November 15: Evening Meeting in Burlington, Mass.

*Trivia Night for Medical Communicators*

It’s time to get a clue! The New England Chapter is holding its first ever Trivia Night, featuring questions based on all aspects of medicine and science. So brush off your cortex and join your colleagues on Wednesday, November 15, for an evening of tasty food, good-hearted competition, and bragging rights! The event will take place at Uno Pizzeria & Grill in Burlington, Mass., and will be emcee’d by our own Laurie MacDougall, a 3-time *Jeopardy!* champion.

Admission is only $15 and includes pizza. Seats are limited, so register quickly to save your spot. You may form your own team or take your chances with a random team assignment. While we can’t guarantee the outcome of the evening, we can guarantee that every contestant will go home with a prize.

Everyone is invited! Prospective members and guests are welcome. Come early to do a little networking. Then enjoy a slice or two of pizza while you test your mastery of medical and scientific minutiae.

**DATE:** Wednesday, November 15

**TIME:** 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.

**PLACE:** Uno Pizzeria & Grill
75 Middlesex Turnpike
Burlington, Massachusetts
Tel: 781-229-1300

**FOOD & DRINK:** There will be complimentary pizza. Alcoholic beverages and soft drinks will be available for purchase. If you like, you may order other food à la carte.

**REGISTRATION:** The registration fee is $15.00. You can register online or by mail, depending on how you wish to pay.
* To pay by **credit card**, use the electronic registration form on the chapter website (www.amwa-ne.org). Fill it out and continue to the PayPal form, where you can enter your credit card information. (You don’t need a PayPal account, and there is no transaction fee.)
* To pay by **check**, download the printable registration form from the chapter website (www.amwa-ne.org), print a copy, fill it out, and mail it with your check to the address on the form.

**Seating is limited, so registrations will be strictly first-come, first-served.** If we cannot accommodate you, we will notify you promptly by email and refund your payment through PayPal or return your check. (Please note that there will be no refunds for cancellation after 5:00 p.m., Saturday, November 11.)

**DIRECTIONS TO UNO:** The restaurant is in the Burlington Mall, a short distance from Route 128/I-95, Exit 32. There is ample free parking. **For driving directions from your location,** go to: https://restaurants.unos.com/locations/Burlington/MA/0210. If you don’t have a car, ask Judy Linn (judyhlinn@aol.com) whether there is someone from your area who might be able to give you a lift. You can also use the chapter’s LinkedIn page to ask for a ride (or offer one).

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CHAPTER CALENDAR

The New England Chapter’s year begins in mid-June, when a new slate of officers takes over. The chapter’s Executive Council meets during the summer, but there are no general activities during July and August.

The chapter holds six regular meetings from September through June. Four of these meetings are in the Greater Boston area, and two are in Connecticut. Typically, these meetings start with a social hour, followed by dinner (except for a Sunday brunch in midwinter), then a program with a speaker, a panel presentation, or roundtable discussions.

In addition to the regular meetings, the chapter occasionally schedules other events, ranging from informal networking lunches or evening meetups to workshop programs.

Every fall, at AMWA’s national meeting, attendees from New England get together for an informal dinner at a restaurant near the conference site.

November 2
Chapter Dinner
AMWA Conference
Orlando, Fla.

If you’re going to Orlando for the 2017 AMWA Medical Writing & Communication Conference, plan to join your New England colleagues for dinner on Thursday, November 2, at the Bravo Cucina Italiana. We will meet in the Walt Disney World Swan and Dolphin hotel lobby at 6:00 p.m. and travel to the restaurant via ride sharing. For more information and to register, go to www.amwa-ne.org.

November 15
Dinner Meeting
New Haven, Conn.

The New England Chapter’s fall meeting in Connecticut takes place on Wednesday, November 15, at Cask Republic in New Haven. Join AMWA colleagues for networking, dinner, and a presentation on “Instructional Design: Where Do You Fit in as a Medical Writer?” Prospective members and guests are welcome. For details and to register, please go to www.amwa-ne.org.

Other Upcoming Events in New England

If you are involved with or know about a forthcoming professional meeting, educational program, or other activity that might be of interest to New England AMWA members, please send the information to Judy Linn at judyhlinn@aol.com. We are happy to publicize such events in the chapter newsletter and/or via the AMWA New England E-News.

October 27
STC New England Chapter
InterChange
Lowell, Mass.

InterChange, the annual regional conference of the New England Chapter, Society for Technical Communication, will be held at the UMass Lowell Inn & Conference Center. For program details, go to http://stcnewengland.org/event-2649028.

December 12
Editorial Freelancers Association
Central Massachusetts Chapter

Everyone is welcome to join EFA members for a brown bag lunch on Tuesday, December 12, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The topic is “Tax Tips for Freelancers.” Lunches are also planned for January 16 (TBA), March 20 (“Copyright Management”), and April 17 (“Style-O-Rama”). For information, contact Ellie Lin at ellie@LinLifeScience.com.

April 26-28, 2018
Harvard Medical School
Writing, Publishing, and Social Media Course
Boston, Mass.

Harvard’s annual 3-day CME course for “healthcare professionals who want to advance their communication skills or get published” will be held at the Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel. For information, go to https://wps.hmscme.com/.

Fellowship Opportunity

Blue Cross Blue Shield Foundation of Mass.
Health Coverage Fellowships

These annual fellowships for journalists will provide intensive training—along with luxury accommodations, good food, and fun—from April 27 to May 5, 2018, on the Babson College campus in Wellesley, Mass., with follow-up for a year. All costs will be covered, no strings attached. The application deadline is November 29. For details and an application form, go to https://bluecrossmafoundation.org/programs.
Recent Meetings
Chapter Kicks Off 2017-18 Year with Informal Events

In September, Shawn Watson, chapter president, hosted a networking dinner at Yoki Japanese Restaurant in Medford, Mass. (photo below).

In October, Francesca Coltrera and Andrea Gwosdow hosted a New England Chapter networking lunch at Changsho in Cambridge, Mass. Another lunch is tentatively planned for spring, most likely in March.

Personal Notes
At Experimental Biology 2016, sponsored by the American Physiology Society and other organizations, Andrea Gwosdow, PhD, president of Gwosdow Associates Science Consultants, Arlington, Mass., discussed the scope of medical writing in a symposium on alternative careers for PhDs. You can listen to her presentation and view the slides at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lkmy4x8geYg.

Alexis Khalil, MPH, ELS, has joined Agios Pharmaceuticals, Lexington, Mass., as an associate director, medical writing. She was previously at Evidera.

Olivier Morteau, PhD, is now associate director, scientific communications at MedDay Pharmaceuticals, a company headquartered in Paris, France. He was previously senior manager, medical communications at TESARO. Olivier is the immediate past president of the New England Chapter.

Lynne Munno, MA, MS, is now director, medical writing (oncology submissions) at Pfizer. She was previously an associate director of medical writing at Deciphera Pharmaceuticals.

Theresa Singleton, PhD, will serve on AMWA's 2017-18 Board of Directors as an at-large director. Her term begins when the new officers and directors are installed at the national conference in Orlando, Fla., this month. Theresa is owner and principal scientific writer at Singleton Science LLC in Beverly Mass. She is a past president of the New England Chapter and a member-at-large of the chapter's Board of Directors.

Are you eligible for free AMWA membership?
If you are just starting your career, with no more than three years of full-time experience as a medical writer or editor, and you live and work in New England, you may be eligible for the New England Chapter’s Linn Membership Award. This award covers the cost of AMWA dues for one year, with full membership benefits, and also allows the recipient to register for the chapter’s regular meetings at no charge.

There is no application fee, and an application may be submitted at any time. For more information, please go to www.amwa-ne.org/awards.

Connect on LinkedIn with Fellow New Englanders
Have you signed up for the AMWA New England subgroup on LinkedIn (www.linkedin.com)? This open forum for questions and comments about local matters provides an easy way for you to connect with other medical writers and editors here in our region. Everyone—including prospective members—is welcome to participate.

To discuss—or just keep abreast of—professional issues of general interest, you can also sign up for AMWA Engage, the national online forum for AMWA members (http://engage.amwa.org/home).

Keep Up to Date with ‘AMWA New England E-News’
Watch for the occasional email from “President@amwa-ne.org” with “AMWA New England E-News” in the subject line. A few times a month, chapter president Shawn Watson sends an email to New England Chapter members to announce a job opening, an upcoming chapter meeting, or some other local event. Be sure to take a quick glance at these brief messages so you don’t miss something of possible interest to you.
New Chapter Members

The New England Chapter cordially welcomes those from our six-state region who have recently joined AMWA, reestablished their affiliation with the association, or moved here from another location. We are also happy to welcome AMWA members from outside of New England who are planning to move here in the near future or have personal or professional ties here.

Tracy Aurigemma, MS
Revere, Massachusetts

Ethan Avery, BA
Millennium: The Takeda Oncology Co.
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Xiang Bai, PhD
Brigham and Women’s Hospital
Boston, Massachusetts

Shelley Batts, PhD
Analysis Group Inc.
Boston, Massachusetts

Katharin Blackerby-Burke, BS
TESARO Inc.
Waltham, Massachusetts

Kristin Brooks, MS
Strategic Regulatory & Scientific Communication LLC
East Greenwich, Rhode Island

Brenda Carito, BS, HTL(ASCP)
Alnylam Pharmaceuticals
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Joni Cazeau, MD
Riverside, Rhode Island

Nancy Chamberlin, PhD
Brookline, Massachusetts

Alexis Cocozaki, PhD
Epizyme
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Melanie de Reynal, PhD
Falmouth, Maine
PPD

Christina Deary, BSP, MS
Alexion Pharmaceuticals
Lexington, Massachusetts

Maura Dooley, BS
Killingworth, Connecticut
University of New Hampshire

Catherine Finn, BA, BS, MSW, LCSW
Harvard Medical School
Boston, Massachusetts

Meredith Gilbert, PharmD
Hartford, Connecticut

Melissa Greven
Concord, Massachusetts

Clair Gricks, PhD
Needham, Massachusetts

Kristen Hawley, MS
Takeda Pharmaceuticals
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Brian Head, PhD
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Taryn Hojlo
Boston, Massachusetts

Amy Holbrook, MS
Keryx Biopharmaceuticals Inc.
Boston, Massachusetts

Andrea Howard, BA
Alkermes Inc.
Waltham, Massachusetts

Christopher Jones, PhD, CMPP
Yardley, Pennsylvania

Preeti Joshi, PhD
Arlington, Massachusetts
Biogen

Heather Kang, PhD
Brigham and Women's Hospital
Boston, Massachusetts

Robert Lindeman, MD, PhD
Ingles Para Cima
Framingham, Massachusetts

Ian List, BA
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Bennett Meier
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Peter Mezes, PhD
Old Lyme, Connecticut

Janel Muhammed
Boston, Massachusetts

Indrani Mukherjee, PhD
JoVE
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Jyothi Noronha
Chelmsford, Massachusetts

Robert Ogert, PhD
Takeda Global Research & Development
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Marilla Pender-Cudlip, PharmD
Vertex Pharmaceuticals
Boston, Massachusetts

Carina Peritore, PhD
Turner Falls, Massachusetts
Axion BioSystems Inc.

Amy Robinson, PhD
Gainesville, Florida

Tithi Dutta Roy, PhD
Mansfield, Massachusetts
Medtronic

Jennifer Thayer, MA, EdM, MBA
BioBridges
Wellesley, Massachusetts

Laura Tierney, MLS
Chelmsford, Massachusetts

Stephen Volante, MA, CT
Lexington, Massachusetts
Harvard Medical School

Maggie Watson, PhD
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Rebecca Winn
Jefferson, Massachusetts
Name Change for ‘Executive Council’

Earlier this year, in accordance with new mandates from AMWA, the New England Chapter sought and attained status as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation. In order to align with Federal guidelines, the chapter’s Executive Council was renamed the “Board of Directors.”

The chapter’s Bylaws will soon undergo revision to reflect this change and also to bring us into compliance with recent changes in the organizational structure of AMWA, some of which impact directly on chapters.

These administrative changes should not have any noticeable effect on chapter activities and services. Our objectives remain essentially the same as stated in the current Bylaws:

To raise the standards of practice and achievement in biomedical, medical, and health communications by:
A. Bringing together those persons within the area of the Chapter who are involved in the communication of biomedical, medical, and health information so that they may share views, experiences, and goals,
B. Furthering the professional development of members through educational programs,
C. Promoting high standards of communication by making the Chapter's educational programs available to non-members,
D. Encouraging non-members to become members of AMWA and to participate in Chapter activities.

Chapter Secretary for 2017-18

Ellie Lin, an AMWA member since 2016, has joined the New England Chapter’s Board of Directors as Secretary.

Ellie is a freelance medical editor in Worcester, Mass., specializing in manuscripts and educational and marketing materials. She has a BA in journalism from the University of Massachusetts Amherst and an MS in environmental science with a research focus on soil microbiology from the University of California Riverside. She is a member of the Northeast Branch of the American Society for Microbiology and is the coordinator of the Central Massachusetts Chapter of the Editorial Freelancers Association.

She is hosting the New England Chapter’s dinner meeting at the upcoming AMWA conference in Orlando, Fla.

New England Representative to AMWA Chapter Advisory Council

Andrea Gwosdow will be our representative to AMWA’s newly formed Chapter Advisory Council for the 2017-18 year, which begins this month during the annual conference.

Andrea is a past president of the chapter, a long-time Executive Council member-at-large, and a frequent contributor to a chapter programs. She has also occasionally represented our chapter on the AMWA Board of Directors, which previously included delegates from all the chapters.

Andrea is president of Gwosdow Associates Science Consultants in Arlington, Mass. She has been an AMWA member since 1997.

Chapter Leaders Invite Feedback

In the near future, New England Chapter members will be asked to complete an online survey to assist in program planning. The survey will give everyone a chance to express preferences regarding meeting formats, topics, locations, etc. Meanwhile, please feel free to let your chapter leaders know what you’re thinking. Questions, comments, and critiques are always welcome. Write to President Shawn Watson at president@amwa-ne.org.

2017-18 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: Shawn Watson
IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT: Olivier Morteau
PRESIDENT-ELECT: Deborah Ferguson
VICE PRESIDENT/CONNECTICUT: Margaret Burke
SECRETARY: Ellie Lin
TREASURER: Ana Bozas

DIRECTORS / COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- PROGRAMS: Deborah Ferguson
- CONNECTICUT PROGRAMS: Margaret Burke, Agnella Matic, Jill Max
- MEMBERSHIP: Judy Linn
- MEMBERSHIP AWARDS: Nancy Knoblock Hunton, Francesca Coltrera, David Olle, Jill Shuman, Debbie von Rechenberg
- E-NEWS: Shawn Watson
- NEWSLETTER: Judy Linn
- LINKEDIN SUBGROUP: Laurie MacDougall
- NOMINATING COMMITTEE: Deborah Ferguson
- WEB SITE: Aaron Federman, Judy Linn

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

Dara Chadwick, Susan Chow, Francesca Coltrera, Marisa Greenfield, Laurie LaRusso, Shanna McClennen, Jill Shuman, Theresa Singleton, Debbie von Rechenberg

REPRESENTATIVE TO AMWA CHAPTER ADVISORY COUNCIL

Andrea Gwosdow