



Spring 2019

President's Message

Region 45,

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome back all returning members of Region 45, as well as welcome all new members to OSGNA. Now to introduce myself, I am approaching my 19th year as a nurse, and I have spent more than half of this time in the GI field. I obtained my BSN from Bowling Green State University, in consortium with University of Toledo Medical Center (formerly: Medical College of Ohio). I am currently pursuing my Masters degrees in Nursing and Business Administration at Capital University. Returning to graduate studies has been challenging and rewarding. Presently, I work at Grant Medical Center serving as the Nurse Manager for Grant Endoscopy, Pre-Admission Testing, and Surgical Chart Assessment. I have presented at two OSGNA conferences, led the development and execution of the annual OhioHealth Gastroenterology Education Conference, and look forward to publishing my first nursing journal article this year. My free time is spent running, biking, and enjoying the outdoors. I fortunately, have a wonderful, supportive husband and family who love me unconditionally and understand my dedication to nurses and the nursing profession.

This year has started off with new leadership, sustained direction, and a hopeful vision for our future. We have already had the opportunity to gather as a region at our annual conference, and as an organization at the annual course. Having the opportunity to attend both gatherings has been phenomenal and inspiring. The power of our nurses, the collective expertise of our specialty, and the passion of our profession leads me to have hope and pride in the potential for our future, expecting nothing less than greatness. The work of our society leadership and our members is evidence of our commitment to pursuing excellence.

The annual course offered education for everyone from novice to expert, as well as opportunities for networking, personal and professional development, and guidance for regional society leadership. I am very excited to share the opportunities for recruitment, retention, and engagement of our regional society members, as well as the tools I learned about to enhance our membership experience. Many exciting changes were voted on by the House of Delegates at our national annual meeting. Some of these changes included an amendment to the membership rules, allowing for a rolling calendar membership, and the reinstatement of SGNA as an approver of Continuing education for nurses. Watch for more information and updates from SGNA, as these amendments are put into practice.

This is only the beginning of 2019, and I am very excited regarding all the opportunities the upcoming year has to bring. We have the potential to engage in members only networking events, educational activities, and outreach opportunities – increasing the value of membership.

**“Great leaders communicate a vision that captures the imagination
and fires the hearts and minds of those around them.”**

Joseph B. Wirthlin

I hope you can imagine the possibilities before us to advance the science and practice of gastroenterology and endoscopy nursing here in Ohio and throughout the nation. Together, we as Region 45, have the opportunity - through education, research, advocacy and collaboration, to promote the professional development of our members and facilitate an atmosphere of mutual support. I hope to meet many of you this year. Please do not hesitate to call me with questions or concerns. I am honored, and look forward to serving as OSGNA's president.

Have a safe and Happy Nurses week!

Jessica Miller, RN, BSN, CGRN, NE-BC
OSGNA President

