

Nu-Voices Club of Mt Sinai Hosp, Inc

Member of IAL

May 21st, 2017

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.



**Standing L-R: Erle Raterta, Sojung Kwon, Clarissa Bushman, Saul Silver, Don McDonagh, Larry Powers, Rick Papazian
Seated L – R Elana Carp, Jana Papazian, Leslie Getz McDonagh**



Ace Fotog Gerry Silver

We missed

- Cecilia Wennerstrom who was away at a trial with Sophia. She says she misses us and will attend a meeting soon.
- Leola Glover - had intended to come, but wasn't feeling well. Not serious fortunately.
- Frank Deppolder who was also a bit under the weather.
- Jay Hauben who was away in Germany. Jay sends his best to the group.
- Scott Goldman who was fishing at Jones Beach pier. He hopes we are all doing well and hopes to see us soon.

We were glad to welcome Sojung and Elana, SLP students from Columbia Teachers College. When students come to our meetings, we all can learn from each other.

There have been several laryngectomies done at Columbia recently and Talia Schwartz has been getting in touch to arrange hospital visits between our members and the patients. One of those patients, Jana Papazian came to our meeting with husband Rick and we were all thrilled to see them and see how well she is physically and how well she speaks hands-free. She can be proud of her progress.

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Saul Silver read the “Prayer for Laryngectomees” and led off the round table. Our entire meeting turned into an extended round table, detailing some of the experiences of the members as lessons for our visiting SLP students. We had some discussion about the value of support groups, where laryngectomies can spend time with some of the veterans and learn some of the tips and tricks that only come from experience. We spoke about medic alert bracelets and other devices to alert doctor, nurses and EMTs, most of whom have no experience whatever with neck breathers. Another, related topic was the importance of a “patient’s advocate” who can prevent these inexperienced medical personnel from making such common mistakes as supplying oxygen to the mouth and nose of a person who can only breathe through a stoma in the neck. The patients advocate can also teach them about the care of TEPs, suctioning to keep the airway clear, etc.

We were happy to see Don and Leslie McDonagh. Don looks great, all his bumps and bruises are now healed.

Clarissa reports that she is still on strong treatments but can manage because her schedule is 3 weeks on and 1 week off. She is able to travel to Boston and is planning a trip to Canada with her children.

Erle had his eyes checked and found out that his vision issues are not related to his diabetes, for which he is very thankful. He is unhappy that he can no longer swim and sing, but has developed other interests such as golf to stay active and happy.

The next IAL Annual Meeting and Voice Institute will be on June 14 – 17 in Newport News, VA. All the info about registering, hotels, etc. was in the April issue of The IAL News. It is also available thru the IAL website, www.theial.com. It is well worth attending for the chance to make new friends in the laryngectomy community and attend informative sessions with SLPs, doctors, vendors and fellow laryngectomees. Any Nu-Voices member planning to attend, please contact Saul (email and phone number below).

NOTE: The June meeting will be back in our usual Seminar Room B on the 2nd floor of 1470 Madison, but will be on the 4th Sunday, June 25th, because of Father’s Day.

Happy Father’s Day to all!

We ended the meeting about 3:05 with our usual silent prayer and posing for Ace Photographer Gerry Silver. The June meeting will be on the 2nd floor, Seminar Room B of 1470 Madison Avenue, between 101st and 102nd. We will meet on Sunday, June 25th at 1:30

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