

**WHAT: Employee Profile Copy**

**WHO: New Seasons Market e-Commerce Delivery Service Website**

**WHEN: 2006**

**PEG O'HARA**

**ARBOR LODGE STORE MANAGER**

Peg met her first Oregonians in 1984 while working on a barge in the Bering Sea, and they talked so affectionately about their state that she knew she would have to see it someday. So, in 1991, she came for a visit from her hometown of Chicago – and never left.

Now she too will wax poetic about this beautiful state and its hard-working, community-minded folks. "Traveling is nearly as great a passion to me as food, but I always love flying over the Gorge and knowing I'm home," she says

Portland is her home, as is her and her husband's house boat. They bought their home on the water in 2005 and have loved it ever since. "I love it for the same reasons I do working for this company – there's a real neighborhood feel, people watch out for each other."

For the better part of the last 20 years, including 10 years here in Portland, Peg has worked in grocery stores. The grocery industry, at its best, encompasses many of the things that she values highly, like community building, sustainable food economy and the joy of the table. She loves thinking about food, talking about food, but especially eating food. Her husband jokes that all conversations with her family in Chicago revolve solely around past or future meals.

For Peg, the New Seasons Market experience is very fulfilling. "I feel privileged to work with such smart, soulful people and to have the opportunity to be part of the great vitality and integrity that distinguishes our Portland neighborhoods."

Favorite meal: "Okay – being pinned down to one favorite meal is hard, but this time of year, I crave a whole grilled fish, served with fresh corn tortillas, avocado, chipotle peppers, pinto beans and a whole mess of limes."