

W.A.S 2002 Annual Conference

August 12th to 15th, 2002

Tahoe Biltmore Hotel / Casino

#5 Highway 28, Crystal Bay (North Shore), NV

1-800-245-8667

1-775-831-0660

The Biltmore offers: 1950's decor,
complimentary (3 egg +) breakfast,
meetings room on first floor, casino downstairs,
heated swimming pool and warmer (Helen-tested) spa,
parking (no hook-ups) for *inhabited* RV's,
free evening hors d'oeuvres (5-7 pm) at upstairs bar,
a free margarita (4-7 pm) for the ladies at Pub and Grill,
30 microbrews on tap (Pub and Grill), and
free (no "cover") evening live entertainment (mo-town).

Rooms – Prices vary with size and location – taxes are included in this list

Motor Lodges – “Out back” – requires climbing stairs and hills

Single queen bed \$69.84 (base \$59)

Two queen beds \$81.04 (base \$69)

Hotel Rooms – Elevators to all floors, including meeting and casino

Single queen bed \$92.24 (base \$79)

Single king bed \$103.44 (base \$89)

Two full beds \$103.44 (base \$89)

Two queen beds \$114.64 (base \$99)

Junior Suite \$137.04 (base \$119)

King Suite (with walk-out balcony) \$159.44 (base \$139)

ROOM RESERVATIONS

A “block” of 55 rooms has been contracted. The rooms being “held” are of various *more economical* types. Although the “cut off” for reserving one of those 55 rooms is July 12th, 2002, if you really want your choice, you should “book” your room right now. You must use the "Group Number" or they will claim they don't know what meeting you are talking about. The number is **0812WAS**. They will take a credit card number, but you won't be billed until you stay. You can cancel your reservation up to three days in advance of the meeting (and they definitely will fill every room that we do not use). If your choice of room type is used up from the block, plead with them for a similar room, at a similar price and see what happens. You might have to pay 2002 prices (quoted prices are 2001 prices, extended to next year for our conference). There will be nothing available to you after July 12th, unless you are *really lucky* (then you should be playing the games, not talking on the phone!).

Although the details have not been ironed out, we will be having a catered BBQ off the premises (hopefully at Sand Harbor Nevada State Park, on the east shore). This is a highly used, very large beach that has some stone-free sand in the water near the ramada. We hope to rent the ramada and its private parking for the day, so that we have something under which to eat. Parking will still cost an additional \$6 per vehicle, so carpooling would be a great idea. You might want to bring your swimming suit and try the cool, exceedingly clear water.

We have contacted the UC Davis Tahoe Research Group. They agreed to have visitors at their lab, show an informative video and take a quick trip on their research vessel in conjunction with our conference. The John LeConte is the vessel on which Bill and Al (that's right - former Pres. and Vice-pres.) took a little cookie trip (The Tahoe Summit), not so long ago. The vessel only holds about 20 passengers, so we may have to go in shifts if interest demands.

TRANSPORTATION

There is a South Lake Tahoe airport, but if you are going to fly, it is more reasonable to land in Reno and travel by road (35 miles – 45 minutes) to Crystal Bay. You can rent a car in Reno, or make reservations to travel from the airport on the *No Stress Express*. Their vehicles run on a set schedule and reservations are required. To reserve a \$40 (one way) trip, call 1-800-426-5644. If a bunch of you is arriving at about the same time, cab fare is around \$75-80, but split many ways, it would be cheaper per person.

Amtrak stops in Reno.

AREA ATTRACTIONS

North Lake Tahoe is not the thriving metropolis found at the other end of the lake. It is very scenic and more peaceful. There are Factory Outlets on I-80 at the Donner Road Exit, which is one exit toward Sacramento from the town of Truckee. There are a number of shops and eateries around, with some real good ones in Tahoe City. Tahoe City is on the California side, a few miles down the coast. Closer to the Biltmore, there are other Casinos: Nugget, Crystal Bay Club, Cal Neva (with famous state split Indian Room and wedding chapel), and at the Hyatt Regency, just down the road in the community of Incline Village.

If you are into golfing, swimming, biking, sail boating, parasailing, kayaking, peddle boating, lake trout fishing, hiking, and other energetic activities (remember the Lake is about 6,000 feet above sea level), this is the right place to be. If you prefer culture, there is a Shakespeare play each weekday evening at the Sand Harbor outdoor (sit on the sand dune) theater (18.3 miles southeast of the Biltmore). The Lake Tahoe Music Festival is held at various regional venues during that time each year. Each day, the Tahoe Gal leaves from and returns to Tahoe City on four different cruises that may include food and drink for a bit more money. A bit further away (about 45 minutes by car), there are the shows and larger casinos at either South Lake Tahoe or Reno. If you get bored, it is your own fault!

I hope that this bit of information provides the basic when and where information about next year's Conference. I'll be happy to try to answer any questions, if you wish to contact me:

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