

ONPA honors new executive director, officers, directors, and a senator

SALEM, Oregon – The Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association (ONPA) announced three new directors, a new president, and a new executive director among other events during the evening awards banquet at its 120th annual Summer Publishers Convention, July 13 at the Salem Conference Center in Salem, Oregon.

Laurie Hieb, who has worked in ONPA's advertising department for three years, is stepping in to replace LeRoy Yorgason, who is retiring as executive director after 11 years of service to Oregon newspapers. At the banquet, Yorgason was presented with a plaque and a toast of thanks for shepherding ONPA through some trying times to its currently successful position.

Also honored during the banquet was Oregon Senator Ginny Burdick, whose support for ONPA legislative action in the past year has made a major contribution to open government in Oregon. She was honored with a certificate and kudos from Bob Caldwell, a member of *The Oregonian* editorial staff and also of the ONPA Government Affairs Committee.

The new slate of ONPA officers and three new members of the Board of Directors were inducted into service during the evening. Outgoing president Clark Gallagher, publisher of the *Hillsboro Argus*, passed the president's gavel to Jim Walker of the *Curry County Reporter* in Gold Beach. Martha Wells, publisher of the *Albany Democrat-Herald* and the *Lebanon Express*, was named president-elect, and Gary Husman, publisher of *The Redmond Spokesman*, was named treasurer.

The three new members of the ONPA Board of Directors are Brian Priester, *Statesman Journal*, Salem; Brian Hunt, *Daily Journal of Commerce*, Portland; and Mark Bryan, *News-Times*, Newport.

ONPA, founded in 1887, is a professional association of the state's daily and nondaily paid-circulation newspapers.