KNOW YOUR RIGHTS!
IN SALEM, MAY 11

Understanding your rights as an ONA nurse is one of the most important things you can do to empower yourself and your coworkers, advance your career, unlock worker protections, secure help in disciplinary procedures and grievances as well as access members-only benefits.

We will be holding a workshop in Salem, for Marion County nurses on Saturday, May 11, 8:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.

All dues-paying ONA members are welcome to attend this workshop. A meal will be provided courtesy of your ONA dues.

Completing an ONA Know Your Rights workshop qualifies you to become an ONA steward. However, you don’t have to be a steward or want to become one to benefit from these trainings.

Text/call ONA Labor Relations Representative Gary Aguiar at 503-444-0690 or email him at Aguiar@OregonRN.org to RSVP and confirm workshop location. We are constantly hosting training sessions. If you cannot make these dates, please contact Gary with your interest.

Meet Your New ONA Labor Relations Representative

Gary Aguiar is a former political science professor who joined the Oregon Nurses Association (ONA) in 2015. He gained extensive experience in his faculty labor union in South Dakota with contract negotiations. For 20 years he taught classes and conducted research in American politics, including women and politics, local politics and political organizing. Born and raised in Hawaii, Aguiar walked his first strike line at the age of eight and canvassed for a state legislative candidate when he was 16.

He’s a small-town boy, who thoroughly enjoys the intimacy found in rural communities and the cultural activities available in college towns. Aguiar and his wife, Cecile, a homemaker, live in north Eugene, near Sheldon High School. They have a daughter who is currently studying Biology and Religion.
New ONA Labor Relations Representative (continued from page 1)

At Coe College in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

At ONA, Gary has developed strong bargaining units in small towns across Oregon. In Florence, Peace Harbor nurses ran an effective nine-month bargaining effort that resulted in wages and working conditions that equal Eugene area hospitals. The campaign included a unity break attended by one-third of the bargaining unit, a standing-room-only community meeting and a visible informational picket.

In Klamath Falls, Sky Lakes nurses concluded a victorious campaign in 2017 that led to the “best contract we have had since I have been involved,” according to one long-time leader. In less than two years, the membership rate at Sky Lakes tripled. Our negotiators used this power to win an accelerated step scale, true shared governance in vigorous Unit Practice Committees (UPCs) and strong provisions on bullying and lactation.

At St. Charles – Redmond, nurses fought the proposed closure of the Family Birth Center (FBC) in 2018 with a successful community meeting. That event led to many of our supporters attending a Redmond City Council meeting, who voted unanimously to oppose the closure. While the employer ultimately decided to ignore community sentiment, we were able to negotiate a strong side letter that ensured that no nurse was laid off. FBC nurses bid into positions in other units within the employer and were provided adequate orientation to remain employed in their community.

The largest facility Aguiar represents is McKenzie-Willamette in Springfield, where 94 percent of the nurses are ONA members, which is among the highest percentage in our Association. The bargaining unit has 40 stewards to represent its 350 members as well as an active leadership cadre, including an award-winning Professional Nursing Care Committee.

He has experience with public health nurses, since he represented our Klamath County bargaining unit for many years.

Don’t Miss Important ONA Emails

Common Reasons for Not Receiving ONA Emails

1. **SPAM/Junk Filter:** Emails from ONA are being flagged as junk or spam by your email service provider.

2. **No Email:** ONA does not have an email on file for you.

3. **Bad Email:** ONA has an incorrect or outdated email on file.

4. **Blocked:** Due to several failed delivery attempts, our system has stopped attempting to send emails to your email address.

5. **Opted Out:** You have opted out of receiving emails.

6. **Work Email Filters:** Some health care systems filter out ONA emails so nurses don’t receive ONA-related emails. This is why we encourage nurses to use their personal email addresses instead of work emails.

Fixing Problems to Receive ONA Emails

1. **Check your junk/spam/clutter folder for ONA emails:** Flag ONA emails as “not junk/spam” and add News@OregonRN.org to your safe sender list.

2. **Email ONA:** To fix reasons 2-6, simply email ONA at News@OregonRN.org, and include your name, personal email and facility you work at in the body of the email.