

**Nu-Voices Club of Mt Sinai Hosp, Inc**  
Member of IAL  
November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015

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Dear Members and Friends,

President Saul Silver called the meeting to order at 1:35. In attendance were 14 members and friends as shown and named below.



**Michael Solano, Maria Heffinger,  
Andrea Leone-Thide**



**David Koslofsky**



**Larry Velez**



**Ronda Hauben, Gerry Silver, Leslie Getz,  
Leola Glover**



**Frank Deppolder, Michael Solano, Jay Hauben,  
Clarissa Bushman, Don McDonagh**



**Occasional Ace Photographer Saul Silver**

We missed

- Cecilia, who was away competing with her dog. Happy Birthday, Cecilia (Nov 17th).
- We thought we would be missing Clarissa Bushman, but it turned out to be a head fake. She had been away in Paris, but she emailed that she would attend unless she was hospitalized again. Then she emailed that she WAS hospitalized again and couldn't attend, but then she showed up! We were all thrilled to see her.
- Antoinette Costa, long-time member, called Saul and Gerry. She is doing fine, but doesn't want to attend meetings because she thinks about being here with her late husband, Frank.
- April Howe would like to attend, but has to work weekends.

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Leola Glover read “The Prayer for Laryngectomees”, then Saul Silver led off the round table. Each member gave some of their history for the benefit of the students.

Clarissa told us about her adventures on her French safari. Their rental car was broken into and robbed, her prosthesis started leaking and she was hospitalized in France. Luckily, she made it back to the welcoming arms of the Nu-Voices.

David Koslofsky said he had missed some recent meetings because of a conflict with NFL football games. He also said that he is giving serious thought to retirement, which is a tough decision.

Jay and Ronda said they are off to China soon and will miss the December meeting. Jay reports that his current prosthesis has lasted longer than any other he has had and he is concerned about being in a foreign country when he needs a new one. He is reluctant to make the change before leaving because he wants to see how long this one will last. Decisions, decisions ...

Our thanks to Andrea Leone-Thide, an experienced SLP (and new Mom) and two of her students for taking the time to come to our meeting. Andrea is teaching a course in dysphagia (swallowing problems) at Hunter College. Her students Michael Solano and Maria Heffinger had the opportunity to meet and talk with several of the members who had first-hand experience of swallowing issues.

A lively discussion of swallowing problems ensued, in which we discussed the effects of atypical anatomy, especially after laryngectomy. We also discussed dry mouth, which is very common and is sometimes the cause of swallowing problems.

We ended the meeting at 2:30 so we could start our annual party. Everyone enjoyed the food and drink and especially the company. The ace photographer got some candid shots during the party.

**Exciting news. In the October newsletter we mentioned that the ATOS sales rep, Dave Barry wanted to make a presentation in conjunction with our meeting. We have now received the announcement from ATOS and Dave Barry (attached). The announcement was distributed as widely as possible, so our December meeting should be an opportunity for us to meet some new people, perhaps some who would see the benefits of membership in a support group.**

The December meeting and ATOS presentation will be in our usual place; seminar room B, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor at 1470 Madison Avenue, between 101<sup>st</sup> and 102<sup>nd</sup>. The meeting will be at 1:30 PM on Sunday, 12/20/2015.

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