



From the Literature ... Networking: Websites of Interest

by Julia Forjanic-Klapproth

Ever sat and wondered what other medical writers out there are doing? Ever had a question about something you were writing and couldn't find the answer? Looking for a job? To save you the trouble of wading through the plethora of information abounding in the web, every once in while we'll be bringing you a few morsels to savour. And if you should stumble across a useful or intriguing site that you think other Medical Writers might enjoy, please send the name of the site to julia.forjanic-klapproth@hmrag.com. This issue's picks should help make the net work for you.

<http://www.cma.ca/publications/mwc/>

- A Medical Writing center put out by the Canadian Medical Association. Guideline and advice for writing articles for publication as well as several interesting ethical issues and guidelines, including the Nuremberg Code.

<http://www.sciencekomm.at>

- As they put it, "A medical & life science links directory dedicated to research communication". A great starting point to find journal, publisher and advice/resource pages.

<http://www.niva.com/writblok/index.htm>

- The Writer's Block page. A wonderful spot that brings together writers and editors to explore the facets of all types of writing. A great place for medical writers to join in and add their perspective.

<http://members.aol.com/healthwrtr/index.htm>

- Created by an American freelance health journalist, this page will give you insight into working as a healthwriter in the US.

These next sites are dedicated to English grammar, with answers to common problems and links to other interesting grammar resources.

<http://www.ossweb.com/m8.html>

- To quote the site, "Great documents & Web sites that have great grammar & style!" or "Spelling & grammar problems? Read on!"

<http://www.grammarnow.com/>

- Got a grammar question? This is a free site dedicated to answering any grammar, composition, research or formatting question you might have. Give it a try!

<http://www.wsu.edu/~brians/errors/errors.html>

This is a funny site with lists of common errors in English as well as things often thought wrong, but that are really right! Each word/phrase has a witty little explanation of the true and proper usage . . . great for non-native and native speakers alike.

<http://webster.commnet.edu/hp/pages/darling/original.htm>

- This "Guide to Grammar and Writing" has basic definitions and explanations of grammatical issues from the sentence level through to the essay level, plus guidance of writing "forms of communication".

And, in the spirit of our International Issue, here are a few sites from writers everywhere:

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

- The AMWA home site. Everything you would expect, including a job site! Check out their local chapter sites as well, for example . . .

<http://www.cma.ca/mwc/amwa-canada/become.htm>

- A page from the Canadian chapter of AMWA, "Becoming a (better) medical writer or editor". They are trying to put together a page of "collected wisdoms" written by and for professional medical writers. As they put it, "here's your opportunity to share your expertise and your experience, good or bad, and hone your skills by writing for a nonthreatening audience of colleagues, many of whom are looking for any advice or help at all."

<http://home.worldonline.nl/~sense/index.htm>

- The Society of English-Native-Speaking Editors (SENSE). Straight from Holland, it's another great link page.

<http://www.peq.apc.org/~toconnor/>

- Word for Word. A funky little page from down under with some more links to "things linguistic and literary" and an exploration of the origin of unusual words and phrases.

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