

Boston Cured Cancer Club for Laryngectomees
243 Charles Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02114
www.bostoncuredcancerclubforlaryngectomees.com

May/June 2018 Newsletter

Hello and Happy Spring...FINALLY!!! This Spring has certainly been slow in appearing, but very sweet to experience! Tiny crocus, tall yellow daffodils, budding trees and forsythia glowing in the warm sunlight along with the chorus of spring peepers at dusk.....Yes, the winter is over and gone...finally! It is in this spirit of hope, of rebirth, of light overcoming darkness, that we invite you to the upcoming meeting of the BCCCL.

We are delighted to announce that we will welcome a guest speaker to our meeting on May 6th. Samantha Jones, MA, CCC-SLP is the clinical speech pathologist at ATOS Medical Inc. She will be offering a very informative presentation entitled: *The Modern Day Laryngectomy*. Included in her presentation will be techniques to optimize breathing with HMEs and attachments as well as exploration of ways to improve voice quality and hands-free speech. There will be time to view product samples and to ask questions. Ms. Jones has over 20 years' experience as a speech-language pathologist with the last ten focused on treatment of head and neck oncology. She also founded and facilitated a laryngectomy support group in Charlotte, North Carolina. Please plan on joining us on Sunday, May 6th, in the 7th floor cafeteria at Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary. "Meet and Greet" begins at 1:00PM with our formal meeting starting at 1:30PM. We are very much looking forward to what is sure to be a wonderful afternoon!

Our March and April meetings were beneficial to all in attendance. New and seasoned members shared freely, rallying in support of one another, while discussing the early challenges as well as the ongoing issues that laryngectomees have to face. As always, those in attendance were uplifted by their mutual resolve to not only live, but to thrive as laryngectomees.

Longtime member and past president Bob Mehrman wants to remind members of his positive experiences in attending annual conventions of the International Association of Laryngectomees. Bob highly recommends all members attend a convention, at least once! This year's Voice Institute and Annual Meeting will be held in Orlando, Florida on June 6 – 9th. For more information go to the IAL website: www.theial.com. Our club offers members \$200 to help defray expenses in attending. The IAL also has group rate reservations. Reservations must be made by May 7th, 2018 to guarantee the group rate of \$99.00. Bob continues to inspire us all having just celebrated his 91st birthday. Our warmest wishes for birthday happiness, Bob...May you enjoy many more!

ATOS Medical is also sponsoring a number of information sessions which include presentations and hand-outs on a variety of topics related to laryngectomy needs. Members who have attended have found them to be very worthwhile. Presentations entitled *Optimize Night and Day Skin Routines* for the laryngectomy will be held in April. Below is information we received from ATOS.

Optimize Night and Day Skin Care Routines

Join us as we discover HME and adhesive solutions for both day and evening designed to optimize your sleep, get a better daytime seal and care for your skin.

Receive a complimentary new informational tool to help you learn about:

- Adhesive Removal: Learn how to best remove adhesives to minimize skin irritation.
- Skin Cleaning: Learn how to help avoid skin irritation and improve your seal by cleaning skin properly.
- Skin Preparation: Learn ways to best prepare your skin for adhesives and add a protective layer to enhance the seal.
- Adhesive Application: Learn how to select and apply the best daytime

adhesive for your skin and speaking needs. For nighttime, Provox® Luna® is designed to soothe your skin and help you sleep comfortably.

Community events offer a chance for patients and caregivers to socialize with each other and learn valuable tips and tricks to live life to the fullest! Join us as we discuss topics pertaining to life as a laryngectomee and answer your questions about products, insurance or challenges you are facing. Your local Atos rep will be there to provide support and resources.

Contact person

Riley Marsden / riley.marsden@atosmedical.com / 1.800.217.0025 x6406

APRIL

Tue 17 1-3

Night and Day Skin Care Routines - New Bedford, MA

Groundwork! Coworking

1213 Purchase Street

New Bedford, MA 02740

Link to sign-up

bit.ly/cev18rm-0091

Contact person

Riley Marsden / riley.marsden@atosmedical.com / 1.800.217.0025 x6406

Wed 18 1-3

Night and Day Skin Care Routines - Braintree, MA

Highland - March Workspaces

25 Braintree Hill Park

Braintree, MA 02184

Link to sign-up

bit.ly/cev18rm-0094

Thu 19 2-4

Night and Day Skin Care Routines - Marlborough, MA

Holiday Inn & Suites Marlborough

265 Lakeside Avenue

Marlborough, MA 01752

Link to sign-up

bit.ly/cev18rm-0099

We do hope you will plan on joining us on Sunday, May 6th. We are really looking forward to meeting Samantha Jones, MA CCC-SLP and hearing what's new at ATOS. This will be our last meeting prior to our summer break. We will then resume meeting on September 9th.

We draw strength from one and other's presence as we strive to not only survive, but to thrive! Please join us!

Sincerely,
Andre and Ginny Charpentier
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HOPE = Holding Onto Positive Expectations