



# Michigan Society of Gastroenterology Nurses and Associates



## August 2015 PATHFINDER

Greetings!

The national course was attended by over a thousand GI nurses and associates, with 35 from Michigan. The vendor hall was most impressive and educational with some vendors offering optional CEU lectures, materials and photographs as souvenirs which we took advantage of. Posters were displayed and judged. The excellence of the many speakers was a reflection of the planning of SGNA.

Kathy Smith and I attended the House of Delegates and voted on the resolutions that were presented. All five passed. The first one was that SGNA develop an audio version of the certification review course. The second resolution was that SGNA rename the annual course scholarship in recognition of Doris Barnie's contribution to SGNA. Doris Barnie shaped the future of GI nursing, certification, and countless hundreds of GI nurses across the country. The third resolution stated that SGNA provide resources to regional societies on website management. The fourth one was for SGNA to develop a leadership manual made available to the regions that defines the roles & responsibilities, regional requirements and additional orientation materials for local board members. The final one was that SGNA telecast live interactive general sessions to remote locations. Also at the House of Delegates, Kathy and I represented our region at the Chartering ceremony and received a certificate for completing the rechartering requirements for MSGNA. On a personal note, I listened to other region's delegates at the leadership meeting and am proud of the accomplishments of our region. We have an exceptional region of membership, board of directors, and fantastic conferences!

In June, each regional president received an ABCGN Regional Resource Kit. This is a book that explains the ins & outs of CGNA certification and recertification to promote certification to our members. It includes information on scholarships and awards for certification, the value of certification, the certification application process & handbook, recertification handbook, along with GI specific program approval. We look forward to assisting our region's members through the resource kit.

In closing, I am looking forward to seeing many of you at our Fall conference at Great Wolf Lodge in Traverse City. What a fun venue! And don't forget to vote for officers/board members through the electronic voting on our website. It is easy & convenient with no mailing of your ballots and saves money.

Jenneva Kremke, MSGNA President



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Message From your Immediate Past President: Hi to all! The MSGNA ELECTION is just around the corner and don't forget it is going to be electronic. The decision to move away from paper was a decision that the BOD took very seriously. We discussed the costs; the envelopes, the biographical sheets for all the candidate, the photo pages, the postage and the hours involved in putting it all together. In addition, we discussed the concept of moving forward into the age of iPhones, iPads, and smart phones! The BOD always tries to strive to model your professional organization on the standards of SGNA, so we now have electronic elections!

But of more significance is not the process of how you vote but that you JUST DO IT!!! Voting is not just a privilege but a responsibility! Your BOD's works hard to provide 2 High quality educational conferences, and you have the opportunity to elect peers to the positions that can be part of the team that works for you.

MSGNA is one of the strongest regionals and you the reason: you attend the conferences, you pay your dues, and now you can make us even stronger by increasing our number of voters in this years election!

Sincerely

Patti Yonkovit BSN RN CGRN

**There are many perks to becoming an SGNA member. Beside 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**

### **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.



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## MSGNA General Business Meeting Minutes (second posting)

March 21, 2015

Prince Conference Center, Grand Rapids, MI

- 1. President's Report-** Jenneva Kremke, RN, BS: Welcome and thanks for attending. GI Nurses and Associates Week next week, check SGNA website for activities. Please check to be sure your profile data is up to date, especially your email. SGNA website offers various learning opportunities, including CRE webinar this upcoming Tuesday. Also, SGNA is offering Member Madness, with a potential to win valuable prizes from SGNA.
- 2. Secretary's Report-** Mary Catton, RN, BSN, CGRN: MSA Meeting Minutes from General Business Meeting, from October 18, 2014 posted in December 2014 Pathfinder.
- 3. Treasurer's Report-** Mary Pierce, RN, ADN, CGRN:           Checking: \$55,258.83  
   Savings: \$24,555.58

Per MSGNA bylaws-organization needs to have funds available for a year of operation. Members have access to review budget when they want. Please email Mary for information.

- 4. President-Elect Report-**Kathy Smith, RN, BSN, CGRN:  
There are six scholarships available for fall (September) conference. Tuition and 50% of two nights hotel stay will be offered. 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 1<sup>st</sup>. If abstract accepted, MSGNA may offer financial support up to \$1500.
- 5. Past President Report-**Patti Yonkovit, RN, BSN, CGRN: Organizing voting process.  
Concern that there is lack of member involvement in voting process, 18 members voted for MSGNA election, 29 for national election. Patti emphasized that voting validates our participation in our organization; it gives us an opportunity voice an opinion.

Nominations are open until June 1<sup>st</sup> for three board members: President- Elect, and two Directors at Large- Membership and COMMON/Policy/Procedure/Bylaws. Please consider yourself or a member for nomination.



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6. **Newsletter/Website Report**-Sheri King, RN, BSN, CGRN: Please check to make sure your profile with SGNA is current. This is the information used to email conference registration, etc. There were nine bounce backs with attempt to email Pathfinder this past December. Registration for conferences can be done electronically or you can mail in registration forms emailed to your home. Please forward Sheri any activity information you would like to share from GI Nurse and Associate week, including pictures.
7. **Vendor Coordinator Report**-Ruth Dobberfuhr, RN, BSN: 33 vendors at this conference. They reported a lot of good interaction and are looking forward to the fall Traverse City conference. 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 261 total members, 39 new members in 2014, 15 new members thus far in 2015. 5 – 10 year members, 3 – 15 years members, 6- 20 years members, 2- 25 year members, 1-30 year member. Karen Kaylor from St. Claire Shores is longest original member.
9. **Policy/Procedure/Bylaws/COMON Report**-Deb Schroeder, RN, BSN, CGRN: COMON is a legislative nursing group comprised of representatives of various specialties in nursing. They meet four times a year. Senate Bill 68 (Expand scope of practice for nurses) is being discussed; please go on line and review, let your legislative members know how you would like them to vote on this issue.
10. **Program Chair Report**- Diane Thompson BA,LPN,CGN/Ruth McClure, LPN, CGN:
  - SGNA 42nd Annual Course - Baltimore, Maryland, May 15-19, 2015
  - MSGNA Fall 2015, Great Wolf Lodge, Traverse City, MI, September 11-13, 2015, Munson Hospital Endoscopy staff. \$168.38, which includes taxes and water park fee (4 passes). Park Shore Resort at \$70 plus tax/fees will also be an option. There will be a topic on pain for pain credit.
  - MSGNA Conference, Spring 2016, March 18-19, Somerset, Troy. Karen Tingstad and the endoscopy staff at The VA Hospital - Ann Arbor.
  - MSGNA Fall 2016 – Date and Place TBA
  - Nancy Denton will shadow Diane as Program Chair.
  - Need a site for fall 2016 MSGNA conference. Please let Diane or Ruth know if you would consider hosting.If you are due to recertify (CGRN) this year, please do so by Dec. 31<sup>st</sup> so as not to have to retest. Information can be found on ABCGN website.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Catton, RN, BSN, CGRN  
MSGNA Secretary



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## **MSGNA PROGRAM REPORT**

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

### **23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Multi-Regional SGNA**

**DoubleTree by Hilton—Bloomington  
Bloomington, IL**

**October 30 – November 1, 2015**

**A true taste of National SGNA Conference at a price you can afford**

### **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 43<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL COURSE**

**“Breaking The Mold”**

**Seattle, Washington**

**May 20 – 24, 2016**

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

### **MSGNA FALL 2016**

**DoubleTree by Hilton Bay City—Riverfront  
Bay City, MI**

**September 23 – 25, 2016**

**Sandy Hansen-Belfit and the endoscopy centers in Bay City and Midland 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!**



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**Diane Thompson**

**MSGNA Program Chairperson**

**H—810-744-1971, C—810-240-9314, Email: dathompson920@gmail.co**

## **Coalition of Michigan Organizations of Nursing (COMON)**

The Coalition of Michigan Organizations of Nursing (COMON) is a coalition of nursing organizations within the state of Michigan. The mission is to serve as a vehicle that gives all nurses the opportunity to network, share educational opportunities and collectively work toward achieving mutually agreed upon goals that promote nurses and nursing in the state of Michigan.

Following is the 2015-2016 current legislation

### **S.B. 68/H.B. 4207: APRN Licensure and Requirements**

Provisions of the legislation include the following:

- Establish of licensure of APRNs including establishment of fees and a mechanism for review and adjustment of fees
- Define A.P.R.N. scope of practice,
- Create the A.P.R.N. Health Resources Shortage Area Fund, derived from yearly APRN licensure fee of \$97, which would provide grants to APRNs beginning employment to engage in the practice of APRN in a health resource shortage area. Require that the Department spend money in the A.P.R.N. Health Resources Shortage Fund at the direction and discretion of the Board of Nursing
- Require A.P.R.N.s who had practiced less than four years to execute a Mentorship Agreement with a physician or A.P.R.N. who holds the same license and at least five years of experience practicing as an A.P.R.N.
- Allow A.P.R.N.s who had met certain criteria to prescribe non-schedule prescription drugs and Schedule 2-5 controlled substances as well as allowing APRNs to issue complementary starter doses of a prescription drug or Schedule 2-5 controlled substance.
- Require that the practice of the A.P.R.N. be within the parameters of his or her education, training, and national certification.
- Create the A.P.R.N. Task Force and revise the membership of the Board of Nursing to increase A.P.R.N. representation.
- Include a licensed A.P.R.N. among the individuals who may refer a patient for speech-language pathology services or occupational therapy, and among those who may prescribe physical therapy.
- Prohibit an A.P.R.N. licensed under this part from owning or organizing a for-profit entity for the purpose of providing services as an advanced practice registered nurse directly to the general public after the effective date of the amendatory act that added this section the language regarding the restriction on having their own practice.

### **S.B. 98: Allow Community Colleges to grant of baccalaureate degrees in certain fields.**

Provisions of this legislation include the following:



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- Allow Community Colleges to grant a Bachelor of Science in Nursing.
- Allow Community Colleges to grant baccalaureate degrees in ski area management, wastewater treatment, allied health, information technology, or manufacturing technology.
- Prohibit Boards of Trustees from eliminating associate degree nursing programs at the time a baccalaureate degree nursing program is established unless it has determined there is not demand for an associate degree in nursing program.
- Require that baccalaureate degree in nursing programs be approved by the Board of Nursing.
- Require that both before establishing a BSN program and while offering it, a Community College hold a national professional accreditation, hold candidacy for that accreditation, or have applied for the accreditation, from the commission on collegiate nursing education or the accreditation commission or accreditation commission for nursing.
- Prohibits the expansion of a bachelor of science degree program established under this subdivision unless the job placement rate and rate of acceptance into graduate degree programs for nursing for graduates of the program equals or exceeds the average rates for job placement and acceptance into graduate degree programs of all of the public universities in this state that operate bachelor of science in nursing degree programs.

As of this article the proposal 68 has been declined in the Legislation and they are looking at new terminology to reintroduce this Bill

Debbie Schroeder RN, BSN, CGRN

BOD Director for policy and Procedure

## 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



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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 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

### Advanced Associates Program Scholarship

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

SGNA Advanced Associates Program Scholarships have been established to financially assist SGNA associate/technician members and non-members with purchasing the Advanced Associates Program. The purpose of this program is to provide an associate/technician with the opportunity to further their knowledge base in the field of GI/endoscopy. Technicians and





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associates are able to earn a higher level of recognitions as an Advanced GI Technical Specialist (AGTS) by successfully completing the Advanced Associates Program. The program is not an official certification but does help enforce the associate/technician's commitment to the GI/endoscopy profession. Scholarships covering the cost of the Advanced 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.

I've been the MSGNA Treasurer for nearly 7 months now. I thought I would tell you a bit about it.

Sounds simple that the treasurer will pay bills and write checks. Since taking this office, I have deposited over \$25,000, and written checks for about \$30,000. Putting on a conference is a lot of in and out of funds, keeping track of what is being spent with deposits for venues being made a year in advance. The Treasurer is responsible for signing contracts. It takes a lot more time than I had expected, although I am so happy to be doing this job. I have already learned so much and have such an appreciation for those that have done this before me. I am thankful for the guidance of Kathy Smith our last Treasurer and present President-elect.

As an MSGNA member, you are entitled to ask any question or request any information regarding our finances. I am happy to answer the questions or get you the information you are requesting. Please feel free to contact me at [maryatpie@gmail.com](mailto:maryatpie@gmail.com) or [mpierce@rggastro.com](mailto:mpierce@rggastro.com).

The checking account presently has \$43,000+ and savings with \$24,000+. The conference this last March cost over \$13,000 to put on. Thankfully, the vendor table fees help cover part. Tuition for conference is set for the next year at the November board meeting with attention payed to keeping cost as low as possible for MSGNA members. I encourage you to join this great organization. Any comment you may have concerning this is appreciated.

Enjoy the remainder of the summer and hope to see you in Traverse City!  
Mary Pierce, Treasurer

## Associates Program Scholarship

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



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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>.

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 15<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> 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



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## **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:**

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

Fax: 312.673.6694

Email: [sgna@smithbucklin.com](mailto: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)



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## **Statement:**

I understand that if I am selected for the SGNA Medical Aid Scholarship I must submit proof of participation from the organization before I receive funds from SGNA. I am willing to write a brief article about my experience for *SGNA News* upon my return.

Signed Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: 35T

Electronic Signature:  \*Only necessary if submitting by email.

Printed Name: 35T \_\_\_\_\_

## 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.