Executive Committee

- Chair: vacant
- Vice-Chair: vacant
- Treasurer/Secretary: vacant
- Grievance Chair: vacant
- LPN Representative: vacant
- Membership Chair: vacant

Nurses Week General Membership Meeting

ONA is celebrating Nurses Week (May 6 – 12) and your ONA labor representative, Claire Syrett, will be coming to visit on Thursday, May 12. Claire plans to visit the units and deliver some Nurses Week treats and ONA goodies. She will also be hosting a membership meeting that day.

Please come by the third-floor break room (across from the ER desk) between 5:30 – 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 12. There will be food provided. This is a drop-in meeting so come by when you can, for as long as you can. This meeting is an important opportunity to find out more about your union and ways you can get involved. It is also a time to share concerns with one another and to start discussing issues you want to raise in negotiations next year.

Nominations for your executive committee, which is your local governance body, will be opening the week of May 16. Your executive committee will provide leadership to your bargaining unit leading into negotiations. Come learn more about your union, the benefits and importance of membership and help get the conversation started on next year’s contract negotiations.

Welcome your new Nurse Staffing Committee members!

Thank you to everyone who participated in the nomination process for the Nurse Staffing Committee. The results are in and stepping up to serve are Deanne Cole (ED), Courtney Whittaker (Med/Surg) and Whitney Soto (Peri Op/Infusion.). This committee plays an important role in ensuring that your unit staffing plans meet the needs of your unit as well as the requirements of the Nurse Staffing law.

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The committee which is comprised of an equal number of managers and nurses, will meet at least once a quarter.
This committee provides an important voice for nurse staffing concerns to be heard. Nurses are considered equal to management when participating on this committee.
So please take a moment to connect with your Staffing Committee representative and thank them for taking on this important work.

Protect Your License, Protect Yourself!

Should nurses carry their own personal liability insurance policy? YES! You insure your home, your car and your health. Why not your career?

A common assumption is that your employer will cover you in any incident that may occur while at work. Technically an employer is responsible for the acts of its staff, but its interest is not necessarily consistent with protecting you. Your best protection is to have your own personal legal representation. Nurses are at more legal risk now than ever before.

Additionally, your employer’s policy will not protect you in an Oregon State Board of Nursing (OSBN) investigation. In fact, it could be your employer who makes the complaint to the OSBN about an alleged violation of scope or law.

The OSBN must investigate each complaint it receives and, even if the complaint is dismissed, there are costs to you.
ONA advises all nurses, no matter where you work, to obtain your own liability insurance. ONA endorses the Nurses Service Organization (NSO) because the coverage provided offers the best protection for you. Visit www.OregonRN.org/NSO for more information.

Don’t wait, protect yourself today!

Student Debt Relief

Saddled with student debt? You may qualify for the Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program (PSLF). Thousands of health care workers, teachers and others who work in public service and consistently pay their monthly student loan bills can have their loans forgiven after ten years.
ONA is affiliated with the American Federation of Teachers (AFT) – Healthcare which means you have access to Summer, an organization that can help you navigate your student loan situation and support you through the repayment process.

Find more information at www.OregonRN.org/aft-summer.

Additionally, ONA is hosting an online clinic to help members understand PSLF, find out more about Summer and get the relief they deserve.

June 3 at 4 p.m.

Sign up at www.OregonRN.org/aft-summer.
Managing your student loan debt is the first step in taking on the inequities which plague our system of higher education.