

Nu-Voices Club of Mt Sinai Hosp, Inc

Member of IAL

November 20th, 2016

Dear Members and Friends,

President Saul Silver called the meeting to order at 1:40 PM. In attendance were 11 members and friends as shown and named below. Jim Friend and Larry Powers are not shown because they had to leave early.



**Standing: Erle Raterta, Jay Hauben, Cecilia Wennerstrom, Saul Silver, Don McDonagh
Seated: Leslie Getz McDonagh, Leola Glover, Gerry Silver
Photo from Cecilia's phone, snapped by Ronda Hauben**

We missed

- Frank Deppolder who was taken ill at the last minute. We called him later and he is OK.
- Talia Schwartz sends regrets and best wishes. She is running a marathon in Philadelphia!
- Clarissa Bushman who sends her best wishes. She is busy with extended family celebrations.
- Sarah Schoendienst sends regrets. She is happy that we keep in touch with her.

Leola Glover read the "Prayer for Laryngectomees" and Larry Powers started the "round table".

We all wished Cecilia Wennerstrom a very Happy Birthday. Her birthday was on November 17th. We spoke about her competition with Sophia and she showed us pictures of Sophia. She has also posted on Facebook that Sophia will be going to Westminster in February.

Jim Friend told us about the many problems he has had before his laryngectomy and that he had a dilation procedure just days before our meeting. We are all happy that Jim is a member and wish him the best.

Jay Hauben had been in touch via Web Whispers with an esophageal speaker named Mikel Nelson and invited him to come to our meeting, but he hasn't responded.

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Larry Powers reported that he had gotten an abcess as an after effect from chemo and radiation treatments. It was serious enough that Larry was hospitalized for 6 days and is now getting treatments in a hyperbaric chamber as an outpatient. Fortunately, he looked and felt well at the meeting.

Jay Hauben reported that he is finally getting an indwelling prosthesis installed. The cost and the fact that Medicare doesn't cover it had stopped him before, but he got one free as a sample from InHealth. We hope he has less leakage with this prosthesis and can work something out with InHealth

Cecilia read that Bert Bell died. The obituary in the Times said he died peacefully at home on October 4th. Saul and sent a condolence card on behalf of the club. Bert and his wife Bunny had been members, but had not attended a meeting for a couple of years. We think he wanted to spend as much time as possible with friends and family in the time he had left.

Leola reported that radiation treatments took away her sense of taste but cured her psoriasis.

Don't forget dues are due. The members present paid theirs. If you haven't yet paid your \$10 dues for 2017, you can either hand it to Leslie at a meeting or make out a check to the Nu-Voices Club of Mt Sinai and mail it to Leslie at the address shown below.

We had some discussion about voice amplifiers, which can be a great help for those who can only speak softly. They usually are powered by rechargeable batteries and are used with a headset microphone. They typically cost between \$200 and \$300. InHealth Technologies (800-477-5969, www.inhealth.com) sells them as does Bruce Medical Supplies (800-225-8446, BruceMedical.com) and Griffin Laboratories (800-33-5969, griffinlab.com).

Our newsletters along with those of two other clubs are archived on the IAL website. Those who have internet access can see them any time. Just go to <http://theial.com>. Hover over "Laryngectomy Resources", then down to "Publications", click on "Individual Club Newsletters", then click on "New York", then the issue you want. They have our newsletters back to July 2015.

We ended our meeting at 2:30 PM with our customary silent prayer and went right into our annual party. The party went very well. Everyone enjoyed themselves and the food. We used Panera bread as our caterer and they were pretty good except for forgetting the pickles. We will probably use them again next year.

The December meeting will be in our usual place: seminar room B, 2nd floor at 1470 Madison Avenue, between 101st and 102nd. We will meet at 1:30 PM on Sunday, 12/18/2016.

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