

**AGA Chapter Meeting Minutes
November 4, 2010**

Submitted by Debra Bloomingburg, Secretary

The Nashville Area Chapter held its November meeting at the Nashville City Club on Thursday, November 4, 2010.

President Melvin Jones, Jr., called the meeting to order, and Scarlet Sneed gave the invocation. Melvin introduced the individuals at the President's table: Chuck Holland, Co-Chair of the Program Committee; Lynn Bracey, speaker; Karen Hale, Immediate Past President; Jacqueline Laws, Co-Chair of the Community Service Committee; Scarlet Sneed, Treasurer; and Melvin Jones, President.

Melvin asked for corrections to the minutes of the October 7, 2010, meeting. No corrections were noted, and the minutes were approved.

Melvin welcomed everyone and asked those who had guests to introduce their guests. He also announced that the chapter has 6 new members. The new members are Archie Arroyo, Laveeta Ferguson, April Goad, Jim Smith, James Stack, and Kay Ulmer.

Chuck Holland introduced our speaker, Lynn Bracey. Mr. Bracey is a Special Investigator for the Office of Inspector General, with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). He presented an overview of his agency and the work they perform. The USDA Office of Inspector General was formed in 1962 and was the first Inspector General Office in the United States. The Nashville Office includes three investigators who cover Tennessee. Some of the more common types of investigations they investigate include animal fighting; Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) fraud; Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) fraud; and crop insurance fraud. His presentation was entertaining as well as informative.

In appreciation for Mr. Bracey speaking to us, the chapter made a donation to his charity of choice, which is the Gideon International.

Melvin then called for announcements from the various committees.

Announcements

Community Service – Jacqueline Laws reminded members of the upcoming Diabetes Walk on November 6. Registration starts at 8:00 a.m. and the walk starts at 9:30 a.m. We currently have three members who have volunteered to help with the walk, and one walker. Anyone interested in volunteering should contact Tammy Thompson.

Jacqueline also announced that the chapter raised \$355 for the Breast Cancer walk held October 30. National will match the amount raised. Two members participated in the walk.

The Hat, Coat, Glove Drive is underway and donations will be accepted at several locations through December 15. Any questions should be directed to Mel Marcella.

Monetary and food donations continue to be accepted for Second Harvest food bank.

Education – Corey Tester announced that the Fall Breakfast will be held November 9 at the Doubletree Hotel. Breakfast starts at 7:30 and the speaker will start at 8:15. The deadline to register has been extended through November 4.

The next audio conference is scheduled for November 17.

The Winter Seminar will be held January 18 and 19. The education committee continues to plan for this event.

The deadline to submit an article or information for inclusion in the November newsletter is November 10.

Membership – Jennifer Lewis announced winners of the recruitment incentives for the period that ended October 31. Three members tied for top recruiter, so a drawing was held. Margaret Walker won the \$100 top recruiter incentive. All members who recruited a new member were included in a second drawing. Katie Yarborough won the \$50 recruiting incentive.

Ray Register won the drawing for the \$25 door prize. Ray also received a USDA paperweight.

Melvin declared the meeting adjourned.