



The National Federation of Press Women, Inc.

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**National Federation of Press Women
Names 2007 Communicator of Achievement**

RICHMOND, Va. – Sept. 22, 2007 –The National Federation of Press Women (NFPW) named **Peggyann Hutchinson of the Oregon affiliate** as its 2007 Communicator of Achievement on Friday, Sept. 21, at the NFPW Conference in Richmond, Virginia.

The Communicator of Achievement is NFPW's highest honor, awarded for professional achievement in communications, contributions to NFPW and its affiliates, and community service. Nineteen nominees were selected to represent their state as the Communicator of Achievement, with Hutchinson selected as the overall national winner. **Peggy Parks of the Idaho affiliate** was chosen as first runner-up.

Hutchinson is an award winning reporter, editor and world traveler. In 1998, she retired from the Medford Oregon *Mail Tribune* after 42 years. She still provides the paper with a personal clipping service from her reading of newspapers from everywhere she travels, finding information pertinent to Tribune readers.

In 1953, she joined the National Newspaper Association and negotiated with the *Mail Tribune* to take a month each year at her own expense to join the NNA's study missions. Trips coincided with news hot spots, and she filed and sold stories from eight continents.

Prior to joining the *Mail Tribune*, she was a radio copy editor in Albuquerque, N.M. and a journalist in the U.S. Navy during the Korean War.

For over 20 years Hutchinson has worked with the American Association of University Women arranging programs and speakers. She has been honored by the AAUW on several occasions and has served as a branch, state and national officer. With her generous contributions to the AAUW Education Foundation International Fellowship, it became fully funded at \$100,000 in 2005. Named in her honor, the Peggyann Hutchinson International Fellowship Endowment has given fellowships to more than 2,600 women representing 135 countries.

Hutchinson has been a member of NFPW affiliates since 1951, with membership in Oregon Press Women since 1962. She served as president of Oregon Press Women from 1971-1973, and currently serves as archivist for NFPW.

Runner-up, Peggy Parks, left a position as instructor at the University of Utah College of Medicine in 1972 to buy a rural Idaho newspaper, *The Challis Messenger*. Although her only experience with journalism was editing her dorm newspaper in college, Parks learned every aspect of the business. In 1983, she became the sole owner, editor and publisher of the paper. She retired in 2004, but continues to be active in leadership roles in her community and her affiliate.

Parks has been a member of Idaho Press Women and NFPW since 1979, serving in several leadership positions. She served as president of Idaho Press Women from 1992-1994, and is currently organizing the 2008 NFPW annual conference in Idaho Falls.

Other state affiliate nominees for Communicator of Achievement recognition include Terry Glen Hawkins, Arkansas; Ellie Mattausch, Arizona; Marilyn Saltzman, Colorado; Katherine Ward, Delaware; Suzanne Hanney, Illinois; Jackie Davis, Indiana; Shirley Davis, Iowa; Les Anderson, Kansas; Brenda Ervin, Michigan; Cheryl Alberts Irwin, Nebraska; Connie Gotsch, New Mexico; Jo Ann Mathews, North Carolina; Jill Shcramm, North Dakota; Deidre Mercer Martin, South Carolina; Josephine Hall, South Dakota; Angela Smith, Texas; Mary Jane King, Virginia.

NFPW is an organization of professional journalists and communicators. For 70 years, it has promoted the highest ethical standards in communications; provided professional development, youth programs and networking; and advocated for protection of First Amendment rights.

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