



# Latest News from NESGNA

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## A Message from the NESGNA President

Happy New Year! I hope you all had a happy and healthy holiday season.

NESGNA was pleased to host 2 full day regional conferences this year where we welcomed fabulous speakers and members from our region and beyond. We continue to give back to our membership through scholarships for membership and attendance at national and regional conferences. Through membership drives, we were able to welcome more members to our region this year. Our total regional membership is now 300 and we hope to attract more nurses and associates to our organization and conferences in the future.

It has been a pleasure to serve as the NESGNA regional president this year and I look forward to a second year as a leader for NESGNA

*Sarah Argyropoulos*

## NESGNA Spring Conference 2020



Our spring conference will be held on Saturday March 7, 2020 at the Conference Center at Waltham Woods in Waltham, Massachusetts.

Topics for the conference include inflammatory bowel disease, endo-hepatology, vomiting in children, endoscope reprocessing, primary sclerosing cholangitis in IBD patients, and GERD. We will be applying for GI specific and CBSPD contact hours for all presentations

We received great feedback from our first conference at Waltham Woods. Attendees commented:

- *A+ to new location.*
- *I enjoyed this venue. Seating was comfortable, everyone had a good view, easy to get to.*
- *Food was amazing, room very comfortable - great venue!*
- *Great to see well educated & experienced nurses presenting on topics they are passionate about.*

**SGNA**

<https://www.sgna.org/>  
Explore everything SGNA has to offer with access to the Inside Tract, the SGNA store, My SGNA Portal, and SGNACommunities

## NESGNA Board Members

Sarah Argyropoulos  
**President**

Maria Scholz  
**President-elect**

Michele Bettinelli  
**Treasurer**

Marla Tobin  
**Secretary**

Mary Hourihan  
**Program Director**

Ellen Goepel  
**Program Director**

Judy Oakes  
**Vendor Liaison**

Stephanie Tsacogianis  
**Vendor Director**

Michele Brennan-Emond  
**Director -at-large**

Conrad Worrell  
**Director -at-large**

## Contact Us

<http://www.nesgna.org>

[info@nesgna.org](mailto:info@nesgna.org)

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## Thank You to Our Board Members



Thank you to our outgoing board members Ellen Fern, June Guarente, and Julie O'Grady for their many contributions and dedication to NESGNA. Under their leadership, we have grown as a region and been able to host numerous conferences and educational opportunities for our members. We wish them well!

Welcome to our incoming board members Michele Brennan-Emond, Stephanie Tsacogianis, and Conrad Worrell!

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## SGNA Annual Course 2020

Plan to join SGNA May 17-19 (Pre-meeting events May 15-16) at the Kentucky International Convention Center in Louisville, KY for the SGNA 47th Annual Course.

The annual course combines renowned industry leaders, focused educational sessions, hands-on training, insights from colleagues, and product and service highlights. We are pleased to have speakers representing organizations in our region.

Congratulations to our winners of the NESGNA Scholarship to the SGNA Annual Course. Anne Atkins and Mary Craven will be attending the Annual Course this year. We look forward to hearing about their experience!

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## Certification Corner

2020 deadlines for registration for the CGRN exam through ABCGN:

### **Spring Exam**

**Application Window:** January 1 - Last Business day of February at 5:00 p.m.

**Testing Window:** May 1 - May 31

### **Fall Exam**

**Application Window:** June 1 - Last Business day of July at 5 pm

**Testing Window:** October 1 - October 31

Registration and more information is available on [www.abcgcn.org](http://www.abcgcn.org)

As a reminder, NESGNA provides partial reimbursement for completion and maintenance of ABCGN certification. More information can be found on [nesgna.org](http://nesgna.org). We hope many of you consider taking the exam to become certified in 2020.



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## Professional Achievements

- Laura Dos Santos and Michelle Moro, Lowell General Hospital, presented *Got GERD? Get Educated on Reflux and Disease progression and Inadequate Hand-Offs Where the Safety Process Needs Improvement* at the 2019 Lowell General Hospital Evidence Based Practice and Research Fair
- Laura Dos Santos has been named the chair for Lowell General Hospital's Evidence Based Practice and Research Council
- Beverly Hospital Endoscopy staff nurses, Linda Allen and Jeanetta Kumar, along with their NM, Cheryl Thomas-Shackleton, presented a poster and oral presentation *Endoscope Reprocessing: A Failure Modes & Effects Analysis and Improvement Collaborative* at the SGNA 46th Annual Course held in Portland, OR in April 2019
- Tamara Behm, Steris, published *Brushing Up on Brushes* in the June 2019 issue of *Healthcare Purchasing News*

*Have an achievement to share?*

*Email us at [info@NESGNA.org](mailto:info@NESGNA.org) to be included in the next newsletter!*