You’d be nuts if you don’t go to Walnut Creek

Our Regional Spring Conference is March 14, 2020, at the Walnut Creek Marriott Hotel.

Register at https://www.ncsgna.org/conference

Last day to register is March 2

Don’t miss the deadline

SGNA

47th Annual Course

May 17 – 19, 2020
Pre-meeting events: May 15–16

The Annual Course is in Louisville, KY

Register at https://annualcourse.sgna.org/

Leverage Resources

Create Momentum
Message from the Treasurer

Opportunities Await You: Volunteer

Recently I have rejoined the Board of Directors as the Treasurer. This position will be my fifth different role for the Board. Previously, I’ve been Secretary, President Elect, President, Past President and now Treasurer. It takes personal effort and time to assume roles in any volunteer organization, and that is true for NCSGNA.

When deciding to volunteer, I always feel a certain amount of angst. Many questions run through my head: can I fulfill the duties expected of me, do I have the skill set to accomplish the tasks required for the role, do I have the time required for the role? The list goes on and on.

But once I have started in a new volunteer position I always think, “I should have done this earlier. Why did it take me so long to decide to do this?”

Being part of the NCSGNA board gives me many opportunities. There are many new things to learn, people to share ideas with and friends to connect with. Being part of a talented group of people is an honor. Knowing that people have come together to create and facilitate incredible educational programs in our nursing specialty, for our members, is truly inspiring.

There is no time like the present for joining, volunteering and becoming part of the NCSGNA board of directors. Get involved! Now is the time!

Please contact any board member for more information.

Sincerely,

Ted Miller
NCSGNA Treasurer
The National Colorectal Roundtable “80% by 2018” campaign had a transformative effect on the colorectal cancer burden in the United States. 80% by 2018 was a national goal, which permitted averaging rates across all groups. However, there are still many racial and ethnic, low income and rural communities with lower colorectal cancer screening rates.

So, what is the vision of the new “80% in Every Community” campaign? Everyone across the United States has access to and benefits equally from life-saving, quality colorectal cancer screening so that colorectal cancer is no longer a leading public health concern.

Increasing the percentage of those starting screening at the right age is one of the goals carried into this new campaign. Many individuals are unaware of their family history of colorectal cancer, let alone polyps. Many clinicians do not consistently ask about family histories. Patients and clinicians do not reliably update family histories. EMRs are cumbersome to use, even when tools exist. Consequently, many high-risk individuals are starting screening too late.

There is a rising colorectal cancer incidence among people under age 50. Early-onset colorectal cancer demands a far more deliberate effort to begin screening no later than age 50. The American Cancer Society has provided compelling data and issues a new guideline to support starting average risk screening at age 45.

GI nurses and associates should use 2020 “March is Colorectal Cancer Awareness month” as a rallying call to action to help achieve the 80% in Every Community. Take ownership and commit to making an impact in the communities we serve. For example, educate patients, friends and especially family about age-appropriate colorectal cancer screening by even simple initiatives such as proactively promoting family history-taking.
Thank You For A Job Well Done

First of all, I would like to thank our President Sheila Nuqui for selecting a really nice destination venue at the Lake Tahoe Resort for the Fall 2019 conference. Everyone on the NCSGNA board did an outstanding job of providing us with a world class GI conference. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank our Vendors. Their continued support of our conferences is greatly appreciated and helps us financially.

Two of our vendors hosted a Friday night dinner presentation. Cook Medical and Boston Scientific each had a successful evening. 14 vendors attended on Saturday morning. The layout of the vendor room included the buffet table, and that worked out great! It gave maximum exposure to the vendors and they like that. They want to meet as many of you as they can!

Over the past 4 to 5 years, companies have been merging so we don’t have as many companies attending our conferences as we used to have. When I started in 2012, I had 25-30 vendors attending the conferences. We now have 14 to 18 vendors per conference, depending on the venue location. Endochoice merged with Boston Scientific and US Endoscopy merged with Steris, to name a few. Sandhill Scientific merged with Diversatek, but unfortunately Diversatek does not want to sponsor a table at the Regional level. Rob, the Sandhill Rep, paid for his table out of his own pocket a couple of conferences ago, but although that level of personal support is very admirable, it’s not sustainable.

I send out about 60 invitation emails to different companies each conference, I’m always trying to find new companies to invite. I explain all of this so you can understand some of the challenges in getting new reps to come to our conferences. Some attendees have commented that it’s always the same companies at the conferences, but then these vendors provide the support we need to make our conferences happen.

If you know of any new companies that you would like to invite to exhibit at our conference, please contact me and I will send them an invitation. Your help is greatly appreciated.

Elena Gomez RN, CGRN
Director of Exhibitors
**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>April Sundong</td>
<td><a href="mailto:2asundong@gmail.com">2asundong@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>President-Elect</td>
<td>Nancy Schlossberg</td>
<td><a href="mailto:nancy.schlossberg@gmail.com">nancy.schlossberg@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immediate Past President</td>
<td>Sheila Nuqui</td>
<td><a href="mailto:snuqui@comcast.net">snuqui@comcast.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Ted Miller</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ted3129@gmail.com">ted3129@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Janelle Del Rosario</td>
<td><a href="mailto:janelleshaylyn@yahoo.com">janelleshaylyn@yahoo.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director of Education</td>
<td>Emily Scafidi</td>
<td><a href="mailto:emilyscafidi@yahoo.com">emilyscafidi@yahoo.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director of Membership</td>
<td>Dawn Neblett-Cross</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lilcitty2@yahoo.com">lilcitty2@yahoo.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dir. Comm. &amp; Legislative Relations</td>
<td>Nancy Schlossberg</td>
<td><a href="mailto:nancy.schlossberg@gmail.com">nancy.schlossberg@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director of Exhibitors</td>
<td>Elena Gomez</td>
<td><a href="mailto:excapereality@sbcglobal.net">excapereality@sbcglobal.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director of Publicity and Scholarships</td>
<td>Lydia Blethrow</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lydia@lyds.org">lydia@lyds.org</a></td>
</tr>
<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 14, 2020
  - **NCSGNA Spring Course**
    - Walnut Creek Marriott Hotel
- March 22-28, 2020
  - **GI Nurses and Associates Week**
- May 15-19, 2020
  - **SGNA Annual Course**
    - Louisville Kentucky
- September 12, 2020
  - **NCSGNA Fall Course**
    - Grand Sierra Resort and Casino
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.

ACTIVITIES

When did you join SGNA/NCSGNA? ________
Years in GI Nursing: ________
Academic/Professional Credentials: ________
Northern California SGNA: ________
President: held office
President-Elect: held office
Past President/Historian: held office
Secretary: held office
Treasurer: held office
Director of Exhibits: held office
Director of Scholarship/Publicity: held office
Director of Membership: held office
Director of Education: held office

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 2020 SGNA Annual Course!!!

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.