

# Boston Cured Cancer Club for Laryngectomees

243 Charles Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02114

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

## Spring 2015 Newsletter

Hello and Happy Spring! Our next meeting will be held on **Sunday, April 12, 2015**. Please note the change due to Easter being the first Sunday in April this year. You are invited to join us in the 7<sup>th</sup> floor cafeteria at MEEI in Boston. "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. We offer free validated parking in the MEEI lots along with some tasty refreshments and good conversation. You even have a chance to win a prize!

At our April meeting we will welcome our guest speaker, Lindsey Lambert Gordon, M.S.,CCC-SLP. Ms. Gordon is a speech pathologist, formally of MEEI and now is Clinical Specialist, Northeast Regional Sales Manager at Atos Medical, Inc. Lindsey will share 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. Lindsey has been warmly received in the past and we look forward to her upcoming presentation.

Sadly we share with you news of the passing of our dear member Karen Burns. Karen was a hard-working, dedicated member of the BCCCL for many years. She was truly an inspiration to countless people and we are so grateful for all she did to support post-laryngectomy needs. Karen played a pivotal role in maintaining and expanding the Laryngectomy Volunteer Visiting program which has helped so many patients and continues still to this day. She was a strong advocate for anti-smoking campaigns and made several public service announcements on television and in print. Poignantly, Karen passed on March 2nd, the exact 22<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of her total laryngectomy surgery. Expressions of sympathy to her family can be mailed to her son: Gregg Ahern, 140 Powhattan Dr., East Taunton, MA 02718. Any donations should be sent to The American Cancer Society in her name. For more information you can go to the following link:

<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/southofboston-ledger/obituary.aspx?n=karen-burns&pid=174308110>

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 a copy of 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 April 12th and again on May 3rd. Our presence is a gift to each other and to ourselves!

‘Hope to see you there!

Andre and Ginny Charpentier

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*If we had no winter, the spring would not be so pleasant; if we did not sometimes taste of adversity, prosperity would not be so welcome.*

*~ Anne Bradstreet*

Please continue to the other side.

Recently, we received the information below and would like to share it with you.

Dear Club Contact,

My name is Bob Bauer and I'm a laryngectomee from Hayward, CA. I have invented the patent pending "Lary Snorkel" so I can once again enjoy swimming. I'm asking for your clubs participation in taking the attached survey to ascertain the feasibility of producing the snorkel.

If you have any questions you can email me at [cmdrbob@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cmdrbob@sbcglobal.net) or text me at 408-687-7642. Your clubs participation will be greatly appreciated.

Yours truly,

Bob Bauer

The following offer is authored by a medical doctor, who is himself a laryngectomee. He also has a very informative blog listed at the very bottom

I am happy to inform you that "The Laryngectomee Guide" is available ( free ) to your laryngectomee club members thanks to the support of Atos Medical.

The Guide was endorsed by the American Academy of Otolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery and provides practical information that can assist laryngectomees with medical, dental and psychological issues. It contains information about side effects of radiation and chemotherapy; methods of speaking; airway, stoma, and voice prosthesis care; eating and swallowing; medical, dental and psychological concerns; respiration; anesthesia; and travelling.

The get a free copy each interested laryngectomee has to fill the attached form and fax it to James Harrison at 414 227 9033.

Alternatively, you can mail me the signed form(s).

I hope that you will find the Guide helpful.

Itzhak Brook MD

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We have enclosed the form if you are interested in getting this worthwhile guide.