

Boston Cured Cancer Club for Laryngectomees

243 Charles Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02114

www.bostoncuredcancerclubforlaryngectomees.com

March/April 2018 Newsletter

Hello All! Oh, how welcome are these sunny days? Fortunately, we are starting to see the gray of deep mid-winter giving way to glimpses of brighter days to come. With the ever increasing light in late afternoon we are reassured that spring *does* most certainly follow winter! It also reminds us 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 4th. “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.

We are delighted to share with you that we will be having a guest speaker at our May 6th meeting. A representative from ATOS Medical will be present sharing valuable information for laryngectomees. We will have more details in our next newsletter.

In the meantime, you might be interested in attending an ATOS presentation entitled *Adjusting to Seasonal Changes*. This topic will be offered at the following times and locations:

Tues. February 20 at 1:00 to 3:00pm in New Bedford, MA

Wed. February 21 at 3:00 to 5:00pm in Braintree, MA

Thurs. February 22 at 3:00 to 5:00pm in Marlborough, MA

Tues. March 13 at 10:00am to 12:00pm in Providence, RI

You can get more information on the event and sign up for the event on their web site:
<https://www.atosmedical.us/laryngectomy/events/>

or by contacting

Elise Timmerman / elise.timmerman@atosmedical.com / 1.800.217.0025 x6404

At our November and December meetings, as at all of our meetings, members shared freely, in support of one another. Members agreed that living as a laryngectomee is not easy, but well worth the efforts involved. As always, members were uplifted by their mutual resolve to not only live, but to thrive as laryngectomees. Whether new to the group or seasoned, members walk away inspired by others and self-affirmed in their communal support, easing frustrations and celebrating challenges met and surpassed. Please come to share *your* story...or to simply sit and listen to others.

With the start of our 2018 season we remind you of our meeting schedule: We will meet on March 4th, April 8th and May 6th. After the summer break, we resume on the Sunday after Labor Day, September 9th and then on October 7th, November 4th, and December 2nd.

We also 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 a copy of 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 do have an email address kindly send that information along to us as it will reduce mailing costs. This newsletter is published four times a year.

Please join us on March 4th... Our presence is a gift to each other and to ourselves! Also, mark your calendars for April 8th and May 6th when we welcome our guests from ATOS Medical.

‘Hope to see you soon!
Andre and Ginny Charpentier
508-285-7325
acharpen@umich.edu

In closing, we share a few of our favorite inspirational quotes:

"I believe in storytelling. If we sit with what hurts us by ourselves, we think we are alone in our pain. It's important to tell these stories, to hear these stories, to see these stories as a realization that we're not alone."

Elizabeth Acevedo

You gain strength, courage and confidence by every experience in which you really stop to look fear in the face. You are able to say to yourself, 'I have lived through this horror. I can take the next thing that comes along.' You must do the thing you think you cannot do."

Eleanor Roosevelt

We cannot direct the wind but we can adjust the sails.

~Author Unknown

My **H**ear**t** is
Open to the
Potential that
Exists when I strive to not only
survive but to thrive.