Looking back on 2016, ONA nurses at Good Shepherd Hospital accomplished a great deal in ratifying our new contract. We had some bumps along the way, but as a nursing team we prevailed in coming together to make our voices heard! This is the first time our nurses will have a cap on standby time, which we have asked for over many negotiation sessions. We also won certification bonuses, increases to our PTO accrual, and additional steps which show a commitment to retaining experienced nurses for our community. The new contract booklets will be out soon, but until then, a redline version of the new contract can be viewed on the ONA website, OregonRN.org.

As 2017 gets into full swing there will be both new challenges and opportunities for achievement ahead. The Oregon Hospital Nurse Staffing Law deadline is in place and the Good Shepherd nurse staffing committee worked hard last year to have staffing plans in place ahead of the January 1 deadline. Quarterly nurse staffing minutes can be found on the “O” drive for interested nurses to read. Staff are always welcome to come and listen in on a meeting or bring concerns to a nurse member of the committee. Every hospital department is represented on the committee.

Nurses will be asked to make their voices heard in the upcoming year. The first opportunity will be in Salem on Tuesday, Feb. 14 to advocate for our patients and advance Oregon’s nursing practice during ONA’s Nurse Lobby Day. See page 4 for more information.

Cheers to a successful 2017!

Laurie Hartung, RN
Bargaining Unit Chair
The hospital has added break tracking to the timeclocks to make it easier for nurses to report missed breaks. It is important that nurses who miss their breaks record on the time clock that the break was missed. This way our staffing committee, which reviews the reports, can make adjustments to the staffing plans if needed. The hospital has committed to help us collect and use this data without retaliation to a reporting nurse, so please report honestly at the end of each shift.

As a reminder, nurses working 8- and 10-hour shifts are entitled to two 15 minute breaks and nurses working 12 hour shifts are entitled to three 15 minute breaks per work day. Breaks may be combined with each other, or with a meal period, provided the person relieving you agrees. (Article 6.5 and Appendix B.7)

### Ways and Means Committee Holds Budget Hearings Across the State

With the Oregon legislature facing a $1.8 billion state budget deficit this session, the legislature’s Ways and Means Committee will be traveling to cities around the state to make sure legislators hear from Oregonians about how cuts will affect their community.

At every stop, from Ashland to Tillamook and from Umatilla to Portland, it’s important that nurses send a message to legislators that cuts to health care and critical services are unacceptable as long as the world’s largest corporations pay the lowest corporate taxes.

**The Ways and Means Committee will visit Hermiston on Friday, Feb. 17, 5-7 p.m.**

To learn more and RSVP to one of the Ways and Means Committee hearings in your area, contact Chris at Hewitt@oregonrn.org.
Holiday Scheduling

The holiday scheduling preference system should be rolling out to you soon, if it hasn’t already arrived. As a reminder, ALL units will be using the preference system for at least the first year as a trial. Many of you asked for a return to holiday preference scheduling as the strict rotation system that we have been using has prohibited coworkers from traveling over the holidays and has resulted in more nurses than are needed being scheduled for holidays as half of all nurses on a unit are scheduled for each day. While required to work holidays, per diem nurses haven’t been utilized for these schedules because regular nurses have been required to work holidays, even if they wanted them off (see Letter of Understanding on Holiday Demonstration Project).

2017 ONA Statewide Elections

The ONA 2017 Statewide Elections slate of candidates has been finalized. We are proud to have received strong interest from members who want to take an active leadership role within our organization and have several contested races.

Voting is open and every ONA member is encouraged to let your voice be heard by casting your ballot.

Each ONA member will be sent a unique login and password from our election service provider, Election-America, specific to the 2017 ONA Elections (NOT the same as your ONA website login). ONA members will receive the information either by email if we have a valid email address or by postal service mail if we do not have an email for you.

If you have received your unique voting login and password, visit www.OregonRN.org to see the candidate slate and vote today.

If you do not receive your login credentials either by email or postal mail, please contact Election-America at Help+ONA@election-america.com.

OregonRN.org/2017Election
2017 NURSE LOBBY DAY
Tuesday, February 14, 2017

Join hundreds of nurses and nursing students at the State Capitol in Salem.

ONA will provide resources, materials and training to all attendees. First-time participants are welcome. ONA Nurse Lobby Day is open to all ONA members and student affiliates (Oregon Student Nurses Association members).

» Meet your state legislators
» Learn more about 2017 legislative issues that affect nurses and our patients
» Learn how to effectively lobby decision makers
» Advocate for priority legislation and issues like patient health care access and nurse provider and instructor incentive programs
» Receive continuing nursing education contact hours

It’s vital that we have nurses represented in the discussions and decision about the issues that matter most to us this legislative session.

Participants will be able to earn continuing nursing education contact hours.

Oregon Nurses Association is accredited as a provider of continuing nursing education by the American Nurses Credentialing Center’s Commission on Accreditation.

Visit www.OregonRN.org for details and registration