



APRIL 2011

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2011 NNBA ANNUAL CONFERENCE



THURSDAY & FRIDAY, JUNE 9-10, 2011
WILD HORSE PASS HOTEL & CASINO
GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY
5040 WILD HORSE PASS BOULEVARD
CHANDLER, ARIZONA 85246
WWW.WILDHORSEPASS.COM

Upcoming Events

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
MAY		
12-13	Traditional Teachings*	Karigan Bldg., St. Michaels, AZ
JUNE		
9-10	NNBA Annual Conference*	Wild Horse Pass Hotel & Casino, Gila River Indian Community, AZ
AUGUST		
1-5	Navajo Nation Bar Review*	Karigan Bldg. St. Michaels, AZ
27	Navajo Nation Bar Exam	TBD
DECEMBER		
9	Last Chance CLE*	Karigan Bldg., St. Michaels, AZ

* CLE hours



Message from the President

Dear Fellow Navajo Nation Bar Association Members,

On behalf of the Navajo Nation Bar Association ("NNBA") Board of Bar Commissioners ("Board"), we would like to introduce and welcome Ms. Martha Dailey, our new Association Manager (formerly the Executive Director position), to the NNBA. Martha comes with a stellar educational background along with extensive experience in working with non-profit organizations. She has a B.A. (2006) and M.A. (2009) from the University of Arizona in Tucson. Prior to coming to the NNBA, she was a graduate assistant at the Native American Student Affairs Office, the University of Arizona.

In October and November of 2010, the Board undertook a thorough review of the NNBA's past employee organizational structure and Personnel Policies. After such review, the Board created the Association Manager position in place of the Executive Director position along with approving a job description for this new position. Then, in December 2010, the Board established a Hiring Committee made up of Board members tasked with recruiting, evaluating and interviewing applicants for the new position. So, many of you may have seen the Association Manager Job Announcement on the NNBA website, in the Navajo Times and other local newspapers. The position was advertised for over a month. The Hiring Committee received eight applications. Of the eight, the Hiring Committee interviewed five applicants; one being Martha who was by far the most qualified and who met the needs of the NNBA. The Hiring Committee then recommended Martha's hiring to the entire Board, which we, as the Board, agreed upon with sheer excitement. At our February 19th, 2011 Regular Board meeting, the Board agreed to make an offer to Martha, which she gladly accepted. Her first day with the NNBA was on March 21, 2011. Again, we welcome, Martha, aboard, and we look forward to working with her and we hope you do as well.

A special thank you goes to Ms. Andrea Valdez for her time and service to the NNBA for over fifteen years. Andrea has contributed tremendously to the growth of the NNBA.

We hope to see you in June for the Annual Conference. This year's Conference will feature for the first time ever two NNBA Awards – the Lifetime Achievement Award and Member of Year Award. More information about the Awards and nomination process are included on page 5 of this Newsletter. We will also recognize our fellow NNBA members with 30 or more years of active membership with the NNBA.

As always, we appreciate your questions, recommendations and comments on how we can better serve you and improve our NNBA.

Thank you—*Ahéhee'*.

Yours In Service,

Diandra D. Benally
NNBA President

NNBA Association Manager

Dear Navajo Nation Bar Association Members,

Yá'át'ééh. I am Martha Dailey. I am Kinyaa'áqanii, Towering House Clan, born for Ta'néészahnii, Tangle Clan. My maternal grandfather is Ashiihi, Salt Clan. My paternal grandfather is Tsi'naajínii, Black Streaked Reed Clan. This is who I am as a Diné female. I was born and raised in Shiprock, New Mexico.

First and foremost, I would like to extend my appreciation and gratitude to the NNBA Board of Bar Commissioners for their confidence in selecting me to serve as the new NNBA Association Manager. I would also like to thank Yolanda Wauneka for her patience and assistance during my transition to the NNBA.

I have been very fortunate to work with several Non-Profit 501(c)(3) entities in various capacities; some organizations were well established while some were in the initial stages of their development. Whatever the case, I find great satisfaction in the work that is involved in the daily operational management within these often overlooked agencies.

My goal as NNBA Association Manager is to build upon the foundation that has been created and strive towards elevating the level of standard, recognition, and vision that sets the Navajo Nation Bar Association aside as the unprecedented organization that it is.

We welcome your suggestions and comments on how we can improve our NNBA. You may contact me at (928) 871-2211 or at mdaileyNNBA@gmail.com. Again, I thank you for this opportunity and look forward to meeting you.

Sincerely,
Martha Dailey

2011 NNBA Annual Conference Information



REGISTRATION FEE:

\$200.00 before May 18, 2011, \$250.00 thereafter and \$275.00 on-site.

Hotel rooms are filling up fast so please make arrangements to register and reserve your spot for this exciting event! We look forward to seeing you at the conference!

AGENDA

Day 1 - Thursday, June 9, 2011

- 7:30-9:00 a.m. Registration and Continental Breakfast
- 8:00-8:15 a.m. Opening Prayer -- by invitation
- 8:15-8:30 a.m. Opening Remarks by Diandra D. Benally, NNBA President
- 8:30-10:00 a.m. Honorable Chief Justice Herb Yazzie (1.0 Ethics or 1.00 Navajo Law CLE)
Honorable Judge William C. Canby
- 10:00- 10:15 a.m. Break
- 10:15-11:45 a.m. Navajo Nation Judicial Panel (1.5 hours Navajo Law CLE)
Moderator: Paul Spruhan
- 11:45-1:00 p.m. Luncheon
 - Honoring of Nellie Yellowhair Sloan and Geoffery Sloan
 - 2011 NNBA Awards
- 1:00-2:45 p.m. Federal, Judicial and Legislative Updates (1.75 hours Navajo Law CLE)
 - Navajo Supreme Court Update, Rod Begaye
 - Navajo Legislative Update, Ed McCool
 - Federal Update, Paul Spruhan
- 2:45- 3:00 p.m. Break
- 3:00-5:00 p.m. Ethics Panel (2.0 hours Ethics CLE)
Moderator: Diandra D. Benally
- 6:00-7:00 p.m. Appreciation Dinner
 - Recognition of NNBA Members with 30 years and more active membership

Day 2 - Friday, June 10, 2011

- 7:30-9:00 a.m. Registration and Continental Breakfast
- 8:00-8:15 a.m. Opening Prayer -- by invitation
- 8:15 -9:15 a.m. NNBA Reports
 - CLE Committee Presentation
 - Judicial Evaluation Committee Presentation
 - Rules Committee Report
 - Judiciary Committee Report/Update
- 9:00-9:10 a.m. Break
- 9:30-10:30 a.m. Breakout CLE Session (1.0 hour Navajo Law CLE)
- 10:30-10:45 a.m. Break

10:45-11:45 a.m. Breakout CLE Session (1.0 hour Navajo Law CLE)

11:45-1:00 p.m. Lunch (Provided)

4 Breakout Sessions

1. Update on the Government Structures of the Navajo Nation
 - Mariana Kahn
2. A Quarter Century of Navajo Taxation Since Kerr-McGee
 - Marcelino Gomez and Mary Modrich-Alvarado
3. Beginning Navajo Language for Legal Practitioners
 - Esther Yazzie
4. Navajo Nation Water Rights – Update on Litigation & Settlements
 - Stanley Pollack

Announcement

The NNBA is currently accepting nominations for the following awards to be presented for the first time ever at the 2011 NNBA Annual Conference:

Lifetime Achievement Award: To be presented to that NNBA member(s), who has been an active member in good standing for twenty (20) years or more, and who has made significant contributions to the NNBA and to the practice and administration of law on the Navajo Nation. (Award established in 2011)

Member of the Year Award: To be presented to that NNBA member(s), who has been an active member in good standing for at least four (4) years, and who has rendered extraordinary and exceptional contributions to the programs and activities of the NNBA in 2010-2011 including prior years. (Award established in 2011)

DEADLINE - Wednesday, May 4, 2011, at 5:00 p.m. MST

Nominations must be submitted in writing to: Navajo Nation Bar Association, c/o Yolanda Wauneka, P.O. Box 690, Window Rock, AZ 86515. Also, nominations should be no more than 2 pages, double-spaced and 12-point font, identifying and describing the individual's accomplishments related to the above award

Vacancies

NNBA CLE COMMITTEE

The NNBA is looking to fill one (1) vacancy in the NNBA CLE Committee with an active NNBA member.

DNA - People's Legal Services, Inc.

The Board of Bar Commissioners will make three (3) appointments to the DNA-People's Legal Services, Inc. board for two-year terms.

NEW MEXICO LEGAL AID

The Board of Bar Commissioners will make one (1) appointment to the New Mexico Legal Aid board for two-year terms.

If you are interested, please send a letter of interest and brief resume by April 29, 2011 to:
 Yolanda Wauneka, NNBA Office
 Email: yolandawauneka@ymail.com
 Fax: (928) 871-2229

Reminders

PRESENTERS NEEDED:

The NNBA is in need of presenters for the next NNBA Bar Exam review course & Traditional Teachings.

Please contact:

Troy Eid at eidt@gtlaw.com or (303) 572-6521.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Did your contact information change? If so, please submit your updated information to the NNBA.

CLE HOURS:

Please keep track of your CLE hours. It is your responsibility as a NNBA member to maintain your CLE hours and file your report with your annual membership dues.