

NESGNA "SCOPE"

Winter 2008



New England Region 28

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President's Letter Linda Corey MSN, APRN-BC, NESGNA President 2008

It may be winter in New England, with snow still on the ground, but I can smell spring in the air. As the old adage goes, if you don't like the weather in New England just wait a minute and it will change.

Change is also occurring in our region. The NESGNA web site is being updated and hopefully will become more user-friendly. I urge you all to log on to both our regional and national sites at www.NESGNA.org and www.SGNA.org. The educational opportunities and materials you will find there are great resources. One example is the discussion forum on the national site. It is a wonderful source of information and is open to all to submit as well as answer questions. Recent topics include: staffing patterns, cleaning equipment, manometry, and treating GI bleeds. In the near future, we will be utilizing the NESGNA website to inform members of future events. Given the increasing cost of mailing, it seems a better use of our resources to post the newsletters and registration forms for our educational meetings on the website. You won't be able to register on-line, but the forms can be printed and mailed with a check to the NESGNA treasurer for registration. "Save the Dates" for educational offerings will also be posted in advance and edited when speakers are confirmed. In addition, we plan to send out e-mail notices so it is imperative that you update your member profile (e-mail address) on the national website. You can do this by logging onto SGNA, click on 'update profile', 'edit' and submit changes.

A personal opportunity for change is to get out of your comfort zone. Try doing this at our next meeting. Instead of sitting with co-workers at the seminars, sit at a different table and meet new people. Network with other GI nurses. There is a lot of knowledge among our attendees that can be easily shared in this informal setting. Mingle, mingle, mingle. You might be surprised at what you find out.

A quick reminder...If you haven't done so already, now is the time to renew your membership to NESGNA. Only 300 people have sent in their dues to date, and last year, membership exceeded 400. Keep New England the largest SGNA region by renewing now.

Finally, March is Colon Cancer Awareness Month. This is a great opportunity to introduce our organization to the community. Offer to speak at a local senior center, church or organization to help change the public perception of the "dreaded" colonoscopy. Encourage your hospital to display posters or offer lectures by gastroenterologists. Spread the word!

The 2008 SGNA Annual Course is being held in Salt Lake City, Utah. (Log onto the SGNA web site for dates and information) Hopefully, many of you will be attending this very educational and exciting event. We were happy to see so many applications for the scholarships we awarded at the January meeting. If this is any indication of attendance, New England will be well represented at the course. Regional Night will be exciting as some of our members will test their knowledge in the Quiz Bowl. And you won't want to miss the "passing of the gavel" for the SGNA presidency at the Gala Awards Banquet. Our own, Lisa Heard from Children's Hospital will be accepting the presidential position from our own Sandi Cialfi from Brigham and Women's Hospital. In addition to having executive board positions filled by New England members, we also have Donna Girard elected to SGNA Nominations and Elections Committee, Kim Foley on the Program Committee, and Jane Harker most recently elected Director.

Mark your calendars for the spring 1/2 Day Seminar on April 12, 2008, and don't forget the venue is the Burlington Marriott. There may be snow on the ground as you read this letter, but it will be spring when we next get together.

Looking forward to seeing everyone in April.

CONGRATULATIONS 2008 NESGNA SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Carol Shuman-Children's Hospital

June Guarente-Massachusetts General Hospital

Deborah Creedon-Central Mass Ambulatory Endoscopy Center

The DAVE Project

Have you heard about it?

The Digital Atlas of Video Education. Go to www.thedaveproject.org/ginursing where you will find various video and audio educational sessions related to GI Nursing. The site was developed by Jane Harker, RN, CGRN and Chris Robbins, RN, CGRN, both of whom work at Massachusetts General Hospital and are members of the 2008 NESGNA Board. Four new videos have recently been added and anyone can contribute. Check out the site and find out how.

Spotlight on...

Metro West Medical Center

Metro West Medical Center (MWMC) is located 17 miles west of Boston. The Center consists of two hospitals: Leonard Morse Hospital in Natick, MA and Framingham Union Hospital in Framingham, MA. Each hospital has four procedures rooms and serves more than thirteen communities.

Approximately 12,000 procedures are performed annually. They include diagnostic and therapeutic: colonoscopy, esophagogastroduodenoscopy (EGD), enteroscopy, PEG tube placement (gastric and jejunal), ERCP, bronchoscopy, EUS, capsule placement, liver biopsy, and bone marrow biopsy.

The units are staffed 24 hours a day. An on-call team is available during non-scheduled hours. We are dedicated to the delivery of outstanding health care services provided by highly qualified employees and physicians who consistently demonstrate compassion and respect for our patients and the diversity of the cultures we serve.

Joyce Aspell, BSN, RN, CGRN, CNOR

Educational Offerings

SAVE THESE 2008 NESGNA MEETING DATES

April 12, 2008-Saturday-7:00am 12:30pm-1/2 day breakfast meeting Burlington Marriott

September 13, 2008-Saturday-7:00am-12:30pm-1/2 day breakfast meeting-Newton Marriott

November 20, 2008-Thursday 6:00pm -9:00pm dinner/business meeting-Burlington Marriott

Special Interest Group (SIG) Meetings

Please join us for the NESGNA Special interest group meetings!

Simply contact us if you would like to host a SIG meeting. We are looking for someone in New Hampshire to host a meeting. How about Western MA, would you like to host a SIG meeting? Contact Joyce Aspell at joyceaspell@hotmail.com or Carol McAlvin at mcalvin22@aol.com

Other Educational Offerings

March 15, 2008: Frontiers in Endoscopy sponsored by Bay State Medical Center. To register contact Bay State Medical center at: www.baystatehealth.com/learn.

April 26, 2008: Spring into Endoscopy, sponsored by Cape Cod Healthcare at the Radisson Hotel Plymouth Harbor in Plymouth MA. Contact Arlene Mckim at arldiemcki@aol.com or Susan Hanley at shanley@capecodhealth.org.

May 16 – 21, 2008: SGNA's 35th Annual Course, Salt Lake City, Utah. Contact SGNA at www.sgna.org.

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BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND

A limited amount of NESGNA logo denim shirts will be available for purchase at the April 12, 2008 NESGNA meeting. Cost is \$25.00 cash or check only. Sizes available are small, medium, and large. Order forms for additional shirts and sizes will be available at that time.

CERTIFICATION EXAM UPDATE

Planning to take the May Certification Exam in 2008??

When? Saturday, May 18, 2008

Where Salt Lake City Utah

Washington, DC

Early Registration Deadline: March 12, 2008

Final Deadline: March 19, 2008

Planning to take the exam in October?

When? Sunday, October, 19, 2008

Where? Hartford, CT, and other locations

PLEASE JOIN US:

**NESGNA will again be hosting a welcome cocktail reception, sponsored by Boston Scientific at the SGNA Annual Course in Salt Lake City.
Saturday May 17, 2008.....time and place to be announced by e-mail**

A reminder to the nurses who won scholarships for the annual course, this year or any year, and have not received your award. You must submit proof of attendance, eg. a copy of your CEU certificate, in order to receive the check. For more information, please contact Christopher Robbins at csrobbins@comcast.net

Visit us online at www.nesgna.org

To post announcements (no job listings, please) in the newsletter contact Jane Harker at jdharker@comcast.net

NESGNA
Committed to Excellence in GI Nursing

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Spring meeting notice
April 12, 2008