

*Old Dominion SGNA Board and Members:*

*I would like to personally thank you for the honor of receiving the scholarship to attend the 38th Annual SGNA Conference held in Indianapolis, Indiana. This was my second opportunity to attend the national conference, which was just as exciting as the first.*

*This national conference of our GI specialty serves as an incredible opportunity to attend educational sessions of great value and interest. Like many organizations, our health system has limited the amount of educational support, especially with national conferences. Attending the conference also provides the opportunity to meet other GI professionals, provide networking opportunities, and become educated with the newest information regarding Endoscopy and evidenced-based practice.*

*I was able to attend sessions regarding quality in Endoscopy, in which I have shared this information with my Bon Secours Richmond Health System Endoscopy team. Quality data is becoming even more important in this era. We have recently completed the implementation of the electronic medical record (EMR), which allows our health system to become data rich. But, data is only helpful, if utilized. Our teams have implemented the practice of documenting the cecal intubation with a photo, cecal intubation and scope withdrawal data per facility, and physician. We are also sharing this data with the physicians in order to improve their practice. Our Endoscopy teams are setting benchmarks and sharing these across the Bon Secours Health System of Virginia. These hospitals will be implementing the same EMR in the near future. We have also implemented a scope tagging system, so that scopes are on a weekly cleaning schedule, if not utilized. This has become a TJC standard.*

*There were so many other sessions that I attended including: Obtaining capital equipment, C. Diff, Infection prevention, phone legalities, EUS, benchmarking, Motility, Colon health initiatives, Leadership, and a special general session on the history of Florence Nightengale.*

*Continuing education is essential to the professionalism of GI Endoscopy, which I strongly encourage for everyone. Encouraging certification and continuing education is so very important to our practice. I encourage ODSGNA members to seek out the opportunity to attend a national conference for our specialty. It will be an experience that you will never forget!*

*Sincerely,*

*Kristen L. Seay, RN, CGRN*

*Administrative Director for Bon Secours Richmond Health System*