

REAL ESTATE
CLASSIFIEDS

REAL ESTATE

ADVERTISING
SECTION

F
PART I OF II

SATURDAY, JUNE 21, 2008 • THE BULLETIN

2008 REALTOR OF THE YEAR

Success for a Lifetime



Brian Meece, named Realtor of The Year for 2008,
conducts his business from Steve Scott Realtors in Bend.

Photo by Nicole Werner

by Laurel Brauns, for The Bulletin Advertising Department

Each year, the region's top Realtor is recognized, not only for property sales, but also the professional contributions they provide to the industry.

Brian Meece, CCIM, associate broker, of Steve Scott Realtors, was selected as the 2008 Realtor of the Year during an award ceremony that took place on June 5 at The Riverhouse Convention Center.

tors (COAR). "He is one of those guys that knows the business and knows it well. He has taught real estate classes at the junior college. He is an impeccable Realtor and business person."

The 2007 COAR Realtor of the Year, Barbara Myers, paid an extensive homage to Meece before handing off his reward. Her speech included a colorful presentation with a collage of photographs that followed Meece's life from the time he was a child up until the present.

"Brian is honest and upstanding—one of the most knowledgeable Realtors in the field."

Meece has been a Realtor for more than two decades, and he has been widely recognized for his progressive efforts toward changing both local and state land-use policy.

"Brian is honest and upstanding—one of the most knowledgeable Realtors in the field," said Tom Greene, president of the Central Oregon Association of Real-

Meece entered the real estate industry in 1981 after working as an engineer for Hyster Corporation in Portland and Mark Controls Corporation in Phoenix for 10 years.

"I became a corporate dropout in 1981 because I wanted to move back to Oregon and spend time with my grandparents," said Meece. "I went into real estate because Oregon has a desirable real

estate market and it is a great place to raise kids."

Meece worked for Duke Warner Realty, Frank Ruegg Company, and eventually settled in with Steve Scott Realtors in 1993, where he continues to specialize in ranches and commercial real estate.

"Brian has been a member of COAR since 1981, and he is very active in the association," said Geneese Zinsli, executive director

of COAR. "He is very spirited and interested in ethics. He has a great reputation in the industry."

Meece has an extensive list of additional credentials and leadership positions, but he is most proud of his Certified Commercial Investment Membership and his designation as an Accredited Land Consultant. "I have been following the Oregon land use system since I came back to Oregon in 1981, and it still doesn't make too much sense all the time," said Meece. "So part of my work is to change that." The COAR Realtor of the Year award was established in 1974 to honor the Central Oregon Realtor who best displayed the spirit of the award. The chosen Realtor must abide by a certain code of ethics, relate well to others in the industry and remain active in their local communities.

estate market and it is a great place to raise kids."

Meece was raised around ranches and regularly visits his family ranch in Gilliam County on the Columbia River, a ranch his great grandparents purchased in 1888. After his move to Central Oregon, Meece obtained his contractor's license, and he operated a small construction company called Sunshine Builders of Oregon. In 1988, he co-founded Employee Leasing of Oregon, a company he ran with

of COAR. "He is very spirited and interested in ethics. He has a great reputation in the industry."

Meece has an extensive list of additional credentials and leadership positions, but he is most proud of his Certified Commercial Investment Membership and his designation as an Accredited Land Consultant.

"I have been following the Oregon land use system since I came back to Oregon in 1981, and it still doesn't make too much sense all

They must have achievements at the local, state and national levels, and have a successful business track record.

"It's always nice to be recognized by your peers," said Meece. "It really means something because they understand how many hours you put in. Our business is very unique. We are a great big team, and we really have to learn how to work together—even if we might be representing different clients."

Last year, Meece was chosen to be chair of the Land Use Task Force by the Oregon Association of Realtors

(OAR). The task force is charged with making economic recommendations to OAR relating to land use and property rights at the state level. Currently, Meece also volunteers on the City of Bend's Urban Growth Boundary Technical Advisory Committee, which is in charge of determining the future availability of residential and commercial land in Bend.

"Everyone likes Brian," said Greene. "He is always volunteering his time and is unselfish about it, and [he is] very passionate about land use issues. He's a real John Wayne type."

