

In Memoriam: Andi Dunn

STC Chicago sadly notes the passing of our good friend and chapter member, Andi Dunn. After a seven-year battle with multiple cancers, she lost her battle on December 14, 2019.

Although she chose not to renew two years ago when her cancer returned, she had been a member of STC Chicago for 24 years. During that time, she served multiple roles:

- Program Manager
- Nominating Committee for two years
- Panelist speaker
- Competition Judge for multiple years

At the society level, she volunteered for the Independent Consultants SIG for three years.

Since 2001, Andi had owned her own technical communications consulting company, and had been in the technical communications field for her entire career.

She had been a patient peer volunteer at 1-to-1 Connection and had volunteered for the Greater Chicago Chapter HIMSS (Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society) - a nonprofit organization whose goal is to promote the best use of IT and management systems in the healthcare industry around the world.

When Andi entered hospice in late November, one of her many friends and colleagues came to us, with Andi's permission, asking to donate the funds for a Memorial Membership Grant in Andi's name. We thought this was a wonderful idea and the Chapter decided to match that, so we awarded two 2020 memberships in honor of Andi. The recipients were Alex Yant and Rachel Friend.

Alex is a young professional just breaking into the Tech Comm world and has been active in the Chapter this past year. You've probably seen his meeting review articles in the last couple of Byline newsletters. Rachel is also a young professional who currently serves as our Byline Editor. She has a background in graphic design and is the winner of our Design Contest the last two years. She returned to school in January and we have purchased a student membership for her for 2020.

Since Andi's passing, several friends have asked if they could donate as well. Since we have already awarded the two 2020 grants, we decided that we will collect any donations in Andi's name and next fall, we will award yet another Memorial Membership Grant for 2021. Please watch our website for the announcement of this grant with a donation link. In the event enough funds are not collected to fund a full membership, the Chapter will pay the difference.

A Celebration of Life party will be held on May 9 at her daughter, Hannah's house. Details to follow.



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Friends of STC Chicago Sponsor

LavaCon 2020

Enhance your skills. Find your tribe. Make a Difference.

Congratulations!

Overnight Lite, Copresco's amusing and fact-filled monthly newsletter, is celebrating 30 years of continuous publication.

The flagship of the company's marketing communications program, Overnight Lite has been published and mailed continuously since September 1990. "We are extremely proud of this achievement that makes our newsletter one of the longest-running publications in the communications business! It is virtually unheard of for any corporate publication," says Copresco President Steve Johnson.

www.copresco.com

Chapter Seeks Member Feedback on Bylaws

As part of a periodic review, the Chicago Chapter of STC is seeking feedback from members on our Bylaws, the document that governs chapter policies and practices. The current version of the Bylaws is on the chapter website at www.stc-chicago.com/about/stc-bylaws.

Any proposed changes to the Bylaws will be reviewed by the Administrative Council, which consists of the chapter's elected officers, before being submitted to chapter members for a vote.

All members are welcome to contact the Bylaws Committee by March 1st at info@stc-chicago.com with any questions, comments, or suggestions for changes to the Bylaws. Please include "Bylaws" in the subject line of the email.

48th Annual STC Chicago Recognition and Awards Banquet

We will hold our 48th annual banquet on Thursday, March 19, 2020. We will recognize the volunteers who have shared their talents and time with our chapter members, and we will present awards to those honored for their outstanding entries in the 2019 STC Chicago Technical Communications Competition.

The banquet will be held in the private back room of Texas de Brazil in Schaumburg, at Woodfield Mall just off of 290. Full details and a registration link will be posted on our Website soon. You don't need to be a member or a competition entrant to attend. In fact, **this is STC Chicago's 65th Anniversary**, so there is plenty to celebrate!! Plan to join us for an evening of awards, recognition, networking, food, and fun!

February Webinar Series - Webmaster 201

Last September, Timothy Esposito taught you how to get a simple blog site up and running in his **Webmaster 101** webinar. Now he's back to help you go beyond the basics with deeper WordPress functionality and ongoing maintenance.

In **Webmaster 201**, you'll learn how to improve your site by integrating social media, mailing lists, event calendars, and more. Go under the hood and tighten security, scan for viruses, set up and analyze Google metrics, optimize for search engines, and FTP files to/from your web server. **Register now to work toward mastering your website!**

REGISTRATION LINK:

<http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=erucd7bab&oeidk=a07eguy69ek187b96ae>

Wednesday, February 5, 2020

12:00 - 1:00 p.m. CST

STC Chapter Members - FREE

STC Members - \$5.00

Non-members - \$10.00

About the Speaker



Timothy Esposito is a Principal Technical Writer at Oracle Corporation where he works on logistics software. An STC member since 2005, for the Philadelphia Metro Chapter, Timothy has served as Scholarship Chair, Treasurer, Webmaster, Vice President, and President. During his term as STC-PMC president, the chapter won a

Pacesetter award, the platinum-level Community Achievement Award twice, and was named Community of the Year for 2017. Additionally, Tim has participated in the 2012 and 2015 STC budget review committees, worked on the Scholarship Committee, the Community Affairs Committee, the

Intercom Award Committee, and the Summit Conference Committee. Also, Tim has chaired STC committees including the Distinguished Chapter Service Award Committee, the Community Achievement Award/Community Pacesetter Committee, and the Associate Fellows Committee. Furthermore, Tim wrote book reviews for Technical Communication Journal, helped plan the STC NY-PMC-Rochester-New England-Atlanta regional competition, and assisted in organizing and running the PMC Mid-Atlantic Technical Communication Conference, CONDUIT. In 2015 he won the Distinguished Chapter Service Award; in 2016 Tim became an Associate Fellow and then a Fellow in 2019. When not working on STC projects, Tim volunteers with his township historical commission where he creates a monthly email newsletter, spends time with his family, rescues greyhounds, and tries out new board and card games with friends. (www.linkedin.com/in/timothyesposito/)

February Chapter Meeting

Tech Writing – Back to the Basics

As technology continues to change, the people in technical communication roles of all types tend to focus on what is new, what is needed, and how to work in teams distributed around the globe. While we focus on all of this, we also need to consider the basics of what we do at work every day in order to be successful. In this session, we will discuss examples from speaker Pamela Nelson's experience in the trenches. For example, knowing what templates and styles are; verifying information from subject matter experts (SMEs); asking questions; and the foundations of preparing for successful meetings.

Join us downtown at Bar Louie (Dearborn Station – Printers Row) on Thursday, February 20, to get back to the basics. See the [February meeting announcement](#) on our website for full details and registration information.

**Note that this meeting is scheduled to be a little earlier and shorter than normal in order to accommodate those who need to catch evening trains.*

Society News: 2020 Society Election to Open Soon

STC's 2020 Election Slate has been announced and elections will open soon.

President

- [Craig Baehr](#) will automatically succeed from the office of Vice President

Vice President

- [Kirsty Taylor](#)

Secretary

- [Timothy Esposito](#)
- [Rick Lippincott](#)

Director (two positions to be elected)

- [David Caruso](#)
- [Todd DeLuca](#)
- [Jamye Sagan](#)
- [Ann Marie Queeney](#)

Nominating Committee (two positions to be elected)

- [Tonie Flores](#)
- [Liz Herman](#)
- [Christina Mayr](#)
- [Roger Renteria](#)

Go to <https://www.stc.org/wiki/elections/2020-election-slate/> to see the position descriptions or click on one of the candidate names to see their election page.



Society News: 2020 STC Summit

The 2020 STC Summit will be in Bellevue, Washington, this year from **May 15-18** and advanced registration is now open. Note that this year, the Summit runs from Friday through Monday instead of Sunday through Wednesday as past years.

For full registration information, see:

<https://summit.stc.org/conference/registration-rates/>

Please consider attending the premier technical communication conference and share this info with your Tech Comm colleagues and on social media.



2019 Tech Comm Competition is Wrapped

Our STC Chicago 2019 Technical Communications Competition has wrapped. Thank you to all who submitted. Thank you, especially, to our judges who gave their time and expertise over the past couple of months.

Competition Managers:

- Elizabeth L. Burke and Cheri Gerlach

Judges:

- Elizabeth L. Burke
- Cheri Gerlach
- MK Grueneberg
- John Hartigan
- Rita Hovorka
- Linda Kelley
- Farhad Patel
- Tom Reed
- Beth Wolfe
- Don Wuethrick
- Deborah Wuethrick

The competition awards will be presented at our annual Chapter Recognition and Awards Banquet in March. A full list of award winners will be included in our April issue of *Byline*. See the related article for registration information for the banquet.



Membership Drive Winners Selected

Thank you to all who joined or renewed your STC membership and chose STC Chicago as your chapter! As you know, everyone joining or renewing prior to December 31, 2019 was entered into a drawing for two great prizes.

Through a random number generator, two winners were selected. Please join us in congratulating our two winners: **Cynthia Laughlin** and **Martha Turner**.

Cynthia will receive a Sospendo mobile device holder and a 20oz YETI tumbler.

Martha will receive an Anker PowerCore power bank and a 16oz YETI mug.

And, of course, they both will receive all of the benefits that STC Chicago has to offer. Congratulations to them both!



STC Chicago 2019-20 Officers

President

Michael Burke, president@stc-chicago.com

Vice President

Rita Hovorka, vp@stc-chicago.com

Secretary

Dan Dornbrook, secretary@stc-chicago.com

Treasurer

Pete Wagner, treasurer@stc-chicago.com

Immediate Past President

MaryKay Grueneberg, ipp@stc-chicago.com

2019-20 Committee Managers

Alliance – Linda Jansak

Bylaws – Becky Hall

Competition – Elizabeth Burke and Cheri Gerlach,
competition@stc-chicago.com

eLearning & Technology Showcase – Linda Jansak

Historian – Bill Leavitt

Byline Newsletter – Rachel Friend,
byline@stc-chicago.com

Nominating – Pete Wagner,
nominating@stc-chicago.com

Get Real! Professional Interview Program –
Dan Dornbrook,
interview@stc-chicago.com

Programs – MaryKay Grueneberg,
program@stc-chicago.com

Social Media – Dan Dornbrook,
pr@stc-chicago.com

Scholarships – Elizabeth L. Burke,
scholarships@stc-chicago.com

Sponsorship – Francis Bao,
sponsorship@stc-chicago.com

Webinar Series – Adam Evans

Web/Online – Linda Kelley,
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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Subscriptions: The current issue of Byline and all archived editions are available on the [STC Chicago Website](#).



For membership information, contact STC at Society for Technical Communication 3251 Old Lee Highway | Suite 406 | Fairfax, Virginia 22030 Phone: +1 (703) 522-4114 | Fax: +1 (703) 522-2075 Email: stc@stc.com