



“The Spirit of Warm Springs” was evident as the staff at Roosevelt Warm Springs Institute for Rehabilitation (RWSIR) in Warm Springs, Georgia, welcomed 436 registrants during the three-day meeting. In attendance were survivors, family members and health professionals from 11 countries (46 individuals) and 39 states and the District of Columbia.

“The opportunity to see and learn about equipment with which I was unfamiliar was timely. I recently had begun to notice how tired my chest was just from breathing and how forgetful I was getting. I realized I was not breathing sufficiently, and ‘Bingo!’ I saw how the need for a volume ventilator and CoughAssist® was staring me and my trach in the face.” *Marie Latta, Georgia*

“As a user of night-time ventilation only, I’m naïve about tracheostomy ventilation, but I realize that I might sometime need an emergency tracheotomy, even if it is only temporary. Seeing firsthand a Passy-Muir tracheostomy speaking valve in use and how it works, I was amazed by its elegant and simple design, almost a miniaturized version of the positive pressure flap on an iron lung!” *Larry Becker, Virginia*

“After I explained some of my trach problems, I was shown a model whose internal cuff totally flattens when deflated. Since I need a cuffed trach, this one will allow more air to flow around my trach, enabling me to breathe and talk easier during the day when I am off my vent.” *Linda Bieniek, LaGrange, Illinois*

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