

Letter From the Editor

Welcome

As the new *Dialog* Editor, I'd like to introduce you to my first Assistant Editor, Sara Studenmund, a member of STC since 2001. She works at First Presbyterian Church in downtown Tulsa, creating brochures, flyers, letters and other documents. . Sara has graciously volunteered to write our book reviews as well as assist me in the normal month-to-month activities of generating a quality newsletter. There is room for several more editors and we would especially welcome someone outside the Tulsa area. If you will volunteer to spend just a few hours a month to be an Assistant Editor, please email me at editor@stc-ok.org.

There are changes coming to the *Dialog*. We have added a member profile –this month, meet Jennifer Owen of OKC. Sara, the new Assistant Editor has written a very interesting book review on The Craft of Research. The new *Dialog* format includes some new features to brighten up the newsletter: items of interest, humor, and trivia. Look for the trivia question somewhere in this edition. The first person who emails back to me with the correct answer wins a great prize.

A new column, Letters to the Editor, will debut in the October issue—drop us a line and let us know how we're doing! Send your comments to editor@stc-ok.org. Comment on anything in or about the *Dialog* or the Chapter; comments will be printed at the discretion of the *Dialog* staff.

Did you see the poll that came out on September 1? If you haven't participated yet, please do. It is anonymous and takes only a few minutes to get to the site and log in your answers. The results will be posted in the October *Dialog*. There will be other polls and we hope the answers will broaden our awareness of what's going on with our fellow Oklahoma members.

Other changes to the *Dialog* include moving it to a web-based format. However, before we do that, we'll be asking your opinion on the various ways a newsletter can be presented. This is YOUR newsletter and we want to be sure we are giving you what you want to see, in the format that best suits our viewers.

As you enjoy your Labor Day holiday, take time to remember its origins:

The first Labor Day holiday was celebrated on Tuesday, September 5, 1882, in New York City, in accordance with the plans of the Central Labor Union. The Central Labor Union held its second Labor Day holiday just a year later, on September 5, 1883.

In 1884 the first Monday in September was selected as the holiday, as originally proposed, and the Central Labor Union urged similar organizations in other cities to follow the example of New York and celebrate a "workingmen's holiday" on that date. The idea spread with the growth of labor organizations, and in 1885, Labor Day was celebrated in many industrial centers of the country.

Until next time,

Fran Danner
Editor

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President's Corner

by Jim Wolf

President, Oklahoma Chapter

As summer begins its retreat, we realize that much of 2004 is now history. Many of the plans we made at the beginning of the year should be well underway or perhaps completed by now. My list still has too many outstanding items on it but I can report progress in a couple of key areas.



How is your list looking? For our contracting members, are you more or less where you had hoped to be with regard to new business opportunities or new contacts identified? For our members who are employees, did you get that project developed yet that you know will reveal your ability to add value to your position? Perhaps as an employee you had hoped to do some prospecting by looking for after-hours work.

If you have not established a few objectives for this year to develop or help protect your livelihood as a writer, editor or related specialist, it is not too late to do so. Goals can be simple but still critically important. What about your résumé, for instance? Is it current? Many companies scale back their staff as the year winds down to increase their year-end profit reports.

For contract members, have you been able to add that next feature or service to your web site? Starting the new year will be more comforting if you are in a good business posture. On the other hand, if business is great right now, you might be better off to shift this task into January when business is typically slower.

Many of us have no web site but we have often thought about developing one. There is still time left to achieve great success in this area. If it is not financially possible to start your own web site now, develop it and plan to move it to the web later. You can make substantial progress just using your own PC or one at the library.

Most importantly, remember that as a chapter member, you are part of a team with remarkable capabilities and experiences. Our regular meetings in the OKC area, in the Stillwater area, and in the Tulsa area provide the perfect opportunity to pose questions, get fresh ideas and help you progress in your endeavors as a communicator – whether technical, graphical or any of the other communication pursuits we see in today's economy.

If you are struggling to determine how you can best prepare for your professional future in communications, contact me by email at jimwolf264@yahoo.com. Be sure to put "STC Member Career Development" in the subject line.

We have access to resources that can help you develop professionally. As usual, progress involves work, but if you are willing, there is still time to use 2004 to position your professional entry into the new year.

STC, Communicating Opportunity!

Jim Wolf
jimwolf264@yahoo.com

Goals can be simple but still critically important.

Meet Jennifer Owen

Applying Life's Lessons Learned from Grandmother

Barter. To trade by exchanging one product for another.

When Jennifer Owen was a small child, she learned a lot from her grandmother, who had run a small town post office and general store during the Great Depression. Not many people had the means to pay for what they needed, but it hardly mattered. "Grandma bartered and traded with people to make sure no one went hungry. Her family never had very much, but she was always ready to share whatever she had with others," Jennifer said.

"She taught me about God's love, and she also helped me understand the importance of helping others maintain their dignity and self-respect even during difficult times."

Today, Jennifer is returning kindnesses, applying those early lessons in her work at the Francis Tuttle Technology Center in Oklahoma City. She has worked there for a little over 10 years.

Jennifer is a Francis Tuttle Curriculum Specialist, which means she develops curricula that will help clients convey their philosophy and focus, along with other information, to their employees. "I also help educate clients on safety issues, equipment, procedures, and on how to focus on quality in their work," she added. Her job also entails sharing information on the facility's delivery systems, such as the classrooms, individual instruction and computer-based delivery opportunities.

And, she uses her expertise in the community, as well. Jennifer serves on the Francis Tuttle eLearning Task Force and sits on the eLearning Department's Advisory Committee, the Learning Organization Team and the Oklahoma Prosperity Project Steering Committee.

Aside from her grandmother, others throughout her life and career have had a profound impact. "My parents had a big influence in encouraging me to approach life with curiosity and with an appreciation for life-long learning. They were both educators. Perhaps that is why I have stayed with Francis Tuttle for so long."

Also, Rudy D'Andrea, one of her professors at OSU-OKC, helped her make the connection between what could be considered raw talent and developing her writing skills.

Jennifer also credits Basil Collins, a former boss at Francis Tuttle, for helping her develop management and negotiation skills, which she uses to effectively work with people to coordinate projects and keep tasks moving along.

Jennifer graduated in 1985 with an Associate Degree in engineering and technical writing from OSU-OKC. In terms of her career goals, she just might be already set. "I love what I'm doing.

Every job is different and I work with some of the greatest people in the world – **Oklahomans**. There's a lot more to this job than writing. It's about building a strong, educated workforce for Oklahoma and helping employers provide a safe and pleasant work environment for their employees."

Jennifer and her husband, Mike, have been married for 27 years. They have no kids but have "one crazy cat named Rosie." She enjoys reading, needlepoint, redecorating the house, working in the garden (when the weather's nice),

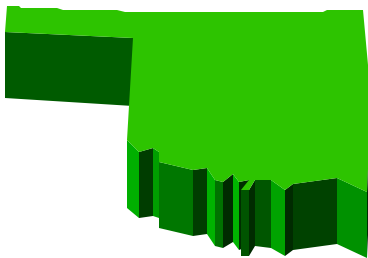
horseback riding, hiking and "anything that lets me spend time with my husband."

She offers these words of wisdom from William Ellery Channing that guide her professionally, "Every human being is intended to have a character of his own; to be what no other is, and to do what no other can do."

She's a 10-year member of STC and occasionally attends regional or national conventions. She says the greatest benefit to belonging with STC is networking and sharing experiences. Jennifer is happiest when she's working on a project that challenges her mind – and not her patience.

Perhaps that is why the experiences she shared with her grandmother stick with her today. She is challenged to find solutions and never loses patience.

My parents had a big influence in encouraging me to approach life with curiosity and with an appreciation for life-long learning.



Good-bye for now

From Betsy Callahan

Hi, STC Friends,

As you may have heard by now, my job has been relocated to Denver and Mike and I are choosing to make the big move! I am sending this note to let you all know what is going on with us -- I want to keep you in the loop, so to speak, because my STC family is important to me. STC has given me wonderful opportunities for learning, growing, and making new friends. I wish there was time to contact each of you individually, but moving makes things pretty crazy, especially moving to another state.

The closing on the sale of our house in Broken Arrow is scheduled for September 20, and the closing on the purchase of our new home in Colorado is September 21. It already is and is going to be such a blur! It has all happened very fast. We were in Denver the first week in August to look at houses when we got an offer on our Broken Arrow house, and then just a couple of days later we made an offer on a house in Denver! Our new home is a townhouse in the Cherry Creek Terrace division in Englewood, which is in the southern part of the Denver area. I will be 5 minutes from work. Hooray to homemade lunches!

Once things calm down at our new home, I will see what's happening in the Rocky Mountain Chapter of STC. It should be an interesting contrast. The Oklahoma Chapter is my original STC membership affiliation and I have some really fond memories to take away with me. It is important to me to stay in touch.

Love, Peace, and Joy to you all!

Betsy Callahan
Immediate Past President, Oklahoma Chapter of STC

We'll miss you, Betsy!

Stillwater Area Membership Drive

by Rachael Hutchinson

Members and guests from Stillwater, Perry, Pawnee, Glencoe, and Perkins gathered August 12th for an evening of bowling at Frontier Lanes in Stillwater. Time was spent discussing the benefits of STC, brainstorming on the variety of jobs that relate to STC, and just getting to know each other. We did learn that technical communicators do not necessarily make the best bowlers, although everyone had a lot of fun and met some new friends.

Our guests took brochures back with them to share with their employers and co-workers, so let's keep up the networking to encourage new members to join. Remember to share information with others in your places of employment; many people just haven't heard about our Society and what it has to offer.

Techwriters – the best bowlers???

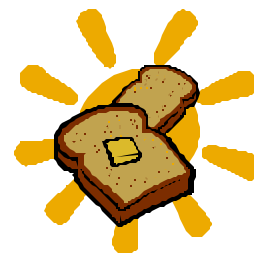
Quotes – What were they thinking?

“It's like an Alcatraz around my neck.”

Boston Mayor Menino on the shortage of city parking spaces

“If you let that sort of thing go on, your bread and butter will be cut right out from under your feet.”

Former British foreign minister Ernest Bevin



OKC September Meeting

Oklahoma City Area Meeting Location to Change

Due to policy changes at the Francis Tuttle Area Vocational Technical Center, our Oklahoma City Area members will soon be meeting at a new location. We regret this inconvenience and are working diligently to establish a permanent site for area monthly meetings.

Big change coming!

Keep a close watch on your email and look for "STC" in the subject line. Area members will be meeting with a full program on Saturday September 18th at a location to be announced shortly. We are determined to make this transition an opportunity for both you and the chapter to grow and become involved with new resources in the Oklahoma City area. Make plans to join us on the 18th.

Tulsa September Meeting

Research have you running in circles?

Want to start your own research project but don't know the best place to start? Join us September 8th in Tulsa to hear Martha Gregory from the Tulsa County Library System explain the county information resource service appropriately titled, **Research Wizard**.

The general public is often not aware of the additional resources provided by government and business organizations to major libraries across the country. If you have not had a reason to deal with demographics and other collected facts, you could be missing out on some helpful data and experts to help you obtain and interpret the information you need.

Whether you are contracting as an entrepreneur or the boss has given you a project that goes beyond your typical resources, this resource review will help build confidence in your ability to take on new assignments.

Ever heard of Research Wizard?

Come and find out more about the **Research Wizard**. Join us at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, formerly known as the Adams Mark, at 11:30 upstairs in the Deco Room, 100 E Second Street Tulsa, OK US 74103.

A full buffet costing \$10.95 per person or soup and salad only for \$7.95 per person. Menu options range from \$5.95 to \$9.95). Meeting attendees can have their garage tickets stamped for free parking.

The Tulsa monthly meetings are on the 2nd Wednesday of the month June through April, except for December. The May meeting is at the STC National Conference; the December meeting is an informal meeting in the evening.

Student Chapter

Oklahoma State University offers one of the top educational programs for technical communication as a part of their English department. Students have access to current software in the English lab and are taught both the theory and practical application of communication to enable them to travel far in the fields related to technical communication. The program offers BA, MA, as well as PhD degrees in English.

In addition, a student chapter of STC exists on campus that encourages networking and provides additional educational and social opportunities for students in the English and Technical Communication programs. The student chapter meets monthly in Morrill Hall on the Stillwater campus. For more information about the student chapter, visit their website at <http://www.stc-osu.org/>.

Help us . . . build relationships with the next generation of technical writers.

The future of STC and the field of technical communication lie with the students and the coming generations. Help us encourage growth in this field and build relationships with the next generation of technical writers. Consider these students when looking for new employees, contract help, or interns.

Tulsa's Top Talent – T³

By Fran Danner

Hopefully, it won't happen to you but just in case it does, what will you do when you get laid off or downsized in the Tulsa area? Go to www.tulsastoptalent.org and sign up! It's free for you in your job search and free for businesses looking for employees.

Sponsored by Workforce Oklahoma, Tulsa's Top Talent is a group of dedicated professional people helping one another to find employment. Founded in 2003, T³ has seen many members come and go when they find new jobs. It is all about networking and learning new ways to find those jobs. Weekly meetings are held every Monday 8:30 -11:00 at:

Tulsa Technology Center
Building C Room 101
3420 S. Memorial Dr.
Tulsa, OK

*T³ is there when
you need it.*

You don't live in Tulsa or the surrounding area? Start one! Workforce Oklahoma is investigating T³ to use as a prototype for other, similar organizations around the state. Call Hugh Doherty at (405) 815-8285 for more information on how to start a networking group in your area.

Trivia~

The first person to email me at fran_stc@sbcglobal.net with the correct answer to the following question wins a thin-line cooler.

The sailor's term "Roaring Forties" refers to what?

From Your Board

Just in case you don't know what we look like, here are your officers at the August Board meeting.



left to right: Greg Dent, Secretary ✂ Fran Danner, Treasurer
Jim Wolf, President ✂ Rachel Hutchinson, Vice-President

*Ready for the cover of
Intercom!*

Book Review

By Sara Studenmund

The Craft of Research, 2nd edition

by Wayne C. Booth, Gregory G. Colomb and Joseph M. Williams. 2nd Edition. 329 pages. Cloth - \$30.00sp 0-226-06567-7 Spring 2003 Paper \$15.00 0-226-06568-5 Spring 2003

In the second edition to their popular work on how to research and write effective reports, Booth, Colomb and Williams navigate the complexities of research in a clear and effective fashion. The book is intended for all researchers: beginners and experienced researchers, undergraduate and graduate students, and experienced researchers in business and government. The authors have divided the book into five sections: Researcher, Researchers, and Readers; Asking Questions, Finding Answers; Making a Claim and Supporting It; Preparing to Draft, Drafting, and Revising; and Some Last Considerations. The final section includes a discussion of the ethics of research and reporting, suggestions to teachers, and a list of research resources for researchers in the social sciences, the humanities, and the hard sciences.

Research isn't easy; it doesn't matter if you've done 100 reports or one. We write research reports in a linear fashion, as if the process moved from A to B to C. In fact, as any good researcher knows, the process moves back and forth. The researcher's choice of research question and techniques affect the results, and the results in turn may force the researcher to reexamine and refine the initial research question, and possibly pursue a new path. The authors understand this complexity and show how to use it to advantage. They keep their focus on their readers, and they encourage researchers to keep their focus on their readers, and to present results in clear and easily understood ways.

Both novices and experienced researchers will find this book to be a valuable resource. The authors follow their own advice. They keep their readers – researchers – focused on their own readers, the people who need to be convinced of the value of a research question, the reliability of the results, and the validity of the arguments made by the researcher. Good advice for any researcher, experienced or not.

The Craft of Research

The Importance of Correct Punctuation

Dear John:

I want a man who knows what love is all about. You are generous, kind, thoughtful. People who are not like you admit to being useless and inferior. You have ruined me for other men. I yearn for you. I have no feelings whatsoever when we're apart. I can be forever happy--will you let me be yours?

Gloria

from
<http://www.ojohaven.com/fun/>

Dear John:

I want a man who knows what love is. All about you are generous, kind, thoughtful people, who are not like you. Admit to being useless and inferior. You have ruined me. For other men, I yearn. For you, I have no feelings whatsoever. When we're apart, I can be forever happy. Will you let me be?

Yours,
Gloria

Tulsa - August Meeting Recap

Small Business Center Offers Help with Starting and Developing Your Tech Writing Business

By Greg Dent, Secretary

Duh? If that sums up your thinking about d.b.a., you're in good company.

About 80% of the people who walk into the Small Business Center at the Tulsa Metro Chamber don't know where to start, says Dennis Currington, Director of Small and Minority Business Development at the Chamber.

For starters, Currington told the August STC lunch crowd that, in his shop, d.b.a. doesn't refer to a database administrator. It's "doing business as," and registering yours – your business name – in the right places is an essential start-up step to make sure you have the right to write "Wright Writer," or whatever, on your business cards.

The Chamber's Small Business Center is the place to go for market research in the Tulsa area. It's where you'll find the Dun & Bradstreet listings for 40,000 businesses in Tulsa and an 11-county area of northeastern Oklahoma. You can search by type of business, location, business size and other filters and find the name, location, manager, number of employees and other information about the businesses that match. You're sure to find many prospects you never heard of, because 90 percent of them have fewer than 20 employees.

Beyond that, Currington's shop has other resources, and he's well connected to other people and organizations that can take you to the next step in developing your business and marketing plans.

The Small Business Center is in Williams Center Tower II, Suite 150. It's best to call ahead at 918-560-0235.

Region 5 Conference

The Intermountain Chapter STC will host the 2004 STC Region 5 Conference at the Wyndham Hotel in Salt Lake City, Utah, October 21-24, 2004. The conference theme is "Ascending the Summit: A Technical Communication Expedition." For more information, contact:

Marj Hermansen-Eldard
(650) 842-9486
(801) 362-8955
(801) 225-4463
meldard@legato.com
www.intermountain-stc.org

STC's 52nd Annual Conference 2005

It's never too early to start planning your trip to next year's annual conference.

STC's 52nd Annual Conference will be held in Seattle, Washington, May 8-11, 2005.

Watch here in the coming months for a new way to win your registration fee.

d.b.a.
=
doing business as

*Ascending the Summit:
A Technical
Communication
Expedition*



Technical Communication: A View from Below

Jonathan W. Baker
STC, Director/Sponsor Region 1

As August winds down, I am struggling to put some thoughts together about the field of Technical Communication. I don't know about you, but I am worn out talking about the economy, the changing technical communications field, the war in Iraq, terrorism, and just about everything else. In fact I am so bummed that I want a special SIG set up for burnt out, fried, and otherwise abused technical communicators. Maybe we can call it the Walking Wounded SIG or the Burnt Up, Used Up, Dried UP SIG.

OK. I am honestly trying to be funny. But there is some truth to the idea that this field is at least 3 years into perhaps the worst downward spiral we have experienced in 50 years. And many of us are feeling less than perfect, compared to how we felt about ourselves a few years back. I mean, don't you just want to have some fun, like back in the good old days of 1999. Everything was rock and roll, way back then. Jobs were plentiful and if you didn't have one on Monday, you surely would have a choice between two or three jobs on Tuesday.

So, how do we go about feeling better about our field and ourselves? I would suggest that this is a great time to go back to school. Whether you take a course in RoboHelp or Java, whether you get into a degreed program or take an evening school crafts course, you will be doing something to help yourself. Everything you learn eventually adds value.

Last spring, I took a motorcycle maintenance course. I thought this wasn't related to technical communication, but then I learned that there actually are technical communicators out there putting together the motorcycle service manuals we used in class. It never occurred to me that my skills could be used in this business.

Another positive that came out of taking the class was that it got me out of the house and got me thinking about something other than work. There is LOTS of value in that.

A few years back I took a Webmasters' certificate program from a local university. It gave my career a good kick at a time I needed it. The interesting thing is that I really never became a Webmaster, but it sure is great to have that knowledge in my inventory of skills. Employers liked to see my interest in learning, too. I don't think it really mattered to them what the subject matter was; it showed that I was engaged and willing to learn. If you want to stay in this field for the near term, maybe it is time to sign up for that technical course to advance your skills and differentiate yourself from everyone else.

Personally, I do believe that many in STC want to do nothing more than be good technical communicators. And that is a great goal. Not all of us should move on to other things like information architecture, usability, or project management. Some writers simply want to be writers and some editors want nothing more than to edit. To stay in these areas, advanced technical knowledge is essential. The more you have; the better. Some of us will go on to those other disciplines, but it doesn't change the fact that we are all communicators and need to keep our skills - both technical and communication - fresh.

If you haven't been back to school in the last 3 years, it is time for you to give it serious thought. The STC website (<http://www.stc.org/academic.asp>) has listings of some educational programs that are meaningful to our field, but don't forget to check out your local colleges and universities. I just found out that there is a college in Massachusetts which is providing a very robust program in Communication and Information Science. And yet, even with years of chapter experience in Massachusetts, I had never heard of this program. So the message is to get out there and turn over some stones to find some of the neat things going on in your own community.

I am about to embark on my next learning adventure - a Masters of Science, Human Factors in Information Design. I recommend that you do the same.

... go back to school.



So jump in and see what happens.

7 Leadership Qualities

By Jackie Damrau, Senior Member and President, Lone Star Chapter

Used with permission from The Society for Technical Communication, Arlington, VA, U.S.A.

As a leader, I'm always reading. I don't get enough time to read, but I do have a reading folder that I carry with me in my briefcase. This folder contains articles that are torn out of magazines, printed from on-line e-zines, and from personal emails that come to me that spark an interest that I say to myself, "Aha! That will make a great article to write for one of the SIGs or chapter newsletters."

The article that spurred this one came from *Selling Power* magazine's May 2004 issue, entitled "Tap into the 7 Qualities of the Best Sales Managers: Improvement isn't optional, it's mandatory (if you want to survive)" written by Maryann Hammers and Gerhard Gschwandtner (pp. 61–65,91). While reading this article and the 7 qualities, it made me realize that transformation and chapter leadership fit very well. So I'd like to share with you my views using Hammers and Gschwandtner's seven qualities.

Quality 1: Become a Master of Change

The Transformation Initiative is asking all chapter leaders to support the change, communicate it to the chapter members, and be the master of change when this initiative starts rolling. Many chapter leaders are for it; many are against it; and many are not sure where they stand. Change has been in the business world for many years.

The STC itself has been set in one mold for too many years. With the economic swings that rise and fall, so does participation in non-profit organizations. I am a member of two non-profit professional organizations, and both are suffering from a decrease in membership and conference attendance. Our organization is not alone!

Peter Drucker (as quoted in the *Selling Power* article) says, "Every organization has to prepare for the abandonment of everything it does." The STC has started doing this through its Transformation efforts. This follows on the heels of so many members saying, "If you increase my dues, what additional benefits (values) will I get." In one respect, the member is trying to justify the additional cost (especially if they are not receiving company monetary support). Yet, the member needs to be asking what can I do to make STC become a better organization for me and others.

This leads to the next quality.

Quality 2: Earn Their Trust

The STC leadership needs to earn the trust of its members that they have a solid direction in which they are taking us. Without this, the members may envision a sinking ship and jump to other professional organizations to get the services they need. During the STC 51st Annual Conference, our leadership held several sessions about transformation and what the plans to date are and how they will communicate.

For me at the time as the newly elected Lone Star chapter president, I felt that they shared as much as they could with us. The two subsequent publications that they provided during the conference (check out www.stc.org/transformation) earned them my trust.

Remember, trust is a relationship foundation. My belief is that they are not intentionally keeping things from us. They are communicating when they have a solid decision and direction that will fit all our needs.

Trust builds upon and requires your feedback.

Change has been in the business world for many years.

. . . trust is a relationship foundation.

Quality 3: Give Feedback

Giving feedback requires setting clear expectations and realistic goals. As the Society leaders are mapping out the expectations and goals for the Transformation initiative, we need to be prepared to offer our *constructive* (not destructive) feedback. Through our support and our voice, they will be able to make the necessary changes that will (hopefully) infuse members back into the organization by providing additional member benefits. Will these benefits be a little costly? Sure, but the cost of a quality education is also costly. We need to invest in our own education and professional development. What better organization to support than our own?

Our leadership needs feedback on our individual and collective thoughts about this transformation. As chapter leaders, we are the ones that our members will look to for direction about the Transformation Initiative. Our responsibility is to provide both the positives and negatives of what transformation means to the Society as a whole and to the Chapters individually. Yes, we may lose a few members to other new or renewed communities. Yet, if we determine who we are and make known to ourselves and to them the value we provide to our members, those members will return. Under the new STC organization, it will be easier for members to choose what type of community to belong to, and can easily choose more than one community to be part of.

From trust to giving feedback, we turn to the fourth quality of building enthusiasm.

Quality 4: Building Enthusiasm

The wheels of transformation are beginning to roll. The first major outpouring of the Society's direction started at the 51st Annual Conference in Baltimore. The chapter leaders that attended the two transformation Q&A sessions and the members that attended the transformation progression received the latest information available at the time. The Society's goal is to openly communicate with the membership at large when it has a solid decision.

Does this mean that you do not have a voice in the decision? No! It means that you need to look for the silver lining for your chapter, your members, or yourself, and support the initiative enthusiastically. We are the foundation builders, cheerleaders, or support group for this initiative. Let's embrace this and move into a new era of professional development.

Embracing our professional development and the direction of the Society has one key element: our involvement.

Look for qualities 5-7 in the October Dialog.

Just For Fun~

Reaching the end of a job interview, the HR person asked the hotshot young Engineer, fresh out of MIT, "And what starting salary were you looking for?"

The engineer coolly said, "In the neighborhood of \$125,000 a year, depending on the benefits package."

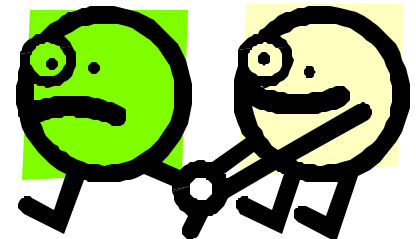
The interviewer said, "Well, what would you say to a package of five weeks vacation, 14 paid holidays, full medical and dental, company matching retirement fund to 50% of salary, and a company car leased every two years for starters, say, a red Corvette?"

The engineer tried to control his excitement, but sat straight up and said, "Wow! Are you kidding?"

"Yeah," the interviewer shrugged, "But you started it."

Giving feedback requires setting clear expectations and realistic goals.

Let's embrace this and move into a new era of professional development.



Dialog is written and published monthly and e-mailed to members by the Newsletter Committee of the Oklahoma Chapter of STC. Submit entries to the editor by the first of each month. Information may be reproduced for recruitment and educational purposes, if credit is given. Contributions to content were made by various members and STC's International Society Office.

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