

## **ROYAL PALMS RESORT AND SPA ANNOUNCES NEW DIRECTOR OF ROMANCE**

**Phoenix, AZ – (September 2, 2008)** – Robert H. Vickrey has been named Director of Romance of the Royal Palms Resort and Spa, managed by Destination Hotels & Resorts (DH&R). He joined the resort as Maitre D' in the award-winning and ultra-romantic T. Cook's restaurant in August 2007, and his special talents in interacting with guests and anticipating their requests and needs were immediately apparent and qualified him to step into the role of Director of Romance.

"Coming from Las Vegas, my career has been filled with opportunities of catering to the unique needs of high rollers which, in turn, I've been able to translate into creative anticipation when serving the clientele at T. Cook's and Royal Palms," says Vickrey. "And because Vegas is the marriage capital of the world, I'm no stranger to the romance side of guest experiences."

Vickrey says that he gets his keen skills naturally. His father managed casinos in Las Vegas during the days of the Rat Pack, so he grew up learning how to treat people with a high level of respect and a desire to go beyond the obvious and create magic for them. To hone his skills further, he received a masters degree in communications from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas and currently teaches interpersonal communication and public speaking as an adjunct instructor at Chandler-Gilbert Community College.

Vickrey plans to exceed the already high expectations of his role as Director of Romance. The sky's the limit and he looks forward to everything from planning a surprise proposal to helping select personalized gifts and designing the perfect romantic getaway.

"My role as Director of Romance goes way beyond ordering flowers and making dinner reservations; it's more that of a personal romance coach, especially to the 'romantically challenged.' It's designing the complete, personalized, over-the-top experience that I look forward to, and I have the perfect stage for doing so at Royal Palms."

To contact Robert Vickrey with questions of the heart or assistance with a romantic interlude, please call his private line at 602-977-6459.

A member of Historic Hotels of America, Royal Palms Resort and Spa is a AAA Four Diamond resort located at the foot of majestic Camelback Mountain. Combining the graciousness and sophistication of a Mediterranean villa with the intimacy and privacy of a secluded retreat, Royal Palms offers: 119 custom-appointed guest rooms, suites, intimate clusters of casitas and grand villas; regal Spanish Colonial architecture; over 20,000 square feet of estate-like meeting space; Tuscan-style gardens; exquisite tapestries, antiques and stone fireplaces throughout. Designed around the original historic private mansion, Royal Palms is home to the award-winning T. Cook's restaurant, Mobil Four Star Alvalora Spa, a Mother-of-Pearl-tiled swimming pool with private cabanas, and croquet lawn. Just minutes from Scottsdale's shopping, galleries, golf,

Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport and the Camelback financial corridor, Royal Palms is an ideal retreat for business, pleasure and special occasions, offering luxury, privacy and convenience.

Royal Palms Resort and Spa is one of more than 30 independent, upscale and luxury hotels, resorts and golf clubs in the United States managed by Destination Hotels & Resorts, the fifth largest independent hospitality management company in the country. The company, headquartered in suburban Denver, Colo., features a portfolio of more than 7,000 guest rooms, 10 golf courses and 12 full-service spas. Destination Hotels & Resorts properties are located in key metropolitan and resort markets including Washington, D.C., Houston, Denver, Dallas, San Diego, Santa Fe, Aspen, Austin, Phoenix, Portland, Palm Springs, Maui and Lake Tahoe. For more information on the properties in the Destination Hotels & Resorts collection, please visit [www.destinationhotels.com](http://www.destinationhotels.com).

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**A digital photo of Vickrey is available upon request.**

**MEDIA CONTACT:** Sally Cooper  
Sally Cooper and Company  
(480) 946-9446  
[Sally@sallycooperandcompany.com](mailto:Sally@sallycooperandcompany.com)

**ROYAL PALMS RESORT AND SPA ~ 5200 E. Camelback Road, Phoenix, AZ 85108  
602-840-3610 ~ 800-672-6011 ~ [www.royalpalmsresortandspa.com](http://www.royalpalmsresortandspa.com)**