



# The NESGNA Scope

The New England Society of Gastroenterology Nurses and Associates

## New England Region 28

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Please post a copy at work

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## President's Letter

Christopher S. Robbins BSN, RN, CGRN  
NESGNA 2011 President

Hi everyone. I am sorry that this newsletter is coming out so late. The NESGNA website was under construction this summer, but I think you will like the efforts put into the new design.

I have been very busy over the past few months working with a new web designer to make NESGNA.org better than ever. The website went live in late summer. Many improvements have been made over the previous site. I am very excited to offer the ability to register for our meetings through the website electronically. If you want to register as before, that option is still available. Also, following a very successful sale of NESGNA fleeces, we will be adding additional opportunities to purchase merchandise on-line. Other enhancements include a calendar of events and the opportunity to obtain several free contact hours. These improvements could not have been possible without the generous funding of Byrne Medical. Please reach out to your representative at work and at our meetings and thank them for their continued support of NESGNA.

This past May, the 38th annual meeting was held in Indianapolis, Indiana. President Peggy Gauthier's theme was, "The Link Between Practice and Care: Courage, Commitment, and Collaboration". Peggy shared with the conference that when she first joined GI, she never thought she would be standing at the podium addressing the SGNA conference as President. But she went on to talk about how important it was to collaborate with her peers who were committed to GI nursing. With practice, little by little, she branched out of her comfort zone and found the courage to become a leader.

You too can be a leader. All it takes is that first small step, and before you know it, leading becomes second nature. In September, it will be time for NESGNA's nominations for elections to the board. I challenge each and every one of you to take that first baby step and run for director-at-large. Or join a committee. NESGNA is always looking for new faces with fresh ideas to help keep our region going. We were the Region of the Year in 2006, and with your help, we can do it again. Nominations are open until October 7, 2011. And elections will take place in November. Please take the opportunity to think about yourself or coworker joining the board. Nomination papers are online at NESGNA.org.

Our last meeting is November, 19, 2011, which will include the annual business meeting. This will also be my last meeting serving as your president. It has been an honor to work with the board and you, the members, to make this year a memorable one. I want to thank the board for guidance and allowing me the opportunity to strengthen this great region into what I know can be the region of the year in 2012. I thank you from the bottom of my heart for this opportunity of a life time.

Sincerely,

*Christopher S. Robbins*

# CONGRATULATIONS!

To any newly certified CGRNs for May 2011

and especially

to

***Jane Harker MS, BSN, RN, CGRN***

*for receiving the*

*Gabrielle Schindler Award*

## **Eligibility Criteria**

- Must be a current member of SGNA (Voting Licensed Nurse/Voting Associate), with a membership of at least five years.
- Must be currently employed as a care provider in clinical gastroenterology with a minimum of five years experience.
- Is currently serving or has served on an SGNA national committee.

## **Performance Criteria**

The candidate has made important contributions in direct patient care in any or all of the following areas:

- Consistently demonstrates commitment to high standards and competence in direct patient care, utilizes the SGNA standards for practice, and demonstrates care and compassion toward the individual needs of the patient.
- Demonstrates clinical competency and leadership by serving as preceptor, mentor or role model for peers.
- Is recognized by others as an expert in the gastroenterology nursing practice.
- Has developed standards of care/protocol, policy/procedure manuals, QI program, patient education materials, etc.
- Participates in educational programs for other healthcare professionals or the public at large.
- Actively participates in nursing programs, research, committees or projects and maintains current knowledge of changes and advancement in the gastroenterology nursing practice.
- Supports certification in the specialty.
- During service on SGNA national committee – completed tasks, met deadlines and actively participated on committee.

***Well done and well deserved!***

# UPCOMING EDUCATIONAL SEMINARS

## **2011 NESGNA Seminar Schedule**

September 17, 2011 Newton Marriott

November 19, 2011 Newton Marriott

## **June 1 - August 31, 2011**

ABCGN Fall Certification Examination Application Window

Leverage your knowledge for future growth by positioning yourself among leaders in GI/endoscopy nursing. The fall testing application window runs from **June 1 – August 31**. [Please visit the Certification Center for more information.](#)

## **SGNA Annual Course**

### **The Link between Practice and Care**

May 6-11, 2011

Indianapolis, Indiana



The Annual Course hosted many members from NESGNA.

The following members were speakers at the National Conference:

- Linda Wiebold
- Christopher Robbins
- Kate Donovan
- Janet King
- Lisa Heard
- Kim Foley

Congratulations !



**SPOT LIGHT ON**  
**St. Anne's Hospital, Fall River, Ma.**

By Doreen Chauvin, Nurse Manager, OR and Endoscopy

St. Anne's Hospital was previously part of the Caritas Christi Healthcare System since 1991 and has been recently purchased by Steward. The hospital is fully accredited by JCAHO and has been privileged to provide full-service, quality health care to the surrounding communities it serves, many Portuguese and Spanish speaking residents.

The Division of Gastroenterology (GI) at St. Anne's Hospital concentrates on the diagnosis and management of the full spectrum of GI disorders. The Endoscopy Unit is a two unit suite located just outside the OR; this provides the opportunity for anesthesia by a CRNA if needed. This newer unit is about 7 years in existence. The unit averages about 15 cases per day and mostly performed with conscious sedation. The majority of our patients undergo screening and/or diagnosis of gastrointestinal problems. Our services include diagnostic and therapeutic colonoscopy, EGD's, ERCP's, and PEG insertion.

One of our RN's and an LPN are certified in gastroenterology. Our procedures are usually staffed with one RN or an LPN with a tech. We do ERCPs in the urology room with a new state-of-the-art C-Arm, which the staff feels provides great fluoroscopy imaging. We are fortunate to share a collaborative and congenial relationship with our physicians. Our team provides care with an emphasis on patient education, discharge planning, patient safety and a good working relationship with the anesthesia department.

Next newsletter we will SPOT LIGHT Newton-Wellesley Hospital Newton, Ma.

**We apologize for the lateness of this newsletter. As you can see it is a combined season spring/summer and this is due to a new creative, more interactive website that will be up and running soon.**

## **HOW TO DOWNLOAD SEMINAR SYLLABUS**

- Log onto the website at [www.NESGNA.org](http://www.NESGNA.org)
- Click on “Downloads”.
- Under “Meeting Archives”, click on each file under the appropriate date.
- When the file opens, print in your usual manner.

## **SGNA SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE**

Thinking of going to nursing school or advancing your nursing degree? SGNA offers scholarships to Registered Nurses working in Gastroenterology who are continuing their education by pursuing a BSN, MSN, PhD.

Visit: [www.SGNA.org](http://www.SGNA.org) for complete details.

## **WHAT IS A SIG MEETING?**

A Special Interest Group (SIG) is a short meeting to discuss an interesting GI topic. Attendance is FREE! Contact a Board member if you are interested in hosting a meeting at your facility, or if you want information on vendor-sponsored programs. The vendors often have lectures “in the can” such as, Hemostasis, ERCP equipment, Scope Cleaning and Infection Control. These lectures are usually 1 hour in length and CEU’s are provided. Already have a SIG planned? Please notify us so we can post it in the Newsletter.

## **NESGNA BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

During the next few months, please consider running for next year’s available Board positions. In addition to the great experience, there are perks for BOD members such as payment of annual dues and free attendance at all NESGNA educational meetings. Please review the job descriptions for each office on our web site:

[www.nesgna.org](http://www.nesgna.org)



## **NURSE SPEAKERS WANTED**

NESGNA is always looking for nurses to speak at upcoming seminars. Perhaps there are QI nurses who are proud of a change they have implemented in their units. Why not share this information with your peers? Is anyone doing research in his or her unit or thinking of starting a project? We would love to hear about it. Who knows you may encourage others to duplicate your research. We understand public speaking can be intimidating but we encourage you to undertake the challenge.

## **GOING GREEN**

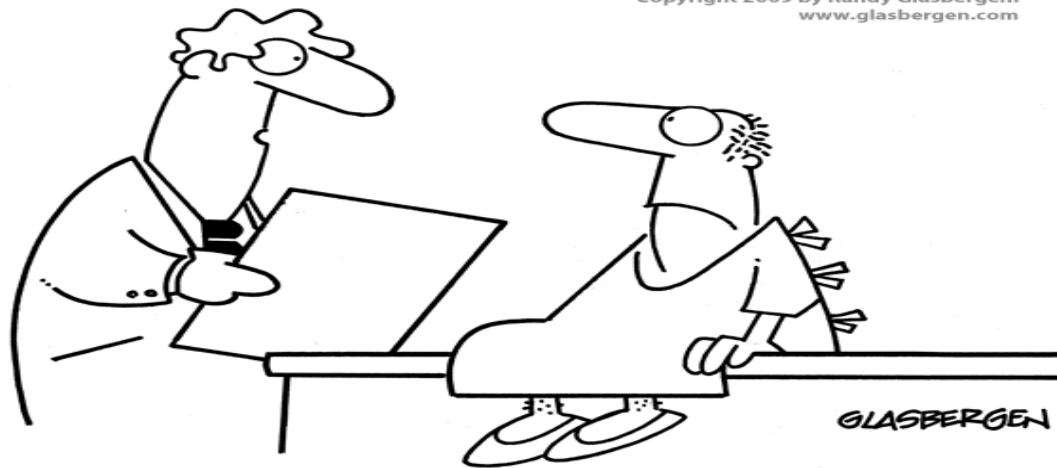
NESGNA remains committed to our “GOING GREEN” initiative as doing so lessens the impact on the environment and helps reduce our overall expenditures. Therefore, the syllabus will continue to be available on-line. We understand some members prefer a printed syllabus, however, due to rising printing, venue and food costs, coupled with declining vendor support; the online syllabus remains the most cost effective option. We appreciate your cooperation.

## **FEEDBACK FROM THE BOARD**

The Board reviews the Evaluation Forms after each seminar and takes your comments seriously. We appreciate your feedback and use your suggestions to identify topics for future seminars. As always, we remain committed to presenting high quality educational programs for our membership.

## On the Lighter Side Health Care Reform?

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www.glasbergen.com



**“Your insurance won’t pay for an expensive procedure, so I’ll be doing your colonoscopy with my cell phone camera.”**

### *As Requested*

We have fleece jackets, pullovers, and vests available to order at the next meeting in September; these fleece are Charles River Apparel products. There will be a representative at the meeting to model the fleece with the NESGNA logo and to take your order. If interested bring your check books...not sure if debit/credit cards are accepted. We hope in the near future to have the ability to purchase these fleece on-line through the website. There are still denim shirts available for \$25.00.

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**To post announcements (no job listings, please) in the Newsletter contact Mary Grealish  
medirn@aol.com**