

New England Region 28

## *In This Issue*

- *President's Letter*
- *2005 Meeting Dates*
- *Scholarships Awarded*
- *Lab Management SIG Annual SGNA Conference*

### **NESGNA Officers & Board 2005**

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*Jennie Allen, Editor*

## NESGNA President's Letter



### NESGNA President's Letter

April 2005

Along with our record setting winter weather, we are having a record setting year for NESGNA as well. We were host to 177 GI Nurses and techs at the GI Nurses Certification Review Course presented by the one and only Doris Barnie, Nurse Extraordinaire (our informal consensus of what her title should be), on March 12 and 13, 2005. Almost everyone commented on how well the information was presented and the funny cartoons kept everyone looking forward to what would come next. The turnout speaks highly for the dedication of GI nurses. Despite another snowstorm bringing 6-12 inches and power outages to New England on the 12<sup>th</sup>, nurses came from Minnesota, Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, Maine, Vermont, Rhode Island, New Hampshire and Connecticut as well as all parts of Massachusetts to learn more about GI. We wish good luck to all of the nurses who are studying to take the certification exam in May. Massachusetts will be offering 2 sites for the exam in May, Newton (near Boston), and Springfield. Our neighboring region, Connecticut, will be hosting the test site in October. Please check [www.cbgn.org](http://www.cbgn.org) website for more details.

Congratulations to Massachusetts General Hospital who won the GI Nurses' Day Breakfast.

NESGNA sent goodies and coffee to 50 nurses for their staff meeting.

Congratulations also to our members who won the (3) \$400. scholarships for the Annual Course in Minneapolis: June Casper, Gracelyn Ischia and Carolyn Bateman.

Eight members are presenting at the Annual Course; and over 40 members attended last year so we are expecting a similar turnout for Minneapolis as well. The NESGNA kickoff party at the Ratskellar in Dallas was such a big hit, we are planning another get-together to start the conference off on a roll this year too. Watch for the notice by e-mail for all who have registered. We look forward to seeing you in Minneapolis soon!

How are we doing? Are we meeting your needs for education, communication, information, networking, and accessibility? We continue to develop and change thanks to feedback from you.

We appreciate the comments and suggestions you provide on the evaluation forms after a conference. We review them at our board meetings and use your ideas to plan education for the next year. If you have an idea for a topic, or a speaker that you think would be great for us to have, please let us know. I hope you enjoyed our Spring Conference on April 2<sup>nd</sup>.

We will soon be thinking of getting outside and planting. I think of this for months before realizing it's midsummer and the farm stands are overflowing with fresh veges.

Spring has finally arrived!

Keep in Touch,  
Katie Snyder  
NESGNA President





Kim Foley and Donna Girard shared their international GI Nursing experiences with us at the January 2005 NESGNA meeting. They visited GI facilities in China in the Fall 2004.

Prizes were given away at this meeting to Katie Snyder, Liz McClellan, Chris Robbins, Deb Naughton, Paulette Lammerding, Lisa Heard, Pat Carroll and Kathy Bielawa. They correctly diagnosed unusual GI cases or answered trivia questions. It was a great meeting. Over 140 people attended.

### **March-**

#### **Colon Cancer Awareness month.**

Quincy Hospital was the setting for the NESGNA Colon Cancer Awareness Day. Deb Gates and her staff did a great job educating the public about the importance of Colon Cancer Screening.

**GI Nurses and Associates Day-** A breakfast was awarded to the team of Endoscopy Staff at the Mass General Hospital ! We hope everyone had the opportunity to celebrate all your hard work and dedication to your patients and communities.

### **April-**

**National Organ Donor Month.** A spokesperson from the NewEngland Organ Bank was the opening speaker at the April ½ day meeting. Liver topics were the highlight of the morning. Linda Corey RN, MS, APRN was presenter for the Hepatitis C lecture.

Also in April, NESGNA sponsored the Cape Cod GI Educational Conference in Hyannis Mass. Arlene MyersMcKim ,current board member, worked closely with the coordinators of the Cape Cod conference to make it a huge success.

### **May-**

**Certification Exam May 14<sup>th</sup>.** Good Luck to all sitting for the exam.

SGNA National Course – Minneapolis

May 3<sup>rd</sup> SIG meeting- The importance of Impedence Manometry and PH

September 24th

**½ day Breakfast Meeting. 7am-12pm@ Burlington Marriott.**

November 15<sup>th</sup> .

**Tuesday Evening 6PM . Educational and Business Dinner Meeting.**





**Walk for Research**

The NESGNA has donated \$ 500.00 to the Walk for Research.

A great way to promote Nursing Research

Thinking of joining the NESGNA Board? We are a committed team, aspiring to make the New England region one that serves its members in the best way possible. Please contact Linda Allen CGRN if you are interested in learning more. We would love to have you join us.

[Lin.allen@adelphia.net](mailto:Lin.allen@adelphia.net)



**3 National  
Scholarships were  
awarded at the  
Certification Prep  
Course March  
2005**

## NESGNA “SCOPE”

**Have you had the chance to read some of the very interesting educational articles in the latest 2 SGNA Journals?**

**You will see the SGNA recommendations for GI Nursing Assessments. A great way to update your own assessment tools. You can also read the research article regarding use of Capnography in GI pediatric and adult patients. These are practical and current issues in the field of GI nursing. Thanks SGNA for a job well done!**

**A special Kudos to Lisa Heard for her contribution in the Capnography article. You can be sure there will be many of us referencing your study and applying your findings to our daily practice.**

### **NESGNA Presenters at Minneapolis 32<sup>nd</sup> SGNA Conference, May 2005**

Donna Girard, BSN, RN, CGRN, Past President NESGNA, from Faulkner Hospital, “Equipment Care and Infection Control”

Jane Harker, BSN, MS, RN, CGRN and Chris Robbins RN, CGRN from Mass General Hospital, will present “ The Dave Project” Digital Atlas of Video Endoscopy.

Jane Harker- “ Passion for Endoscopic Ultrasound”

Chris Robbins- RN, CGRN, from Mass General Hospital, “Advanced Endoscopic Ultrasound”

Lisa Heard, RN, CGRN, Past President NESGNA, and current National Secretary, from Boston Children’s Hospital, “ New Technologies in the Pediatric Patient” and “ Caring for Children in the GI Pediatric Unit”

Sandra Cialfi, MBA,BSN, CGRN, Past President NESGNA and current National Treasurer, along with Jean Killam RN, CGRN, from Brigham and Woman’s Hospital, “ ERCP *Models*”

Angelleen Peters- Lewis, PhD, RN, from Massachusetts General Hospital, “ The Magnet Journey” and “Using video to educate Motility Patients”

#### **NESGNA**

**Committed to Excellence in GI  
Nursing**

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Visit us at [www.nesgna.org](http://www.nesgna.org)