



CTSGNA

Fall/Winter 2014-15

Special points of Interest:

- Presidential Letter
- GI Nurse of the Year
- Beyond the Scope
- New CGRNs

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I can't believe we are almost done with 2014. The year really went by fast. In September we had an informative presentation on C Diff hosted by MidState Medical Center. In October we held our fall conference Beyond the Scope and the Hands on ERCP Course. As you can imagine it takes a whole year of preparation from the Beyond the Scope committee to accomplish this event. The committee strives to provide current and relevant topics in Gastroenterology at this educational event. I would like to thank Carolyn Checovetes our Beyond the Scope Chair and her committee for a job well done. We are always looking for volunteers to work on the Beyond the Scope committee. Please let Carolyn or any officer know of your interest.

I encourage every member to apply for our quarterly

scholarships. We award two per quarter for a total of eight per year.

Also in January you may apply for the national scholarships the deadline for those scholarships would be at the March 19 CTSGNA meeting.

I am so excited to announce that the new SGNA Medical Aid Scholarship is now available and the deadline is December 31 to apply. I submitted this resolution to SGNA and it passed and is now being implemented like our own medical aid scholarship that we have at CTSGNA. If any member has a resolution they want to be brought forward please email me or Chris. The resolutions are due January 1st 2015. November is the start of National SGNA Elections for SGNA and ABCGN. Please remember to vote. Let's try and be the region with the most votes this year.

The By Laws are going along quite well and will be ready next year for presentation to the members. Have a safe and Happy Holidays see you next year.

Kathy Vinci RNC CGRN
CTSGNA President

GI Nurse of the Year

CTSGNA has been awarding the CT GI Nurse of the Year Award for 14 years. The award is to acknowledge individual excellence, professionalism and dedication to GI Nursing in CT. The nominee has to be a member of CTSGNA.

At this time, we would like to present the CTSGNA Nurse of the Year Award to a nurse who has been a strong advocate for her GI patients, her co-workers, and the CTSGNA Community. This nurse began her early nursing years working with the Critical Care population. Her strong skill set in the Intensive Care Unit allowed her to move into leadership positions as both the Assistant Nurse Manager and Nurse Manager.

This nurse expanded upon her critical care foundation as she floated throughout the hospital, and spent an additional 13 years in the Emergency Department. Her quiet confidence, her vast knowledge of patient care across all ages and acuity, and her leadership provided her with the ability to serve as a steady and solid resource in Emergency Nursing and Triage.

This nurse has remained excited and passionate about her work and she continued to grow in the area of GI, where she has spent the last 17 years. She is the "GO TO" person in the endoscopy unit, and she is a Clinical Expert serving as a Clinical Level 4 Nurse. If there are questions, she is the one who can help answer them. If there is a down kind of day, she is able to fill it with humor, as one of her physician colleagues has put it. This nurse not only loves her work, but is also respected by all physicians and colleagues with whom she works. She is an "incredibly" dedicated nurse, a unit educator, she is responsible for special ordering of equipment, and she is the person to go to for questions, knowledge and help to get through difficult cases. This nurse is an expert in ERCP, she is a preceptor, and she is an overall anchor in her Endoscopy Department.

This nurse's knowledge in GI is immeasurable; her commitment to her patients is unmatched. This nurse has been with the ERCP Team of CTSGNA Nurses teaching from its beginnings, 12 years ago. Her professional mannerisms, her certification, and her ability to go forward in spite of obstacles serves a role model to all. She has always been there to help not only herself and co-workers during difficult days, but has been there time and time again to host programs for CTSGNA at her hospital Central Connecticut Hospital New Britain Campus.

At this time, I would like to congratulate our 2014 CTSGNA GI Nurse of the Year, Beverly Collins.



Beverly Collins (holding plaque) and her coworkers from Hospital of Central Connecticut New Britain Campus

Dates and Deadlines

ABCGN scholarships for certification and recertification deadline is December 15 for spring exam and June 1st for fall exam form on website

ABCGN Spring exam window to register is Jan 1st to Feb 27 closes at 5pm

Infection Prevention Champions winter program runs from Jan 1 to Dec 31. Enroll by Feb 28 for the winter program



Beyond the Scope

The Beyond the Scope had 119 attendees from all over New England and New Jersey. The New Jersey President told me that her members enjoyed the program very much. They would like to incorporate the GI Nurse of the Year Award into their conference as well. There were seventeen exhibitors this year. The attendees interacted with the exhibitors before and during the break. CTSGNA held our raffle and the winners were: Joanne Williams 2015 BTS scholarship winner, Janet Vernacatola the SGNA Core book and Joanne Struble the 50/50 winner. The two BTS scholarship winners were Joanne Williams and Lauren Romaniello. The GI Nurse of the Year winner was Beverly Collins.

The Hand on ERCP Course was held the Friday before BTS. This year we had four ERCP exhibitors. There were 30 attendees. This program was also well received.



Diane Caron Vendor Chair, Carolyn Checovetes BTS Chair, Debbie Bulakowski raffle Chair

Joanne Williams and Lauren Romaniello
BTS scholarship winners 2014





ERCP co chairs Joan Pandolfo and Linda Leavitt

The Speakers



Carolyn Checovetes and Dr David Desilets



Dr Deborah Proctor and Rita Botelho



Linda Leavitt and Dr Murali Dharan



Dr Michael Selden and Patti Pontolillo



Mary Noon RDN CDN and Joanne Struble



Dr Kiran Sachdev and Gail Steele

CTSGNA 2015 State Meetings

February 19, 2015 Saint Raphael's on U C

- COLON ISCHEMIA: EPIDEMIOLOGY, RISK FACTORS, TREATMENT AND OUTCOME
--Paul Feuerstadt MD

March 19, 2015 Middlesex on TIPS

-“Tips” on Esophageal Varices
--Dr Hussain & Dr Takahashi

April 23, 2015 Yale What is new in Endoscopy

- ADVANCES IN ENDOSCOPIC OPTICAL IMAGING; a review of new and existing technology
--Ali Mir Ahmed MD, Yale New Haven Hospital

May Nationals

June 18, 2015 dinner meeting

September 17, 2015 open

October BTS and ERCP dates tba

November 12, 2015 dinner meeting

CONGRATULATIONS

New CGRNs

Jane Carny RN, CGRN

Linda Hyman RN, CGRN

Clara Rosas RN, CGRN

Jacinata Seigman RN, CGRN



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Hope all have a very happy and excellent New Year in 2015!!!



Please let me know if you need to include anything in future newsletters.

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Please note that there are more pictures from Beyond the Scope (particularly of the exhibitors and ERCP program) in the web gallery