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

December Newsletter

Hello Folks! Ah, that early November darkness has arrived along with November's cold and gray weather. But, don't lose sight...this darkness won't last forever. It's always a good feeling to notice when the light at the end of the day starts to return, as early as the New Year. In the meantime, we have the holidays to gather with friends and family.

Our next meeting is scheduled for December 5, 2010 from 1:00 - 3:00 PM in the 7th floor cafeteria at MEEI in Boston. This will be our annual holiday gathering which will include a "pot-luck" buffet, a Yankee Swap with a \$10.00 limit as well as some music and good camaraderie and conversation. Please come and join us. Bring a dish to share...anything from an appetizer, to an entrée or a dessert and plan on a pleasant afternoon.

At our meeting in November, we continued our discussion of the contents and lay-out of a tri-fold brochure, advertising our group, which is to be placed in the offices of speech therapists, visiting nurse associations, doctors and hospitals. It is coming together nicely and will be a good way to get the word out; that we are here to support one and another through the changes brought on when one has a laryngectomy. This brochure is in addition to our website (www.bostoncuredcancerclubforlaryngectomees.com) whose purpose is to again bring an awareness of our mission to support the rehabilitation of laryngectomees and offer understanding to their loved ones.

Our president, Bob Mehrman shared a wonderful selection of photographs on his new i-pad from his recent trip to Japan. Members thoroughly enjoyed Bob's beautiful photography which offered us a virtual tour of Tokyo. Thank you, Bob! It is wonderful to have you back.

As voted on at the October meeting, Karen Burns purchased and delivered Servox batteries to the loaner closet and to Elissa Hatton, the social worker on the 11th floor at MEEI, who was most appreciative to receive them. Karen has also been working on organizing the loaner closet and has set up a system where the loaner Servoxes are packaged in a plastic container and labeled with our group's name and instructions on how to return the Servox once the patients have purchased one for themselves.

Bob Mehrman also reminded members that yearly dues, which are \$15.00 for laryngectomees and \$5.00 for family members will be due in January. Payments are to be made to our treasurer, Mike Moffi, 15 Lakeshore Drive, Holliston, MA 01746.

We would like to update our mailing list. If you no longer wish to receive the newsletter, please 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 would like to remind members of our meeting schedule. Due to concerns of inclement weather, we do not meet in January and February. We do meet on the first Sunday of March, April and May. Aside from a summer gathering, we do not meet during the summer months. We meet in September on the Sunday after Labor Day and then on the first Sunday in October, November, and December.

With Thanksgiving quickly approaching we will close with some thoughts on gratitude.

One act of thanksgiving made when things go wrong is worth a thousand when things go well. Anonymous

and

"Gratitude helps you to grow and expand; gratitude brings joy and laughter into your life and into the lives of all those around you." Eileen Caddy, Scottish writer

> Let's try to hold onto that attitude of gratitude! Andre and Ginny Charpentier 508-285-7325 acharpen@umich.edu