



NEWSLETTER

Tennessee Society of Gastroenterology Nurses and Associates

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TSGNA MEMBERS AT THE SGNA COURSE IN NEW ORLEANS

Purple beads, enthusiasm, and lots of coffee meandered the halls of the Hilton Riverside Convention center this 44th annual SGNA conference in New Orleans. This was my first national conference, and I am so glad I chose to go. Every time I attend a conference I am reminded why I am a SGNA member. There is always something to learn and someone to get to know. Some of the topics of the sessions that I attended talked about gastric cancer, workplace violence, obscure GI bleeding, eosinophilic esophagitis, and foreign bodies in the stomach. Some of the speakers were doctors and some were nurses but all were passionate about their topic. Aside from the academic, walking around the French quarter and seeing New Orleans left me wanting more. Listening to street performers and watching dancers were a delight. And oh my! The food! Being able to walk up to a computer and do an online evaluation immediately after a session was very convenient. Everything was well organized, with representatives available the entire conference for questions and assistance. I encourage my fellow TSGNA members to consider going to the annual conference next year and remember - it's way more fun with a friend! - Submitted by Brenda Johnson, Chattanooga

I was able to go to the sgna national conference and had a blast! It was great to meet people and network! Submitted by Sarah Cole, Knoxville

I always enjoy attending the annual course as it rejuvenates and revives me. In other words, I have felt like making a change or leaving GI nursing, and when I attend a conference I am affirmed that GI nursing is where I want to be.....wonderful way to meet other nurses in this dynamic specialty and network. Some would say commiserate shared experiences! It's always great to learn the latest technology and trends in our specialty. Some say the passion is contagious! I encourage you to attend! Submitted by Frances Schroeder, Nashville

Start saving now for next year's course in Orlando, Florida!

SGNA
45th Annual Course
May 20 - 22, 2018
Pre-meeting events: May 18 - 19

Earn **contact hours** with more than **100 educational sessions** spanning **12 different tracks**. Explore the Orlando-area and enjoy all that it has to offer. With exclusive Walt Disney World® discounts being offered for SGNA Annual Course attendees, this is one week you won't want to miss! Register now at SGNA.org!

For information about membership please go to SGNA.org

Check out our Website at TSGNA.org

ANSWER THE CALL!

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to shape the future of TSGNA with your ideas and decisions? Are you good at thinking outside the box? Do you have the ability to analyze problems and see possible solutions? You may be the person we're looking for!

How does *FREE* membership in SGNA/TSGNA sound to you? Would you like to attend the TSGNA Annual Course in 2018 with your registration and part of your expenses paid by TSGNA? How about an expense paid trip to the SGNA Annual Course as President-Elect in 2018? In 2018, the course will be held in Orlando, FL and will provide approximately 35 contact hours.

These are just a few of the many benefits of holding an office in TSGNA. Additional

benefits include earning points for educational scholarships (money for conferences or educational opportunities) and eligibility for certification/recertification scholarships. And that doesn't even include all the new friends you'll make, networking opportunities, and other travel destinations and training made available.

See if you have what it takes by looking at the "Self Appraisal and Personal Check List" at TSGNA.org to evaluate your readiness to run for office for 2018. If you don't think you're the right person for the job, do you know someone who is? If so, consider nominating him or her. Nominees are required to be members of SGNA.

The Call For Nominations is now open. Without qualified nominees for the open positions, the

present officers will be forced to continue in their current positions, or worse, some positions may not be filled for 2018. Nominations close July 31, 2017.

Think about it. Do a little research on SGNA.org and TSGNA.org. Look TSGNA's "Organizational Chart" and the "Self Appraisal and Personal Checklist" on the TSGNA website. Talk to others who are now or have been officers in the past. Think about the places you could go, the people you could meet, and the things you could learn. Think about how it will look on your resume when you apply for your dream job. Think about the difference you could make and the growth you could achieve! Then

Answer The Call.

TSGNA OPEN POSITIONS FOR 2018

Per TSGNA Bylaws, the following positions are now open for election for calendar year 2018. See the bylaws as posted on TSGNA.org for more information.

President-Elect: This candidate must be from the Middle Division due to the location of the 2019 Fall Course being held in Middle Tennessee. He or she will be elected by the entire TSGNA membership. This is a one year term as President-Elect, followed by a one year term as President, then a one year term as Immediate Past President for a total of a three year commitment upon election. As President Elect, you will attend Leadership Training in Chicago this November, the SGNA Annual Course in Orlando in May 2018 and again in 2019 at a yet-to-be-disclosed location with expenses for these trips paid by TSGNA, and on the job experience readying you for the position of President.

Secretary: This candidate can be from any division. It is a 2 year term and will be elected by the entire TSGNA membership.

East Division Director: This candidate must be from the East Division and is elected by the entire TSGNA membership for a 2 year term.

The above positions are region-wide positions (the entire state of Tennessee) and those elected become members of the TSGNA Board of Directors.

The positions listed below are your local TSGNA leaders, the Divisions of West, Middle, East-Knoxville, and East-Chattanooga. Although welcome at Board meetings, these Division officers are not Board of Directors members and their attendance is not required.

All Division Chairmen and Secretaries-West, Middle, and East (The East Division has two chairmen and two secretaries-one of each for both the Knoxville area and the Chattanooga area): candidates must be from their respective divisions and are elected by their division members for a one year term.

All positions require membership in TSGNA and only members can nominate and vote in the elections. Go to TSGNA.org for more information about each position and to submit your nominations.

Nominations will close on July 31. After that date, members will be able to vote for their candidates on the TSGNA website where all candidates and their information will be available. All members are encouraged to participate in the nominations and elections process. If no one is nominated for a position, the open position will continue to be held by the current member unless that member is no longer willing to fulfill his/her duties. The position will then be unfilled. All current officers are encouraged to nominate themselves if they are willing to again perform the duties their positions require.

NOMINATE & VOTE!!

Your society needs your participation!

Download the free SGNA app from your app store

Like and follow TSGNA on Facebook!

Upcoming TSGNA Educational Opportunities

The East Division-Knoxville is holding a summer sgna contact hour meeting on Thursday, July 20th from 6:00pm-7:30pm at Fort Sanders Regional Medical Center in Classroom 3. The topic will be hemostasis and both Boston Scientific and Erbe will be there. Door prizes will be given out and include some items received at the annual conference. We hope lots can attend! For more information, contact Mike Travis at mtravis@utmck.edu or Sarah Cole at ihelpothers2live@gmail.com.

The middle division will have a mini course with contact hours on Saturday, August 19 at St. Thomas Midtown at 2000 Church Street in Nashville from 8 am - 12 noon. Parking is available in the 21st Avenue Parking Garage (Visitors). Topics include Electrocautery in the ENDO Suite, Liver Basics, Using LEAN to Effect Change, Acalasia, and maybe more! Please come and join us as there is NO CHARGE to attend. If successful, we plan to have others! Contact Francis Schroeder, Michelle Gregory, or Jan Butts for more info. Their email addresses are on page 4 of this newsletter.

TSGNA SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINES

There are numerous opportunities within SGNA to win scholarships for various purposes. Sadly, they are often unused. Please take advantage of these opportunities and don't allow them to go to waste! SGNA.org and ABCGN.org has information about their respective scholarships on their websites.

As for TSGNA, the deadlines are quickly arriving.

The "Points" Scholarship awards reimbursement for educational purposes to the

winners upon the submission of receipts from educational opportunities. The receipts can be from conferences attended, core curriculum textbooks, and more. The receipt for the educational event must be dated after the winner has been awarded the scholarship and the award does expire. The application is due by July 15th.

The "Certification" Scholarship awards reimbursement for successful certification exam completion (you must pass the exam) or successful re-certification by contact hours. The deadline for application submission for this

scholarship is July 1st. This scholarship expires also.

For more information about the "Points" Scholarship go to TSGNA's website or email the Points Committee Chairman, Michelle Watts at mwatts@gastro1.com.

For more information about the "Certification" Scholarship go to the TSGNA website or contact Patti McKeown, the Education Committee Chairperson, at pmckeown@gastro1.com.

Good Luck and remember-You can't win a scholarship unless you apply!

LOCAL NURSES SPEAK AT SGNA COURSE

Two speakers from Vanderbilt recently gave presentations at the national SGNA course in New Orleans.

Christine Cleary presented her poster on using the Teach Back method in assessment via telephone prior to arriving in the GI Suite for procedures. Christine is a nurse in the GI Assessment

team at Vanderbilt and is working on her Masters degree in Nursing.

James Barnett has worked in critical care nursing as staff member as well as leader in addition to teaching roles. He came to Vanderbilt to work as staff nurse in the GI Lab, and soon his leadership skills were utilized as

the assistant manager of Scheduling and Assessment nurses in GI. He has attained his PhD in Nursing and is currently the manager of the GI Clinics at Vanderbilt. James presented two sessions, "Safety in the GI Lab" and "Using LEAN Techniques To Drive Process Change".

2017 TSGNA Board of
Directors

President - Alice Kidwill:
alicetsgna@gmail.com

Immediate Past President -
Frances Schroeder:
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President Elect - Vicki
Pollan: vpollan@gastro1.com

Secretary - Michelle
Gregory:
michellegreg@comcast.net

Treasurer - Brenda
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dianem210@gmail.com

Middle Division Director -
Janice Butts:
Janice.butts72@yahoo.com

East Division Director -
Kimberly Campbell:
kim10campbell@aol.com

**18 month membership is now
open! Visit the NEW SGNA
website at sgna.org.**

DATES & DEADLINES

July 1st: TSGNA Education Scholarship Application Deadline

July 15th: TSGNA Points Scholarship Application Deadline

July 20th: East Division-Knoxville Contact Hour Opportunity at
Fort Sanders Regional Hospital

August 19th: Middle Division Mini Course at St. Thomas Midtown

Please go to appropriate website for more information or contact
the member by the appropriate email address in the article.

www.tsgna.org

www.sgna.org

www.abcgcn.org

TSGNA 2017 ANNUAL FALL COURSE OCTOBER 13TH—15TH

Make plans now to attend the annual TSGNA Fall Course and Meeting being held in Chattanooga this year. Paypal will be available for registration payment for both course attendees and vendors. Make your hotel reservations early, as fall is a popular tourist travel time. The course will be held at Marriott Downtown, at 2 Carter Plaza in Chattanooga. Their phone is 423-756-0002 for your hotel reservations.

For more information about the course, email Alice Kidwill at alicetsgna@gmail.com.

For Paypal information, please email Brenda Johnson at brendajohson@msn.com.