



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 3, 2008

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OREGON'S 2008 LODGING AWARDS ANNOUNCED

Annual Stars of the Industry Awards to be presented at Conference

Oregon Lodging Association (OLA) has announced the Stars of the Industry award recipients for 2008: Innkeeper of the Year - Terry Goldman of SpringHill Suites by Marriott (Hillsboro) and Sharon Major of the Stephanie Inn (Cannon Beach); Employee of the Year - Alisha Stone of Seventh Mountain Resort (Bend); and Industry Partner of the Year -Lyn Schmidt of Energy Trust of Oregon.

A highlight at the Association's annual conference, these awards represent the outstanding performance, commitment and achievements of Oregon's hospitality industry leaders. Each year the Association recognizes individuals that have demonstrated these qualities and were nominated by their peers. The presentation of awards will be Monday, October 6, 2008, during OLA's conference at Sunriver Resort.

As general manager of one of the finest hotels on the Oregon coast, **Sharon Major** has demonstrated the highest standard of leadership and professionalism at the Stephanie Inn. Under her direction, the Inn was named as one of the top 3 hotels in the country by Conde Nast Travelers readers in 2007 and again in 2008. Sharon shows her tireless commitment to the staff of the Stephanie Inn, Martin Hospitality and her community. In addition to serving as a mentor, Sharon has made significant contributions to the community through various fundraisers and local shelters in time of need.

Terry Goldman serves as general manager and director of sales and marketing for SpringHill Suites by Marriott-Hillsboro, an InnSight Hotel Management Group property. Terry is recognized as an extremely well rounded manager and leader within the Marriott organization. He's been recognized by Marriott International for several awards either for himself or his hotel, including the coveted Hotel of the Year award at the Marriott Select Service GM Conference this year. Terry excels not only in his leadership but also as a strong team builder, resulting in lower staff turnover and high

customer service ratings. He serves on the Washington County Visitors Association, and has served on the board for the Tri-County Lodging Association and Washington County Fairgrounds Revitalization Task Force.

The employee of the year award recognizes an outstanding employee who goes above and beyond normal job responsibilities. **Alisha Stone**, housekeeping manager of Seventh Mountain Resort in Bend, fills that role every day. Known by her department as very conscientious, considerate and diplomatic, Alisha contributes boundless energy to her team and to the resort. While improving customer satisfaction scores, she has also improved labor productivity and leads her staff by example, making for a cohesive work environment.

Lyn Schmidt is known by many in the industry as the “one to ask” when it comes to efforts toward becoming energy efficient. As business development manager for Energy Trust of Oregon, Lyn always exceeds expectations of her customers by coming up with creative solutions and serving as the ultimate resource for the lodging industry. Lyn demonstrates a strong commitment to serve her community, using her enthusiasm to motivate others into action. She embodies all the qualities of an outstanding industry partner serving the needs of the hospitality industry and contributing to the community’s well being.

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Oregon Lodging Association is a state-wide trade organization representing approximately 1,100 hotels, motels, resorts, bed-and-breakfasts, vacation rental properties, recreational vehicle parks, and related businesses. We are the primary legislative advocate and business resource for Oregon’s lodging industry.