

MEMO TO MEMBERS

"Creating and supporting a forum for communities of practice in the profession of technical communication."

STC Orlando Chapter: A Four-Year Chapter of Distinction • July/August 2006 • Volume 5, Issue 1

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The New World of STC

BY CINDY CURRIE

It's a brand new STC year! Our new President, Paula Berger, has chosen the slogan "The New World of STC" for this year. And a new world it is!

We have a brand **new Executive Director!** She is Susan Allen Burton. Susan accepted the position just days before our Annual Conference earlier this month and was able to be in Las Vegas. She was introduced to attendees during the conference opening program on Monday, May 8. She is dynamic and engaging, with a wealth of association management experience. Susan is the new "face of STC" we've been hoping to find! She will officially join STC by early August. Visit www.stc.org/membership/initiatives01.asp for more information.

The **new Board of Directors** is now in place, effective Monday, May 8, 2006 during the annual Business Meeting, held at the Annual Conference. The Board is smaller and includes: President, First Vice President (1VP), Second Vice President (2VP), Secretary, Treasurer, Immediate Past President (IPP), and eight Directors: six Regional Directors (Regions 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8) and two Directors At Large. Visit www.stc.org/about/board01.asp for details on who's who.

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Come to Washlines XII: "As the Roulette Wheel Turns"

BY DAN VOSS

Las Vegas is coming to Orlando!

That's right, folks—the Orlando STC four-time Chapter of Distinction is going to kick off its 2006-2007 chapter year by putting yet another spin—quite literally!—upon its traditional August *Washlines* meeting. Chapter members who attended the international conference will share what they learned with their colleagues in a unique casino-style format befitting the conference venue.



In keeping with the Las Vegas motif, choice changes to chance when it comes to topic selection—we will be spinning a roulette wheel to see which of 36 primary and 12 backup ("wild card") topics get presented by a blue-ribbon delegation of 16 Orlandoans who attended the 53rd annual STC international conference last May.

(Continued on page 4)

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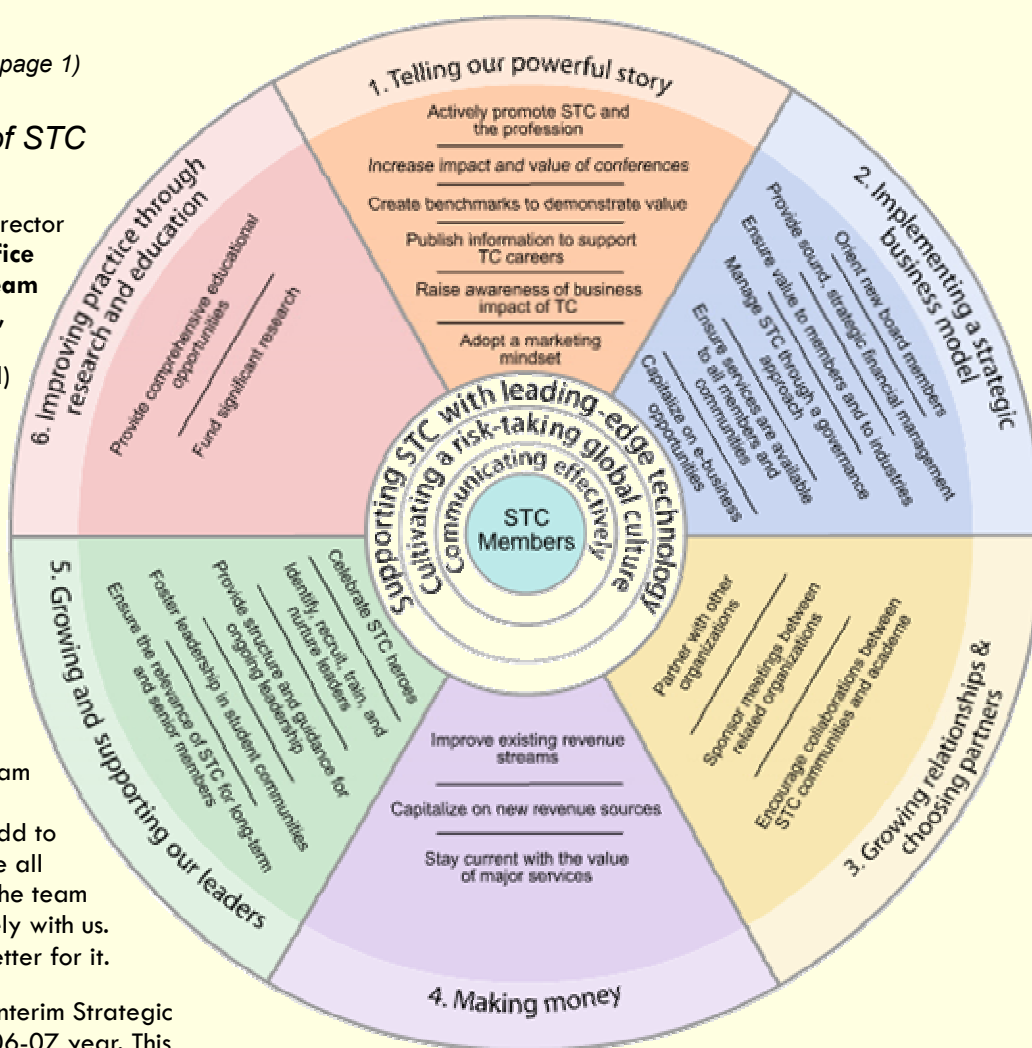
New World of STC (continued)

The Executive Director and the **STC Office Management team** (Maurice Martin, Merrick Bechini, and Peg Cottrell) all regularly attend board meetings to ensure tight alignment between the board (that sets strategy) and the office (that executes strategy). The Office Management team has a wealth of experience to add to the mix, so we're all happy to have the team working so closely with us. We're all the better for it.

STC has a new Interim Strategic Plan for the 2006-07 year. This newly updated plan is available at www.stc.org/PDF_Files/StrategicPlan.pdf. I highly encourage members to read it to fully understand where STC is going. (And going there, we are!)

The graphic above shows our strategic priorities for this year and the specific strategies associated with them. You will see this graphic a lot! Get to know it!

Your community strategic plan should reflect the priorities and strategies in the Society document. A good exercise will be to review your plan against the Society plan to ensure you're in alignment and



STC Strategy Map: The Circle of Strategic Priorities for 2006—2007

working to help fulfill this year's STC goals.

All major initiatives have an overseer at the Board level (I'm overseeing Communications with new Director At Large, Jeff Staples), and an STC office liaison (Maurice Martin for Communications) to ensure that there is a firm link between the board and the committees and how strategy is being driven through to execution and desired outcomes.

Visit www.stc.org/ppt/orgChart0506.ppt to view a presentation that shows how STC is organized this year and who's leading each committee. It's a very different model from previous years.

STC is now well positioned to meet our strategic goals for the year. We have a great team in place and a great plan to execute, so I'm excited to work on this year's priorities. —Mm

Get on the List in '06

BY KAREN WHITE

Please allow me to introduce myself. My name is Karen White and I'm currently a senior at the University of Central Florida majoring in technical writing. I've been a student at the university since fall of 2002. I'm currently a full-time employee working my way through school. I have what many would consider to be a "good, stable job." I work very hard but I happen to know that there's much more out there for me. I've learned a lot over the years, but I've come to the conclusion that it is simply not enough to just work hard. There has to be a *plan*.

My plan consists of taking advantage of EVERY opportunity available to me. I want to know all the juicy details of my chosen profession--not just what is covered in the textbooks concerning technical writing. Extracurricular activities are a must!

A most excellent example is the mentorship program offered jointly by STC (Society for Technical Communication) and FTC (Future Technical Communicators). This program is unique in that it gives students the opportunity to be paired with mentors one-on-one.

The idea is that the student can learn everything *not* taught in the college classroom. Mentors get to share their expertise--even if their employers do not offer a formal in-house training program due to time or budget constraints. It is the ideal way for students to learn in an informal setting. It is important to master not only the information displayed in the textbooks but also *what it really takes* to become a working professional.

Such information might include the following topics:

- Understanding the latest trends in the field
- Negotiating salary requirements
- Handling office politics
- Dealing with upper management



Kelli Pharo and Rachel Eichen share a mentoring moment.

There is an open exchange of ideas between the college students (mentees) and the working professionals (mentors). This formula creates a win-win situation every time!

A Perfect Example

STC held its annual international conference this past May in Las Vegas, Nevada. A large group of both working professionals and students representing

the Central Florida area attended this event, and the conference was a huge success. There were attendees from all over the world--from novices to experts and everything in between.

The accommodations were simply outstanding. The conference was held in two primary hotels: The Bally's and The Paris. The sheer splendor and opulence of these hotels were worth the trip itself. The STC program offered an array of information that was tailored to meet the needs of the technical audience. Nothing was left to chance.

The format was comparable to a mini college setting. We were allowed to pick which sessions or seminars we would like to attend each day. We had the opportunity to sit side-by-side with and ask questions to top-notch pros. We met with vendors and saw first hand the latest technological products pertaining to our field.

The network opportunities were phenomenal too! There was truly something for everyone there.



Mike Murray, Alex Garcia, and Rachel Eichen lead a session mentor relationships at the 53rd annual STC Conference.

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(Continued from page 3)

Mentoring (continued)

Subsequently, the Orlando STC Chapter won its fourth chapter of distinction award! I was in awe at the dinner banquet where I witnessed this particular event first hand. It is no surprise that many in attendance of this event included both former and current members of the Mentorship Program. I now have memories I'll cherish forever. I now have new friends I otherwise would not have met. I now have professional contacts!

I say all of the above to say this: I've been on my current job for the past six years and have never attended a convention. (There are many others at my job that have been there for 10, 15, or 20 years and have also never attended a convention. While my association with STC is what afforded me the opportunity to make it all the way to Vegas, the Mentorship Program is what originally drew me to STC! It is simply not enough to work hard on a job. In many cases, job seniority doesn't really matter either. What matters is that one has a plan.

Take action now. Prospective mentees at UCF, get on the list in '06 and join the mentorship program! And prospective mentors, we need you to sign up as well! Help keep this terrific program alive and growing as we move into Year 4. —MtM

KAREN WHITE ACCEPTED A COMPANY BUYOUT AND MOVED TO ORLANDO, FL. FROM MISSOURI IN 1998. KAREN RECEIVED HER AA DEGREE IN 2002 AND THEN BEGAN ATTENDING THE UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA, WHERE SHE IS CURRENTLY A SENIOR.

(Continued from page 1)

Washlines (continued)

So mark your calendars and be sure to be at the "casino" (a.k.a., Winter Park Civic Center) Tuesday, August 22, at 6:30 p.m. to get your STC year off to a rousing start.

To RSVP for the meeting, please contact chapter vice president **Kelli Pharo**. Prompt RSVPs will greatly help Kelli and hospitality manager Alex Garcia to plan and execute a successful event.

For a sneak preview of all the topics, visit <http://www.stc-orlando.org/WashlinesXIIITopicSigns.pdf> for a document of the 51 signs that will be strung from the washlines. You'll get a good idea of how rich a program we have in store for you.



A Mini-Casino Night and an Information-Fest

In addition to a remarkably broad field of topics, the chapter-year-opening meeting will begin with an expanded 45 minutes of refreshments and networking that will include casino-style gaming—a roulette wheel, a mini craps table, blackjack, poker, e-slot machines, and more! Each attendee will receive poker chips at the door. Those with the most poker chips when the gaming ends and the program begins will take home the evening's door prizes.

(Continued on page 6)

Peachpit User Group Information

NEWS FROM PEACHPIT

As an official User Group, STC Orlando Chapter members are eligible for a 30% discount off the list price of any Peachpit books. At checkout, right before entering your credit card number, just enter the user group coupon code UE-23AA-PEUF (case-sensitive). This coupon code is an exclusive offer that may not be used with other coupon codes.

Find lots of interesting titles at www.peachpit.com.

BOOKS FOR REVIEW

A great benefit of membership is free review copies. To request a free book for review, send an e-mail to usergroups@peachpit.com.

Your email should list the following information IN THE FORMAT THAT FOLLOWS:

STC Orlando Chapter (this is our group name)/YOUR NAME
ADDRESS
PHONE
QUANTITY
ISBN AND TITLE NAME

Members have 90 days to complete a review for the *Memo to Members*; once it's published here, it gets sent to Peachpit. So, not only do you get to keep a great book, you get a \$5-off meeting coupon for submitting an article. Sweet!

Peachpit also likes reviewers to try to post their reviews to Web sites such as Amazon, Barnes & Noble, and Borders. —MtM

Call for Entries: Florida Technical Communications Competition

BY MARK HANIGAN

Have you created a technical communication deliverable that you think is, simply put, a cut above?

Are you developing deliverables that are perhaps not following industry best practices and, in spite of your protestations, your management does not get it?

Would you like to get solid, constructive feedback from three of your peers about your work in technical communication?

If you answered yes to any of these three questions, then the 15th **Florida Technical Communication Competition** (FTCC) just might be the answer for you! Hosted by the Suncoast Chapter of the Society for Technical Communication, this competition is open to all technical communicators in the state of Florida (and beyond).

By entering the FTCC, you will be submitting your piece for award consideration for one of three levels:

- Distinguished Technical Communication (DTC)
- Excellence
- Merit

What's more, those who win DTC are automatically entered into the STC international competitions. You see, the FTCC is one of around 40 competitions that are going on concurrently literally around the world. So, if your entry earns a DTC, it literally will be judged among "the best of the best."

Naturally, not all entries are going to be award winners. However, all entries will be evaluated in detail. Further, that evaluation will be provided to you in detailed judge's comments. Just to give you a flavor, here are one judge's comments about two different Help system entries:

- *The Help system is designed, structured, and presented beautifully. Throughout, there are navigation aids and links to useful information at greater detail levels. Well done!! I had one little problem in that the tree structure on the left did not always indicate correctly the topic page that was displayed at that time.*
- *This Help system is well organized, detailed, and cross-referenced. There is not an explanation about the organization at the beginning of the Help system, so the reader is left to own devices to figure it out. This is hampered further by the lack of consistency and lack of parallel construction applied to the topic titles themselves. Nevertheless, everything else seems to be consistent; further, the Help system is backed by a solid search configuration.*

In the case of the first example, the entry won an award of Excellence. In the case of the second example, the entry won an award of Merit.

Regardless, the independent corroboration of your work can help you do the following:

- Improve your work
- Demonstrate to your management that your work is well done

- Point out to your management that some aspect of your publications practices are not industry best practices.

The FTCC is actually three competitions:

Technical Publications Competition – 18 categories

Online Communication Competition – 6 categories

Technical Art Competition – 17 categories

Entries in all categories must contain sufficient technical, scientific, medical, or similar content to qualify as technical communication. Entries must have been produced or substantially revised within **24 months preceding September 1, 2006**. Entries must have been originally prepared for and accepted for publication by a client, employer, or publisher. Entries are subject to all restrictions listed in the section of this document titled **Entry Rules**.

If you would like additional information about the categories and about how to enter, please visit our web site at <http://stc-suncoast.org/ftcc>. We look forward to **receiving** your entry or entries by **October 14, 2006**.



(Continued from page 4)

Washlines (continued)

Following the networking/gaming, 16 Orlando Chapter representatives—both conference veterans and first-timers, will regale you with a data-rich and variegated program that spans a broad spectrum of topics in technical communication.

Here are some of the areas included in this year's *Washlines* coverage (see box, below).

An e-Plethora of Reading Materials!

In addition to the mini-presentations on many of these topics, there will be a display of hard copies of 44 e-handouts. Meeting attendees can order anything they're interested in, to be delivered via e-mail in the week following the meeting.

In addition to all the topics covered from roulette wheel spins, there will be one "mandatory" spin result—Karen Lane will give us an exciting look ahead to the 54th STC international conference in Minneapolis May 12-16, 2007, "The Summit." She'll talk about a new

format designed to provide even greater value to conference attendees.

For a complete list of *Washlines XII* topics, see pages 10-11, which will also serve as the printed program for the event. Each "X" in the Handouts column denotes an e-handout that you can request via a special order form provided to every conference attendee.

"E's" Save Trees

By going with a 98% e-format on the handouts this year, we will save acres of pine in the Ocala National Forest. We will have multiple copies of one handout, however—in accordance with his annual tradition, the nimble-fingered writer captured copious data from technical sessions on his laptop and, with the help of our webmaster, has posted those online for all to benefit. The handout includes the main menu of the online notes and also a hard copy of the Table of Contents to the conference *Proceedings*.

In addition to the 44 e-handouts that will be on display, conference attendees can also order any article from with the *Proceedings*, using the same order form, and it will be delivered via e-mail in the week following the meeting.



Just as no one can predict where the roulette wheel ball will land, we do not know exactly what will happen at *Washlines XII* until it happens (just as in the previous 11 *Washlines* sessions), but we do know this—it will be richly varied, vastly informative, thoroughly entertaining, probably quite loud, and unquestionably a whole lot of fun! —MtM

Topics at Washlines XII

Style Guides	Usability	UML	XML
Policies and Procedures	Sarbanes-Oxley	Training	Collaborative Learning Tools
Interns/New Hires	"Fathers" of the Internet	An Inside Look at STC from a Board Member	A Behind-the-Scenes Look at the Conference
Portfolios and e-Portfolios	Design for the Non-Artist	Ethics of Disabilities	Integrated Communication to Win New Business
Upward Communication within an Organization	Ethics of Intercultural Communication	Writing for Consumer Products	Information Design
Document Design	Dealing with Difficult People	A Look-Ahead to Minneapolis	... and Much, Much More!

Announcing the 2006 Pellegrin Scholarship Winners

BY PEGGY BIVENS AND DAN JONES

Congratulations to University of Central Florida (UCF) undergraduates Rachel Eichen and Jen Juneau and graduate student Heather Stearns, this year's Melissa Pellegrin Scholarship winners! Rachel and Heather each received a certificate and check for \$200 at the Orlando Chapter's April 25 awards banquet; a prior commitment prevented Jen from attending the meeting and receiving her certificate and check in person. Each scholarship recipient will have her name engraved on a plaque permanently on display in the UCF English Department.

Rachel, a junior at UCF, will graduate in May 2007. She serves as vice president of Future Technical Communicators (FTC) at UCF and as the mentee coordinator of the Orlando

Chapter mentoring program. Jen, a junior at UCF, will also graduate in spring 2007. Jen is active in FTC and serves as its secretary. Heather, who will receive her MA in Technical Writing in summer 2007, received her undergraduate degree from UCF in Management Information Systems.

The Orlando Chapter awards this prestigious scholarship, much recognized and valued by area technical communicators and the technical communication faculty at UCF, to the most outstanding students in the undergraduate and graduate technical writing programs at UCF. Members of the Orlando Chapter's Education Committee met in March to select this year's scholarship winners. The judging criteria for each candidate included the overall GPA and GPA in the major, the quality of the letter expressing an interest in technical communication, activities in technical communication, and financial need.

Previous Melissa Pellegrin Scholarship winners, from 1997 to 2005, are: Sharron Wissert, Michele Damron, Melanie Woods, Ann Vogt, Kelli Cooper (Kelli Pharo), Anna Gaal, Mireille Shebbein, Rudy McDaniel, Christina Payne, Jason Nichols, Ana Marichal, Bonnie Spivey, Cynthia Hauptner, Robert Stultz, Melanie Trickey, Carrie Avery (Carrie Blaustein), Peggy Bivins, and Alex Garcia.

The Orlando Chapter STC founded the Melissa Pellegrin Memorial Scholarship Fund to honor and preserve the memory and generous spirit of a valued friend and professional colleague, Melissa Pellegrin. A



Rachel Eichen accepts her Melissa Pellegrin Scholarship

1994 graduate of UCF and a member of the Orlando Chapter STC, Melissa was an exceptional student who earned an Orlando Chapter undergraduate scholarship. After graduation, she served on the Orlando Chapter's Education Committee.

Melissa's commitment to excellence was evident in the quality of her academic and professional work. She shared her enthusiasm in many ways, including professional presentations at STC conferences and meetings. She was employed as a technical communicator with The Technical Resource Connection, Inc. in Tampa until her untimely death in April 1997. In October of that year, the Melissa Pellegrin Scholarship Fund was formally dedicated at a Trends Conference, an annual technical communication conference co-hosted by members of the Orlando Chapter STC and the technical communication faculty at UCF. —M+M



Heather Stearns accepts her Melissa Pellegrin Scholarship

Upcoming Conferences and Seminars

The International Society for Performance Improvement Presents: **The Results-Focused Organization: Pathways to Excellence Fall Symposium**

Lake Buena Vista, FL
September 11—16

During this educational event, a comprehensive series of symposia and clinics on change and organizational culture will be presented. Internationally recognized experts in the fields of performance improvement, management, and culture change lead the sessions and make themselves available for further conversation with participants throughout the three days.
www.ispi.org/fall2006/is

It Might Be GUI, but It Doesn't Have to Be Messy!

Telephone Seminar August 23

The seminar covers all aspects of a GUI style guide, with emphasis on Microsoft, Apple, and Unix platforms.
stc.webex.com

Visible: The New Visible

Telephone Seminar September 13

Documentation departments have value; however, because of the disconnection from the rest of the company, that value rarely gets accurately communicated. Therefore, it is the department's responsibility to show its value by becoming more visible. This presentation describes how one technical writing department overcame negative perceptions by making itself visible.
stc.webex.com

Orlando Chapter 2006 End-Of-Year Banquet Photos

MEMO TO MEMBERS



Gail Lippincott gives Karen Lane an award—and a hand—at the end-of-year banquet.



(Above) Mentors and Mentees are all smiles for this photo op. (From L to R) Dalton Hooper, Bonnie Spivey, Alex Garcia, Kelli Pharo (behind Alex), Jen Selix, Gail Lippincott, Mike Murray (behind Gail), Karen Lane, and Karen White.

(Left) Bob Shydo offers Gail Lippincott yet another piece of flair to add to her growing collection.

A percentage of your purchases from the following Web sites is returned to the Orlando chapter:

www.amazon.com/exec/obidos/redirect-home/orlandochapte-20

www.cafepress.com/orlandostc



Interested in submitting a proposal to present at STC's 54th Annual Conference?

The deadline for submission is Friday, September 1 at 5:00 PM EST.

More information can be found at <http://www.stc.org/cfp>

See you in Minneapolis!

Have you checked out STC's new Member Forum yet?

Why not now?
forum.stcforum.org

Want to be *In the Know?*

Join our *LISTSERV!*

STC-Orlando's discussion list offers access to hundreds of professionals and is an easy way to stay informed about chapter meetings and events.

E-mail djones@ucf.edu to sign up.

Love pizza as much as you love STC?

Join us Tuesday,
September 12th at

PIZZERIA UNO
4120 E Colonial/SR 50 East
Orlando, FL 32803

Order take-out or dine-in,
present the coupon
(it's right over there! ➡),
and the STC Orlando Chapter gets a portion of your purchase.



A Tasty Way To Raise

Uno will donate up to 20%
of your check to:

To Benefit: Orlando Chapter STC
Fundraiser Date: September 12, 2006

Valid only at:

4120 East Colonial Drive
(S.R. 50 East)
Orlando
407-895-7404

Please present this certificate at the time of payment to have 20% of your check's value, excluding tax and tip, donated to the organization above.

Not to be used with other coupons or discounts. Tickets are not to be distributed in the restaurant or within the perimeter of the parking areas.

Valid for date listed above.

“As the Roulette Wheel Turns” ... Washlines XII Program

No.*	Color	Presenter	Topic Title	E-Handouts to Order
Primary Topics				
1	R	Higgins	“Developing a Corporate Documentation Style Guide”	X
2	B	Higgins	“Design Documents”	X
3	R	Spivey	“From Use Cases to User Manuals: A Beginner’s Guide to Understanding UML and to Streamlining the Software Documentation Process”	See BU10-12
4	B	Spivey	“Do-it-Yourself Programs on a Shoestring: New Turnkey Power Tools for Your Community Toolkit”	X
5	R	Pharo	“Policies and Procedures Communication 101”	X
6	B	Pharo	“Polishing Your Pictures: Bringing Consistency and Meaning to Your Visuals”	XX
7	R	Lippincott	“Increasing Your Chances of Landing that Great Gig, Project, or Contract”	X
8	B	Lippincott	“ ‘Behind the Curtain’ at the Annual Conference”	No H/O
9	R	Wiese	“What’s New with Your Society??” An Inside Look from the STC Treasurer.	X
10	B	Wiese	“Fathers of the Internet – Vinton Cerf and Robert Kahn”	No H/O
11	B	Wiese	“Communicating Change in Your Organization”	X
12	R	Hanigan	“Instructional Design and Learning’s Place in the Umbrella of Technical Communication Professions”	No H/O
13	B	Hanigan	“From Use Cases to User Manuals: A Beginner’s Guide to Understanding UML and to Streamlining the Software Documentation Process”	See BU10-12
14	R	Hanigan	“Shoes and Sox—Getting a Foothold on Sarbanes-Oxley”	X
15	B	Skawinski	“It’s Not Leadership if No One is Following”	X
16	R	Skawinski	“But I’m a Tech Writer, Not a Trainer!”	X
17	B	Skawinski	“The ‘A’ in ‘Addie’: Analyze <i>That</i> !”	X
18	R	Skawinski	“The Pitfalls of Writing for Consumer Products”	X
19	R	Murray	“Collaborative Learning Tools”	XXX
20	B	Murray	“The Golden Rules”	X
21	R	Murray	“Information Design Techniques that Help Users”	XX
22	B	Garcia	“Dealing with Difficult People”	X
23	R	Garcia	“Creating Training that Sticks: Effective Training for Adults”	See 31 and BU1-3
24	B	Garcia	“Information for Interns and New Hires”	No H/O
25	R	Selix	“Building a Technical Skills Database for Technical Communicators”	X
26	B	Selix	“Show Me the Demo”	X
27	R	Selix	“How to Get the Most out of the STC Annual Conference”	No H/O
28	B	Eichen	“Creating Training that Adults Remember”	X
29	B	Eichen	“Developing a Corporate Style Guide”	X
30	R	Eichen	“Evaluating the Usability of e-Portfolios”	X

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“As the Roulette Wheel Turns” ... Washlines XII Program				
No.*	Color	Presenter	Topic Title	E-Handouts to Order
Primary Topics				
31	B	Stearns	“Creating Training that Sticks: Effective Training for Adults”	X
32	R	Stearns	“Document Design for the Non-Artist”	X
33	B	White	“What You Did that Made Me Hire You”	X
34	R	White	“If I Knew Then What I Know Now—Lessons Learned and Best Practices”	No H/O
35	B	White	“Getting to Know XML”	No H/O
36	R	White	“Coping with Content Management—the Human Perspective”	X
0	G	Wild Card	Spin among Backup Topics, Below	---
00	G	Wild Card	Spin among Backup Topics, Below	---
1-36	R/B	Presenter Absent	Spin among Backup Topics, Below	---
1-36	R/B	Duplicate Topic	Second Presenter Can Amplify ... or Spin among Backup Topics, Below. Alternative: speakers can co-present the first time a duplicate topic pops up.	---
1-36	R/B	Repeat Topic	Spin among Backup Topics, Below	---
			Backup (“Wild Card”) Topics	
1-3	R/B	Skawinski	“Creating Training that Sticks: Designing for Long-Term Retention and Learning Transfer”	X
4-6	R/B	Skawinski	“Mining for Information”	No H/O
7-9	R/B	Skawinski	“Turning Documentation into Training”	X
10-12	R/B	Skawinski	“From Use Cases to User Manuals: A Beginner’s Guide to Understanding UML and to Streamlining the Software Documentation Process”	X
13-15	R/B	Voss	“The Ethics of Disabilities—It’s a Matter of Fairness”	XXX
16-18	R/B	Voss	“1+1>2. The Anatomy and Physiology of a \$5B Proposal”	XX
19-21	R/B	Voss	“Ethical and Intercultural Challenges for Technical Communicators and Managers in a Shrinking Global Marketplace”	XX
22-24	R/B	Voss	“Don’t Reinvent Any Wheels—Check Out this Turnkey Toolkit for Chapter and SIG Leaders”	X
25-27	R/B	Lippincott	“Professional Portfolios: Showcasing Your Technical Communication Skills”	X
28-30	R/B	Pharo	“Rules or Myths: The Changing English Language”	X
31-33	R/B	White	“Student Welcoming Reception at the Conference”	No H/O
34-36	R/B	Jones	“Communicating Up: Taming the Lions”	X
All	All	Lane	“A Look-Ahead to Minneapolis—the 54 th International STC Conference”	N/A
* Colors in this column indicate duplicate topics. If they wish, presenters may co-present when either number is spun. Or just the presenter whose number is called can present and the second presenter, if called later, has the option of amplifying what the first presenter said or “passing” to a Wild Card spin.				
X = 1 handout, XX = 2 handouts, XXX = 3 handouts. BU = backup topic. In all, 44 e-handouts are available that can be ordered via e-mail.				



Memo to Members



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From the Editor's Desk...

At work, I enjoy juggling three or four projects at a time. The variety keeps me engaged in my tasks and at the end of the day, I feel like I've accomplished a lot.

This excitement about variety is what makes the Washlines meetings so much fun. Instead of hearing in-depth knowledge about a single topic, I spend the night engrossed in dozens of

brief descriptions that never fail to stir my interest. And the handouts! What technical communicator *doesn't* love handouts?

If you've never been to a Washlines meeting before, this is the year to do it. Our Vegas "spin" on the idea is sure to be the most fun and educational experience you've had this year.

See you there! —Cindy

Corner of Distinction

Congratulations to outgoing president Gail Lippincott for an outstanding, award-winning year...



...and to incoming president Erika Higgins as STC-Orlando embarks on another year of success!