

## President's Message

By Phil Hayek

Happy Holidays, STC Chicago! I wish everyone a restful and relaxing holiday season as we prepare for the new year to come. As the semester winds down for me at UIC, I find myself reflecting on the past few years and all the work that's been done to return us to a pre-pandemic operational level. Enrollment is back up, students are enthusiastic about their college experience, and the faculty are more confident than ever in their revised and refreshed pedagogies. At STC-Chicago, we're riding that same wave of enthusiasm, with a new VP and fresh ideas to make Chicago the best STC chapter out there.

I'd like to thank member Caroline Dudkowski for giving a guest lecture at my Technical Writing class at UIC in October. Caroline graciously volunteered her time to tell a group of aspiring tech writers about the job search process and the opportunities waiting for them after graduation. It was great to see an active member pass down invaluable knowledge and experience to the next generation. Who knows, maybe one of my former students will become STC-Chicago president someday.

Please peruse this issue of Byline for up-to-date information about upcoming programs and events and have a happy and healthy holiday season. Ω

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# Virtual Chapter Meeting

## December: Virtual Holiday Party with Lightning Talks

Join us on Tuesday, December 13 at 7 p.m. for our annual-ish STC Chicago Virtual Holiday Party. We'll convene using the interactive video features of GoToMeeting as we have for our webinars and our online networking events. (We will trust you to mute yourselves—or not!—for barking dogs.)

As tradition demands, we will once again have Lightning Talks, mini-presentations of 20 slides in five minutes on either serious or light topics. The tricky part is that the slides advance automatically, whether the speaker is ready or not! Lightning talks are an exercise in speaker brevity and concentration, and often a lot of laughter ensues.

We will have several presenters, and one brave speaker will do a Ninja Lightning Talk, with a slide deck they will not see until they start to speak! If you are interested in giving a Lightning Talk, please send your idea to [program@stc-chicago.com](mailto:program@stc-chicago.com) to be added to the program.

Check our website for more details or [register directly here](#).

We hope to see—and hear—you online as we send yet another tumultuous year packing! Ω

## At-a-Glance Prize Packs - Get 'Em While They Last!

We're excited to announce that for a limited time only, winners of our bi-monthly *At-a-Glance* photo contest will receive an exclusive STC Chicago prize pack! These packs include a variety of fun STC Chicago-branded

items that will be delivered right to your door. The Sip & Scribble prize pack includes an STC Chicago tumbler for hot and cold beverages and an STC Chicago notebook. The Cozy Cuddles prize pack includes an STC Chicago mug with a wooden coaster and an STC Chicago teddy bear.

The *At-a-Glance* photo contest invites readers to identify the image at the top of the email. Those who identify the image correctly within 48 hours are added to a raffle and have a chance to win an STC Chicago prize pack. Questions? Email the [STC Administrative Council](#). Ω

## New Year, New Rules for At-a-Glance Photo Contest

Over-sleepers rejoice! Starting in January 2023, everyone who responds to the *At-a-Glance* photo competition with the correct answer will have their names added to a drawing to determine the winner of that month's *At-a-Glance* contest. The winner's name will be drawn on the Friday after the *At-a-Glance* email has been sent. Previously, the first person to respond to the email with the correct answer won a prize. Note that contestants are only eligible to win the *At-a-Glance* contest once every 12-month period. Questions? Email [Adam Evans](#). Ω

## Holiday Gifts – the STC Chicago Way

This holiday season, buying gifts for your friends and family doesn't have to be a drag! Make things easy on yourself and take advantage of the STC Chicago-branded swag on offer at our website. Choose from a variety of gifts that will show the people in your life how much you care and help spread your STC Chicago pride at the same time.

Don't wait until the last minute this year. [Get a head start on your holiday shopping](#). Ω

# Society News



## STC Summit Advanced Registration

**STC's Technical Communication Summit** is the premier education conference for technical communicators. The theme of the 2023 Summit, taking place in Atlanta, GA, May 14 to 17, is ***The "How to" Conference: Learn Well through Show and Tell.*** While other conferences in technical communication may be narrowly focused, the STC Summit is broad — its depth and breadth reflect the diversity of our profession, our members, and our attendees.

Attendees will learn about new techniques, tools, and trends, as well as grow their skills and competencies. Advance registration is open through December 31.

[Register now.](#) Ω

## Renew Your STC Membership

Take action now and renew your membership to continue receiving STC resources and discounts through 2023! Whether you're a student, just starting your career, or an advanced practitioner, STC has the training and resources you need to advance your career in 2023.

[Renew Now.](#) Ω

## Recordings Available for STC's Online Seminar: Career Planning in a Post-Pandemic World

Recordings of STC's Online Seminar, **Career Planning in a Post-Pandemic World**, are still available for

purchase. COVID-19 has disrupted where we work, how we work, and sometimes even why we work. The impact of the pandemic was sudden, causing many to lose their jobs and shifting others to work from home to minimize contact with others. These sizeable shifts have provided many opportunities for technical communicators. How do you stay relevant and adapt your goals to this new world?

[Purchase Recordings.](#) Ω

## Sigma Tau Chi and Alpha Sigma Honor Societies

The student honorary societies Sigma Tau Chi (STX) and Alpha Sigma (AS) recognize student members of the Society who have distinguished themselves and demonstrated the promise of future contributions to the Society and the profession.

### Applications Due December 16

[Learn More.](#) Ω

## STC Scholarship Fund

STC will award a scholarship of \$500 to one graduate/certificate and one undergraduate STC student member studying technical communication or a related field. Students enrolled in the 2023-2024 school year are eligible to apply. Scholarship payments will be sent directly to the school.

### Applications Due December 31

[Learn More.](#) Ω

## STC Chicago 2022-23 Officers

**President** – Phil Hayek, [president@stc-chicago.com](mailto:president@stc-chicago.com)  
**Vice President** – Ashley Gordon, [vp@stc-chicago.com](mailto:vp@stc-chicago.com)  
**Secretary** – Dan Dornbrook, [secretary@stc-chicago.com](mailto:secretary@stc-chicago.com)  
**Treasurer** – Rita Hovorka, [treasurer@stc-chicago.com](mailto:treasurer@stc-chicago.com)  
**Immediate Past President** – Pete Wagner, [ipp@stc-chicago.com](mailto:ipp@stc-chicago.com)

## 2022-23 Committee Managers

**Alliance** – Linda Jansak, [chgoalliance@gmail.com](mailto:chgoalliance@gmail.com)  
**Bylaws** – Becky Hall  
**Competition** – MK Grueneberg and Nancy Shanahan, [competition@stc-chicago.com](mailto:competition@stc-chicago.com)  
**eLearning & Technology Showcase** – Linda Jansak, [info@chicagoelearningshowcase.com](mailto:info@chicagoelearningshowcase.com)  
**Historian** – Bill Leavitt  
**Byline Newsletter** – Sian Mehl, Mauricio Dominguez  
**Nominating** – Dan Dornbrook, [nominating@stc-chicago.com](mailto:nominating@stc-chicago.com)  
**Get Real! Professional Interview Program** – \*2022-23 manager wanted\*, [interview@stc-chicago.com](mailto:interview@stc-chicago.com)  
**Membership Drive** – Ashley Gordon, [membership@stc-chicago.com](mailto:membership@stc-chicago.com)  
**Programs** – Dan Dornbrook, [program@stc-chicago.com](mailto:program@stc-chicago.com)  
**Social Media** – Dan Dornbrook  
**Scholarships** – Rita Hovorka, [scholarships@stc-chicago.com](mailto:scholarships@stc-chicago.com)  
**Sponsorship** – \*2022-23 manager wanted\*, [sponsorship@stc-chicago.com](mailto:sponsorship@stc-chicago.com)  
**Student Outreach** – MK Grueneberg  
**Webinar Series** – \*2022-23 manager wanted\*, [webinars@stc-chicago.com](mailto:webinars@stc-chicago.com)  
**Web/Online** – Linda Kelley, [web@stc-chicago.com](mailto:web@stc-chicago.com)

## Byline

Byline is a bi-monthly publication of the STC Chicago chapter of the Society for Technical Communication (STC), a non-profit membership organization serving the needs of technical communication professionals.

**STC mission statement:** Creating and supporting a forum for communities of practice in the profession of technical communication.

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