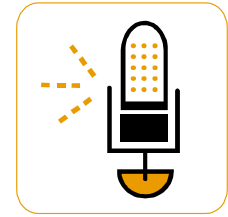


Middle Tennessee STC Chapter



Annual Awards Banquet Held



2005 Technical Publications and Online Competition Winners (from right to left) Tracy Meyer, Larry Gabbard, Amanda Gaston, Tim Bachman, Judith Meyer, and Matt Conley

ners, we also presented long-time chapter member Rita Johnson with the Distinguished Chapter Service Award (DCSA). This award program was instituted by STC to acknowledge the work of chapter members who provide exemplary service to the Society through their dedication to the chapter and its activities. To read more about Rita's DCSA, check out the March Com•mu•ni•qué, which is available online at <http://www.stcmidtenn.org/newsletters/PDF/March2006Newsletter.pdf>.

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April showers bring May flowers. The month of April also brings the annual awards banquet for the Middle Tennessee Chapter of STC, and our chapter had a bumper crop this year!

Each fall, our chapter participates in STC's technical publication and online competitions. The competitions recognize and encourage excellence in online communication, technical art, and technical publications. Entries are judged by a set of your STC peers from another chapter. Our chapter exchanged entries and judging duty with the Metro Philadelphia chapter. Then, each spring after judging is completed, we set aside

one monthly meeting to formally recognize the achievements of the competition entrants.

The annual awards banquet was special for a number of reasons this year. First, we had almost twice the number of entries in the competition as we did last year. Second, our awards banquet not only drew a large crowd of chapter members, but we also had guests who attended from out of state! Lexmark submitted several competition entries this year, and Larry Gabbard and Tim Bachman, both representing Lexington to attend the awards ceremony. Finally, in addition to honoring the competition award win-



Rita Johnson (left) accepts her DCSA from Chapter President, Amy Oldham

The awards banquet was held on April 11, 2006 at the West End Amerigo's restaurant. Throughout the evening, competition

(story continued on page 2)



The 2005 Technical Publication and Online Competition was one of our chapter's most successful competitions ever. Beginning this year, all award-winning entry and submitter names will be listed and available historically from the [MTC Competitions](#) page.

Annual Awards Banquet Held (cont.)

entries were on display for attendees to peruse. After everyone enjoyed a scrumptious dinner, Judith Meyer (our chapter's Competitions Director) presented award certificates to the following winning entries in the 2005 Technical Publications Competition. The winning awards are listed alphabetically by entry title.

4350 - Lexmark 450 Series Photo Jetprinter
John York, Larry Gabbard, Tim Bachman, Howard Blatch
Lexmark International, Inc.
Award: Merit

Anti-Money Laundering & Export Controls
Bob Duthie, Patricia Eastwood, Gail Cody
Duthie Associates, Inc.
Award: Distinguished

C920 Setup Sheet
John York, Peter Palmadesso, Kim Alsabrook, Donna Cummins
Lexmark International, Inc.
Award: Merit

Computer Security Guide
John Brown, Tanya Bumgardner, Leif Buckler, Andrea L. Klein
Life Care Centers of America
Award: Merit

Freestanding Imaging Center Overview
Tracy Meyer
Duthie Associates, Inc.
Award: Excellence

Global Village Remote E-Mail Access Quick Reference Card
John Brown, Andrea L. Klein, Todd Wolf
Life Care Centers of America
Award: Merit

Lexmark 2300 Series Getting Started
John York, Tamara Bentley-Caudill, Terry Gera, Sherry

Watson
Lexmark International, Inc.
Award: Merit

Lexmark 3300 Series Mac User's Guide / Help
John York, Celeste Landicho, Kimberly Alsabrook, Lota Kawazoe
Lexmark International, Inc.
Award: Merit

Lexmark 3300 Series WinHelp
John York, Mark Heidinger, Kimberly Alsabrook
Lexmark International, Inc.
Award: Merit

Lexmark 4300 Series Mac User's Guide / Help
John York, Matt Ian J. Baron, Steve Winter, Lota Kawazoe
Lexmark International, Inc.
Award: Merit

Lexmark W840 Printer Options
John York, Carl Wing, Bill Dent, Howard Blatch
Lexmark International, Inc.
Award: Merit

NetOxygen (Executive Brochure)
Joe Slagle
Gallagher Financial Systems
Award: Merit

NetOxygen Lending Objects User's Guide
Treva Russell, Becky Dudley, John Campbell, Melanie Martin, Ken Devine, Shannon McCue, Joe Slagle
Gallagher Financial Systems
Award: Merit

NetOxygen Studio User's Guide
Treva Russell, Becky Dudley, John Campbell, Melanie Martin, Ken Devine, Shannon McCue, Joe Slagle
Gallagher Financial Systems
Award: Merit

Outpatient Rehabilitation Therapy
Tracy Meyer
Duthie Associates, Inc.
Award: Merit

P6300 Series All-In-One
John York, Joanne DeVries, Jo Greenfield, Steve Winter
Lexmark International, Inc.
Award: Distinguished

Remedy Asset Management Quick Reference
Judith Meyer, HCA
Award: Merit

Remedy Handbook - Asset Management
Judith Meyer, HCA
Award: Excellence

Square D® Modular Headwalls & Overbed Light Fixtures
Amanda Gaston, Ed Vernon,
Schneider Electric
Award: Merit

The Editor's Corner Publications Department Newsletter
Dorothy McDuffie
Applied Biosystems
Award: Merit

Understanding the Fair Labor Standards Act
John Brown, Tanya Bumgardner: Life Care Centers of America
Award: Excellence

Congratulations to all of our award winners. Thanks to the companies and individuals who participated in the competition. You helped make this year's event one of the biggest and best ever. Special thanks to Tim and Larry—our out-of-state guests—for traveling from Lexmark to join in the festivities. (We expect to see you back next year!) And last, but most certainly not least, thanks to Judith Meyer and Eileen Wollam for their hard work coordinating the competition, judges, and awards banquet. Next time you see them, be sure to commend them on a job well done.

STC Election Results

This year's STC election results are in. According to STC, 18.52% of the eligible members cast votes in this election, which decides the officers that will guide and direct the global STC community. Although this number may seem low at first glance, it is actually a significant improvement over past years and reflects an increasing trend in member involvement. Members can vote online or by hardcopy ballot each year.

Pursuant to the STC Bylaws, the ballots have been counted and the vote officially recorded. The election results are listed at the end of this article. To see election counts and links to biographies of all running candidates and election issues, visit: www.stc.org/about/electionResults01.asp.

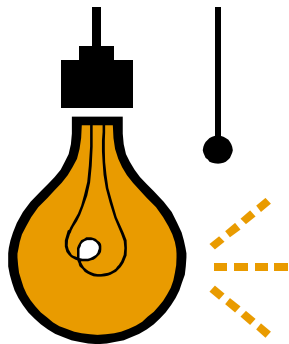
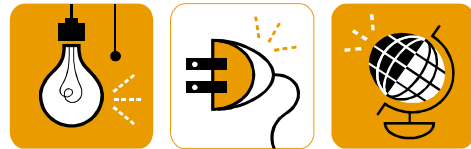
The election results will become final when the manager of the Tellers Committee (or an appointed designee) makes the official public announcement of elected candidates at the annual business meeting (Monday, May 8, 2006, 5:30 p.m., Concorde A, Paris

Hotel, Las Vegas). At that time, the officers and directors are installed.

President: Paula R. Berger
First Vice President: Linda L. Oestreich
Second Vice President: Mark H. Clifford
Secretary: Char James-Tanny
Director: Mike Murray, Jeff Staples
Nominating Committee: Constance L. Kiernan, Betsy M. Maaks

Finally, the Bylaws change (Article IV, Section 5) regarding presidential chain succession in the event of a vacancy was accepted.

Thanks to all chapter members who voted in this year's election.



STC Spotlight

STC offers several formal recognition programs for its members, including the Jay R. Gould award for excellence in teaching technical communication. This award honors the distinguished teaching career of the late Professor Gould, whose academic mentorship guided many men and women into the technical communication profession.

The Gould award honors excellence in teaching that becomes true academic mentorship—the personal and professional concern that the best teachers extend to their students beyond the demands of the classroom and beyond even graduation as former students continue to grow

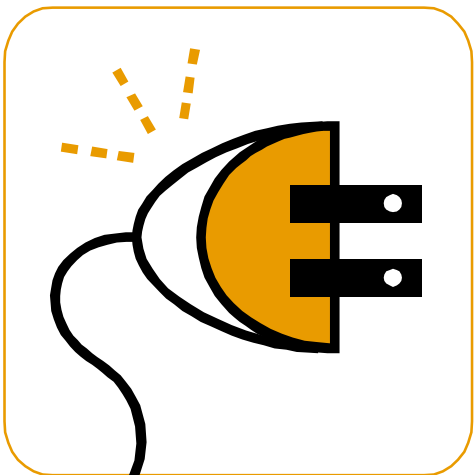
throughout their professional careers.

To be eligible for the award, a nominee must have been a member of the Society for Technical Communication for at least ten years and must have been involved in post-secondary education for at least fifteen years.

This award is presented annually with no more than three award recipients in any given year. The committee has the discretion not to bestow any awards if it determines that there are no nominees that meet the award criteria. This year, one of our very own MTC members, Betsy Smith, has been nominated and approved for the Gould Award! Betsy is an Associate Fellow of STC and member of the Middle Tennessee Chapter. Betsy, an associate professor at

Tennessee State University teaching technical writing, recently joined our chapter after relocating from Auburn University. However, Betsy is no stranger to our chapter. She visited our chapter in 2004, bringing portfolios and students from Auburn University for our March monthly meeting. Betsy is also no stranger to STC. She is a long-time STC member who has actively served her local STC community and helped countless students prepare for a career in technical communication. She manages the STC honor societies Sigma Tau Chi and Alpha Sigma.

Please join me in congratulating Betsy Smith on this prestigious award and join me in welcoming her to the Middle Tennessee Chapter. Betsy will publicly receive her award at the STC conference in Las Vegas.



Local Usability Workshop

The Mid-South Chapter (Memphis, TN area) is hosting a full-day usability workshop on Friday, May 12. This chapter is located within driving distance of our chapter, so you might find someone who wants to carpool to this event with you.

A complete workshop description is provided below. For question, please contact: Apryl Cox, Vice President/Program Manager of the Mid-South Chapter STC. She can be reached at: program@stc-midsouth.org.

STC Mid-South Chapter's Usability Workshop

Do you want to make the products you create more useful for your audience? Would you like to learn how to interview your users to determine whether your tools are meeting their needs? Then attend the Mid-South Chapter's full-day usability workshop on Friday, May 12, 2006, to practice conducting low-cost usability testing.

In this hands-on workshop, international usability professional and STC fellow Leanne Logan will teach you how to perform each step in the end-to-end process for conducting a formal hands-on usability study.

This workshop will be at the Central branch of the Memphis Public Library (3030 Poplar Ave) from 9:30 am to 5:00 pm on Friday, May 12. Registration cost is \$125 to \$175. Members of other STC Chapters may register at the discounted Mid-South Chapter rate; just enter the Chapter to which you belong in the "How did you hear about this event?" box on the online registration page.

For more information and to register, go to <http://stc-midsouth.org>.

Registration ends Tuesday, May 9. Register soon because space is limited!

STC Sendoff

This month, we have to say goodbye to chapter member Janet Bran. Janet has been a contractor for Chevron while in Nashville and has recently taken a staff position with them in the San Francisco Bay area. Janet is currently serving as the Membership Director of

our chapter. Additionally, Janet has served as STC President and Treasurer of the San Francisco chapter and Treasurer and Web Designer of the East Bay chapter.

During her stay in Nashville, Janet enjoyed spending

some of her free time dining at "Raz'z" on Murfreesboro Road and going to the Grand Ole Opry. In particular, she enjoyed the free outdoor concerts offered by the Grand Ole Opry during the summer. While Janet will miss Music City, she is

looking forward to returning to the Bay Area where she loves hiking among the redwood trees. Janet says, "I loved meeting the folks in our Middle Tennessee chapter and will miss "ya'll" very much." Janet, "So long and good luck!"

Calendar Preview

Mark your calendar for the following upcoming STC events:

- STC's 53rd Annual Conference in Las Vegas, NV from **May 7 – 10**. Learn more and register at <http://www.stc.org/53rdConf>.
- Mid-South Chapter's full-day usability workshop at the Memphis Public Library on **May 12** (See Local Usability Workshop article earlier in the newsletter for details).
- Combined STC/ASTD meeting at HCA's Cumberland Room on **May 16**. This meeting will begin at 5:30 PM and will feature Roger DiSilvestro who will instruct attendees how to *Stop the BLAME Game with Constructive Confrontation*. Driving directions, session details, and RSVP form are at: <http://www.stcmidtenn.org>.
- Web Telephone Seminar at Caterpillar Financial, **May 24**, from 12:00 PM to 1:30 PM CST. Bring your lunch and learn about *Life After RoboHelp—How We Got Here and Where To Go Next*, as presented by Neil Perlin. Details and RSVP link coming to our website soon.

Addition to our *Competitions* Page

Our Webmasters have recently added a new section to the Competitions page. Starting this year, our chapter is going to keep a historical record of technical publication and online competitions winners. We will continue to provide a list of competition winners in the

monthly newsletter following the annual award banquet. Additionally, this new section will spotlight the current year's competition winners, and going forward, it will serve as an archive of the previous year's winners.

Check out our new section entitled *2005 STC Competition Winners* at <http://www.stcmidtenn.org/competitions/index.htm>.

Show Your Volunteer Spirit

We are in need of a few more volunteers that want to serve the chapter next year as officers. Specifically, we are still looking for officers to serve in the Secretary and Treasurer positions and may need some help in the Webmaster department.

To help new officers transition into the various chapter positions, we are creating a *Officer Handbook*, chocked full of

helpful tips, tricks, and hints. Additionally, if you are interested in serving as an officer, but want a little extra help, our current President is available to co-serve with you from August until December 2006 as a way to transition to your new role. And, as those of you that have served on the Board know, the immediate past officers are happy to assist incoming officers as needed.

If you are interested in serving as an officer, please contact [Amy Oldham](#).



Get the latest scoop!

Middle Tennessee Chapter
www.midtenstc.org

National STC
www.stc.org
