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NEWS

**Arizona Biltmore Honored with Two ‘Stars of the Industry Awards’
For Hosting John McCain Election Night Event & Resort’s Green Initiative**

PHOENIX, Arizona, December, 2008 – The Arizona chapter of the American Hotel & Lodging Association, at its annual Stars of the Industry Awards Luncheon on December 12, 2008 recognized the Arizona Biltmore Resort & Spa with awards for outstanding accomplishment in two categories: Special Events and Good Earthkeeping.

The Special Events award was for handling one of the largest political events in Arizona’s history: serving as election night headquarters for Senator John McCain. The activities were not just limited to the Nov. 4 election day but spanned more than a week from Oct. 29 to Nov. 6. Nearly 70,000 of the resort’s 100,000 square feet of meeting space was utilized for the McCain event, plus the 14,000 square feet of Squaw Peak Terrace & Lawn and various suites and offices. More than 85 percent of the Biltmore’s 739 rooms were filled with media, campaign officials, Secret Service and VIPs.

“Although the Biltmore has hosted every American President since Herbert Hoover, this was the first time in our 80-year history that a Presidential hopeful has held his election night headquarters at the legendary resort,” said General Manager Andrew Stegen. “While the Biltmore is accustomed to hosting large events and world dignitaries, the magnitude of this event made it the ‘Super Bowl’ of them all.”

The Arizona Biltmore received the Good Earthkeeping award for its Green Initiative being implemented throughout the resort. The goal of the Green Initiative is to significantly reduce the Arizona Biltmore’s global footprint, create a more efficient and environmentally friendly operation, and establish the Arizona Biltmore as an environmentally responsible resort. The resort identified actions, initiatives and practices to achieve this that covered every aspect of operations and every department of the resort, from water-saving plans and biodegradable supplies to organic products in the spa. A Green Committee, composed of executives from every department of the resort, was established to develop the plan and to continue to monitor and adjust as necessary the existing initiatives as well as explore additional avenues of action.

The Arizona Biltmore Resort & Spa, nestled on 39 acres at the foot of Phoenix Mountain Preserve, is among the world’s most recognized resorts for its distinctive Frank Lloyd Wright architecture, luxurious facilities, and storied history as a playground of the rich and famous. Facilities include 739 guest accommodations; eight swimming pools; seven tennis courts; two 18-hole championship golf courses; and signature American Lodge Cuisine at Wright’s at The Biltmore. The Arizona Biltmore Resort & Spa is managed by Hilton Hotels and is a member of Hilton's exclusive Waldorf=Astoria Collection®. Contact the resort at (602) 955-6600 or 800-950-0086. www.Arizonabiltmore.com.