

# MEDICAL MEETINGS

October 2009

## DESERT MEETINGS/FACILITIES UPDATE

ARIZONA Five years in the making, the newly expanded Phoenix Convention Center offers nearly 900,000 square feet of exhibition and meeting space encompassing 97 meeting rooms, three ballrooms, and a food court. On the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community near Phoenix, Talking Stick Resort & Spa will open in early 2010 with 497 rooms, 100,000 square feet of meeting and event space, a 13,000-square-foot spa, gaming, and multiple entertainment venues. The 732-room Westin Kierland Resort & Spa recently unveiled two new outdoor function spaces, adding a combined 8,000 square feet to the Scottsdale resort's existing 175,000 square feet of indoor and outdoor meeting and event space. The Ritz-Carlton. Paradise Valley is set to open in 2010 on 105 acres at the base of Phoenix's iconic Camelback Mountain, adding 225 more rooms to the Valley of the Sun. \*In Scottsdale, the historic 453-room **Camelback Inn, A JW Marriott Resort & Spa**, completed a \$50 million renovation in September 2008. New features include 20,000 square feet of meeting space with production-quality lighting and sound. The 128-room Omni Tucson National Resort in northwest Tucson has completed a \$30 million renovation. The resort offers 20,000 square feet of indoor and outdoor meeting and event space. Twenty miles northwest of Tucson, The Ritz-Carlton, Dove Mountain will offer 250 guest rooms, a 17,000-square-foot spa, three restaurants, five meeting rooms, and three ballrooms when completed in early 2010. The first 27 holes of two Jack Nicklaus Signature golf courses and a 45,000-square-foot club complex opened earlier this year. Nine more golf holes will open in 2010.