

Woodstove Operation and Maintenance in Indian Country Bios



Tony Ward is a Professor and Chair of the School of Public and Community Health Sciences at the University of Montana. In addition to teaching environmental health classes, his research involves working with schools and rural communities on air pollution (forest fires and wood stoves) and respiratory / cardiovascular health issues.



Perry H. Charley, Executive Director/Sr. Scientist, Diné College – Shiprock Campus, Diné Environmental Institute Research & Outreach- has over 40 years of experiences in education, research (environmental, public health & psycho-social impacts), environmental/ecological risk assessments, reclamation-remedial and legislative activities on impacts resulting from past nuclear industries on Navajo lands. In his capacity as Principal Investigator of numerous research projects, uranium impacts, oil and gas industries, antiquated coal fired power plants, San Juan River impacts, etc., he applies Traditional

Ecological Knowledge employing traditional values, concepts and their application to Western educational curriculum and research strategies. He serves as a Native Cultural Advisor in numerous environmental and public health studies. He has served on several USEPA and USDOE Advisory Committees.

He has been instrumental in development of scientific/medical/geological/genetics terminologies into Diné glossaries. A critical component of risk assessments, cleanup of contaminated lands and academic requirement is the development of Diné glossary of technical terminologies used by Navajo Translators and Interpreters in risk communication strategies to the affected communities, scientists, researchers, students and clinical practitioners.

He has 25 years experiences in community organizing within the Navajo Indian Reservation working with Stakeholders and partners to advance social, environmental and economic justice, promoting community sustainability and transformation, effective community leadership, and developing and creating positive changes in communities through grassroots campaigns and Diné –focused internship and career development programs.

In 2001, he founded the Diné Environmental Institute Research & Outreach at Dine' College which focuses on training and mentoring STEM students using CERCLA, Brownfields and other hazardous waste cleanup strategies on the Navajo Nation as case studies incorporating technical, regulatory, and community outreach activities, performing environmental and ecological risk assessments and incorporating Traditional Ecological Knowledge all phases of these duties. From 2002 to 2008, Dr. Charley served on the National Academy of Science's Committee on Improving Practices for Regulating and Managing Low-Activity Radioactive Wastes.

Since 2008, he has served as a Distinguished Fellow with the Quality Education for Minorities-Leadership Development Institute, Tribal Colleges and Universities Programs. Currently he serves as a Commissioner with the Diné Uranium Remediation Advisory Commission in

addressing the legacy of uranium mining and milling era of the 1940s to 1970s under the Manhattan Engineering District and the Atomic Energy Commission. He also serves on the Navajo Nation Genetics Policy Development Council in efforts to lift a moratorium on human genetics research on Navajo. Professionally and academically, he refers to himself as a simple Diné Shepherd and Rancher with a little more education.



Rick Vlahos is the Executive Director of the Hearth, Patio & Barbecue Education Foundation and the National Fireplace Institute. In that role he coordinates the education programs and manuals they provide, over-see the National Fireplace Institute Certification program, provides regional training classes and classes over the Internet.

Rick joined the hearth industry in 1983. Prior to joining HPBEF in 2006, Rick was an independent sales representative for 18 years before accepting the position of Education Coordinator for HearthStone Quality Home Heating Products. Rick is a “Master

Hearth Professional” since he holds all three National Fireplace Institute® certifications, NFI Gas Certified Specialist, NFI Pellet Certified Specialist and NFI Woodburning Certified Specialist. Rick lives in Gainesboro, Tennessee and has been married for 46 years. He has two grown children and seven grandchildren.



Roy Lee Hosteen, Red Feather Development Group (Non-Profit Group) grew up working in his family’s home construction business through his teenage years. After attending college, he went on to have a 33-year career in the mining industry working across multiple disciplines including graphite draftsman, statistician, surveyor, computer analyst, site project representative, budget coordinator, and project manager. Since retirement, Roy has taught himself lapidary and silversmith arts. Currently employed as Four Corners Project Coordinator for Red Feather and helping with the Stove Exchange and Home

Weatherization Program in the Four Corners area. He is fluent in Navajo and English. He has a passion for hearing stories of his elders and enjoying their laughter when humor is exchanged in Navajo.



Johna Boulafentis started her career in Air Quality as an ITEP Summer Intern with the Nez Perce Tribe ERWM Air Quality Program in 2004. She provides air quality, environmental, and environmental-health outreach and education to tribal and non-tribal youth and adults on the Nez Perce Reservation. She conducts indoor environment and health research through partnerships with agencies and universities. Duties include site management of wood stove and health studies, compliance assistance and field duties with FARR outdoor burning rules, and indoor air quality and science education. She enjoys helping people make the connection between the air and their bodies

including witnessing a child's excitement when seeing a set of pig lungs or a parent making green cleaners for their family.



Eugenia Quintana is currently the Environmental Department Manager, Air & Toxics Department, Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency. The Air & Toxics Department is comprised of the Air Quality Control Program, Operating Permit Program, Pesticide Program, Radon Program. Her alma mater is the University of New Mexico. Eugenia also serves as the Principal Investigator for the Navajo Nation's IAQ Study "*Residential Interventions Improving Health in Native American Communities*", a project led and funded by the University of Montana.



Glenna Lee is the Environmental Program Supervisor for the Air Quality Control Program/Operating Permit Program, Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency (NNEPA). She has been with NNEPA for 16 years. She has experience working in the Pesticide Program, Underground Storage Tank Program, Radon Program and Air Quality. She enjoys reading and running.