



The NESGNA Scope

The New England Society of Gastroenterology Nurses and Associates

New England Region 28

In This Issue

President's Letter

Features:

- Upcoming Educational Seminars
- Spotlight on Norwood Hospital Scholarship Winners
- How to Print the Syllabus
- SGNA Scholarships
- SIG Meetings
- NESGNA Wants You

Please post a copy at work

2011 NESGNA Board of Directors

President

Christopher Robbins
BSN, CGRN

President-Elect

Janet King
BSN, CGRN

Secretary

Linda Wiebold
BSN, CGRN

Treasurer

Susan Curran
BSN, CGRN

Immediate Past

President

Mary Grealish
MSN, RN, CGRN

Board of Directors

Brenda Walsh
BSN, CGRN

June Guarente
MSN, CGRN

Judy Oakes
BSN

Joanne Ames
RN, CGRN

Mary Grealish MSN, RN, CGRN
Editor
medirn@aol.com

President's Letter

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

“Greetings from the great white north”! Well, it seemed to be like that judging from the mounds of snow deposited on New England last month. As my first official duty as newsletter author, I want to take a moment to say how proud and honored I am to be involved in the best nursing organization, hands down. I have been a part of SGNA / NESGNA since 2003 and I have made so many wonderful friends and colleagues that I will cherish forever. If it were not for my good friend and former NESGNA president, Jane Harker, none of this would have been possible.

Despite the weather, NESGNA put together a great meeting in January. One of the highlights was the panel discussion on the use of anesthesia during interventional procedures. Two points of view were presented and produced a great deal of dialog. The evaluations turned in that day had so many favorable comments that NESGNA is considering similar forums in the future.

During this time of fiscal tightening, it is a great feeling to have been able to award three \$400.00 scholarships to attend this year's annual course in Indianapolis, IN. Please read on to see the winners and take a moment to congratulate them at the next meeting. While on the subject of the annual SGNA course, please consider making an effort to attend all or part of the meeting. I can't think of a better way to earn GI specific contact hours. This year, there is an opportunity to gain **42.5 contact hours at just one event.** You'll also have the opportunity to:

- Enhance your professional career with over 120 educational sessions from ten tracks
- See the newest products and services up close at the Exhibit Hall
- Stay relevant and connected within the GI/endoscopy community

To register for the course, just go to SGNA.org and follow the link on the left side of the page. I hope to see you there!!

It has been said the “membership has its benefits” and that rings true for SGNA and NESGNA. There are too many to list in this letter, but some of these benefits include scholarships for research grants and the RN advancing education grant for those nurses wishing to further their GI nursing education. Another benefit is the discussion forum. Here you can post your questions to the general GI population or to Special Interest Groups. I know I have utilized this benefit multiple times and have networked with my peers on similar subjects all over this country and abroad.

I challenge you to think about becoming more *deeply* involved in NESGNA. We are always looking for members to join a committee and give a fresh perspective to the organization. Also, think about running for the board of directors. ***Remember, this is your organization.*** Please utilize your board. Come to the meetings and seek us out with your thought and ideas. I know that we have just reached the tip of the iceberg as a specialized nursing organization. I have all the confidence that with all of your help we can soar to new heights and make SGNA proud.

CONGRATULATIONS!

The newly certified CGRNs for October 2010

Helen R. Bernardino BSN, RN, CGRN

Kathleen Chung BSN, RN, CGRN

Mary J. Kelley BSN, RN, CGRN

Jane M. Lavalley ADN, RN, CGRN

Maria Scholtz ADN, RN, CGRN

Susan J. Sheppard RN, CGRN

Mary A. Wilhelm BSN, RN, CGRN

**And also the three \$400.00 scholarship winners
who will be joining us at the 2011 National
Conference**

Mary Kilmartin (1976-2008)

Denise Wilson (2009-2011)

Deborah Veilleux (1976-2008)

UPCOMING EDUCATIONAL SEMINARS

2011 NESGNA Seminar Schedule

March, 26, 2011 Burlington Marriott
September 17, 2011 Newton Marriott
November 19, 2011 Newton Marriott

Certification Exam Information/ABCGN Website

Computer Based Testing

May 1-31, 2011
October 1-31, 2011

Paper/Pencil Exam Site:

May 7, 2011 Indianapolis, IN
Application Deadline: February 28, 2011

SGNA Annual Course

The Link between Practice and Care

May 6-11, 2011
Indianapolis, Indiana





Norwood Hospital, Norwood Ma.

By Kathy Mandigo

Nurse Manager: Endo, Day Surgery, PACU

Norwood Hospital was previously part of the Caritas Christi Healthcare System 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 residents of the surrounding communities it serves.

The Gastroenterology Unit has been providing care for those with digestive diseases for about 30 years. The Division of Gastroenterology (GI) at Norwood Hospital concentrates on the diagnosis and management of the full spectrum of GI disorders through the use of state-of-the-art technologies. The division addresses many disorders of the gastrointestinal tract, liver, gallbladder and pancreas.

The unit has five procedure rooms and performs approximately 25-30 endoscopic procedures daily. 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.

Three of our nurses are CGRN certified and two techs are certified as scope techs looking into advancement. We are fortunate to share a collaborative and congenial relationship with our physicians. Our cohesive team provides care with an emphasis on patient education, discharge planning and patient safety. Most of our procedures are done with procedural sedation and rarely use anesthesia except for an occasional ERCP in the radiology department.

Next newsletter we will SPOT LIGHT St. Anne's Hospital, Fall River, Ma.

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 location. Please be patient with the download. Some files are larger than others.
- Click “open”
- The file should open in a Word document
- 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 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.



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.

GI Nurses and Associates Day is March 23, 2011

Remember March is Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month



On the Lighter Side

[YouTube - Lou Rawls Colonoscopy Exam in English](#)

As Requested

We hope to have fleece jackets, pullovers, and vests available to order at the next meeting in March; 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. There are still denim shirts available for \$25.00.

.....

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