

# OREGON INDEPENDENT AGGREGATE ASSOCIATION

## – Industry News – Updates – Events –

### January 2026 Newsletter

#### Board of Directors:

Chair – Erwin Hackett

Vice Chair – Bill Leavens

Secretary/Treasurer – Melissa Bronson

Board Member – Erick Staley

Board Member – Andrew Siegmund

Board Member – Bill Ruchti



#### Secretary/Treasurer Message:

I'm stepping in for the Chairman this month to share a special dedication to Kellie Ramar. Don't worry, he'll be back next month. I'm just borrowing the spotlight briefly... and I promise to return it.

As we look ahead to another year of service and growth within OIAA, I want to take a moment to express our deep appreciation for someone who has been at the heart of our mission for many years. Kellie's dedication, leadership, and unwavering commitment have shaped this association in ways that will continue to benefit our members long into the future.

Her contributions have strengthened our organization, supported our community, and helped carry forward the values OIAA stands for. We are incredibly grateful for the time, energy, and passion she has invested in this work.

While it's never easy to see a longtime leader step into retirement, we are thrilled to celebrate this milestone with her. Please join me in congratulating Kellie on her official retirement and wishing her all the best as she begins this next chapter. Her impact will always be part of OIAA's story, and she leaves with our heartfelt thanks and warmest wishes for the road ahead.

And now... the adventure continues! Going forward, the newsletter—in all its glory—and the coordination of our trainings will fall to Melissa and the rest of the Board. Wish us luck; we're diving in with enthusiasm, caffeine, and a healthy sense of humor. We're committed to keeping things running smoothly... or at least entertainingly.

Here's to new beginnings, continued collaboration, and honoring the legacy that brought us here.

## MSHA Part 46 Training:

### Albany:

- 📍 **Location:** Linn County Fair & Expo
- 🕒 **Date & Time:** Monday, March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2026 7:00 AM – 5:00 PM

### Roseburg:

- 📍 **Location:** Douglas County Fairgrounds
- 🕒 **Date & Time:** Tuesday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2026 7:00 AM – 5:00 PM



The Board of Directors has chosen to take a new approach to delivering the MSHA Part 46 training content. We've partnered with MSHA Safety Services to provide this year's refresher training, and we're excited to bring this experience to our members. Please feel free to share this opportunity with anyone who may be interested in attending—members and non-members alike.

### Meet Eddie Oliva with MSHA Safety Services, Inc.



**MSHA Safety  
Services Inc.**



Eddie Oliva, MSHA Trainer

MSHA Safety Services Inc. provides practical, MSHA-compliant training and safety support for the mining, aggregates, dredging, and industrial minerals industries. Our programs focus on real-world application of MSHA standards, current enforcement trends, and meaningful hazard recognition—helping miners, supervisors, and managers move beyond compliance and strengthen day-to-day safety performance.

We are excited to introduce Eddie Oliva, Western Regional Safety and Health Director, as your MSHA trainer. Eddie brings a fresh, engaging instructional approach rooted in field experience and a strong understanding of MSHA regulations. His training emphasizes interaction, clear regulatory interpretation, and practical solutions that connect MSHA standards to actual mine site conditions.

Please see the MSHA Part 46 Training form attached at the end of this newsletter. You can complete it electronically using Adobe Acrobat or print it and fill it out by hand. Once finished, please submit the completed form to [melissa.bronson@kniferiver.com](mailto:melissa.bronson@kniferiver.com)

## General Information:

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We truly value and encourage active participation from all our members. You're invited to attend our meetings anytime. If you'd like to get more involved, share ideas for improving our association, or learn about upcoming meetings, please feel free to reach out to any of our board members.

### Join the Board!

With two of our founding directors retiring, we're opening the door for fresh energy and new voices—and we'd love to have you be part of it. We're actively looking to add members to our Board of Directors, and this is a great time to get involved. If you're curious, interested, or even just thinking about it, reach out to any board member or join us at our next meeting to explore the opportunity. We'd be excited to welcome you to the conversation.

### Next Meeting:

- 📍 **Location:** KPD Office – Conference Room, Springfield, OR
- 🕒 **Date & Time:** TBD

Stay tuned! The confirmed schedule will be announced in **next month's newsletter**. You won't want to miss it.

### Article Content:

We're always looking for great content to feature in our newsletter. If you have an article, safety tip, or any information you believe would benefit or interest our members, we'd love to include it. Please submit your materials to: [melissa.bronson@kniferiver.com](mailto:melissa.bronson@kniferiver.com) or [erwinh@rfpc.com](mailto:erwinh@rfpc.com)

### Newsletter Changes:

We're excited to continue building community within the Oregon Independent Aggregate Association, and one great way to do that is through our Member Spotlight feature. We invite current members to submit a short spotlight showcasing their business—whether that's a quick Q&A, a fun fact about your operation, highlights of unique projects, or non-sensitive photos of your quarry, equipment, or crew. Including a brief blurb about your company helps us share your story while giving you a little extra marketing visibility. If you'd like to be featured in an upcoming edition, we'd love to hear from you.

# Member Spotlight

Visit our website at [www.oraggregate.com](http://www.oraggregate.com)





## ANNUAL PART 46 TRAINING REGISTRATION

**Premier Corporate Members** \$1,250 Annual Free to all your employees

**Corporate Members** \$500 Annual Free to the first 10 employee \$ 100.00 for each additional

**Associate Members** \$250 Annual Free to your first employee \$ 100.00 for each additional

*Note: An Employee is someone on your payroll not contracted employees or Subcontractors*

Check your membership type and pay for any additional employees accordingly

**Please check the box of the training date you wish to attend and list all the employees that will be attending**

**March 9, 2026      Linn County Fair & Expo- Albany, Oregon 7:00 AM – 5:00 PM**

**March 10, 2026      Douglas County Fair Grounds – Roseburg, Oregon 7:00 AM – 5:00 PM**

**Company Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Contact Person:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Please CLEARLY print or type the employees that will be attending the training.**

**FIRST & LAST NAME**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
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**FIRST & LAST NAME**

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**Non-members** the charge is \$ 350.00 for small companies (1 – 2 attendees) and \$ 650.00 for larger companies (3 or more). Please complete the information below. An invoice will be mailed to you. If you want to join the association and receive a discount on this training please contact Melissa Bronson at (541) 643-0858.

Email your completed form to [melissa.bronson@kniferiver.com](mailto:melissa.bronson@kniferiver.com)

***Only those registered will be allowed to attend. Please call with any name change requests (541)643-0858***