

# **Boston Cured Cancer Club for Laryngectomees**

**243 Charles Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02114**

**[www.bostoncuredcancerclubforlaryngectomees.com](http://www.bostoncuredcancerclubforlaryngectomees.com)**

## **March/April 2014 Newsletter**

Greetings! As our sunlit days begin to lengthen ever so slightly... We are reminded that another season of BCCCL meetings is about to start. Please plan on joining us in the 7<sup>th</sup> floor cafeteria at MEEI in Boston on Sunday, March 2nd. "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 pleasant refreshments and good conversation.

It is truly wonderful to greet our veteran members and to meet our new members. At our November and December meetings, members shared freely, discussing the early challenges as well as the ongoing issues that laryngectomees have to face.

In November we were delighted to welcome our guest speaker, Lindsey Lambert. Ms. Lambert is a speech pathologist, formally of MEEI and now is Clinical Specialist, Northeast Regional Sales Manager at Atos Medical, Inc. Lindsey shared information on some of the latest in medical supplies available to the laryngectomee as well as her professional expertise from the perspective of an accomplished speech pathologist. As a clinical educator and sales representative, Lindsey focuses on voice and pulmonary rehabilitation for the laryngectomee. Whether one relies on an electrolarynx or a TEP (tracheal esophageal puncture) with voice prosthesis for communication it is very important to address one's quality of breathing which is dependent on air filtration, heating and moisture levels. That being said, Lindsey underscored the need for laryngectomees to wear an HME or humidity moisture exchange in an attempt to moderate the drastic change in air moisture and temperature experienced by a laryngectomee thus alleviating problems with mucus control. Lindsey also demonstrated one of ATOS' new products: the "Stabili-base" baseplate which is designed for those who have a deeply recessed stoma or those who are struggling to maintain a seal, especially while using "hands-free" speech. Ms. Lambert's presentation was both interesting and informative.

With the start of our new year, we 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. If you have an email address kindly send that information along to us as this will reduce mailing costs.

Please join us on March 2nd and again on April 6th. Our presence is a gift to each other and to ourselves!

‘Hope to see you there!  
Andre and Ginny Charpentier  
508-285-7325  
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*"The most beautiful people we have known are those who have known defeat, known suffering, known struggle, known loss, and have found their way out of the depths. These persons have an appreciation, a sensitivity, and an understanding of life that fills them with compassion, gentleness, and a deep loving concern. Beautiful people do not just happen."*

**Elizabeth Kubler Ross**