



Michigan Society of Gastroenterology Nurses and Associates



November/December 2015 PATHFINDER

Happy Fall!!

We had a great fall conference in Traverse City with topics including hepatitis, endoscopic disinfection, HALO/Barrett's esophagus, ostomy care, nutrition in GI disease, accreditation in GI, and bronchial thermoplasty. The bonus included pass at the water park certainly added some fun to our stay! I also personally enjoyed the beautiful bay & scenery, quaint shops, and a winery. Thanks to the planning committee for an awesome job!!

I just returned from the SGNA Leadership conference in Chicago. I have a new role as a Coordinator for multiple regions to assist/mentor regional leaders &/or be a liaison between national SGNA and regional leaders. I truly enjoyed meeting with other regional leaders. We can get ideas from other regions sometimes. MSGNA sent Kathy Smith, Mary Pierce, and Pat Root to this conference also. We learned so much about contact hour approval, marketing & social media, membership recruitment, financial management, legislative involvement, board of director's new officers boot camp & succession planning, House of Delegates & resolution submission, leadership, and SGNA updates. We all benefited from this training so we can better serve our Michigan region!

The end of the year brings closure to two members of MSGNA board of directors. We thank Patti Yonkovit for serving the last three and she has also served on the board in the past. I love her passion for MSGNA and the vast GI experience she brings to us. Thanks also to Ruth McClure who has served as a program coordinator since 2008 for both MSGNA and the Multiregional board/planning committee. Prior to 2008, she has also served as president and director at large of membership. When I chaired the MSGNA 2013 fall conference, I personally appreciated the handbook including templates, timelines, job duties, and much more which was provided to me. This handbook was written and developed by Ruth. In addition, she assisted me with the process when I needed her.

I welcome new board members Nancy Denton and Wendy Stanley! Nancy has joined Diane Thompson as a program coordinator. Nancy has long term membership in SGNA/MSGNA, has attended many MSGNA & national conferences, has been an SGNA fellow, has done multiple poster presentations at National and has extensive GI experience. Wendy will be our new director at large for membership. She has long term membership in SGNA/MSGNA, has attended many MSGNA & national conferences, and long term experience in endoscopy. I personally know both Nancy and Wendy and am confident that they will both work hard to serve MSGNA.



Michigan Society of Gastroenterology Nurses and Associates



As we say goodbye to former & welcome new MSGNA board members, let me encourage any of you to consider serving on the board. We welcome new ideas from new members and the benefits of serving on the board range from conference, hotel, & transportation reimbursement along with networking, leadership education & experience, and friendships. In addition, please feel free to contact any of us on as listed on the website.

I have been honored to serve as your president. I love MSGNA and SGNA and I look forward to serving as your past president.

Jenneva Kremke

MSGNA President

There was an election held the August 1 to September 12th for establishment of new Board of Directors. Only 27% of our membership voted. To those of you who did vote—thank you! To those of you who tried and we encountered password issues---they have been fixed!! As website/newsletter editor, I now have the ability to change passwords!

Sheri King RN

There are many perks to becoming an SGNA member. Besides having a wealth of knowledge available from MSGNA and SGNA newsletters and the Gastroenterology Nursing Journal, the organizations also have websites that offer additional up to date information. Members are also eligible for reduced rates to our annual conferences that we have twice yearly. They are an excellent way to get CE's. MSGNA was established in 1981 and we still have an original member. MSGNA has 254 members and is growing strong.

Patricia Root, Director-at-Large Membership

CONGRATULATIONS

KUDOS to Amy Krug, Emily Hawkins, and the entire planning committee members of the MSGNA 2006 Fall Conference “Harvesting the Fruits of the GI Grapevine”, held in Traverse City, MI, September



Michigan Society of Gastroenterology Nurses and Associates



11-13, 2015. Thank you for an EXCELLENT educational conference. You all did a superb job and truly deserve a standing ovation!

We had a wonderful array of speakers, who provided lively insight on a diverse range of topics. They presented useful and interesting material that we could all take back to our work place.

MSGNA appreciates the hard work the planning committee devoted to bring this high quality educational course to all the participants.

Again, on behalf of MSGNA Board and all the members, THANK YOU!

Diane Thompson

Ruth McClure

MSGNA Program Chairpersons

MSGNA 2016 Goals

1. Increase our membership by promoting SGNA/MSGNA.
2. Promote involvement/commitment to MSGNA offices.
3. Promote attendance at State and National Conferences.
4. Continue to assist our members by:
 - a. Providing CEUs at conferences
 - b. Giving back to our members financially by reducing conference costs
5. Find one nursing-related issue for our membership to write to their congressman/legislator about.
6. Remain financially sound.



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Planning Committee Fall 2015 Conference



Michigan Society of Gastroenterology Nurses and Associates



LOOKING FOR CONFERENCE SITES 2017

Believe it or not, we are looking for an MSGNA conference sites for Spring and Fall 2017. You can bring an MSGNA Conference to your city. Believe in yourself and your unit. Below are some of the perks for planning a conference:

- 9 committee members will receive paid SGNA Membership for the following year
- Very rewarding
- Lot's of networking with your co-worker/peers
- MSGNA board for resource and support

Contact Diane Thompson, MSGNA Program Chairperson at 810-240-9314, or email dathompson920@gmail.com

Take Advantage of Free CEs From SGNA!

Did you know SGNA offers free online contact hours to members? You can find free CE offerings in the "[Learner-Driven Education](#)" section of the SGNA Marketplace.



Michigan Society of Gastroenterology Nurses and Associates



MSGNA General Business Meeting Minutes

September 13, 2015

Great Wolf Lodge, Traverse City, MI

1. **President's Report-** Jenneva Kremke, RN, BS: Welcome and thanks for attending, and a special thank you and recognition to committee hosting this conference at Great Wolf Lodge.
2. **Secretary's Report-** Mary Catton, RN, BSN, CGRN: MSA Meeting Minutes from General Business Meeting, March 21, 2015.
3. **Treasurer's Report-** Mary Pierce, RN, ADN, CGRN: Checking: \$56,282.36

Savings: \$24,559.06

The planning committee for this conference was able to get many donations to help offset the expense of the conference.

Profit-Loss reports can be viewed at your request by emailing Mary, MSGNA treasurer. Her contact information can be found on the MSGNA website.

4. **President-Elect Report-** Kathy Smith, RN, BSN, CGRN:
There were six scholarships available for fall (September) conference. Tuition and 50% hotel stay were offered. Three members applied and were awarded scholarships: Michelle Roelke, Chris Pilcher, and Debra Gabites. Applications are available on MSGNA website.

Poster Presentation financial assistance is available. Poster is to be presented at National Conference. Submit abstract to SGNA by August 1st. If abstract accepted, MSGNA may offer financial support up to \$1500. You would present your poster at the fall MSGNA conference.

5. **Past President Report-** Patti Yonkovit, RN, BSN, CGRN: Will be going off MSGNA board at November transitional meeting. Thanks, Patti, for all your service to our organization. 42 of our 229 members voted in MSGNA election. Patti emphasized that voting validates our participation in our organization. Also, we need to show that there is a specific percentage of members voting when we go to apply for Outstanding Regional designation. National voting is also important. Results of election: President Elect – Pat Root, Directors at Large- Membership – Wendy Stanly, COMON/Policy/Procedure/Bylaws – Deb Schroeder was reelected.



Michigan Society of Gastroenterology Nurses and Associates



6. **Newsletter/Website Report**-Sheri King, RN, BSN, CGRN – Great job with website, Sheri continues to revise website as necessary. (per Jenneva)
7. **Vendor Coordinator Report**-Ruth Dobberfuhr, RN, BSN: If you know of vendor contacts that you would like to see participating at conferences, please let Ruth know the contact information.
8. **Membership Report**- Pat Root, RN, CGRN: There are 229 total members, 34 in 2015. Linda Fecteau is the winner of the ERBE new membership scholarship.
9. **Policy/Procedure/Bylaws/COMON Report**-Deb Schroeder, RN, BSN, CGRN: Bill 68, Advanced Practice nursing, wanting more responsibility, went down in the Senate. A similar bill will be reintroduced. Contact your legislative representatives to share your views on the issues being discussed. Please get involved; given the number of members we have, we could make a difference. Use your influence to vote in our elections, and please consider running for office.
10. **Program Chair Report**- Diane Thompson BA,LPN,CGN/Ruth McClure, LPN, CGN: Ruth will be going off the MSGNA board. Thank you, Ruth, for 18 years of service. Nancy Denton will be joining the board to help with this role.
Upcoming programs:

Annual Multi-Regional is Oct 30-Nov 1, 2015 in Bloomington, Illinois

Spring 2016 is at Washtenaw Community College, Ann Arbor, on April 1-2 hosted by Karen Tingstad and endoscopy staff at the VA Hospital.

SGNA 43rd Annual Course, Seattle, Washington, May 20-24, 2016

MSGNA Fall 2016, Bay City, September 23-25, 2016, hosted by Sandy Hansen-Belfit and G&H Associates of Mid-Michigan.

Spring 2017- have a venue, need a host. Please consider hosting. Contact Diane if you are interested.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Catton, RN, BSN, CGRN
MSGNA Secretary



Michigan Society of Gastroenterology Nurses and Associates



MSGNA PROGRAM REPORT

**Mark Your Calendars
Great Education Dates Coming Your Way**

MSGNA SPRING 2016

**Washtenaw Community College-- Morris Lawrence Building
Ann Arbor, MI
April 1 – 2, 2016**

**Karen Tingstad and the endoscopy staff at The VA Hospital- Ann Arbor will host this
educational conference**

SGNA 43rd ANNUAL COURSE

**“Breaking The Mold”
Washington State Convention Center
Seattle, Washington
May 20 – 24, 2016**

Great networking opportunities for nurses and associates in the practice of GI/Endoscopy

MSGNA FALL 2016

**“Scoping out in Great Lakes Bay Region”
DoubleTree by Hilton Bay City—Riverfront
Bay City, MI
September 23 – 25, 2016**

**Sandy Hansen-Belfit and G & H Associates of Mid-Michigan will host this educational
conference**

**We are working towards helping you stay on top of the best GI education available.
The more we know, the stronger we are.**

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

**Diane Thompson MSGNA Program Chairperson H—810-744-1971, C—810-240-9314,
Email: dathompson920@gmail.com**



Michigan Society of Gastroenterology Nurses and Associates



ABCGN Updates

ABCGN Certification/Recertification Scholarships

The American Board of Certification for Gastroenterology Nurses awards scholarships in the spring and fall to aid candidates with financial assistance for certification and recertification. **The next deadline for application is December 15, 2015.** Additional information and application forms can be found on the website.

Recertification Deadline December 31

The Recertification deadline is December 31. **If you are due to recertify in 2015, please submit your online application on or before December 31.** The recertification application can be found on the website.

ABCGN Awards Nominations Due February 15, 2016

Each Year, ABCGN recognizes those nurses and facilities who have demonstrated commitment to excellence by validation of qualifications through certification. The awards are presented during the SGNA Annual Course. Nominations for the Excellence in Professionalism, Certified GI Professional of the Year and the Outstanding Region awards are **due February 15, 2016.** Additional information can be found on the website.

MSGNA Poster Presentation Financial Aid:

The purpose of changing from a contest to financial assistance is to provide support of MSGNA members interested in presenting a poster at the SGNA national conference and subsequent MSGNA fall conference and to better align MSGNA with SGNA's process.

An abstract should be submitted to SGNA by their deadline (found on the SGNA website) sometime in the fall prior to the next May's SGNA national conference. Once SGNA accepts the abstract this notification should be submitted to MSGNA's current President-Elect for approval of up to \$1500.00 to be divided amongst all authors for expenses involved in presenting (example: supplies, tuition, transportation, housing, meals). Presenters must be willing to present at both the



Michigan Society of Gastroenterology Nurses and Associates



SGNA national conference AND the MSGNA fall conference. If multiple posters are accepted by SGNA it will be at the discretion of the MSGNA BOD as to how much financial assistance is to be offered.

Kathy Smith

President Elect

Fall Scholarship Winners to Great Wolf Lodge were: Michelle Roelke, Christine Pilcher and Debra Gabites. Congratulations to you all!

Associates Program Scholarship

This is a quarterly scholarship and the deadlines for submission are March 1, June 1, September 1 and December 1.

SGNA Associates Program Scholarships have been established to financially assist SGNA associate/technician members and non members with purchasing the Associates Program. The Associates Program is an online education program that provides an associate/technician the opportunity to validate their skills by being recognized as a GI Technical Specialist (GTS). The Associates Program is not an official certification but does help enforce the associate/technician commitment to the GI/endoscopy profession. Scholarships covering the cost of the Associates Program will be awarded quarterly to those members and non members who meet the established criteria. The number of scholarships awarded will depend upon funds available.

Recertify Quickly and Easily

It may have been taken you five years to accumulate enough contact hours for recertification, but you can submit these hours for recertification quickly and easily. This year when you recertify, use ABCGN's online system at

<https://www.abcgcn.org/secure/recertification>.



Michigan Society of Gastroenterology Nurses and Associates



The online system replicates the paper forms that you have always used. You just type your information in the appropriate categories and hit submit. It is that easy. Online submissions will be audited at the same percentage as hard copy packets were, back-up materials will only need to be provided if you are notified of an audit.

If you are set to expire at the end of 2015, you can submit at any point during the year. Certificates are issued on the 15th and 30th of the month. This date is noted on your certificate, meaning that you can start collecting contact hours towards your next recertification period on that date. What a great way to get a jump start on your next recertification and not lose “extra” contact hours.

Have questions about recertification or the exam; give ABCGN a call on their new toll free number: 1-855-252-2246 or 1-855-25-ABCGN.

Submitted by,

Diane Thompson

SGNA Medical Aid Scholarship

SGNA is offering this scholarship to financially assist SGNA members who are participating in a medical aid trip. Funds of \$1000 will be awarded to scholarship recipients. This is a one-time, non-renewable scholarship. The recipients will be announced at the end of January. Funds will be provided up front and must be used by the end of the calendar year in which they are awarded. Proof of participation in a program must be provided before funds are issued. Scholarship recipients will be asked to write a brief article about their experience for *SGNA News* upon their return.

Criteria:

Applicant must be a member of SGNA in good standing, and meet all criteria of the organization through which they are traveling. The medical aid trip must be through an established organization, and not independently planned. While proof of participation in a program may not be available at the time of application, proof be provided before funds are issued.

Send completed applications by December 31 to:



Michigan Society of Gastroenterology Nurses and Associates

SGNA Headquarters
330 N Wabash Ave
Suite 2000
Chicago, IL 60611

Fax: 312.673.6694

Email: sgna@smithbucklin.com

To be considered complete, applications must include:

- Completed application
- Essay, no more than 500 words
- Flyer/brochure of program (this can be printed from the internet)
- Proof of participation if available (i.e. a letter/email from the organization)

SGNA Membership Dues Scholarship

The deadline for submission is October 1.

SGNA Membership Dues Scholarships have been established to financially assist SGNA members with their annual membership dues. Grants of \$95 (Voting Licensed Nurse) or \$70 (Voting Associate) will be awarded each year to those members who meet the established criteria. The scholarship does not cover the cost of SGNA Regional dues. The number of scholarships awarded will depend upon funds available.

You are eligible to apply if you answer yes to the following:

- have previously been a member of SGNA for two or more years;
- you are currently employed as a caregiver in the field of gastroenterology;
- you actively support the goals and philosophy of SGNA;
- you can demonstrate financial need.

You are ineligible if:

- you have previously received a Membership Dues Scholarship from SGNA or
- you are a member of the SGNA Board of Directors.



Spotlight on a GI Unit

The Medical Procedure Room Endoscopy staff of Munson Medical Center in Traverse City consists of 15 staff nurses that are responsible for all inpatient endoscopy procedures as well as a small percentage of outpatient procedures, including bronchoscopy, EBUS, ERCP, HALO, TEEC, and minor surgical cases. The Munson Medical Center Endoscopy team focuses on quality patient care in an ever changing world of healthcare. Patient satisfaction scores for this unit have consistently rank as the first or second highest in their institution for years. A strong leadership team and very little turnover has facilitated a top notch endoscopy staff with highly skilled nurses. Each of the nurses have come to this unit with backgrounds that range from Med Surg, OB, ICU, Rehab, Cardiology, and ER, providing them with an array of resources to pull from. This endoscopy unit is currently striving for a 100% GI certified staff by May of 2017. This group supports MSGNA membership and has held the 2003, 2006, and 2015 fall MSGNA Conferences.



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Front Row: Beverly Cady, Penny Flory, Margaret Griffin, Amy Krug, Connie Davenport, Marianna Burns

Next Row: Maureen Meis, Gail Westover, Sarah Hall, Sue Halvorsen, Erin Peters, Emily Hawkins, Charlotte Taylor, Brenda Rupe, Karen Riley.

Reminder for members: Once you certify or recertify, you are eligible for a bonus from MSGNA. You need to submit a copy of your certificate to our MSGNA Treasurer and you will receive a \$100 bonus.



MSGNA *Spring conference* April 2, 2016

Conference to be held at: Washtenaw Community College Ann Arbor, Michigan

GI Boot Camp



**Marching
Through The
“Tract”
Fore and Aft**

Accommodations

**Ann Arbor Regent Hotel & Suites
2455 Carpenter Road
Ann Arbor, MI 48108**

Phone Number: 734-973-6100
Room Rate: \$102 per night (30 day cut off)
Double Queen Layout

**Holiday Inn - Ann Arbor
(Near the University of Michigan)
3600 Plymouth Road, Ann Arbor MI 48105**

Phone Number: 1-734-769-9800
Room Rate: \$105 per night
Double Queen Layout

All rates are subject to applicable taxes

DIRECTIONS:

Refer to “Map Quest” for accurate directions.

Topics

***Pelvic Floor Disorders**

***Therapeutic Endoscopy**

***IBS/IBD**

***Colon Cancer Screening 2016: From Bowel Prep to Timing of Surveillance
Colonoscopy**

***Monitored Anesthesia for Endoscopy**

***Let’s Talk About Liver**



Michigan Society of Gastroenterology Nurses and Associates



SGNA Announcements

New Member Portal...If 1st time accessing the SGNA site since July, 2015, you will need to reset your password.

Special Discount... If your membership has lapsed 2013 or 2014, call SGNA office... 800-245-7472, and they will give you a special code for the discount.

SGNA Scholarships

Membership Dues Scholarship...Due October 1, 2015...this will financially assist SGNA members with their annual membership dues. **Must be a member for 2 or more years.**

Annual Course Scholarship...application due March 1, 2016.

Associates Program Scholarship (GTS & AGTS)...GI Technical Specialist. Taking applications due March 1, June 1, September 1, and December 1 yearly.

1st Time Attendee to Annual Course Scholarship...must have less than 2 years of membership.

SGNA Medical Aid Scholarship...for assisting SGNA members who are participating in a medical aid trip. \$1000.00 will be awarded. **Application due December 1, 2015.**

SGNA RN Advance Education Scholarship Application...For RN working toward BSN, MSN or Ph.D \$2,500 for full-time student. \$1,000.00 for part-time student. This application is due every July 31.



Michigan Society of Gastroenterology Nurses and Associates



Diane Thompson, Nancy Denton and Ruth McClure hanging out with polyps at Multi-State October 31-
Nov 1, 2015



Michigan Society of Gastroenterology Nurses and Associates



Under development: If a non-member joins SGNA/MSGNA while attending a regional conference, that new member will get a reimbursement between the member and non-member rate. This reimbursement would take place once the member number is issued by SGNA by contacting the MSGNA Treasurer.

More information about COMON and advocacy will be forthcoming in the next Pathfinder issue due out in February 2016!!!

Sheri King