

Bend Chamber honors Oran Teater

Former mayor is Citizen of Year

By [Scott Hammers](#) / *The Bulletin*

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Oran Teater

Oran Teater was named Bend's Citizen of the Year Tuesday night at the annual Chamber of Commerce SAGE Awards Dinner.

Teater, 64, was recognized for a long record of community service over the 40 years he's lived in Bend.

Loren Irving, one of three community members to nominate Teater for the award, lauded him for his fair-mindedness and selflessness in his nomination statement. Beyond his public roles on volunteer boards and commissions, Teater has worked on many projects anonymously and behind-the-scenes, Irving wrote.

"All the time I have known Oran, he has not ever hesitated to take on the tough issues and help work them out to a positive outcome for all involved," Irving wrote. "He is truly unselfish and works for the betterment of the community for the right reasons, not for personal gain or recognition."

In recent years, Teater has been busy with his second stint on the Bend City Council. He was elected in 1996 and re-elected for a second four-year term in 2000, serving as the mayor for his final two years. In early 2009, he was selected to fill a vacancy on the council created by Chris Telfer's election to the state Senate. He served out nearly two years of her term.

Teater has been active in educational issues as well, serving as the chairman of the OSU-Cascades Board of Advisers and the Bend School Foundation, and as co-chairman of the successful 2006 Bend-La Pine Schools construction bond campaign.

He has been a member of the Juniper Ridge Management Board and the finance committee for the Tower Theatre Foundation. He also has been president of the greater Bend Rotary Club and the Bend Chamber of Commerce.

Teater was one of the founding members of Economic Development for Central Oregon, a regional body dedicated to recruiting new business to the region, and the Great Drake Park Duck Race, the annual rubber duck race on the Deschutes River that has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for local charities over the last 21 years.

Outside of the Central Oregon area, Teater has assisted with economic forecasting for the state government by serving on the statewide Governor's Council of Economic Advisors for the last 12 years.

Also Tuesday, the Chamber honored Bend Research and Donner Flowers as its distinguished large and small business of the year and Saving Grace as the outstanding organization of the year.