz for an area Wal-Mart store. We were sponsored by Jimmy Henderson, Warren Produce and John Lapide. The store was extremely busy, and the melons just flew out! We were greeted warmly; they were very excited to have a visit from our National Watermelon Queen! Candice did a great job assisting the Wal-Mart customers in Pennsylvania! Thanks Warren Produce!

Until Next Printing, Eat More Watermelon! Eleanor Bullock, NWA Promotion Coordinator, 229-273-8638, or 229-322-9933, eleanor@websign.net, 229-271-8111 fax



A visit with Senator Dianne Feinstein



Anita & Candice at the Indy Watermelon feast



Brent & Bob with the Girls at USDA



Candice meets Chef Harry



NWA Group at the Whitehouse



g llamas a

Lt. Governor, Becky Stillman, & Director of Agriculture, Andy Miller present the proclamation to Ali & Candice



Watermelons at Sharptown



Watermelons on the Beach



Carytown Watermelon festival



The Laurel Auction Block



Giant's Shayne Taylor welcomes Candice



Mar-Del group at The Old Mill



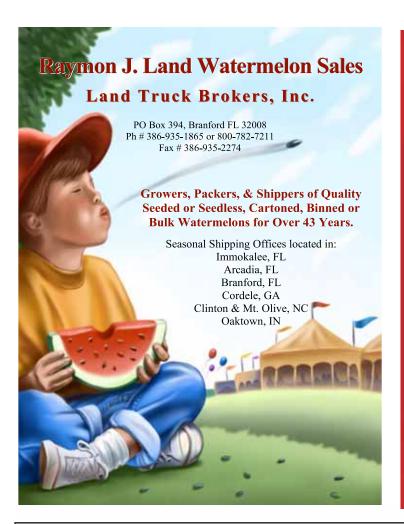
Thank you McMelon!



Mike Davis welcomes Candice to Richmond



15







Alabama Report

Greetings everyone from our Alabama Watermelon Association,

Check out our website (alwatermelon.org) for updated photos and information. I am certain everyone will like what they see. Our AWA Convention is going to be held at the Imperial Palace, Biloxi, MS, February 9th & 10th. We look forward to seeing many of you at our convention beginning with the President's Reception on Friday evening.

Catherine and I are having a very successful year promoting our AWA. Catherine is always eager to get involved in all aspects of her job. After a busy summer and fall of farm tours, watermelon festivals, in-store promotions and elementary school adventures, Catherine is now heavily involved in college studies at the University of Mobile.

September 13th through 16th, Catherine lobbied issues on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C. A special thank you to Bob Morrissey for setting our itinerary. With Jim Mastropietro and Arnold Mack as "assistants", Catherine and I met and discussed immigration issues with U.S. Congressman Terry Everett, U.S. Congressman Jo Bonner, U.S. Senator Shelby and U.S. Senator Sessions. A lively and successful discussion was held with each politician. As always, I wish to thank our wonderful sponsors for this promotion: Jim Mastropietro, Terry Jones, Billy Smith, Arnold Mack, Bill Johnson, Doyle Bennett, David Coates, Eric Hammons, Tommy Smith, Harry Vaughn, Myron Harrison, Rose Elliotte and Ronda Elliotte.

On October 21st Catherine and I traveled to San Diego, California, for the fantastic PMA. We had a blast seeing our friends and meeting new people from all over the world! Catherine did a superb job representing our AWA as she handed out personalized golf tees, smiling at every opportunity for pictures, greeting our watermelon family with pride, and making new friends in every aisle, during the very successful PMA. Thank you to all the seed companies, box companies and our NWPB for organizing an outstanding evening at Stingaree's in downtown San Diego Sunday evening. Again our heartfelt gratitude to our sponsors: Terry Jones, Billy Smith, Kelly Marinaro, Arnold Mack, Jim Mastropietro, David Coates, Harry Vaughn, Myron Harrison, Rose Elliotte and Ronda Elliotte.

We are looking forward to seeing everyone during the upcoming conventions and most certainly at our National Watermelon Convention at the Grove Park Inn in beautiful Asheville, North Carolina. Queen Catherine and I wish each of you a very happy holiday season and we look forward to seeing you at our AWA convention in Biloxi, MS, on February 9th & 10th.

Happy Holidays!

Cindy Vaughn
AWA Promotion Coordinator
www.alwatermelon.org
352-314-5988 ncv57@earthlink.net





Thank you, John, for a fun-filled dinner while in Washington, D.C.



We have our beautiful Queen Catherine sitting at U.S. Congressman Terry Everett's desk.



It is always an educational experience meeting with U.S. Congressman Jo Bonner.



Successful lobbying on Capitol Hill we have Arnold Mack, **18** AWA Queen Catherine, Jim Mastropietro and Cindy Vaughn.

Ask Catherine what she is pointing toward... (hint...marble from the state of Alabama!)



Catherine successfully meeting with U.S. Senator Shelby.



Catherine and U.S. Senator Sessions after our in-office meeting.



An unforgettable experience...The White House!



Our group proved that numbers count. Two days of intense lobbying and a final picture in front of The White House.



TX Queen Emily and AWA Queen Catherine at PMA in San Diego. Who's the young man in the middle? Ask Wanda Letson!



Sweet! AWA Queen Catherine, NWA Queen Candice, and MarDel Queen Kathryn on their first day at PMA.



Myron Harrison and Catherine with the gang from Temple Inland. Thanks, Myron, for all you do in support of our AWA queen program.



Hey Richard Wojciak and Queen Catherine...your caricatures are identical to you!



Thanks to Gordon Hunt for taking the time meeting with Catherine during PMA.



Catherine did a fantastic job representing our AWA during her trip to San Diego for the PMA.



FWA Queen Katie and Catherine posing after dinner in Coronado. What fun we had with Katie and her coordinator Sharon McCall.



Greetings from the West!

The California – Arizona Watermelon Association Is alive and "Kickin"

Our membership is made up of industry leaders from many of the western states including New Mexico and Oregon. We are in place to assist these members, and the industry, in circulating pertinent information and can be contacted at the addresses/numbers shown below if we may be of assistance to any of you.

Have a Wonderful Season!

Dana Abercrombie Director

California – Arizona Watermelon Association

Phone: 661-269-0788 Fax:661-269-0812

Email: CAWAmelon@sbcglobal.net

Website: H2Omelon.com

2006-2007 President - Eric Champion

Annual Convention held the third weekend of January (dates may vary)

Contact the CAWA office for exact dates

Florida Report

Season's Greetings from The Sunshine State!

Florida's watermelon promotions continued throughout the off season this year. In August, we were invited to Universal Studios Florida. FWA Queen Katie Grantham represented the industry well as she was stationed at different areas throughout the day serving watermelons and educating consumers on the nutritional value of our favorite product. Upon arrival, she was met by her chauffers for the day, which drove her to each destination in Marilyn Monroe's convertible. We also visited Islands of Adventure and City Walk where she served red, yellow and orange watermelons, compliments of John Toth of Indian Hills Produce. We then traveled to Clermont for a tour of Indian Hills Produce and joined the Toth Family for a wonderful dinner. Thanks to our sponsors: Coates Farm Produce, Mack Farms, Melon 1, Gulf Seed, Raymon Land Watermelon Sales, Paul Sawyer, Darrin Hanshaw, M.G. Ford Produce, and Indian Hills Produce.

Our next August promotion was in Lakeland. Upon arrival, we enjoyed dinner in the beautiful home of Al and Debbie Wroten. Our promotion day began before daybreak as we joined the Wroten Family at the Summer Sunrise Melon Race Series, a popular series of 5K runs in the Lakeland area. Watermelon was served to the many participants upon their arrival at the finish line. What a refreshing and healthy way to start your day - with a delicious slice of watermelon! Thanks to our sponsor, Global Produce Sales.

In late August, FWA Queen Katie traveled to Our Kids World Family Fun Fest in West Palm Beach. We joined Gordon Hunt and Andrew Kress at the National Watermelon Promotion Board exhibit, where watermelon was served and families educated about the healthy benefits of our product. The highlight each day was the seed spitting contest on the main event stage where many contestants competed for great prizes. Thanks to our sponsor, National Watermelon Promotion Board.

In September, FWA Queen Katie traveled to Washington. She joined the Florida team for Capital Hill visits to discuss issues facing the industry with members of Congress. On Friday, the group visited USDA to serve watermelon and again discuss our important issues. Thank you John Lapide and Rich Chastain for donating the watermelons for this event. Katie also enjoyed the briefing in the Old Executive office building, where speakers discussed the agriculture industry. Katie's first visit to Washington was complete with dinner with the national and state queens, along with watermelon industry leaders at Fogo de Chao. Thank you FWA for sponsoring us to this event.

Mark your calendar for the Florida Watermelon Convention, March 23-25, 2006 in Sarasota. Check out the FWA website at www.flfwa.com for details.

Sharon McCall FWA Promotion Coordinator 4898 SW CR 300 Mayo, FL 32066 (386)294-2616 flmelon1@yahoo.com





FWA Queen Katie gives a sample of yellow watermelon at Universal Studios Florida.



Debbie enjoys a refreshing slice of watermelon.



The Toth Family welcomes Katie to Clermont.



Katie assists with the awards ceremony following the race series.



Thank you Al and Debbie (Wroten) for sponsoring FWA to the 5K Race in Lakeland.



Families are amazed at our queen's knowledge of the water-melon industry.



Katie educates runners about the health benefits of watermelon.



Our Kids World Family Fun Fest Seed Spitting Champion.



Thank you NWPB for sponsoring us to the Family Fun Fest.



Katie visits with Congressman Adam Putnam.



Watermelon queens visit Washington DC.



and Congresswoman Katherine Harris



This group brought attention to the watermelon industry on Capital Hill.



Watermelon is #1!



The Florida team.



Queen Katie Grantham thanks FWA for sponsoring her to Washington DC!

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Georgía Report

Greetings from Georgia!

Summer is over and convention time is near. Since our last printing our Queen Jenna Stanford has gone back to school at The University of Georgia. GO DAWGS! In between her studies we have still been promoting delicious watermelons!

September 13 -15, Jenna and I joined the other state queens and NWA Executive Board in Washington D.C. I believe this trip was one of the best D.C promotions I've ever attended. Thank you, Bob and Amanda for your hard work putting each event together. We appreciate Greg Leger for visiting Capitol Hill with us while we met with our Congress and Senators. I feel strongly that our Associations made a statement while in Washington and our missions were accomplished until our next gathering in D.C. From D.C. Jenna and I darted back to Cordele for a photo with all the Georgia "Has-Beens" for Jarret Watson Barnes 40th Birthday. Happy Birthday Jarret!

October 7, Jenna and I headed to Harlem, GA for the Oliver Hardy Festival with Craig Mathis. The day began with a parade then slicing of watermelons at the festival. I've never witnessed so many people grabbing for watermelon slices in all my life. Before the day ended we had sliced around 5,000 slices of melon! Thank you Melon 1 for the delicious watermelons. People couldn't believe how sweet the melons were in October. A big thank you to Craig Mathis as well. Craig had a new car awaiting Jenna for the parade (with the heat on) and pre-sliced chilled melons ready at the festival. The day was great.

Photos from the D.C. trip and Oliver Hardy Festival will be in the next issue.

October 221-24, we were off to beautiful San Diago, CA for P M A. What a show! We joined the Georgia Department of Agriculture's booth and enjoyed the presence of many friends. We appreciate N W P B for sharing Chef Poon with our booth. A large crowd gathered around our booth on Sunday as Chef Poon demonstrated creative watermelon carvings along with his good humor. Also, a big thanks to Temple Inland for a fun and wonderful dinner-good driving Mitch and Kevin!

We look forward in seeing you all again in North Carolina at The Grove Park Inn!

GET YOUR CALENDARS OUT! The Georgia Convention will be held Jan 26th-28th in Cordele at The Retreat at Lake Blackshear. We have a lot of fun planned for everyone and invite all of you to join us. For reservations please call the hotel directly at 229.276.1004 or 800.459.1230. Reservations must be called in on or before Dec 23rd.

Please call our office at 770.842.3309 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Julie Akins
Sec~Treas/Promotion Coord.
P. O. Box 2278
Dalton, GA 30722
770.842.3309
akinsjulie1@alltel.net





Jenna is trying to teach Wanda and "Vinni" how to become a sweet Georgia gal!



Jenna with Terry Gerald and Jamie Brannen-Vidalia Sweet Onions.



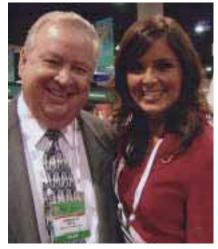
Watch out Jason Turner of McFarms.



Mark Arney and Jenna at the fun NWPB party.



What a treat to visit with Anita.



Good ole Arnold!



Are Greg Peacock and Queen Jenna working?



Leslie and Jenna at the NWPB booth in California.



Jenna spent sometime with Mitch and Ayco Farms.



The one and only---Eleanor.



We love our Georgia family.



Thank you Inland for the wonderful dinner.



Great minds think alike.



I smell trouble!



Sloan Lott and Johnnie White with Bland Farms were good neighbors to have at the trade show.

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Manager - Thomas Wright

Illiana Report

Greetings from Illiana! We hope everyone is enjoying the holiday season. It is hard to believe another summer queen tour has past. The time always goes by fast when we are promoting watermelon and having fun! Ali did a fantastic job promoting the watermelon industry this summer. We would like to thank Ali for all her hard work and dedication.

August 2-6, 2006 was a busy week for the Illiana Watermelon Association. The week was full of promotions in Indianapolis, Indiana. The association was honored to have Eleanor and Candice with them for the week. August 2, 2006- Ali participated in the Taste of Indiana at the Indiana State Fair. We served watermelon samples to approximately 1000 people, during an evening reception. Thank you to Doris Nowaskie, Jean Nowaskie, Elizabeth Coffman and Lindsay Owens for their help in preparing the watermelon samples.

August 3-4, 2006- The watermelon gang split up and covered over 12 Kroger grocery stores in the Indianapolis area. The team consisted of NWA Queen Candice, NWA Coordinator Eleanor Bullock, IWA Queen Ali, IWA Coordinator Kristy Cardinal, 2006 1st runner-up Lindsay Owens,

2005 IWA Queen Elizabeth Coffman, 2004 IWA Queen Megan Scott and her mother Francie Scott. It was a busy two days of demos in the Kroger stores. They were all very successful. August 3, 2006- Ali and Candice received the proclamation appointed by Governor Daniels to honor "August as Watermelon Month in Indiana." The girls attended Feast Day at the capital on August 5, 2006. The girls along with several other members of the Illiana Watermelon Association, National Watermelon Association and National Watermelon Promotion Board passed out watermelon samples and literature to the crowd. It was a great day for watermelon and the response was remarkable! Thank you to IWA members Carrie Smith, Anita Field and Dennis Mouzin for organizing the week long promotions in Indianapolis. Ali and Candice ended their week of promotions with the All State 400 race in Indianapolis on August 6, 2006. The girls received tickets for the Nascar race and also toured the pit area. Thank you to Megan Scott for accompanying Ali to this event. Thank you to all the sponsors who made it possible for Ali and Candice to promote watermelon in Indianapolis. Your support and generosity is greatly appreciated!

While everyone was busy in Indianapolis, I took the 2nd runner- up Gretchen Booher to the Christian Farmers Association meeting on August 5, 2006. The meeting was held at Vincennes University in Vincennes, Indiana. The association consists of members from all over the United States. President Rowe Sargant invited Gretchen to speak

to the agricultural crowd about the importance of watermelon.

We also served watermelon and cantaloupe to the members. They were very appreciative of our time and enjoyed learning about the watermelon industry.

August 12, 2006 was a watermelon weekend in Vincennes, Indiana.

The Melon Patch- Jill and Kent Williams sponsored Ali to the Vincennes Farmer's Market for watermelon day. The association sponsored a raffle and "guess the weight" of the watermelon contest.

Thank you to the Melon Patch for sponsoring Ali to the market. Ali also attended the Knox County Watermelon Festival. The day consisted of eating great watermelon samples, visiting with the crowd, radio interviews and speaking at the popular watermelon queen pageants.

August 17, 2006- Ali traveled to the Indiana State Fair in Indianapolis, Indiana. She received a personal invitation from the Horticultural Building for a seed-spitting contest. Ali was joined at the contest by Miss Indiana State Fair, HoneyBee queen and other county queens. It was a great time filled with a room of eager watermelon seed spitters!

August 21, 2006- South Knox Elementary in Vincennes, Indiana invited the queen to pass out watermelon during the lunch periods.

Ali started back to school and Lindsay Owens filled in at this promotion. South Knox Elementary for the past couple of years has provided watermelon slices to the children on the lunch tray! The watermelon was donated for the whole month of August to South Knox by Nowaskie Melons. Thank you to Nowaskie Melons for your contribution.

August 31, 2006- Elizabeth Coffman wore the crown one more time and promoted watermelon at Flaget Elementary School in Vincennes, Indiana. Flaget requested watermelon slices to honor "August as Watermelon Month in Indiana." Dennis Mouzin- Mouzin Brothers Farms donated watermelon for the school children during lunch. Thank you to Mouzin Brothers Farms for donating the watermelon.

We look forward to reporting our fall and winter experiences with you next time. Thank you again to everyone who has helped me this past queen tour. Your time and effort is appreciated!

Sincerely, Kristy Cardinal Promotion's Coordinator Illiana Watermelon Association 2408 E. Henry Rd. Vincennes, In. 47591 812-882-3570 melons@vincennes.net



Everyone is ready for the Taste of Indiana!



Ali greets the wine tasters at the watermelon booth.



Ali kisses the cook!



Look at this delicious watermelon treat!







Thank you to Francie Scott for helping at the Kroger promotion.



Ali and Candice present Knox County watermelons at the State House.



Thank you to Bob Morrisey for attending Watermelon Feast Day.



Ali revs up her engine at the All State 400 race.



Ali enjoyed spending the day at the 150th Indiana State Fair.



Gretchen speaks with Rowe Sargant at the Christian Farmers Meeting.



Lindsay greets the children at South Knox Elementary.



Ali and her seed spitting team!



Colton Mouzin enjoys his lunch and watermelon slices.

Ali takes time to explore the Indiana State Fair.





Elizabeth thanks Flaget principal Janice Jones for serving watermelon.

Mar-Del Report

Greetings from Mar-Del!

The cold weather hasn't slowed us down any from promoting those fabulous Maryland-Delaware watermelons....we just flocked to where it was warm: beautiful San Diego, California. I'll jump right in with expressing sincere "thanks" to Dosse Givens for sponsoring our plane tickets, dinner, and the trip to the zoo, Richard Wojciak and Bill Miller of Nunhems for the convention passes, and to the Mar-Del Association for allowing Kathryn the opportunity to represent us at PMA.

The convention surpassed all of her expectations and the networking experience it provided her proved to be beneficial for us all. Thank you to all of the gracious people in the watermelon family from coast to coast who continually look out for the queens! I know Kathryn enjoyed meeting so many people in the industry.

While in San Diego, Kathryn also got to do a little sightseeing including a visit to the infamous San Diego Zoo with Dosse and the rest of the Mar-Del bunch. Sunday night was a watermelon whale of a time at the Promotion Board Party at Stingarees—awesome job Stephaine and the rest of the NWPB!

Thanks again to everyone who made it all possible!

On behalf of the MarDel Watermelon Association we would like to invite everyone to our 42nd Annual Convention. Our 2007 convention will take place February 2nd & 3rd at the Hyatt Regency Chesapeake Bay Resort and Spa in Cambridge, MD. Our banquet committee members have been working diligently to make this the best convention ever! For more information, visit our website at www.mardelwatermelon.org! We hope to see you there!

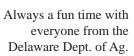
Watermelon Wishes! Lani Kennedy Lebeth14@aol.com Allison Castellana Mac0912@mail.ecu.edu







Kathryn and Katie on the steps of the Capitol Building.







A special thanks to Jane and Carr Hussey for accompanying Kathryn to visit our Senators and Representatives!



Kathryn with Chef Poon and his masterpiece



A good looking group takes time to pose outside the Capitol Building!



With Mr. Richard and Mr. Bill of Nunhems-- thanks guys!



Kathryn enjoyed the opportunity to visit with the USDA while in Washington DC.



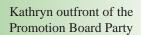
Most of the queens in the Nunhems booth



Lots of fun at PMA!



Great friends from NC-- Mr. Nick and Katie





What a beautiful bunch of young ladies!!!



Candice and Kathryn with Mr. Dean of Ducinea...thanks for the shirts!



Kathryn and Stephaniefun times in the Promotion Board Booth



Thanks for everything Dosse!

Mo-Ark

We're Still Here!!!

The Mo-Ark convention, held during the first weekend of February was a huge success!



Special thanks to all of you who were able to join us in February! Our auction, Beale Street and Graceland would not have been the same without you!

Contact:

President:

Rich Novak

Phone/Fax: (314) 835 - 0027 Email: richnovak@sbcglobal.net

Queen Coordinator:

Summer Keylon

Phone: (918) 258 - 8321



"Walkin' In Memphis"

The purpose of the Missouri-Arkansas Watermelon Association is to promote the best interest of the watermelon industry from production to consumption. The Missouri-Arkansas Watermelon Association, in conjunction with The National Watermelon Association, is constantly seeking improvements in the growing, grading, handling, transportation, distribution and sale of watermelons. We request that you join us in this endeavor by becoming a member of our association.



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North Carolina Report

Greetings from North Carolina

Katie Mills, the 2006 North Carolina Watermelon Queen has had an exceptional promotion season representing the Association on the Queen Tour. Fall has arrived and the holidays are upon us. Katie and I wish each of you a Happy Holiday Season. We still have more to share from our 2006 Queen Tour.

Katie was on hand as China Grove celebrated Farmers Day on July 15. Katie assisted in Judging the Little Mr. and Miss Farmer Contest and then greeted residents with watermelon slices, stickers, recipes, coloring books and autographed Queen photos. Thanks to Chairman Janice Jenkins for twenty plus years with the NCWA Queen's participation in the China Grove community event.

On July 20, Katie welcomed customers with melon slices and goodies at the Grand Opening of a Food Lion store in Statesville. Thanks to Store Manager Tony Caldwell, Produce Manager Kenny Dale and District Manager Dan Bowen for a great in-store promotion.

Then it was off to Charlotte to celebrate Watermelon Day at the Charlotte Farmers Market. Frank Suddarth, Market Manager greeted Katie and encouraged visitors to enjoy melon slices, stickers, Queen photos and watermelon contests. MIX 106.1 Morning Show Host Ken Conrad featured Katie in a live radio interview during her visit at the Farmers Market.

On July 29, Katie attended the 2006 Watermelon Festival at Fair Bluff with Frances Bunch. Katie enjoyed being with the South Carolina Queen Alison and the Fair Bluff Festival Queens for the special events planned during the weekend. Thanks to Judy Enzor and everyone for the hospitality extended during Katie's visit.

Queen Katie was welcomed on August 4-5 to the North Carolina Watermelon Festival in Murfreesboro. She enjoyed meeting other Queens in attendance and participated in the Parade on Saturday along with NCWA President Gloria Richardson and NWA President Brent Jackson. Katie also was Emcee for the Little Princess contest and

was on hand for the Seed Spitting Contests. Thanks to Percy and Frances Bunch and the Festival Committee for their hospitality and a wonderful festival weekend.

Children and adults enjoyed Watermelon Day held at the State Farmers Market in Raleigh on August 10 and Piedmont Triad Farmers Market in Colfax on August 11. In Raleigh, Katie was on hand for the announcement of winners for the Largest Watermelon and Watermelon Eating Contests. Thanks to both Raleigh State Farmers Market and Piedmont Triad Market Managers for a great day promoting melons.

On August 25-26, Katie spent two fun-filled days at the Winterville Watermelon Festival. Highlights of the visit were meeting the Festival Queens, the Youth Contests, the Festival Parade and backstage introductions to "Concert With The Stars" celebrities, Brian McComas and Jason Aldean. Special thanks to Randy Avery and the Winterville Watermelon Festival Committee for such a royal reception.

We'll look forward to sharing more of our 2006 Queen Tour in our next printing. A heartfelt thank you to everyone that has helped to make our 2006 Queen Tour a success. Remember to visit our web site at www.ncmelons.com.

Sandra Woodard NCWA Promotions Coordinator Woodard145@vol.com







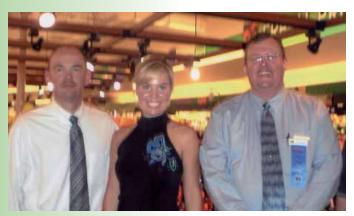
A Queen's kiss from China Grove's Little Mr. Farmer.



"Barney" and "Gomer" stop by to chat with Katie at China Grove Farmers Day.



Katie is delighted to greet young ladies at Statesville Food Lion Grand Opening.



Food Lion District Manager, Store Manager and Produce Manager welcome Katie to Statesville Store Grand Opening.



Frank Suddarth, Charlotte Market Manager welcomes Katie to Watermelon Day at the Farmers Market.



Katie enjoys meeting MIX 106.1 personalities at Charlotte Farmers Market.



Fair Bluff's 2005-2006 royalty along with Queen Katie. Left to right: Mary Ashton Strickland, Jean-Ashley Noble, Katie and Alexandria Zeitany.



South Carolina Queen Alison and Queen Katie in Fair Bluff's Watermelon Festival Parade.



Pictured by the "Got To Be NC Big Cart" are NWA President Brent Jackson, Queen Katie, Josh Jackson and Mike Bunch following the NC Watermelon Festival Parade in Murfreesboro.



Queen Katie poses with NC Watermelon Festival Little Princesses in Murfreesboro.



Katie was delighted to meet Winterville Watermelon Festival Pageant Winners during her visit.



Queen Katie with Winterville Watermelon Festival Host, Randy Avery.



Katie with Watermelon Eating Contest Winners along with Ronnie Best, Market Manager and Monica Wood, NCDA personnel at State Farmers Market in Raleigh.



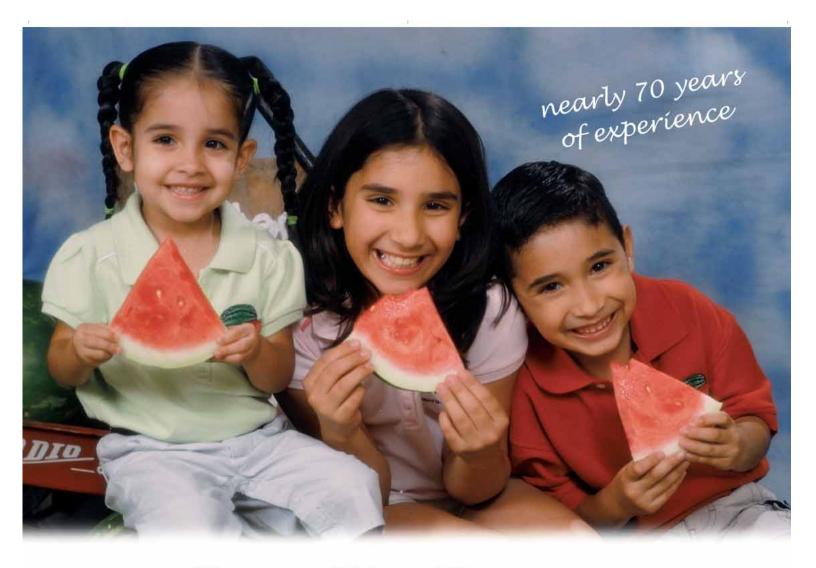
Queen Katie and the Winners of the 2006 Largest Watermelon Contest at the State Farmers Market in Raleigh.



Katie enjoys eating watermelon with visitors at Watermelon Day at Piedmont Triad Farmers Market.

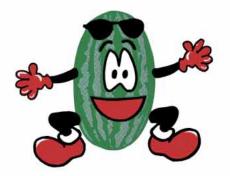


Piedmont Triad Farmers Market Manager and Katie have their eyes on watermelon eating contestants.



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Sweet Amaris Jarred's Best



Haily's Best Denise's Best

• 1200 Truck Loads in Texas Yearly

1000 Truck Loads imported from Mexico Yearly

Andy

Chris

Bob

Gerry

South Carolina Report

Happy Holidays from South Carolina! I hope that you have a wonderful holiday season and blessed New Year. It's hard to believe that we are facing another year. Watermelon season will soon be here again!

Alison and I have had a wonderful year. We have seen and done many great things this year. I am going to wrap up our year and tell you about a Tailgating Event that she did in Greenville, SC and our fabulous trip to Washington, DC.

In August, Alison attended a Tailgating Event in Greenville, SC at the Bi-Lo Center. Alison handed out stickers, coloring books, and brochures to all who attended. She met many different fans from Furman University, Clemson, and USC. Alison enjoyed the event and said that everyone loved watermelon.

Alison and I took a quick trip to Washington, DC in September to promote watermelon on Capitol Hill with the NWA. We visited our SC Congressmen and Senators with Bradley and Louise O'Neal. I think we were very effective and accomplished a great deal. It's always great to be with the NWA. Alison and I would like to thank John Lapide for the wonderful meal. It was great spending time with all of our NWA friends. Thank you, NWA, for a productive event.

I hope that all of you will plan on attending our convention in January. It will be held at the Embassy Suites in Columbia, SC on January 19-21, 2007. Please come and join us because we have lots of fun things planned. Hope to see you there! Happy 2007! Until next time...

Watermelon smiles,

Mary Beth Hiers 404 N. Trenholm Road Columbia, SC 29206 803-331-3362 mbh615@earthlink.net







Alison and a little, sweet watermelon fan.



Alison won SC Congressman Brown's heart.



The Citadel Cadets found Alison on Capitol Hill!



Hardee's loves watermelon!



The Furman University cheerleaders and Alison.



The NWA President, Vice-President and Alison.



We enjoyed spending time with SC Congressman, Gresham Barrett.



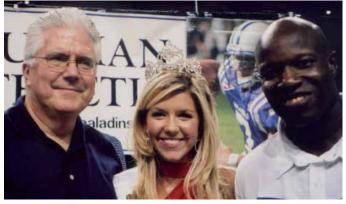
These Gamecock fans enjoyed eating watermelon with Alison.



A wonderful event at the USDA.



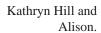
Thanks NWA for all you do!



Alison and the Furman University coaches.



A beautiful picture of the 2006 watermelon queens in front of the White House.





Louise O'Neal spends time with Alison and Katie in DC.



Thumbs up for watermelon!



We thank SC Congressman Wilson for taking us to the US House of Rep. to watch them vote.

Texas Report

Greetings from the Texas Watermelon Association.

A great big old MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR.

WOW, I can not believe that another year has past and we are all gearing up for a magnificent 2007 WATER-MELON season. First of all I want to invite you all to our 41st annual convention January 18-21, 2007 at the EM-BASSY SUITES HOTEL IN McALLEN, TEXAS. We always have a great convention in McAllen...I guess I would have to say its kind of like home for us that visit almost every January at convention time. This year is promising to be fun filled and informative for everyone. Just a little reminder to call the hotel, 956-686-3000, before Dec.18,2006 and make your reservations early! Tell them you are with us. Remember, if you are going to play in the golf tournament, its starts at 8:00AM Thursday the 18th - so make your hotel reservations accordingly. We would also encourage you to be there on Thursday evening for President Paul Bowling's, barbecue reception at Borders, its always a great time. I spoke with Ranell Borders the other day and she is already planning some fun things...

Emily is in college at Texas State University in San Marcos, Texas. She loves her school and takes her studies seriously, we are very proud of her. Just after a few weeks in school she was off to Washington DC a little early so that she could do a little sight seeing before our meetings started the next day... and we did do some going... and some seeing. The next day at noon we had a sack lunch in our hotel lobby,(great sandwiches), and Bob Morrissey gathered all the teams together, covered the issues and sent us on our way with watermelons in hand to visit our assigned Senators and Congressmen.

Nowell Borders and Paul Bowling were on our team and they discussed Immigration Reform and the Farm Bill and it seemed to me that the Senators and Congressmen were on the same page as we are concerning these issues. Everyone is always glad to meetthe watermelon queen and Emily did a fantastic job visiting with them. The next day we were up early and at the USDA Headquarters Building at 8:00am. We served watermelon to tons of USDA employees and had the opportunity to meet some key officials there. The USDA Foyer was full of watermelons, thank you John Lapide! A great meeting at the USDA Building. After lunch, (Thank you Nowell Borders) we met at the gates of the Old Executive Building next to the White House and received our name badges and passes to be allowed in the ausitorium. The meeting was informal and there was open discussion with the watermelon group.

The trip to Washington DC, I would have to say was a definite success, thanks to everyone that came and thank you Bob and Amanda for organizing things so grandly. The next issue we will report on PMA in San Diego, California! REGISTRATION FORMS FOR OUR CONVENTION ARE ON OUR WEB SITE.

Print and MAIL....WWW.texaswatermelons.com or www. texasoklahomawatermelons.com

Until next time,
Wanda Letson
Texas Watermelon Association
P. O, BOX 903
Weatherford, TX 76086
817-596-0927
fax 817-594-1045
www.texaswatermelons.com





Emily gets to check out the Roosevelt Memorial the first day there, there was not much time for sight seeing.





The Texas Watermelon Association delegation in Washington, DC visiting the Senators and Congressmen.



Emily, Paul and Nowell visit with Congressman Dan Boren, Oklahoma.



Emily, Paul Bowling, and Nowell Borders visiting the office of Henry Cuellar.



Bob Morrissey, Brent Jackson and Queens at the USDA Building.



Brent Jackson and Emily look like they are prepared to speak at the USDA Building.



Amanda and David Coates take a short break at the USDA Building.



Paul Bowling's turn to speak at the USDA Building.



All the State queens and National Queen with Kathryn Hill at the USDA building.



Bob Morrissey and Chuck Conner, Deputy Secretary take time for a quick picture.



Emily speaks with Chuck Conner, Deputy Secretary at the USDA Building.



There was watermelon everywhere in the foyer of the USDA Building, Thanks



John Lapide, Bob Morrissey, Paul Bowling, David Coates with Deputy Administrator with the fruit and vegetable programs, Robert Keeney.



Lunch at Bobby Vans Grill with watermelon folks before our visit in the Old Executive Building Auditorium for the White House Administration Session.



We had a large group of watermelon folks in DC, some were not available for this picture.



Just a funny, while making photos in front of the white house this young man runs over and ask if he could have his picture made with the beautiful queen, he was on his way to get married.



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