

## A Message from our President

Dear Ostomate,

I wanted to thank those of you who came to our first Support Group meeting of 2020 on January 28th. We enjoyed the presentation by Ms. Maria Mayfield, territorial manager of Coloplast, and all of her individual help afterward. Special thanks to Board member Ana Restrepo for inviting her.

Ken Aukett, co-founder of United Ostomy Associations of America, will be the speaker at our next meeting, Tuesday, February 25<sup>th</sup>. He will provide the context of the largest organization of support groups in the U.S. and give the history of its development. We have been a member of UOAA since the beginning of our support group, just a year and a half ago.

Please look at the latest section of our website, [www.miamiostomyaftercare.org](http://www.miamiostomyaftercare.org), on our Support Group Meetings section. The power points and videos of each speaker's presentation has been organized by our Sue Gale, who you all know if you call the office and come to the meetings. Sue is the one asking for your name and email at the door which gives us ability to inform ostomates about meetings, speakers, and innovations on the procedures you will be doing for the remainder of your lives.

The wonderful content provided by these knowledgeable speakers was the result of Ana Restrepo, who assumed the responsibility of getting us these most qualified individuals in the ostomy field, to make our meetings informative and enjoyable.

I wanted to thank you again for being a part of this process through asking questions and participating in discussions about this vital procedure for learning to live your lives after the changes in body function as a result of the ostomy. Please join us in providing an important part of the ostomy awareness and education of this important part of the journey that we all must take.

Thanks for coming, we look forward to seeing you again on Tuesday night.

Hal Spaet, President,  
Miami Ostomy Aftercare Program