

# Wallowa Mountain Properties honors agents

Wallowa Mountain Properties Inc., with offices in both Enterprise and Joseph, recently honored two of its 13 agents for superior real estate performance in 2008. Jim Soares was honored as the "Rookie of the Year," while Anette Christoffersen received honors for being the "Top Producing Agent" in 2008.

Soares earned his real estate license in mid-2006 but only spent part time in real estate until last year. "I don't feel worthy of the honor, it has been a tough year in real estate," he said. "I owe a great deal to our owners Skip and Shannon Novakovich for their help and encouragement, also to the rest of the staff of Wallowa Mountain Properties for their advice and guidance."

Building any kind of business is difficult, especially in the current economic environment. Soares said he believes honesty and integrity are the key elements to building trusting relationships with clients. "When I started in this business I decided if I couldn't be honest and represent my clients the way I would like to be treated



**Jim Soares receives a plaque from Principal Broker John Gorsline recognizing him as Wallowa Mountain Properties Rookie of the Year.**

I would get out," he said.

Soares has college degrees in both geography and education. For more than 30 years he worked in the timber industry as a faller. He also has experience working for local ranchers and in construction work. He feels that timber lands are his strongest suit in real estate, but he has the experience and knowledge to serve his



**Anette Christoffersen accepts a plaque honoring her as the Wallowa Mountain Properties Top Producing Broker of the Year.**

clients in all areas.

Soares' wife of 32 years, Marilyn, teaches at Wallowa Elementary. They have three children, Tyler, Olivia, and Natalie who is married to Darren Hansen. Jim enjoys all outdoor activities, along with growing a garden.

Anette Christoffersen joined Wallowa Mountain Properties in 2005 after work-

ing in a variety of sales and marketing positions. She and her husband Nils moved to Wallowa County with their two children in 1999, after having lived in nine cities and five different countries. In referring to Wallowa County, Anette recently said "I can honestly say that Wallowa County offers the highest quality of life for someone seeking a warm, open community; rugged, natural beauty; and a slower pace. It's hard to beat the county as a great place to raise a family."

In addition to working hard to become Wallowa Mountain Properties Top Producing Broker in 2008, Anette also served as President of the Wallowa County Board of Realtors last year. She and her family enjoy the abundant outdoor opportunities the county offers. Their property on Alder Slope is home to three horses, two dogs, three cats, and occasional pigs.

Anette is very active in community affairs and the affairs of her children. She is a Board member and coach for Wallowa County Youth Soccer; a 4-H Horse Club

Leader, and a volunteer for the Eagle Cap Ski Club.

Skip and Shannon Novakovich, Wallowa Mountain Properties owners stated "We are very proud of Anette Christoffersen and Jim Soares for their many wonderful company and community accomplishments in 2008. Both are role models of how earning a living through a career in Real Estate and giving back through community volunteerism can come together successfully. As with all our brokers and employees, Anette, and Jim continue to build mutually successful business relationships with clients while still finding time to volunteer to improve the quality of life in Wallowa County."

Wallowa Mountain Properties, Inc. is an independent, full-service real estate and property management organization. Thirteen licensed brokers with over 165 years of combined real estate and property management experience serve North-eastern Oregon clients from offices in Enterprise and Joseph.