

Professional Insurance Agents

# NEWS RELEASE

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Contact: Gary Wolcott, Director of Communications

PIA Western Alliance

888-246-4466

## **PROFESSIONAL INSURANCE AGENTS (PIA) OREGON/IDAHO ELECTS BOARD, AWARDS AGENT OF THE YEAR AND MORE**

The Professional Insurance Agents of Oregon/Idaho (PIA) recently held their 39th Annual Convention and Trade Show. Association members elected a new board of directors and gave out a number of awards.

John Desmarteau, member/owner of Beaver Insurance, Salem, Oregon was elected president and will serve until May of 2007.

### **The PIA Oregon/Idaho Board of Directors: (photos available upon request)**

John Desmarteau—President, Member/Owner Beaver State Insurance Agency

Pete Lackner—President Elect, Owner, Rose City Associates

Gary Steffen—Vice President, Vice President, Safe and Sound Insurance & Amigos Aseguranzas

Chris Huwalt—Treasurer, Branch Manager, Western States Insurance, McMinneville

Glenda Lile—Secretary, Owner/President, MIDSTATE Insurance Agency

John Faherty—National Director, Agent, Fullerton & Company

Randy Carlton—Past President, Member/Owner, Cascade Insurance Center

Several individuals were recognized by the association.

### **PIA Oregon/Idaho Agent of the Year**

Gary Steffen, Vice President, Safe & Sound Insurance and Amigos Aseguranzas is the PIA Oregon/Idaho Agent of the Year. He is also the association's Vice President.

The PIA Oregon/Idaho Agent of the Year Award recognizes a special individual whose accomplishments exemplify Integrity, dedication to customers and toward bettering our industry and commitment to the members and goals of the PIA.

### **Company Person of the Year**

Bryan Stanwood, Mutual of Enumclaw was named the 2006 PIA Oregon/Idaho Company Person of the Year.

PIA and its members benefit from the contributions of time, money and expertise that come from our insurance company partners. In recognition of those contributions, the PIA honors one individual whose active involvement with PIA helps drive their company to support our efforts with our members.

### **CSR of the Year**

Cathy Rottle of Portland's Fournier Group is the PIA Oregon/Idaho CSR of the Year.

Each year this award goes to a highly motivated insurance professional who strives to perform at a level superior.

### **AAMGA Award**

Roger Baird of Zurich North America Small Business was given the PIA Oregon/Idaho American Association of Managing General Agencies (AAMGA) Award.

The AAMGA allows the PIA to recognize an individual who has made a special contribution to the association, and who upholds the best traditions of character and integrity in our industry.

### **Blinders Award**

Herm Deiss, Mid Valley General Agency.

The Annual Blinders Award is given to an underwriter or company person who does the opposite of what this award suggests—they take off the blinders and broaden their vision. The broadening of the vision makes it easier for the rest of us to serve our clients.

### **Chairperson of the Year**

The PIA Oregon/Idaho has several committees that assist in the operation of the association. The Chairperson of the Year award was given to Oregon Government Relations Chairman, Ron Manza.

**Specialty Lines Company Representative of the Year**

Jani Campbell of Unitrin Specialty

**Presidential Citation**

Bill Bingle of Oregon Mutual for his outstanding support of PIA.