

September 30, 2009

Bargaining Unit Officers:

President

Becky McCay

Vice President/Secretary

Scott Widener

Treasurer

Shawn Neilson

ER Unit Rep

Scott Widener

OB Unit Rep

Tanja Church

OR/PAR Unit Rep

Michelle Sandoval

SurgiCenter Unit Rep

Sue McCarthy

Home Health/Hospice Unit

Rep

OPEN

CCU Unit Rep

Kori Dubray

Med/Surg Unit Reps

Misty Ryan

Chris Norris

Kit Evans

Membership Comm

Chris Norris

Grievance Committee

Kori Dubray

Bill Leary

Scott Widener

Sue McCarthy

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Vote Scheduled for New Bylaws and Free Days in Low Census Rotation

Our Oregon Nurses Association bargaining unit bylaws are in need of updating to bring them into compliance with ONA bylaws and national labor law. Enclosed you will find a copy of the proposed bylaws that we will consider for passage. Please review them prior to the vote.

In anticipation of some questions that may be asked about certain sections of the proposed bylaws, an explanation is provided in the boxes. Any unanswered questions or comments may be directed to Becky McCay or Diane Hedrick prior to the vote or at the bargaining unit meeting.

The bylaws provide a mechanism for collecting bargaining unit dues. A separate vote will be taken on whether to start this collection and if so, various amounts of dues will be on the ballot for choosing.

Previous ONA contracts have allowed only the first extra shift per pay period to be free in the low census rotation. Since negotiations last year, we have been trialing allowing all extra shifts to be excluded as days worked in the low census rotation. Though we are late in conducting a vote as required by the contract, we also will be voting whether you wish to continue to exclude all extra shifts. A two-thirds majority of those voting is required to continue all extra days to be free. If the vote fails or does not reach the two-thirds threshold, only two extra days per pay period will be free in future rotations.

**Bargaining Unit Meeting
And Vote
October 14
1:30-5:00 pm
Mt Harris**

Our Nurses Serving

Members of our bargaining unit have recently been elected or appointed to ONA state-wide offices or state regulatory bodies.

Becky McCay has once again been appointed to the ONA Cabinet on Economic and General Welfare (E&GW). This Cabinet is composed of staff nurses throughout Oregon and is charged with policy formation for ONA's union activities - locally, state-wide and nationally.

Cheryl Cosgrove has been appointed to the Cabinet on Health Policy and also appointed by Gov. Kulongoski to the Oregon State Board of Nursing. The Cabinet on Health Policy is responsible for creating ONA's legislative agenda in Salem such as healthcare reform. We all know what the OSBN does!

Peg Brown was appointed to ONA's Cabinet on Practice and Research. The Cabinet is charged with increasing use of quality indicators related to nursing practice, improving nurse staffing, developing a model for assessment of continuing competency, and increasing effective approaches to safe patient handling and safe work environments.

Way to go! Congratulations to all of our nurses who have stepped up to higher activities!



5 Reasons to Support Health Reform

For more information visit www.rnaction.org/healthcare

1. **Ends Unfair Insurance Coverage Practices** such as discrimination for pre-existing conditions, being dropped, having coverage watered down, and denied renewal because you get sick, gender discrimination in premium costs and annual or lifetime caps on coverage.
2. **Recognizes the Importance of Advanced Practice Registered Nurses** as fundamental to ensuring access to primary care. The House Bill increases reimbursement for Nurse Midwives, and recognizes Nurse Practitioners as leaders of Medical Home Coordinated Care models.
3. **Ends Exorbitant Out-of-Pocket Expenses, Deductibles or Co-Pays** requiring insurance companies abide by yearly caps on how much they can charge for out-of-pocket expenses. Americans pay more than ever for health insurance, but get less coverage.
4. **Provides Funding, in H.R. 3200, for Increased Nursing Workforce** amending the Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development Programs under the Public Health Service Act and including the definition of the Nurse Managed Health Centers under the Title VIII definitions.
5. **Ends Cost-Sharing for Preventive Care** requiring insurance companies to fully cover, without charge, regular checkups and tests that help you prevent illness, such as mammograms or eye and foot exams for diabetics.

Sources: White House, H.R. 3200, America's Affordable Health Choices Act of 2009