

# AMWA MID-AMERICA

Fall 2013



**October brings  
black walnuts  
in the Ozarks**

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# President's Greetings

By Rona Claire Grunspan

## Survey Results!

The survey results are in and the overall results showed that most members

- are looking for educational programs
- would be interested in having business leaders from local area clinical research organizations and pharma companies discuss leadership
- would like to increase access to programs by using webinars in addition to face to face meetings.

In the up coming months, the Mid-America chapter will be organizing an event, keeping these results in mind.

## Congratulations to the Winner!

The winner of the \$25.00 gift card is Joanne McAndrews. I appreciate everyone taking the time to complete the survey.

*Get Ready for*

## *Expanding our Horizons*

**AMWA's 73rd Annual Conference  
November 6-9, 2013  
Columbus, OH**

**There's still time to register!** This year's conference runs from Wednesday through Saturday, and as always, offers plenty of **free open sessions** and excellent **networking opportunities**.

- Meet your fellow chapter members !*
- Learn about developments in medical writing!*
- Enhance your career!*

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## Chapter Officers

**President:** Rona Clair Grunspan, MD

**Treasurer:** Joanne M. McAndrews, PhD

**Secretary:** VACANT

**Membership Liaison:** Rona Clair Grunspan, MD

**Newsletter Chair:** Magdalena Berry, MA

**Webmaster:** Lisa Balbes, PhD

**St. Louis Freelance Luncheon Coordinators:**  
Lisa M. Balbes, PhD, Joanne M. McAndrews, PhD

# St. Louis-area Freelance Luncheon Series: TechWrite STL

**Joanne McAndrews, PhD**  
**Lisa Balbes, PhD**

St. Louis-area freelance Mid-America chapter members have been holding bi-monthly luncheons with St. Louis-area Society for Technical Communication (STC) Consultants and Independent Contractors (CIC) since September 2006. At each meeting, a topic of interest to freelance medical and technical writers is presented by a member and then discussed with the group, usually over lunch at a local restaurant. In January 2013, members voted to change the name of this group to “TechWrite STL”.



**Jan Niehaus** outlined the important steps in company logo development at her July presentation, “**Does Your Company Need a Logo? Yes!**” By providing several examples of her work, Jan demonstrated to attendees that having the right logo for one’s business conveys professionalism and creates a positive image about the company and its employees. Jan’s colleague, Cathy Wood, a local graphic designer, also discussed her processes and experience with company logo development.

**Upcoming luncheons** include “Reinventing Yourself for Today’s Economic Realities” to be led by Dana Delibovi on September 27th; and “Lessons Learned from Self-Publishing” to be presented by Pat Dorsey in November.

Lisa Balbes and Joanne McAndrews are the co-organizers of this group. Please contact them at lisa at balbes dot com or joanne at joannemcandrews dot com, respectively, to be added to the mailing list—new members are welcome, as are suggestions for future luncheon topics and volunteer presenters.

A listing of past and future luncheons can be found on our chapter website:

<http://www.amwa-midamerica.org/index.html>

## Mid-America Chapter Dinner at the AMWA Annual Conference

For the past eight years, Mid-America chapter members have gathered for dinner on Thursday evenings during the AMWA annual conference. We always enjoy meeting each other and learning about members’ different backgrounds and work environments!

The votes are in, and **The Happy Greek** restaurant ( <http://www.happygreek.com/>

[pages/menus.htm](http://www.happygreek.com/pages/menus.htm)) was the top vote-getter. Attendees will pay for their own food and drink.

**When:** November 7

**Where:** We’ll meet at the 5-6 pm conference Networking reception in the East Lobby of the Exhibit Hall. and then walk to dinner together in time for a 6:30 pm dinner reservation.

# Mid-America Chapter Financial Report

## Annual Financial Report for Mid-America Chapter 14

August 1, 2012 to July 31, 2013

### INCOME

AMWA membership dues rebates	\$1476.00
Interest income from CDs	\$41.46
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$1517.46</b>

### EXPENSES

Chapter officer board meetings	\$0.00
Chapter delegate travel to the AMWA Board of Directors meeting (Fall 2012)	\$0.00
Chapter delegate travel to the AMWA Board of Directors meeting (Spring 2013)	\$747.68
Chapter Web site	\$160.41
Bank fees	\$117.17
Postage/FedEx	\$0.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$1025.26</b>

### Assets as of July 31, 2013

**\$21,448.75**

(\$8854.99 in checking, and \$12, 593.76 in CDs)

We will continue to develop our web site and programs for our members. Our board members continue to promote our events and expand our communication with our members.

Rona Claire Grunspan, MD  
 Magdalena Berry, MA  
 Joanne McAndrews, PhD  
 Lisa Balbes, PhD

## Chapter Website

The Mid-America Chapter has a website on which you can find

- archived newsletters
- information about future events
- listing of previous St. Louis area meeting topics

- Officers and contact information.

***Bookmark it now!***

<http://www.amwa-midamerica.org>