Hello and welcome to the second edition of the new and improved newsletter. Your Region has been quite busy with activities over the past few weeks. Many of our members and non-members, attended a wonderful evening sponsored by Cook Medical and Honor Health Shea campus for the room. Thank you for a great evening. The topic discussed was Pancreatic Cancer, the speaker was Dr. Thosani. Great lecture! There was also a delicious meal and dessert. The cake was very yummy! If you missed this great event, guess what, there will be more opportunities, this summer. As the temperatures rise, so will the bar on GI education. The ASGNA has planned a to add a bold splash of information during the Summer Symposium and the Fall Conference. I want to say hello to a few of the members that said hello to me at the Membership table—Nelson I'll try not to mess up your name again. Dottie from Prescott, AZ thank you for driving down to listen to Dr. Thosani. If you want to be mentioned in the next Newsletter come and say “Hi”. I’ll include your name next time. Remember to get your co-workers to join ASGNA, for these great educational opportunities.

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SAVE THE DATE

ASGNA 4th Annual Summer Symposium
August 26, 2017

ASGNA 38th Annual Fall Conference Saturday
October 28, 2017

GI NURSES WEEK CELEBRATION

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Spotlight on Lisa Maples

Lisa Maples currently is a ASGNA Board Member; Lisa’s position is Treasurer, she’s also a Past President. Next time you see Lisa give her the Kudos she deserves.

“I’ve been in G.I. for the last 32 years. I started in Pediatric G.I. in Houston Texas. I then moved to Phoenix and worked for a short time at PCH. After starting my family, two boys, who are now 28 and 30 years old. I decided to go into adult G.I. After moving away to be near family, we came back to Phoenix in 1992. I started working at Mayo Clinic. That is when I became involved with the ASGNA. I’ve held various positions while on the board, including Hospitality, President-Elect and President. I moved out of town and left the Board for a few years. I was asked to come back and run for President, and I’ve been on the Board ever since. I enjoy working with all the members and feel proud of the work we’ve accomplished.

As mentioned before, I have two boys Danny and Aaron. Danny is 30 years old, and married and has given me my first grandson; a beautiful boy by named Mason, who just turned one in April. He is the light of my life. My younger son, Aaron is single and looking for a nice girl, so keep your eyes open, everyone!!!

My joys in life include spending time with my family. Spending quiet time, at home with my fiancé, and dancing the night away.

Always remember - Laughter is the best medicine and having a sense of humor is critical!!
Nominate your colleagues for the 2017 awards. It only takes a moment of your time, which we know is very precious! Remember that doing something nice for someone else, especially if they deserve the honor will give you great satisfaction. Think about the people you work with everyday, the people who go the extra mile? That’s the people to nominate.

I challenge each and every one of the ASGNA members to nominate, a colleague who does an AWESOME job! Let’s all be the best...

RN of the Year
GI Associate of the Year
Cathy Olson Scholarship

**ASGNA RN OF THE YEAR**

**KAREN HARDAS**

**NOMINATION LETTER**

Karen has been a GI nurse since 1995. She received her BSN from Franciscan University of Steubenville, Ohio in 1992. She has since been a GI Endoscopy RN since 1995, and she is currently with Mayo Clinic Scottsdale in the GI Department since 2011. Karen is an ASGNA Member and volunteers her time with teen youth groups. As a GI Nurse, Karen is amazing with her patients taking time to explain and comfort them always making sure they are safe and well cared for. Karen is a preceptor sharing her knowledge with new RN’s in the department. I have been fortunate enough to have her take part in my preceptorship as a new GI RN back in the day. I am honored and it is my pleasure to nominate Karen Hards, BSN, RN, CGRN for the ASGNA GI Nurse of the year.
ASGNA GI ASSOCIATE OF THE YEAR
ADRIANNA LEAL

NOMINATION LETTER
Adriana is an Arizona native who has been a GI Associate Tech at Mayo Clinic since 2012. Adriana came to us as a CST Surgical tech since 1996, and obtained her GTA certification summer 2016. Adriana is a pleasure to work with and is an amazing tech in our department. Adriana presents caring and professionalism in the G.I. department and in the room to patients and staff at all times. Adriana has an amazing way of predicting what the need is and being ready or acting on that need. One example of Adriana’s predictive behavior that characterizes her normal persona was that once when assisting a patient who could not be left alone, a nurse needed wash cloths. The nurse did not even ask for them yet. This is a perfect example of how it is to work with Adriana. When asked about that characteristic, she stated “I am ready with what is needed, even if it is not what is asked for”. Adriana has stepped up, going above and beyond to perform the polyp tracking task which is very tedious in our department. I am honored to nominate Adriana Leal as the 2016 GI Tech of the year!

CATHY OLSON SCHOLARSHIP
CHRISTOPHER DIMARZIO

These are annual awards! Nominate co-workers!
SAVE THE DATE

ASGNA 4TH ANNUAL SUMMER SYMPOSIUM
AUGUST 26, 2017

ASGNA 38TH ANNUAL FALL CONFERENCE
OCTOBER 28, 2017
TALKING STICK RESORT

UNDY 5000 RUN*WALK
NOVEMBER 4, 2017
STATE CAPITOL

Pictures from the 2017 Spring Conference with Dr. Thosani