



Society for
Technical
Communication

Memo to Members



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

Inside this issue:

Jaffe Awards	2
Travel Writers Institute	3
Winter Workshop	3
December Meeting Information	4
Save the Date: January STC/UCF Meeting	5
From the Editor's Desk	5

'Tis the Season!

By Kelli Pharo, Orlando Chapter President



Season's greetings! I hope that everyone is enjoying a blessed holiday season and that your gift purchasing, party attending, and holiday baking are successfully underway.

We have so much activity and good news to share with you in this month that I want to keep my article brief. So be sure to savor all this month's newsletter brings, and join us for the events you can—come soak in some knowledge at a chapter meeting or workshop, nominate yourself or a colleague for an award, plan to attend a future presentation... there's plenty to pick from!

In the midst of the welcome surprises this season brings, as friends gather to share their cheer, and as shopping, parties, and decorating fill winter calendars, take a moment to stop and enjoy it all. Savor the sweetness of our freedom—our blessings. And reflect on the true meaning of this special season.

Christmas blessings to you all!

Kelli

Jaffe Awards

Do you create innovative documentation? Have you implemented good communication practices for some lucky company in your contract position? Are you a mentor for newcomers to the industry? Now is your chance to be recognized by your peers for all the things you do to champion technical communication!

Nominations are now open for the Gloria Jaffe Outstanding Technical Communicator Award. The award recognizes technical communicators who have made significant contributions to businesses, education, leadership, and/or STC in the Central Florida area.

This is an excellent opportunity to strengthen your resume and demonstrate value to employers. The Jaffe Award gives our entire chapter an occasion to celebrate the contributions an outstanding technical communicator brings to an organization.

Best of all, the entry fee has been waived this year. Society members and non-members are eligible. You can nominate yourself or a peer. All nominations are anonymous, so there is no reason to be shy!

The Jaffe Award is named for Orlando Chapter founder and retired University of Central Florida Technical Communication professor Gloria Jaffe. Her leadership is reflected in the enduring communication values prized by the Orlando Chapter and in the professionalism of UCF graduates who had the opportunity to study with her.

Applications for consideration by the Jaffe Award Judging Committee must be received by February 13, 2009. You can apply online here:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=2blmNaBXljet2bgdDeQHffmg3d3d>

The award winner will be recognized at our March meeting. For further information, contact Competition Manager Dan Heath at jaffeaward@stc-orlando.org.

Travel Writers Institute

This coming January 9-11 the 14th annual SATW Institute for Travel Writing & Photography (www.satwinstitute.org) will be held in Orlando, Florida. STC members are being offered a substantial discount for a group of 10 or more. The regular price is \$395 for this 3-day event (lunches and dinners included), but **the group rate being offered to STC members is \$295**—which is the SATW (Society of American Travel Writers) member rate.

Winter Workshop

STC Orlando is preparing for our annual **Winter Workshop**. But we need your feedback.

Please contact Kelli at president@stc-orlando.org by December 29 to cast your vote for which Adobe tool we'll learn and when the workshop will be held. We'll have an Adobe Certified Instructor on-location to train us the day of the workshop.

Let us know if you prefer: Authorware, Captivate, Dreamweaver, Flash, or RoboHelp.

Pick a date: Saturday, January 31 or Saturday, February 7.

This is not a commitment—we just need your input. Details on the survey results, cost, and location will follow shortly.

STC ORLANDO CHAPTER

Cordially Invites You to Attend



An Overview of Trends, Tools, and Technologies in Software User Assistance

presented by

Joe Welinske, President of WritersUA



Tuesday, December 16

6:30 P.M. TO 8:30 P.M.

Winter Park Civic Center
1050 W Morse Blvd
Winter Park, FL 32789

Many of us are now embedding helpful content directly into the user interface. We are involved with usability testing, localization, testing, quality assurance, and branding. This presentation provides a cutting-edge overview of the latest trends in software user assistance, defines the key terminology, highlights the most important technologies, and offers predictions on future directions of our field. The seventy-five minute session appeals to technical communicators of all backgrounds and experience levels.



We are collecting school supplies for A Gift For Teaching to support Central Florida schools. Bring supplies to the meeting and receive an extra door prize ticket!

Please R.S.V.P. to
Dalton Hooper, Orlando Chapter V.P. at
vicepresident@stc-orlando.org
or call (386) 801-1880.



Save the date!

January 20 will be our annual STC/FTC meeting at UCF.

This event is always a big draw, with an exciting feature speaker, catered food, and this year--a big surprise!

More info coming soon. Be sure to put this one on your calendar.

From the Editor's Desk

By Tiana Sliger, *Memo to Members* Managing Editor



Hello again! I want to wish everyone in STC Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year. We've got some exciting things coming up soon. Make sure you don't miss out! Hope to see you all tomorrow night.

Tiana

Join us at the
Winter Park Civic Center ([map](#)), Tuesday, December 16, 2008

6:30 — 7:00 p.m.

Snacks and networking.

7:00 — 9:00 p.m.

Joe Welinske, President of WritersUA

**“An Overview of Trends, Tools, and Technologies in Software User Assistance,”
followed by door prizes!**

Shop Amazon.com

Click on the button below to go to Amazon.com. A percentage of your purchase is rebated to the Orlando Chapter STC.

Shop our CafePress Store!

Click on the button below to go to CafePress.com. A percentage of your purchase is rebated to the Orlando Chapter STC.

Sponsor A Meeting!

Your company name and logo can appear here. Just sponsor one of our upcoming chapter meetings. Sponsorships start as low as \$125 and include such benefits as, free admission for up to 10 employees, expo space during our meeting networking hour, and a click-through on our chapter website. For more information, contact Dalton

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Memo to Members Managing Editor: Tiana Sliger newsletter@stc-orlando.org

Orlando Chapter Officers:

President: Kelli Pharo president@stc-orlando.org

Vice-President Dalton Hooper vicepresident@stc-orlando.org

Treasurer: Mark Wray treasurer@stc-orlando.org

Secretary: Cindy Skawinski secretary@stc-orlando.org