LCAAA Winter Board Meeting Agenda
December 17, 2007
Lockett Hall, Room B15
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

1.	Welcome/Call to Order	Ed Twidwell
2.	Minutes of Fall Board Meeting	Kurt Guidry
3.	Treasurer’s Report	Keith Normand
4.	Awards Report	
	a. 2008 DSA + AA Winners	Eddie Eskew
	b. 2007 Search for Excellence in Crop Production	Myrl Sistrunk
5.	NACAA Vice Director’s Report	James Devillier
6.	Old Business	
	a. NACAA Hall of Fame Award	Eddie Eskew
	b. Scholarship Report	Stan Dutile
	c. Faculty Council Update	Allen Hogan
	d. 4-H Centennial Funding Request	Ed Twidwell
	e. 4-H U Luncheon	James Devillier
7.	New Business	
	a. Membership and Dues	Ed Twidwell/Keith Normand
	b. Southern Regional Leadership Workshop	Ed Twidwell
	c. PILD Meeting	Ed Twidwell
	d. LCAAA Historian’s Report	Charles Overstreet
	e. Committee Reports	
	f. LCAAA 2008 AM/PIC	Ed Twidwell
	g. Spring 2008 Board Meeting	Ed Twidwell
8.	Other Business	
9.	Adjourn	

Those present at the meeting were:

James Batty	Allen Hogan
Bill Branch	Barton Joffrion
Brian Chandler	Earl Johnson
Barry Crain	Kim Landry
Glen Daniels	Rick Louque
James Devillier	Ron Nichols
Stan Dutile	Charles Overstreet
Eddie Eskew	Gerald Roberts
Jimmy Flanagan	Myrl Sistrunk
R.L. Frazier	Ron Strahan
Stuart Gauthier	Ed Twidwell
Kurt Guidry	

Call to Order: Ed Twidwell began the meeting by welcoming everyone and announcing that handouts were available at the front of the room. He then mentioned that a couple of the board members were going to be out due to sickness. Miles Brashier was recovering from heart surgery. Ed also mentioned that he had sent a gift (plant) to Miles on behalf of the board and LCAAA. He also mentioned that Keith Normand was absent due to having out-patient surgery to correct issues suffered from an earlier 4-wheeler accident.

Minutes: It was mentioned that copies of the last board meeting had been sent via email to everyone and that a couple of corrections were made and an updated version of the minutes were re-sent. It was asked if anyone had any comments regarding the fall board meeting minutes. At that time Brian Chandler made a motion to accept the minutes as previously distributed and it was seconded by Rick Louque. The motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Ed Twidwell gave the report since Keith Normand was unable to attend. From the last treasurer's report, Ed indicated that the following expenses had been paid:

Expense Item	Amount
Donation to North Carolina for Annual Meeting	$1,600.00
Donation to Rock Eagle 4-H Leadership Conference	$1,000.00

The board had decided at the Fall Board Meeting that a total of $2,000 would be donated to the Rock Eagle 4-H Leadership Conference. The $1,000 was the first installment of that donation with the remaining to be paid in 2008. The money for the Rock Eagle donation was from earnings from the association's Certificate of Deposit (CD). When the CD matured in September 2007, $2,000 was taken from the interest and transferred into the association's savings account. The $1,000 already paid came from those moneys as will the second installment of the donation. Other than the expenses mentioned, Ed Twidwell did mention that the cost of the plant sent to Miles Brashier was $50.

Ed Twidwell also mentioned that Keith Normand had received dues for 29 members prior to the Annual Conference, of which 5 were new members. Another 29 had paid as part of their Annual Conference registration. It was mentioned that we had 125 members last year and that we wanted to shoot for at least that number for 2008.

Finally, based on the information provided by Keith Normand, the following were the current balances in the association's accounts:

Account ID	Description	Balance
1	Share Savings	$6,185.92
2	Basic Checking	$4,156.40
27	Scholarship Savings	$1,532.68
15	12 Month CD	$66,563.87

A motion was then made by R.L. Frazier to accept the treasurer's report. It was seconded by Myrl Sistrunk. The motion passed unanimously.

Awards Report: Eddie Eskew indicated that there were 42 votes cast for the DSA and AA awards. The winners were:

DSA	AA
Boyd Padgett	David Lanclos
Shaney Hill	David Bourgeois
Richard Letlow	

He mentioned that he found out that Louisiana could have 3 DSA winners. The NACAA's rule is that the number of DSA winners from a state is set at 2% of the membership. Since Louisiana had 125 members, 2 percent would equal 2.5, which can be rounded up to 3. The AA winners are still based on 1 per 100 members.

One of the criterions when selecting the DSA and AA winners is that the winner be willing and able to attend the national meeting. Eddie indicated that all winners had agreed to attend the meeting. He said that they would work with the winners to determine who would be designated as voting delegates at the national meeting.

Eddie then discussed the National Hall of Fame Award. He said that the application deadline is January 15, 2008 and that he had not received any nominations to this point. If there were more than one nomination, a committee would be developed to choose between the nominations.

Myrl Sistrunk then discussed the Search for Excellence in Crop Production program. Myrl mentioned that LCAAA members had participated in this program in the past (Glen Daniels, Bill Branch, and Denise Cummings) and he felt it was an excellent opportunity for agents to showcase some of the work they conducted. He urged everyone to look at these award programs and to seriously consider submitting. He felt like that there was working being conducted in the state by agents that would certainly be appropriate for this program.

NACAA Southern Director's Report: James Devillier is the Southern Region Director for the NACAA. James mentioned that he had just got back from the national board meeting. The national annual meeting will be held on July 13-17, 2009 in North Carolina with the theme being "North Carolina- A Place To Grow". He said that there would be a variety of activities planned for the meetings. There were 24 planning tours, pre-conference animal science and horticulture tours, 10 full day and 6 half day spouses tours, 2 tours for children each day, a 4-H Talent Review, roughly 140 businesses with exhibits, among other things that will be offered this year. The NACAA has worked out a deal for a 10 percent discount with Northwest Airlines for travel to and from the meetings. The registration for the annual meeting would be: $225 for a member, $180 for spouses, and $160 for children.

In other news, James indicated that they would be taking nominations for national and regional committee chairs. He urged the membership to seriously consider applying for some of these positions.

James then mentioned the National Young Farmer Program. This is a joint effort of the Jaycees and NACAA. He mentioned that Richard Fontenot from Evangeline Parish was one of the 10 national finalists for the award.

In other news, James mentioned that there would be 7 seminar sessions relating to agriculture at the Galaxy meetings. In addition, he mentioned that Billy Scaggs from Georgia would be nominated from the Southern Region to the board.

The final item discussed was the promotion brochure for membership recruitment. Ed Twidwell brought everyone's attention to the samples of the brochures that he had at the meeting. A question was asked if the state could include additional information with the national brochure and James indicated that they could. It was suggested that Ed Twidwell try to get additional brochures and to have them included in the new employee orientation packet.

OLD BUSINESS

Hall of Fame Award: Eddie Eskew covered this topic in his discussion regarding the DSA and AA award winners.

Scholarship Report: Stan Dutile began his comments by reviewing the number of applicants and winners from 2007. There were 6 applications in 2007 with Anna Normand of St. Landry parish being named the winner. Because of successful fund raising, it was decided at the 2007 annual meeting that a second scholarship be awarded of the same value. Kristie Waddle from Beauregard Parish was the winner of the second award. They are currently awaiting records of proof that the award winners successfully completed their first semester and met all grade requirements of the award. Once that information was received, it would be sent to Keith Normand to have him cut checks to the winners.

It was mentioned that the second scholarship was not designed as an annual award. The decision to award a second scholarship would be decided each year depending on the amount of funds raised at the annual scholarship auction.

Dates for the 2008 scholarships were mentioned. The LCAAA scholarship application deadline is April 15, 2008. The April deadline is also the deadline for membership scholarships. The deadline for the application to the College of Agriculture scholarship sponsored by LCAAA is February 1, 2008.

Faculty Council Update: Allen Hogan gave the report given that Miles Brashier was unable to attend the meeting. Allen indicated that there had been 3 major topics covered by the Faculty Council over the last several months. The first was elections held in November. Those elected were:

Full Title – Off Campus:	Andrew Granger (Vermillion) and Adrienne Vidrine (Acadia)
Full Title – On Campus:	Diane Sasser (Human Ecology)
Associate – Off Campus:	Denise Zeringue (St. Charles)
Associate – On Campus:	Joan King (Food Science)
Assistant – Off Campus:	Mandy Armentor (Vermillion)

He mentioned that only 30 percent of the potential voters actually voted in the last election and urged everyone to vote.

The next topic was a survey conducted by the council. The survey was designed to get information regarding three major areas: 1) Determine the faculty's familiarity with the Faculty Council, 2) Determine issues that faculty felt were important, and 3) Determine the satisfaction of the faculty regarding the service units. It was an email survey and there was a 53 percent response rate which was very good for this type of survey. The results have been sent out to all faculty. He felt that one of the main findings of the survey was that the faculty was not familiar with the Faculty Council and were not aware of the work that the Council had done and was doing.

The final topic was that of an ombudsman position for the LSU AgCenter. This position is in the progress of being developed and advertised. The position would be filled in 2008. A search committee was being developed and Eddie Eskew will be on that committee.

After the discussion, James Devillier thanked Allen Hogan for his service on the Faculty Council. Glen Daniels then echoed those statements and also took the opportunity to introduce a newly higher agent that would be working in his area. Allen Hogan thanked everyone for their appreciation and suggested that all LCAAA members that have or are serving on the Faculty Council should be thanked.

4-H Centennial Funding Request: Ed Twidwell indicated that parishes and associations had been asked to provide funding support for the Centennial. However, to this point, Ed had not received a formal request, including a dollar amount. He felt like until a formal request was made, that the board could not move forward on this issue. As such, he suggested that the board invite someone from 4-H to attend the spring board meeting to give a formal request and to delay any formal discussion and decisions until then.

4-H University Luncheon: James Devillier along with Kenny Sharpe have served as Co-Chairs for this event for the past several years. In 2007, James indicated that they had served roughly 300 people during the event. He mentioned that while the event had come in slightly over budget that the costs would have been considerably higher not for the amount of food that had been donated. James indicated that he would be willing to chair the event for 2008 and Ed Twidwell thanked him as well as Kenny Sharp for their continued support and leadership for this event.

NEW BUSINESS

Membership Report: Ed Twidwell indicated that membership drive for 2008 was currently ongoing. He mentioned that most of the leadership to seek new members and collect dues was designated to the Senior Board Members. The Senior Board members are Rusty Batty, Ron Strahan, Jason Holmes, and Stuart Gauthier. Ed indicated that he would get with Keith Normand and that they would get with the Senior Board Members to provide them a list of 2007 membership and a list of those that had paid and those that still needed to be renewed. This would give the Senior Board Members as basis for contacting agents about 2008 membership. Ed then reminded everyone that dues were due to the National association by March and urged everyone to renew their membership and actively attempt to recruit new membership.

Southern Regional Leadership Workshop: Ed Twidwell indicated that the Southern Region Leadership Workshop would be held on February 6-7, 2008 in Orlando, Florida. Ed Twidwell and Miles Brashier were originally scheduled to attend, but with Miles recent illness, Brian Chandler has agreed to go in place of Miles. In the past, LCAAA has given each person $300 to help offset the costs of attending the workshop with Dr. Coreil matching those funds. This would be done again for 2008.

PILD Meeting: Ed Twidwell indicated that the PILD conference is going to be in Washington DC on April 28-30, 2008. Miles Brashier is scheduled to attend the event but Brian Chandler has agreed to attend if Miles cannot make the event given his recent health issues. In the past, the LCAAA has provided $600 per person for travel expenses. However, Ed Twidwell indicated that the costs of attending this meeting have continually increased and that there was likely a need to increase the funds provided. He also indicated that Dr. Coreil had generally matched the LCAAA in travel funds and that he would ask him to match any increase in support provided by the LCAAA.

LCAAA Historian Report:: Charles Overstreet indicated that there were records that went back to 1954 on membership in LCAAA. He was unsure as to how up-to-date the records were and encouraged everyone to send information related to LCAAA that people would like to see archived. Charles indicated that he would check to see what information was currently available and see what information was needed to bring everything up-to-date. It was also mentioned that Kenny Sharp was the person who had been overseeing the LCAAA website. It was suggested that some of the information that Charles Overstreet was referring to might be a logical candidate to place on the website. Ed Twidwell suggested that he and Kenny Sharpe and Charles Overstreet meet to see what had been and what needs to be done and will report on those findings at the Spring Board Meeting.

Committee Report - 4-H Award Committee: Shaney Hill indicated that the deadline for the 4-H Award was February 8, 2008. The award would be given at the Louisiana 4-H Agents Association meeting in 2008. A question was proposed regarding multi-parish work submitted for the award. The question specifically was which person(s) should be given the award if it involved several agents from several parishes. Eddie Eskew suggested that the agent or committee in charge of project should be given the award rather than every agent that was involved in the project.

In a related statement, James Devillier asked who was the Communications Chair and suggested that communication awards should be applied for at least on the state level and regional levels.

LCAAA Annual Meeting: Ed Twidwell provided and went through a tentative schedule for the 2008 annual meeting. The dates, location, and tentative schedule were provided as follows:

2008 LCAAA Annual Meeting
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Meeting Dates:	June 1 – 4, 2008
Meeting Location:	University Inn & Conference Center (Soon to be the Red Lion Inn) 2445 S. Acadian Thruway Baton Rouge, LA
Room Rates:	$72 per night (This is a great rate for Baton Rouge!)

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

Sunday, June 1:	Board supper in the evening at Miles Brashier's office in New Roads. Would include a boat trip on the False River and then meal near the office
Monday, June 2:	Board meeting in a.m. at motel Professional tour in p.m. – Pointe Coupee Area Tentative stops include: plastic manufacturing plant, master gardener plots, Big Cajun coal-fired plant, pecan orchard. Have meal and auction at the 911 building in Morganza.
Tuesday, June 3:	Professional development program in a.m. at motel (Include Dept. Heads) Spouses tour & lunch (Burden and LaHouse are potential tour areas) AgCenter administrators & regional NACAA representatives in p.m. Committee reports President's reception and social Kids pizza party & swimming Awards banquet
Wednesday, June 4:	Memorial breakfast 1 or 2 professional presentations Business meeting Adjourn by 11:00 – 11:30 a.m.

It was mentioned that the hotel room rates of $72 per night were very good for Baton Rouge and it was also emphasized that it would be important for everyone wishing to get a room to do so before the reservation deadline. Room rates would go up substantially after the cutoff date for making a hotel reservation. It was mentioned that given the costs associated with putting on the annual meeting in Baton Rouge, that the registration fee may have to increase slightly for 2008.

A question was asked regarding the poster contest that was held in 2007. It was mentioned that it would be held again in 2008 and that Ron Strahan has agreed to be in charge of the contest. Those interested in competing should bring their poster to the annual meeting. For those wanting to participate in the National Associations competition, the deadline for submitting those posters will be on March 15.

Spring Board Meeting: Ed Twidwell mentioned that the spring board meeting had been held at the LDAF center in Woodworth and asked if it was the general consensus of the board to keep it there. It was agreed that the Woodworth center was an acceptable site for the meeting and Ed would look into its availability for the 2008 spring board meeting. Ed mentioned that the 2007 spring board meeting was held on March 28 and that he would look to have a meeting somewhere within the time frame of March 15 – 30, 2008.

OTHER BUSINESS AND ADJOURN: Ed Twidwell then asked if there was any further business that needed to come before the board. With no further business, Allen Hogan made a motion to adjourn. It was seconded by Eddie Eskew. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned.