Our Spring Conference is on March 17, St. Patrick’s Day 2018. You’ll have a great deal of luck if you register and attend the course in Walnut Creek. We are still trying to decide whether or not to have a theme with décor or food or beverages because of the particular date, and are happy to hear any voices from our very dedicated, intelligent (and often quite opinionated) membership before the conference only. We want it to be special for you, but then again, we think all of these conferences are special.

NCSGNA’s Spring Conference
will be at the
Marriott Walnut Creek
on Saturday, March 17th
St. Patrick’s Day
☘

And Speaking of Conferences...

NCSGNA’s Fall Course in South San Francisco in September was fantastic! There were so many interesting topics and compelling speakers that even people who have been to every single conference learned something new and exciting. This Editor’s new Supervisor attended for the first time and verbalized being impressed, which I am now repeating back & confirming.
Looking to the Future (But not Forgetting the Past)

When I first started out in GI, I was a relatively new nurse. In fact, I only had roughly six months of RN experience under my belt before I stepped foot into the endoscopy suite. My duties included working as an Admission nurse for all of our same day surgery and GI patients and recovering them in the PACU. My manager at the time wanted me to learn how to administer moderate sedation. I was a bit nervous, to say the least. Thankfully, I had a wonderful mentor who taught me the skills needed to be successful in administering sedation. Next thing I knew, I was learning how to assist the Gastroenterologist during procedures. I was a float nurse (still am to this day within the same ambulatory surgical unit) and I never thought that GI would be so interesting. So, I started attending NCSGNA conferences to learn more about Gastroenterology and to see what other nurses and associates experience outside of my small outpatient clinic. I was amazed how complex and ever-evolving Endoscopy and Gastroenterology can be. I started wanting to learn more and I even thought about getting involved in the GI nursing community.

So, I went from a shy, quiet nurse in the back of the conference room, to on stage as the 2017 President Elect of NCSGNA. How the heck did that happen (I still ask myself that very question)? All joking aside, I credit a huge part of my involvement to mentoring. If I did not have a wonderful and knowledgeable individual who saw potential in me to mentor me all these years, I honestly have no idea where I would be in my career now.

The NCSGNA Board of Directors are an amazing group of nurses who volunteer their time from their busy work schedules to produce continuing educational conferences throughout the year. In order to sustain NCSGNA, we must have volunteers willing to step up to the plate and serve on our board. We are a team, and through mentoring, I have learned a great deal about what it means to serve on the Board of Directors. The skills I have learned in regarding to planning and putting together a conference are absolutely invaluable.

For those who are interested, please contact us and we are more than happy to help you grow professionally as a fellow member of our Board of Directors.

Shaleena Kumar, MSN, RN
NCSGNA 2017 President Elect
Last Thursday, I turned 61 years old. Of course, I celebrated with family but I was a little sad when I received an e-mail from the National Marrow Donor Program. Because I am now 61, my name has been removed from the National Registry for Marrow donors. I have had my name on the registry for several years, maybe more, I lost track… (I am 61) I signed up so I might be able to help save someone’s life.

I would like to ask for you to consider helping by either registering to become a possible donor or to offer financial support to help to add more people to the donor registry. Per the web site- “If you are between the ages of 18 and 44 patients especially need you. Research shows that cells from younger donors lead to more successful transplants. Doctors request donors in the 18-44 age group more than 95% of the time. At donor registry drives, we focus on adding registry members most likely to donate. If you are between the ages of 45 and 60 and want to join the registry, you're welcome to join online with a $100 tax-deductible payment to cover the cost to join.” The web site is bethematch.org Thank you for your consideration.

Elena Gomez RN, CGRN
Director of Exhibitors
NCSGNA
On April 30th 2017, our friend, colleague, and former NCSGNA board member, Christina Rowlett, passed away from triple negative breast cancer.

Christina started in the nursing field at aged 16 years old, receiving her education and training in Scotland. At age 24, she came to visit friends in the San Francisco area and eventually sat the boards in 1990. Starting out at Humana Hospital, Christina quickly moved from the floor to working in GI, which ultimately became her lifelong passion. After meeting and marrying her true love, Christina moved to Sacramento where she accepted a position with UC Davis. After a few years working on the floor, Christina moved to a position in GI, where she met one of the many great people in GI, Mary Veridiano.

Christina joined NCSGNA in 1997 and quickly obtained the certification of CGRN and eventually served as the Director of Membership. Christina loved going to the conferences for the educational seminars, because in her words, it was an ever changing environment. It also gave her the opportunity to talk to other nurses and associates and promote the benefits of SGNA and its certification process.

Throughout her career, Christina mentored a number of the nurses that work in the Sacramento area, and literally touched the lives of thousands of patients. Christina leaves behind a husband of 24 years, two children aged 18 and 20, and her family in Scotland. She also leaves behind her surrogate family called the NCSGNA, and all of its members she has known. Christina may be gone from our sight, but she will never be forgotten.

Editor's Note: This lovely article was written by Tom Rowlett, Christina's husband, who has also provided a great deal of support to the NCSGNA over the years.
Patient Care Manager (RN), Endoscopy (Redwood City) Days (43411)

Job Type: Full Time
FTE/Bi-Weekly Hours: 1.0/80
Shift: Days
Hours in Shift: 8
Location: Redwood City
Req: 43411

Job Description

Stanford Health Care will be opening a brand-new state of the art endoscopy center with nine procedure rooms at the Redwood City Outpatient Campus in 2018. The endoscopy center provides comprehensive multidisciplinary care to patients through the continuum of perioperative experience. Patient care teams are dedicated to the improvement of patient outcomes in a high quality, cost-effective environment. We are committed to empowering staff to deliver and monitor the quality of care and services to our patients. We are looking for a dynamic and energetic patient care manager to join and lead the care team.

The Patient Care Manager is a Registered Nurse who provides unit leadership and works in partnership with nursing, the healthcare team, to develop a quality practice setting that support professional nursing and quality patient care. The Nurse Manager is accountable for the effective delivery of competent, compassionate care. Responsibilities include coordination of patient care; supervision of a professional team that includes multiple nursing and other staff as appropriate; administrative and budget management; troubleshooting of problem areas; organizational change management; ensuring compliance with accreditation and regulatory standards; quality assurance/quality improvement; safety and risk management requirements as well as and unit policies, goals and objectives. Further, improving unit operations, enhancing communication and feedback, customizing education and staff roles, and accepting organizational accountability for services provided to recipients are critical outcomes expected of this role.

All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, sex, color, religion, national origin, protected veteran status or on the basis of disability.

Meeting Minutes

SPRING 2017 NCSGNA Board Meeting Minutes
March 24, 2017 at 6:30 pm
Hilton Garden Inn, Napa, CA

Attendees:
Ted Miller President
Imelda (Aimee) Merrera Immediate Past President
Shaleena Kumar President Elect
Kendall Yoshisato Treasurer
Sheila Nuqui Secretary
April Heuschel Director of Education
Dawn Neblett-Cross Director of Membership
Ann Hayes Director of Community and Legislative Relations
Elena Gomez Director of Exhibitors
Lydia Blethrow Director of Publicity and Scholarships
Kristine DeGuzman Director of Social Media

Ted Miller
- Minutes were approved for 2016 Fall Board Meeting
- Welcome: April Heuschel – our new Board of Education
- Paperwork for region charters-awaiting (will be given at Nationals)
- Outstanding region application was submitted
- Director Of Media: don’t need to change by-laws – will forward handbook to Sheila
- Next Fall 2017 conference – Sept 23, 2017 @ SSF Conference Center; will be booking rooms at Four Points

Lydia Blethrow
- Scholarship application issue – website update, current application needs revision/update; applications were not received due to change of address; at the conference, will announce if anyone has applied, refer them to Lydia; application deadline was March 12th and will be extended until March 31st

** Anne will announce conference breaks, cell phones usage, scholarship application

** Shaleena will introduce the speakers

Kendall Yoshiisato
- Handed out conference summaries report for review/discussion
- Registration for spring 2017 à $20,620
- Expenses for 2017 around $100,000
- -$39,000 to -$40,000 for this conference
- Current Variables: food costing more and prices are going up every year
- Increasing the registration fees made an impact to help a bit with the deficit
- We are relatively doing “OK”, considering we haven’t tapped into savings in 15 years
- Ideas to generate more revenues: Grant writing, increase registration fees, not limiting the attendance
- Destination vs. local conferences?? Asked Anne – our conference is getting bigger so we need to look for bigger venues, vendors-problems sending their materials/things to convention centers vs. sending to hotels for storage (maybe vendors can find ways to figure out their storage issues)
- A vendor sponsored $2500 for 2 speakers, helped offset food and speakers
Meeting Minutes, continued

- We have 25 Vendors – the most in the last two years per Elena
- Location was appealing - Napa
- In 2019, SGNA is moving away from standard DDW – many doctors are not attending DDW
- 2019 DDW - Oregon in April
- Our attendance is fairly steady
- Question for Ann – can we find out any existing conference, competing around our SGNA conference?
- Numbers for this fall are just estimate (using last fall’s conference)
- Budget approved!! – all ayes!!
- Eliminate 15 min afternoon break to save money and cut the day shorter? Will ask members at the conference

Ann Hayes
- “250 attending!, The board is doing a great job”
- Receiving numerous legislative e-mails almost every day, Obamacare won; the healthcare stands; Republicans pulled out

Dawn Neblett-Cross
- 244 current membership; 13 more new members for this conference; only 3 new members last year
- Members went down by 1%, non-members went up by 1%; mostly RNs; 38 people form SF; 35 from Sacramento
- SGNA switched to new database per Kendall

Imelda (Aimee) Merrera
- Menu for tomorrow: Breakfast – eggs, pastries; Lunch - all chicken plates, salad, desserts; AM break – food kabobs; PM break – soft pretzels, chocolate covered strawberries
- Ann will announce there are only 25 vegetarian plates, see Aimee for a vegetarian plate ticket
- Lunch is sit down in the patio; ordered more pastries for breakfast
- Conference room is set up for 225, classroom seating style and the rest are stadium seating - the Board members can take stadium seats; AV person will be on site in the room for technical support
- Thanks Aimee!!
- Microphones will be available for Q & A

Sheila Nuqui
- Will write a “Volunteer Program” proposal that will include application information, tasks/duties expected to fulfill, and a compensation plan (free conference registration); will e-mail proposal to Board members once completed for approval

Shaleena Kumar
- Evaluation page update/revision: Evaluate the speakers; suggestions for topics, locations; shorten the contents
- Speakers for Fall: Alexion Pharmaceuticals will sponsor – Lipase deficiency (LAL-D); Dr. Randall Lee – Hemostasis; Dr. Aaron Levy – plant based diet; Nancy Schlossberg – infection control/scope reprocessing; we need 3 more speakers
- One speaker for tomorrow has a family emergency, will call by tomorrow morning if able to attend, Dr. Hsu might be able to fill the spot

Elena Gomez
- We have 25 vendors – same vendors, 2 new vendors
- Olympus has a class this evening – good turnout, 25 people signed up
- No other company offered a class, will check with Erbe and other companies
- The Napa Ballroom is long and narrow, the food will be in the middle
- Monterey - vendors room will be tight; the worst was Dolce mansion, set up was downstairs
Meeting Minutes, continued

- Vendors can come in tonight to set up, available after 8pm
- Sent out an email to bring own electrical outlet; Kendall can create a cheat sheet, vendor spaces, vendor numbers, for future conferences,
- Only 2 vendors have assigned spaces, the rest are first come, first served

OPEN ISSUES/NEW BUSINESS

- Social Media Statement will be included in the handbook; Kristine’s position falls in 2017 (odd years)
- Board position terms: Fall – Director of Education, Membership, Publicity and Scholarship/Website Design, election will be in the Fall 2017
- Shaleena is president-elect, currently covering for Director of Education
- April is Interim Director of Education until Fall 2017
- Sheila will write a Volunteer Program proposal, guidelines, will e-mail to Board members
- Locations: Monterey Marriott - $33,000 for 75 rooms; Marriott Walnut Creek Spring 2018 - $18,000 minimum for food, $199/night for 75 block rooms; Hyatt Regency in Monterey in October 2018
- New location ideas?: Casinos? Gold Country, Graton, Cache Creek, Thunder Valley – may be less expensive
- Budget wise, “we are not hurting” per Kendall
- House of Delegates: New Orleans in May ➔ House of Delegates (Friday), Conference (Sun-Tues), $1500 reimbursement if you attend/represent; April 2019 in Portland, Oregon

****END of DOCUMENT ****
**Leadership Directory**
Contact information for the NCSGNA leadership

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Ted Miller</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ted3129@gmail.com">ted3129@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>President-Elect</td>
<td>Shaleena Kumar</td>
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<tr>
<td>Immediate Past President</td>
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<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
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<td>Elena Gomez</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Director of Social Media</td>
<td>Kristine DeGuzman</td>
<td><a href="mailto:deguzmankr86@gmail.com">deguzmankr86@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NCSGNA Calendar of Events**

March 17, 2018  
**NCSGNA Spring Course**  
Walnut Creek Marriott

May 18-20, 2018  
**SGNA’s 45th Annual Course**  
Orlando, Florida

October 6, 2018  
**NCSGNA Fall Course**  
Hyatt Regency Monterey Hotel and Spa
ABOUT THE NCSGNA SCHOLARSHIPS

The NCSGNA Scholarship is open to members only. This information is for informational purposes only. Please download your application from www.ncsgna.org. You will be asked to provide your:

Name:____________________
Address:__________________
City/State/Zip Code:_________
E-mail:___________________
Home Phone:_______________
Employer:_________________
Work Phone:_______________

What is the scholarship for?

The goal of this scholarship is to help a regional member attend the SGNA Annual Course. One $1000.00 scholarship will be awarded to be used for registration, airfare, and hotel accommodations. Recipients must provide documentation of actual use of funds.

What criteria are used to award the scholarship?

- The applicant’s support of SGNA, both regional and national;
- The applicant’s promotion of GI nursing;
- The applicant’s activities within their hospital and community;
- The applicant’s participation within local, state, and federal government on behalf of nursing and health care issues;
- The applicant’s participation in other nursing organizations.

What is the application process?

Begin by checking off any activities in which you have participated (each category is assigned a point value by the Scholarship Committee). Expand upon these activities, include other areas that you feel demonstrate your qualifications for this award, and add any additional comments. Return this entire form and your comments to the Scholarship Committee Chairman.

Eligible applicants must have been a voting licensed nurse or associate of NCSGNA for two years or more, must demonstrate support of NCSGNA’s goals and objectives, must currently be employed in gastroenterology. Members of the Board of Directors and those who have received an NCSGNA Educational Course grant within the past three years are ineligible.

National SGNA or ABCGN (e.g., HOD Speaker or Vice Speaker; national Board Member):

SGNA Foundation Board Member; SIG Group Coordinator; Annual Course poster presenter, speaker, committee member, monitor or moderator):

Education (e.g., staff in-services, community presentations, teaching student nurses, mentoring new employees):

Government (e.g., special projects, resolutions):

Health Fairs/Other Professional Organizations/GI Nurses Day:

Miscellaneous:

Research/Educational Posters

If your poster is accepted for display at the Annual Course, you may be eligible for a monetary subsidy.

Here’s hoping you will join us at the 2018 SGNA Annual Course!!!