

NAGRA NEWS

Winter 2006

A Message From the President



Kathy Baertsch
NAGRA President
2005-2006

It's going to be a heat wave – are you ready? The topics are hot and the Board of Directors and Committee Chairs are very busy putting the finishing

touches on the Annual 2006 Conference to be held in Scottsdale, AZ, June 11 - 14, at the Double Tree Paradise Valley Resort.

Topics and speakers are being finalized and the NAGRA Postcard has been mailed. So, look it over, start thinking about what sessions you might be interested in and make your reservations as soon as possible.

We'll kick off the conference with a customary training session put on by the Association of Fraud Examiners on Saturday June 10, for those who want to come in early and take advantage of this training opportunity. The session topic will be "Financial Statement Fraud." The instructor will be Craig Greene, CFE, CPA, of the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners. This session qualifies for CPE credits.

As the formal conference gets under way, our host jurisdiction, the Arizona Department of Gaming, will

provide an overview of gaming in Arizona. There is a lot happening in the Arizona gaming world, especially as it relates to tribal gaming, and this session promises to be informative.

Conference breakout session topics offer something for everyone. Some of the sessions include:

- An analysis of the pros and cons of various types of electronic monitoring systems.
- A workshop demonstrating Charitable Gaming Compliance and Inspection Tools
- Indian Gaming experts will discuss the effect of proposed Johnson Act Amendments on Class II Devices and of CRIT Court Ruling on NIGC's Authority to Enforce Class III MICs.
- The trend toward modernization of the good old game of Bingo as well as the new NAGRA pull tab standards.
- Nigel Payne of Sportingbet.com will answer questions about regulatory and security issues associated with Internet poker sites.
- Professor I. Nelson Rose of the Whittier School of Law will talk on Internet Gambling Law.

A big thank you to Kevin Mullally, Rick Saville, all of the committee chairs, and the entire Arizona Department of Gaming for putting together these topics and more for a conference you won't want to miss. Great job!

Still not convinced? Take some time to visit www.scottsdalecvb.com or www.arizonaguide.com for more information on beautiful Scottsdale, or visit www.nagra.org for additional information on the conference.

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In other news, the nominating committee for the 2006 NAGRA Board vacancies has been appointed. Gerald "Odie" Otoupal agreed to chair the Committee that includes Gene Huntington and Simone Syrenne. They will be busy contacting those interested in running for board vacancies and will have a fine slate of candidates ready to send to members for a vote soon. If you would like to get more involved, contact your regional

director or me. There is a lot to do in running this organization and we can use all the volunteers we can get.

Looking forward to seeing you all in Scottsdale for one "Hot" conference. ■

Kathy Baertsch
NAGRA President

Election Process for NAGRA Officers and Directors Underway

In our last issue of the NAGRA Newsletter, President Kathy Baertsch encouraged members to become involved in our organization and consider running for a Board position or joining a Committee.

The annual meeting on June 14 in Scottsdale will see the election of a new vice president and two directors to the NAGRA Board of Directors. The bylaws provide that on odd-numbered years directors for the Western and Midwestern Regions shall be elected and on even-numbered years directors for the Eastern and Canadian Regions shall be elected. This year will see nominations for the Eastern and Canadian Regions.

The Nominating Committee is made up of Gerald "Odie" Otoupal, Chair (Nebraska), Simone Syrenne (Canada) and Gene Huntington (Montana) Co-Chairs.

Under the bylaws, the Nominating Committee notifies the Secretary of

the NAGRA Board of Directors of the nominees who will forward ballots to all voting NAGRA members. Designated representatives of NAGRA members can look forward to receiving ballots and a brief biographical sketch of each nominee during the month of May. Ballots will be returned to the nominating committee to be verified and tallied prior to the annual meeting. Votes will be cast by one representative of each of governmental members who make up the current membership of NAGRA. NAGRA trade affiliates do not participate in the election.

The nominating committee will present the results of the election to the president at the annual meeting. The term of the new officers and directors will begin at the end of the June 14 annual meeting.

Board of Directors

President (to 6/06;
Past Pres to 6/07)
Kathy Baertsch

Vice President (to 6/06; Pres to 6/07;
Past Pres to 6/08)
Kevin Mullally

Past President (to 06/06)
William "Billy" Atkins

Secretary (term ends 06/07)
Penny Taylor Moore

Treasurer (term ends 06/07)
Georgine Zalesky

Eastern US Regional Director
(term ends 06/06)
Mary DiGiacomo Colins

Midwestern US Regional Director
(term ends 6/07)
James Haynes

Western US Regional Director
(term ends 6/07)
Don Dutton

Canadian Regional Director
(term ends 6/06)
Rick Saville

Committee Chairs

Casino/Electronic Gaming
Kay Gaines
Arizona Dept. of Gaming

Charitable Gaming
Philip Sanderson
Texas Lottery Commission
Simone Syrenne
Manitoba Gaming Control

Indian Gaming
Norm DesRosiers
Viejas Tribal Gaming Commission

Internet Gaming
Michael Petersen
Michigan Lottery
Dale Fuga
Manitoba Gaming Control Commission

Investigators
Charles Devenney
Manitoba Gaming Control Commission
Aaron Wong
California Division of Gambling Control

Past President Committee
Dale Fuga
Manitoba Gaming Control Commission

Where Are They Now?

Roger Franke, 1990 NAGRA President



Being President of NAGRA was an easy task. Writing an article about what one has done since is tough. But I digress.

At the time that the Minnesota Legislature passed the bill to regulate Charitable Gaming in Minnesota and after Governor Perpich signed it, I was a former member of his staff. When he selected the Chairman of the Minnesota Charitable Gambling Control Board, the Chairman asked if I would serve as the Executive Secretary of the Board. The Board members and I had 90 days to write rules, locate an office, furnish the office, hire staff, and educate the public. I am proud to say that most of what we accomplished still stands. The advances in gaming options and technology have necessarily moved the Board into the 21st Century. The Board is still strong; the staff is still strong; the leadership is stronger than ever.

After five years in that post, I transferred to the Alcohol and Gaming Division of the Department of Public Safety during my term as President. Thanks to the wonder of many years of public service and advanced age and the "Rule of 90", I was eligible for full retirement benefits before my

term expired. And I did retire from state service, but not from the world of Charitable Gaming. Little did I realize that 15 years later, I would still be involved. I have the opportunity to maintain contacts with the regulators, attend NAGRA conferences, and observe the changes in the industry. I do that at the behest of Arrow International, a manufacturer of charitable gaming products and an associ-

"BEING A MEMBER OF NAGRA IS GOOD FOR THE MEMBER AND GOOD FOR GAMING. SERVING ON THE NAGRA BOARD IS GOOD EXPERIENCE FOR A MEMBER AND A BETTER EXPERIENCE FOR A REGULATOR."

ate member of NAGRA. Arrow has asked me to serve as a consultant for Governmental Affairs. In that role, I keep myself current with legislative and regulatory changes in the industry and work with regulators to promote fair and workable rules to advance the goals of Charitable Gaming.

Continuing to be in contact with NAGRA and its members allows me to have visited almost every state in the union while attending NAGRA conferences. Since the second meeting of NAGRA, I have attended all but one. A bypass operation kept me away from that one. I have watched the transition of NAGRA, and it has been a learning experience. At the outset, the only concern for NAGRA was Charitable Gaming. Now you know that varied interests have expanded the scope of the organization to the betterment of the regulation of the industry. And the compe-

tion to Charitable Gaming is greater than ever.

So as far as my years after leaving the State, I continue to work with Arrow International. That is a blessing for me. I never found time for hobbies such as Gerry Otoupal's car reconstruction or Brian Whittow's snowmobiling or Emile Bourgoyne's farm. I have no workshop or cabin up north. So having an office in Burnsville to go to and people to work with helps make my living better. And still I never seem to have a boring day. The true spice in my life, other than Dottie who has permitted me to do all the things I do, is having two granddaughters, Gaby and Mady. Dottie and I spend as much time with them as we can. I doubt that we treated our two children as well as we treat those girls. My advice, though, is to avoid having playmates that are 70 years younger than you are. Rolling on the floor and having snowball fights and chasing soccer balls; those are not for the Social Security set.

Enough about the semi-retired years; more about NAGRA. Being a member of NAGRA is good for the member and good for gaming. Serving on the NAGRA Board is good experience for a member and a better experience for a regulator. I recommend it highly. The tradition of the vice-president being elevated to the presidency is good for NAGRA and good for the new president. So I was pleased to serve as the vice-president to Betty Mercer. She was a leader and a great help in my learning the assignment.

So where is Roger Franke now? He is in Burnsville, MN, enjoying his work, his family, and his life. I wish the same to all of you.

New education mandate leads to myth-busting campaign

-- Manitoba Gaming Control Commission

"So you think I'm Hot?" is not a question frequently asked by gaming regulators. But it's one of the questions the Manitoba Gaming Control Commission's (MGCC) public education campaign uses to bust myths about "hot machines" and other common public misconceptions about gambling. The campaign, launched in fall 2005, is the

term, we are hoping to replace treatment with prevention."

The campaign grew out of research on Manitobans and gambling, that was conducted in anticipation of legislation changes which were eventually proclaimed in April 2005. This research indicated that, like many other North Americans, Manitobans are influenced by myths about gambling, winning and losing. This includes the most perva-

set time and money limits and be informed about gambling."

The initiative also involves information to alert people to early signs of problem gambling. The MGCC included this particular message because the research revealed that many young adults, a group that often exhibits some higher risk gambling attitudes and behaviours, were not aware of some of the warning signs of problem gambling.



first of its kind for a Canadian regulator and was developed in keeping with the MGCC's recently legislated responsible gambling education mandate.

As noted by the campaign's coordinator, Andrea Kowal, there has been a growing trend to encourage people who gamble to do so knowledgeably and responsibly. However, Kowal noted, "most public campaigns and initiatives target problem gamblers. Our campaign was designed to prevent increased incidence of problem gambling by educating the general public about the realities of chance, randomness and outcome control when playing VLTs and slot machines. In the long

sive myth: that the chances of winning at slot machines and VLTs increases the longer you play. The campaign's tagline, "Set a Limit. Be Informed", accompanies straightforward print messages including, "The longer you play, the more you pay" and "No machine is ever due for a win". Via the medium of radio, the campaign shares a series of important truths about electronic gaming machines: "There is no technique or system for winning. It doesn't matter how long it's been since the machine paid out. Every push of the button or pull of the lever is completely random and is not influenced by previous plays. The longer you continue to play the more you will lose. So

Research served as the starting point for this initiative and continues to support it. A benchmarking study was done prior to the campaign and the post-campaign evaluation is underway. "Marrying research to public initiatives emphasizes the MGCC's commitment to using appropriate and reliable information to guide its public interest and responsible gambling projects," Kowal noted.

Kowal invites all NAGRA members to check out the MGCC's website at www.mgcc.mb.ca for a look at the full campaign, including the print, radio, and public space advertising.

Multi-State Cooperation Aimed at Illegal Internet Gambling



Rick Day, Director for the Washington State Gambling Commission

Although illegal, pop-up advertisements invite you to gamble on-line from your home computer, most gambling regulatory and enforcement agencies have well-developed systems designed to ensure gambling conducted at fixed locations is free of criminal influence and operated legally and honestly. However, the advance of technology now enables millions of people to gamble through an unlimited number of virtual sites. In fact, in the late '90s estimates placed the number of online casino sites at more than 250; today that estimate has risen to more than 1,800. Today some online poker sites may have over 35,000 players during peak hours and long-term projections estimate that on-line gambling will exceed \$24 billion by 2010.

The Washington State Gambling Commission opened about 12 investigations involving Internet gambling between 2002-2005. The Commission began these

investigations based on the following concerns:

- Internet gambling is illegal;
- Players have no assurance the game is honest;
- The Internet provides a secluded opportunity for addicted and underage gamblers;
- The source and destination of money is unknown; and
- Internet gambling is illegal competition to licensed and regulated businesses.

During the course of these investigations the Commission issued cease and desist orders to media advertising Internet gambling, subpoenaed financial records, and even contacted individuals engaged in Internet gambling at their home. We were attempting to enforce Washington State law against a virtual system that spans state, national, and international borders.

Most of our efforts were frustrated as the electronic and financial trails changed quickly and led to offshore casinos. Our Commissioners then suggested contacting other states to discuss the potential for creating a Multi-State Task Force to respond to the growing presence of illegal online gambling. This contact led to an organizational meeting of 15 state, federal, and Canadian agencies hosted by the Indiana Gaming Commission in December 2005.

The first meeting established a mission: To significantly diminish illegal Internet gambling through

coordinated sharing of resources, enforcement, and education. The members determined that to be effective the Task Force would need to concentrate in three areas and formed the following work groups:

- Enforcement/Investigation;
- Public Awareness, and
- Federal and State Legislation.

The group also set March 6, 2006, for the next meeting in St. Louis and elected Kevin Mullally, Director of the Missouri Gaming Commission, to chair the Task Force.

Washington will continue to actively pursue new legislation to modernize Washington law by identifying Internet gambling as a felony. At this point the legislation has received the unanimous support of the Senate Committee. This effort has also provided new opportunities to improve public awareness. At the same time we are focusing new enforcement efforts toward those who provide vital services that allow online casinos to do business. We are confident a multi-state effort directed to improving laws, increasing public awareness, and taking firm enforcement action can diminish illegal Internet gambling.

Regional News

Canadian Regional News

The 10th Annual Canadian Gaming Summit and Exhibition is scheduled to be held at the Vancouver Convention Centre, Vancouver, BC, April 25 - 27, 2006. This event, sponsored by the Canadian Gaming Association, is the annual trade conference of the gaming industry and attracts operators and regulators from across Canada and gaming equipment suppliers from around the world.

Further information may be found at www.canadiangamingsummit.com

British Columbia

More than 95% per British Columbians who gamble do so for entertainment and participate responsibly. However, a small number of players develop problems related to excessive gambling. It is a treatable condition that affects the gambler, his or her family, employer and community.

GPEB and BCLC launched the Responsible Gambling Strategy in 2003. The strategy engages government, health and social agencies, the gaming industry, and individuals to work together to build a gaming industry that fosters responsible gambling.

Included in the Responsible Gaming Strategy is the Problem Gambling Program. In BC, the term "problem gambling" describes gambling behaviors that compromise, disrupt or damage personal, family or vocational pursuits. It is a treatable condition that affects the gambler, his or her family, employer and community. The BC government provides \$4 million annually to fund a comprehensive problem gambling program.

Problem Gambling Programs Services include:

- 24-hour toll-free Help Line, for infor-

mation and referral: 1-888-795-6111.

- Thirty-three contracted service providers deliver province-wide counselling and prevention services at no cost to the client.
- Counsellors meet with clients during evenings and weekends as required, and will travel to meet clients in their community.
- Prevention workers work with health organizations, schools, First Nations communities, seniors and youth groups, and the gaming industry to provide information on gambling addiction and related issues.
- Awareness materials, including posters and brochures that are translated into Chinese, Punjabi, Spanish, and Vietnamese.
- Information available at all casinos, commercial bingo halls and lottery retail outlets and a web site that provides information on gambling and problem gambling (including the odds of winning and myths about normal gambling behavior) www.BCresponsiblegambling.ca.
- Responsible gambling standards for the gambling industry.

Manitoba

The Manitoba Gaming Control Commission (MGCC) is conducting a six-month study to determine whether an appropriate model can be developed for licensing Texas Hold'em poker as a charitable gaming event. This will be done through a pilot and evaluation of a limited series of Texas Hold'em events scheduled to take place in spring 2006.

Establishing the Draft Texas Hold'em Terms and Conditions for the pilot events has involved inter-jurisdictional and inter-agency consultation and research. The pilot study will examine a comprehensive mix of variables that were identified as a result of the preceding consultations. These will include factors such as: the effectiveness and functionality of terms and

conditions and house rules, venue and environment, and security and financial controls. Evaluating these pilot events will involve feedback and assessments from charitable organizations, gaming suppliers, players and MGCC compliance and licensing staff.

The review of the pilot and resulting recommendations are expected by the end of 2006. For more information, visit www.mgcc.mb.ca. ■

Online Registration Now Available for NAGRA Conferences!

NAGRA conference participants can now submit their registrations via NAGRA's website at www.nagra.org. This is one of many new capabilities of our recently rebuilt site. You will also notice a much refreshed look and organization of the site.

Throughout the year we will be introducing and promoting additional features of the website aimed at increasing the overall value of a member's experience with the organization, including a robust searchable directory of members by position, state and other fields. The goal is to further increase the highly valuable networking component of our organization between conferences. We are excited about these functional and design upgrades and look forward to sharing more new features as they are developed.

Do you have content you'd like to submit to NAGRA News?

Contribute to erice@ewald.com.

Charitable Bingo Operations Manual Now Available in Texas

Texas recently completed the "Charitable Bingo Operations Manual" which provides a basic introduction and overview of the laws and rules that govern the operations of charitable bingo in Texas. The manual is not intended as a substitute for the Bingo Enabling Act of the Charitable Bingo Administrative Rules but will serve as a foundation for further inquiry and review of the laws, rules, and procedures regarding the conduct of charitable bingo in Texas.

The "General Information" chapter includes information on: general licensing information; the operator's responsibilities; workers' job titles and responsibilities; advisory opinions; audits; reviews and inspections; and administrative penalties and hearings.

The chapter on "Conducting Bingo" covers: hall requirements; criminal penalties; bingo supplies and equipment; selling cards; card minders and pull tab dispensers; door prizes; raffles and other games of chance; advertisements; gift certificates; prizes and prize fees; verification of winners; and the worker registry and registered worker identification cards.

The "Charitable Distributions" chapter covers the 35% minimum distribution requirement and the use of charitable proceeds.

The chapter on "Unit Accounting" discusses: the types of units; how an accounting unit is formed; unit manager and designated agent requirements and duties; records required for units; and quarterly reports for units.

We think the manual will be beneficial to current licensees and organizations considering becoming involved in conducting charitable bingo in Texas. The manual provides a complete overview of conducting bingo in Texas and emphasizes the fact that the operation of charitable bingo is a business that requires the organization's time, effort and attention to detail.

Billy Atkins, Director of the Charitable Bingo Operations Division commented that, "The Operations Manual is the result of the combined efforts of Bingo Division staff and members of our Bingo Advisory Committee. I appreciate everyone's work on this project. We're happy to offer this additional service to our licensees."

The manual is available on our website at www.txbingo.org

Donna Precure Rose, M.P.A., Special Projects Assistant, Charitable Bingo Operations Division, Texas Lottery Commission

Texas Rolls Out Electronic Filing of Quarterly Reports

Starting with the first quarter of 2006, the Charitable Bingo Operations Division (CBOD) of the Texas Lottery Commission is rolling out electronic filing of quarterly reports for conductors, lessors and accounting units. The electronic versions of the quarterly reports with applicable schedules and an enhanced version of the Automated Forms Manual are located online at www.txbingo.org in the "Quick Forms" section. Organizations are not required to file quarterly reports electronically.

The Automated Forms Manual will automatically generate the quarterly reports by extracting data from the individual forms and summarizing it in the corresponding sections of the quarterly report. If the Automated Forms Manual is used, only five fields are required to be entered manually. Use of the Automated Forms Manual will simplify the process of record keeping and the generation and filing of the quarterly reports.

For the organizations that do not wish to utilize the electronic version of the Automated Forms Manual, quarterly reports can be completed and filed electronically simply by using the electronic version of the quarterly report. The only difference is that data must be entered manually; however, the required calculations will be generated automatically.

After the electronic quarterly report is completed a payment coupon will be generated. Organizations simply e-mail the quarterly report to the CBOD. Payment coupons are required to be printed and mailed to the CBOD with payment of prize fees and/or taxes.

We think conductors, lessors, and unit accounting groups will find this a convenient way to complete and file their quarterly report. With the completion of this project all types of licensees in Texas have the option of filing their quarterly reports electronically.

Donna Precure Rose, M.P.A., Special Projects Assistant, Charitable Bingo Operations Division, Texas Lottery Commission

Meet Your Committee Chairs

In our past issues of the NAGRA News we have shared with you some information regarding the officers, board members and committees of NAGRA and will continue to do so. We are all indebted to the men and women who volunteer their time to make NAGRA the success that it is. Coordinating conference breakout sessions that meet the interest of diverse and international groups of gaming regulators is at times very challenging. This issue and the following will present to you these dedicated individuals who we commend and applaud for the fine job that they do to make our conference and breakout session of value to each one of us (they also welcome any help or suggestions that you may offer).

Aaron Wong, Special Agent Supervisor, California Department of Justice, Division of Gambling Control



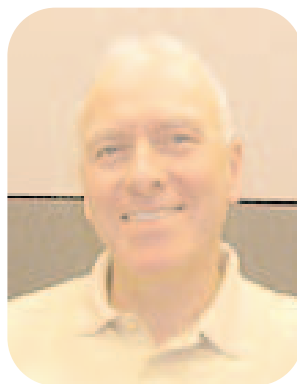
Aaron Wong joined the California Division of Gambling Control (DGC) in 1999 as a Special Agent. In 2000, he was promoted as a Special Agent Supervisor to oversee a compliance and enforcement team of agents who specialized in cardroom enforcement. Prior to

DGC, Aaron was assigned as a Special Agent to the California Department of Justice, Bureau of Narcotics Enforcement in San Francisco for three years. Prior to that, Aaron was a Patrol Officer for the Patterson Police Department and the Modesto Police Department for six years.

Aaron has investigated numerous complex investigations relating to illegal gambling activities, regulatory and criminal violations at the legalized gambling establishments, sale and distribution of narcotics, illegal gang activities, and your day-to-day patrol calls as a patrolman.

Aaron joined NAGRA in 2003 as a Co-chair of the Investigators Committee and has recruited several well-respected investigators to present their investigative successes to the NAGRA members. Aaron has also organized several "Closed-door" sessions for sworn investigators of various jurisdictions to share their ongoing investigations, latest trends, and success stories.

Charles Devenney, Manager, Regulatory Affairs, Manitoba Gaming Control Commission, Winnipeg, Manitoba



I began employment within the Gaming Industry in 1993 as an Investigator with the Manitoba Lotteries Corporation. Opportunities arose and I became a Duty Manager and Surveillance Manager at the Crystal Casino. Time spent in these capacities provided me the chance to become the Operations Manager and later the Executive General Manager at the Club Regent Casino.

In 2002, I joined the Manitoba Gaming Control Commission as an Inspector and now occupy the Regulatory Affairs management position covering all aspects of our legislative and procedural activities.

Gaming is an absorbing field and with the networking provided within NAGRA, I am hoping to establish improved communications inside the Investigations Committee throughout North America. Criminal activity is relentless and the responses and safeguards that can be adopted and introduced require a constant vigilance from the Casino personnel and the Regulators. This also means that effective dialogue is maintained between the operators and the regulators in ensuring that gaming is conducted with honesty and integrity.

My first introduction to NAGRA came via a presentation on a Raffle scam with a colleague that occurred in Winnipeg. The conference was held in San Antonio in June 2004 and it was a wonderful experience, with people sharing information and encouraging the communication links to be developed.

NAGRA represents the uniqueness of an industry that continues to flourish throughout the world. With many areas of gaming expertise available to members to draw from, I certainly intend to make more use of the connections made through the organization.

Committee News

Indian Gaming

NAGRA member Don Dutton of the New Mexico Gaming Control Board will be joining Norm DesRosiers and NIGC Chairman Phil Hogen in a panel presentation at our June NAGRA conference in Scottsdale, regarding the potential effects of the U.S. DOJ proposed amendments to the Johnson Act to include "Class II" devices. Norm will give the tribal perspective; Don the State perspective, and Phil the Federal perspective. Hope to see you all in attendance.

The Indian gaming committee would like to extend an invitation to NAGRA members to attend our upcoming National Tribal Gaming Commissioners/Regulators (NTGC/R) conference hosted at the Cherokee Casino Resort just outside of Tulsa, Oklahoma. The conference will be March 13-15, 2006. There will be nationally known speakers and an excellent selection of training seminars. For Agenda and registration information, please visit our website at www.ntgcr.com or contact Dawn Hill of The Hill Group at 920-869-2044.

Norm DesRosiers, Chair

Casino

The Casino Committee has selected four programs for the upcoming 2006 NAGRA Conference. The Committee will feature the "Wave of the Future" in casino gaming from the perspective of Gaming Laboratories International (GLI). In addition, the Conference host state, Arizona, is involved currently in setting up a joint monitoring system with the state's urban tribes. For our second program, John Briney,

CIO of the Arizona Department of Gaming (ADG), will moderate a panel discussion on the read-only real-time Arizona project and other electronic monitoring systems. Our third program will focus on background investigations of companies involved in gaming. Connie Clapper, ADG Gaming Vendor Certification Manager, will lead this interesting and topical discussion. Our fourth session will present an analysis of various methods of regulating Ticket-In, Ticket-Out (TITO) systems. We are looking forward to an interesting and educational Conference experience and we hope that all Conference attendees can participate in these sessions. June in Scottsdale promises to be a hot time in the desert!

Kay Gaines, Chair

Charitable Gaming

Charitable Gaming Committee Members:

As we have been working towards putting together the 2006 Conference, we have been challenged with several issues and we need your help!

We are planning a roundtable forum on effective Charitable Gaming Compliance tools. Many jurisdictions have indicated recent legislation being introduced within their states regarding regulating Charitable Gaming and the challenge of ensuring the honesty and integrity of licensed gaming schemes. Many of you have been in the business for many years, and have much to share with mem-

bers in this area. We need to hear from any jurisdiction that would like sit on the panel to share their proven compliance inspection and audit tools.

The second issue is the ever-increasing popular topic of Texas Hold'em Poker Tournaments. Whether it is the issue of including this scheme as licensable activity for charities, or considering the legality of this type of scheme being conducted in for-profit bars and lounges, I think it's safe to say we have all been challenged or required to respond to the issue for the stakeholders in our respective jurisdictions. Having said so, we would like to collect as much information as we can prior to this Conference to share with members, and provide at least for an overall look at the current North American situation.

These issues are current, and timely information is what our committee strives to provide to members. If you want to participate on a panel, or if you can give us information to be included in these important sessions, please contact us as soon as possible. This is your forum to share information with fellow NAGRA members and WE DO NEED YOU!

Phil Sanderson
Phil.Sanderson@lottery.state.tx.us
 Tel. 515-344-5155

Simone Syrenne
ssyrenne@mgcc.mb.ca
 Tel. 204-954-9441

Internet Gaming

The Internet Gaming Committee is pleased to announce that Nigel Payne, Chief Executive Officer of Sportingbet PLC, has agreed to speak at our conference in Scottsdale, AZ. Sportingbet is the world's largest online betting and gaming group and is based in London, England. The company has nearly three million registered customers in over 200 countries, who place over 1.3 million bets per day. eGaming Review has ranked Sportingbet as the most powerful global player in the industry for each of the last two years. Sportingbet is a regulated, public company listed on the London Stock Exchange with a market value of over \$3 billion.

Nigel recently appeared on CBS's 60 Minutes where he was interviewed by Lesley Stahl on the state of Internet Gaming. He will speak at NAGRA on the regulatory/security controls on Sportingbet's various websites. Topics will include: safety of the software, validity of the random number generator, measures to prohibit minors and mitigate problem gambling, and protection against fraud and money laundering, etc.

Nigel Payne was recommended to NAGRA by Sue Schneider, Chief Executive Officer of River City Group, which is arguably the most complete information service on Internet gaming. The River City Group publishes interactive gaming

NEWS which is an online trade publication covering all topics related to interactive gaming worldwide.

The website at www.igamingnews.com contains news coverage and analysis related to U.S. and Canadian state/provincial and federal policy, legislation, and studies regarding internet gaming. The site has an extensive library of state/provincial and federal legislation (proposed and enacted) as well as congressional testimony, letters, statements, civil and criminal law suits, technological developments, etc. For more information contact Mark Balestra, Vice President of Publishing, at mark@igamingnews.com.

Mike Petersen, Chair

On the Lighter Side, Remember When...

According to today's regulators and rule makers, those of us who were kids in the '40s or '50s, probably shouldn't have survived.

- Our baby cribs were covered with lead-based paint.
- We had no childproof lids on medicine bottles, doors or cabinets, and when we rode our bikes, we had no helmets.
- As children, we would ride in cars with no seat belts or airbags.
- Riding in the back of a pickup truck on a warm day was always a special treat.
- We drank water from the garden hose and not from a bottle.
- We ate cupcakes, bread and butter, and drank soda pop with sugar in it, but we were never overweight because we were always outside playing.
- We shared one soft drink with four friends, from one bottle, and no one actually died from this.
- We would spend hours building our go-carts and skateboards from scraps and then rode them down the middle of streets and hills.
- We would leave home in the morning and play all day, as long as we were back when the streetlights came on. No one was able to reach us all day.
- We went out in all types of weather, played in alleys, talked to strangers and survived. If we had a knife it was to carve wood or cut string or tighten screws.
- We had friends! We went outside and found them.
- We played dodge ball, and sometimes, the ball would really hurt.
- We fell out of trees, got cut and broke bones and teeth, and there were no lawsuits from these accidents. They were accidents. No one was to blame but us.
- We had fights and punched each other and got black and blue and learned to get over it.
- We rode bikes or walked to a friend's home and knocked on the door, or rang the bell or just walked in and talked to them.
- Little League had tryouts and not everyone made the team. Those who didn't had to learn to deal with disappointment. Only the winners got a trophy.
- Some students weren't as smart as others, so they failed a grade and were held back to repeat the same grade. Horrors! Tests were not adjusted for any reason. Our actions were our own. Consequences were expected.
- The idea of a parent bailing us out if we broke a law was unheard of. They actually sided with the law. Imagine that!
- We had freedom, failure, success and responsibility, and we learned how to deal with it all. And you're one of them! Congratulations.

NAGRA Excellence in Gaming Regulation Award

We are seeking nominations for the first annual NAGRA Excellence in Gaming Regulation Award

Eligibility:

The NAGRA "Excellence in Gaming Regulation" Award is open to regular members who have demonstrated outstanding accomplishments in the gaming regulatory or enforcement environment.

Nomination Process:

Nominations must be in writing. Nominations must include examples of actions/achievements by the nominee. Nominations should include the name of the nominee, title, jurisdiction and contact information.

Selection Criteria:

The committee should consider nominees who have demonstrated sustained achievement, exceptional performance and deserve recognition for their extraordinary contributions in the field of gaming regulation. Areas of consideration may include:

- The supervision or organization of employees leading to outstanding accomplishments.
- The enhancement of the public perception of gaming regulation by external organizations.
- The identification and implementation of significant cost savings for a specific jurisdiction.
- The identification and implementation of significant efficiencies in regulatory processes or procedures.

Notification

Winners should not be notified until the announcement is made. If necessary, a contact person from the winner's jurisdiction may be notified in an attempt to ensure the winner is present to accept their award.

Submission

Submit your nominations to:
NAGRA, Attention Eric Ewald,
1000 Westgate Drive, Suite 252,
St. Paul, MN 55114

The Board considers the award an appropriate way to recognize individuals who have distinguished themselves in the field of gaming regulation. If you have any questions regarding this award, please contact one of the following:

Rick Saville, Chair
Mary DiGiacomo Colins, Co-Chair
Don Dutton, Co-Chair