Welcome Message

It seems just yesterday that we were welcoming in 2018, and we are now almost one quarter through the year. It has been a busy start to the year for GENCA, with a two day Board meeting in February, National Conference and AGW program planning as well as State meetings, Fundamentals and webinars.

One item discussed at the Board meeting was that of volunteers. This is an area of concern for the GENCA Board and we are really keen to attract more volunteers to assist GENCA in delivering to our members. We are currently seeking volunteers for a number of roles, including the Board, Education Committee, Editorial Committee and Regional Committees. Our Editor, Beth Wardle has recently advised that she is no longer able to continue in this role, so we are particularly keen to hear from anyone interested in filling this role. Like all volunteer position, the role of Editor is extremely rewarding – with the quarterly journal J.GENCAta being the “fruits of your work”. More about getting involved with GENCA in this newsletter – if you are at all interested in getting involved, please don’t hesitate to contact the GENCA office, or myself.

An exciting initiative from the Board meeting is the GENCA Nurse of the Year Award, which we are introducing this year. The Award will recognise GENCA nurses for their excellence in practice and for their significant contribution they make to the profession, their team and the community through their practice, leadership and commitment. Nominations are now open via the GENCA website – full details in this newsletter.

Maybe I’ll see some of you at the Nurse’s workshop at SIES tomorrow – we will have a GENCA stand at the symposium for the nurse’s day – drop by with any questions for GENCA.

Cathy Conway
President
GENCA National Conference 2018

It’s just a week until early-bird registrations close for the GENCA 2018 National Conference. Register before 28 March to save $100 on the registration fee. The program is available on the website, offering something for everyone working in the gastroenterology field.

The 2 day program will cover a range of clinical topics, including quality in colonoscopy, bowel prep, food bolus and pill cam, as well as a dedicated stream covering IBD for the non-IBD nurse. We will also hear the latest update on Infection Control, with high profile speakers including Dr Michelle Alfa from Canada, GENCA life member Di Jones and gastroenterologist Dr Finlay Macrae.

The second day of the program will cover professional development topics – including a session on research, and ‘The Health Report’ from well known presenter and broadcaster, Dr Norman Swan.

Saturday night’s cocktail party will be an opportunity to celebrate GENCA’s 40 years, with a 70’s theme for the evening. Come dressed in your 70’s outfit – Mini-skirts, platform shoes, flared trousers, wide-lapel, paisley prints and BIG hair. Be ready to dance the night away with songs from ABBA, Saturday Night Fever and more.

The Conference venue is the Hotel Realm, located on the footsteps of Parliament House. Accommodation is available at the conference venue, as well as a number of nearby properties.

We look forward to seeing you in Canberra at the conference, to celebrate GENCA’s 40th year.


GENCA Nurse of the Year Award

We are delighted to introduce this Award - designed to recognise the important role nurses play in the gastroenterology field, and in line with GENCA’s mission – Promoting Excellence in Gastroenterology Nursing.

The Award is open to all GENCA members – you may self-nominate, or be nominated by others. Nominations for the Award can be submitted by the GENCA website, and must include a 200 word document outlining the reasons the nominee should be awarded the inaugural GENCA Nurse of the Year Award. Finalists will be decided in each State/Territory (where nominations have been received from) and will be announced at the GENCA National Conference in Canberra, 28-29 April 2018.

Read more, and nominate now! Nominations close COB Friday 13 April 2018.


For all enquiries, please contact the GENCA National Office on 1300 788 155 or [admin@genca.org](mailto:admin@genca.org)
We need you! Get involved with GENCA

Our members are essential to the growth and sustainability of our profession and to GENCA, and we encourage you to contribute. Members who volunteer are an integral part of GENCA and a valuable part of the gastroenterological nursing community.

There are lots of ways you can get involved. We have opportunities to match your experience, interest area and availability.

- Join the GENCA Board – the Board is responsible for the overall governance and direction of GENCA. The Board meets 4 times per year face to face, as well as teleconferences between these meetings
- Join the Education Committee – responsible for planning our national conference program, the AGW nurses program, webinar topics and speakers – all meetings are held by teleconference
- Join a Regional Committee – these committees plan and organize education meetings in their state/territory
- Join the Editorial Committee – source and review articles for our quarterly publication – J.GENCA

If you are interested, or would like some more information, please call the GENCA office - 1300 788 155 or email admin@genca.org

What’s on!

State meetings and Fundamentals workshops scheduled in the coming weeks:

National
28-29 April | National Conference | Canberra

New South Wales
7 April | Fundamentals | North Sydney

Queensland
21 April | Half day meeting | Noosa

South Australia
19 May | State Conference | Adelaide
26 May | Fundamentals | Whyalla

Tasmania
5 May | Fundamentals | Hobart

Victoria
30 June | Full day meeting | Melbourne

Western Australia
28 May | Evening meeting | Nedlands

New Zealand
13 April | Fundamentals | Auckland

Registration for all meetings and workshops can be made via the GENCA website – www.genca.org

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