NRLA SPRING EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE



MAY 16-17 2023 MEMPHIS, TN

Hyatt Centric Memphis - 33 Beale St.



WELCOME TO NRLA'S 2023 SPRING EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE

On behalf of the Board of Directors we welcome you to the NRLA 2023 Spring Education Conference. We have a packed agenda with interactive sessions to help you understand and navigate the USDA guaranteed loan processes and learn about other topics important to our work. Our membership continues to grow, and we have many new lenders and service providers who are focused on making a positive impact in rural America.

NRLA continues to focus our efforts on providing jobs, capital, and opportunity to rural America and the agriculture economy. We appreciate our partnership with USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) and Rural Development (RD) leadership and staff and are happy to have them join us at the conference.

Our speed networking event at the Annual Conference in October was popular so you won't want to miss the opportunity to meet all of the conference attendees as we speed network again. We are also excited to be able to attend the Memphis Capital reception at the Memphis in May World Championship Barbeque Cooking Contest on the riverfront.

NRLA continues to grow its membership and opportunities such as this are a great way for us to learn, network, and find new opportunities to help rural communities. Thank you to those who have been with us for a long time as well as those who are new to NRLA. We appreciate your attendance and look forward to a successful conference!

Best regards, Debra Nesbitt NRLA Chair



IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Speed Networking

Speed networking is the business version of speed dating, and a great way to meet a lot of business contacts in a short amount of time. We will be set up in a round robin format with 10 people at a table for approximately 10 minutes. Each person will be given a minute to introduce themselves and give a short explanation of what they do. At the end of ten minutes, participants will be told to change tables and will move to another table. On the back of your nametags, you have a series of numbers that correspond to the tables you move to for each session.

BBQ Festival

Additional information will be given to you on Wednesday by the sponsor, Memphis Capital. Jennifer and her co-workers have worked extremely hard on providing us the opportunity to experience this historic event.

Thank you to everyone that has made this meeting a success.





Day 1 Agenda

Location: Hyatt Centric Memphis, Foundry Ballroom

Tuesday.	May	16

- 7:30 AM Registration & Breakfast Location: Foundry Prefunction Area
- 8:30 AM Welcome NRLA Chairwoman Debra Nesbitt, and TN Farm Service Agency (FSA) State Executive Director John Litz
- 8:35 AM Opening Remarks with FSA Administrator Zach Ducheneaux
- 9:00 AM FSA Guaranteed Loans Where We Are & Where We're Headed, Zach Ducheneaux, FSA Administrator
 Bill Cobb, Deputy Administrator for Farm Loan Programs; Tim Reimer, Branch Chief, Guaranteed Loan Servicing Division
- 10:00 AM Break
- 10:15 AM Promoting Successful Relationships Rural Lender-FSA-Family Farmers/Ranchers
 Michael Boyd, TN Farm Loan Specialist; Scott Scudder, TN Farm Loan Specialist; Tim Reimer, Branch Chief, Guaranteed
 Loan Servicing Division
- 11:15 AM Secondary Market Update Originating, Pricing, Servicing, Ben Clark, Senior VP, FHN Financial;
 Karen Bean, VP, Flagstar Signature Bank; Scott Taylor, Director, Brean Capital; Witt McKay, Senior VP, Carty & Co.;
 Jennifer Bond, Director Lender Relations, Memphis Capital
- 12:00 PM Lunch B&I Success Story, Lauderdale Community Hospital, Cara Lank, SVP, Stone Bank; Joel Howard, TN Business Cooperative Programs Director; Roe Hughes, TN Business Programs Specialisi
- 1:15 PM What to Expect in the Environmental Review Process

 Brandy Lipps, Principal, Logic Environmental; Brian Mihelich, Executive Vice President, True North Consultants
- 1:45 PM USDA RD- Environmental Reviews and Section 106

 Brian Sutherland, Senior Environmental Specialist, National Office
 Peggy Wade, Senior Environmental Specialist, National Office
 Basia Howard, Federal Preservation Officer, National Office
- 2:45 PM Break
- 3:00 PM Cyber Security/Artifical Intelligence, Marla Beckham, Chief Financial Officer, Cyber Defense Labs
- 3:30 PM Speed Networking A fast-paced round robin networking event to briefly meet conference attendees
- 4:30 PM Meeting Adjourned
- 5:30-7:30PM Cocktail Reception/Networking Event Location: Foundry Prefunction Area

Day 2 Agenda

Location: Foundry Ballroom

Wednesday, May 17

- 7:30 AM Breakfast Location: Foundry Prefunction Area
- 8:30 AM Welcome NRLA Chairwoman Debra Nesbitt, and TN Rural Development (RD) State Director Arlisa Armstrong
- 8:35 AM Opening Remarks with USDA-Rural Business Cooperative Service (RBCS) Administrator, Dr. Karama Neal with Aaron Morris, Director of Guaranteed Lending, Rural Business Cooperative Service (RBCS)
- 9:00 AM Best Practices for Loan Processing B&l/REAP, CF, WEP
 Brenda Griffin, Underwriting Branch Chief, Rural Business Cooperative Service (RBCS,
 Corey Young, Asset Risk Management Specialist, Community Facilities Program, Rural Housing Service (RHS,
 Darrel Lipscomb, Community Programs Specialist, Rural Utilities Service (RUS,
- 10:15 AM Break
- 0:30 AM Best Practices for Loan Closing B&I/REAP, CF, WEP
 Joel Howard, TN Business Cooperative Programs Director
 Roe Hughes, TN B&I Specialist, Rural Business Cooperative Service
 Corey Young, Asset Risk Management Specialist, Rural Housing Service
 Darrel Lipscomb, Community Programs Specialist, Rural Utilities Service
- 11:45 AM Lunch-Innovation Center Update Jacki Ponti-Lazaruk, Chief Innovation Officer, Rural Development
- 1:00 PM Best Practices for Loan Servicing B&l/REAP, CF, WEP
 Justin Kirking, Servicing Branch Chief, Rural Business Cooperative Service
 Corey Young, Asset Risk Management Specialist, Rural Housing Service
 Darrel Lipscomb, Community Programs Specialist, Rural Utilities Service
- 2:15 PM Be Prepared: A Serious Look at Construction Steve McCune, Managing Member, McCune Construction Funds Managemen
- 2:45 PM Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy (CPACE), Pierre Herring, Managing Partner, Green Point; Brent Wright, President, Brave Star Capital
- 3:15 PM What You Need to Know about REAP Grants, Deb Yocum, Southern Regional Coordinator, RBCS
- 3:30 PM Meeting Adjourned
- 5:00 PM Leave for Memphis Capital Reception at BBQ Festival

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2023 NRLA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Board Member (non-voting)
NACS FSA

Anne Stahl

Board Member (non-voting)
NACS RD

Cindy Thyfault

Board Member (non-voting)
Global BioFuture Solutions

John Broussard

Board Member (non-voting)

ArkLaTex Financial Consultants

Jared Hicks

Board Member (non-voting) BOM Bank

Jordan Blanchard

Board Member (non-voting)
B&I Subcommittee Chair
X-Caliber Rural Capital

2023 NRLA SUSTAINING MEMBERS









































COBANK











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