



Casa Meetings

Meetings & Conferences Newsletter

Winter Edition, 2016

And the award goes to...



© www.PeterJordanPhoto.com
Scottsdale Event Photographer

The Casa is being recognized in big ways around the Greater Phoenix Area — thanks, in part, to the hundreds of nonprofit organizations who choose to hold their meetings, conferences and special events here each year. We are grateful for these honors which will allow more people to know that we are here to welcome all with Franciscan hospitality.

2015 Sterling Award

On November 20, the Scottsdale Chamber of Commerce chose the Casa as its 2015 Non-Profit Sterling Award Winner for our “outstanding contributions to the social, cultural and educational well-being of the community.

KPNX-TV 12 Who Care Award

Our Outreach to Veterans and Military Families Ministry is being honored this month with the KPNX-TV 12 **Who Care** Award. A thirty-second commercial and a two-minute segment featuring the ministry will air throughout January on Channel 12.

Frontdoors Magazine profiles the Casa

The December issue of Frontdoors Magazine features a two-page photo essay about the Casa’s longstanding presence in the Phoenix Valley and our plans for the future. This online publication “celebrates and perpetuates the legacy of philanthropy as well as community leadership.”

ASU Documentary

Members of our Care for Creation Ministry are featured in the ASU-produced documentary, “The Weaver,” which focuses on the relationship between religion and environmental sustainability.

As fellow nonprofit members, you are forward thinkers who need to be on top of your game to meet the challenges of your mission. We all share in society, and the more ways we can bring awareness to the message of inclusiveness and dignity for everyone, the stronger our community and the greater community become. Thank you for being a part of our mission and inviting us to be a part of yours.

Greetings from the Franciscan Renewal Center in Scottsdale, Arizona!

An increasing number of meeting and conference groups are turning to this oasis in the desert for clarity, focus and peace on our newly renovated 25 acres. Read on to discover what is happening at the place lovingly known as “the Casa.”

If you would like to schedule a meeting or conference site visit or inquire about availability, please call Sue Force at 480.355.5631 or email sue@thecasa.org

We would love to hear from you!

In this issue

Casa wins recognitions	1
Discover the Vision	2
Special Offer	2
Summer Rates	2
Groundbreaking	3
Social Media	4
About the Casa	4

casameetings.org

Summer Heat... Brings Cool rates.

This July and August, non-profit organizations can save cool cash with low rates at the Franciscan Renewal Center. The biggest discount of the year is available for work teams seeking a “staycation” away from the office or a desert sojourn in a sunny, new environment.

During July and August, rates for single-occupancy rooms are \$75 per night and double-occupancy rooms are \$50 per person, per night. Groups that reserve 10 or more lodging rooms also receive free meeting space. This offer is exclusively for non-profit organizations.

Make the Casa your own this summer and save, too. Call us today or visit us online at casameetings.org



*We are now booking
our new, 32 room
Assisi Guest Lodge!*

Ball is Rolling on New Community Life Center

The new Community Life Center (CLC) has found its future home on the west side of the Casa’s campus. Approved by the Governing Board of the Province, the site is conveniently located for our guests and provides for an efficient use of existing resources.

The CLC Design Committee has taken several trips for inspiration and creative insights into the decision making process. They were welcomed by a variety of venues to view the design elements and functionality of meeting centers, outdoor plazas and transitional spaces. Initial plans are expected to be presented to the Community Life Center Advisory Committee by the end of January.

The Building Committee continues to attend meetings with the Town of Paradise Valley Planning Commission to prepare for the development of the CLC site plan.

Discover the Vision

When you stroll the Casa’s grounds, you may notice a quiet bustle of people and wonder what everyone else is up to. Our many ministries, programs and retreats produce a wide-range of meaningful activities that attract more than 133,000 visitors to our campus each year. Come to a one-hour Discover the Vision tour and learn straight from the friars and staff about the opportunities for spiritual growth, healing and transformation and service to others that are created here with the help of over 800 volunteers.

For upcoming dates and registration, call Sheri at 480.948.7460 ext. 188 or visit us at TheCasa.org. There is a good chance you will find more reasons to return to the Casa!

*A special offer just for you,
the newsletter subscriber*

*Book a day meeting any
time from now through August
and receive a free
continental breakfast for
your medium-size group.*

Breaking ground on the new church

On Sunday, January 3, Franciscan Friars from the Province of St. Barbara in Oakland, Calif., The Most Reverend Thomas J. Olmsted, Bishop of the Diocese of Phoenix, and nearly 400 community members gathered to celebrate the groundbreaking for the new Conventual Church of Our Lady of the Angels. Construction is expected to be completed by Spring 2017.

“We’re so grateful that Bishop Olmsted was able to come and preside over Eucharist at Mass and lead the blessing for the groundbreaking ceremony,” said Fr. Peter Kirwin, Rector. “And we’re delighted that the community participated fully in the blessing.”

This event marked an important milestone for the Casa. “This is the most significant moment in our 65-year history, since the establishment of the Center in 1951,” said Fr. Joe Schwab, Executive Director. “We’re responding to community growth and erecting a building that will speak to the future.”

The current church seats 300 individuals, which means Mass attendance often spills out into the lobby and onto the lawn and patio. The new 17,050-square-foot church with 600 fixed seats and flexible seating for an additional 200 will be located on the current west parking lot.





Great ways to stay connected

FACEBOOK

Stay connected to everything we do and offer. Find the latest news, discover weekly special offers for groups and much more. [facebook.com/TheCasaFRC](https://www.facebook.com/TheCasaFRC)

TWITTER

Follow us [@TheCasaFRC](https://twitter.com/TheCasaFRC) and while you are here: Share your thoughts, photos and experiences by using [#CasaMeetings](https://twitter.com/hashtag/CasaMeetings)

YELP!

After your visit with us is over, please share your experience with us by leaving a review on our [Yelp!](https://www.yelp.com/biz/the-franciscan-renewal-center-paradise-valley) page. Your review enters you into a quarterly drawing for a free one night private retreat stay. [yelp.com/biz/the-franciscan-renewal-center-paradise-valley](https://www.yelp.com/biz/the-franciscan-renewal-center-paradise-valley)

YOUTUBE

The Casa has a robust YouTube channel, where videos are posted regularly. To subscribe, go to [youtube.com/TheCasaFRC](https://www.youtube.com/TheCasaFRC)

WEBSITE

Our websites have been completely redesigned and offer many ways to get informed and stay connected. Visit [casameetings.org](https://www.casameetings.org) and [thecasa.org](https://www.thecasa.org) today.

Franciscan Renewal Center

Peace. Renewal. Good.

5802 East Lincoln Drive
Paradise Valley, Arizona 85253

480.948.7460 phone
800.356.3247 toll free

[casameetings.org](https://www.casameetings.org)

©2014 The Franciscan Renewal Center

The Franciscan Renewal Center is a
501 (c) (3) non-profit organization.

About the Casa

Since 1951, the Franciscan Renewal Center – affectionately known as the “Casa de Paz y Bien,” or simply “the Casa” – has existed as a Catholic retreat center in Paradise Valley to offer spiritual growth, healing and transformation that moves lives into the service of others.

The Casa was founded by and is today an active religious community of the Order of Franciscan Friars Minor – part of the worldwide Franciscan family, following the footsteps of Sts. Francis and Clare of Assisi. The Casa is a wholly owned entity of the Franciscan Friars Province of Saint Barbara, based in Oakland, Calif., that works cooperatively with the Roman Catholic Diocese of Phoenix.

Activities at the Casa include daily Mass, Sunday services, private retreats, gathering space for non-profit groups, as well as 50 volunteer ministries that give aid to the poor or vulnerable, empower individuals to improve their circumstances, and build community fellowship. Discover more at [thecasa.org](https://www.thecasa.org)