

The First Annual Southwestern Area Conference of Young People in Alcoholics Anonymous

We Are Not Saints

Facts, Aims, and Purposes

Why we're here

The idea for a Southwest Area Conference for Young People in Alcoholics Anonymous was originally conceived by regular attendees of annual YPAA Conferences between 2006 and 2010, a nearly five year stretch of time during which there was only one year with a regional Young People's Conference inside of a day's drive for residents of the Continental American Southwest. The simultaneous growth occurring in the population of YPAAs in states like Utah, Colorado, New Mexico, Nevada and Arizona led to the creation of the Four Corners Summit in 2010, an annual Campout aimed at promoting participation, enthusiasm, unity and excitement about Alcoholics Anonymous and sobriety for young people in the Southwest who didn't have another annual gathering in their immediate vicinity that they could attend or host. Many YPAAs within the region of the Four Corners Summit had made a regular habit of traveling to nearby states to attend their annual conferences, however found themselves frustrated by the fact they could never bring those Round-Ups to their area. There was a desire to participate in the kind of spiritual growth they heard was experienced by those involved in hosting large conferences.

During the three years after the Four Corners Summit was created, it became apparent to those involved that its attendees desired to keep that event small and intimate. The idea for creating an additional, larger conference for the Southwest region was born. After the unanimous blessing of the WACYPAA Advisory Council, YPAAs from Utah, Colorado, Arizona and Nevada planned an informal gathering at the 2013 WACYPAA in Tucson, AZ, where an Advisory Council to lead the idea from concept to actualization was formed. From there the work to make SWACYPAA a reality began as the elected Advisory Council began to hold monthly video conference calls.

The Southwest Area Conference for Young People in Alcoholics Anonymous has been established as an annual gathering to promote participation, unity, and enthusiasm about recovery among young AAs in the region. All across the Southwest there are young people achieving long-term, lasting recovery from alcoholism, but until now there has been no consistent vehicle for newcomers to be introduced to this reality. To fill this void, SWACYPAA has been designed to enable smaller, sometimes less populated cities with growing YPAA communities to experience attending, bidding, and hosting a local area conference.

We are not Saints

Say it ain't so

Sainthood is supposed to be about a life of virtue, miracles and a devotion to the needs of others. That has not historically been our pattern.

Most of us come from a pattern of abusive behavior, wreckage and a drive to extract from life all that we are owed. The needs of others are irrelevant unless they somehow effect our primary purpose: ourselves.

In recovery things take a turn. Each of the 12 steps comes with promises and principles, things like the ability to see the world as it is and the true effect of our actions. Humility, absent humiliation, is the most powerful and lasting spiritual experience we share. From it all of our efforts grow as we strive to be something greater than ourselves.

Ultimately we don't know why we no longer want to drink, use drugs, use people, use food. We simply find that we do not. We work every day to try and keep it that way. But our lives are complicated, and sometimes shame is unavoidable. Many who relapse consider themselves to be failures but **this is not true.**

We are not saints, but in persuit of this ideal we are reminded that our imperfections are what drive us towards progress in the first place. We are not saints because we are not done, and knowing this is the most prescious gift of recovery.

Main Meetings

Thursday Because you're here early, but really on time
8 PM - 10 PM

Chair

Brian S.

Main Speaker

Kathy McC. Salt Lake City, UT

Friday Literally the best way to start the weekend
6 PM - 9 PM

Chair

Sarah S.

Roll Call

Opening Speaker

Todd E. Salt Lake City, UT

Main Speaker

Steve B. Oakland, CA

Saturday Get crazy with sobriety time

6 PM - 9 PM

Chair

Jonathan H.

Sobriety Countdown

**Wade G.
Terrell N.**

Opening Speaker

Mary Jo Salt Lake City, UT

Main Speaker

Jack G. Huntington Beach, CA

Advisory Announcements

Liz C. San Francisco, CA

Sunday For the truly sober

10 AM - 12 PM

Main Speaker

PJ Salt Lake City, UT

Panels

Get your learn on

Saturday

Shame Never good enough / Who do you think you are?

10 AM

Bryce

Grace P. from Arizona SWACYPAA Bid

Joy D. from Orem, UT

Bill G. from Salt Lake City, UT

Athiests Who is this God person anyhow?

10 AM

Arches

Andrew T. from Arizona SWACYPAA Bid

Nate B. from Provo, UT

Jarred B. from Salt Lake City, UT

Cults and Nests Advice from people who think they're doctors

11:30 AM

Arches

Ian C. from Arizona SWACYPAA Bid

Ben H. from Salt Lake City, UT

Lynn H. from Salt Lake City, UT

Identity Crisis Alcoholic/Addict: That'll be \$2

11:30 AM

Bryce

Casey C. from Arizona SWACYPAA Bid

Tait N. from WACYPAA 18 in Hawaii

Sean H. from Salt Lake City, UT

A Doctor's Opinion

1 PM

Arches

Dr. Alexandre Laudet, NDRI

Outside Issues Sex, Cigarettes and Energy Drinks

2:30 PM

Arches

Vanndon M. from Arizona SWACYPAA Bid

Nick W. from Salt Lake City, UT

Derrick F. from Salt Lake City, UT

Only Had a Legal Drink Never had to ask someone's older brother for help

2:30 PM

Bryce

Robert O. from Arizona SWACYPAA Bid

Wade G. from Salt Lake City, UT

Luke S. from ASCYPAA

Marathon Meetings

Sure there's a meeting at 4am

Marathon meetings are every hour starting after the Friday main meeting. They pause during Saturday and Sunday's main meetings. They will be held in the room and topics will be chosen at random.

The meetings listed here have pre-selected topics and speakers, like panels, but are open to sharing afterwards.

Saturday

Jessica G. from Salt Lake City, UT
Alex D. from Arizona SWACYPA Bid
Dave B. from Salt Lake City, UT

Mike C. from Arizona SWACYPA Bid
James S. from Salt Lake City, UT
Tyson M. from Salt Lake City, UT

Angel R. from Arizona SWACYPA Bid
Ben W. from Orem, UT
Jerrica P. from Arizona SWACYPA Bid

Sunday

Gibson G. from Salt Lake City, UT
Ryan W. from St. George, UT
Alaha S. from Salt Lake City, UT

Activities

Party time. Excellent.

Friday

Fit to Recover Get swoll

12 PM

Yoga Get bent

2 PM

Dance Shake your groove thang

10 PM - 1 AM

Treppenwitz

Salt Lake City, UT

Scaryoke Karaoke, in drag

10 PM - 1 AM

Saturday

Bidding Early bird gets the conference

8 AM - 10 AM

Hike Follow the leader

Departs at 8:30 AM

Sacred Fire Light one up for god

10 PM

Dance Drop it like its hot

10 PM - 1 AM

ZIONZ

St. George, UT

Casino Night Make the money, don't let the money make you

10 PM - 1 AM

Hospitality

Maybe twister,
if you feel like it why not?

Merch and Snacks

Swag Swag Swag
Swag Swag

Registration

Who are you and why are you here?

Thursday

5 PM - 10 PM

Friday

12 PM - Midnight

Saturday

Midnight - Midnight

Sunday

Mightnight - 10 PM

Thursday

5 PM - 10 PM

Friday

Noon - Midnight

Saturday

Midnight - 2 AM

8 AM - Midnight

Sunday

Midnight - 2 AM

8 AM - Noon

Thursday

5 PM - 7 PM

Friday

Noon - 6 PM

9 PM - 11 PM

Saturday

8 AM - 6 PM

9 PM: Pre-register for SWACYPAA 2!

Sunday

Pre-register for SWACYPAA 2!

Where's it going?

You, too, can have the strenuous pleasure of hosting

Bid Requirements

1. The Conference will be held during the months of May, June, July, or August
2. Each bidding committee must have at least three AA members who have been continuously sober for a minimum of one year. Include a roster of bid committee members in your packet that also contains contact information and sobriety dates.
3. The Bidding Committee must have commitments from at least two (2) meeting facilities (usually hotels) so sized as to be able to accommodate the entire Conference, including dates showing availability of event space and speaking rooms in the facilities. Beverage, event space, lodging prices, sliding scale, audio/visual costs, security, room blocks, parking fees, and all other costs related to the facility, both to the Committee and to the attendee, are to be included in the bid and should be considered when choosing potential sites. If awarded the conference, the host committee agrees to have a signed contract within 45 days
4. The bid committee is to provide a permanent mailing address for the Conference in the form of a Post Office Box, and if available provide an email address
5. Demonstrate how the bid committee has been involved with General Service by providing two statements of support, one from the local AA Intergroup or regional equivalent and one from the Area Assembly and/or District.
6. The bid committee will be required to demonstrate its financial capabilities within the Traditions of AA as a whole by being directly involved in activities from which revenues are generated and providing Advisory Council with their committee's cash flow statements and a balance sheet
7. The bid committee will provide a list of all large scale AA events in their area within a thirty day period before and a thirty day period after the proposed Conference date in an effort to demonstrate due diligence and avoid conflicting with other events.
8. The new Host City must agree that all proceeds, after expenses and donations to local service structures, are to be turned over to the SWACYPA Advisory Council for distribution. The Host City is permitted to donate up to 25% of the proceeds to their local service structure after their original committee's prudent reserve has been replenished.
9. Bid committee agrees to complete elections for SWACYPA Host Committee within 2 months of being awarded the conference.
10. Bidding committees are to provide enough complete copies of their bids to the Advisory Council for each individual to have their own copy by 3:00 PM the Friday of the Conference, but no bids will be rejected.
11. The bid committee must provide a concise statement illustrating the need and/or reason, as they understand it, for the Conference in their area.
12. Each committee will be given a maximum limit of 20 minutes, including the

question and answer period, for the presentation of the Bid Requirements.

13. Include a temporary pre-registration flyer in bid packet

Additional Suggestions

- Suggested that PDF version of the bid packet, including hotel contracts, be emailed to all Advisory members 2 weeks prior to the conference
- Produce a copy of the committee's proposed host committee guidelines and/or structure
- Present a detailed proposed conference budget, including line-item expense and income projections
- Include a tentative outline of the conference program including main speaker meetings, marathon meetings, and panel meetings as well as conference entertainment and events.
- Provide at least two quotes for audio-visual equipment and services that coincide with the committee's tentative conference program, budget, and dates at each facility. A/V bids must include line-item costs of equipment, labor, and transportation, as well as needs from the hotel and host committee (insurance, parking, lodging, etc.)
- Supply written acknowledgement that the prospective bidder has read, understands, and agrees to comply with the requirements as written in the Host Committee Responsibilities

The Host Committee

The brave, the few, the (former) drunks

Position	Lucky Person
Chair	Jonathan H.
Co-Chair	Sarah S
Treasurer	David S.
Co-Treasurer	Brian S.
Secretary	Nick W.
Structures and Bylaws	Tony C.
Outreach	Aaron E.
Inreach	AJ S.
Programs	Ben H.
Co-Programs	Jake F.
Facilities	David S.
Registration	Necia C.
Co-Registration	Valerie G.
Hospitality	Shayna Z.
Theme and Logo	Brian S.
Security	Jason R.
Conference Entertainment	Wade G.
Co-Conference Entertainment	Todd M.
Events and Fundraising	Robert B.
Co-Events and Fundraising	Dustin R.
Tickets and Raffles	Necia C.
Merchandise	Brian S.
A/V	Gibson G.
Volunteer Coordinator	Dan F.

Co-Volunteer Coordinator

Kade C.

Website

Gibson G.

Treatment Liason

Nicholas T.

General Service Liason

Owen G.

GLBT and Native American Liason

Jeremy A.

ASL Liason

Shayna Z.

The Voice

Gibson G.

**Special thanks to HVYPAA (<http://www.hvypaa.org>) for all their help along the way
And last but not least, SWACYPAA Advisory, without which none of this would be possible**

