

Boston Cured Cancer Club for Laryngectomees

243 Charles Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02114

www.bostoncuredcancerclubforlaryngectomees.com

March 2012 Newsletter

Greetings! As our days begin to lengthen ever so slightly...(Have you noticed the 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 4th. "Meet and Greet" begins at 1:00PM with our formal meeting starting at 2:00PM. 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 have invited Thomas Page who underwent a laryngectomy in 2008 and continues to amaze and inspire people with his trombone playing!

At our December meeting, we welcomed Amy Cebulski N.P., from Dana-Faber Cancer Institute. Amy is hoping to augment outreach efforts to DFCI laryngectomy patients and she offered insight as well as gained ideas to facilitate patients' adjustment post surgery.

Our president, Bob Mehrman, shared information on an advancement made in electrolarynx technology with Tru-Tone's "hands-free" electrolarynx. This new device offers greater intonation capabilities while freeing one's hands to better express oneself, play cards, take a phone message or even read a storybook to the grandchildren.

Bob also reported that the Mass. Eye and Ear Boston Marathon Team is recruiting runners and encouraging donors. Team members or donors can designate that the funds be used to support head and neck cancer research and/or patient care at Mass. Eye and Ear. If you or someone you know is interested in learning more about Team Eye and Ear, please visit www.MassEyeAndEar/TeamEyeAndEar or email marathon@meei.harvard.edu or you can call Kristina Sim at 617-573-6364.

We are saddened to share the news of the death of active member Ellsworth Rice in December. Ellsworth was a wonderful man with a real "can do" attitude. He and his lovely wife Pat quickly became an integral part of the mission of our group. Ellsworth was a master woodworker and figured out a way to handle the wood dust so as to be able to continue the woodworking which he loved. He will be sorely missed. We are also sad to report that Eric Dolinger, who was a speech pathologist and Northeastern Regional Manager for Atos Medical died suddenly in November. Eric periodically attended our meetings as a guest speaker. He provided wonderful assistance in many aspects of laryngectomee support. To both of these families, we offer our most sincere sympathy.

We also want to 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.

Please join us on the first Sunday in March. Our presence is a gift to each other and to our ourselves!

‘Hope to see you there!

Andre and Ginny Charpentier

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What lies behind us and what lies before us are tiny matters compared to what lies within us.
Ralph Waldo Emerson