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From the Boston Chapter President

By Steve Greffenius
STC-Boston Chapter President



We have only a little more than a month left until we make our transition to a new STC year. Along with all the other signs of spring - crocuses and tulips, birds calling,

buds on the bushes and April showers — STC’s spring calendar is unfolding. There’s the annual conference in Philadelphia at the beginning of June and the end of year celebration later in June; location yet to be decided. Let’s take stock briefly and see where our organization stands. We move into spring and

Chapter President, Page 2

Content Parsers and Structured Authoring

By Neil Perlin
STC Associate Fellow

Structured authoring is a hot topic in technical communication, but I've seen surprisingly little information in technical communication literature about controlling *content* within that structure. Without that control, there's a real risk of creating highly structured gibberish.

To a degree, any STC member should be familiar with controlled content because it's just good writing. But there's also a programmatic aspect that's been expanding in the last few years. In this article, I'll briefly discuss the writing and programmatic aspects of controlled content, then discuss tools that support the creation of that content. (I'll also be presenting this topic at the [2008 STC Conference](#).)

Multinational companies have long emphasized controlled content because of the need for cost-effective localization. Much of the literature about controlled content treats it from that aspect. But controlled content is good even if you never localize. Why?

- **Easier to read.** “Press Enter,” “Hit Enter,” and “Press the Enter key” say the same thing but inconsistently, hurting comprehension. Consistent phrasing helps comprehension.
- **Easier to write and maintain.** Standardized content makes writing easier because authors don't have to decide how to phrase an instruction each time they write it. For example, we often have to tell people to press the Enter key but wind up with a hash of phrases, such as “Press Enter,” “Hit Enter,” “Press the Enter key,” and so on. Without phrasing standards, we have to stop each time in order to decide *how* to tell readers to press Enter. And we'll inevitably phrase it inconsistently.

To make things worse, assume you have to tell users to press the Enter key in 50 places in a user’s guide. You can type “Press the Enter key” 50 times, but that's slow and error-prone. And what happens if the client then wants “Press the Enter key” changed to “Press Enter”? You can use search and replace but may miss some inconsistently phrased instances of the instructions.

Instead, more authoring tools now support the use of variables and snippets; placeholders for changeable values. For example, you can create a variable called “Enter_Keystroke” and set its value to “Press the Enter key.” Inserting the variable in the hundred places inserts the words “Press the Enter key.” To change the words, just change the variable's value to “Press Enter” and the new words appear everywhere.

But working this way requires that you recognize that you’re typing basically the same words and that they could be turned into a variable. That’s hard to do consistently, so a better solution is to have a tool that can analyze your material, recognize similar phrases, and offer to convert them to variables for you. Traditional writing parsers don't do this because they were created before we began writing content with a programmatic aspect, such as online help topics or wiki entries. So we need a new type of parser, ideally one that offers both writing and programmatic parsing.

Parsers, Page 2

summer with active, innovative leadership from Society in Arlington, Virginia. The changes have arrived steadily: new staff, a forward looking board of directors, a new plan to share revenue, and a truly practical outlook toward organizational development. A sign of change is STC's support for community initiatives to grow the organization's membership. Society has encouraged communities to find new ways to attract technical communicators to STC, and our Chapter has acted on those prompts. This winter and spring we opened discussions about a program to offer associate status to people who are interested in our profession and in STC. We have a committee now to work out details and put the program in place. Please check your correspondence as we move into the new year to learn how you can help grow our Chapter.

Another activity that has kept us humming during the last several weeks is assembling the chapter's leadership team for 2008 – 2009. Ellen Lidington, Ed Marshall, Katie Lesesne, and Kevin McCauley have all agreed to run for at-large seats on the Chapter's administrative council. By now, you've seen announcements asking you to vote in the Chapter's spring elections. In addition to the at-large seats, the following hard-working individuals will take these leadership roles next year:

- Pamela Sarantos moves from First Vice-President to President.
- Arun Jain, newly installed as Second Vice-President, becomes First Vice-President.
- Charlyn Hart steps onto the Chapter's leadership ladder as Second Vice-President.

You all know that I move into the role of immediate past president. That means I dispense wise advice when requested, chair committees when necessary, and generally try to stay out of the way.

We'll have a chance to recognize all of our Chapter volunteers at June's end-of-year celebration. I hope you can come to that event. Here, let me offer thanks and

Some Attributes of Controlled Content

So what are the attributes of controlled content? Here are some basic attributes, starting with writing:

- Consistent readability level, style, and wording.
- Parallel constructions.
- Similar concepts phrased identically in the same context. For example, "Press the Enter key" and "Press Enter" say the same thing and should be phrased identically. But "Click OK" and "Tap OK", which seem to be saying the same thing inconsistently, may actually be correct in different contexts, such as for different handheld device operating systems.
- Consistent spelling. This is also another reason to use variables because you can turn an often misspelled word or phrase into a variable and eliminate the risk of misspellings.
- Compliance with relevant technical publication standards, such as S1000D.

And on the programmatic side...

- Identically phrased concepts replaced by variables that might be converted to stand-alone content chunks to be stored in a repository or CMS for single sourcing purposes.
- Identically phrased concepts conditionalized for use in different contexts.
- Similar relationships linked consistently in the same context. For example, if the phrase "cocker spaniel" in Topic A is linked to the Cocker Spaniel Topic, then the phrase "cocker spaniel" in the remaining topics should also be linked to the Cocker Spaniel Topic.
- The ability to analyze material to find potential relationships, links, variables, and so on.
- And finally, project management features like reports (links, variables and prospective variables, condition tags, unused files, lists of topics in a project, etc.).

The need to control content is still new enough that no parsers as yet offer all these features. But the tools are out there now and evolving quickly. Some are new, expensive, and complex, while others are old and often taken for granted, but with tremendous potential when looked at in new ways. Here are some examples, broken into two rough categories: authoring tool-specific and third-party parsers.

Authoring Tool-Specific

These parsers are either built into or plug into a specific authoring tool. I describe the parsers in RoboHelp and Flare here, but I assume that most other authoring tools have something similar.

- RoboHelp's Reports feature. In RoboHelp 7, it offers 22 core reports like topic properties, index entries, broken links, and variables, most of which are configurable. This feature is a big help in project management but hasn't been extensively updated for a long time, so its problem is a lack of analysis and support functions. For example, the Variables Report lists topics that contain variables but can't find new opportunities to use those variables. Adding analysis and support functions to the Report feature would greatly boost its utility. For information about RoboHelp, see www.adobe.com/products/robohelp/.
- MadCap Analyzer, released in early 2008, is an add-on to Flare and costs \$299 (or less, depending on your contract). Analyzer has extensive analysis and support features, like a Variable Suggestions feature that looks for instances of repeated text that could be converted to a variable. However, it lacks some useful report features, like the ability to create an alphabetic list of all topics in a project. Adding these features

appreciation to our outgoing Broadside managing editor, Bryan Davis, and offer a warm welcome to our incoming managing editor, Sharon Popovsky. The Chapter newsletter has prospered under Bryan's stewardship, and it'll continue its strong role in Chapter affairs next year. Thanks to both Bryan and Sharon for your good work, past and future.

As our year wraps up, please remember that we need your help to make STC Boston successful. The best and easiest way to support the Chapter is to get out and attend programs, SIG meetings, and workshops. Beyond that, you'll find numerous opportunities to become more involved as you look around. Contact any council member to see what's going on. The Chapter has ambitious plans, and they need your help to prosper.

Let me sign off with a piece of good news. Virginia Adams, our membership coordinator, reports this month that our Chapter's membership has climbed back up to just over 700 members. You know that we set a goal last fall to reverse the decline in the Chapter's membership. No one person can take credit for this wonderful change, but all of us as a group can. By having a positive outlook about the Chapter's prospects, we make our organization attractive to people who would like to join us. Thanks to all of you for your contributions toward making our Chapter a healthy, growing organization.

Volunteering Is About You!

Consider working with us and learn how volunteering can fit into your schedule. For more information, contact Volunteer Coordinator Pamela Santos at: pamstc.boston@gmail.com.



Parsers, continued from Page 2

would boost Analyzer's utility. For more information, see www.madcapsoftware.com/products/analyzer/home.aspx.

Overall, these parsers are fairly powerful, easy to use, and inexpensive, but are obviously locked into one vendor's authoring tools. They're also local rather than server-based, and are specific to one instance of the authoring tool, so they're not really appropriate for enterprise-level operation.

Third-Party

These parsers are not tied to any one authoring tool. The three that I list here seem to offer a representative set of features.

- acrolinx IQ Suite by acrolinx (www.acrolinx.com). This used to be acrochek, but is being rebranded.
- HyperSTE by Tedopres International's (www.simplifiedenglish.net/en/hyperste/default.asp)
- SDL MultiTerm by SDL (www.sdl.com/en/products/products-index/multiTerm.asp)

These parsers are aimed at enterprise-level content parsing and control so they're server-based. Compared to the authoring tool-specific category, they're also more:

- Powerful. Tedopres's HyperSTE for Simplified Technical English is compliant with the ASD-STE100 standard used by the S1000D standard.
- Flexible. acrolinx offers plug-ins for Word, FrameMaker, XMetal, ArborText Editor, InDesign, and Author-it. SDL MultiTerm integrates with Word, FrameMaker, XMetal, and Arbortext. HyperSTE supports Word, FrameMaker, ArborText Editor, and XMetal, with a standalone version for PDFs.



None of these parsers support traditional HATs (help authoring tools). However, we can still use these parsers for HAT work by writing the content in a format that the HATs can import, like Word or FrameMaker, running the documents through the parsers, making any changes, then importing the now-consistent documents into the HAT.

- Complex. Tedopres's site notes that the process of building a dictionary under HyperSTE "usually doesn't take more than a few weeks."
- Expensive. The costs arise partly because of the complexity of the initial setup ("usually doesn't take more than a few weeks") and partly because they're priced by the number of licenses, plus dictionary maintenance, plus training for the writers, plus software, plus annual support costs. One vendor gave me a rough estimate of \$30,000 for five licenses.

This price, about \$6,000 per writer, may be a stumbling block no matter how useful the parser is. If your documentation group has to fight to get funding for authoring tools in the \$1,000 per writer range (like FrameMaker or a help authoring tool) how much harder will it be to justify spending \$6,000 per writer, especially if you don't translate and thus can't provide a firm cost-savings figure based on reducing translation costs?

Overall, their power, complexity, and cost put these parsers in a whole different category than the authoring tool-specific parsers. If a tool is free or costs \$299 per writer, there's little harm in not using it or not using it well. But if a tool costs \$6,000 per writer, management's expectations will be much higher. Using any of these parsers well also calls for terminology analysis, standards, and development discipline. Today, few companies seem to need this much power unless they have large or distributed documentation groups, or do a lot of translation and can justify the cost of the parser by the reduction in translation costs.

Broadside Earns Competition Award

By Bryan Davis
Broadside Managing Editor

It's not often that we here at the *Broadside* get to pat ourselves on the back (although the email announcing the latest issue does bring a smile to our face every other month), but we're rather proud of something that recently came across the newsdesk here at *Broadside* world headquarters.



Your newsletter has won a Merit Award in the STC's annual newsletter contest.

Much like the annual online, publication and technical art competitions, newsletter competition awards levels are Distinguished, Excellence, and Merit.

The *Broadside* is in good company in this competition as newsletters from around the country participated. Here's hoping we can score even higher next year.

[Click here](#) for a complete list of winners.

Complete the STC 2008 Job Survey Today



The STC-Boston Chapter's annual Salary Survey is now live and ready for members to take. This survey is a valuable tool to assess the state of the technical communication field in our area of the country.

Remember, the more data garnered through the survey, the more representative it will be of our profession.

[Click here](http://www.stcboston.org/resources/jobs.shtml) (http://www.stcboston.org/resources/jobs.shtml) to take the survey and thanks!

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Controlled and consistent content, which is more readable and more maintainable, especially in an era when editors are few and far between, is a good direction to go. And any tool that can help with that consistency is worth looking into.

Neil Perlin is president of Hyper/Word Services (www.hyperword.com) of Tewksbury, MA. He has 29 years of experience in technical communication with 23 in training, consulting, and development for online formats and tools. He is a member of the IEEE and STC, an associate fellow of the STC, and can be reached at nperlin@concentric.net or www.hyperword.com.

The Broadside Needs Your Input!

We're always looking for contributions from our readers. If you want to submit an article for publication, send it to: boston.broadside@gmail.com.

For the July issue, please submit any content by June 27th.

In general, the *Broadside* is published on the second or third week of the month.

Remember, the *Boston Broadside* is for our readers and by our readers, so it's what **you** make of it. Thanks!



2008 Program Schedule

The following is the program schedule for the remainder of the 2008 season:

Program

Date

June 18

Program Topic

End-of-Year Celebration

For more information on these workshops, please visit www.stc-boston.org.

About the Society for Technical Communication

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

For more information, visit us online at:

Society for Technical Communication

www.stc.org

Boston Chapter

www.stcboston.org

Chapter Membership Report

By Virginia Adams
Membership Committee Manager

We would like to welcome the following people who joined the Boston Chapter in February through April 2008:

Total Boston Members: 704

New Community Members (45):

- Attesa Bagherpour
- Bruce Barrett
- Julia Barsky
- Robyn Belsky
- Jean Blakeman
- Kenneth Bolick
- Joanna Boxill
- Suzanne Burns
- Darcy Connor
- Lisa Craycraft
- Regina DeAngelo
- Edmund DeJesus
- Nina-Giovanna Esile
- Elizabeth Favini
- Jillian Gorman
- Julie Hamm
- Clay Helberg
- John Howe
- Lara H. Hubner
- Arun Jain
- Mary James
- Julia Johns
- Gary Kamen
- Jessica S. Kirby-Dixon

- Haidee LeClair
- Katie Lesesne
- Teresa Manzano
- Charles McGovern
- Sheri McLeish
- Peter Ouimette
- Mark Pierce
- Eric Putnam
- Gail Rao
- Kathe Rhoades
- Gene Rinker
- Trish Robertson
- Kristen Rountree
- Len Sampson
- Amy Schwenker
- David Skibicki
- Michael Sorrenti
- Mary Jane Soule
- Brian Toohey
- Jana Wirsch
- Sandie Zierak-Peterson

Members Transferring in (2):

- Laurel Chandler
- Dennis P. Cremin

Chapter Renewal Challenge

The results of the STC's 2008 membership renewal challenge are in and the Boston Chapter (65.1%) came in a close second to the Silicon Valley Chapter (66.55%) in their race (Category 1, which is for chapters with 601 or more members).

Boston had actually lead the entire race but the Silicon Valley Chapter pulled out a last-minute victory. [Click here](#) for the race results.

The chapters in each size category that obtained the highest renewal rate by March 31 received four free registrations for the Technical Communication Summit, to be held June 1-4, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Other prizes will also be distributed. To compete in the challenge, a chapter must have reach a renewal rate of 71 percent. STC will honor the chapters with the highest retention rate at next month's Technical Communication Summit.



DITA/TECHCOMM CONFERENCE

There's a lot we **don't** offer you in 4 days.

- ~~Sales people presenting pitches~~
- ~~Vendors selling to you in a session~~
- ~~Untried, vague, first-time presenters~~
- ~~High costs while your budget tightens~~

We know that regardless of how hyped, how well spoken, or how rich it is, you don't want bull. Our conference provides access to real users, experts, and answers.



You deserve *udderly* clear answers to your technical communication questions!

The Bright Path Solutions DITA and technical communication conference has sessions on:

- ✓ Understanding XML
- ✓ Working with and developing for DITA
- ✓ Deciding on a CMS
- ✓ Case studies on XML, DITA and CMS tools
- ✓ Developing FO
- ✓ Creating XSLT
- ✓ Content reuse
- ✓ Tech comm tools:
- ✓ FrameMaker
- ✓ Acrobat
- ✓ RoboHelp
- ✓ Captivate
- ✓ InDesign
- ✓ XMetaL
- ✓ WebWorks
- ✓ much more...

November 3-6, 2008

McKimmon Conference Center
Raleigh, NC, USA

For more details or to register online:
www.brightpathsolutions.com/nobull

Enter the promo code BostonB to save up to US\$100!



QA and Writing: A Documentation Checklist for Writers

By William Pacino

Quality assurance (QA) and technical writing/editing go hand-in-hand.

In writing technical reference material, consistency of organization and presentation is very important. If the same information is presented in a consistent order and style throughout the publication or documentation set, it enhances the readability and usability of the material for the user.

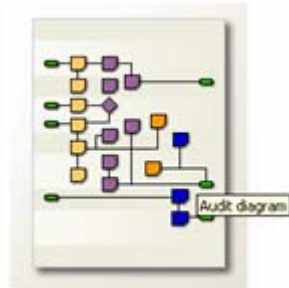
The following questions present a method of looking at your documentation. This method applies quality assurance thoroughness to all the components of a technical document.

Use these questions for your QA needs when developing technical documents. Of course, customize this checklist to meet the needs of your own technical documentation organization.

These questions are also valuable when examining technical documents prepared by other people or organizations, either for corporate competitive purposes or for use when judging entries in a document competition.

In this article, we're going to take a look at the following topics from a QA point of view:

- Document Planning
- Front Matter
- Purpose
- Scope
- Definitions
- Roles and Responsibilities
- Conventions
- References
- Procedures
- Appendices/Attachments
- General Document Topics



Document Planning

1. Does the documentation plan schedule have sufficient detail to show preparation/review timelines and completion phases?
2. Does the documentation plan schedule have dates on when to report progress to participants, management, and clients?
3. Do style guidelines have sufficient detail to show proper document format and hierarchy of paragraph heads/subheads?
4. Does each document review stage show the level of reviews and who is expected to conduct these reviews?

Front Matter

1. Do the cover and front matter contain all information necessary for the introduction of the document?
2. Is the revision page properly filled in and up to date?
3. Do the preface, foreword, and introduction clearly state the background, intention, and/or reason for the document?

4. Are the page headers and footers properly filled in with titles, dates, and version?
5. Are the format and appearance consistent with the approved document's plan and template?

Purpose

Does it clearly and concisely state the document's purpose and objective?

Scope

1. Does it cover the expected area of involvement or instruction?
2. Does it identify the target audience, and does it describe to whom, what, and when the document applies?

Definitions

1. Are acronyms and terms clearly defined within the document and appendices?
2. Is the list sufficiently complete, and do common terms match other known glossaries for similar documents?

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Register Now for the STC's Annual Technical Communication Summit

Join fellow technical communication professionals in the "City of Brotherly Love," Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, for this year's Technical Communication Summit, June 1 - 4.

Featuring over 130 education sessions ranging in topics from *Applying Research and Theory Practice to Producing and Publishing Information*, this year's Summit will feature keynote speaker author and technology consultant Howard Rheingold.

Rheingold is credited with inventing the term "virtual communities." He served as the founding Executive Editor of *Wired* magazine's *HotWired*, the first commercial Webzine to introduce the Web-based discussion forum and online banner. *Electric Minds*, the Web site he founded in 1996, was named one of *Time* magazine's "Best Web sites of 1996."

For more information on Summit events and to register, visit:

<http://www.stc.org/55thConf/index.asp>

Roles and Responsibilities

1. Are the roles and responsibilities clearly defined, based on procedures or policies?
2. Are the interfaces between individuals/groups or disciplines fully addressed?

Conventions

Are all listed conventions required and necessary to perform the procedures?

References

1. Are the listed reference documents necessary to perform the procedures or to understand the policies?
2. Is the list of reference documents complete?
3. Are index entries complete and accurate for subject coverage and page numbers within document?

Procedures

1. Does the scope of involvement and text generated for each topic match expectations and objectives of the procedure/policies?
2. Does the document pass the following verification tests:
 - Are subject matter topics presented in a logical sequence and can they be accomplished in that order, via a walk-through (verified with software/hardware in place)?
 - Are directives complete and cover the necessary instructions for each procedure?
 - Are the procedures technically accurate and are they the same as the ones individuals use to perform a task?
3. Does document pass the following validation tests:
 - Do references/links to other data present the expected information?
 - Can the procedures/policies be understood without asking the author or Subject Matter Expert?
 - Are all stated procedures/policies valid and within the document's scope?

Appendices/Attachments

1. Are all appendices/attachments referenced somewhere within the text and lettered/numbered in the order of their appearance?
2. Do the appendix/attachment items match the expectation levels of the topic matter and present all information indicated by the text?
3. Are all appendices/attachments necessary, or would subject matter/graphics be better placed within the body of the document?

General Document Topics

1. Is the document adequately illustrated to help augment technical details, provide clarity and improve presentation?
2. Does the document conflict with any internal corporate guidelines/procedures?
3. Is the readership level of understanding tailored to the expected audience, including outside reviews (without jargon, highly technical terms, or unexplained intermediate steps)?
4. Does the document use good grammar and punctuation practices, and exhibit proper word usage?

William Pacino currently works as a technical writer at Analog Devices, Inc. in Norwood, MA. He is a senior member of the Boston and Northern New England STC chapters and lives in Chelmsford, MA. He can be reached at william.pacino@verizon.net.

Did You Know?

The STC Offers Live Webinars on a Variety of Topics



STC offers a number of ways for technical communicators to further their education and expand their skill sets. In addition to the [STC annual conference](#), the Society offers Web seminars. In a seminar, participants listen to the presenter over the phone (much like a conference call) while viewing presentation materials via the Web site. This format provides easier access to materials for reference during the presentation, as well as a more intimate, “class-

room” setting than the typical telephone seminar. Registrants are provided a toll-free number, a secure URL, and access to both the audio and online elements of the presentation.

Benefits: No travel time; pay per site and not per person; train without leaving the office

Cost: Members - \$79; Non-members - \$149

Webinars in May include:

- **Date:** Wednesday, May 14, 1:00–2:30 p.m.
Topic: *Determine Your Department's Destiny – Build a Department into a Division in Any Market*
Presenter: Beth Tompkins
- **Date:** Thursday, May 15, 1:00–2:30 p.m.
Topic: *Doing More with Less: Using Topic-based Content Development*
Presenter: Sharon Burton

For more information and a complete schedule of upcoming webinar presentations, [click here](#).

Competition Staff and Committee Members Needed

By Mark Decker

General Competitions Committee Chair

The Boston-Northern New England General Competitions Committee urgently needs a Chairperson for the Online Communications Competition Committee (OCCC). The competition planning season is in progress and the OCCC needs a chairperson right away.

The OCCC Chair is responsible for organizing and running the annual Online Communications competition. The OCCC Chair reports to the General Competitions Committee which oversees the annual competitions. **The OCCC Chair and staff should be in place by June.**

In addition, our Chapter's three competition committees need volunteers for the 2008 competition season. Volunteers are needed to staff the Technical Publications, Online Communications, and Technical Art competition committees. Each of these committees has a chairperson who needs people to help with the tasks associated with running a competition.

The competition season runs from March to December with the busiest time period from late August through November. Committee tasks vary from season-long duties (for example, publicity) to one-time-only tasks (for example, competition day logistics). The competition chairpersons can provide a list of available tasks.

There are many benefits to working on a competition committee, including:

- Polishing your leadership and organizational skills
- Networking with your peers
- Meeting potential employers and showing them what you can do
- Growing your visibility in the technical communications community
- Building a network of resources

We also need a volunteer Competitions Publicity Manager who handles publicity for the upcoming competition season. The Publicity Manager is a member of the General Competitions Committee and is responsible for publicizing the Chapter's three competitions. **We need to fill this position as soon as possible.**

The competition publicity season runs from March through November. The most important tasks include:

- Submitting our competition dates to STC and local area publications
- Establishing contact with other related professional associations in our area to get our competition dates on their calendars, and vice-versa
- Promoting the competitions at our Chapter meetings (both Boston and Northern New England)
- Writing and submitting promotional items to the Broadside and Nor'Easter
- Submitting promotional items to local area business, technical, and professional publications
- Encouraging local area business, technical, and professional publications to attend and report on our competitions

Please note that this Publicity Manager position is not limited to one person; it can be a shared position.

For more information or to volunteer for a committee, please contact one of the Committee Chairs:

- Steve Straight - Online Communications Committee: steve.straight@openwave.com
- Mike Nelson - Technical Publications Committee: mnelson@kvh.com
- Patty Morin - Technical Art Committee: patty.morin@hp.com

For more information on the Committee Publicity Manager position, contact Mark Decker at: mdecker@rsa.com or msdhusker@comcast.net



The Broadside Staff

The *Boston Broadside* is published six times throughout the calendar year and would not be possible without the hard work of dedicated volunteers. Many thanks to the following people for their contributions:

Broadside Staff

Bryan Davis
Managing Editor

Karen Giventer
Copy Editor

Bill Gruener
Columnist

Karlyne Hutchings
Copy Editor

.....

This Issue's Contributors

Virginia Adams

Bryan Davis

Mark Decker

William Pacino

Neil Perlin

Thank you, everyone!

.....

Write for the Broadside

The *Boston Broadside* encourages Chapter members to share their skills, thoughts, and ideas with other professionals in the Chapter.

If you would like to write for an upcoming issue of the *Boston Broadside*, send e-mail to: boston.broadside@gmail.com

By submitting an article, you implicitly grant a license to this newsletter to run the article and for other STC publications to reprint it without permission. Copyright is held by the writer. In your cover letter, please let the editor know if this article has run elsewhere, and if it has been submitted for consideration to other publications.