

2024 GNCSGNA board members :

- **President:**
 - Cathy Bauer
- **President Elect:**
 - Vacant
- **Treasurer:**
 - Pam Cowan
- **Secretary:**
 - Aileen Naro
- **Associate Member:**
 - Emma Townsend Rogers
- **Board Members at large:**
 - Kathryn Lyons
 - Sherri Brown
 - Katherine Nance
 - Maria Taban

Upcoming Events

Hybrid GNCSGNA Fall Conference Hosted by: Atrium Endoscopy, Charlotte, NC Date October 25-26, 2024

<https://www.gncsgna.com/fall-2024-conference.html>



Atrium Endoscopy consists of 13 procedure rooms over 3 separate locations where they provide Endoscopic procedures performed by about 40 providers. Procedures include both general and advanced procedures including ERCP's, EUS, Endoflip and Robotic Bronchoscopies. Staffing complement include 85 nurses/technicians. They are looking forward to being our host unit. Will your unit be our next host?

GNCSGNA Newsletter

SEPTEMBER 2024

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Meet Kathryn Lyons

Presidents Message

Hello all:

Summer is coming to a close and fall will be here before you know it. I hope you had an opportunity to spend time doing what you love most about the summer season.

GNCSGNA hosted another successful Digestive Review course with 36 attendees in early August. We asked the attendees if they preferred to have a full 8 hour days of lecture or if they would rather have it split up over 2 to 4 weeks. It was overwhelmingly agreed upon to keep it as an eight hour course. GNCSGNA will have to resubmit for CE approval units before the beginning of the year if we want to continue to offer this educational offering. I will add a question to the election ballot to see if we still have membership interest in attending this virtual course.

Speaking of the election, we received news that Dianna Amick was leaving the GI field this past month and would need to drop off the board. This leaves open the position of President Elect. We wish Dianna well in her new position with the Office of the Inspector General, you will be missed but we are so proud to have worked with you over the last couple years.

Thank you all for being a part of the Greatest SGNA Region. Greater things are in store for everyone involved in this specialty.

Sincerely Cathy Bauer RNBS, MSN, MBA, CGRN

Wanted: Nominations for our open board positions to begin January 2025:

- Secretary
- 2 Director at Large
- Associate Member
- President Elect

Qualifications: Member of the Best Region GNCSGNA 42

Time Requirement:

- Attendance at regional conferences
- Virtual Board calls 4-5 times per year, additional time may be required before each regional conference
- January in person meeting to review budget and scholarship applications

Benefits:

- Free Membership in SGNA
- Free registration to regional conferences
- Travel reimbursement
- Opportunity for leadership training
- Opportunity to attend annual course
- Great addition to your resume
- Stepping stone to national SGNA involvement

If you are interested, please reach out by emailing gncsgna@outlook.com

We are searching for a host for Spring 2025, if you are interested in being a host please reach out to us by email gncsgna@outlook.com

Membership:

Total Members: 304 including 40 new members this year



Kathryn Lyons is retiring from the board after 16 years, Thank you Kathryn for all your time and dedication to our region. **Lets Highlight your career:**

I started in GI in 1995 when I moved to Durham from out of state as a single mom of 3 daughters. At that time Duke Hospital was in need of GI Endoscopy nurses and I was looking for a Monday -Friday job that would align with my daughters' school schedules; I happily signed on! I worked in the adult endoscopy unit for 3 years until I switched over to the pediatric unit and stayed in the Pediatric Endoscopy/ Procedure Unit for over 18 years! I found that I really liked working with children and their families/support systems! My last 5 years at Duke were spent in Pre-op Screening for adult and pediatric patients soon to undergo a GI procedure. I retired at age 68 to help care for my grandchildren (I joyfully have 5)!

From the very beginning I sought out regional SGNA conferences in both eastern and western North Carolina because I love learning and wanted to expand my knowledge. I sat for my CGRN exam in person in Minneapolis in 2005; back then it was a grueling paper and pencil exam and we waited 6 weeks to receive our results in the mail. Although I studied, this was the hardest exam I'd ever taken and I fell to my knees in gratitude that I passed! After a regional Spring conference in ~ 2008, the ENCSGNA president at the time, Joyce Epps, kindly sat next to me during lunch and asked if I had ever considered being on the Board of Directors. My answer was, "not at all" but she was so gentle and sweetly persuasive that I found myself up for election that Fall and joined as a Board Member at Large in 2009! My first assignment was to be in charge of decorations for the Spring ENCSGNA conference that year, "Mapping the World of GI" on June 6, 2009 at the WakeMed Andrews Center. I became

secretary of ENCSGNA in the Fall of 2012 when our beloved secretary left to take a position in Utah. I served as secretary of ENCSGNA for 10 years, between 2012 and 2022. I have served as a Board Member at Large since 2023.

I have been a moderator at multiple Annual Courses since 2012. I presented a poster at the Annual Course in May 2008 entitled "Wireless Ph Monitoring in Children; One Hospital's Story" followed by an article that was accepted by "Gastroenterology Nursing" (but not published due to my hospital's restrictions). I wrote another article (not GI related) that was published by "AORN Showcase" in November 2022. This has been a walk down Memory Lane for me. It is now time for me to step down from the Board of Directors after **16 years**. I cherish all the great memories!

I encourage you to consider becoming a member of the GNCSGNA Board of Directors. We are asking for interested and enthusiastic members to join the GNCSGNA Board of Directors! Thank you from the bottom of my heart for all you do as GI Nurses and Associates and for your friendship!

I look forward to perhaps seeing you at the Fall GNCSGNA conference!

Kathryn

