



The NESGNA Scope

The New England Society of Gastroenterology Nurses & Associates

New England Region 28

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Please post a copy at work

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President's Letter

Mary Grealish, MSN, RN, CGRN
NESGNA President 2010

The 2010 Annual Course held in Orlando, Florida is behind us and I feel rejuvenated. This year's theme was "Expanding Your Horizons." As always the course provided opportunities for GI nurses to increase their knowledge base and skill set. The focus was on professional development and could be seen with the educational offerings on emerging technology, diagnostic and therapeutic procedures in the GI field, as well as the presentation of many clinical and professional topics. There were approximately 2,000 gastroenterology and endoscopy nursing professionals in attendance and the Rosen Shingles Creek Hotel had an expansive exhibit hall that featured 84 exhibiting companies. Those of you who enjoy the sun, especially after a long winter, were seen lounging and "networking" at the pool. Next year's 38th Annual Conference will be held in Indianapolis, Indiana. The 2011 theme is "The Link between Practice and Care: Courage, Commitment, and Collaboration." Start making your plans to attend now.

I want to congratulate the RNs who received their CGRN (certification) this spring and acknowledge those who re-certified; you should be proud. Certification reveals to your patients, peers and place of employment you are current in GI practice, knowledge, skills and up to date on emerging technology to provide the best in patient care. The next computer based testing window is offered October 1-31st in a few areas in New England. If interested you can log on to the national website, www.sgna.org and click on the Certification toolbar and click on the dropdown ABCGN website for locations.

I also want to encourage to New England region members to think about running for the board. It is time well spent and the rewards and friendships are invaluable. We are always looking for new faces, ideas, enthusiasm and commitment to keep our region solid and become more involved in the community. This is the second year Boston area hospitals offered free colonoscopy screening to underprivileged/underinsured in March during Colon Cancer Awareness month. The Crohn's Colitis Foundation Association (CCFA) had a fundraising walk around the Boston Common on June 5th for awareness, education, research, and treatment for inflammatory bowel disease (Crohns and UC). Think about organizing a team from your place of employment for next year, I know I will, www.ccfa.org.

There will be two more NESGNA conferences this fall, September and November, so mark your calendars. You can go online and download from the website www.nesgna.org for any news or to obtain syllabi from the most recent conference and two weeks before the scheduled conference; remember we have "gone green". Enjoy your summer!

Mary Grealish

CONGRATULATIONS!

The following members certified:

Louise Eichstedt, AND RN GGRN

Kathleen Kelley, BSN RN CGRN

Cecilia Poirier, BSN, RN CGRN

Colleen Robinson, BS RN CRGN

Colleen M. Sweeney, RN CGRN

Re-certified

Deborah Rowe-Cherson, BSN RN CGRN

Kathy Slatt, BSN RN CGRN

Please take a minute to congratulate them on their achievement.

REMINDER: Please send a copy of your certificate to the NESGNA treasurer when you pass the certification exam or re-certify. You will receive a surprise bonus in the mail.

Mail your information to: Susan Curran at 602 Alder Way, North Andover, MA 01845

Recently elected SGNA Board Members:

Jane Harker MS, BSN CGRN

Elected 2010-2012

Treasurer SGNA

Janet King, BSN, RN, CGRN

Elected

Nominations and Elections Committee

UPCOMING EDUCATIONAL SEMINARS

2010 NESGNA Seminar Schedule

September 11, 2010 7:00 am-12: 30 pm Burlington Marriott

November 20, 2010 7:00 am-12: 30 pm Burlington Marriott

Endoscopy Seminars

Boston International Live Endoscopy Course

September 29, 2010- October 1, 2010

Seaport Hotel World Trade Center

Boston, MA

CGRN Test

October 1-31, 2010

Visit ABCGN site for details

SGNA Annual Course

May 6-11, 2011

Indianapolis, Indiana



SPOT LIGHT ON Tufts Medical Center

By Claire Mooney

Tufts Medical Center is located in the Chinatown section of Boston and is affiliated with Tufts Medical School. The Gastroenterology Department specializes in providing treatment and diagnosis to patients with gastrointestinal disorders and liver diseases. The staff consists of a Nurse Manager, 10 full-time RN's, 3 per-diem RN's, 4 GI technicians and three administrative assistants. They work closely with residents, GI and Pulmonary fellows to perform 500-600 procedures monthly. The staff members are cross-trained to participate in adult and pediatric GI and pulmonary procedures with an emphasis on providing comprehensive care throughout the entire patient stay.

The unit has 5 procedure rooms of which 2 are equipped with fluoroscopy to facilitate advanced interventional procedures. In addition to the diagnostic gastroscopic and colonoscopic procedures, the unit performs therapeutic interventions, such as ERCP's with Spy Glass technology, Endoscopic Ultrasound, Halo therapy for Barrett's esophagus, and EMR. The GI unit also provides state of the art treatment for motility disorders including 24-hour ph monitoring. The GI Division serves patients with non-cardiac chest pain, peptic ulcer disease, diarrhea, inflammatory bowel disease (IBD), irritable bowel syndrome (IBS), disorders of the pancreas, and chronic liver disease. The nurses and physicians collaborate with the transplant service to provide the best level of care to evaluate and treat potential liver transplant patients. Other areas of expertise include malabsorption disorders, nutritional disorders, weight loss, sexually transmitted intestinal and liver disease, parasitic infections and chronic secretory diarrhea, chronic liver disease such as viral hepatitis, cirrhosis, gallstones, primary sclerosing cholangitis (PSC) and primary biliary cirrhosis (PBC).

HOW TO DOWNLOAD SEMINAR SYLLABUS

- Log onto the website at www.NESGNA.org
- Click on “meeting syllabus downloads
- Double click on topic
- Save to your computer in a specific file
- Click “open”
- Click “file”
- Click “print preview”
- Click down arrow in “print what”
- Click “Handout 6 slides”
- Then change size to 100%
- To print hit the print icon on computer tool bar
- Unfortunately, these steps may not work with all computer software. Use them as a guideline

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.

The application deadline is July 31, 2010. SGNA also offers several other scholarships for:

- Membership dues scholarship
- Annual Course scholarship
- Nurses and Associates scholarships

Visit: 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. Jordan Hospital sponsored a meeting in June.



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'd 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.

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

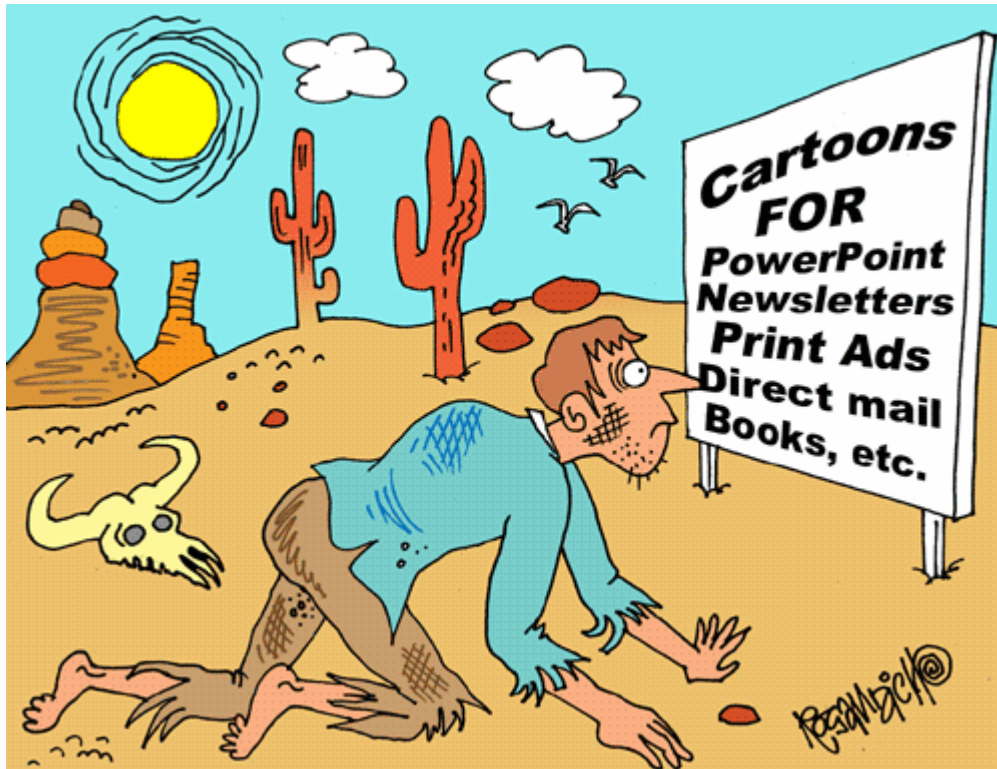
GOING GREEN

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 only 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 is happy to report the evaluations from the March seminar rated both speakers and topics favorably. 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



Back by Popular Demand

NESGNA logo denim shirts are available for purchase at all NESGNA seminars for \$25.00 each.

Cash or personal check made out to "NESGNA"



To post announcements (no job listings, please) in the Newsletter contact Lynette Brigham at lbrigham@bidmc.harvard.edu