It’s Time for Providence Newberg Officer Nominations

The Providence Newberg Medical Center (PNMC) bargaining unit is seeking nurse leaders for open officer positions. As per the ONA/PNMC Bylaws, nominations for the bargaining unit officers are due on Jan. 24, 2017, one month prior to the election. The election ballots will then come by mail in mid-February and will be due by Feb. 23, 2017. The election will be by secret ballot. Note that this election is not to be confused with the staffing committee nominations, which is currently ongoing and due Jan. 19, 2017.

All of the current officer seats are up for re-election: chair, vice chair, secretary, treasurer and membership chair. The current officers are strongly considering re-running. Members in good standing will submit in writing the names of candidates for elective officers to the current secretary of the executive committee, Denise O’Connell from ICU. Please send nominations to Denise via email to Denise.OConnell@providence.org.

The officers’ responsibilities include, but are not limited to, helping enforce the contract, addressing issues with management, negotiating the contract, building the membership, encouraging nurses to work together to address issues, and striving for fairness and equity in the workplace. The new officers will receive training on how to carry out these duties. You can find a detailed rundown of the specific duties for each position in the bylaws found on the PNMC bargaining unit webpage.

It is preferred, but not required, that we not have more than one person in a department serving on the executive committee. This is to ensure that the entire hospital is represented well.

You must be an ONA member in order to serve as an officer or to nominate a colleague. Fair share payers are not members and as such, are ineligible to serve in a leadership position.

If you have questions about your membership status, please contact Jocelyn Pitman. She will be happy to discuss it with you.
Was Your Last Paycheck a Little Higher?

Thanks to your union contract, everyone should have noticed the 2.5 percent across-the-board wage increase in your last paycheck on Dec. 30, 2016. This increase was negotiated during bargaining and was hard won. An end-of-the-year raise did not occur when Newberg was not unionized. The only wage increase that occurred before you were unionized was in May and it was a merit increase that averaged about 1-3 percent. Now that you have a union contract, many nurses receive two raises per year, one cost of living increase and a possible step increase due to the number of steps on the wage scale.

Please contact one of your officers or your labor representative if you have any questions about wages.

2017 ONA Statewide Elections: Nominations Open

By deciding to run for an ONA statewide elected position, you make a choice to invest in your future and the future of nursing. Whether serving on a committee, cabinet, or the board, ONA leaders have the capacity to influence public policy, professional nursing standards and the advancement of the association. In a leadership position, you will help ONA and the nursing profession remain strong.

January 20, 2017 is the deadline to self-announce candidacy for the statewide ONA elections. To see all of the open leadership positions, visit the ONA website at www.OregonRN.org.

2017 ONA Elections

If you are interested in running for one of the open leadership positions, please complete the Talent Bank & Consent to Serve Form on the ONA website.

For more information, please contact Kathy Gannett at 503-293-0011 or 800-634-3552 ext. 309.

SAVE THE DATE: 2017 ONA NURSE LOBBY DAY

February 14, 2017 • Salem, OR

ONA invites you to join nurses and nursing students from around Oregon to lobby on important nursing and health policy issues and meet with your legislators.

Hundreds of nurses will rally at the Oregon State Capitol in Salem on Tuesday, Feb.14, 2017 to advocate for our patients and advance Oregon nurses’ practice. It’s vital that we have nurses represented in the key decisions that are made about our priorities and key bills that will come up in the 2017 session.

Early registration for ONA members is now open.

Visit www.OregonRN.org for more information and registration.