



# NESGNA "SCOPE"

Spring 2006

New England Region 28

## In This Issue

*President's Letter*

*CCFA- Find a Cure. Raise awareness*

*New England -Region of the Year*

*Certification*

*Legislation*

### **NESGNA Officers & Board 2006**

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## President's Letter

### **Kim Foley RN, CGRN NESGNA President**

The spring edition of the newsletter is a little late going out, but I have to say, I'm glad we waited. It gives me the opportunity to announce, in a more timely manner, a great honor that has been bestowed upon our region. At the SGNA Annual Course held in San Antonio, Texas, Nancy DeNiro, SGNA President, announced that out of 62 regions, New England is the winner of the Outstanding Regional Society of the Year Award for 2006. This award recognizes the Regional Society most active and dynamic in achieving the goals of SGNA at the regional level. Recognizing the importance of contributions made by Regional Societies, SGNA established this award to acknowledge these efforts and encourage Regional Societies to take pride in their accomplishments.

Winning this award didn't happen overnight. It took many years of dedication and hard work from numerous volunteers, for New England to achieve this distinction. It is truly a great honor, one that we can all be very proud of. On behalf of the Board of Directors of NESGNA, I would like to say congratulations and thank you to everyone who worked so hard to make New England what it is today.

That being said, I would like to invite each and every member of New England to think about running for the board. Become part of the leadership of our outstanding region. The time commitment isn't overwhelming and the rewards are invaluable. You don't have to jump in as President-elect, although our last two presidents did just that, start off by running for director. If that seems too intimidating, volunteer to work on a committee. We need fresh ideas, enthusiasm, and dedication to keep the region vibrant. Please feel free to contact me, or any board member, with questions and for more information. Visit the website at [www.nesgna.org](http://www.nesgna.org) to find out about job descriptions and how to contact the board. Keep New England in the forefront of gastroenterology nursing. Remember, the future of NESGNA is you.

As I write this letter, I can't help but reflect on how rejuvenated I am after attending this year's Annual Course in San Antonio. The lectures, posters, vendor programs, and the opportunity to network with nurses from all over the country, provide a valuable source of knowledge, thereby enabling us to enhance and elevate our levels of GI nursing practice. For those of you who could not attend the course this year, plan to go next year. Baltimore, Maryland is the host city in 2007. Be part of the fun and camaraderie and learn lots about GI nursing along the way.

In the last newsletter I encouraged everyone to become more involved in the community and raise awareness of GI issues. I'd like to take this time to encourage all GI nurses of NESGNA to form teams from your hospitals and participate in the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America (CCFA) "Guts and Glory" Walks or Runs being held at various times throughout New England. These events raise funds and awareness for the research, education, and advocacy work of CCFA. Participating in a "Guts and Glory" Walk or Run offers a great opportunity for fellowship in your community, and you'll also play an important part in helping CCFA eradicate Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis. The Boston walk is being held on September 9<sup>th</sup> and follows the Freedom Trail. It's not too early to start organizing, so please visit their website at [www.ccfa.org](http://www.ccfa.org), for more information on the walks and other ways to support CCFA.



**The New England SGNA will donate \$25.00 to the CCFA for every \$250.00 raised by a participating NESGNA team. Go to the website. You can easily create your own web page and watch your progress as you help find a cure for Inflammatory Bowel Disease.**

“Hope Floats” is another event being held by the CCFA on September 9<sup>th</sup>. Go to the CCFA website under the heading of Great Events. Learn how you can register, receive pledges and if you’re daring enough, go for a ride in the skies. Here’s another way to support the CCFA if Walking isn’t for you.



## Gastroenterology Nursing Certification

The New England SGNA is hosting a test site for the fall 2006 CGRN exam.  
The date is October 15<sup>th</sup>.

Location: Winchester Hospital. 41 Highland Ave Winchester Ma. 01890

Contact Kim Foley at [kimfoley\\_nesgna@yahoo.com](mailto:kimfoley_nesgna@yahoo.com).

Phone 781-932-9660

(The CBGNA website will be posting the Winchester location on their website in the near future. Please contact Kim Foley for more details)

GI Certification requires dedication and perseverance to achieve. For most of us it also means letting go of our fears of failing and giving it a try. Open the Core Curriculum and read a little each week. Talk with your docs while you’re in the procedures rooms about Ischemic colitis, Inflammatory Bowel Disease, ERCP and EUS. Give it a try, encourage your friends. Go for it!

Application deadline is August 11<sup>th</sup>.

**The NESGNA will award \$100.00 to all newly certified and recertified NESGNA members for 2006.**



Gastroenterology Nurses and Associates, Inc.

<http://www.cbgna.org>

## Congratulations New England Region 28- Outstanding Regional Society 2006!!!



### NESGNA On a Mission in San Antonio

What a fantastic annual SGNA meeting for all members of NESGNA! The weather could not have been nicer (I think we all finally dried out). Winning Outstanding Regional Society was the highlight of the week. Of special note, Sandy Cialfi from Brigham and Women's Hospital is now our National President-Elect!! Lisa Heard from Boston Children's Hospital is currently the National Secretary for SGNA. Kim Foley from Winchester Hospital and myself from Massachusetts General Hospital will serve on the Nominations and Elections Committee. Also, Janet King from MGH will be co-facilitator for the Manometry e-SIG, and Donna Girard from Faulkner Hospital will serve on the Practice Committee. Katie Snyder, immediate Past-President is now the newly appointed CO-Chair of the Research e-SIG.

There were three posters presented at the meeting by NESGNA members: Kim Foley and Donna Girard entered an Educational Poster titled "SGNA Gastroenterology Nursing Delegation to China." Lisa Heard, Erik Riley, and Mary McLaughlin, all from Children's Hospital won third prize for their Research Poster titled "Miralex Verses Fleets Phosphosoda for Bowel Preparation in Children." Chris Robbins and I from MGH won first prize for our Educational Poster titled "The DAVE GI Nursing Project: an Innovative Way to Share Information."

Regional Society 2006 continued..

Many of our regional members also were involved in presentations during our six day annual course. Sandy Cialfi presented two “Hands-on Advanced ERCP” Optional courses. Jean Killam from Brigham and Women’s Hospital presented a “Hands-on Basic ERCP” Optional course. Kate Donovan from Children’s Hospital presented “We are on a Mission: A Panel Discussion Regarding Associate Issues.” Lisa Heard presented “The Pediatric Patient in the GI Lab” and “Capnography in the GI Lab: Ventilation Monitoring during Procedural Sedation.” Donna Girard presented the Optional Session “Infection Control and Equipment Reprocessing: Exceeding Expectations.”

The following MGH nurses presented concurrent sessions: Lillian Ananian and Margie Voltero, “Introduction to the Nurse Triage Role for Inpatient Endoscopy Patients.” Judy Corbett, “Video Capsule Endoscopy: Bridging the Gap.” Janet King, “Motility and pH Procedures: The Patient’s Perspective.” And Chris Robbins and myself, “The DAVE GI Nursing Project: An Innovative Way to Share Information.”

WHEW.....no wonder we won Outstanding Region!!!  
Congratulations to everyone for a job well done.

Jane Harker, MS, BSN, RN, CGRN  
New England SGNA President Elect

## Some of the New England "Walkers for Research"





## Food for Thought

### The Nurse Triage Role for Inpatient Endoscopy Patients

The above mentioned educational session was presented in San Antonio by Lillian Ananian and Margie Voltero from Mass General Hospital.

I did not attend the national conference this year but would have certainly signed up for this session had I gone. All was not lost. The DAVE GI Nursing Project website contains a short audio clip that describes the Patient Quality Improvement Process the nurses at Mass General developed.

How do you assess the acuity of your inpatients and their readiness for procedures?  
What system does your unit have to accommodate your volume of add-on procedures?  
Which inpatients are classified as high risk for receiving sedation and for potential complications such as bleeding due to a coagulopathy?  
Even a more basic question of “How did the prep go?”

I am very interested in all of these questions. As a team Leader in the Endoscopy Unit at Beverly Hospital I like to be prepared. Like all of the great staff I work with, we want to assure our patients have a good experience and the unit runs smoothly. How can we prevent these road blocks from occurring?

The website is a wonderful resource to get you started. Lots of food for thought.

Go to [www.thedaveproject.org/gi\\_nursing](http://www.thedaveproject.org/gi_nursing). to learn more about the Nurse Triage Role for Inpatient Endoscopy Patients. Email us at [www.nesgna.org](http://www.nesgna.org) with any of your thoughts or ideas. Linda Allen CGRN- Editor

FYI- The results of the “GI Call Survey” will be published in the next newsletter.



## Legislative News

[www.michelleslaw.com](http://www.michelleslaw.com).

Michelle developed colon cancer while attending college. She was advised to decrease her course load in order to maintain her health during rounds of chemotherapy. Her health insurance policy was in force only as long as she maintained a full time student status.

Go to the above website to read more about Michelle's story. New legislation is being considered in New Hampshire to assure continued health insurance coverage for college students.

### **SAVE THESE DATES:**

September 16, 2006- Saturday 7am-12pm. NESGNA Burlington Marriott

November 14, 2006- Evening Business/ Educational Dinner Burlington Marriott

2006 Multiregional Conference: October 13-15<sup>th</sup> and CGRN Test Site. Albany NY.  
Contact Barb Schwant @ 518-887-2850

CTSGNA Fall Conference October 20-21 2006. Foxwoods Resort and Casino, Connecticut. Contact Gail Steele @ [gsteel170@yahoo.com](mailto:gsteel170@yahoo.com)

October 15, 2006 - Certification exam. Regional exam site @ Winchester Hospital. Application deadline August 11<sup>th</sup>

## Call for Nominations

Nominations and Election of the 2007 NESGNA Board is fast approaching. If you are interested in running for a position or would like to nominate a candidate, please contact Katie Snyder  
[howland48@yahoo.com](mailto:howland48@yahoo.com).

### Open Board positions:

Secretary  
President Elect  
Director (2)

**The New England SGNA was voted “Region of the Year” 2006.** Join the leadership and be a part of providing great opportunities for excellence in GI Nursing. You have a lot to offer. Go to [www.nesgna.org](http://www.nesgna.org) to learn more about the job descriptions.