

## **AGA Chapter Meeting Minutes March 2010**

*Submitted by Shirley Henry, Secretary*

The Nashville Area Chapter held its March meeting at the Nashville City Club on Thursday, March 4, 2010. This was a joint with meeting with the local chapter of the National Association of Black Accountants (NABA).

President Karen Hale called the meeting to order, and she asked the individuals from NABA to stand and be recognized. Melvin Jones, Jr. gave the invocation after a brief remembrance of Doug Haywood, a Past AGA National President from Arizona, who died suddenly on March 1.

Karen introduced the individuals at the head table: Dr. Bradley Childs, speaker; Cindy Warner, AGA member and former student of Dr. Childs; Eugene Hampton, President of the local NABA Chapter; Erica Taylor, President of the student NABA Chapter; Julie Rogers, Co-Chair of the Community Service Committee; Rosanne Sietins, representative of the Elephant Sanctuary; and Phil Nally, Senior Vice President for Regional Services, Section IV.

Karen welcomed everyone and asked those who had guests to introduce their guests. She announced that the chapter has 18 new members, and she recognized two new members, Thad Sanders and Laura Key, who had not been previously recognized.

Karen introduced Phil Nally, who gave us an update on AGA events and activities.

Cindy Warner introduced the speaker, Dr. Bradley Childs, CPA, JD, CFP, Associate Professor of Accounting at Belmont University. Dr. Childs spoke on international accounting standards. Karen thanked Dr. Childs for speaking to us, and said that in appreciation, the chapter would be making a donation to the Red Cross, his charity of choice.

Ron Queen announced that March is CGFM Month, and he asked all of the CGFMs to stand and be recognized. He discussed the importance of the CGFM professional designation, and he encouraged all of those who were not CGFMs to strongly considered pursuing the certification.

Karen asked if there were any corrections to the minutes for the February meeting, and since no corrections were noted, the minutes were considered to be approved.

Karen called on Eugene Hampton for any announcements he needed to make regarding the NABA chapter. Eugene expressed appreciation for the opportunity for the NABA members to hold this joint meeting with AGA.

Karen then called for announcements from the various AGA committees.

### **Announcements**

**Community Service** - Julie Rogers introduced Rosanne Sietins, Community Outreach Coordinator for the Elephant Sanctuary in Hohenwald, Tennessee. Ms. Sietins presented some slides of the elephants in the sanctuary habitat, and gave a brief history of the sanctuary. She also expressed appreciation for the chapter's support of their mission. Julie said that the chapter will be collecting donations for the Elephant Sanctuary throughout the month of March.

Julie announced the Channel 8 community service event on March 16, where chapter members will man the phones during the station's fundraiser. The chapter will also be assisting with the Country Music Marathon on April 24; Jennifer Garoutte is coordinating that project. The chapter is currently participating in the VITA program; Tammy Thompson is coordinating that Project. Julie also reminded members that the Alex Green Project Pencil and the Second Harvest Food Bank donation projects are ongoing throughout the year.

**Newsletter** - Corey Tester expressed thanks to all of the committees and others who have submitted content for the newsletter. He encouraged everyone to submit articles for the newsletter. The individual author gets points (six for a financial article and 4 for a nonfinancial article) and a free lunch, and the chapter also earns points through AGA National's chapter recognition program. In addition, an award will be given at the end of the year for the best article.

**Program** - Sandra Tulloss announced that today is the deadline for registration and payment for the chapter social on April 8, which is the presentation of Big River by the Tennessee Repertory Theater. Tickets are \$20 each, after the group discount and the chapter subsidy.

**Membership** - Jennifer Lewis reminded everyone that March 31 is the deadline for membership renewal and payment of dues. From all of those who renew by March 31, there will be a drawing for four \$25 prizes. Also, for those who renew by the deadline and who have earned at least 30 points, the chapter will reimburse them \$45 of their dues payment.

Jennifer also reminded everyone of the ongoing new member recruitment campaign, where the top recruiter will win \$100 and other recruiters will be eligible for the drawing for a \$50 prize. The committee will also present a \$50 award to one new member whose name is drawn at the May meeting, and the committee will award a grand prize for membership recruitment at the May meeting.

The Membership Committee had a drawing of all those who brought guests to the meeting. Gerry Boaz won the gift card for TGI Fridays.

Charles Harrison discussed the arrangements for Doug Haywood's memorial service, which is scheduled for March 12, and he said there would be information on the website about making donations in his memory.

Angela McElrath-Prosser won the \$25 door prize.

On behalf of the Early Careers Committee, Eugene Hampton awarded student memberships for the two students whose names were drawn from all of the students in attendance. Erica Taylor and Justin Newby were awarded the memberships.

There being no further business, Karen Hale declared the meeting adjourned.