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FROM THE PUBLISHER

This month we head to San Diego for NIGA's Indian Gaming 2010 Tradeshow and Convention, one of the most exciting events of the year in Indian Country. The show is always a terrific chance to network with industry professionals and leaders, discuss the issues facing the industry, and celebrate the many successes and achievements Indian gaming has enjoyed.

This year's event is also an opportunity to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the National Indian Gaming Association. Reflecting on the organization's history is awe inspiring, to say the least. Founded in 1985 as a means of ensuring the protection of tribal sovereignty as well as gaming on Native lands, the success of NIGA – and of Indian gaming itself – has exceeded the expectations of even its founders.

The National Indian Gaming Association has been instrumental in shaping the course of this industry, from the passing of IGRA in 1988 to the recent debate surrounding the NIGC's Minimum Internal Control Standards. NIGA has made possible stronger relationships between tribal governments and local and state governments, as well as the federal government, with its annual "NIGA on the Hill" event.

We congratulate the National Indian Gaming Association on its diligence, its commitment to improving the quality of life for Indian Country, and the resounding progress it has made over the past twenty-five years. Chairman Ernest L. Stevens, Jr. reflects on NIGA in this issue, calling upon some of its charter members to share their memories of its organization and earliest efforts in the political arena.

This year's show is an event not to be missed. In addition to the anniversary celebration, the industry's leading game manufacturers will be exhibiting their latest offerings for the Indian gaming market and extensive training sessions will be available with over 100 expert presenters. If you are able to attend, please stop by our booth and say hello!



Steve Burke, Publisher

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