

New England Region 28

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## NESGNA President's Letter



Dear New England Members,

Spring is finally upon us. The sunshine and the bright colors of the early flowers are welcoming sights.

I would like to give a big thanks to Katie Snyder for getting this newsletter to print. Great job Katie.

In the past newsletter, I mentioned the possibility of providing educational opportunities for Endoscopy technicians. Larry Muscarella PhD and editor of the Q-Net Monthly will be one of our guest speakers at our fall meeting Sept 25<sup>th</sup>. Larry has educated us about recommended practices concerning SARS. He has clarified information about infection control practices in the GI setting. He sites SGNA and AORN guidelines. He has recently raised concerns about possible water born infections. He makes us think about why we do what we do! If you would like to become more familiar with his work you may read all his published articles at [www.myendosite.com](http://www.myendosite.com).

Infection Control is always a hot topic in the GI Lab. Encourage your endoscopy technicians and nurses to attend the Sept meeting. Registration for techs will be \$ 25.00.

Lisa Heard our immediate Past-President is on the national task force looking at the role and education of the GI Associate and Technician. We look forward to hearing from her in our next newsletter.

The National Conference is fast approaching. I hope we get to see a lot of familiar faces. If you're going to be in Dallas, stop by at Regional Night. Have your picture taken with a celebrity!

Attending the National Course is one of the highlights of the year. It is an amazing opportunity to be in a place where you can strike up a conversation with 1000 other people if you want to and never run out of things to talk about; "Our unit does it this way...Our Docs do it that way...We tried it both ways, the one that worked best for us is..." It's a great opportunity to learn the latest in GI Nursing and technology.

Good luck to everyone taking the Certification exam this month!

Linda Allen CGRN  
President NESGNA





### March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2004 Meeting Results:

#### Dr. Benjamin Smith: *Acute and Chronic Diarrhea*

97% gave the highest rating and 3% gave the 2nd highest rating.

The winner of the GI Day Celebration Breakfast was Claire Mooney (New England Medical Center).

### April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2004 Meeting Results:

#### Linda Allen RN: *GERD*, Dr. Raymond Chung:

#### *Portal hypertension*, Dr. Kanishka Bhattacharya:

#### *Polypectomy*

Over 90% of responses gave the highest ratings to all speakers.

Winners of the (5) \$100 SGNA Certificates include: Linda Donovan from South Shore Endoscopy, Allison Enwright from Parkland Medical Center, Bonnie Holleran from Metrowest Medical Center, and Mary Iandoli from Emerson Hospital. Mary McAuley from MGH won the Gift Basket from Pentax.

### 2004 Meeting Dates at the Burlington Marriott

Saturday, September 25- ½ day program:

\*Terri Vos: *What's new in ERCP*

\*Dr. Muscarella: *Infection Control*

\*Dr. Thompson: *Bariatric Surgery*

Wednesday, November 10- Dinner meeting

\*Dr. Saltzman: *New Technologies*

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### 2005 Meeting Dates at the Burlington Marriott

- January 22, ½ day program
  - April 2, ½ day program
  - September 24, ½ day program
- Please note the change in the schedule for the 2005 conferences. One of our goals is to provide interesting education to our NESGNA members at a reasonable price. We had a number of members express interest in having more ½ day programs, and the trend in registration is that almost twice as many people attend the Saturday programs than the evening programs. Probably many of you have even signed up for an evening program only to end up working overtime to take care of an emergency and have to miss the meeting. We are listening and want to change to meet your busy schedules! So, for the next year, we will offer 3, ½ day programs instead of 2, ½ day and 3 evening programs. The contact hours for the year remain the same, total 10.8 hours for the year for all 3.
  - We believe that Burlington is still the easiest location for most members to drive to. But, we would like to ask for your feedback as to the location...would you like us to vary the town or location *for 2006*? Do you have suggestions for reasonably priced hotels or conference centers?
  - Your feedback will be requested on the September 25<sup>th</sup> Program evaluation form. If you are unable to attend, please feel free to e-mail or call anyone on the board.



## JCAHO UPDATE

National Safety Goals due by July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2004

Are you ready????? JCAHO National Patient Safety Goals 1 and 4 affects patient care and documentation in Endoscopy Units. Source: [www.jcaho.org](http://www.jcaho.org)

1. "Improve the accuracy of patient identification" requires that two pieces of information be used to identify the patient. Make sure your policies are updated to correctly identify the patient. Examples are: correct spelling of name and correct birth date.
4. "Eliminate wrong-site, wrong-patient, wrong-procedure..." requires a two-step process. The first is a pre-procedure verification process to confirm that appropriate documents are available. Does the assessment, history, physical, consent, etc. all support the correct procedure for the patient? The second step is the final verification such as a "time out" process using active communication with all involved staff just prior to beginning the procedure. This "time out" check must be documented on the procedure record.



Dear NESGNA Board,

*The fees for GI Certification are expensive...any way of reducing the cost? You could increase NESGNA membership if it wasn't so expensive to be certified. The board gets lots of money from vendors; why not give it to members to certify?*

From the Board...

- CBGNA fee: this price is set by CBGNA, which is a separate board from SGNA. They set the price and in reviewing other RN specialty certification fees, they are all similar in price. For members, it's \$300 to certify and \$250 to recertify. In comparison, Peri-Operative RN's, pay \$165 (and 90 hours) to recert every 3 years. This is more frequent than CBGNA, which is every 5 years (and 100 hours). Source: [www.cbgna.org](http://www.cbgna.org) vs. [www.cpancapa.org](http://www.cpancapa.org)
- Membership: you do not need to be certified to be a SGNA member. We welcome all nurses and associates.
- Grants and donations from vendors go towards the speaker fees, speaker's travel and lodging expenses, website costs, mailings to members, and scholarships for members, etc. Vendor money is given back to the members through these and other venues.

### 2004 NESGNA Scholarships - Congratulations Go To:

#### Certification Scholarship

Kathy Slatt, RN, BSN from Children's Hospital



#### Annual Conference Scholarship

Janice Storch, BA, ADN, RN from Saints Memorial MC



### ***Lab Management SIG Season Wrap-Up....***

Many members and guests gathered at various hospitals over the last 8 months to learn, ask about current practices and policies, network, and have dinner and enjoy a good time!!

We met at Newton-Wellesley Hospital in September, Falmouth Hospital in October, NWH again in November, Quincy Hospital in January, Falmouth again in March, and ended in April at NWH. Do you have a conference room at your hospital and would you like to host a SIG meeting? It's easy and fun. If you have a room, we can take care of everything else.

Questions??? Contact Arlene Myers McKim at [arldicmcki@aol.com](mailto:arldicmcki@aol.com)



### ***NESGNA Presenters at the Dallas 31<sup>st</sup> SGNA Conference, May 14-19, 2004***



Sandra Cialfi, RN, MBA, CGRN and Jean Killam, RN, CGRN will be on the team presenting *ERCP Models Basic* (#102)

Donna Girard, BSN, RN, CGRN will present *Equipment Care and Infection Control* (#031)

Jane Harker, BSN, MS, RN, CGRN will be on the team presenting *Enhance Your Knowledge about EUS*. (#002) Then with Dr. Brenna Bounds from Massachusetts General Hospital will present *New Frontiers in Endoscopic Ultrasound* (#328)

Lisa Heard, RN, CGRN, NESGNA-Past President will present *Caring for Children in the GI Procedure Unit*. (#132) Then later, *Pediatric Biliary Disorders and the Role of ERCP* (#345)

Jean Killam RN, CGRN will also present *The Patient with Upper GI Bleeding* (#333)

Chris Robbins, RN, CGRN will be on the team presenting *EUS Advanced* (#121)

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