



No. 37

January 2011
CNY SGNA Newsletter

Central New York Society of
Gastroenterology Nurses and
Associates.
Region 37.

President's Message:

ARE YOU INTERESTED...

...in attending the SGNA 38th Annual Course in Indianapolis in May 2011? The theme is The Link Between Practice and Care: Courage, Commitment, Collaboration. I was lucky enough to be able to attend the 2010 annual course, and it was terrific! I can't express to you how wonderful it was to be in one location with hundreds of other GI nurses who love their jobs! Central NY SGNA has some pretty darn good teaching days; the national annual course takes it to a whole new level. Consider going, whether you have been before or not.

To help you with this, Central NY SGNA has scholarships available to members. The deadline is January 31, 2011. Go to www.CNYSGNA.org and open the Scholarship tab on the left side. Read the policy, fill out &

send the application. You will be notified in plenty of time to make your travel plans.

The number of scholarships awarded each year depends on the number of applications received. Some years we get several, and aren't able to give everyone financial assistance. Other years, we have had no one apply. Think about that: if you are one of only a few applying, your chances of getting a scholarship are EXCELLENT! Would you bypass a lottery ticket if your chances were that good?

National SGNA also offers scholarships for the annual course. There are links to their website on ours. Look carefully to be sure you are applying for the scholarship you want!

I hope to see some of you in Indianapolis! I hear it's lovely in the spring!

Terry Markiewicz MSN, RN,
CGRN
2011 President

Membership:

Spring Meeting:
Winnie Akangbou, RN
wakangbou@gmail.com
518.243.4247
Ellis Medicine, Schenectady, NY

Topics:

1. Dr. Robert McKay, Investigation and Treatment of GERD
2. Sandy Brubaker High Resolution Manometry & 24-Hr pH Monitoring
3. Susan Teague RN CGRN Use of Electrosurgery & Argon Plasma Coagulation: Therapeutic Tools in GI Endoscopy
4. Lawrence F Muscarrella, PhD.

Risk of Transmission of Bio-films during GI endoscopy

5. Jeanine Penberthy, RN, Ductwork
6. Jeanine Penberthy, RN, Therapeutic Endoscopy-New Technologies
7. Dr. Brian McDonald, Update in Interventional Bronchoscopy
8. Dr. David Cohen, Therapeutic Endoscopy: Thinking outside the box.

Accommodation

Century House
997 New Loudon Rd
Latham, NY 12110
(518) 785-0931

<http://thecenturyhouse.com/>
Rate \$109 Single or Double

**Hotel reservation deadline:
Feb. 15, 2011**

Price will be online in one week.

Editor's Note:

Happy New Year. 2011 should be a great year. Be sure to apply for CNY scholarships.

I am very excited about the upcoming Spring meeting. The Committee has been busy getting fantastic speakers on cutting edge technology. We have Dr. Muscarella. The guru on Infection control issues in GI. Interventional endoscopy and bronchoscopy. EBUS, multiple techniques for taking care of post bariatric surgery patients with multiple problems. ERCP with Jeanine Penberthy, who spoke at the NY Course in Dec. And of course, the opportunity to network with members. Vendors. Plan on coming, you won't be disappointed. 8 contact hours have been applied for. There will be a

Friday night speaker, so come early.

Bring any certification or recertification questions with you. I can help.

Check out www.cnysgna.org to keep updated.

I can't wait for the conference to get here. I will have my list of networking questions ready.

Gayle Millis will be **collecting old nursing magazines** at the Albany conference. These are donated to nurses overseas.

We will again have the **SGNA marketplace offered**. You can order any items, without shipping costs. Check or charge card. This is a good time to order the Core, and start preparing for certification.

NOLF Report

Next NOLF is on Feb. 2, 2011. Report will be given at Spring meeting.

Barb Schwant, RN, CGRN

DATES:

March 19, 2011 Certified Nurses Day (go to Certifiednurses.org for free downloads)

March 23, 2011 GI Nurses Day

March 25-26, 2011 **GI and MORE** Spring Conference, Latham NY Winnie Akangbou, RN wakangbou@gmail.com 518.243.4247

Vermont Conference: VTSGNA Spring Conference and Meeting

Saturday April 2nd, Springfield, Vermont Contact:

cworrell@springfieldmed.org

or 802-885-7547

May 6-11, 2011 SGNA Annual Conference
Indianapolis, Indiana

2011 Certification Examination

Computer Based Testing (CBT)
Window:

May 1 - May 31, 2011

Paper/Pencil Exam Site: **May 7, 2011** in Indianapolis, IN

Application Deadline:
February 28, 2011

2011 Fall Examination

Computer Based Testing (CBT)
Window: **October 1 - October 31, 2011**

“What Happened to Charlotte?”

A story of patient errors and how they happen.

This is a very brief synopsis of a program I attended at the SGNA conference in Florida last year. Remember this could happen to any of us.

Charlotte was a 61 year old Speech Pathologist and minister who loved skiing. She was a wife, mother and grandmother. She had heartburn and reflux that went to the hospital for a Fundal Plication on 1/10/2000. Pre op she had perfect lungs and liver. After the surgery the physician stated, “I made a mistake”. Post op the

following occurred: She had personality changes and brain damage. She was put on heparin and coumadin with no labs done. When they were finally done, the Hgb. was so low that it couldn't be possible so it was disregarded. The nurse didn't notify MD of the labs. The lab tech drew an insufficient amount of blood. No one acted on her shortness of breath. No one was available to re-draw the blood. No one advocated for a critically ill patient and the patient coded. The patient was transferred to another facility on 1/31/2000. Charlotte spent 2-1/2 months in the new facility on a vent, 3 months in rehab, she was comatose for several months. She had a PEG and PEJ, speech therapy, OT, PT, and respiratory therapy treatments. Her losses included her good health, she had to move, her ministry, lost friends and her job. Her role was reversed. Her dog died and her husband had Alzheimers. She had short term memory loss and she lost her life as she had known it. She had additional medical issues including depression (do you wonder why?), vomiting after meals which led to hernias developing. These hernias were very large and uncomfortable. She even got a ticket for “No seat belt” because she had no physical excuses. On March 28, 2006 she had these repaired. The surgery was a success until 5 hours later. She ended up on dialysis and was intubated. Charlotte died on April 10, 2006. Remember our patients are someone's parents and/or grandparents. All this family wanted was an apology, the communication of events, an acknowledgement, assurance, and all the facts. All the family wanted was appropriate compensation.

The compensation was used for Boys/Girls Club scholarships to 2 colleges. New policies and procedures were established for labs, nursing and physicians including the JACHO's new Patient Safety Goals-Critical Lab Values in 2005 and Safe Delivery of Anticoagulants in 2008. Take this story with you. Patient safety is no accident and you can make a difference. The person presenting this program was Charlotte's daughter, a nurse at Mass. General. If you ever get a chance to hear this lecture, don't miss it, it was eye opening and a tear jerker. Cathy Bolton, RN, CGRN

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