Boston Cured Cancer Club for Laryngectomees 243 Charles Street Boston, Massachusetts 02114 April Newsletter

Hello Folks! Oh, what a difference a month makes! Yes, those were daffodil bulbs we saw popping through the soil in our yard this morning and the warmer March sun streaming through our windows makes that nasty winter seem but a distant memory.

Our next meeting is scheduled for April 3, 2011 from 1:00 - 3:00 PM in the 7th floor cafeteria at MEEI in Boston. "Meet and Greet" begins at 1:00PM with our formal meeting starting at 2:00PM. Please join us for refreshments and good conversation. Our *presence* is truly a *gift* to one another!

It was wonderful to greet veteran members and welcome new ones at our March meeting. We welcomed new members Edgar Pinkney and his wife, Annie; Bill McCrevan and his wife Deloris; Michael Toth, his wife Susan and son Zack; and Roger MacKenzie. Our president Bob Mehrman called the formal meeting to order at 2:00PM with 20 people in attendance.

We also welcomed Glenn Bunting, who is the director of Speech and Language Pathology at MEEI and Lindsey Lambert, a speech and language pathologist at MEEI. They were present to offer support to members as well as participate in a conversation regarding expanding our outreach. We truly appreciate their sharing of time and talent. Several ideas were suggested and the conversation will continue amongst our members at our next meeting.

Linda Earle, wife of Radcliff Earle, who makes the stoma covers for new patients at MEEI, has graciously donated a beautiful hand-made lap quilt. Members felt that it would make a good raffle item. We certainly appreciate Linda's handiwork, both in the form of the very welcomed stoma covers and her exquisite quilting. Thank you, Linda!

Our guest speaker was Eric Dolinger who is the Northeast Regional Manager of Atos Medical Inc. Eric, who worked as a speech pathologist for 20 years before joining Atos brought a wealth of information regarding laryngectomy supplies. He offered free samples and good information regarding electrolarynxes, HMEs and various filters. He also recommended that anyone experiencing difficulties with health insurance coverage for their supplies contact Atos' insurance department representative Stephanie Stegge.

Her contact information is as follows:

Stephanie Stegge Insurance Reimbursement Specialist Atos Medical Inc 11390 W Theodore Trecker Way West Allis, WI 53214-1135 Phone: 800-217-0025 Ext 614

Bob Mehrman also shared information on Dylan Rizzo, the grandson of Nancy Mulligan, wife of the late Thomas Mulligan. Dylan was seriously injured in a December car accident and remains hospitalized at Mass General. The Mulligan family has been very generous in their support of the BCCCL, having run seven golf tournaments on our behalf. A fund has been set up to help this wonderful family with expenses associated with Dylan's hospitalization. Donations can be sent to the Dylan Rizzo Fund, P.O. Box 896, Lynnfield, MA 01940.

Please help us update our lengthy mailing list. If you no longer wish to receive the newsletter, kindly notify us to have your name removed from the list. If you have access to email and would like to just receive the newsletter online, please let us know.

We also want to remind members that yearly dues, which are \$15.00 for laryngectomees and \$5.00 for family members are due. Payments are to be made to our treasurer, Mike Moffi, 15 Lakeshore Drive, Holliston, MA 01746.

Take care....Keep looking for those daffodils!

Andre and Ginny Charpentier 508-285-7325 acharpen@umich.edu

"For, lo, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone; the flowers appear on the earth; the time of the singing birds is come, and the voice of the turtle dove is heard in our land."

Songs of Solomon