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Saratoga Gaming and Raceway Paving the Way for New York Racinos
Arch Gleason Receives Lifetime Achievement Award

PUBLISHER'S PAGE

PGRI's NEW FOCUS TO ACCELERATE GOVERNMENT REVENUES



Duane V. Burke,
Publisher & CEO of PGRI

There was a time in the world lottery industry when electronic gaming was considered to be unsuitable for lotteries. The arguments against the games were that they were too much like casino gambling and the games might have negative consequences that lotteries were not experiencing with existing games.

But times have changed – and now some lotteries, racing and local commercial enterprises are reaping the benefits of electronic gaming under the auspices of the lotteries.

This evolution in thinking and practice for lotteries is the outgrowth of three principal developments:

1. After lengthy research, Canadian lotteries were able to get approval for electronic gaming for lotteries several years ago, have run them very successfully since then and have thus become models for other lotteries.
2. The incredible proliferation of electronic gaming on Indian reservations has made gaming machines virtually ubiquitous throughout the US; and, ironically, under the Federal Law that permits gambling on Tribal Lands, it is the states' own lottery and social gaming laws that have opened the door for all of the gaming in Tribal casinos. And yet, most states have not taken advantage of their own laws in this regard.

3. The pioneering efforts by the states of Delaware, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Dakota, West Virginia and, most recently, New York in adopting and operating electronic gaming have made clear the benefits of adding electronic games to the lotteries' game mixes.

Electronic gaming is dynamic, fast-moving, entertainment and as such is an excellent complement to the range of games that the lotteries are already offering – and upon which the success of lotteries have depended for several decades.

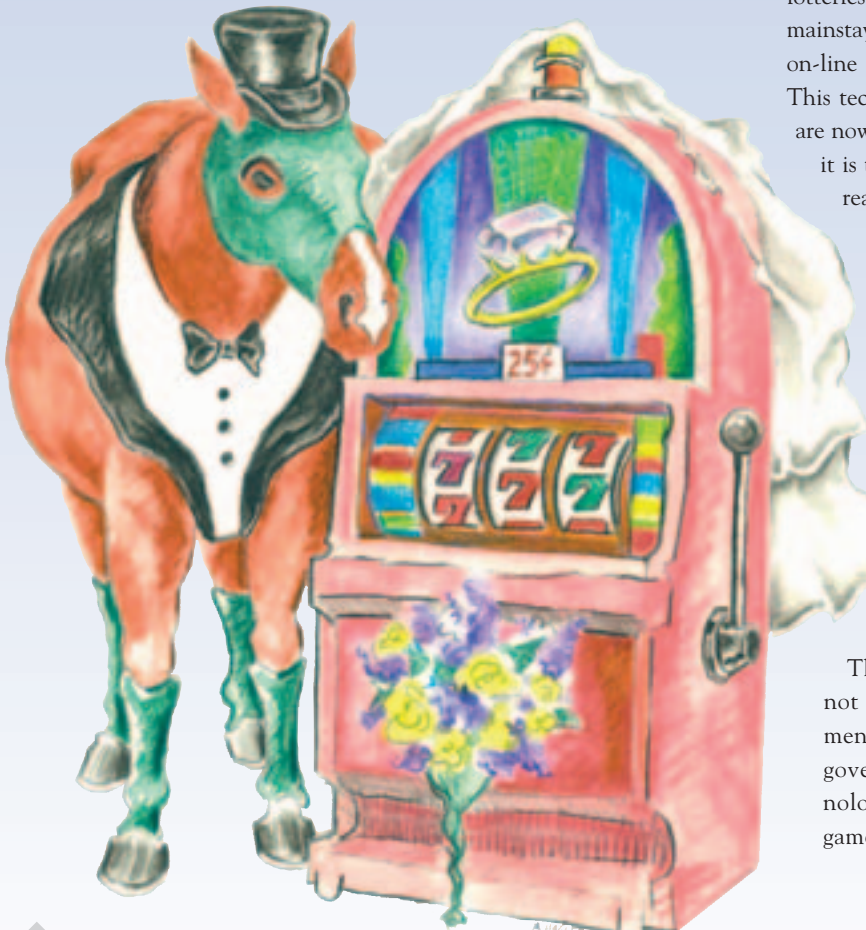
The net revenue impact for lotteries and their jurisdictions can be dramatic, increasing monies available for good causes by a factor of four, in some cases.

Those of us who have been associated with the industry for many years know that it is the adoption of proven, new products that can make the most dramatic differences in revenues for government jurisdictions. In 1974 that dramatic new game for lotteries was scratch-off tickets which were soon adopted by all North American lotteries and lotteries around the world. Today, scratch-off games are the revenue mainstay for most lotteries. A little later, the dramatic new game was on-line lotto and other games delivered via the on-line technology. This technology and associated games have also swept the world and are now the foundation of the revenue success of many lotteries. Now it is the electronic games that can cause lottery sales and profits to reach previously unimagined new heights.

For the past 30+ years, Public Gaming Research Institute has been at the forefront of promoting products and innovations that can help the lotteries be most successful and has used its publications, Public Gaming International magazine, PGRI's MORNING REPORT and its conferences, SMART-Tech, International Lottery Expo and the ILAC Congress for this purpose.

Now it will be electronic-video lottery gaming, racinos, monitor games, electronic pull-tabs, electronic dispensing of games, electronic play stations, electronic drawings, wireless gaming and Internet gaming (and marketing) that will be getting special emphasis in PGRI publications and conferences.

There is no longer a valid excuse for government jurisdictions not to have the incredible revenue, technological and management benefits of electronic gaming. PGRI will help educate government and industry executives everywhere on this technology and will actively promote the rapid adoption of these games and technologies around the world. ♣

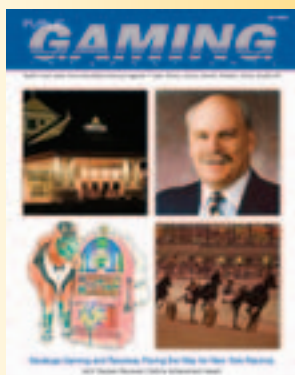


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