



# NESGNA "SCOPE"

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New England Region 28

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*Please post at work in your GI Unit to share with co-workers.*

### **NESGNA Officers & Board 2009**

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MSN, CGRN*

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- Michelle Dearborn  
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### **President's Letter**

Lynette Brigham, MSN, CGRN, NESGNA President 2009

I truly enjoyed seeing so many of my friends and colleagues at the January 24<sup>th</sup> education seminar. As I stood at the podium and glanced out into the audience, I was impressed by the 171 nurses who attended an early Saturday morning meeting. What a demonstration of professionalism, and commitment to education on the behalf of NESGNA membership.

March is Colon Cancer Awareness month and the 25<sup>th</sup> is set aside to celebrate GI Nurses and Associates Day. As your president, I want to personally thank all of you for your dedication. Every day, you help to reduce the incidence of this disease. In your clinical practice you interface with thousands of patients and impact their lives in ways you may never know. You are the ones who comfort, nurse, and educate all those entrusted to your care. You are the healthcare workers who willing go the extra mile. Perhaps, when you allay the fears of frightened patients during endoscopic procedures, hold their hand as they receive bad news, or volunteer to assist with complicated procedures, you do so not merely for the recognition it may bring, but because you want to bring your best practices to work.

On GI Nurses and Associate's Day remember to thank your co-workers for sharing their expertise, enthusiasm and love of gastroenterology nursing with you. Make the effort to "pay it forward" by mentoring a new GI nurse. Think about attending the SGNA Annual conference in St. Louis and networking with fellow GI professionals from across the country. Contemplate running for a position on the NESGNA board so you can contribute to the greater success of our chapter. But most importantly, please take the time to commend yourselves on a job well done. On March 25<sup>th</sup> celebrate, reflect, regroup and re-energize. Doing so will not only make you stronger, but ultimately our entire profession.

# Congratulations!!!

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS JOINING US AT THE 2009 NATIONAL CONVENTION IN ST. LOUIS: Karen Kenyon, Karen Raposa and Susan Carter.  
REMINDER TO ALL: Register early for a reduced rate.

Also congratulations to Maureen Brown, Ma.; Cynthia Del Sesto, RI; Kathy Reynolds, Ma.; Cheryl Scibelli, Ma; Catherine Stucke, Ma and Maureen Wilson, RI. They passed the ABCGN certification exam in October, 2008.

## CERTIFICATION UPDATE

*Thinking of sitting for the certification exam this May? Well, you don't have to travel to St. Louis to take the exam. There will be an exam site in Newport, Vermont. Want more time to study? The exam will be offered in Boston, October 18, 2009. To find out more information: [www.abcgcn.org/certification](http://www.abcgcn.org/certification)*

### **NESGNA Certification Bonus:**

All NESGNA members: When you receive notification of passing the certification exam or re-certification, 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 a copy by December 31, 2009.

## ***SAVE THE DATES FOR 2009***

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**March 28, 2009 Newton Marriott 7:00AM-12:30PM**

**September 26, 2009 Burlington Marriott 7:00AM -12:30PM**

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**SGNA national convention May 16 -20, 2009 in St. Louis, Missouri. Have all your GI questions answered and make new friends. Visit [www.SGNA.org](http://www.SGNA.org) for registration information. Register early for reduced rate.**

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## SPOT LIGHT ON.....LAHEY MEDICAL CLINIC

Lahey Clinic Medical Center, a 317 bed teaching/referral hospital associated with Tufts Medical School, has two campuses located north of Boston. The endoscopy unit on the main campus in Burlington consists of 8 admission beds, 10 recovery beds and 7 procedural rooms including one fluoroscopy room. The unit provides for both inpatient and outpatient adult populations averaging 55 cases a day. Services include a wide variety of diagnostic and interventional procedures including EGDs, colonoscopies, enteroscopies, PEG and feeding tube insertions, ERCPs, EUS, EMR, Barrx ablation, and esophageal, duodenal and colonic stent placement. We also offer motility studies, Bravo PH and capsule endoscopy.

Our professional nursing staff consists of a nurse manager, assistant nurse manager, clinical educator, 25 RNs, 7 techs, 2 nursing assistants and one unit coordinator. The unit has scheduled cases 6 days a week and 24 hour on-call coverage. Our nursing care delivery model is a team approach dedicated to providing outstanding nursing care with all nurses rotating through admission, recovery and procedures. Lahey Clinic North in Peabody has 2 procedural rooms, 4 RNs and 2 techs. Yearly, the combined units perform 17,000 cases.

Patients receive moderate sedation by ACLS certified RNs and anesthesia is readily available for high acuity cases. We work collaboratively with both gastroenterologists and colorectal surgeons. We have recently participated in process improvement activities which have enhanced the quality of nursing care and the flow and efficiency of the unit.

Michelle Dearborn, BSN, 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!!**

**Wonder what a SIG is?**

**A Special Interest Group meeting is simply a short meeting to discuss an interesting topic. Want to offer a meeting at your facility but not sure of a topic, call us. Many vendors have lectures “in the can” with CEUs available (such as hemostasis, ERCP equipment, bi-caps, scope cleaning, infection control and more). Best of all, they’re FREE!!**

**Soooooooooooo.....**

**Anyone from New Hampshire interested in hosting a SIG meeting?  
How about Western MA, Or Rhode Island? Contact Joyce Aspell at**

**[joyceaspell@hotmail.com](mailto:joyceaspell@hotmail.com)**

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## **Where have all the pens gone?**

At the January seminar I am sure many of you noticed the absence of pens and the other usual “freebies” at the vendor booths. This change is the direct result of the new regulations governing pharmaceutical and medical device companies. Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America (PhRMA) recently defined ethical guidelines to provide for greater oversight of the activities of these companies. Why the need for change? In the past, many healthcare professionals routinely received food, drug samples, and other reimbursements from the drug industry. Strong marketing tactics and the potential for “demand for reciprocity,” may have caused higher pharmaceutical and healthcare costs. In an effort to reduce expenditures and prevent abuse, new guidelines were developed on a state-by-state basis. Massachusetts enacted a law that is considered one of the most stringent in the country.

What do these changes mean for NESGNA? Very simply, the new regulations mean we must be extremely careful in how we receive money from vendors. Complimentary items such as pens, mugs, gift cards, flowers, etc. are now prohibited. The companies may still sponsor CME, Conferences and meetings as long as the payment is made directly to the conference or meeting organizers. NESGNA will continue to work with vendors because we benefit from their support, and we rely on them to update us on the latest endoscopic technologies and pharmacological developments.

## **Messages from the NESGNA Board of Directors:**

After each conference the Board of Directors (BOD) review your evaluations and comments from Jan. 24, 2009 meeting. The following is a summary of what was written.

1. Tables can only be reserved on seminar days? Come early or mingle.
2. We apologize for limiting Dr. Payne’s time and promise to invite him back soon.
3. We realize all topics may not be pertinent to your specific job. Not everyone assists with FNA, but most apply specimens to slides.
4. Remember, all lectures offer educational information that someday may help you answer a frightened patient’s questions.
5. Thank you for your topic suggestions – keep them coming. We try not repeat topics sooner than 2 years.
6. We will remind the vendors to be quiet. A reminder for all to keep the chatter down.
7. When evaluating the speakers, you may have noticed the objectives don’t always match the lecture. Reason: course objectives are sent to nationals for approval early and the speakers often change their content to present up to date information. So when evaluating each speaker, rate the lecture for content, not specific objectives.
8. Up dating your profile (changing credentials, your address or e-mail) can be changed by you, the member, log onto: [www.SGNA.org](http://www.SGNA.org).

Finally; each ½ day seminar has a 30 minute slot open to anyone with a desire to present. It could be a research project (ongoing or completed), QA study at your unit, recent JACHO evaluation or a special topic worth sharing. Just contact a board member. Speakers receive an honorarium and free registration. You get credit for speaking when recertifying, receive the contact hours awarded for your talk and an extra ½ of contact hours for preparing the lecture.



# IT ISN'T BEING GREEN

Continuing our goal to be **GREEN**, we will soon provide the syllabus for seminars ONLY ON-LINE. The syllabus is costly and many are left behind after the seminar. If members insist on receiving the syllabus at the meetings, we will have to increase the cost to attend meetings in order to cover the cost of printing. This change will not take place until September. We have also seen an increase in the cost of the venue and food with a possible loss in vendor support. We are working to keep registrations fees at a reasonable price.

The January syllabus is now available on-line: [www.nesgna.org](http://www.nesgna.org).

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## BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND

NESGNA logo denim shirts will be available for purchase at the March 28th meeting.  
\$25.00: Cash or check made out to "NESGNA" only.

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

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*To post announcements (no job listings, please) in the newsletter contact Linda Corey at [lcorey51@yahoo.com](mailto:lcorey51@yahoo.com)*