

Dear Mid-America Chapter,

We're a little over halfway through July already! It's been a busy past few months and we have a newsletter full of updates. A big THANK YOU also to everyone who completed the recent survey. We are currently reviewing the results and brainstorming next steps.

For this newsletter:

- We have some upcoming events in St. Louis: a presentation on Artificial Intelligence and Scientific Publishing (September 11) and Best and Worst Books of 2024 (November 13), both presented by our own members. Nebraska will also have an event on August 26th - stay tuned for an invitation, Omaha area members, or reach out to the local organizers for more information. See event details for St. Louis and other regional events on our [chapter website](#).
- If you have any contributions for the Best and Worst Books of 2024, please send them to Leslie Neistadt, even if you can't attend the November meeting.
- Attached are the event summaries for May and June activities in St. Louis.
- The chapter dinner is planned for the 2024 AMWA conference: October 24th at Tommy's. Peruse the menu [here](#). If you're attending the conference, we hope you can attend! Opportunities to RSVP are coming soon.
- Important links:
  - Chapter LinkedIn group: <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/12517224/>
  - Chapter website: <https://www.amwa-midamerica.org/index.html>

Have a lovely rest of your summer!

Sincerely,

Jessica (Kiser) Falconer, PharmD

2024 Communications Chair, Mid-America Chapter

## TechWrite STL Event Summaries

### July 2024 luncheon (15 attendees, including 9 AMWA members)

At this well-attended and lively event, member Elizabeth Donald discussed “Developing New Skills” while attendees enjoyed lunch on Wednesday, July 10th. She discussed not only why freelancers need to continually learn, but how - specific resources (both free and paid) for specific types of knowledge. Attendees added their own favorites, and discussed personal experiences. Slides from the meeting and the list of resources are on the Mid-America chapter website.

### May 2024 luncheon (3 attendees, including 2 AMWA members) [Severe thunderstorms were predicted for the St. Louis area which contributed to the low turnout, although rain did not start until after the event.]

TechWrite STL member Ruth Thaler-Carter presented “Launching a Freelance Writing/Editorial Business” on March 8th. Attendees discussed the ups and downs of freelancing, including challenges with marketing and finding clients, hourly versus project rates and considerations for setting rates., business structure, and types of insurance available to freelancers. A detailed handout of her presentation is posted on the Mid-America chapter website.