

# CAWS Convention 2011 NEWSLETTER

## THE THEME FOR 2011 IS "WE"!!!

**SAVE THE  
DATE!!!**

**MAY 26-30,  
2011**

**CONVENTION  
ROOM RATES ARE  
\$125.00**

**(no reservations  
prior to May 31,  
2010)**

**For more infor-  
mation contact:  
Hotel Liaison:**

**Burton C. at**

**[burtonc@burtonc.com](mailto:burtonc@burtonc.com)**



The 2011 CAWS Convention will be held at the Arizona Biltmore Resort. Set in the Heart of Phoenix, this luxury resort is a 39 acre oasis. It offers premier golf courses and award winning spa's. An iconic favorite of celebrities, U.S. Presidents, and the site of the still raved about 1990 World convention.



### The First 2011 "Funraiser" The WEtreat "Submitted by Steve W. & Terry M."

In support of the 2011 CA World Service Convention the "fun" raising committee came up with the idea of a retreat. Lynda F. said you mean a WEtreat, and so was born the spiritual co-ed retreat fundraiser. With the first word of The Twelve Steps being "We", our goal was to build on unity and help us to grow in "effectiveness and understanding" and deepen our spirituality. Our challenge was to raise money for CA and uphold our responsibil-

ity to the 5th and 1st Traditions, of our primary purpose, to carry the message and our common welfare. The cost for the 3 day Wetreat, was \$150.00. How do we honor our primary purpose at a cost of \$150? So was conceived the Scholarship program. Any CA member, regardless of sober time and/or pocketbook was able to attend because of the scholarship fund. A spiritual fundraising event oxymoron right? We think not! 46 people attended on

a full or partial scholarship that would not have had the opportunity otherwise. Only the Registration team knew who was at the Wetreat on a scholarship and who was not.

The WEtreat was an invitation to step beyond the facade of life. To take a rest from the never ending demands made on our lives. A chance to enliven our spirits and tap into the Power. The WEtreat was not an attempt to escape the "real world" but an action to

## WEtreat Cont.

more fully enter into the spiritual life to be applied in our daily lives.

It was amazing to watch God work in so many people's lives over the course of three days. The WEtreat was lead by all recovering addicts. The three sessions were focused on the CA motto "Hope, Faith, and Courage", lead by Father Mike H. from Pennsylvania and Dr. Arisah M. from California. What a combo of spirit and fortitude. The insights these two brought with them were so profound you could feel the power flow in! Friday night we had a dual speaker meeting with Evan A., our 2011 CAWSC Chair and Lynda F. 2011 Volunteer Coordinator. They both carried powerful messages of recovery and the love they found in Cocaine Anonymous. During the sharing a bat flew right into our meeting pavilion and circled over the heads of our retreat friends. Dr. Arisah didn't even scream nor did the chairperson, Katie H. when the bat flew directly over her head and around her. We knew then we were really in the forest. We ended Friday night with a bonfire and fellowshiping. After the two Saturday sessions on Faith and Courage we came together again that evening to hear Dr. Arisah M. deliver a stirring and powerful share, which was followed by a candlelight guided healing meditation in the open air pavilion led by Arizona's own Father John B. The candle lights were flickering in harmony with the twinkling of the stars as Father John, accompanied by moving music guided us through the pains and regrets of our lives, through the injury we have felt and caused. We were guided into the grace and healing of the 12 steps and loving arms of our Creator.

What a powerful experience 124 people in group meditation

is. The evening came to an end with an ice cream social and smores around the campfire. People visited, sang and played guitars as the feeling of "WE" overcame us all.

On Sunday morning we had a God as I understand God group participation meeting. Led by Father John B. who reminded us that even though we may struggle with our belief in our Higher Power, God always believes in us. As he was sharing a beautiful pair of hawks slowly flew right across our field of vision. What a miraculous finish to an already magnificent weekend.

At the WEtreat new relationships were forged and many people entered into a deeper relationship with their Higher Power and we all hoped to be able to bring that loving spirit back into our homes and daily lives. Our "fun" raising committee has the belief that if we put on events that bring us closer together as members of Cocaine Anonymous the money will take care of itself. The WEtreat raised \$7110.07 for CA World Service. Imagine if every Area in CA had an event like this, what it would do for the growth and strength of our fellowship and how it would support the efforts to carry the message around the globe.

The WEtreat was an awe inspiring experience and we think Bill W. summed it up when he wrote "To watch people recover, to see them help others, to watch loneliness vanish, to see a fellowship grow up about you, to have a host of friend...this is an experience you must not miss."

"BB p. 89, Working With Others."

Love and Unity,

Steve W., Terry M. and the rest of the 2011 CAWSC

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO  
BE OF SERVICE?  
CONTACT: VOLUNTEER  
COORD. LYNDA F.  
(480) 491-0203**

### LOOK FORWARD TO THESE UPCOMING "FUNRAISING" EVENTS"

- CA SUMMER CAMP OUT June 4-6, 2010 Sharps Creek - Payson, AZ
- Re "WE "treat October 1-3, 2010 Prescott, AZ

For more info: contact Terry M. 602-697-9510 or mred007@aol.com

## 1990 CAWS Convention, Memories from the Chair

“submitted by Evan A.”

In 1990 I walked into my first CA convention. It happened to be the 1990 CA World Service Convention being held at the Biltmore Resort in Phoenix, Arizona. I had 54 days sober. I went to the convention at the urging of my sponsor. I knew very few people and felt uncomfortable walking through the lobby of the resort by myself not knowing what to expect or who I might meet. I had very little money, but I registered for as many events as I could, including the banquet dinner.

For the next five days I spent every waking moment at that convention, meeting addicts from town and from all over the United States. I went to meetings, workshops, the hospitality room, more meetings, and slowly started to feel comfortable with these people who, like me, called themselves addicts. By the night of the banquet I was immersed in the spirit of CA recovery. I sat at a table with some wonderful people from New York who made me feel like the most important person in the room. I enjoyed food, fellowship, a wonderful speaker and live band. But the things that affected me most on that night were the sobriety countdown and the closing prayer.

When the countdown went down to those with 30, 20, 10 days, the excitement in the room took my breath away. When the person with the least amount of sobriety, a young, teary-eyed girl with only 24 hours of sobriety took the podium, 600 hundred or more people kept clapping and chanting “keep coming back”. I too was clapping and chanting for that young girl, but at the moment I felt like she was me. By cheering for her, they were cheering for me - to get sober, to stay sober, and to find a better life filled with hope, faith and courage. Later that night, when all 600 of us stood in a huge circle and said the Lord’s Prayer together, I felt the spirit of the universe coursing through the room and through me. I knew then and there that I had found home. I’ve been a part of CA ever since.

In 2000 I had the pleasure of working on the steering committee for the 2000 World Service Convention with my sponsor who chaired the convention that year. And what a convention it was. During the sobriety countdown, the young girl who had 24 hours in 1990 was now a woman and still sober. She gave the *Big Book* to another teary-eyed young woman who had less than 24 hours sober. That newcomer was ushered from an event tent in the middle of the resort that was set up to accommodate the overflow of 500 CA members and H & I newcomers who couldn’t fit into the ballroom, but who all got to experience the event via remote projection. All told, 1600 addicts experienced the spirit of CA that night including a small group of bright-eyed addicts from England who took the spirit from that convention and transported it across the Atlantic to the United Kingdom and then the rest of Europe where CA is now thriving. The UK will host the World Service Convention in 2012, the first such convention to be held outside the United States. And that is how this thing works.

It is my honor to now serve as the chair of the 2011 World Service Convention to be held at the Biltmore Resort in Phoenix, Arizona, May 26-30<sup>th</sup>. I’ll see you in Milwaukee and I hope you can join us in the fellowship of the spirit in Phoenix in 2011.

Evan A.

2011 Convention Chair

**IN NEED OF AUCTION ITEMS:  
PLEASE CONTACT**

**SCOTT B.**

**602-315-6197**

**OR**

**BSCOTT99@EARTHLINK.COM**

**In the spirit of Tradition 6: We are not allied with any sect, denomination, politics, organization or institution.**

## COMMITTEE CONTACT INFORMATION

**CHAIR:** EVAN A. [evanland@aol.com](mailto:evanland@aol.com) 602-481-8686

**VICE CHAIR:** JAY P. [jparker@legacyair.com](mailto:jparker@legacyair.com) 602-721-2890

**PROGRAM:** STEVE A. [samelotte@cox.net](mailto:samelotte@cox.net) 480-755-0688

**TREASURER:** JENA C. [jenacarpenter@cox.net](mailto:jenacarpenter@cox.net) 520-838-1427

**SECRETARY:** STEPHANIE P. [sparker@legacyair.com](mailto:sparker@legacyair.com)

**HOTEL LIAISON:** BURTON C. [burtonc@burtonc.com](mailto:burtonc@burtonc.com)

**SW REGIONAL TRUSTEE:** RANDY G. [swrtrustee@yahoo.com](mailto:swrtrustee@yahoo.com)

**FUNDRAISING:** TERRY M. [mred007@aol.com](mailto:mred007@aol.com)

**OUTREACH:** ALAN W. [bulls6pak@cox.net](mailto:bulls6pak@cox.net)

**VOLUNTEER COORD:** LYNDA F. 480-491-0203

**MEMORABILIA:** JASON S. [trudger@cox.net](mailto:trudger@cox.net)

**ENTERTAINMENT:** CHUCK M. [cmandich@q.com](mailto:cmandich@q.com)

**SPEAKERS:** GINGER L. [caservicejunkie@yahoo.com](mailto:caservicejunkie@yahoo.com)

**TRANSPORTATION:** ALAN G. [agram@cox.net](mailto:agram@cox.net)

**SPECIAL NEEDS:** JAMES C. [jcrecelius@hotmail.com](mailto:jcrecelius@hotmail.com)

**REGISTRATION:** ROBIN S. [rsmith6440@aol.com](mailto:rsmith6440@aol.com)

**AUCTION / DRAWING:** SCOTT B. [bscott99@earthlink.net](mailto:bscott99@earthlink.net)

### 2010 CONVENTION IS ALMOST HERE...It's an experience not to be missed...

Imagine being in the mix of hundreds if not up to a thousand recovering addicts fellowshiping and having fun in recovery for a five day weekend. It's an experience not to be missed!

Those of you who consider yourselves World Convention Junkies know what fun it can be hanging out with old friends from around the globe while making new ones.

If you're new to recovery or never attended a C.A. World Convention you can have this spiritual experience too! Just join us in Milwaukee, Wisconsin in May 2010. The C.A.W.S. Convention Committee is busy planning the greatest party for all. So get busy planning your trip. We will see you soon in May 2010 as we Celebrate Recovery in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

2010 CAWS Convention Committee



HAVE YOU REGISTERED YET?

Online registration is easy: go to [www.ca.org](http://www.ca.org)

Early registration deadline is: March 15, 2010

### FUN AND EXCITING EVENTS TO LOOK FORWARD TO IN 2011

- CA special "WE"lympics
- Golf Tournament
- Tour of breathtaking Sedona
- Trip to The Wet & Wild Waterpark
- Hiking, Biking and a Fun Run

### CAN'T MAKE IT TO 2010 CAWSC IN MILWAUKEE?

Be a part of the 2010 CAWS Convention without leaving Phoenix. The "Passing the Torch" Closing Speaker meeting will be Live via Internet Feed between Phoenix and Milwaukee.

May 30, 2010. 3 p.m. 2121 S. Rural. Our lady of Mount Carmel Church. Dinner and Fellowship abound.

It's an event not to be missed!

