



**No. 38**

**August 2011  
CNY SGNA Newsletter**

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

**President's Message:**

In Central New York, we certainly have our swings in weather, don't we? What happened to spring? It feels like we jumped right from winter into the heat & humidity (and storminess!) of summer. What are you doing for fun?

This year's Fall conference will be November 11 & 12 in Saratoga Springs at the Gideon Putnam Hotel. Watch our website ([www.cnysgna.org](http://www.cnysgna.org)) for more information. The hotel website is <http://www.gideonputnam.com/>. It is a beautiful hotel in a great setting, and very close to the city of Saratoga.

Your volunteer leaders in CNYSGNA want to be sure we are giving you educational programs that YOU want. If you have any suggestions for session topics, please contact a board member with your idea.

And here is a really radical thought: Do you have a GI subject that is near & dear to your heart? Wouldn't you like to share your professional knowledge & expertise with your colleagues? We often have physicians speak at our conferences, as well as nurses from other parts of the country, but think of the benefit of one of our own sharing her wisdom with a group of her peers! If you are interested in speaking, PLEASE let us know!

Several members of CNYSGNA attended the SGNA 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Course in Indianapolis in May. There were GI nurses from literally around the world! The networking opportunities were terrific. The sessions at the Annual Courses are scheduled so that you are busy from early morning till evening, but we still made time for some good food & drinks, and a little nightlife.

Indianapolis is a picturesque city with a huge sports contingent – the Colts (my favorite sport, & we were very close to Lucas Oil Stadium, their home!), Pacers, Indy 500, and more. You make friendships at SGNA that last from year to year, and you get the latest in GI education.

In 2012, the Annual Course will be in Phoenix Arizona. Dates are May 18-23. If you have not been to a national meeting, this may be your opportunity! And remember that Central New York SGNA offers scholarships to members for attending the annual course.

Terry Markiewicz MSN, RN,  
CGRN

2011 President

\*\*\*\*\*

**Membership:**

**Fall Meeting:**

Winnie Akangbou, RN

[wakangbou@gmail.com](mailto:wakangbou@gmail.com)

518.243.4247

Ellis Medicine, Schenectady, NY

**Topics:**

**Anal Cancer**

**C. diff**

**Joint Commission Survey Prep**

**Class**

**Long Term PEG Care**

**Accommodation**

Gideon Putnam

<http://www.gideonputnam.com/>

Rate \$ 139

\*\*\*\*\*

**Editor's Note:**

Ellis Medicine will be offering the Fall Conference. Mark your calendar. Save the date.

More information will be coming in the next month. Watch for a September newsletter.

Information so far: There will be a Friday night speaker. All day Saturday conference. Networking and vendor time included.

Think about getting involved on a committee level. Time commitment is short, you meet great people, you earn points toward a scholarship, and you learn the process of how the organization functions.

Contact Coleen Feocco, Membership Chair, if interested. Look on the website for the various committees.

Remember to vote this year. Regionals are rated by the per centage of members that vote in the election. This is part of the point system for winning Regional of the Year. I know that CNYSGNA can improve their 14%.

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.

Barbara Schwant, BSN, RN,  
CGRN

\*\*\*\*\*

**Save the Date:**

Fall Conference  
Nov. 11-12, 2011

Gideon Putnam Hotel, Saratoga Springs,  
NY

Women's GI Health Issues

Chair: Winnie Akangbou, RN  
518.243.4247

[Wakangbou@gmail.com](mailto:Wakangbou@gmail.com)

\*\*\*\*\*

**Certification Examination**

Application Deadline:  
**August 31, 2011**

## **2011 Fall Examination**

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

\*\*\*\*\*

### **Note from Scholarship winner:**

First I'd like to thank CNYSGNA for awarding me a grant so that I could attend the annual conference. What an opportunity! Indianapolis was such a fun city and what a great time to network with other nurses from all over the country.

The vendor programs were very informative. It gave me the chance for hands on experience and the ability to discuss tips back and forth with others. I especially enjoyed the sessions involving EUS and ERCP. It was interesting to learn about the up and coming opportunities in these areas. I also found it helpful to compare my hospital practice with what is going on throughout the country.

If anyone reading this is wondering whether to attend an annual conference in the future-I highly recommend it. It's an outstanding experience, one that you won't forget!

Renee Brooks

### **I NEED YOUR HELP!**

**As part of my job as Secretary of CNYSGNA, I am to maintain the Society's photo Album and archive the activities and achievements of our Regional. To fulfill this obligation, I have been working on the six years I have been your Secretary. When that is done, I hope to organize the boxes of material I received when I started this job. Those boxes contain a record of the very beginnings of our local organization in 1980 when those early founders aspired to eventually join the national SGA (Society of Gastrointestinal Assistants). There is a letter to Mrs. Jean Davis to join the Upstate Medical people on June 5th for a program and a meeting. It was Jean's husband who later became one of the first two Medical Directors for the Regional. You can just imagine how**

**thrilled and honored I felt to see these two people at our 25th Anniversary Celebration in Albany!..... And I have a great picture of them for the album!!! At any rate, as you can see, being Secretary is a fun and exciting job.....in fact this position is open for this Fall's election, so volunteer before somebody else gets the job.**

**To get back to my plea for help, I need pictures from the following conferences: Fall 2001 and every conference before 2000 EXCEPT Fall 1996 & Spring 1997. Please write on the backs when and where the conference was and the names of any of the people whose names you know. If you want the pictures back, I can scan them and return them to you. I realize this is a tall order, but wouldn't it be nice to have a more complete history? I am also looking for CNYSGNA conference brochures dated before Fall of 2002, so if you have any, please send them my way. Thank you in advance. I know that looking for all that stuff won't be an easy thing to do. Have a wonderful summer and I hope to see you all at the Fall conference.**

**Gayle E. Millis  
3257 Center Road  
Moravia, N.Y.13118**

### **ABCGN**

ABCGN has their own toll free number now. **855-25ABCGN or 855-252-2248**

Registration deadline for the Fall exam window is coming up. Aug. 31, 2011. Window is Oct. 1-31.

Next exam date is may 1-31, 2012. Look at the ABCGN website for helpful hints, online registration, studying guide. Website has just been refreshed. Hope that you like it.

Top five reasons to take the certification exam:

Nurses who are certified: Report a greater confidence in their practice. Demonstrate better decision-making skills. Have proven ability to detect complications. Display effective communication and collaboration with other healthcare team members. Have fewer adverse events and errors inpatient care. Check out the DAVE GI Nursing project. (Digital Atlas for Video Education) <http://daveproject.org/category/nursing>

## **CNY SGNA: YOUR 2010 BOARD:**

**President** : Terry Markiewicz,  
MS, RN, CGRN.  
104 St. Stephens La. W., Scotia,  
NY 12302 518-243-4258 (w)  
518-399-0703  
[feedkramer@aol.com](mailto:feedkramer@aol.com)

**Past-President:** Babette Clapper,  
RN, CGRN 7652 Kriswood Dr.  
Rome, NY 13440 315-225-5618  
(h) 315-624-7035(w)  
[b.clapper@hotmail.com](mailto:b.clapper@hotmail.com)

**President-elect:** Gail Woodruff,  
RN, CGRN  
(518)891-0617,  
[gpwoodruff@verizon.net](mailto:gpwoodruff@verizon.net)

**Secretary:** Gayle E. Millis, RN,  
CGRN 3257 Center Road  
Moravia, NY 13118 (315)364-  
7861(h), (315)255-7130 or  
(315)255-7213(w)  
[Secretary@cnysgna.org](mailto:Secretary@cnysgna.org)  
[dgmillis@gmail.com](mailto:dgmillis@gmail.com)

**Treasurer:** Cathleen H. Bolton,  
RN, CGRN 518-585-7102 (h),  
518-926-6220(w) FAX 518-926-  
6234 voice: 518-926-6226  
90 Tiroga Beach Lane,  
Ticonderoga, NY 12883-2307  
[chbolton@hotmail.com](mailto:chbolton@hotmail.com)

Board members at Large:

**Membership Chair:** Coleen  
Feocco, BA, RN, CGRN 315-475-  
2802 (h)315-470-7921(w)  
2210 South Geddes St. Syracuse,  
NY 13207  
[rfeocco@twcny.rr.com](mailto:rfeocco@twcny.rr.com)

**Bylaws Chair** Janeen Spencer,  
RN, CGRN 315-865-6948

8100 Soule Rd Holland Patent, NY  
13354 [ajdesigns2002@yahoo.com](mailto:ajdesigns2002@yahoo.com)

**Education Chair:** Janet Shope,  
RN, CGRN 607-737-4216  
1724 Pinnacle Rd Elmira, NY  
14905

[Irishrose0267@stny.rr.com](mailto:Irishrose0267@stny.rr.com)  
[shopejanet@yahoo.com](mailto:shopejanet@yahoo.com)

**Finance/Budget :** Winnifred  
Akangbou, RN, CGRN  
518-243-4247(w), 1 Deerfield Pl  
Scotia, NY 12302  
[wakangbou@gmail.com](mailto:wakangbou@gmail.com)

**Editor/NOLF rep**

Barbara Schwant, RN, BSN,  
CGRN 518-887-2850 (h), 518-  
243-4258(w)[voicemail518-243-  
3556](mailto:voicemail518-243-3556)  
FAX 518-243-1093 (w)  
309 Muselbeck Rd.  
Pattersonville, NY 12137  
[BSchwant@gmail.com](mailto:BSchwant@gmail.com)  
[schwantb@ellismedicine.org](mailto:schwantb@ellismedicine.org)

**American Board of Certification  
for Gastroenterology Nurses**  
800-245-7462, option 3,  
[Abcgn.org](http://Abcgn.org)

**National Society of  
Gastroenterology Nurses and  
Associates:** 800-245-7462  
[www.sgn.org](http://www.sgn.org)  
e-mail: [SGNA@sba.com](mailto:SGNA@sba.com)

**ABCGN: [abcgn.org](http://abcgn.org)**

Local education members:

**Capital District:** Terry  
Markiewicz, MS, RN, CGRN.  
104 St. Stephens La. W., Scotia,  
NY 12302 518-243-4258 (w)  
518-399-0703  
[feedkramer@aol.com](mailto:feedkramer@aol.com)

**Syracuse:** Coleen Feocco,  
BA,RN, CGRN 315-475-2802  
(h)315-470-7921(w)  
2210 South Geddes St. Syracuse,  
NY 13207  
[rfeocco@twcnny.rr.com](mailto:rfeocco@twcnny.rr.com)

**Binghamton:** Joann DeRoche,  
RN,  
[jknocche88@hotmail.com](mailto:jknocche88@hotmail.com)

Website: [www.cnysgna.org](http://www.cnysgna.org)  
Webmaster: [ecbcunia@gmail.com](mailto:ecbcunia@gmail.com)  
Send e-mail addresses online at  
[cnysgna.org](http://cnysgna.org)