



Spring 2026 Newsletter

Welcome to the Spring 2026 Newsletter! Our goal is to keep you connected and make it simple for you to get the most out of your AMWA membership. Our chapter has had a particularly vibrant programming lineup this spring, with a few completely new events and a few changes to reinvigorate our trademark events. The Countway Library Tour helped members connect over our shared love of medical science, while the new AI table at our Annual Spring Roundtables allowed members to brainstorm ways to best navigate AI usage in a changing world. Our upcoming seminar with Takuto Shiota on May 21 will help medical writers craft compelling, truthful, and fact-checked writing in a world ridden with misinformation (sign up [here](#)).

Thanks to our incredible volunteers, there are more unique events on the horizon for fall 2026 designed with the goal of boosting business connections for our members — stay tuned! I would like to thank you, our members and volunteers, for your spirit, insights, and time. It's such a privilege to be a part of this wonderful community!

Caroline McLachlan, President
New England Chapter
American Medical Writers Association

Chapter Member Q&A

Elli Greenlaw



After decades of writing about health for consumer and provider audiences, Elli Greenlaw co-founded Felix Creative, a healthcare content marketing agency with Jenny Fernandez in 2021. Felix Creative provides a full range of marketing content to hospitals and other healthcare-related organizations, from writing and design to video production, translation, and printing.

When did you join AMWA?

I joined AMWA a few years ago after meeting Ellie Lin while rock climbing. At that time, Ellie was president of the New England Chapter. AMWA had been on my radar

for many years, but I wasn't sure if it was the right fit for me. Ellie convinced me to give it a try, and I'm glad I did.

What made you pursue a career in medical writing?

It happened by chance, when a job I did not enjoy—working as a customer service rep at an HMO—led me to a job I absolutely loved—writing healthcare content for a small publishing company in Boston. From there it just took off, and I haven't looked back since.

What type of medical writing do you specialize in?

I have always worked on consumer and provider-facing content, doing a bit of everything, from articles and blogs to web pages, brochures, patient education, and apps. I've been a freelancer most of my life, but I worked for several years as a senior writer at Boston Children's Hospital—where I met my business partner, Jenny. These days, we mostly work for large hospital systems on everything from web copy and program brochures to videos. I am especially interested in using health literacy and plain language to ensure health information is accessible to everyone.

What has your experience been with AMWA?

I have attended several local and national meetings and have always found everyone very welcoming. After meeting another writer who does similar work at a Mid-Atlantic AMWA conference, we started a monthly "support group" for experienced consumer healthcare writers that has about 10 regular members. I am also chair of the AMWA-NE Newsletter Committee.

What's one thing people may not know about you?

I write fiction in my spare time, and I am currently editing the first draft of a novel. I'm also in love with rock climbing—it's what keeps me sane.

Special thanks to Dora Levin for conducting this interview.

Update on Peer Mentoring Circles

Over the past year, AMWA New England launched a pilot peer-mentoring circle program to help members connect, share experiences, and support one another's professional growth. Several participants reported meaningful connections and valuable discussions, and we're excited by the program's potential. We're thankful to everyone who participated and helped us shape this new initiative. As with any pilot, we learned a great deal about what worked well and where we can improve. We'll be

taking the coming year to refine the program and hope to relaunch the peer-mentoring circles in Fall 2027.

UPCOMING EVENTS

How Understanding Information Environments Leads to Misinformation Solutions

When: Thursday, May 21, 2026, 7-8 p.m.

Where: Zoom

Cost: AMWA member \$10, non-member \$15,
student \$5

Misinformation is not a single false belief but a complex ecosystem of forces that shape how people encounter, interpret, and trust information. Influencers, state sponsored disinformation, algorithms, bot networks, offline communities, and emerging AI tools all interact to create increasingly siloed information environments. For medical writers, understanding how these environments function and how they shape audience perceptions is essential for producing effective, trustworthy content.

Learn more and register [here](#).

Networking Lunch in Newburyport

When: Friday, June 12, 2026, 12-6 p.m.

Where: Black Cow, 40 Merrimac St., Newburyport, Mass.

Cost: Buy your own lunch

Join other AMWA members for an afternoon of lunch and networking in Newburyport.

To register, contact Thomas Mitchell at
tmitchell@techwritersplus.com.

Connect with Members Locally

The New England Chapter organizes local events for members to meet each other in different parts of New England, and we'd like to invite you to events near you. Don't miss out! Be sure to check and update your city, town, and ZIP code in the national AMWA membership database, so we'll know which local events are most convenient.

You can update your AMWA member profile to include your location, by signing in at www.amwa.org. Then click on MY PROFILE on the menu bar, select the edit icon next to CONTACT DETAILS, add or update your location, and save the changes. Thanks!

We Want to Hear Your News!

If you started a new position, published a book, presented at a conference, or have other big news to share, we want to hear about it! Please send your updates to newsletter@AMWA-NE.org.

Past Events



2026 New Year's Party—January 15, 2026

New England medical writers braved the winter cold to meet up and enjoy delicious Italian bites and festive cocktails at Nebo Cucina & Enoteca! This was the second year we celebrated at Nebo, and our members seemed to enjoy it just the same. Our chapter's medical writers enjoyed lively conversation amidst the glittering lights of downtown Boston.



Countway Library Tour and Networking Dinner—February 26, 2026

The New England AMWA Chapter toured Harvard University's Center for the History of Medicine, located in the Countway Library. The Center houses a number of historically significant anatomical artifacts, pathological specimens, instruments, rare books, and manuscripts. Our tour guide paid special attention to the history of the skull of Phinneas Gage! The tour was followed by a lively reception with light refreshments at Penguin Pizza.

Networking Lunch in Cambridge—April 13, 2026

Local members met for an informal networking lunch at Revival Cafe and Kitchen at Alewife in Cambridge, Mass. Lunch-goers enjoyed lively conversation and the exchange of lots of useful information.

AMWA New England Chapter Spring Roundtable—April 19, 2026

Our annual Sunday brunch and roundtable event was a success! This popular event featured a leisurely late breakfast followed by lively roundtable discussions led by knowledgeable AMWA members who shared their insights, offered valuable advice, and answered questions. This year the featured tables were: Writing for Scientific Publication led by Andrea Gwosdow, Freelance Regulatory Medical Writing led by Caroline Ritchie, AI in Medical Writing led by Heather Duncan, Continuing Medical Education (CME): Careers, Content and Industry Essentials led by Thomas Mitchell, Regulatory Writing in the Pharmaceutical/Biotechnology Industry led by Radha Naik-Murti, and a general discussion and networking table led by Patrick Murphy.

Apply for the Judy Linn Membership Award

The AMWA New England Chapter awards up to three Judy Linn Membership Awards each year. The award provides one-year free membership in AMWA (which includes chapter membership) to qualified newcomers to the field.

[Learn more about the award](#) and see if you might be a candidate!

Chapter Volunteers

Board of Directors: Caroline McLachlan (President), S. Patrick Murphy (Program Director/President-Elect), Jeanette Towles (Treasurer), Peter Stein (Treasurer-Elect), Dora Levin (Secretary), Claudia Prahst (Past President)

Programming Committee: S.Patrick Murphy (chair), Caroline McLachlan, Margaret Burke, Claudia Prahst, Danielle Sanchez, Cristina Naranjo Ortiz, Parul Yadav

Membership Engagement Committee: Becca Kranz (chair), Tamar Propp

Newsletter Committee: Elli Greenlaw (chair), Claudia Prahst, Jessica Solodar, Dora Levin, Peter Stein

Outreach Committee: Caroline McLachlan, Danielle Sanchez

Finance Committee: Jeanette Towles (chair), Ellie Lin, Katharin Blackerby, Andrea Mark, Peter Stein, Caroline McLachlan

Policies and Procedures Task Force: Debbie Ferguson (chair), Miranda diBerardinis

Judy Linn Membership Award Committee: Debbie von Rechenberg (chair), Kathleen Ahern Gould, Francesca Coltrera, Jill Shuman

Local Networking Coordinators: Francesca Coltrera (Cambridge), Andrea Gwosdow (Cambridge), Sam Entwisle (Maine), Thomas Mitchell (Southern New Hampshire), Sophie Griswold (Boston), Margaret Burke (Connecticut), Caroline McLachlan (Connecticut)

Councilors-at-Large: Ariel Brown, Marisa Greenfield, Brian Head, Sami Heimer, Karishma Mazur, Thuy Linh Nguyen, Jenny Thayer, Linda Valsdottir, Amy Sanders

Communication Strategist: Dora Levin

Chapter Advisory Council Representative: Jessica Solodar

Peer-Mentoring Circle Committee: Claudia Prahst (chair), S. Patrick Murphy, Becca Kranz

Website Editors: Becca Kranz, Caroline McLachlan, Claudia Prahst

Email Manager: Jessica Solodar

Become a Volunteer

Interested in getting more involved with the AMWA New England Chapter? We have many types of volunteer opportunities. To learn more email Caroline McLachlan, chapter president at president@amwa-ne.org.

Welcome New Members!

Elizabeth Jaensch, Judy Luborsky, Hannach Fricke, Carolyn Senneca, Sabrina Nazario-Johnson, Kelly Safreed Harmon, Hillary Workman, Quin Christensen, Laura Tafe, Robert Bowker, Robert van Lith, Serena Nally

Share Your Work

Interested in showcasing your work on our website? We are looking for short articles (800-1,000 words) from our members related to medical writing or health care.

Contact newsletter@AMWA-NE.org if you are interested.

