September 19: Dinner Meeting in Waltham, Mass.

“My Type, Monkeys! Type!” (Or: How to Prepare a New Drug Application Really Fast, Laugh Along the Way, and Still Like Each Other When It’s All Said and Done)

The New England Chapter will open the 2012-13 year on Wednesday, September 19, with a dinner meeting at The Chateau in Waltham, Mass., featuring a presentation on regulatory submissions—in particular, the New Drug Application—by our AMWA colleague Debbie von Rechenberg, ELS.

The goal of drug development is, of course, to bring valuable new medications to patients. To do this, companies with promising drug candidates must assemble a dossier summarizing years—even decades—of preclinical and clinical research and submit it to regulatory bodies around the world. This mammoth undertaking is one of the most intensely planned, minutely scrutinized, highly regulated, and eagerly anticipated projects for a company.

Sometimes companies anticipate regulatory submissions so eagerly that they challenge their submission teams to move the finish line up by, oh, let’s say, a couple of months. Using her most recent experience on a submission team that chose to accept such a mission, Debbie will describe the documents that make up a marketing application, the guidelines and regulations that govern drug development, and most importantly, how the many team members required for such an effort work together to make it all happen.

If you’re interested in writing regulatory documents, you’ll learn a bit about what they are and the writer’s role in preparing them. You’ll also learn about the structure of a marketing application. If you already write regulatory documents, you might learn something new or, at the very least, will be able to “compare notes.”

Debbie has 13 years of experience as a medical writer for pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies, primarily working on documents to be submitted to regulatory authorities. Since last January she has been associate director, medical writing at Ariad Pharmaceuticals Inc. in Cambridge. She had previously worked at Genzyme and, before that, at Eli Lilly and Company. At Lilly she was originally employed as a microbiologist, eventually transitioning to medical writing. She has a bachelor’s degree from Purdue University, where she majored in biology and also took some graduate courses, and is a board-certified editor in the life sciences (ELS). An AMWA member since 2000, Debbie was president of the New England Chapter in 2009-10.

Please join us for an evening of friendly networking, delicious Italian food, and what promises to be an informative (and entertaining) presentation. As always, guests and prospective members are welcome.
Chapter Calendar

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

Regular Meetings: 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.

Special Events: In addition to the regular meetings, the chapter holds one special event each year. A writing competition, culminating in presentation of the Will Solimene Awards for Excellence in Medical Communication, is held every other year. In the alternate years, the chapter holds the New England Conference, a full day of workshops on a Saturday in the spring.

Occasional Extras: Once in a while, an informal event, such as a networking lunch or a tour, is scheduled.

October 4 – Informal Dinner
AMWA Annual Conference, Sacramento, Calif.
If you are attending the AMWA Annual Conference in Sacramento, you are invited to join other New England attendees for dinner on Thursday, October 4, at 7:30 p.m. Chapter members will gather at the AMWA Wine and Cheese Networking Session, which runs from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m., and then head for Mulvaney’s, a “new American cuisine” restaurant featuring local ingredients. Theresa Singleton is making the arrangements. Watch the AMWA New England E-News for details and sign-up information.

October 24 – Informal Networking Lunch
Cambridge, Mass.
Everyone is invited to an informal networking lunch at 12:30 p.m. on Wednesday, October 24, at Chang Sho, 1712 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, Mass. (between Harvard Square and Porter Square). Meet colleagues, raise work-related questions, and share tips on medical writing. Take the Red Line to Harvard Square and walk to the restaurant, or park across the street in the Chang Sho lot. Cost is the price of buffet lunch, plus your drink and tip. Please RSVP by Monday, October 22, to Francesca Coltrera at coltrera@comcast.net or 781-641-9872.

December – Dinner Meeting
Greater Boston Area
The chapter will hold a dinner meeting in early December. The next issue of New England Chapter News will give details.

February – Sunday Brunch
Greater Boston Area
In February the chapter will hold the traditional winter Sunday brunch meeting. The program will offer roundtables on career-related topics for both beginners and more experienced medical writers.

March 5 – Informal Networking Lunch
Cambridge, Mass.
On Tuesday, March 5, there will be another lunchtime get-together.

April 6 – New England Conference
Sturbridge, Mass.
The 10th New England Conference—a full day of AMWA credit workshops, special sessions, roundtables, and networking—will take place at the Sturbridge Host Hotel & Conference Center in Sturbridge, Mass., on Saturday, April 6. (More information on page 3.)

May – Dinner Meeting
Connecticut
The chapter will hold a meeting in Connecticut in May.

June – Dinner Meeting
Greater Boston Area
The last meeting of the chapter year will take place in mid-June.

How to Register for September 19 Meeting

To register for the upcoming dinner meeting you have two payment options:

(1) 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 do not need a PayPal account, and you will not be charged a fee for the transaction.)

(2) 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.
2013 New England Conference
Program Will Offer AMWA Workshops, Special Sessions, Roundtables, Networking

Planning for the New England Chapter’s 10th biennial educational conference has begun, and here’s where we stand:

Conference Committee
Laurie McDougall is in charge of the site arrangements. Jill Shuman is responsible for both credit workshops and special sessions. Siobhan Gallagher is planning luncheon roundtables. I am handling registration.

Date and Location
The conference will take place at the Sturbridge Host Hotel & Conference Center in Sturbridge, Mass., Saturday, April 6, from 7:30 a.m. (when the Registration/Hospitality Area opens) to 4:30 p.m. (when afternoon classes end).

The conference center—in south central Massachusetts, not far from the Connecticut state line—is comfortable, well equipped, and easy to get to by car.

Program Format
There will be six classes in all: four 3-hour credit workshops from the AMWA curriculum and two 3-hour special sessions. Three of the classes will run concurrently in the morning, and three in the afternoon.

The conference luncheon will include roundtables on career-related topics, as well as open tables for those who prefer to network or just relax.

Registration Fees
We are making every effort to keep fees at or close to 2011 fees. Depending on what you sign up for, the total cost of conference registration should be in the range of $150 to $300, but considerably more if you are not an AMWA member. (For information about the additional cost of enrolling in an AMWA certificate program, please go to https://secure.contentactive.com/amwa/form/CurriculumEnrollment.asp?ID=154.)

If you are enrolled or plan to enroll in an AMWA certificate program, you can help us by taking a few minutes to tell us which certificate you are working toward and which credit workshops you would most like to take. We can’t accommodate everyone’s needs, but we will certainly take them into consideration. We’d also be happy to listen to any ideas you may have about special sessions or luncheon roundtables. Please send your comments and questions to me at judylinn@aol.com.

Chapter members will be notified via the AMWA New England E-News as soon as the conference registration brochure is available, most likely in early to mid-January.

— Judy Linn, Conference Administrator

2012 Writing Awards
Winning Authors Feted at Luncheon

The chapter’s 15th Writing Awards Competition culminated in a luncheon at the Embassy Suites Hotel, Waltham, Mass., on Saturday May 5, where the winners of the 2012 Will Solimene Awards for Excellence in Medical Communication were recognized for their outstanding work. The winning submissions were on display during the social hour, and Dr. Tim Johnson, recipient of the 2012 Honors Award, was on hand to sign copies of his latest book and chat with members and guests. After a leisurely gourmet lunch, Jill Shuman, who has been directing the writing awards since 2004, deftly guided us through the awards presentations.

Honors Award
Helen Osborne, honors award chair, introduced Dr. Johnson, who spoke eloquently about the problems with health care in America today (see Nancy Knoblock Hunton’s report on page 4). At the conclusion of his talk, Helen presented him with a plaque. The citation honored Dr. Johnson “for providing health information, critical analysis, and thoughtful commentary in ways audiences everywhere can understand.”

Will Solimene Awards for Excellence in Medical Communication
Siobhan Gallagher and Debbie von Rechenberg, who managed the judging panels, shared the pleasant task of saluting the authors of the 18 winning entries in this year’s competition for their exceptional work. As Jill Shuman noted in her introduction, “The winning entries represented different media, different subject areas, and different points of view.” They included consumer books and health guides, journal and newsletter articles, and books and monographs for healthcare professionals—a diverse array of publications, reflecting the diversity of talent and expertise in the field of biomedical communication.

Neil Duane Awards for Distinction in Medical Communication
Always a secret until the last minute, the Duane Award recognizes the “very best of the best.” This year a Duane Award—an elegant engraved crystal trophy—went to not one, but two of the Solimene Award winners: Health Literacy from A to Z: Practical Ways to Communicate your Health Message by Helen Osborne, MEd, OTR/L, and After the Diagnosis: Living with Chronic Illness by Julian Seifter, MD, and Betsy Seifter, PhD.

If you would like to check out some of the winning entries, you can find the citations in the writing awards luncheon brochure (http://www.amwa-ne.org/awards.html). The brochure also includes biographical information about Will Solimene, an important figure in the New England Chapter’s history, whose untimely death in 1989 inspired

WRITING AWARDS continued on page 4
WRITING AWARDS continued from page 3

the establishment of the writing awards competition, and a brief biography of Neil Duane, another chapter stalwart, who was principally responsible for developing the awards program and directed it from its inception in 1990 until his death in 2004 at the age of 63.

Acknowledgments

While reading the competition entries is always an edifying and pleasurable experience, scoring them is a challenging task. Under the able guidance of Jill Shuman and judging managers Siobhan Gallagher and Debbie von Rechenberg, the judging panels conscientiously determined which entries would ultimately make the cut. The chapter is indebted to the judges, all award-winning writers themselves: Ellen Barlow; Rita Buckley, MBA; Patricia Carroll, RN, MS; Kevin Flynn, MA; Richard Frank, MD; Nancy Knoblock Hunton, MS; Laurie LaRusso, MS, ELS; Alice Richer, RD, MBA; Edward Rowan, MD; Julie Silver, MD; Patrick Skerrett, MA; Linda Wood, RN, MPH; Monica Zangwill, MD, MPH; and Gail Zyla , MS, RD.

And thanks, too, to Laurie MacDougall for helping with the luncheon set-up and to Aaron Federman for assisting with presentation of the award plaques.

—JL

Dr. Tim Johnson Delivers Honors Address on Health Care Reform

“Why does the United States spend more than twice as much per person on health care as all other industrialized countries and end up with no better results?” asked 2012 Honors Awards recipient G. Timothy Johnson, MD, MPH, at the New England Chapter’s writing awards luncheon on May 6. The way the U.S. pays for and delivers health care is as important as the care itself, said the long-time ABC News medical editor and contributor, widely known simply as Dr. Tim.

The author of The Truth About Getting Sick in America, Dr. Tim is on a mission to help the country move beyond the current political gridlock by informing the general public about the necessity of health care reform.

In his talk, he stressed that more—money or care—isn’t always better. He pointed out that despite the amount of money the U.S. pours into the health care system, the average life expectancy of Americans, in fact, is lower than in other top-spending countries. And, he noted, the five-year survival rate for cancer in the U.S. is similar to that in Canada, which spends about half as much per person on health care.

He also emphasized the need for uniform federal standards. Dartmouth College researchers, he said, discovered wide regional differences in U.S. Medicare costs. A Medicare patient in Miami, for example, is the most costly—receiving more services, such as tests and surgeries, than anywhere else in the country.

One of the biggest barriers to reform is our own unrealistic expectations. Americans, Dr. Tim said, demand health care that is 1) convenient, 2) compassionate, communicative, and coordinated, 3) cutting edge, and 4) cheap, or even better, cost-free. We want “gourmet health care services” without having to foot the bill.

Drivers of health care costs include: doctors, hospitals, drug and device companies, insurers, malpractice, and the media. While medical malpractice lawsuits are often blamed for spiraling costs, Dr. Tim said compensating those injured is the moral thing to do. But currently “98 percent of patients [injured by substandard medical care] get nothing.” He believes the country must eventually turn to a no-fault system.

He also predicted that global payment and accountable care organizations will change the way services are paid for, and today’s health care insurers will be eliminated.

Dr. Tim found fault with the media for promoting “the latest and greatest” treatments. As an example, he cited how seven years ago preliminary studies suggested that bone marrow transplants might benefit patients with advanced breast cancer. Premature media publicity led patients to demand this treatment from providers and insurers only to have it turn out not to be successful.

His Reform Proposal

So what’s the answer? A possible model to follow, Dr. Tim said, is Germany, which has achieved universal health coverage through private, nonprofit companies under government regulation. All Germans are covered under “sickness plans,” and premiums are based on ability to pay.

Dr. Tim Johnson continued on page 5
May Meeting Report
Writing Books for the Lay Reader
At the chapter’s dinner meeting in New Haven in May, Ivy M. Alexander, PhD, C-ANP, APRN, a two-time recipient of the Will Solimene Award for Excellence in Medical Communication, shared her experiences in authoring books for the lay reader.

Dr. Alexander is a professor of nursing at Yale University School of Nursing and a nurse practitioner at Yale Health. Her clinical, scholarly, and research specialties are in women’s midlife health care, particularly menopause and osteoporosis management.

From her studies she knew that many women were getting information about menopause—often misinformation—by word of mouth or from television talk shows and actress-authored books. So she jumped at the opportunity when Karla A. Knight, RN, MSN, a nurse practitioner turned health writer, approached her to coauthor a trade book on menopause for Jones and Bartlett Publishers. Written at the 12th-grade reading level, 100 Questions & Answers About Menopause helps readers understand menopause symptoms and treatment options, including lifestyle changes, alternative therapies, and prescription medications. It was published in 2005.

A year later, Dr. Alexander and Ms. Knight partnered again to write a second book, 100 Questions & Answers About Osteoporosis and Osteopenia. Similar in format to the menopause book, it provides practical answers to questions about treatment options, lifestyle decisions to improve bone health, and sources of support, and it includes comments from both men and women with bone loss.

Dr. Alexander talked about some of the challenges in writing these books, including the length, images, references, formatting, indexing, and the timeline. She said that to promote the books, she and Ms. Knight gave presentations and did book signings at libraries and conferences. Both books, she noted, have been translated into Spanish, Greek, and Italian, and thousands of copies have been sold internationally.

Her advice to us: Follow your passions, stay dedicated, and if book authorship is a goal, go ahead and do it!

—Manjula Puthenedam
Member, Connecticut Program Committee

June Meeting Report
Using Various Social Media Tools
At the New England Chapter’s final meeting of the 2011-12 year, members and guests gathered to network and to learn about social media, all while enjoying Italian cuisine at The Chateau’s new restaurant in Burlington, Mass.

Lisa Gualtieri, PhD, ScM, an assistant professor in the Department of Public Health and Community Medicine at Tufts University School of Medicine—kindly filling in for Siobhan Gallagher, whose husband had to undergo knee surgery that day—gave an overview of several popular social media tools including LinkedIn, Facebook, Google+, Twitter, and Pinterest. She presented case studies of how these tools can be used, individually or in conjunction, to create a personal brand and establish an online presence. She stressed the importance of defining goals for social networking—e.g., promoting your business, sharing expertise, finding answers to your questions, or connecting with people who can help you—and then devising a plan to achieve them. She also suggested trying out multiple platforms to determine what best suits your needs.

AMWA member Helen Osborne, MED, OTR/L, president of Health Literacy Consulting in Natick, Mass., provided a passionate primer on the ins and outs of podcasting. As host of a podcast series, “Health Literacy Out Loud,” Helen has interviewed more than 80 health literacy experts on a wide variety of topics. She described the process of podcasting, from choosing the right equipment and selecting a topic of interest and a specialist in the field to the particulars of conducting an interview. Describing her own podcasts as “informal, informed discussions,” she said that they’re like listening in on a conversation. While traveling the world to conduct interviews, she has forged connections with other health literacy experts and remained current on topics that interest her. In addition, podcasting has allowed her to “spread awareness” of her expertise in health literacy.

—Theresa Singleton, Secretary
Personal Notes

Ariel Brown, PhD, of Somerville, Mass., is now a medical writer at Alkermes. She was previously a postdoctoral research fellow at Massachusetts General Hospital.

Chris Jennings is author of HIV/AIDS—The Facts and the Fiction and a companion text, HIV/AIDS in South Africa—The Facts and the Fiction, both published earlier this year by Health Alert Communications. According to Chris, these books “dispel the prevailing myths and misconceptions about HIV/AIDS and the HIV/AIDS epidemic by accurately reporting the contents of the scientific and medical literature.” Chris is also the author of an earlier textbook, Understanding and Preventing AIDS: A Book for Everyone (Health Alert Press, 1992, 2nd edition), and he is a freelance medical writer in Hudson, N.H.

Anna P. Estrella, BS, is now manager, medical writing at ARIAD Pharmaceuticals Inc., Cambridge, Mass. She was previously a senior medical editor at UBC Envision Group, Bridgeport, Conn.

Raghavendra (Rick) Kulkarni, MD, formerly a vice president at WebMD, has joined the Massachusetts Medical Society as program director, Journal Watch.

Thomas P. Gegeny, MS, ELS, is chairing the AMWA Certification Commission, which is overseeing the development of a certification examination for medical writers. An AMWA member since 1998 and a member of the New England Chapter since 2006, Tom has served the organization in innumerable ways, including as national president in 2009-10. He is a team lead and senior medical writer at UBC Envision Group, Bridgeport, Conn.

Helen Osborne’s newest book, Health Literacy from A to Z: Practical Ways to Communicate Your Health Message, a winner in the New England Chapter’s writing competition (see page 3), also received honorable mention in the 2012 AMWA Medical Book Awards competition.

Several New England Chapter members are contributing to the AMWA Annual Conference in Sacramento, Calif., next month:

• Tom Gegeny and other members of the AMWA Certification Commission are holding an open session on “Medical Writing Certification: Where Are We Now?” (See note above.) Tom is also leading a credit workshop, “Effectively Searching Online Databases,” and co-leading another credit workshop, “Introduction to Basic Virology.”

• Andrea Gwosdow, PhD, is co-leading a new required workshop, “Business Ethics for Medical Communicators,” and she is leading a noncredit workshop, “From Bench Scientist to Medical Writer.” She is also a panelist in two open sessions: “Falsifications and Retractions” and “Current Ethical Issues from Three Perspectives: Pharmaceutical

Director, Publisher, Freelance Writer.” Andrea is president of Gwosdow Associates Science Consultants in Arlington, Mass.

• Andres Heuberger’s company, ForeignExchange Translations Inc., will be among the exhibitors at the conference. Andres is president and co-founder of the Newton, Mass.-based firm, which provides translation services to the pharmaceutical and medical device industries worldwide.

• Nicola Parry, BVSc, MSc, will lead a roundtable on “How to Advance Your Medical Writer Career Through Blogging.” Nicky is a freelance writer in Shrewsbury, Mass.

• Jill Shuman, MS, ELS, is leading the credit workshop on “Essential Ethics for Medical Communicators” as well as a roundtable titled “Be All That You Can: Professional Certifications, Educational Opportunities, and Programs of Interest to Biomedical Communicators.” Jill is an instructor at Tufts University, a principal at JSA Consultants in Boston, and principal of the Writers Group, Woburn, Mass.

CHAPTER CHANGES: Jennifer MacArthur, PhD, moved to San Diego, Calif., and is now a member of the Pacific Southwest Chapter. Susan E. Myers, MSc, moved to Jackson, Wyo., and is now a member of the Rocky Mountain Chapter. Joseph Ratliff, PhD, moved to McKinney, Tex., and is now a member of the Southwest Chapter.

Judy Linn Membership Award
Newest Recipient is Asha Jayakumar

The chapter’s membership awards, established in 2001 as a lasting tribute to Judy Linn, offer support to medical communicators who are new to the field. Recipients get a year’s membership in AMWA (paid for by the New England Chapter), free registration for regular chapter meetings during that year, and guidance from designated members.

In June, we presented a Judy Linn Membership Award to Asha Jayakumar of New Haven, Conn. Asha has a bachelor’s in microbiology from the University of Madras, a master’s in life sciences from Pondicherry University, and a PhD in biological sciences from the University of Notre Dame. She has been a postdoctoral associate and postdoctoral fellow in the field of immunology at Yale University. She already has six publications to her credit and has given talks and poster presentations.

In her application, Asha said she had come to realize that, for her, medical writing could be a more rewarding field than laboratory research. She plans on using her AMWA membership to develop her medical writing skills as well as to increase her professional connections.

—David Olle, Membership Awards Director

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New Members

The New England Chapter welcomes those from our six-state region who have recently joined AMWA, reestablished their affiliation with the association, or moved here from another chapter area:

- **Phil Alkana, MA, RRT**
  Attleboro, Massachusetts
- **Alexander Alvarado, BS**
  Cambridge, Massachusetts
- **Robert M. Baginski, MD**
  Barrington, Rhode Island
- **Scott Baver, PhD**
  Newton, Massachusetts
  *BiogenIdec Inc.*
- **Michael Brady, PhD**
  Haverhill, Massachusetts
- **Stephen R. Braun, BS**
  Braun Medial Media
  Amherst, Massachusetts
- **Johanna Bruneau, PhD**
  Lowell, Massachusetts
- **Kunwei Cole**
  Pfizer Inc.
  Groton, Connecticut
- **Gerard D’Angelo, PhD**
  Wallingford, Connecticut
- **Rachel DiVenere, BS**
  Waterbury Department of Public Health
  Waterbury, Connecticut
- **Ann H. Frank, RN, MA**
  Worcester, Massachusetts
- **Jennifer R. Gardella, MS, MBA**
  CenterWatch
  Boston, Massachusetts
- **Karina Gordin, MSc**
  Wayland, Massachusetts
- **Megan Greenstein**
  Duxbury, Massachusetts
- **Mary Horvath, MA**
  Concord, Massachusetts
  *Lantheus Medical Imaging*
- **Ted James, MD**
  Med-IP
  Williston, Vermont
- **Snejana Krassova, MD**
  Needham, Massachusetts
  *Biogen Idec Inc.*
- **James B. Lewin, PharmD**
  Malden, Massachusetts
  *ARIAD Pharmaceuticals Inc.*
  [from Pacific Southwest Chapter]
- **Anastasia Leyden**
  Millennium Pharmaceutical Inc.
  Cambridge, Massachusetts
- **Alison J. Logan, BSc**
  Saybrook, Connecticut
- **Denise Lymperis**
  Watertown, Massachusetts
  *Global Data*
- **Patricia McTiernan, MS**
  Arlington, Massachusetts
- **Jaleh Mansouri, MD, MPH**
  Boston, Massachusetts
- **Kaitlyn Morse, PhD, MBA**
  Hartford, Connecticut
- **Kim Norris, BA**
  Boston, Massachusetts
  *Synta Pharmaceuticals Corp.*
  [from Southwest Chapter]
- **Anthony M. Palmieri, MPH**
  Hyannis, Massachusetts
  *PAREXEL International*
- **Molly Powers, MS**
  East Lyme, Connecticut
  *Pfizer Inc.*
- **Daniel J. Price, PhD**
  Dedham, Massachusetts
- **Jon P. Queijo, MS**
  Watertown, Massachusetts
- **Roland Tacke, PhD, CAPM**
  Newton, Massachusetts
  *Scientific Connexions*
  [from Delaware Valley Chapter]
- **Lori Thomae, MTPW, ELS**
  Westford, Massachusetts
- **Sonia P. Wheat, MSHS**
  Wheat Clinical Solutions LLC
  Rockport, Massachusetts
- **Christina Whelton, JD**
  Boston, Massachusetts
- **Dawn M. Wilson**
  Acceleron Pharma
  Cambridge, Massachusetts
- **Hong Xu, MD, PhD**
  Mystic, Connecticut

AMWA New England E-News

Brief Messages About Local Activities and Jobs

Watch for e-mail from President Derek Dore—it will come from derek.dorerx@gmail.com with “AMWA New England E-News” in the subject line. These occasional brief messages let you know about a local job opening, freelance opportunity, upcoming chapter meeting, or other event of possible interest to you.

The E-News is sent only to chapter members, but others are welcome to submit items to Derek for consideration. There is no charge for job postings, but they must conform to the submission guidelines, which can be downloaded from the chapter website (www.amwa-ne.org/jobs).

Chapter LinkedIn Subgroup

Social Networking with a Local Focus

As a member of the New England Chapter, you can connect with regional colleagues in our LinkedIn subgroup, providing you have already signed up for the main AMWA group. To join the local online conversation, go to www.linkedin.com and follow the links to subgroups. If you have any questions, please contact Laurie MacDougall (calicomemedcomm@gmail.com).
Directions to September 19 Meeting

The Chateau

195 School Street
Waltham, Massachusetts

781-894-3339

The restaurant is in the downtown area of Waltham, near Main Street (Route 20)—about two and a half miles east of Route 128. There is free parking in a large lot directly across the street from the restaurant.

For information about public transportation, you can go to: http://www.mbta.com/rider_tools/.

For detailed driving directions from your location, go to: http://national.citysearch.com/profile/map/4801478/waltha_m_ma/chateau_restaurant.html.

General Driving Directions

 Heading North on Route 128/I-95: Take Exit 26 (Route 20 toward Waltham/Weston), and bear right onto Route 20 East. Go 1.4 miles and turn left onto Bacon St. Take the first right onto School St. The restaurant is 0.2 mi. ahead on the left.

 Heading South on Route 128/I-95: Take Exit 27A (Totten Pond Rd./Wyman St.). Go 0.2 mi. and bear right onto Winter St., Go 0.2 mi. and stay straight to go onto Totten Pond Rd. Go 1.2 mi. and turn right onto Bacon St. Go 0.8 mi. and turn left onto School St. Restaurant is 0.2 mi. ahead on the left.

 Heading West on Route 20 (Main St.): Once you pass Waltham City Hall and the Waltham Common on your left, go 0.2 mi. and turn right onto Spring St. Take the first left onto School St. The restaurant is just ahead on the right.

Need a ride to the meeting?

If you don’t have a car and would like a ride, ask Judy Linn (judyhlinn@aol.com) whether there is someone from your area who might be able to give you a lift.

AMWA Professional Development Certificate Validation of Your Commitment to Medical Writing

Attending chapter meetings is one way to earn points toward an AMWA Professional Development Certificate (PDC). This certificate attests to your participation in and contributions to extracurricular professional activities, and thus demonstrates your commitment to your career as a biomedical or health communicator. For details, please go to www.amwa.org/default.asp?id=252.

Attending the chapter meeting on September 19 is worth 5 points toward a PDC. So if you are working on a certificate, or if you think you might want to enroll in the PDC program in the near future, be sure to pick up an attendance voucher at the registration desk. Fill it out, and ask any officer to sign it.

New Officers

Chapter officers for the 2012-13 year officially took over in mid-June, and Derek Dore, PharmD, is now president. Serving with Derek are Kristin Stephan, PhD, immediate past president; Shanna McClennen, PhD, president-elect; Michelle Horan, MS, vice president for Connecticut; Theresa Singleton, PhD; secretary; and Jill Shuman, MS, ELS, treasurer.

For brief bios of the officers, see page 3 of the June 2012 New England Chapter News, which you can download from the chapter’s website (www.amwa-ne.org/newsletters).

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL 2012-13

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: Derek Dore
IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT: Kristin Stephan
PRESIDENT-ELECT: Shanna J. McClennen
VICE PRESIDENT/CONNECTICUT: Michelle R. Horan
SECRETARY: Theresa E. Singleton
TREASURER: Jill M. Shuman

DIRECTORS / COMMITTEE MEMBERS

PROGRAMS: Shanna J. McClennen
CONNECTICUT PROGRAMS: Michelle R. Horan
Anita P. Kuan, Manjula Puthenedam
MEMBERSHIP: Judy Linn
MEMBERSHIP AWARDS: David A. Olle
Francesca Coltrera, Nancy Knoblock Hunton, Jill M. Shuman, Debbie von Rechenberg
E-NEWS: Derek Dore
NEWSLETTER: Judy Linn
LINKEDIN SUBGROUP: Laurie A. MacDougall
CHAPTER CONFERENCE: Judy Linn/Laurie MacDougall/Jill M. Shuman
Siobhan Gallagher
NOMINATING COMMITTEE: Shanna J. McClennen
WEB SITE: Aaron Federman
Judy Linn, Jill Shuman

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

Francesca Coltrera, Andrea Gwosdow, Laurie B. LaRusso, Donna A. Lynch, Margaret Lynch, Joann H. Merriman, Olivier Morteau, Nicola M. Parry, Debbie von Rechenberg

DELEGATES TO AMWA
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Derek Dore, Shanna J. McClennen
ALTERNATES: Kristin Stephan, Michelle R. Horan