



# NESGNA "SCOPE"

Winter 2005

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New England Region 28

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## NESGNA President's Letter

January 2005

Hard to believe it's 2005. For the many baby boomers in our ranks, the years after 2000 used to conjure up images of living like Penny and Will in *Lost in Space*. We are now halfway to 2010 and although we are not living the *Space Odyssey*, there are so many changes in technology that we constantly have to learn and adapt. We are very fortunate at NESGNA to have a 'Board' of GI nurses who embrace learning and put a great deal of energy into their work, into reading about the latest research in journals, and then in finding ways to enrich our region with great conferences, networking, scholarships, and a passion for GI nursing!

We are excited to offer the course from Doris Barnie on "GI Nurse's Review Course." It will benefit new and 'seasoned' GI nurses and techs with an in-depth review of all GI systems and related topics. We hope that many of you will take advantage of this wonderful course. Don't wait too long to invest in yourself, learning is very rewarding and nourishes your spirit.

Keeping up with technology is a lot easier than catching up after 'snoozing in space.' For the Generation X and Millennium nurses, the technology you will use in the future will probably surpass our wildest dreams. 2010 is not far from us now. As Hal-9000 asked in *2010*, we also wonder: "What's going to happen?" As in the movie, we hope the answer for us will also be: "Something wonderful!"

**Katie Snyder**  
**NESGNA President**

***Congratulations and High Five to the following NESGNA members on their 2004 Certification!!!***

### NESGNA Officers & Board 2004

#### President

Katie Snyder, BSN, RN, CGRN, MM

#### President-Elect

Kim Foley RN, CGRN

#### Past President

Linda Allen RN, CGRN

#### Treasurer

Deb Gates BS, RN, CGRN

#### Secretary

Sandy Hession, BSN, RN, CGRN

#### Board

Jane Harker MS, RN, CGRN

Arlene McKim, RN, CGRN

Linda Corey, MS, RN, APRN, BC

Carol McAlvin, RN, CGRN



Jane Thomas, Taunton, MA	May
Julie Brown, Turners Falls, MA	Oct.
Maureen Byrne, Watertown, MA	"
Cecilia Catone, Wakefield, MA	"
Kathleen Giacchetti, South Weymouth, MA	"
Mary Grealish, Dedham, MA	"
Cynthia Janssens, Hubbardston, MA	"
Dominique Jerome, Bedford, NH	"
Jean Kelleher, Alna, MA	"
Ann Marie Kirkpatrick, Merrimack, NH	"
Shirley Marchowsky, Nashua, NH	"
Christina Morley, Reading, MA	"
Deborah Palmer, Brookline, MA	"
Patricia Rizkallah, Derry, NH	"



## Anyone looking for something good to read???

Now that the holiday rush is over, I have a little more time to get to the piles of reading material that have been waiting for me. Of course, one of my priorities is the GI Nursing Journal. I most recently read the article written by Larry Muscarella, PhD., "The Risk of Disease Transmission during Gastrointestinal Endoscopy". Larry is the Director of Research and Development for Custom Ultrasonics, Inc. He cited the inaccurate and irresponsible way in which the News Media reported facts about a group of patients having acquired a nosocomial infection. The infection was related to a GI procedure that led to patient death. The article was thought provoking to say the least. It made me review again the practices in our unit. Are we following all of the SGNA guidelines for reprocessing our scopes? Are there any changes I need to oversee? Has everyone had the education they need to understand and practice safely? I made a mental and written note (**You know how that goes**) to arrange an educational in-service. I especially support Larry's message: Follow the Scope Manufacturer's Guidelines, follow your AER (Automated Endoscope Reprocessor) Guidelines, and also follow the SGNA Guidelines to include the drying and storage of the scopes.

The Journal also referred to the SGNA Website and the common questions we all have about why we do what we do. The article, "Current Trends in Gastroenterology" written by Deb Huber, talks about the need for continued research in our field. Do we change the suction tubing between patients? How many times have we asked this question? A lot! I encourage you to consider doing a research project and support the SGNA's efforts for research.

The journal is great for picking up tidbits you may find helpful in preparing for the certification exam. For example: The Abdominal X-ray is the gold standard in assessing placement of Nasogastric or orogastric tubes. This particular article reviews the research and findings done regarding other methods of tube placement assessment.

I am a great fan of the Gastroenterology Nursing Journal. I also love to read a good book just for the pure escape and relaxation it brings. Take Care of the Care Giver. That's a must!

I look forward to 2005. There are a lot of interesting lectures coming our way. Hope to see you there.

**Immediate Past-President  
Linda Allen CGRN**

NESGNA  
Committed to  
Excellence in  
GI Nursing

### 2005 Meeting Dates at the Burlington Marriott

- January 22, ½ day program
- April 2, ½ day program
- September 24, ½ day program
- November 15, dinner (& business) conference

### March 12-13, 2005 GI Nurses Certification Review Course at Newton Wellesley Hospital

The course will be two full days, 7:30-4:30, on Saturday and Sunday, and taught by Doris C. Barnie, MSN, RN, CNS, CGRN. 16 CEUs Earned

Registration forms have been mailed to members. For additional copies, contact Katie Snyder: [ksnyder1@partners.org](mailto:ksnyder1@partners.org) or call 617-243-6055; or click on [www.nesgna.org](http://www.nesgna.org) and click on certification page where you will find a link to download and print the registration form.

March 12, 2005 is the registration deadline to take the CBGNA test on May 14, 2005.  
March 27, 2005 is the late registration deadline (\$50. additional fee) for May 14, 2005.  
Please go to [www.cbgna.org](http://www.cbgna.org) website for a registration form or call: Tel: 800-245-SGNA (7462), Option 3, to request a form in the mail.

**NOTE: NESGNA has applied to host a test site in New England on May 14, 2005**



You Can Win One of Three NESGNA Scholarships For The  
SGNA 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Course in Minneapolis, Minnesota  
May 14-18, 2005

Passion for GI Nursing: Pass It On!

NESGNA is offering (3) \$400. Scholarships to Members Attending the 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Course.

One scholarship is for newer members who joined in 2003, 2004, or this year.

One scholarship is for members who have been with us since at least 2002 (1976-2002).

One scholarship is for all members and will be drawn after combining both groups of remaining applications. So, everyone has 2 chances to win!

Please complete:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

Town, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Joined SGNA (NESGNA):  1976-2002  2003-2005

SGNA Membership # \_\_\_\_\_

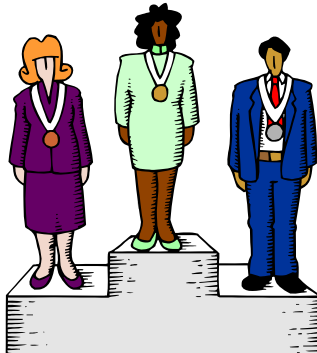
Mail to:  
Debbie Gates  
15 Marion Ave  
Norwood, MA 02026

Or Fax to:  
Katie Snyder  
617-243-6072

Or E-Mail to:  
ksnyder1@partners.org

**Drawing will be on March 12<sup>th</sup> at the NESGNA Certification Review Course.** You do not need to be present to win. Early Registration deadline for the SGNA Course is March 18<sup>th</sup>. Scholarships will be given to winners in Minneapolis at the NESGNA Get-Together on 5/14.

Restrictions: Current NESGNA board members, or any NESGNA member who is already reimbursed by their employer for this amount, please refrain from applying.



## NESGNA "SCOPE"

### **Lab Management SIG .... Informal meetings open to all GI staff!**

Revised 2005 dates: February 17 at Beverly Hospital: please rsvp to Katie Snyder: 617-243-6055  
February's meeting hosted by Olympus and Nancy Schlossberg, RNC, will discuss *Future Innovations*.  
Other dates: March 9 at Falmouth Hospital; May 3, location pending.  
Please rsvp to Arlene Myers McKim if able to attend: W: 508-862-5244 or H: 508-385-3825  
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.



*Dear NESGNA Board,  
Should I take the NESGNA GI Nurses Certification Review Course by Doris Barnie although I am not planning on taking the test this year?*

From the Board....

I would definitely recommend taking the course to give you a good understanding of GI and also the other related categories such as history of GI nursing, standards, role delineation, infection control, non-endoscopic procedures, occupational hazards, and research.

Working in the GI area contributes to your knowledge of technical aspects of endoscopy. Doris' course (and the SGNA Core Curriculum) round out your knowledge of topics that you do not pick up just by working. Education is never wasted. The knowledge you gain will contribute to higher quality care for your patients and increased job satisfaction. You will understand more of what you do everyday and understand more of the exciting cases you see just once in a while.

So I would recommend taking the course, and then when you are ready to take the test, everything you study will seem easier because your knowledge accumulated over time rather than as a crash course.

### **NESGNA**

**Committed to Excellence in GI  
Nursing**

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