

# Delaware SGNA

## Newsletter

June 2008

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*DELAWARE Gets TOP  
2 Honors at Poster  
Competition at  
National Conference.*

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### Front Page SGNA News

Delaware SGNA Region 10 WINS Big at the **SGNA's 35th Annual Course** in Salt Lake City, Utah. This year in addition to speaking about the Delaware Cancer Nurse Navigation Program Melinda Huffman MSN, RN, CGRN, Cancer Screening Nurse Navigator for Nanticoke Memorial Health Services, Delaware Health and Social Services and President of Delaware SGNA submitted a poster abstract about the *Delaware Cancer Nurse Screening Navigator program* colon cancer results. The poster entitled **"One Small State's Dedication is the Power to Make a Difference in Colon Cancer"** won the first place ribbon.

The idea of advancing the Delaware Region through increasing the use of technology, such as website design and videoconferencing, was submitted by Karen Bell, RN, BSN, CGRN, treasurer Delaware SGNA and Melinda Huffman as a poster abstract. That poster entitled **"Delaware SGNA + Technology = The Power to Make a Difference"** won the second place ribbon.

This is the first year that Delaware region 10 has submitted Poster abstracts. They were both accepted for display at the National Conference and they both won TOP honors. Delaware extends a very special thank-you to Patricia Laurion for her expert help with the graphic design of these award-winning posters

### Message from the President

As President of the Delaware SGNA it was my honor to represent the region at the **SGNA's 35th Annual Course** in Salt Lake City, Utah. The conference held a lot of excitement and great education this year. One of the speakers that impressed me the most was Dr. Christopher C. Thompson MD MHES, Director of Developmental Endoscopy, Brigham and Women's Hospital and Assistant Professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School, from Boston, Mass chutes. Dr Thompson spoke on Natural Orifice Transluminal Endoscopic Surgery (NOTES). This new method of involves intentional luminal breach to the peritoneal cavity for diagnostic and therapeutic procedures. The NOTES approach avoids abdominal incisions and may offer specific advantages in select

*Natural Orifice Transluminal Endoscopic Surgery (NOTES).* This new method of involves intentional luminal breach to the peritoneal cavity for diagnostic and therapeutic procedures.

patient populations. Transgastricperitoneoscopy, tubal ligation, gastrojejunostomy, partial hysterectomy and oophorectomy, and transcolonic exploration, liver biopsy and cholecystectomy have been completed as NOTES procedures on animal models. Theoretically NOTES could avoid some complications of traditional surgery related to abdominal incisions such as post-operative abdominal-wall pain, wound infections, hernias, and adhesions. To be clinically applicable, NOTES must demonstrate safety and patient outcomes equivalent to Laparoscopic surgery. In the next few years as this new field is advanced by Gastroenterologists, Surgeons, and Nurses, it is mind boggling to think of where it will take our “beloved” field of endoscopy. And we think we are busy now!

One of the other general session speakers that made a huge impact on me as a nurse was Dr Terry Box, MD, Medical Director, Intermountain Healthcare, Salt Lake City, Utah. His topic was titled ***Empathy: The Power to Make a Difference***. The title itself does not sound exciting or interesting until one realizes this physician is a doctor who had to sample his own medicine. Dr. Box is a liver transplant physician, and yes, he is also a liver transplant recipient. What I found so amazing about his story was the fact that he was such an athlete and health conscious person, not the “typical” person we think of as a patient that need liver transplants. His story of being a transplant doctor that became a transplant patient was one that shows us all that we are all human and at any time we can be standing in our patients shoes “on the other side of the desk”.

Overall the conference was one of the best I have attended. Delaware Region 10 is no longer a name that is only heard in the re-chartering ceremony. I want this upward swing of the pendulum to continue. In order to do that, the region needs to continue to strive to provide great education on a regional and multi-regional level. The membership within the region has grown but needs to continue grow. Certification of our current members, who are not yet certified, should be a primary goal of our region to show our purest form of professionalism. Computer testing and online review should help with this process. Region 10 members need to submit journal articles, posters, or speak at the National Conference. Winning is not the goal, sharing all the vast experiences and knowledge that we have to offer and seeing the names of Delaware members in print at the National Conference is. There are also many National Level Committees that members can become involved in that do not require time away from home. Application is available online, make sure you state on the application how much time you can volunteer and whether you are willing to travel or not. There is one area that I would like to see Delaware participate in next year at the National Conference, ***The GI Quiz Bowl***. I know we have 2 people brave enough to compete in this fun game. It will get Delaware in the spot light with or without a win. This has to be the best time in the history of Region 10 to be a leader and I am so proud that I can say that I am the President of Delaware SGNA. You are the greatest and you make me look good! Thanks again for the opportunity to represent the Region at the **SGNA’s 35th Annual Course** in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Melinda A. Huffman MSN, RN, CGRN

## FUTURE Events

**September 8, 2008-7pm**-Delaware SGNA Meeting- Cancer Care Center, Nanticoke Hospital, Seaford, Delaware, and Christiana Care, Education Center, Room #6.



**November 8, 2008-7:30-5:00pm**-Delaware Fall Education- Dover Sheraton Conference Center. Dover, Delaware.

**November 10, 2008-7pm**-Delaware SGNA Meeting- Cancer Care Center, Nanticoke Hospital, Seaford, Delaware, and Christiana Care, Education Center, Room #? **ELECTIONS!**

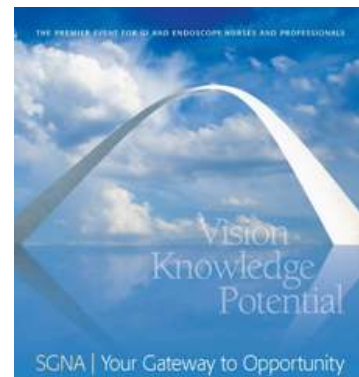
**January 12, 2009-7pm**-Delaware SGNA Meeting- Cancer Care Center, Nanticoke Hospital, Seaford, Delaware, and Christiana Care, Education Center, Room #? **NEW OFFICERS TAKE OFFICE!**



**March 27-29, 2009**- Delmarva Multi-Regional 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Education Conference "Bridging The Chesapeake With Current GI Trends" at the Dover Sheraton, Dover, Delaware. **Delaware Hosts!**

**April 13, 2009-7pm**-Delaware SGNA Meeting- Cancer Care Center, Nanticoke Hospital, Seaford, Delaware, and Christiana Care, Education Center, Room #?

**May 15-20, 2009-Vision, Knowledge, Potential.** **SGNA/Your Gateway to Opportunity.** 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Course. St. Louis, Missouri.



36th Annual Course | May 15-20, 2009 | St. Louis, Missouri

Visit [WWW.SGNA.ORG](http://WWW.SGNA.ORG) for the most up-to-date information.

SGNA  
SOCIETY OF GASTROENTEROLOGY AND ENDOSCOPY PROFESSIONALS