

GATHERING ON THE GARDEN ISLE:

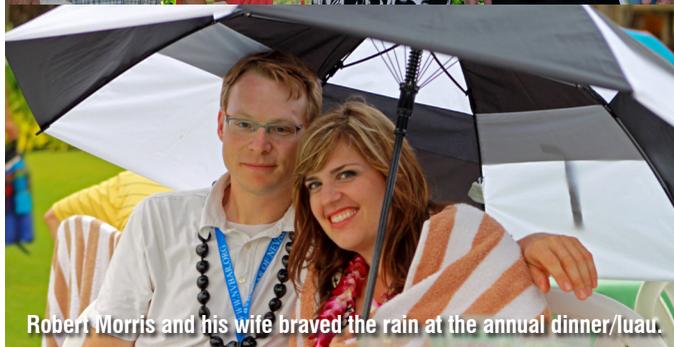
The 2011 State Bar of Nevada Annual Meeting

BY JENNI SMITH, STAFF WRITER
PHOTOS BY BEAU STERLING, ESQ.

Breathtaking island views, ocean breezes and colorful gardens formed the perfect backdrop for the 2011 State Bar of Nevada Annual Meeting, which took place from June 23-25 at the Grand Hyatt resort on the island of Kaua'i, in Hawaii. More than 250 bar members attended this year's legal education extravaganza, many bringing their families along to enjoy the fabulous island setting.



Paola Armeni displays the award for Young Lawyer Volunteer of the Year. She is joined by Cam Ferenbach, Justice Saitta and Justice Gibbons.



Robert Morris and his wife braved the rain at the annual dinner/luau.



State bar executive director Kimberly Farmer, bar staff Gale Skala and Christina Alberts, and bar member Jeremy Alberts competed in the golf outing.

On Thursday morning, the meeting kicked off with a fascinating general session featuring Professor Eric Yamamoto from the University of Hawaii's law school. His presentation, "National and Civil Liberties: The Backstory of *Korematsu v. U.S.*," offered insights regarding the decision to order Japanese Americans into internment camps during World War II. In addition to the historic perspective of the case, Prof. Yamamoto also discussed the current state of intersection between national security and civil liberties in the present day.

Thursday afternoon featured a golf outing at the famous Poipu Bay Golf Course. The golf outing was the first of many social and networking events held at the Annual Meeting, and 28 players – seven four-person teams – braved afternoon rainshowers to compete against fellow bar members in the lovely oceanfront setting.

In addition, the newly elected members of the state bar's Board of Governors were sworn in during Thursday's reception by Justice Saitta of the Nevada Supreme Court. The 2011-2012 board officers were also sworn in, marking the beginning of the bar's new leadership term. A complete list of board members is available at www.nvbar.org.

Friday's events kicked off early, with a sunrise hike along the scenic Maha'ulepu Trail in honor of incoming President, Connie Akridge. Nearly 50 hikers rose early to enjoy the sunrise as well as a four-mile hike along beaches, ocean cliffs and cane fields.

After returning to the hotel, the day's informational events began with remarks from former president Cam Ferenbach, who recognized the first annual recipients of the State Bar of Nevada volunteer recognition awards. This year's winners included:



Hikers enjoy scenery along the Maha'ulepo Trail



Justice Saitta conducts the swearing-in for the state bar Board of Governors.

- **Presidential Award: Margo Piscevich**, one of the first women to practice law in northern Nevada, and past president of the state bar
- **Jeff Rodefer, Volunteer of the Year:** Founder of the state bar's Gaming Law section and annual coordinator of the Gaming Law Conference
- **Young Lawyer of the Year: Paola Armeni**, co-founder of the Young Lawyers Section Trial Academy and tireless volunteer
- **Special Honorees: Ben Graham and Coe Swobe**, coordinators for the Lawyers Concerned for Lawyers support program

The award presentations were followed by a panel presentation featuring Nevada Supreme Court Justices Hardesty, Gibbons and Saitta. The justices offered a "state of the court" style address, providing information on the court's current initiatives and progress, including updates on legislative cases, the Foreclosure Mediation Program and the settlement program.

Friday evening, more than 300 bar members and guests gathered in the hotel's outdoor gardens for an unforgettable banquet, featuring local Hawaiian delicacies and entertainment. Shortly after the banquet started, rainshowers threatened to cut the night short, but members, supplied with umbrellas from the hotel, cheerfully braved the rain to enjoy hula and fire dancers accompanied by local Hawaiian

musicians. Thankfully, the rain ended quickly, allowing members to continue to enjoy the remainder of the beautiful evening.

On Saturday, educational sessions continued, including an informative and fascinating session by Judge Jay Bybee, from the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, who reviewed recent Supreme Court cases. Bar Counsel David Clark also offered a one-hour ethics program, exploring unusual scenarios and discussing whether or not these situations resulted in a violation of ethics rules. ■

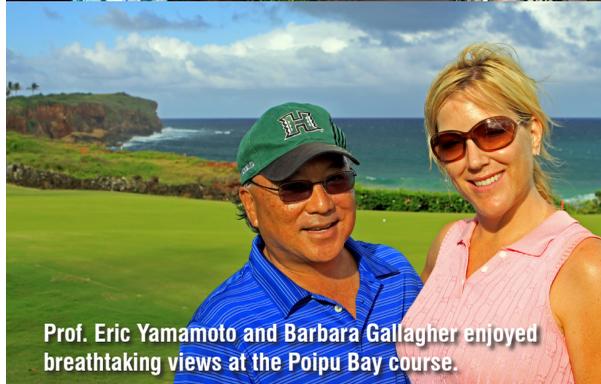
NEXT YEAR: Hotel Del Coronado June 28-30

The 2012 Annual Meeting will take place June 28 through 30 at the historic Hotel Del Coronado, located on Coronado Island, just across the bay from San Diego, California. More than 120 years old, the hotel is both a historic landmark and one of the most beautiful luxury hotels in the area. Be sure to save the date so you don't miss your opportunity to combine a full year of CLE with professional networking opportunities and most importantly – fun!

For more event photos, visit www.nvbar.org.



Connie Akridge was sworn in as the new state bar president.



Prof. Eric Yamamoto and Barbara Gallagher enjoyed breathtaking views at the Poipu Bay course.



An event guest enjoys his afternoon off at the Hyatt's pool.



Raffle winner Linda Lewis proudly displays her prize certificate.



Past president Rew Goodenow with his family.