

Boston Cured Cancer Club for Laryngectomees

243 Charles Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02114

www.bostoncuredcancerclubforlaryngectomees.com

March/April 2013 Newsletter

Greetings! As our days begin to lengthen ever so slightly...(Just overlook all the snow and focus on that increasing daylight at 5PM!)...We are reminded that another season of BCCCL meetings is about to start. Please plan on joining us in the 7th floor cafeteria at MEEI in Boston on Sunday, March 3rd. "Meet and Greet" begins at 1:00PM with our formal meeting starting at 1:30PM. Being with others who truly understand the experience of having a laryngectomy is both affirming and inspirational. Please join us for some tasty refreshments and good conversation.

It is truly wonderful to greet our veteran members and to meet our new members. At our November and December meetings, members shared freely, discussing the early challenges as well as the ongoing issues that laryngectomees have to face. A discussion in November concerning returning to work after a laryngectomy and I.D.A., the Individual Disabilities Act, was worthwhile for all. In December, group members rallied in support of new members in what was a simple, yet powerfully effective and uplifting meeting. Longtime member George D'Auteuil was so encouraging when he said, "We are all mentors. Don't ever give up. You may not have a voice, but, you will always be heard." So true, thank you George! All in attendance left with smiles on their faces while grateful to share those moments of understanding and affirmation of the struggles and triumphs inherent in living life as a laryngectomy.

We are deeply saddened to share the news of the death of Eve C. Herbert. Eve passed away on Christmas Eve, after a period of declining health. At 88 years young, Eve had long been a true inspiration to all. In 1969, shortly after her laryngectomy, Eve not only learned esophageal speech but began teaching others, becoming the director of the Alaryngeal Speech Unit at MEEI. Past president and founding member of our BCCCL, Eve received numerous awards for her extraordinary commitment to laryngectomees. The Boston Cured Cancer Club for Laryngectomees extends our deepest sympathy to her loving family as well as our most sincere gratitude for the very generous contributions that have been made in her memory.

With the start of our new year, we remind members that yearly dues, which is \$15.00 for laryngectomees and \$5.00 for family members, is due. If you are an inactive member and wish to continue receiving this newsletter, then the dues is \$5.00. Payments are to be made to our treasurer, Mike Moffi, 15 Lakeshore Drive, Holliston, MA 01746. If you have an email address kindly send that information along to us as this will reduce mailing costs.

Please join us on March 3rd and on April 7th. Our presence is a gift to each other and to ourselves!

'Hope to see you there!
Andre and Ginny Charpentier
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When one door of happiness closes, another opens but often we look so long at the closed door that we do not see the one that has been opened for us.

Helen Keller