

NESGNA "SCOPE"

Fall, 2008



New England Region 28

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From the NESGNA Board of
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Please post at work in your
GI Unit to share with co-
workers.

NESGNA Officers & Board 2008

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APRN, BC*

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MS*

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*Joyce Aspell, BSN, RN
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*Mary Grealish, BSN,
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Janet King, RN, CGRN

Jane D. Harker, MS, BSN, RN, CGRN

Editor

jdharker@comcast.net

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

We (NESGNA) invite you to attend an exciting evening dinner program, Nov. 20th. The speaker, Dr. Lawrence Bailen, will enhance your knowledge of eosinophilic esophagitis (EE). A phenomenon usually diagnosed in childhood, EE has been included in the differential diagnosis of adults presenting with dysphagia. I have recently seen adults diagnosed with EE, who are allergic to apples, milk, lettuce and peppers. Those who attend will leave with the most recent data and treatment options.

By the way, this will be our last dinner meeting. We will now have four ½ day seminars, in order to offer more contact hours to our members. FYI - membership renewal is underway. Avoid a break in membership by renewing now. If you are a dedicated GI nurse and thinking of becoming a member of SGNA. Think no more! SGNA can provide a wealth of information easily obtained by attending the national convention and via the SGNA website.

It seems there is still a misunderstanding related to seminar registrations. We CAN NOT reimburse after the stated date on the registration form (which is 1 week before the seminar). By that date, the cost of the course is finalized. Should you find you can't attend after registering, we suggest you find someone to take your place. There will be no exceptions to this rule. For further clarification, refer to NESGNA policies coming soon on www.nesgna.com. All registration forms MUST be mailed with a check, made out to NESGNA, to the current treasurer listed on the registration form.

As my year of presidency for NESGNA comes to a close, I would like to sincerely thank the present Board of Directors. They have been a phenomenal group to work with. Having been a NESGNA board member for the past 6 years, I have had the pleasure of working with dedicated GI nurses, including the current president of SGNA, Lisa Heard. We have exchanged many ideas, formed policies, shared unit policies and elevated NESGNA to Region of the Year 2006. We are eligible to resubmit for Region of the Year in 2009. Join us on this quest, by running for office. The good news this election year is that we have 5 nurses on the ballot for Board of Directors, the bad news is only 2 will be elected. To the winners, welcome and congratulations, to the non-winners, PLEASE come back next year. A successful organization is a combination of old blood and new blood. WE NEED YOUR BLOOD. OOPS! Happy Halloween!!!!

A special thanks to Jane Harker, who talked me into this fantastic journey of growth and education and Carol McAlvin, a very experienced nurse manager. Both will be leaving offices in NESGNA at the end of this year. Thank you for your years of service.

Spotlight on...

Falmouth Hospital

Falmouth Hospital, one of two hospitals under Cape Cod Healthcare, is a community hospital with 80 beds. The endoscopy unit has two procedure rooms, three Gastroenterologists and six RN's. Half of the RN's are GI Certified. We perform approximately 225 procedures a month which include colonoscopy, EGD, PEG and ERCP.

Carol McAlvin, RN, CGRN

**Would you like to see your Unit / Practice “in the Spotlight”?
It’s as easy as sending a paragraph or two to the
Editor.....an attachment in Word document form works best.
We’d all love to hear about your practice!!**

EDUCATIONAL OFFERINGS

SAVE THESE 2008 NESGNA MEETING DATES

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

SAVE THE DATES FOR 2009

**Jan. 24, 2008 Burlington Marriott 7:00am-12:30pm
March 28,2008 Newton Marriott 7:00am-12:30pm**

**Additional dates for 2009 are being negotiated at
this time. Stayed tuned for further updates.**

Special Interest Group (SIG) Meetings

Please join us for the NESGNA Special interest group meetings!

Monday October 27, 2008: Jordan Hospital at 6:00pm

When things don't flow right....

Alimentary Tract Strictures & Dilatation

Sponsored by Boston /Scientific

Wonder what a SIG is?

A Special Interest Group meeting is simply a group of NESGNA members (non-members are welcome also, of course) who come together for a short meeting or discussion about topics of common interest. These usually take place at a hospital, run about 1-2 hours in length, are sometimes sponsored by one of our vendors, and a small dinner is usually served. It's very informal, there is no cost and sometimes a contact hour will be offered by the vendor.

Sooooooooooooo.....There is a list of topics to choose from. You choose the topic and provide the site. NESGNA will organize the rest. Anyone from New Hampshire interested in hosting a meeting? How about Western MA, Or Rhode Island, would you like to host a SIG meeting? Contact Joyce Aspell at joyceaspell@hotmail.com or Carol McAlvin at mcalvin22@aol.com

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND

NESGNA logo denim shirts will be available for purchase at the November 20th meeting.
\$25.00: Cash or check made out to "NESGNA" only.



SGNA Annual Conference / Salt Lake City
Regional Night.

Pictured from left to right: **Janet King, Jane Harker, Christopher Robbins, Sandy Cialfi, June Guarente, Lisa Heard, Lynette Brigham, Donna Girard, Linda Corey, and Mary Grealish.**

CERTIFICATION UPDATE

Good luck to all who took the exam in October!!!!!!!

NESGNA Certification Bonus:

All NESGNA members: When you receive notification of passing the certification exam, remember to send a copy of the certificate to Christopher Robbins, NESGNA Treasurer, at 21 School St., Reading, MA, 01867, to receive your bonus!! He must receive the copy before Dec. 31, 2008 for you to be eligible for this bonus.

You are also eligible to receive this bonus if you re-certify by contact hours. Follow the above procedure to receive your bonus

NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS UPDATE:

NESGNA: 2008 elections for NESGNA are well under way. Thank you to the 5 candidates who put forth their nomination papers for our two Director positions. As of right now, I have 117 ballots returned (out of 412 members)! You have until Nov. 8th to return the ballots to me. As Linda stated in her President's letter: the good news is that there are 5 candidates. The bad news is that only two will be elected! If by any chance you are an SGNA member and did not receive a ballot in the mail, please contact the NESGNA secretary, Arlene Myers McKim at arldicmck@aol.com.

SGNA: In mid-November you will be notified about the election process for the 2009 SGNA Directors and Nomination and Elections Committee. PLEASE take a few minutes to cast your ballot. You, the membership, are electing the people who will be the leaders or your (our) professional organization for the future. One of the criteria for Regional Society of the Year (which we won in 2006!) is the percentage of members who cast their ballot in the National election. We are one of, if not the, largest Regional Society. This will only take a minute out of your busy lives, but please take that minute to make a difference.

From the NESGNA Board of Directors:

After every conference the Board of Directors (BOD) reviews all of the evaluations and comments made by you. It is our intention to provide an up-to-date and varied program for each and every ½ day conference. We do keep a list of presenters and topics dating back 5 years, but realize that some topics may bear repeating at more frequent intervals. One topic that has been requested is on Bronchoscopy. If anyone does Bronchs on their unit and would like to do a presentation, or if you know anyone (MD or RN) who would be an appropriate faculty member, please contact a member of the BOD with that information.

Also, many people comment about the temperature of the conference rooms. We work closely with the events personnel to try to accommodate everyone's needs, but please be aware that the temperature is variable and dress accordingly. Layers really work best!

PLEASE OBSERVE THE REGISTRATION INFORMATION PROVIDED ON EACH REGISTRATION FORM.....NO REGISTRATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER THE REGISTRATION DATE, AND ALL REGISTRATIONS MUST BE SENT TO TO THE ADDRESS LISTED ON THE FORM. ADDITIONALLY WE ARE UNABLE TO ACCOMMODATE WALK IN REGISTRATIONS. THE HOTEL REQUIRES AN ACCURATE HEAD COUNT PRIOR TO THE CONFERENCE AND WE ALSO HAVE TO HAVE THAT INFORMATION FOR THE SYLLABUS PRINTING.

Thank you for being considerate of this request.

Please forward any comments and/or suggestions to any BOD member.

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

