

STARFLEET

COMMUNIQUE



Issue 61
May 1994



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Communique Deadlines and Submission Guidelines:

July Issue (#62):

- Hardcopy articles/submissions: July 10, 1994
- Display and Classified Ads: July 10, 1994
- Disk and e-mail submissions accepted only through: June 30, 1994
- September (Issue #63) submission deadline: September 10, 1994.
- Please include your SCC#, address, and ship name. We reserve the right to edit all submissions for length and clarity.
- Hard copy submissions should preferably be typed and double-spaced. Please - no unusual and hard-to-read fonts. Handwritten articles should be in ink, and all names should be clearly printed in block letters.
- Submissions via disk should be DOS compatible. WordPerfect 5.1 (DOS version) is our software of choice - we can translate many other programs, but include an ASCII text file just to be safe. Indicate clearly on the disk what software you used. Disk size can be either 3 1/2" or 5 1/4".
- Copy may be submitted by e-mail via Internet. Address it to: d1clm@vmcc.uakron.edu

COMMUNIQUE CREDITS

THE STARFLEET COMMUNIQUE

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STARFLEET Memberships
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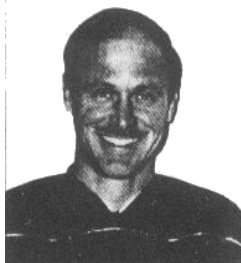
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STARFLEET HEADQUARTERS



ROB LERMAN COMMANDER, STARFLEET

Greetings,

Well, the time is almost upon us for the STARFLEET International Conference. In just a few weeks, STARFLEET members from all over the world will converge at Vulkan in Orlando, Florida. I'm looking forward to getting reacquainted

with old friends and making many new ones. Deborah Nelson and her team are planning lots on fun activities and panels for STARFLEET members, in addition to the usual "convention events". STARFLEET scholarship winners and promotions will also be announced. So, if you haven't already done so, make plans today to attend this year's conference.

Many folks are already asking me if I plan on running in this year's election. First of all, according to the current STARFLEET Constitution, it is not yet time for election campaigning. I will make my announcement only according to STARFLEET guidelines, and I urge anyone else who plans on running for Fleet Admiral to do the same. For the elections to be fair, we must all follow the rules set forth in our Constitution. The International Conference will not become a political forum for anyone. There will be plenty of

time for campaigning when the time comes.

Anita Davis has stepped down as Vice Commander due to personal reasons. I have selected Dwain Gleason as my choice for the position, and he has recently been confirmed by the Admiralty Board. Unfortunately, Tim Gillespie has notified me that he will also be stepping down. Be sure to read Tim's article for details. I'd like to thank Anita and Tim for all their hard work and dedication to the Fleet and wish them well in all they do in the future.

We are still awaiting word from North Carolina on the status of the Corporation's finances. This information is needed before the CPA can file tax forms. Unfortunately, at this time I don't have any other updates to report.

The STARFLEET By-laws issue of the *Communiqué* has been distributed to all members current as of the printing of the address labels. If you have not received your copy by now, please contact me as soon as possible (be sure to include your current address and SCC#). Ballots for voting were also included and need to be returned to the CPA for counting. The results of the By-laws vote will be announced in the next *Communiqué*.

A lot has been going on in Fleet and, unfortunately, rumors tend to spread. Please don't pass along any rumors or gossip. Be sure to verify any rumors or information by contacting me or Dwain. I'll be available during the International Conference for questions, and hopefully will have an updated financial status at that time. See you in Florida!

ANITA DAVIS VICE COMMANDER

The past 14 months as Vice Commander of the Fleet have been most interesting, and I am glad to have had the experience. However, I found that in very significant areas I have philosophical and ethical differences from the Commander of STARFLEET, that impeded us working together as a team for the betterment of the Fleet. A Commanding Officer (as Rob is for STARFLEET) has a right to expect and receive the full support of his/her XO. If that support cannot be given by an XO, then it is her/his duty to step aside for the good of the ship of the Fleet.

In most cases a group or organization runs more efficiently or without as much tension, where its leadership has a shared set of goals, philosophy, and plan of action for attaining the goals. The President should have at his side a Vice President who mirrors his ideas and can give 100%



support to his plans.

I found myself unable to give the Fleet Admiral the type of 100% support he wanted and it became my duty to step aside. I merely chose to do what I would expect of others.

Good luck and success,

VADM Anita Davis

Vice Commander/STARFLEET (ret.)

Thank you to Commodore Marlene Miller for posting the matter of my resignation as Vice Commander of STARFLEET while my computer was acting wacky. Marlene has been a most able assistant, and most regrettably the requirements that Fleet Admiral Lerman has set forth for my successor precludes COMO Miller from applying for the position, since she has never been CO of a ship.

STARFLEET welcomes RADM Dwain Gleason to his new position of Vice Commander STARFLEET. Dwain will also be heading up the FDC program as well as serving as interim editor of the Fleet Status Update. Dwain will be our next issue to update you on revisions within his office.



COMMUNICATIONS

V A D M T I M G I L L E S P I E • D I R E C T O R

Finally, at last the *Communiqué*! SHEESH!

As some of you probably know by now, this issue marks my final *Communiqué*, as I will be stepping down as Chief of Communications at the end of June. Nothing nasty or particularly earth-shattering in this decision. Producing the *Communiqué* takes up large amounts of time that I no longer have and I want to be able to devote more of my time to my chapter and other related endeavors. I've also had a few (nearly) legitimate writing and publishing offers made recently that I'd like to be free to pursue. Something had to go and unfortunately the *Communiqué* was the most likely target. We had hoped to produce one more issue, but as time and the Fleet tax problems progressed, that became impossible.

This particular issue was originally completed months ago. However, when the decision was made to suspend publication due to the tax situation, it quickly became apparent that the issue would need somewhat drastic revisions before it could be published. As time went by, many of the articles and reports contained within were becoming extremely dated. For instance, in the original version of this issue, there is a long JAG report from Gary Decker detailing the reasons why he was forced to vacate the JAG position. Of course, Gary is back now, a move which made the original column a moot point. There have since been many updates and changes in most Fleet Departments that have required revisions. We have also received a lot of new material as well (classified ads in particular) that at first we were going to save for issue #62. But as the weeks dragged on, we started to pull out some of the more glaringly dated items and replace them with newer material. In essence, we practically ended up redoing the whole issue. We tried our best to keep in as much as possible and we apologize to those of you who took the time to send in items that ended up being cut. Some important items we've left in, (such as the International Conference article) while keeping our fingers crossed that the printing a mailing process allows it to get to you before it's too out of date. Most of all, we appreciate your efforts and we hope that the delay will not keep you from contributing in the future.

As for the next *Communiqué* - at the time of this writing, I have no idea who is going to be producing the next issue. However, in the meantime you can continue to send any articles, classified ads, or artwork to my current address and I will be happy to forward everything to our next editor. Let me stress that it is important that you continue to contribute items. The next CQ is bound to be assemble under difficult circumstances and the last thing a new editor needs is

a lack of material to work with. The results of the STARFLEET Newsletter Contest will also be in the next issue of the *Communiqué*.

Producing this publication has been quite an experience and (with the exception of the hideous dreams) and interesting one as well. I can still remember the day I told Buck Krause (former CQ editor and Fleet Legend) that I was going to do the *Communiqué*. It was on the last day of 1992. He looked at me in his own special, unassuming way, and as he did, I swear I saw a tear in his eye. He put his hands on my shoulders and said simply, "Are you out of you [expletive deleted] mind?!" Then he slapped me a few times - hard. Well friends, over a year and a half later, I can finally appreciate what ol' Buck was trying to tell me on that snowy New Year's Eve. I can only hope that I have the same opportunity to give the next editor the same advice.

Anyway, the limo driver is waiting outside as we lock up the Communications office one last time, but before we go, I'd like to thank some special people for a lot of hard work.

First of all, I'd like to acknowledge the efforts of our Communications Department team that have simply done some extraordinary work on the Fleet's behalf.

Bill Herrmann took a simple pen pal service and turned it into something quite different and unique. He is to be commended for his hard work in making Subspace Communications something we can all be proud of.

Jay Jones, our Community Service Director, has been a genuine pleasure to know and work with. No one knows the ins and outs of getting things done better than Jay and I will miss working with him.

Cheryl McGraw has served unflinchingly as our electronic representative on the Net, fielding questions and taking submissions. Wading through the much and mire is a dreary, depressing job, and Cheryl is to be commended for accomplishing her task without resorting to dangerous illegal narcotics.

I'd also like to thank the following individuals for their help and support throughout our tenure on the *Communiqué* (in no particular order): *Jack Fields, Alan Ravich, Clayton Melanson, Robbie Lewis, Hartriono Sastwardoyo, David Allen, Janis Moore, Christine Leddon, Mark Vinson, Francis Albert Sinatra, Robert Lloyd, Michael Sawczyn, Rob Lerman, Anita Davis, Bob Vosseler, Kelly Cline, Sherry Hopper, Denise Duggan, Edmund Trafford, Alex Rosensweig, Steve Thomas*, and many, many more who have helped make this job in both large and small ways a bit easier. We would also be remiss if we omitted the unique contributions of *Michael A. Smith*, who

never failed to bring a smile to our faces.

Finally, I must give notice to the small contributions of our Vice Chief of Communications. *Amy Sheldon*. Amy has spent many long, hard desperate hours typing nearly 95% of your reports and articles for the *Communiqué*. Without her we would not have produced one single page of this publication and I, along with the entire planet Earth, am forever in her debt (a fact, I am sure, she will never let me forget....)

And so, I bid you all a fond farewell. It's back to the trenches for me and I'm glad to be there, spreading mirth and merriment throughout the Fleet. Take care dudes, hope to see you all somewhere, somehow, soon.

Tanam Shud!

Tim Gillespie

May, 1994

Wanted: Crews for Starships

The following vessels have recently been constructed or refitted at various shipyards around the Federation. Crews are now needed for them (STARFLEET Shuttle groups, take note!) These ships are:

USS Illusive NCC-1851
Surya-class Frigate

USS Regent NCC-1883
Surya-class Frigate

USS Chicago NCC-2738
Loknar-class Frigate

USS Houston NCC-2756
Loknar-class Frigate

USS Mantilles NCC-2784
Loknar-class Frigate

USS Paris NCC-2722
Loknar-class Frigate

USS Ability NCC-1953
Knox-class Frigate

USS Swift NCC-1958
Knox-class Frigate

USS Resolution NCC-1877
Avenger-class Heavy Frigate

USS Kidd NCC-3207
Daran-class Fast Frigate

Any group interested in using one of these vessels for their chapter should contact the Office of Technical Information for further information and/or the Department of Technical Services to reserve the name. Remember, reservations are on a first-come, first-served basis.

(VADM Alex Rosenzweig)

STARFLEET Fiscal Complexities

Or, Now What Do We Do by Alex Rosenzweig and Jennifer Levine

Dateline: May 2294

The Federation Council and Military Staff Committee announced a significant financial problem facing the Starfleet operating forces. Due to errors in the Fleet's handing of its books over the last several Terran Standard Years, problems have arisen that will require large budgetary allocations to resolve. As there seems to be little sentiment in either the Council or Supreme Assembly for a substantial budget increase, Starfleet is in need of alternative financing schemes...

Fiction? Unfortunately, it's not. This organization does have a problem. As FADM Lerman has mentioned in a couple of his columns, the recent review of the STARFLEET financial records revealed a number of errors in the Fleet's handling of it finances over the last few years. These errors included some major problems, like unrecorded membership fees, disorganized expense listings, and inaccurately-kept financial records. They ever included the failure to file appropriate paperwork with the IRS! Needless to say, these problems, if left unattended, could lead to more trouble -- possibly legal trouble -- in the future.

Once the cope of the problem was understood, the Admiralty Board discussed appropriate responses. A full audit and detailed review of the books, by a qualified CPA, is currently underway to clarify the hows, whys, and wherefores of STARFLEET's financial records. Based on the results so far, STARFLEET has been advised to retain legal counsel.

The aim is to be sure that once the process is complete, STARFLEET's finances will be in impeccable shape. We want the records to be beyond reproach. The membership deserves that, and proper and responsible administration requires it. But only a thorough accounting of what already exists can lead us to that point.

So, you may ask, what's the catch? The catch is that the kind of full audit and review that we're discussing is *expensive*. Very expensive. We can only speculate on the final costs, but what we do know is this: Accountant's fees can run in the range of \$100-\$200 per hour. Tax attorneys can cost on the order of \$250 per hour. Fees and back taxes and/or interest we might owe are a matter of pure speculation at this time. We simply don't know. \$10,000 has already been paid to the accountant to rectify the problems in the books that we *do* know about. Although STARFLEET has a considerable amount in its account, these funds are, in large part, already committed to providing the materials and services promised to the membership. Thus, the Fleet operating budget could not easily withstand such a drain at this point, at least now without cutting back on many of the services the membership has come to expect, services which STARFLEET remains committed to providing. Equally, because this is expected to be a one-time-only expense, it was felt that a membership rate increase would not be an appropriate response, either. The result is that

we're in a quandary. We need to raise this money, be we really don't want to either raise membership rates or cut back on services.

In the quest for a way out of this box we're in, it was decided to call upon STARFLEET's greatest resource: its members. Simply put, **you**. STARFLEET has approximately 7,000 members. If every member put in just \$5.00, we'd probably raise enough to pay for the audits, etc. In thinking about it, though we said, "Well, it's easy just to ask for money." Maybe too easy. Things should be more interesting than that. Instead of just asking for handouts, we decided to make things a bit more sporting.

"How?" you may ask. (Go ahead, ask...Thank you.) We wondered, "Who might give the most money?" And because we wondered that, we decided to establish a contest. The contest that we pose is: Which region can raise the greatest amount of money to help STARFLEET get its fiscal house in order? But it's not quite that easy. After all, some regions are *huge*, while others are pretty small. So we decided to make things more interesting. We'd like to see which region can raise the most money *per capita* (i.e. per person) for STARFLEET. That is, if Region A has 300 members and raise \$500, they've raised \$1.67 per capita. If Region B, with 75 members, raises \$200, they've raised \$2.67 per capita. And in this contest, Region B would win. What we'd like you to do is get together, with your ships and your regions, and see what you can do in fund raisin. Your goal: Raise as much money as possible to help STARFLEET get things straightened out.

Now you must be thinking, "What do we get if we win?" Good question. The winning region will

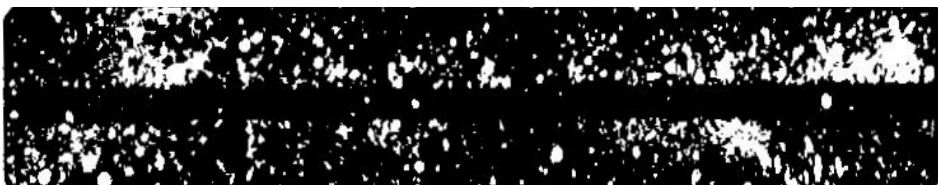
be formally recognized in the *Communiqué*. Also a special certificate of achievement will be forwarded to that region for its archives. But that's not all. The individual chapter (ship, stations, etc.) that raises the most money in each region will also be recognized in the CQ, and will receive a similar certificate of achievement. Those who work hardest for STARFLEET will be presented to their peers in recognition of that hard work.

Again, let's make one thing absolutely clear: The goal of all of this is that STARFLEET's books will be put in order and its finances straightened out. We want no more of this kind of crises. Careful management is the key, and we are going to bring that management to the Fleet's finances. Yes, getting old records straightened out is an expensive process. But we feel that the organization and all the members will benefit from this process. And we ask all of you to help STARFLEET reach that goal. We hope you'll get involved.

The contest will begin May 15, 1994, and will run through October 31, 1994. Donations (in the form of checks/money orders made out to "STARFLEET") should be sent to: Captain Alexandra Sashi German, P.O. Box 41926, Philadelphia, PA 19101-1926.

Anyone writing a check or money order should include his/her SCC number. If an individual member would like to send a donation directly to the fund, be sure to tell us the chapter and region to which the donation should be credited.

Should we raise more than we need, the extra will -- depending on the amount -- be either placed into a special emergency fund for use in the future, if necessary, or will be donated to the STARFLEET Scholarship Funds.



SUBSPACE COMMS

LCDR BILL HERMANN • DIRECTOR
9908 BERRYWOOD DRIVE • LADSON, SC 29456

Hailing Frequencies -- opened!

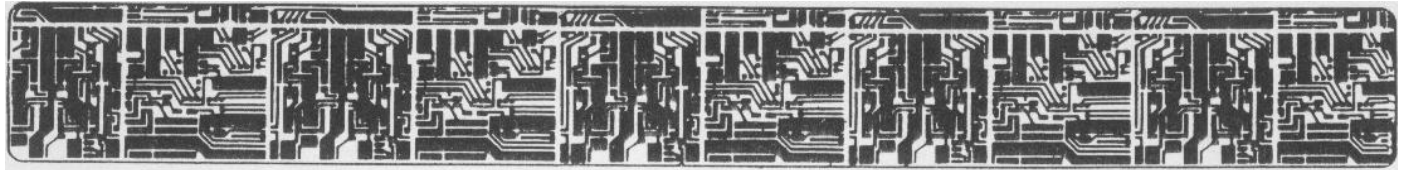
This Subspace Communication is directed to be relayed to the following Starship Chapters currently involved in the STARFLEET Pen Pal Service. Appreciation and gratitude to the *USS Jamestown*, *USS IDIC*, *USS Alacrity*, *USS Charleston*, *USS Wasp*, *USS Rhyanna*, *USS Powhatan*, *Shuttle NYX*, *Shuttle Sky Dancer*, *USS Stellar Wind*, *USS Integrity*, *USS Avenger*, *Shuttle TriStar*, *USS Odyssey*, *USS Antonio Maria Valsalva*, *USS Longfellow*, *USS Challenger*, *USS The Sullivans*, *USS Tanahameho*, *USS Europe*, *USS Bon Homme Richard*, *USS Leif Erikson*, and *USS Olympus*! These are just a few of the STARFLEET chapters that have helped to establish contact across Fleet Regions and "Patrol Sectors." Thanks for all your help and assistance!

Now allow me to single out and recognize two of Subspace Comms "Liaison" volunteers manning a SRP in their current duty stations and

locations. They are Dawn K. Blight of House Springs, Missouri, and Eric Golf of Memphis, Tennessee. These are just two of the personally outstanding volunteers associated with Subspace Comms! Finally congratulations to Richard Reeves of Cleveland, Ohio for submitting the winning design for the Subspace Relay Platform. His excellent design specs are now part of this STARFLEET Pen Pal Service, thus bringing to a complete closure the refit process of Subspace Comms.

Activity has been somewhat hectic with the Debut Issue of *The Comm Panel* being concluded and now on its way to those Liaison volunteers and starship chapters involved and/or part of Subspace Communications. I now realize the extend of involvement and madness associated with a newsletter. How do the staff at the *Communiqué* keep from going berserk? I feel as

Continued on next page



COMPUTER OPERATIONS

V A D M C L A Y T O N M E L A N S O N • D I R E C T O R

3 5 1 0 W I L L O W R I D G E , A R L I N G T O N , T X 7 6 0 1 7

Greetings from the lands of bits and bytes and other small pieces of interesting and useless information. Another two months of exciting action has passed here in CompOps.

As was mentioned before, the Vessel Registry is now aligned with the Chapters database. The first couple of times that it was done, it took about eight hours to completely check the database against the Vessel Registry and then the Vessel Registry against the database. Well, that is now in the past. The program spends about 15 seconds creating a new listing of the Vessel Registry in an ASCII text file which John Bunton can import and print in a matter of about 30 minutes. If mistake are made, it is because the information was incorrect in the database, not because of a typo. Please continue to scan for mistakes and they will be corrected in the database.

I have received numerous letters suggesting improvements to the membership application form. A new version, which will be printed in the *Communiqué*, seems to be an improvement. I am receiving a large number of these new forms and am very happy to report that the accuracy of the information is quite high. Thanks to all of you who are using the new form. The time to input the new forms has been reduced, much to the enjoyment of those who input the information. The wording on the top of the form was modified to reflect our current operation a little more accurately, and the square box was removed. The square box had been used by some vessels to display their logo. This has caused some confusion as to the correct vessel assignment which is why the box was

removed. If you wish to use this application as part of a recruiting package, feel free to duplicate the application on the back side of the flyer that you use to promote your vessel. It is an excellent combination.

Kudos to Bert Copeland of the *USS Lancelot* for his effort in designing this new application form. After his initial effort and a couple of tweakings, the form turned out quite well.

Now the list of those who have reached the coveted position of being on the Academy Honor Roll: those who generously donated to all of the scholarship funds. The list for December, 1993 and January, 1994 is: Jane Bannister; Joel and Jeanne Glick and Daniel Celentand; Karon and Gerald McLain; Jackie and Ed Sutton; Michael and Robert Blank; Ann Williams; Henry Foust; Kevin Machate; David Kane, Theresa Hanson; Turdye Horton; Don, May, Brian and Stacie Haven; Regina Townsend and Ronald Krause; Merriel, Christine and Melissa Griffin; Mark, Pat and Frank Serafine; Cynthia Henry, Brandon Hoida and Brian; Andrew and Kim Moore; and Charles Hardage. Extra kudos for Charles Hardage for benefitting the scholarship funds for greater than one dollar per scholarship. All of you stand up and take a bow. Your efforts are helping make the scholarships what they are today.

The number of vessels in STARFLEET is just under 300, and the number of members is up to about 6,800. There was a moderate drop at the end of 1993 which was probably caused by the large number of applications processed in late 1992. This reaction was expected. Toward the middle of 1993, there was a trend of the majority

of applications being new members. Now the trend has turned around and the majority are renewing members. We are currently running around 600 applications per month.

Many thanks to all of you for the many kind letters of appreciation for all the efforts made here in CompOps. Yes, there is a tremendous amount of effort made to keep up, but it is all worth it when such kind of comments are made. It is definitely more than one person can handle and have a life. The majority of help is coming from Joe Deaver and my sister, Theresa Melanson. Little did she know, when she came to visit last October, what she was in for. When I discovered her ability for high-speed accurate data input, I refused to let her leave. Her captivity - er, assistance (Yeah! That's the ticket!) will run to the end of this year.

There is still a small number of membership packets that seem to have been eaten by the Post Awful. If you have not gotten your packet within about six week of mailing your application, please contact me for a replacement. Just remember, if we did not have the Post Awful to kick around, who would we complain about? And speaking of the Post Awful, thanks to all of your who are sending large envelopes with postage already on them. If a postage meter is being used, the Post Awful is refusing to honor the postage. They say that if the meter stamp is over two days old, it cannot be honored. If you would like to help, please send stamps. The typical packet starts at 75 cents and goes down from there. We are currently using 23, 29 and 75 cent stamps.

That is about all of the excitement for now. See you next time around.

Supspace Comms continued

If I've been working out with Worf for 12 hours. My faithful assistant Lt. Stanley is currently on his way to the holodeck mumbling something about Bermuda and mint juleps. Anyway, I hope that those receiving this issue of *The Comm Panel* are happy.

Contributions for future issues are welcomed Subspace Comms would especially like to hear from retired and active STARFLEET Admirals!

That's all for now, the uplink is fading and subspace static is beginning to interfere with this transmission's clarity. I've got to go, sensors indicate the Starship *Charleston* has returned to pick me up. Hailing frequencies - closed.

Science Officers Forum by Norm Ennis

I am trying to sponsor a meeting / round table discussion for all Science Officers, science members, and those interested in general science at the June STARFLEET International Conference. I would request that anyone interested or planning to attend this convention contact me at the following address: Norm Ennis, P.O. Box 951827, Lake Mary, Florida, 32795.

Your help is much appreciated. I can be reached by internet at "cordtsrak@aol.com " if these are any questions.



STARFLEET Certificate Still Available Update by Brad Pense

For those of you who wondered what happened to me: No, I didn't get captured by the Romulans or anything like that. I had had a lot of personal problems over the past six months and it has taken me this long to solve the problems.

The rank certificates are still available to STARFLEET members for \$1.25 each or \$1.00 each for orders of 5 or more. Please note the new address is CAPT Brad Pense, P.O. Box 1822, Arlington, TX 76004. My internet address is CaptBrad03@aol.com. If you have any questions, complaints, or have ordered some certificates and not heard from me please let me know. Thank you to all who have ordered in the past, I apologize for any delays or problems. It won't happen again.



STARFLEET ACADEMY

VADM LORI ANNE BROWN • DIRECTOR

426 SOUTH LAKEMONT AVE., WINTER PARK, FL 32792

Several changes and new things are happening at the Academy this time out.

New Directors Needed

Applications are currently being accepted for two school director positions: College of History and College of Medicine. Both schools are currently closed pending new directors. If interested, send your resume (include both STARFLEET and mundane experience in these fields and/or general business of club experience), and any plans or ideas for the schools, and SASE to: VADM Lori Anne Brown, Academy Commandant, 426 S. Lakemont Ave. Winter Park, FL 32792-4644. Applications will be accepted until the end of the month this *Communique* appears for both of these.

These new directors will have a great help in setting up, thanks to CAPT Sherry Hopper, Director of the College of Federation Studies. Sherry has recently completed a great "Guidelines for Academy Directors" containing ideas submitted by each of the other directors as well as sample certificates, forms, etc., and I thank her from the bottom of my overworked heart for coming up the idea and taking it on! She did a wonderful job! It will be sent to all directors free of charge, but may be ordered by anyone for \$7.00 plus \$3.00 postage (check of money order to me, Lori Anne Brown, at my address above). It's helpful for those of you who may be thinking of developing a new school or just want to know the hows and whys.

College of Communications

new plans for this college include several new schools: **College of Communications/On-Line:** This school will teach cadets everything they've always wanted to know about computer communications but were afraid to ask. Topics include bulletin boards, networking, modems, protocols for using these service, etc. **College of Communications/Interspecies Interaction:** This school will teach the basics of one-on-one communication and will include personal communications, body language, business communications, and alternate forms of communications such as sign language. **College of Communications/Captain's Log:** Will teach the basics of videotaping including pre-production, production, post-production (editing, etc.) with a project to produce and edit a 10-15 video.

Professors are being sought for these schools and other ideas are always appreciated. For information, send a SASE to CDR Laura Begley, CoC Director, 105 Sue Lee Drive, Richmond, KY 40475-9132.

Marine Academy

The Marine Academy is currently closed pending reorganization. The new school will eventually include courses for all armed service including Rangers, fighter squadrons, and Marines. This new Academy is no longer part of SMI, though it is run by the same director, COL Joe Maurantonio. Please send him a SASE for information.

He is looking for interested people to develop courses as well.

Foreign Students

There has been a rumor circulating that STARFLEET Academy courses are free for Canadian members. I don't know where this started, but it just isn't true. Due to the cost involved in postage, printing of manuals, tests, and certificates, **NO COURSES ARE FREE OF CHARGE.** I am in the process of setting up distribution centers for course materials in Canada and Australia (with possibly more to come). If you are outside the U.S. and would like to take on the task of distributing course materials, please contact me. You will take in all tuition fees and send manuals and tests to the student. You will forward all test answers from the student to the School Director for grading along with the appropriate fees to cover postage and certificates. Tests will still be graded by the School Director, but the majority of shipping will be within your own country - which should save a great deal of money for the student and cut down on delays. Details are still being finalized, but I truly think this will be a boon to our members outside the U.S. Please send me your resume (STARFLEET and mundane) and a large SASE to apply. I currently have someone in Australia, but need a center in Canada and possibly Europe.

The International Conference

June and the International Conference is coming closer! As the only Executive Committee member living in Orlando, I'd like to hose a dinner (Dutch Treat!) for everyone who will be in Orlando on Thursday, June 16, at a local restaurant. If you think you'll be here Thursday night (about 7-8 PM), send me a note and a SASE as soon as possible. Once I get an idea of the number of people who will be here, I'll find a restaurant of the proper size and send you information on where and when. This is for any STARFLEET member regardless of rank - just a way to meet you all and say "Welcome to Orlando."

Reminders

1) Please don't send applications or tuition fees to me - I will send them back to you. They need to go to the individual school director you are applying to with check or money order made payable to the School Director (by name, without rank). 2) You must include your SCC number on the application or your material will be held until this information is provided. 3) Don't forget a SASE with your application and tuition fee. 4) Don't forget a SASE whenever you are writing to anyone in STARFLEET! It will speed up the reply (especially since I am usually out of stamps!) Guess that's all this time out.

Officer Training School
Commodore Peg Pellerin
RFD #3, Box 5460, Winslow, ME 04901

Officer's Command College
Captain Carolyn Donner
4396 Eastwood Drive, #4102, Batavia, OH 45103

SFA Cadet School (currently closed)
Captain Diana Morgan
6528 Craighurst Dr., N. Highlands, CA 95660

College of Computer Sciences
Commodore Sharon Ann Campbell
720 218th Ave., NE, Redmond, WA 98043

SFA College of Communications
Commander Laura J. Begley
106 Sue Lee Drive, Richmond, KY 40475

SFA School of Engineering
Commander Cheryl J. Lowe
203 W. Center Avenue, Maple Shade NJ 08052

SFA College of History
Accepting applications for director

SFA College of Medicine
Accepting applications for director

SFA Post Graduate School
Captain Joan Riley
6545 Glenmont Dr., Hamilton, OH 45011

SFA Security School
Captain Robert Westfall
6422 Spring, Kansas City, KS 66104

Special Warfare College
Colonel Joe Maurantonio
P.O. Box 146, Yonkers, NY 10710

Vulcan Academy of Science
Commodore Marlene Miller
461 Harmony Lane, Campbell, OH 44405

College of Federation Studies
Captain Sherry Hopper
4613 Brookview Dr., Batavia, OH 45103

School of Linguistics
Captain Spence Hill
1574 S. 240 East, Orem, UT 84058



STARFLEET SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

A D M I R A L S U E H A M P T O N • D I R E C T O R

3 4 0 1 A R G Y L E L A N E, G R E E N S B O R O, N C 2 7 4 0 6

The following are two notes I have received from our STAR FLEET members who are attending college with the aid of STAR FLEET Scholarships. Since the scholarship money was raised by you, the individual members and chapters, these letters are directed to you. Thank you for your support of the Scholarship program. As you can see, the program works and is very important to your friends.

This is from Katherine Weymuth of the. *USS Stargazer*. Kit is studying for a teaching degree at Northwest Missouri State University:

Dear STARFLEET,

I am writing to tell you that I am done with my first semester at college. I have just finished my finals. I made A's, B's, and maybe a C in my classes. I am already signed up for my classes next semester. I am attending the meetings of the ship on campus. (USS Krazny Oktyabr).

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Katherine Weymuth

This next letter comes from Karen Elaine Carlton, who received the Space Explorers' Me-

morial Scholarship. She is studying at Roane State Community College to become an Emergency Medical Technician and Respiratory Therapy Assistant.

Dear STARFLEET,

I want to thank you for giving me the opportunity to go to school last semester. I made a 4.0 G.P.A. for the semester and I'm now a licensed First Responder. I will always be grateful to STARFLEET for being so generous with the scholarship given to me. It was funny when I asked at my school about my STARFLEET scholarship. The people would look at me funny or give the ole roll of the eyes. When the scholarship did come in, their attitude changed a great deal, and I had fun observing the change in people's attitudes. I remembered the STARFLEET officer's code of conduct and also a line in Rudyard Kipling's poem "If."

"If you can trust yourself when all men doubt you But make allowance for their doubting too"

I just waited patiently to have their doubts turn to belief. Thank you again.

Navigating the Information SuperHighway by Max Khaytsus, *USS Texas*

With the recent media coverage of the creation of the Information Superhighway, I thought this may be a good time to brief the Fleet on our own little corner of the electronic communications medium. The 'SuperHighway' that will carry telephones, television and other forms of electronic communications is still several years (at least) in the future, but a smaller electronic version of the same already exists and has been around for many years. It's called 'InterNet' and it links many educational institutions and corporations and commercial services such as America On-Line, CompuServe, Delphi, Genie and others. (See Alan Ravitch's 'FLEET Bytes' article in the Aug./Sept. 1993 issue of *The Communiqué*.)

It was a year ago, late April, when Gordon Goldberg (then *USS Tai Shan*, now *USS Avenger*) and I got together on an idea to electronically link the Fleet. From our experience navigating the net, we knew there were a few other STARFLEET members out in cyberspace and that this could help us establish interactive communications that for the most part did not exist between the regions of the Fleet. In our wildest dreams we saw a distant future when fifty or sixty (1%) fleet members would discuss current hot topics and share

information about ideas and activities.

We thought

It was slow going at first. Few people, many of them feeling awkward. Little to say. But in due time word of this idea spread and ever so slowly the level of activity and the personnel count grew. We tackled conventions and apathetic crews and types of activities and functions ships held and braved taboo topics like the new constitution and elections and the IRS. We did not always agree, but we made points and we grew.

We exploded.

What started out as a goal to bring together 1% of the Fleet became a list of two hundred people in a single year. That's 3% of the Fleet; representation of 12 of the 19 regions and over five dozen (20%) ships! We have become a united Fleet.

Fleet Admiral Lerman made the effort to link the STARFLEET InterNet Echo into TREK-NET, another communications network used by the Fleet, and our mail extended to all corners of the world.

Many of the Fleet offices, from the Academy to the *Communiqué* to Technical Services are available through InterNet and many of the national and regional officers or their representatives are present as well. In his article last year, Alan Ravitch listed many of the key addresses so that those on InterNet can contact those they seek with less trouble than by using US Mail. In addi-

STARFLEET Scholarships

Space Explorers Memorial (4 Year)

Space Explorers Memorial
(technical, 2-year, junior college)

James Doohan/Montgomery Scott Scholarship
(aeronautical engineering)

The DeForest Kelley/Leonard McCoy Scholarship
(medical occupations)

Patrick Stewart Scholarship
(for the performing arts)

George Takei Scholarship
(for international studies)

Gene Roddenberry Memorial Scholarship
(for writers)

LeVar Burton Educational Scholarship
(for teachers)

Armin Shimerman Scholarship
(business)

tion to those, I will list here the key addresses to help you get in touch with us (and through us, the rest of the fleet).

Commander, STARFLEET

Rob Lerman:

rob.lerman@starfleetwmeonline.sacbbx.com
TREK-NET administrator

Alan L Ravitch alanr1778@aol.com
STARFLEET on-line representative

Deb Murphy dmurphy@ksuvxa.kent.edu
STARFLEET InterNet directory

Gordon Goldberg ggold@panix.com
STARFLEET InterNet Echo Administrator

Max Khaytsus khaytsus@cs.colorado.edu
STARFLEET InterNet Echo Records

subscription requests

starfleet-request@mailhostpanix.com
STARFLEET InterNet Echo subscriptions

If you're out there, in cyberspace, I'd like to extend you an invitation to come join us. Although bigger than we expected to be, we're still relatively small and welcome the IDIC of members out there. Come explore the Final Frontier.



STARFLEET STAMPEDE

CAPT GAIL RUSHING • COORDINATOR
14606 DALLAS PKWY #1137 • DALLAS, TX 75240

Mailing frequencies open....

Just a couple more months and the winter of 1994 will be history. I hope a lot of you are making plans to attend the 1994 STARFLEET International Conference in Orlando this coming summer. I would like to meet you and put a face to a name. (I also need some volunteers to help at the Stampede table.)

The months of December and January have been fantastic collection months for Stampede. You have sent in over 45 pounds of stamps and I can't tell how appreciative I am that you took time out from the busy holiday season to help us help others. For those of you reading about Stampede for the first time let me give you a brief overview of what all this fuss is about.

STARFLEET Stampede is a community service program sponsored by STAR FLEET International. Fleet members (and friends) save canceled postage stamps, trim and sort them and send them to a central location to be sold to stamp dealers. The funds raised to two charities, UNICEF and ASAP. Stamps should be trimmed with between ¼ and ½ inch paper left on all sides. They should be sorted in groups of foreign, commemorative, love, definitive and postcards (left whole). Christmas stamps have been dropped because there is no market for them. Informational packets with more detail are available upon request.

As promised in my last *Communiqué* column, I want to recap what STARFLEET Stampede has done with the stamp collections and sales for 1993. Total stamps collected in 1993 (untrimmed weight) was 139 pounds and 8 ounces. Total funds raised from stamp sales and fund raisers in 1993 was \$554.50. All of these monies were forwarded on to STAR FLEET Headquarters for distribution to our two charities. If anyone would like to see the detailed report I submitted to Rob for the year end, please send me an SASE and I will be glad to send you a copy.

Our Stampede Hint of the Month comes from Martine Myeanya Werkeman who lives in the Netherlands and is a member of the *USS Europe*. Martine writes, "I've been getting metered mail from people who should know better - always use real stamps! Often when mailing things at the post office, particularly small packages, I will get one of those metered things printed on them. If you ask for stamps they should give them. I prefer to put the stamps on myself so I can put them on well and take care not to rip off any corners, which people at the post office sometimes do. I have noticed that after a few times if you go to the same post officewith your mail, they'll already know and sometimes they'll even tell me if there's a new

stamp out and ask if I want to use it: Thanks Martiné. There are so many small things we can do if we just think of them.

Before listing all the contributors that have sent in stamps this time I would like to extend my special thanks to Michael Bunch and Martiné Werelemann who both sent in stamp collections that they were no longer using or had duplicates of. I continue to be amazed by the generosity of the members and friends of STARFLEET. With this kind of teamwork there is nothing we can't do.

Here is the list of stamp contributors for the months of December 1993 and January 1994: *USS Alpha Centuri*, *USS Albany*, *USS Alliance*, *USS Atlantis*, *USS Avenger*, *USS Bonaventure*, Michael Bunch, *USS Continuum*, the College of Federation Studies/Sherry Hopper, Janet Doctors, Laura Collie/*USS Continuum*, *USS Comanche*, Randy Croom, *USS Endeavor*, Charlotte Howey, *USS IDIC*, *USS Intangible*, *USS Joshua*, J. Louture, *USS KhaiTam*, *USS Lancelot*, *USS Jeanette Maddox*, 96th Marine Strike Group, *USS Rhyanna*, *USS Royal Sovereign*, *USS Star-chaser/ Region 05*, *USS Stargazer*, *USS Tejas*, *USS Umiak*, *USS Antonio Maria Valsalva*, *USS Vindicator*, William Vodrey, Martiné Werlemann.

Because of the outstanding effort so many groups have put forth in collecting and sending in stamps this time, I am sending out two Stampede t-shirts. They are going to the *USS Continuum* and to Laura Collie who is a member of the *USS Continuum* but also has been collecting stamps on her own. Congratulations to both of you!

For the months of February and March 1994, you sent in over 15 pounds of stamps. The chapter sending in the most was the *USS Rhyanna* of Austin, TX. A Stampede t-shirt will be going out to them as a thank you for their efforts. I have had an increasing amount of stamp contributions from STAR FLEET members who are not affiliated with a specific chapter. I want to give a big thank you to all of you who are doing this on your own. It does take time and I want to let you know your efforts are greatly appreciated and also encourage others of you who don't belong to a ship to help support the Stampede project. Every stamp received helps us help others.

The rest of the stamp contributor list is as follows: *USS Alliance*, *USS Alpha Centauri*, *USS Argon*, Shuttle *Best Destiny*, *USS Bexar*, Evan Chalmers, Central Connecticut Star Trek Support Group, Elenore Claassen, the College of Federation Studies (Sherry Hopper), Leon Anthony Duran, *USS Henri Dunant*, Shuttle *S. W. Hawking*, *USS Equinox*, *USS Hawkeye*, *USS IDIC*, Shuttle *Imperial Star*, *USS Jeanette Maddox*,

USS Joshua, *USS Lance/ot*, Shuttle *LeConte*, Shuttle *Legend*, *USS Maat*, Diane McDonald, *USS Miramar*, *USS Rhyanna*, *USS Sagittarius*, *USS Sol*, *USS Sovereign*, *USS Stargazer*, *USS Nomad*, *USS Umiak*, Sue Uram, *USS A.M. Val-salva*, William Vodrey, Cheryl Warkentin. I also received a package of over a pound of stamps sent Priority Mail with no return address or note as to who it was from. It's always a good idea to tuck a note inside your box or envelope in case the return address label is damaged or missing.

Until next time, keep those stamps coming!

Caring Coupon Update by Marie Nelsen-Simmons, *USS Vindicator*

Hello everyone! The Caring Coupon project is still going like gang busters at Warp Nine. Many of you don't know this yet, but opportunity knocked and I answered and am now proud to be on board the *USS Vindicator*. I decided to make the Caring Coupon project a *Vindicator* project, since the *USS Vindicator* is a medical rescue vessel and this project's goal is to, in a small way, "rescue" the women and children who are staying in shelters to escape family violence.

For those of you who have sent me letters requesting more information on the project, I apologize for how long it is taking me to get back to you, but a few months ago my computer decided to experience a severe case of technical difficulties. I think the problem is now fixed, and I'm back online and will be getting back to you as soon as I possibly can.

In order to make this worthwhile project a little easier for anyone who wants to participate, I have made one major change. For those of you who are currently sending coupons to me, or who are interested in the program, I ask that you take your donations to your local police station. Tell the officer on duty that they are a donation to the local women's shelter and they will see to it that they are delivered. This will eliminate not only the cost of postage, but also the amount of time that it takes for your donation to reach the shelter. Please enclose a cover letter with your coupons telling which ship you are from, as some shelters will send a thank you letter that you can put in your ship's scrapbook. It's also a good idea to keep a running total of your donations to report in your newsletter and to send to me to report here in the *Communiqué*.

So far, STARFLEET has collected and sent well over twenty thousand dollars in coupons to the shelters.. Try as I might, I did end up losing track of the exact dollar amount. Way to go, STARFLEET!

If you would like more information, you may contact me at the following address. Please enclose a SASE and I will get back to you... I promise. It may take awhile for me to work my way through the backlog my uncooperative computer has caused, but I will get back to you.

CWO Marie Nelsen-Simmons, Director, Caring Coupons, *USS Vindicator*, 6200 Carswell Access Rd. #82, River Oaks, TX 76114

Thank you and keep on clippin'!



STARFLEET Marines

Greetings to one and all! This has started off to being a good New Year and I want to say that it is going to be a great year for the STARFLEET Marines also! First off, I want all of you Marines to start saving your pennies and try to make it to the International Conference. I am going to be there and as tradition dictates we will have a 0900 inspection of the Marines present. That means Spit and Polish! I am going to try to set up times for some informational meetings for everybody, and few for just Marines, and one for just Ship Captains. I also want a big showing of what the Second Regiment can put together for this. Come on guys, this is the BIG one for this year.

I am proud to announce....

Marine Strike Group of the Year for 1993

A tie between the 37th and 59th in the 12th "Shadow" Regiment. They were instrumental in flood relief assistance this past year. Runner up the 18th in the 7th "Terminator" Regiment.

Marine Regiment of the Year

The 4th "Raider" Regiment. They have the most Marine involvement in activities in their area than any other. Runner up was the 1st Regiment.

COL LOUJAUE MCPHERESON • COMMANDANT
815 WOODLOW ST., PITTSBURG, PA 15205

Marine of the Year

Goes to Major Ingrid Bryan of the 78th Marine Strike Group in the Second Regiment. Ingrid has been doing an outstanding job as the Regimental Commander in the Second, with her ship, the *USS Khai Tam* and the Strike Group. There was a tie for runner-up. First Lieutenant Ken Howard, 188th MSG in the 7th Terminator Regiment and Lieutenant Colonel Charlotte Howey in the 17th Regiment.

Thanks to all of you for such a productive year. I am hoping for a closer race for the awards for next year. What that means is more work and activities for all Marines, and if you do not report in then you will be missed when this time comes next year. Once again, thanks for all the hard/good work!

We have few others that need to be mentioned. First, in the 4th Regiment we have Colonel Fleona Dy'sastar, who is the Marine Chapter CO for the shuttle *Richard the Lion Hearted*, and Lieutenant Colonel Kevin Dennard in the 2nd Regiment, who is the new chapter CO of the *USS Indestructible*. What these Marines have done is simple. They are the first STARFLEET Marines who command their own chapters. What the Marines have set up with the Fleet Admiral and Chief of Operations is the establishment of a different sort of chapter. If Marines want a Marine chapter, then they can start a Marine chapter. This is not restricted to us. If someone wants something like a Science Research Station, or an Engineering Station, or a Security Ship, a Ranger Outpost, a Battle/Defense outpost, then so be it.

You can have it your way. The Admiralty has given you a choice, and I am glad to see the first to jump on it were the STARFLEET Marines. I have ideas from our Operations people for all Marines who want to start their own chapters. Just write to me and I will send you a copy of our ideas. I ask all of the other departments to start looking into what kind of different chapters they can come up with. Remember the term "IDIC":

On a sad note, the idea for a Drum and Bugle Corps has died a slow death. I had a few responses, but not enough to make a 20-person performance ensemble. I will try again next year, and we will see what happens. For a little incentive for next year, I have written for an ensemble the closing theme to *Star Trek IV: The Voyage Home*, the Next Generation theme, and the Klingon theme (actually a variation on the theme). I'll be seeing you all in the next issue with some more good stuff. Bye.

Attention On Deck

The Official STARFLEET Marines' Newsletter

Subscription rate (bi-monthly for one year)
\$12.00

Make check or money order payable to:
STARFLEET Marines East

Mail to: Attn: Ken Howard,
5519 Jackson St.
Pittsburgh, PA 15206.

F D C R E P O R T S

RADM DWAIN GLEASON • COORDINATOR

7103 CHAS, APT. C, PLEASANT VALLEY MO 64068

Engineering Report by Pat Lichty, FDC Engineering

First of all, I hope that everyone had a great holiday season, and that we're all ready to buckle down for the long winter months ahead. As you've probably guessed, I'm Pat Lichty, Fleet Divisional Chief of Engineering. I've had the post now for around six months, and it's time to get moving.

I am personally inviting all of the Engineering RDCs to contact me to get this Fleet Divisional thing rolling along. So far I have heard from a couple of you, but I'd like to hear from all of you to complete my database.

I see the FDC office as a clearinghouse and referral system for tech info, an open forum for Fleet engineers to communicate more freely, and as a coordinating office for Engineering policy and Fleetwide projects. So far, there are a newsletter and a tech journal slated, but I'm eager for

new ideas for Fleet projects.

In the near future, I will be assembling a STARFLEET Board of Engineers (BOE) to better coordinate engineering activities within the Fleet. So far, I hope to have to AFDC's and I trust that the DTC people will wish to be included. The BOE will be a technically-based group set up so that any engineering issue that can't be addressed by one office can be referred to another better suited to the task. Any Engineers wishing to apply for AFDC, please write-you don't have to be a RDC.

Well, this first note has been brief, and I hope that you will want to get involved in Fleet Engineering! Any inquiries/death threats can be sent to: Pat Lichty, FDC ENG Starfleet, 8211 E. Wadora NW., N. Canton, OH 44720 or call 216/494-5593.

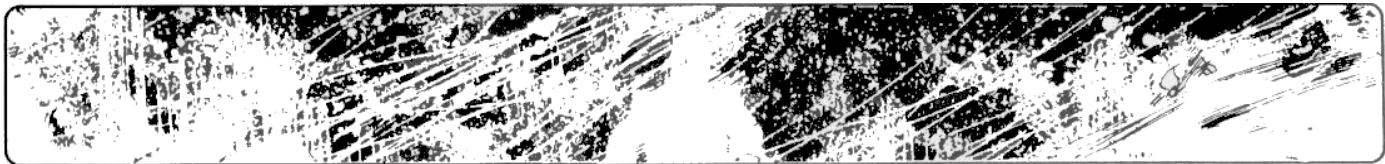
Security Report by Cindy Glenn, FDC Security

This is life out there...I am out of the hospital and back at work being greeted by responses from the November 1993 report. To date, I have two responses for the position of West Vice FDC Security, and one submission for the Fleet Security logo. Come on, I know there are more artist types out there. At least, more people with ideas.

We can always get help to amek your doodled ideas look pro. [I will extend the deadline on the logo contest if you will drop me a note and say you're working on it...deal?]

Anyone wanting to get on my mailing list, share pride in what you or your group is doing, ask questions, give suggestions, even tell me what flight path to take - WRITE. I can't tell what you're thinking. Write CAPT Cindy Glenn, P.O. Box 2104, Blowing Rock, NC, 28605, or East Vice FDC Security COR Bev Hater, 2680 Wendee Dr., #2302, Cincinnati, OH 45238.

Speak now. Help develop what is to be.



J. A. G. L I N E S

FLEET CAPTAIN GARY SCOTT DECKER • FLEET JAG OFFICER
2729 ADRIATIC WAY, SACRAMENTO, CA 95826

I very much feel like Mark Twain in writing this column, You know, "Reports of my death are premature."

Circulating about the Fleet have been rumors — correct, I might add — that my old law firm dissolved, and my new law firm required me to resign as Judge Advocate General/West (JAG) because of the huge volume of pro bono publico (i.e., free) hours of legal work that STARFLEET was consuming and which the firm was not willing to "finance." Over the succeeding months following my joining the new firm, however, I found that my new law firm, to phrase the matter politely, did not constitute the most healthful of work environments. Working there simply did not allow me to be true to myself. Effective May 1st of this year, then, I joined forces with a dear friend and colleague, Dennis Richardson, with whom I had formerly been partners in the old firm, to form the even newer law firm of Richardson & Decker, Wells Fargo Center, 400 Capitol Mall, Ninth Floor, Sacramento, CA 95814-4407; (916) 449-3909; FAX (916) 443-5599. Dennis is extremely sympathetic and supportive of STARFLEET, and I am pleased to report that, following this job change and my availability to "return to work" for STARFLEET, Rob Lerman has reinstated me as Fleet JAG, Officer.

All the rage amongst pop psychologists of late is the concept of "soul," and the importance of doing good things for one's soul. Well, trite as it may sound, I found serving Fleet at the international level to be very good for my soul, and, on the other hand, being forced to give up such service to be most depressing and negative. I have made a choice, then, to be the master of my own professional fate, because, in no small part, it will allow me to be true to myself and to continue unfettered my celebration and promotion of Gene's Dream. So, reports of my demise are premature, and I look forward to being able to help the Fleet, officially, once again.

My experience as JAG West, though, has lead to some modifications in the position, which are more fully detailed in the new job description for the JAG Officer: "STAR FLEET JAG Officer: The STARFLEET Judge Advocate General (JAG) Officer functions as the club parliamentarian, and exercises no command prerogatives whatsoever. The JAG renders investigative services and gives advice only, and then only at the request of the Commander, STARFLEET or by a majority vote of the Executive Committee (E.C.) directing the JAG to do a specific task. All disputes or grievances in STAR FLEET shall be resolved through the established chain of command. The JAG becomes involved in dispute

resolution only at the request of the Commander, STARFLEET or by a majority vote of the E.C. after all other avenues of resolution have been exhausted. The JAG advises and recommends, but cannot issue directives."

The new job description, fashioned at Rob's suggestion with the approval of the E.C., makes clear, then, that the JAG works only at the specific directive of Rob or the E.C., and only when a dispute gets to Rob or the E.C. through the established chain of command may the JAG become involved. Even then, only if Rob or the E.C. says so will the JAG step in to assist in matters of dispute resolution. In this fashion, it is anticipated that "end runs" around R.C.'s or other members of the A.B. within the chain of command, which had been attempted in the past, will be short circuited. The JAG is not designed to be an adjunct to the current chain of command; instead, the JAG functions only at the direction of the "top links" of the chain of command, and has investigative authority only as they direct and define.

What the Fleet JAG Officer will not be either is the legal officer of STAR FLEET: The Corporation, nor will the Fleet JAG act as a counselor on the international level for the specific ships and shuttles of the Fleet. It is contemplated that separate corporate counsel will be retained by the Fleet, probably in North Carolina, the state in which Fleet is currently incorporated. And individual chapters having legal questions will simply be directed to seek local counsel. While this is a much more restrictive scope of duty for the JAG in comparison with times past, it is consistent with the corporate structure by which STARFLEET will be operating legally, and at the same time it prevents members from exploiting an "out" to "ignore" the established chain of command — a problem which the A.B. had in the past in particular instances and which the E.C. does not want to see arise again.

As I understand the matter, also, there will be only one Fleet JAG Officer. The former divisions of JAG West and JAG East no longer apply. CDR Kim Akins is to be saluted for all of her efforts as the former JAG East, and I wish her all the best. In the 4+ months I have been absent from the "international scene" there have been many changes hi ST ARFLEET. There has been a new set of bylaws approved by the A.B. for ratification by the general membership, and the E. C. has lost and gained some new members. I should like to bid hail! and welcome to the new Vice-Commander, STAR FLEET, Flt.Capt. (Commodore?) Rear Admiral? Vice Admiral?) Dwain Gleason, of *Krazny Oktyabr* and *UFP Today* fame, and to

wish, in turn, all the best to departing VAdm. Anita Davis. I understand that other movement and changes within the E.C. are afoot, so keep your eyes glued to the *Communiqué* and *Fleet Status Update* for the latest developments.

On the tax front, this column is being written on an auspicious date, for Monday (tomorrow) is the tax filing deadline for nonprofit corporations, like STARFLEET. But hold the presses! If you can believe this, according to my recent conversations with Frank Fernandez, the accountant whom Fleet retained in California to help with the tax/finances mess, our Most Sagacious and Benevolent Federal Government has yet to finalize the tax filing forms for nonprofit corporations for 1993, so the filing deadline has been extended to July 15th. Talk about your basic SNAFU! Anyway, it is sincerely hoped that some form of filing will be made before the I.R.S. by the time of the InternatCon in Orlando-but if not, please understand that the screw-up is Washington, D.C.'s, not Rob's, and you should be just a little more patient I am informed that an accountant has come forward in North Carolina who is willing to do the Fleet work for free, although he/she has yet to coordinate with Frank Fernandez, our accountant in California. Furthermore, yet more STARFLEET records have surfaced in North Carolina, and these have still to be forwarded to Fleet H.Q. Of course, the existence of these "new" records (which apparently include such basic stuff as the corporate seal) have forced Mr. Fernandez to stop dead in his tracks in order to reintegrate these materials into the work he has already done. What is the, saying, "How come there's never enough time to do it right, but always enough time to do it over?" At least the records from 9301.01 forward are pristine and beautiful.

UNSOLICITED ADVICE: The Admiralty Board will be meeting in Orlando the Friday before the international convention (latest indications are that the Friday meeting will be a short "closed door" planning session on Friday night), with "public" meetings and panels scheduled on Saturday only — allowing Fleet members to see Leonard Nimoy, and otherwise "play" at the convention, on Sunday. There will be a tremendous temptation presented at the International Conference to indulge in active campaigning for the upcoming Fleet Admiral elections. Just keep in mind and be aware, however, that Vulkan, the

Continued next page



SHUTTLE OPERATIONS

COMMODORE JENNIFER LEVINE • DIRECTOR

28B WALTHAM ST., MAYNARD MA 01754

The past two months have been very busy at Shuttle Operations Command. We had sixteen new shuttles join the program, and several existing shuttles left the program to become ships.

There has been some confusion lately about the paperwork and other requirements needed to become a shuttle. I would like to take this opportunity to reiterate what a group must do to become a shuttle.

First, you need a support ship. A support ship is another STARFLEET chapter (a.k.a. ship) in the same region of STARFLEET as your shuttle. Your support ship's role will be to mentor and assist you as you form your shuttle and prepare to become a ship.

Next, you need to have at least five STARFLEET members as crew aboard your shuttle, including your Commanding Officer (CO) and Executive Officer (XO).

For counting purposes, no more than two people from any given STARFLEET family membership may be counted toward the five member requirement. Both the CO and XO must be 18 years of age or older. Your CO and XO must have completed the STARFLEET "Officer's Training School" course (OTS).

Finally, you need to register your shuttle's name with the Department of Technical Services (DTS). To do this, you must write a letter requesting that the name you have chosen be registered. You should provide a prioritized list of three names, in case your first choice(s) are already taken.

If you meet the above conditions, you can apply for shuttle status. To do this, you should obtain a Vessel Registration Request form from your Regional Coordinator, fill it out, and mail it along with the following to the Commanding Officer (CO) of your support ship: 1) Copies of the OTS certificates for your XO and CO, 2) copy of your letter of registration from DTS, 3) two stamped envelopes. One should be addressed to your Regional Coordinator, and the other should be

addressed to ShOC, and 4) a \$5.00 check, payable to STAR FLEET.

The support ship CO will sign off on this packet of paperwork and forward it to your RC. The RC will sign off and forward it to me, and finally I'll verify that everything is in order and sign off on it. Once this is done, I'll send you a packet of information you'll need to run the shuttle.

And finally, the following is a list of new shuttles for the period from December 1, 1993 to February 1, 1994. Congratulations to all our new shuttles!!

(Shuttle name, commander, city, and state listed):

Region 01

Best Destiny - Jennifer Watson/Lexington, KY
Galactica - James Bowman, Jr./London, KY
Jurassic - Carolyn Donner/Batavia, OH
LeConte - Ron Fell/Gatlinburg, TN
Ronald E. McNair - Ray D. Seay/Columbia, SC

Region 02

Confederate - J. Michael Long/Ellisville, MS
Falken - Chris Carson/Harlem, GA
Nebula - Gary Davis/Jacksonville, FL

Region 04

Malamute - Eugene L. Saxton/Vacaville, CA
Pacifica - Glen C. Davis/San Francisco, CA

Region 05

Crazy Horse - Peggy Driesel/Gooding, ID
Yakima - Teddie R. Rozier/Yakima, WA

Region 07

Kolinahr - Peter John Worrell/Waldorf, MD

Region 10

Majestic - Paul Reid/Victoria, BC, CANADA

Region 12

Oklahoma - Robert Timkins/Oklahoma City, OK
Traveler - John E. Hooper/Emporia, KS

P.S. Please don't miss Alex Rosenzweig's article in this issue of the *Communique*, "STARFLEET Fiscal Complexities, or Now What Do We Do?". The information discussed in this article is too important for any Fleet members to miss!

In stepping down from my soapbox, please allow me to say for one more time what a pleasure it is to again serve the Fleet, the premiere Star Trek fan association in the world. To paraphrase Sarek and Spock (appropriate for the convention at which we are about to see each other again), "The JAG Office comes to serve." Hopefully, our service will honor the Fleet.

Armed Forces Advocacy Program

Paul C. Dyl, Director

Well, it's that time again, but this time I've made the deadline for this submission. I want to apologize for no article in the last *Communique*, and also to those members who have sent me a request for registration forms. As many of you know, I have completed a Permanent Change of Station (PCS) from Ft. Bragg, NC, to Camp Casey, South Korea. Much of my mail went to Ft. Bragg, then to the state of Rhode Island, and then to me. To the best of my recollection, I've sent out forms now to those Fleet members who requested them. If I've overlooked anyone, please forgive me and remind me again. My new address is listed below.

The program started off with a big jump, and I continue to receive requests each week. To this date we have had over 70 Fleet members register in this program, and I know there are more of you out there. You only need to drop me a letter in the mail, and I will turn around and send you the registration form.

It looks right now like the department newsletter *The STARFLEET Times* will have a publication date of around the months of March/April/May, and I ask now that if you have any articles on what you are doing within your chapter, or if you have a chapter that is made up of a majority of military personnel, what you are all up to. I would also like to start a Who's Who in the program profile. If possible, your profile should reflect your service not only to the Fleet, but to our country, too. At this time I am looking at March 20 as being the submission deadline. Just send articles to me at the address below.

I would also like to clarify the only qualification that a Fleet member must meet to register in this program. As I stated in my first article in issue 59 of the *Communique*, the applicant must serve on active duty, reserves, national guard, retired, or a dependent of one of these services. Some people have asked me about dependents, and I agree that they, too, have sacrificed a lot and also have difficulty in serving the Fleet due to the spouse/parent's military service.

The last subject that I would like to address is in reference to sending any correspondence to Fleet members who are in the Armed Forces. I myself have had many letters addressed to me with my Fleet rank, which happens not to be my real life rank. When mail goes to overseas areas or to military bases, this could cause the individual some time in front of his/her Commanding Officer on why they had mail addressed to Captain John Doe, when in fact they had an enlisted rank to begin with. Help us out by NOT using our Fleet rank on the address. If you are not sure if the individual is in the military, just look at the address you are writing to. If it has a Fort, Naval Base, Air Force Base, or Camp, or even APO, AP, or APO AE zip code, then it is safe to assume that the letter you are sending is going to someone in the military. We thank you for helping us all out.

Paul C. Dyl
 Eco 5-20th Inf (M)
 Unit# 15099
 APO AP 96224

JAG Report continued

"host" convention, is not STARFLEET. The STARFLEET Officer's Code of Conduct should govern all of your activities at the convention, and the public airing of "dirty laundry" beyond fair debate amongst STARFLEET members is at best uncool, and at worst could potentially hurt the club. Exercising common sense to control the fervor of your debate would be most appropriate under these circumstances, then.



DEAR STARFLEET

Frank Faas
USS Albany

Dear STAR FLEET,

I wish to comment on the letter by Steven Smith in the January *Communiqué* as well as the letter from Robert Poole.

First, I joined the Fleet when Steven was in charge. I wondered what had happened to him since then. I'm glad he is still among us. I enjoyed his letter very much. It takes a real man to explain to as large a membership as STAR FLEET has about the weaknesses and troubles in his life regarding the part he had in the Fleet as Fleet Admiral. I congratulate you, Steve. I also enjoyed knowing Jeannette after she took over and give them both credit for helping me when I needed it while forming the *USS Albany*. Like Steve, after being CO for three terms I too decided to stand down in 1993, due to needing a reality check and getting my own life more or less in control. Now I let my teenage son attend to the meetings, etc., of the chapter, and as its founder, sit back more and more and watch it grow and get better each year, despite the setbacks and problems that all chapters experience. With that in mind, I kind of feel a kinship with Steve and Jeannette, but on a more local level.

I just couldn't read Steve's letter without commenting and giving him a pat on the back for his honesty and openness to all of us.

Second, regarding Bob Poole's letters about the youngsters [on his ship] and the attitudes of the older members, the *Albany* also had for a time a youth group who called themselves the "NGO's" (Next Generation Officers). It was formed because they, too, at times seemed to feel that we adults looked upon them as kids. Well, at times they were involved with their own projects while we older members were busy with "problems, personalities, etc." So I praise Bob Poole, too, because he was right in his letter. The "kids" were more grown up than the grown-ups.

Our NGO's have grown up now, and that portion of the *Albany* has been dissolved due to a lack of youngsters, but these one-time "kids" are now in college and/or holding senior positions of their own as crewmembers, which makes us realize that the future of our chapter, the *USS Albany*, is still in good hands. I myself retired as CO of this chapter, realizing at 57 that the time is right for doing so. As I watch the chapter continue, the young crewmembers (I call them young in comparison to myself) still stay in touch very often for my still dubious advice. It makes me feel good. I'm still an *Albany* member and will remain such if only to watch it grow and prosper.

The *Albany* will be celebrating its 5th anniversary this year and there have been times when I thought it would never make it. So, as Steve and Bob have said in their letters, even with all the

mistakes, attitudes, and upsets, I feel very pleased to be able to associate my thoughts with these two men and feel as they do. The future of STARFLEET looks very good indeed, but as Steve told Rob Lerman in his letter, I say to the new COs of the *Albany*: I'll stay around to see as a founding father what happens next on our chapter, *but don't give me any work anymore*, and also forgive *my* errors and mistakes made while forming the *Albany* that you people will carry on into the future.

Douglas Glenn
USS Umiak

Dear STARFLEET,

I just finished reading the letter from Steve Smith in the January '94 *Communiqué*. He makes some good points on trying to maintain perspective and not making blanket judgements regarding people and issues. Though I'm not always as successful in this as I would prefer to be, I agree with the ideal. To underline the sentiment: the STARFLEET Officer's Code of Conduct should be looked at as more than filler for our newsletters. The standards expressed therein make good guidelines for all facets of life.

Also interesting was finally getting Steve's side of the situation surrounding his administrative turnover. Rumors and accusations have abounded during every change of the Admiralty that I've witnessed in nearly ten years of membership. I had always believed there was more to it than the rumors suggest.

The important thing to remember about the Smith administration is that his was a turning point in this association of fans. Steve set a new standard for STARFLEET. Along with Chris Smith, Buck Krause, and others, they took us from being just another amateur "fan club" to a group that is the pinnacle of fan organizations. They gave us a slick, professional quality look that inspired the efforts and creativity of all of our chapters. Sure, they had their faults, but they picked up the pieces they were left with and made something better from it.

With that to build on, the following Maddox administration took it to new heights. They too had their work cut out for them and they dealt with it admirably. Under Jeannette's leadership, STARFLEET gained a stability and respectability greater than what it had experienced before. Though STARFLEET chapters have always engaged in community service, the Maddox team gave it a new focus and gave the Fleet a new legitimacy. It was under this administration that the STARFLEET Scholarships were established.

I don't envy Fleet Admiral Lerman the task of following up these two acts. The negatives of our previous administrations are far outweighed by

the good they did and the building blocks they provided for ST ARFLEET. We are a better, stronger group because of their ideals and hard work.

Welcome home, Steve. I hope the suggestion recently proposed that would give all former Fleet Admirals a lifetime membership is embraced by the Fleet and made part of our constitution. It is the least we can do in appreciation of the sacrifices any leader of this group must face in running the finest fan organization in existence.

Robb Jackson
CINC/SMI

To the members of STAFLEET,

For several months and beyond, rumors, innuendos and often outright lies have been started, implied and made against Starfleet Marines International (SMI). These rumors, innuendos and outright lies have fostered misunderstandings; which in turn created more of the same. A vicious cycle of rumor and misunderstanding has been created. It is time for this cycle to stop.

The reasons behind the creation of Starfleet Marines International (SMI) are many and I won't go into all of them here. Suffice it to say that SMI was created to provide the Marine Adventure to all other Trek fan organizations like STARFLEET; to provide a consistent "umbrella" for Marine activity in all clubs, offering technical manuals, and the Marine Academy to any interested Trek fan.

Recent statements have been made concerning the Marine Academy that were assumed to be based on facts. These "facts" have no basis, or are said to be "not in evidence" in my line of work. Please allow me to state the actual facts:

The Marine Academy is a department of Starfleet Marines International (SMI).

The Marine Academy and all of its copyrighted materials are the sole property of Starfleet Marines International.

The Director of the Marine Academy is a member of SMI, and a member of the SMI Senior Officer's Board.

The Director of the Marine Academy is appointed by the SMI Command Staff.

Holding the above to be true, the Director of the Marine Academy operates under the direct authority of SMI and not STARFLEET. A branch of the Marine Academy is maintained pursuant to the duties of the Director as described in the SMI Constitution and the Marine Manual, 5th Edition. This service is provided to the membership of STARFLEET and other Trek fan organizations by SMI at no charge other than the standard entrance/manual fees.

In addition, pursuant to the authority stated

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above, the Director of the Marine Academy previously listed in the "STARFLEET Academy" section of this *Communiqué* has been replaced. The new Director of the Marine Academy is:

BGEN Bob Bell
Director, SMI Marine Academy
2404 Greenwood Dr.
Portsmouth, VA 23702-9242

The one statement recently made that is not contested is the fact that the SMI Marine Academy is currently open to all members of STARFLEET, as well as other Trek fan organizations that desire to take our courses and be a part of the marine Adventure. For members of STARFLEET that are currently taking courses, nothing has changed. You may proceed with your studies as before. New entrants to the Academy will have to contact the above for information regarding Marine Academy attendance. Now is an excellent time to attend the Marine Academy with new courses scheduled to come on line in the next few months.

However, notwithstanding the foregoing, the Marine Academy will remain open to the membership of STARFLEET until otherwise decided by the STARFLEET Executive Committee for its members only. This decision will have no bearing on any independent Trek fan who wants to continue their studies while taking an active part in the Marine Adventure.

The Marine Academy will also close from time to time as deemed necessary by the SMI Command Staff and the Director of the Marine Academy, to reorganize materials and institute new policies and procedures.

I hope that this debate over who has authority over what will end here and now. Further discussion is counterproductive, unnecessary and unwanted. Let's move on to the future and the mutual benefit of all members concerned, in Starfleet Marines International, STARFLEET International, and all other Star Trek Fan organizations.

Jack Yeager
Shuttle *Raiden*

Dear STARFLEET,

This is the first report from Region 16 (near Osaka, Japan) by CAPT Jack Yeager, formerly CO of the *USS Harrier*. Star Trek in the area known as the Kansai, or Western Japan, is represented by *ST:TNG* on one channel at 1:35 AM on Tuesday nights. Unfortunately, Japanese programming is still in the third season of *ST:TNG*, and has not the slightest idea that *Deep Space Nine* exists.

Needless to say, this is not encouraging. However, there are Trekkers here. Finding these people is like turning over stones in a gravel yard, but it can be done. I'm in the process of building a new shuttle, the *Raiden*, and have one new member, Acting Ensign Toshifume Chikamatsu from Osaka, with others waiting for encouragement to join. This shuttle will be the first all Japanese crew in the Fleet. I'm hoping that seeing their names in print will show them that even out here on the fringes of the Federation they are important.

I am also looking for unassigned STARFLEET

Karen Hinckley
Shuttle *Mirage*

Dear STARFLEET,

In January of 1991 I was called to make a Next Generation uniform top. This was for a friend who had had an exchange student that was a great Star Trek fan and the top was going to be sent as a birthday present. This exchange student's name was Imke Schütte. After coming to the United States, she had fallen in love with the Next Generation, and she took that love home to Germany with her.

In December of 1991 I received a phone call from Imke. She was visiting Oklahoma City over the holidays and wanted to meet and discuss Star Trek and fandom. Of course, you don't have to ask me twice to discuss *anything* related to Star Trek and/or fandom. Well, after talking for hours and hours we decided that we definitely needed to keep this relationship going, even after she went back to Germany! I told her about STARFLEET, and she decided to join on the spot. From that time forward we became fast friends, writing to each other about twice a month. I kept her updated on the newest episodes, convention news and general Trek gossip!

In the meanwhile, she was accepted to Edinburgh University in Scotland to study Classical History. Of course, she could have picked from anything because she was extremely intelligent. (She actually asked me in one of her letters if she should major in History or Astro-physics!)

In May of 1993, I was overjoyed to read that she had decided to come to the USA to go with me and her younger sister (who was then an exchange student here) to Tex-Trek in Dallas, Texas. June came around and Imke arrived here with no problems. We attended Tex-Trek later on in July and had a grand time. Then it was time for Imke to go back home, and then back to school in Scotland. After teary farewells, I promised that I would come to Europe in 1995.

On December 27, 1993, I called long distance to Germany to find out my very dear friend and fellow STARFLEET officer Imke Schütte had died December 14 at her apartment in Edinburgh, Scotland. (I had just received a letter from her postmarked December 7th). Her death was just two months before her 22nd birthday.

Imke loved Star Trek and the philosophies that come from it. She loved British TV, chocolate chip cookies, hot tea, and Data. She was buried January 28th in her home, Germany.

Some unknowable people may say that Star Trek fandom is silly and unimportant, but because of Star Trek fandom Imke and I met. And will be eternally grateful to that fandom and love of Trek for having had the chance and the time to know such a wonderful person.



Imke Schütte

Marines to build a correspondence Marine Strike Group (the first in Japan). I hope to hear from you.

CAPT Jack Yeager
Shuttle *Raiden*
1815-2-107 Shinge, Sennan-Shi
Osaka-Fu, 590-05 JAPAN

Robert Usdin
Jacksonville, VT

Dear STARFLEET,

I read with interest the article by David Allen in the latest issue (#60) about choosing a computer. I particularly noticed that he chose to answer the question- Apple or IBM? - definitively with IBM. As an Apple Mac user for many years, I feel he did readers of *Communiqué* a great disservice by doing this.

I don't want to get into a "Apple VS. IBM-which is better?" argument, because, honestly, both are good for different things. Apples are known for being extremely easy to use and are great for novices. IBM's tend to be more complex, requiring a little more technical knowledge. Mr. Allen also serves to point out that "While Apples have gotten cheaper, they still average about \$500 more than a comparable PC." Has he been living under a rock for the past year?

Apple dropped prices on most of its PC's making them extremely good buys - and they even went so far as to start selling them in major appliance stores and retailers. You can buy an Apple in every Sears in the USA. So much for the statement "There are fewer Apple dealers around."

Also - he threw out terms in the article that most computer novices know absolutely nothing about. 'Z-Modem', 'Serial Port', and others are sure to confuse the rookie computer user. He doesn't even tell us what BBS stands for. He'd be better off writing a computer basics column for *Communiqué*, rather than throw everything together in a mish-mosh. Finally - he failed to mention one large factor in buying a computer - what computer the prospective computer user's friends, relatives, confidants, etc... use.

It's a heck of a lot easier to set up a new computer when you have two friends who also use that same computer, and can help you with problems, rather than muddle through a manual. It's also a lot more fun. My advice to STARFLEET members looking to buy a new computer: Think about what you want to do with it, then ask friends and relatives who have both kinds of computers what they use it for. See salesmen and ask LOTS of questions. Buy copies of magazines for both types of computers, and look to see what the computers can do. Buy the computer you find will do the most for YOU. Mr. Allen seems to think that just because he is a computer consultant, he knows what's right for you! What you should find out first is what you'll use the computer for- THEN consider what computers can help you accomplish your goals!

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Karen Emerson
USS Carson

Dear STARFLEET,

This is an open letter to the membership, bringing up several issues that have concerned me over the past several months. I may be alone in experiencing these problems, but I feel that I need to express myself in the open forum of the *Communiqué*.

Why is it that when I write to HO, as a Chapter President, about an issue vital to my ship, I *can't* get a reply from the people involved? The only person in HO to reply to my concern was VADM Anita Davis, and she had no part in the original decision made concerning my ship. I have sent three inquiries with my monthly reports, as well as one formal letter, along with two SASE's, and still no reply from those involved at HQ. This has been going on for four months now.

Are those involved at HO embarrassed to admit they made a decision *without* consulting those involved (Le., me or my RC), or embarrassed to have to admit they *reversed* or *overturned* a working compromise made with the previous administration? Otherwise, why have they not replied to reasonable requests for information?

On the same note – as chapter president I should be kept apprised of everything going on in STARFLEET so I can pass this on to my crew, yet the only way I've heard anything is by reading about it in the newsletters of other chapters. I call this a very serious breach of communications. I should have automatically received a copy of the new, very controversial by-laws, yet the only way there is access to them is by a computer modem, *which I don't have!* I can't afford a computer as I am a student in school.

It seems that most business in STARFLEET today is conducted by computers and modems; That seems to leave out those of us who don't have a computer and modem, or have any way to access them. What happened to pen and paper, to the stamp on the SASE if that envelope is not mailed back to me? Is it used for another purpose other than to send me a reply?

If HO is starting to ignore us, the common member, and even those who are supposed to be kept in the chain of command, i.e., me as a chapter president, then something is definitely wrong with the way the club is going right now, and needs to be corrected. To me, STARFLEET is there for the individual members, and any concerns voiced by those individual members should be addressed rather than ignored.

Robbie Tubbs
USS Rainbow Warrior

Dear STARFLEET,

Over the last few months, I have been taking courses through the STARFLEET College of Computer Sciences. I am currently working on the Master's Degree.

When I first applied to the College, I received the first part of the Bachelor's exam and a very encouraging note from Commodore Sharon Ann Campbell. The Bachelor's program deals with "real world" computers, and I will admit that I

learned some things from that course. The second part of the exam was an essay. I was given three topics from which to choose. They were three very broad subjects, so almost anyone could find a topic that was interesting.

Every time I sent an exam back, or applied for the next level, I received a reply from Commodore Campbell in three weeks or less. Considering the number of papers she has to read and grade, I found the turn-around time amazingly fast.

The next level is the Master's program. Again, she sent me twenty questions, and it was up to me to research the answers. Only, this time, the topic was computers in the world of Trek. I have some books at home, but not all of them. Getting the required books, however, was not a problem. Every book she referenced on the exam was at the local library. Since I can check out these books for three weeks, I had more than enough time to research the answers.

The essay for the Master's program is also about the world of Trek. I am currently working on that essay now, and do not anticipate any problems meeting the ten week deadline Commodore Campbell has.

I look forward to completing the Master's program and moving on to the Doctorate program. Commodore Campbell is very knowledgeable about computers and very organized in her Academy work.

I know some of the other Academies have had a few organizational problems. I urge Admiral Lerman and Admiral Brown to look at Commodore Campbell's program. My only regret is that she only runs the College of Computer Sciences.

Tommy L. Holman
USS Infinity

Dear STARFLEET,

I worked on security at Tex Trek last July. I understand they hired a video crew to make a video of the convention. What ever happened to that project? If anyone knows, please write me at, 618 Corsicana Hwy., Hillsboro, TX 76645

April Gorman
Regional Coordinator, Region 10

Dear STARFLEET,

I have been a member since 1982, almost the beginning, under Eric Stillwell, and have seen many changes throughout those years.

Being on the outer edges of the galaxy, we often don't receive communications until after the response time - sometimes we don't get them at all - maybe they've been intercepted by Ferengi or something! Anyway, our way of dealing with things has been one of following the philosophy of Gene Roddenberry's vision of Trek first, then STARFLEET policy second. We often have to make decisions that we can't wait six months to get the OK or opinion on -like Kirk, we have to act on the moment. Sometimes it turns out fine, sometimes not, but we always learn and do better the next time.

This is why I find it hard to understand those of you "closer to HO" who complain, argue, or attack. The nitty-gritty details are not as important

as the bond of brotherhood/sisterhood and the work that we are all doing to help our own and other communities. I've seen many administrators come and go, and every "Past President" has been criticized, but every leader has tried hard to promote the club in a positive way. In their "spare time" and with "minimal pay" they have sought to uphold the ideals of the Great Bird.

It saddens me to see people using their energy in a negative way rather than in a positive way. Hopefully, those who are working positively and making a difference will prevail and the complainers will see our fan club is a wonderful group of beings who support Gene's vision and are working to make the fantasy a little more real.

From "way out there" I greet you and wish everyone a healthy, prosperous year full of love, peace and growth.

John Winsley USS
Jamestown

Dear STARFLEET,

Having recently acquired an Internet address, and having a friend who passed his Amateur Radio exams, I decided to put together two directories. One of STARFLEET personnel with Internet addresses, and another of STARFLEET personnel with Amateur Radio call signs. If you wish to be included in either of these, please send the following information to:

Internet Directory (or STARFLEET Callbook)

C/O Mark Whittington
160 Cherokee Rd.
Hampton, VA 23661-3504

For the Internet listing, please send:

Name
Internet E-Mail address
Land address (optional)
Chapter / Region

For the STARFLEET Call book, please send:

Name
Callsign
License Class
Land address
Chapter / Region

You can be included in both lists if you desire.,
Thank you for your help.

Carol Hieneman
Portsmouth, OH

Dear STARFLEET,

Recently I attended a Voyager Promotion Convention - "Cinn Trek" held at the Cincinnati Convention Center in Cincinnati, Ohio. The celebrities were Walter Koenig, Dave Prowse (Darth Vader), and Mark Goddard (*Lost in Space*).

Although I would like to think of myself as one of the biggest fans Trek ever had, I am about to be overshadowed by my son who is three years old. This was his first convention with and he was really fired up! Clad in his Next Gen uniform, phaser and tricorder, we boldly set out for this trip where few mothers would dare to go! I have taken my other children (teenagers) to LagrangeCon and had a very enjoyable time. Anyway, my son was fascinated by a fan who looked like Worf - his idol. This guy was dogged by my little guy for

hours! Bless you, Worf, you were great! Also, the other Klingons there were fantastic and paid a lot of attention to Buddha (my son) and now he wants to drop his "Riker persona" and change species on me.

During the autograph signing, Buddha wanted his picture taken with Chekov. Let me say that an hour waiting in line with a three-year-old was no easy hour indeed. When we reached our turn, Mr. Koenig seemed tired and drained, but he agreed to a picture with Buddha. When the little guy showed some apprehension (he, too, was tired and drained) Mr. Koenig curtly said, "Just forget it - next please." My son was then heartsick when we were moved on.

On the other hand, Mark Goddard spent considerable time with us, talked about his own toddler, and I was totally taken by him. Dave Prowse would talk about whatever you wanted. He, too, was great. I would love to see more of these two stars at conventions.

Oh, and to Worf (whoever you are), my son is going crazy waiting for the pictures of you two together to be developed. I plan to have them enlarged. And I want you to know that you made the convention for us. Buddha is still telling everyone that *you* were the star!

Anthony Kubera
Pahoa, HI

Dear Fellow Trekkers,

I need your help in spreading some interesting Star Trek information. I live on the big island of Hawaii. . Like everywhere, economic times are hard. The Department of Business, Economics, Development and Tourism (DBEDT) on my island is working on ways to promote tourism. The university here is working with DBEDT in running the annual space camp called "Future Flight." Future Flight runs for two weeks in July. I volunteered to do Trek characters in helping with the program. The director of Future Flight was very enthusiastic about incorporating the Star Trek popularity into the space camp activities.

The DBEDT has plans to build a permanent space camp facility that would rival the Space Shuttle camp in Huntsville, Alabama. Instead of shuttle missions, Future Flight utilizes Hawaii's volcanos, lava fields, rain forests, and oceans. (You wouldn't believe how sterile a lava field looks).

Future Flight eventually wants to go commercial and run their program year round, promoting it nationwide and advertising it as a educational vacation. Thus Technotourism is born. Here's where we come in. As part of Future Flight, they want to develop a Star Trek theme program for adults, families and the community. Future Flight is talking to Paramount about permission to use the concepts, props, logos, etc. Since I'm in contact with adult Trekkers through conventions, correspondence, and Trek clubs, the DBEDT asked me to come up with suggestions on how an adult Star Trek themed space camp program might run.

Now, ideas from *one* 36-year-old male Trekker from Hawaii, whose favorite character in Kurn, isn't a diverse, overall view from the entire Trek public. So I'm coming to the fans to ask for

their input. I want to give the fans a chance to help design the program, and I'll turn the data I gather over to DBEDT, who in turn will use it to build something we Trekkers can enjoy. This is not going to be a one-hour studio-produced ride.

Imagine commanding the Enterprise bridge for a week, or, better yet, commanding a Klingon ship that is escorting the Enterprise through Romulan space. The scenarios are endless. Please write to me at: Anthony Kubera, P.O. Box 1754, Pahoa, HI 96778. Enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope, and I'll send you a questionnaire that can be reproduced and passed on to all the members of your group.

Thank you for your help!

Bob Vosseller
USS Challenger

Dear *Communiqué*,

I just wanted to write and commend you on a great job. Last issue was quite thick and had a wide variety of articles, features, letters, etc. This publication is doing quite well and it's a credit to STARFLEET. When I think back to my early days with STARFLEET, 12 years ago, the quality of that *Communiqué* to this is a universe of difference. I'm glad to hear so many submissions are coming in on a regular basis.

It's always great to see my old Ops Chief Lillian McManus' cartoons and the other talented STAR FLEET artists who are submitting their work. I even enjoyed the so-called "Klingon Controversy" of a few issues ago. I'm glad that we have our Fleet Admiral representing the Next Gen era and our Vice Fleet Admiral representing Classic/Movie era Trek. It seems to make things very balanced and quite interesting.

Well, keep up the high standards. I look forward to the next issue.

Scam Alert!

by Stephanie Danley, *USS Excalibur*

Recently, we received in the mail a flyer asking us to call a 900 number to register our vote to build a Star Trek theme hotel. This flyer said that they needed 1.5 million people before they could contact Paramount. Each vote on the phone number would cost you approximately \$6. The money was to be used to petition Paramount to build a theme park hotel.

I work in television news, so I smelled a scam in this. I asked our Consumer Investigative Reporter to check it out. Plain and simple, let the caller beware. The funds raised by this 900 number would be enough to build the hotel - over \$9 million - yet this was to register your vote. 900 numbers usually only cost about 50 cents to one dollar to set up and operate, so the rest of the money goes someplace else.

So the long and short of it, if you would like to see a Star Trek theme hotel, write a letter to Paramount Pictures, Inc., at 5555 Melrose Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90038. It will cost you 29 cents to mail the letter, not \$6, and will probably be more likely to make the point than this phone solicitation.

Avalon Surveys the Stars...

by Dean Strickland, *Shuttle Avalon*

It was a bitterly cold Newfoundland night on the 16th of February with the crystal clear light of our stellar neighbors streaming onto the crisp, new fallen snow. A group of the *Avalon's* fine engineers and a haphazard collection of officers and crew from the other ship departments converged on the Marine Institutes' Planetarium: A man-made representation of the night sky.

Once the formalities of introductions and greetings had been attended to, we all sat in our comfy reclining chairs and gazed wide-eyed toward the chalk-white dome which would soon be filled with more white...the pure white light from stars hundreds and thousands of light years away and millions of years in age. We were set to embark upon the greatest of all journeys... floating among the stars. The lights gradually began to fade into the artificial dusk and then night. Above, a few white specs formed on the celestial dome. Soon, the familiar patterns of our cold February nights burst onto the scene in all of their magic and splendor. Eyes were still adjusting to our quickly fallen night when our host began with the most familiar object to all of us in the night sky-the Big Dipper.

From there, we travelled hundreds of light years in only a few seconds to marvel at the Navigational Anchor of Polaris imbedded within the little bear. At maximum warp, we speed through star system after star system to reach Orion with his belt revealed and his arms upthrust to engage Taurus just a few seconds and many more light years away. After spending a few minutes to marvel at the wonder of these ancient mythical characters, we pressed on to explore Leo, Scorpio, and then Cygnus. All the while, we kept an eye on our closest neighbor in the Local Group: Andromeda, whose faint color and petite size betray the reality of vast collection of stars, gas, and possibly even planets so very far away that our minds struggle with the very notion of intergalactic travel. One cannot help but wonder if there sits somewhere in that galaxy a person wondering the same ideas and asking the same questions as we do.

Finally, we returned back to our launch point: Ursa Major. "When will the sun die?", "What will happen to the Earth when the sun fades?", and "How do stars die?" flood to the floor and our guide sends back answers that make us all feel a little more humble about our place in the universe. Then, the incandescent morning fell quickly upon us and our stellar companions of ancient origins gradually began to fade back into the projector as our eyes strained to adjust to the flood of the man-made morning. Slowly, we usher back out into the crisp night air and view those spectacular objects once again. Awe struck we are. Gone from the dome but etched forever in our minds and in the night sky, our stellar companions will be with us always.



FLEET FORUM

Good Deeds or Justifiers?

by Kelly Hilliard, *USS Republic*

A recent thread on STARFLEET Internet mail echo arose from the question posed by a member "Do we do so much community service because we want to or because it somehow justifies our being Trekkers?"

It's been many years since the *Saturday Night Live* skit with William Shatner and his infamous words, "Get a life!" We've lived under the shadow of a reputation as nerds whose only goal in life is to memorize Captain Kirk's safe combination. The stigma of being a Trek fan was a great one. And it is one that I think has, in part, influenced the continued increase in our community service.

Don't take me wrong. I'm not against community service, and I do more than my fair share, but I think the core reason many of us do community service is so we won't be laughed at. How many of you have met someone socially or at work, and when the conversation turned to Star Trek and your club activities, didn't you feel you had to put

in the community service aspect to be sure they didn't think you were a Trek nerd?

Sure, Gene's ideals as presented in Star Trek paint a bright future. But did he ever advocate community service? No, this was a fan initiative. The fans are the ones who have made the optimistic future one of giving that it is today. Should we stop or cut back on our community service because of that? No! Not if that is what you want to do. But if you do community service, do it because it is the right thing to do, not because you want people to respect you.

Being a Trek fan is nothing to be ashamed of. Being fans of Star Trek honors Gene's creative talents and supports an optimistic outlook on the world. It says there are people out there who think man will grow out of his pettiness and greed and will open his arms to the universe. The motto "Let me help" is a worthy one for STARFLEET, but just be sure that it is coming from the right place.

Keep the 3D-Mile Rule

by Michael Ward, *USS Imladris*

I am trying to start a petition to STARFLEET concerning the 30-mile rule that is presently in our By-Laws. I received the March/April issue of the *Fleet Status Update*. I was disgusted with what was written on page 10 concerning the 30-mile rule. Basically, it said that the 30-mile rule, or what may have been the 50-mile rule, was hogwash! It stated that the rule was never a rule. Therefore, shuttles can form without having to consider how close they are to another ship. If you think that this cannot happen to your chapter, believe me, it can, and eventually it will!

Although this would make it much easier to create shuttles, it can cause many problems. Without a distance rule, we can have several shuttles and ships in one apartment building, or even in the same apartment. Try recruiting members for your ship when there are other ships competing just a few blocks away. Your community involvement could be credited to another ship

just down the street from you. And if any problems occur, why, the ships will just blame the each other.

When I joined STARFLEET, the uniqueness of my chapter was a wonderful feeling. Our ship has worked long and hard to build up our name. It's a tremendous feeling to attract members from all around the community, and truly a joyous feeling when our shuttle was granted ship status. To water down those feelings of pride by placing several vessels right beside each other is foolish.

Two or more ships in the same city are usually the result of someone getting upset with the original ship. This person doesn't get their way, or they want the rank of Captain without taking the time and work involved to obtain that rank. This person complains to STARFLEET HQ, and is given their own shuttle. STARFLEET gives no consideration to the original ship, and if that ship should complain, they are labeled as a troublemaker and asked why they can't "get along." The ship that did all the hard work of introducing STARFLEET and getting everything started is

blamed for every complaint. It does no good for the original ship to state their side of the case. HQ very rarely listens.

A shuttle that starts up beside another ship without the approval of the original chapter usually creates havoc. Often the shuttle will steal members from the original ship by encouraging dissension and playing members off against each other. It's difficult for a ship to recruit and keep members with a rival ship watching their every move. It's also discouraging when a ship has worked hard to gain the trust and respect of a community, only to have another ship start up and claim credit for their hard work.

Don't get the wrong idea. I'm not against shuttles. They are a proud way to start your STARFLEET group. Without the shuttle program, STARFLEET could not have grown to where we are now. What I'm against is having another STARFLEET vessel on every corner around me. I'm against shuttles being dropped in the backyard of an established ship without that ship's approval. STARFLEET's habit of granting shuttle status is a slap in the face to every hard-working ship that has grown and progressed in a community. STAR FLEET needs to show some respect to ships that have already worked hard to develop their chapter. Instead, STARFLEET's responds to their concerns by saying, "Why can't you get along with anyone?"

I can see one justification for dropping shuttles down everywhere, no matter how close they may be to an established ship: STARFLEET can make a profit on a short-term basis. There is usually a quick influx of new members, which brings in a fast dollar. However, in the long run, the problems discourage members, making it difficult to maintain renewals. It can even cause long-time members to leave STARFLEET.

There are cities big enough to hold more than one shuttle. New York City is one example - it's big enough to maintain several ships without their stepping on each other's toes. Some cities in California are both populous enough and spread across a wide enough geographical area to support more than one ship. However, there have been some ships in very big cities that still ended up having trouble when a second ship was formed. The results from these troubles have left some cities without any STAR FLEET chapters.

I would like to petition STARFLEET Command to make a distance rule mandatory in the new constitution. The only exception would be if the shuttle is approved by the original ship in the area. Please write to STARFLEET and let them know your feelings, and please read that section of the proposed constitution carefully before you vote.

Correspondence Chapters

by John T. Burt, *USS Stellar Wind*

As of March 1, the Stellar Wind's Board of Directors will change. Allyson Dyar will be the Chapter Chairperson and I will be the Chapter Vice-Chairperson. Since Allyson will live in Washington at that point, the Chapter will be officially assigned to Region 05. So good-bye Region 04, and hello Region 05.

I want to point out a fact to those of you who

Continued next page

Forum continued

are not familiar with correspondence chapter operations. The Region a correspondence chapter reports to has almost no bearing on our reality. Our daily operations are virtually independent of regions and members from all regions are treated equally. No two of the *Stellar Wind's* Administrative Officers live in the same city, and the CO, FO, and SO don't even live in the same state. It is the opinion of most correspondence chapter members I have talked to that a correspondence chapter should be able to choose the region they want to report to, since some Regional Coordinators deal with correspondence chapters better than others. Personally, I think there should be a special "region" for correspondence chapters that is not location specific.

And finally, the most important bit: VADM Janis Moore, Region 04 RC, has always dealt with us very well. She has kept us informed better than anyone in STARFLEET and has always supported our activities when she could. Thank you, Janis. As a member who is now assigned to a chapter in Region 05, but who lives in Region 04, I hope to keep in touch.

Klingons: Imperial vs. Human Fusion

by Bob Vosseller, *USS Challenger*

The week of March 28th was quite a week for ST fans. Not only had the Traveler unexpectedly returned to *ST:TNG* to whisk Wesley Crusher away to a new life of his own accord, but we saw three old Klingon friends on *DS9*. John Colicos, William Campbell, and Michael Ansara reprised their roles of Kor, Koth, and Kang, respectively, and were made up as Imperial Klingons.

While the fate of Wesley remains a concern and a source of controversy to the Federation, I was curious as to how those members of Klingon groups reacted to the episode "Blood Oath."

Paramount seems to have tossed out the fan concept of human fusion Klingons, so say nothing of Kor's previous appearances as a human fusion in DC Comics' graphic novels and comic books, although for some reason DC Comics' first run with ST featured Koth as an Imperial (and as I recall, he also died in that same story).

I think that is why many fans I spoke to felt disappointed by the episode. Were those Klingons truly Kang, Kor, and Koth?

No convoluted explanation of them each being surgically altered will cut it. I think the producers' lack of thought for what the fans think was also disappointing.

Just how did those Klingons stay alive so long? Why did Kor say to Kang, "This is what happens when you work for the devil?" Don't you recall Kang saying in "Day of the Dove" that "We have no devil, but we know the workings of yours?" Where's consistency?

I for one always felt there was room for both Klingon types in ST. I loved seeing the Classic Klingon trio, but I would have liked to see them as we all remembered them, marking the first appearance of Human Fusions since ST Classic. Oh well, I suppose we just didn't notice the head ridges during Kirk's first five year mission. After all, it's only a TV show, isn't it?

CONVENTIONS

FAN-RUN • PROFESSIONAL EVENTS • STARFLEET GATHERINGS

1994 STARFLEET INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE, June 17-19, Orlando North Hilton, Orlando, FL. Guests: Leonard Nimoy, Arne Starr. Registration: Before March 1st with STARFLEET discount (include SCC# when ordering)-\$25 for weekend. \$40 at the door. Hotel reservations: call 800/247-1985 or 407/830-1985. For more information, write: Vulkan Conventions, 12237 SW 50 St., Cooper City, FL 33330-5406 or call 305/434-6060.

NOVACON II, July 30-31, Tyson's Westpark Hotel, Vienna, VA. Guests: Michael Dorn, Walter Koenig, Bennet Pomerantz, A.C. Crispin, Dennis Russel Bailey. Registration: weekend \$35 (\$55 reserved seating). \$40 at the door. Hotel reservations: Call 703/734-2800. For more information, write One Trek Mind Productions, Inc., P.O. Box 3363, Merrifield, VA 22116.

MALLWORLD, August 13-14, 1994, Country Club Plaza (Watt & El Camino Avenues), Sacramento, CA. Presented by *USS Defiance*. FREE admission. Benefits Big Brothers & Big Sisters. Programming includes gala costume contest, Star Trek-related skits, presentations, trivia contests, drawings, static displays, costume & make-up demonstrations, and dealers. For info, contact VADM Janis Moore, MallWorld Coordinator, P.O. Box 188993, Sacramento, CA 95818-8993; phone 916/440-6608 (days), 916/447-0856 (evenings).

CINEVUE FILM FESTIVAL, August 17-20, 1994, Days Inn Downtown/Convention Center, Washington, D.C. Science fiction, fantasy, horror and Sci-Fi-comedy film and video awards competition and convention. Guests: Douglas E. Winter, J.R. Bookwalter, David Martin, David Knapp, others TBA. Dealers room, charity auction, all-day screenings, gala Awards Banquet - \$50 per person. Memberships: \$15 for one day, \$25 for four days. Deadlines for entries: June 30 1994. Hotel rooms available for \$60 per night, mention Cinevue Festival for special rate. For more info, write: CINEVUE, P.O. Box 428, Bostwick, FL 32007-0428 or call 904/325-5254.

ONIZUKA TREK '94, August 27-28, 1994, Chico Mall, Chico, CA. Sponsored by USS Onizuka. Guests: Author Kevin J. Anderson, additional guests TBA. Information: SASE to USS Onizuka, P.O. Box 1235, Chico, CA 95927 or call Shirley Rone 916/342-1253 or Patrick Graham 916/899-8280.

VULKON, August 27-28, 1994. N. Marriott, Ft. Lauderdale, FL. Guests: Armin Shimerman, David McDonnell. For more information, write: Vulkan Conventions, 12237 SW 50 St., Cooper City, FL 33330-5406 or call 305/434-6060.

BALLAD TREK III, August 26-28, 1994. Radisson Hotel, Asheville, NC. Guests: Movie Director

James Cummings, 3 LucasFilms FX techs, modeler Gino Dykstra, costumer David Manwearing, plus authors, artists, movie makers, costume contest, video contest, gaming, computers and filking. Registration: \$14.95 before 7/15/94, \$19.95 thereafter. For information, write: Ballad Trek III, 39 Hanover St., Asheville, NC 28806.

STARDREAM I CON, September 8-11, 1994, Mannheim, Germany. Visit beautiful Germany and celebrate the 28th anniversary of Star Trek! Supported by *USB Europe*. Information: STAR TREK FANCLUB "Enterprise", c/o S. Strybus, Hans Sachs Ring 17, 68199 Mannheim-Niederfeld, GERMANY.

SHORECON '94, September 9-11, 1994, Sheraton Eatontown Conference Center, Eatontown, NJ. Proposed site for Region 7 Conference. Guests: Jim Hlavaty, Jeff Menges, Louis Small. Star Trek, gaming, LARPs, comics, auction, dealers, anime, Costume Dance. Registration: \$15 for weekend in advance; \$20 at the door. Contact: Shorecon, 142 South St. Unit 9C, Red Bank, NJ 07701-2216.

CARECON, September 16-18, 1994, Columbus Convention Center, Columbus, OH. Guests: James Doohan, Marina Sirtis, Mark Lenard, John DeLancie, Jonathan Del Arco, Robert O'Reilly, Richard Arnold, Bjo Trimble. Celebrity auction, Trek Museum, Dealers room, celebrity interviews, technology showcase. Proceeds to benefit Kids 'n kamp, a non-profit organization that assists children with cancer and their families. Tickets: \$75 for three days. Charge-by-phone at 614/431-3600.

VULKON, September 30 - October 2, 1994, Castlegate Hotel, Atlanta, GA. Guest: Rene Auberjonois. Registration: At the door: \$40 for weekend, \$20 per day. Mail orders postmarked by Sept. 2 - \$30 for weekend membership. Must enclose SASE, make check payable to "Devlin Associates" and write "ODO - GA" on the check. Mail to: Vulkan, c/o Joe Motes, 12237 SW 50th St., Cooper City, FL 33330.

LAGRANGECON '94, October 28-30, 1994 (Halloween weekend), Cleveland, OH. Guests: Rene Auberjonois, Michael Jan Friedman, David McDonnell (*Starlog* magazine). Costume contest, panels, video rooms, dealers room, Halloween dance. Information: LAGRANGECON '94, P.O. Box 1193, Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44223.

DISCLAIMER: STARFLEET assumes no responsibility for the credibility or reliability of the conventions listed, and lists them strictly as a convenience to the STARFLEET community. STARFLEET has no connection with any of the conventions listed unless it is clearly stated in the listing. Please inquire about conventions prior to sending money.

Around The Fleet

STARFLEET 1994 20th Anniversary Conference Update

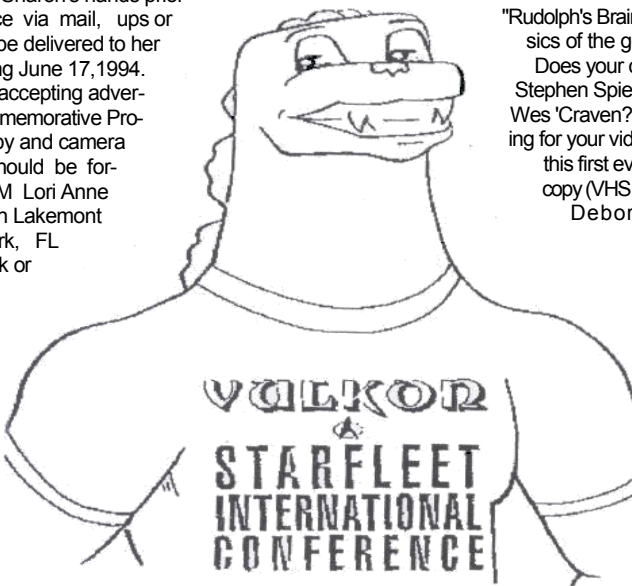
by VADM Deborah J. Nelson, Conference Director

The STARFLEET 1994 International Conference is fast approaching, so here's an update from Star Base Margaritaville!

For those chapters who are attending and plan on bringing chapter banners: If you want your banners to be displayed during opening ceremonies, it is very important that you provide a picture or diagram of your banner, plus the measurements. This information can be sent to CAPT Sharon Stewart, 5847 Pauma Ct., Sarasota, FL 34232. Banners will need to arrive in Sharon's hands prior to the conference via mail, ups or other service, or be delivered to her by Friday morning June 17, 1994.

We are also accepting advertising for the Commemorative Program Book. Copy and camera ready artwork should be forwarded to RADM Lori Anne Brown, 426 South Lakemont Ave., Winter Park, FL 32792, with check or money order made payable to STARFLEET/Region 02. Rates are: Back Cover \$800; inside front or inside back \$500; Full Page \$400; Half Page \$250; Quarter Page \$150; Eighth Page \$100; Marketplace (classified size) \$50.

You may have noticed the picture accompanying this article - well that's to help announce the International Conference T-Shirt Sale. T-shirt supply may be limited if you wait to purchase yours at the conference, so pre-order now! The Commemorative T-shirt will be waiting for you at registration. The artwork is being done by Cheryl Mandus and will incorporate the STARFLEET 20th Anniversary in the design. T-shirts are available in all sizes at a cost of \$15.00. Send check or money order made payable to Devlin Associates to VULKON/ Joe Motes, 12237 SW 50th Street, Cooper City, FL 33330, along with SASE for receipt.



The Conference Committee Chairperson, CAPT Betsy Matteis, along with Programming Chairperson CAPT Denise Duggan and myself have been working on the program schedules and we're planning on putting a lot of information and fun into this weekend. Along with the workshops, panels, discussion groups and games planned, we will also be running an the First Annual Informal STARFLEET Film Festival. Yes, this is your opportunity to see STARFLEET produced film gems such as

"The Nexus Generation", "Rudolph's Brain" and other classics of the genre.

Does your chapter include a Stephen Spielberg, or even as Wes Craven? If so, we're looking for your video's to include in this first ever event. Send a copy (VHS please) to VADM

Deborah J. Nelson, 3801 SW 59 Terrace, #202, Davie, FL 33314. All films will be shown! (Please label videos that might contain anything not considered PG13! Nude, crude or lewd material not accepted!)

We're looking forward

to seeing members from all over the world in Orlando for the conference. If you are planning on attending, try to arrive in time for Opening Ceremonies Friday night at 9 PM- we're planning a spectacle of sight and sound befitting the 20th Anniversary. Roll call of the Fleet will open the Saturday morning General Session (we're hoping for record-breaking attendance). Non-stop programming choices will be available all day Saturday and Sunday, with a break on Saturday Night for the 20th Anniversary party (followed by the 20th Anniversary Hangover Breakfast). See you in Orlando - GO FOR THE MAGIC!

STARFLEET Online

by J. Michael Long, Shuttle Confederate

At the risk of sounding like an advertisement for the new Phoenix Online Network, I decided to write this article to let STARFLEET members know about an opportunity we now have.

Phoenix is a new computer network based out of Arizona. It is an online system that can be accessed by all four of the major computers on the market, such as PCs, Macs, Amiga, and the Commodore 64/128, plus Apple, Coco, and Atari. If you have any of these computers, you can get online Phoenix. Why would you want to, you ask? Well...if enough STARFLEET members join, Phoenix will give us our own forum (Department) online! Yes, OUR own STARFLEET Department! This would be a chat area, and a department to upload/download files. They already have an active "Ten-Forward Lounge" and a department called "Federation Files" for Star Trek fans plus trivia. The Star Trek section online now is small but growing. With more members will come more files and areas.

STAR FLEET members have an opportunity to get online and help create the STARFLEET Department. The management of Phoenix is very receptive to new ideas, and they are incorporating user ideas now. *And they have opened their arms to STARFLEET members!* The next move is ours. I have been in contact with the management of Phoenix since I first logged on, and after much discussion on this subject, they have offered this forum to STARFLEET and I am passing it on to you. Of course, Phoenix is more than just Trek. It is a complete online system with an Internet connection coming in February '94. There is something there for everyone. Plus Star Trek!

And how much does this opportunity cost? Just \$4.50 an hour. That's all. No set-up fee, *free access to Internet*. You can use any Terminal software. By the way, as more people join, the hourly fee will drop. Just \$4.50 an hour and we can all have access to each other!

I urge all STARFLEET members with computers and modems to join! No matter what computer you own, we can chat together! Phoenix also would like to link up with TrekNet. Anyone on TrekNet that can help, please call Phoenix.

To join Phoenix and take advantage of this wonderful opportunity, call 1-800-869-1155 toll free. They'll setup your account, and answer your questions. Just be sure to mention STARFLEET!

Gee, this did sound like an advertisement. Oh well...hope to see ya online!

Welcome Aboard!

The Commander and crew of the Shuttle *Mirage* would like to officially announce the arrival of our newest member, Alexander Benjamin Wroblewski. He arrived December 28th, 1993 to the joy (and surprise - he wasn't due until February) of his parents Nina and Gerry. Gerry is a member of the *USS Concord*, so Alex was born into a STARFLEET family. He weighed in at 4 pounds, 11 ounces.

New aboard the *USS Lagrange* is Gerard Neil Stein, born on February 2, 1994. Parents Dona and Steve note that Gerard has already joined his brother Jake as a Damage Control Technician in the Engineering Department of the *Lagrange*.

Region 07 Brings in the New Year in Mummer's Parade by Bob Vosseller, Region 07 Chief of Communciations

A significant portion of STARFLEET Region 07 brought in the New Year in the City of Brotherly Love at the site of the annual Philadelphia Mummer's Day Parade.

The event also allowed STARFLEET to receive some TV time during coverage of the parade on a Philadelphia television station and nation through the syndicated Travel Channel. Members of the *USS Sovereign*, whose XO Pam Fernsler coordinated the event, joined crew members from the *USS Thagard*, *USS Endurance*, *USS Blackheart*, *USS Challenger*, *USS Briza*, *USS Lexington*, and the Shuttle *Malverne*, as well as our Klingon allies from the IKV *T'Prang* who performed the Klingon Rite of Ascension as a parade presentation.

The groups united under the banner of the "Starfleet Strutters" dressed (warmly) in Federation Classic and Next Gen uniforms while the Klingons wore their own regular battle garb. For those keeping notes on this sort of thing I was the lone DS9 uniformed officer.

Parade Captain Fernsler said that 50 members gathered on the cold morning "to demonstrate the them of Star Trek: The future through the unity of diversity."

"Many good ideas for the two-minute presentation were provided, but due to the short time in which to get a presentation read, the Klingons were the best bet since they had done the Rite of Ascension before," CDR Fernsler remarked. Footage of the ceremony was used during several commercial breaks.

The Starfleet Strutters brigade marched with the Landi Comic Club. "Out of a total of 40 competing brigades, for which there were 20 cash prizes, the Strutters took 15th place, winning \$166.50. It was unexpected since this was our first year, so it was a great bonus," the Parade Captain added.

She thanked Stephen Haenn, *USS Endurance* who coordinated the making of the brigade's special banner; Jon Jobeck, leader of the *T'Prang*; *USS Thagard* CO Sashi German and her CMO Penny Croak who assisted with parade formation; Bob Vosseller as representative-at-large for Region 07; and *Sovereign* CMO Steve Flaer and Maria Flaer for use of their van for the parade, which was decorated with STARFLEET banners, one of which was made by CAPT Vosseller and Challenger Security Chief Dawn Weil, as well as a sign featuring Region Coordinator Alex Rosenzweig (in absentia). *Thagard* officer Chuck Plant helped Stephen Haenn carry the banner.

Other COs included: Barbara Sall, *USS Sovereign*; Larry Neigut, *USS Briza*; Tony Rowley, Shuttle *Malverne*, Mike Smith, *USS Lexington*; and CDR Louise Smith leading the *USS Challenger* delegation (who carried their brand new Galaxy Class banner made by Bill Berghimer as well their original banner) and Richard Sussman representing the *USS Blackheart*.

At press time it had not been determined whether the prize money would be given to the STARFLEET Scholarship fund as originally considered, or donated to the Philadelphia Homeless Shelter Association.

On behalf of Region 07, a certificate was presented to the *T'Prang* crew for their help. Plans are already being considered by STARFLEET Region 07 command for the Starfleet Strutters return next year, and for organizing a different presentation.

It should be noted that this event brought together many members, some of whom were recovering from the *Thagard's* annual New Year's Eve party, others who set out as early as 4:30 a.m. to arrive on time, to assemble on a chilling but rewarding romp through the streets of Philadelphia. It was a great way to start off 1994!

The Third Annual Region 03 Olympics

by John Bunton, Region 03 Coordinator

The day was overcast and the first few rays of the morning sun has just appeared when the setup and tear-down crews began to arrive at Lynn Creek Park at Joe Pool Lake to set up the events and opening ceremonies for the third annual Region 3 Olympics.

Ceremonies began with a phaser ignitor lighting the Olympic torch which was met with shouts, applause and cries of how did they do that? Then the games began: while the Cardio Pulmonary Re-evaluation games rolled on (volleyball) other events such as the X.O. toss (where each six man team broke into three two-man teams and



tossed a dummy into airlocks) and C.O. Shots (catching water-balloons in a fishing net- we called it a loyalty exam) gathered their own participants and spectators.

During all this team oriented events such as the Titan Run (blind man bluff with each member of the team having a chance to instruct another) and Xenobiology rescue (take the Horta through the obstacle course) set a new standard in which the best team players stood the best chance of winning the day. By far the favored game of the day was the Engineering Exam in which teams were given kits of materials and 1 hour to design and build a rescue pod to transport and protect ambassador Ovoid during his 14 foot sojourn to a 4 foot drop. Even the police stopped by to enjoy the sight and make comments about someone passing Romulan Ale.

The day dwindled, Quark's Bar and grill ran out of Blood Worms in Blankets (hot dogs), Saucer Sections (hamburgers) and Rokegh Blood Pie (frito chili pie) and the odds began to narrow on who would have the best team in Region 3. On the Midway participating teams gleefully tackled passerbys in the hopes of winning the coveted Nagus award to awarded at the end of the day.

When the smoke cleared, aided by a brief shower, a combination IKE/Starfleet group calling themselves the AVENGERS won 1st place and walked away with the plaque, 1st place trophy, and the realization that they were the best team in town. With the possible exception of the three ship team who had sponsored the event.

Videos of the events will be for sale from the Region 3 coordinator upon request, for more information on the Olympics, or to register a team for next year contact: John Bunton, Region 3 Coordinator 14606 Dallas Parkway #1137 Dallas TX 75240 (214) 960-9621



Members of the *USS Sovereign*, *USS Endurance*, *USS Challenger*, *USS Thagard*, *USS Briza*, *USS Blackheart*, *USS Lexington*, *Shuttle Malverne*, and the Klingon group IKV *T'Prang* come together under the banner of "Starfleet Strutters" during the Philadelphia Mummer's Parade.

OPERATION: STABILIZE The *USS Vindicator* California Earthquake Relief Effort

by Brian Walrath, *USS Vindicator*

In mid January, 1994, an earthquake measuring 7.2 on the Richter scale rocked the State of California. Over thirty people lost their lives and over 40 thousand more lost their homes, businesses, and work places. Initially, the news media was filled with images of the destruction. Apartment houses fell into their lower floors, homes collapsed, buildings crumbled, and bridges and overpasses were destroyed. Fires started by the quake and uncontrollable with the water distribution system damaged did even more damage. The total cost of the damages is estimated at over 15 billion dollars. After a few days, the media coverage dropped off. Even the numerous aftershocks, many of which would have been considered earthquakes in their own right, got only a 15 second sound bite on the national news. At least here in Dallas-Fort Worth, the Cowboys' return to the Super Bowl was much more in evidence in the media than "just another California Earthquake".

On January 12th, the *USS Vindicator* had our first meeting at our new meeting place, a huge room at the Wyatt's Cafeteria in Denton, Texas. It was a very successful meeting, attended by over fifty of the crew, a member of the Region 03 staff, the Command crew of our Shuttle *Andromeda*, and the Captains of two other Starships within Region 03. Among other things, we discussed our new T-shirts, and various fund raising projects to raise money for them and the upcoming International Convention in Orlando. As the meeting wound down, Chief Petty Officer Richard Hoskins stood up and asked Fleet Captain Simmons, "What about the California earthquake?"

There was a moment of confused silence in the room, followed by the light of comprehension on Fleet Captain Simmons' face. It was almost like an electric spark that traveled around the room. Everybody started talking at once. Fleet Captain Simmons restored order and after a few of our veteran fund raisers offered ideas and opinions, he called the motion. Chief Petty Officer (and Crewman of the Year 1993) Jim Roach seconded. The vote was unanimous. The Region 03 staff members and captains of the other ships and shuttles present promised their full support. OPERATION: STABILIZE became a reality.

We knew that if we decided to raise just cash, our efforts would meet with limited success. Many other organizations were going that route. The people in California, living in parking lots and looking at the piles of rubble that used to be their homes and jobs needed food, drinkable water, and clothing, not a donation in their name to some national charity organization that would use part of the donation to cover their overhead, and the rest to fund whichever project they assigned priority to. We also knew that the cash we were likely to be able to raise wouldn't even pay for one shipment of food, clothing, and supplies all the way to California. We needed to find someone to

donate transportation, or tie into an existing effort that already had arranged for it. We needed to get the word out, and not just to fellow STARFLEET members.

The next day, Sunday Jan. 13th, was the day of the Region 03; Quadrant 1 Meeting. Fleet Captain Simmons invited me to come and speak on behalf of OPERATION: STABILIZE. As the *Vindicator's* Chief Damage Control Officer, it was only natural that this effort fell into my department. After a brief introduction by Fleet Captain Simmons, I explained OPERATION: STABILIZE as we saw it, and what we hoped to accomplish with it. The assembled captains and their staffs fielded many useful criticisms and suggestions. This meeting, combined with blanket coverage of Vice Admiral Clayton Melanson's Region 03 BBS system and TrekNet, served to get the word out to the STAR FLEET ships in the region. My next step was to contact the local media. To my dismay, almost every news desk I contacted at the local TV stations considered the California earthquake to be old news, not worthy of the time of their limited staffs. All referred me to the Red Cross. After repeated brush-offs, one reporter at one station did pass me the name and number of Larry Wyka at the Spotlight Talent Agency. This lead proved to be the one we were looking for.

Los Angeles Earthquake Disaster Relief is an alliance of businesses and groups that saw the problem of the earthquake relief the same way we did. Spotlight Talent Agency, American Airlines, MNX Trucking, Ozarka Bottled Water, Farmer's Insurance Group, PVI Industries, the United Way, and a whole host of other companies and groups were accepting donations not just of cash money, but of food, clothing, baby and personal hygiene supplies, and anything else anyone could think of. MNX Trucking put up a 53' tractor trailer, cab and driver. Spotlight Industries maintained a phone line and provided a collection station. American Airlines donated several relief flights. Ozarka put up a ton of bottled water and every Farmer's Insurance office in the Metroplex accepted donations. I spoke to them and received an invitation to put anything we could collect on their trucks. Fleet Captain Simmons called them back, spoke to Sharon Campbell and made the STARFLEET's OPERATION: STABILIZE a full partner in their efforts.

After discussing the matter with *USS Joshua* Captain Gail Rushing, I contacted Joe Motes of Vulkan Conventions. Vulkan Dallas was on the weekend of Jan. 26th-27th, and Joe immediately agreed to let us use his convention as a collection point. This turned out to be a godsend. We were given table space to collect donations. The Vulkan television advertising directed convention goers to Captain Rushing's Region 3 Hotline, and OPERATION: STABILIZE information was included in that message. Lt. (j.g.) Amy Walrath baked 40 dozen cookies to be given away at the convention as an inducement to make a donation. We collected relief supplies from Star Trek fans and the crew members of 25 STARFLEET ships and shuttles from around the region at Vulkan. Commander Bill James, CO of the *USS Vindicator* Shuttle *Andromeda* really came through. He had much better luck with the media in the Gainesville and Sherman, Texas. He and his crew solicited

an entire truckload of relief supplies from that area.. He, Fleet Captain Simmons, Commander Bill James, Petty Officer Amy Shields, Warrant Officer Daryll Love, and myself sacrificed time in the middle of the convention to take the all these contributions to the LAEDR collection point. We were joined there by the *USS Kronos's* Lt. Karen Elaluf and family, who brought in another three truckloads of furniture and other goods they collected. The crew of the *USS Comanche* donated part of their profits from the sale of Tex Trek T-shirts. We had so much success at Vulkan that we overloaded LAEDR's capacity to ship goods to California. After a final load of goods collected at the *USS Vindicator* meeting on Feb. 12th, we were reluctantly forced to restrict further donations to cash contributions. \$120 was donated to the United Way, with matching funds from PVI Industries, \$70 was sent to the *USB Miramar's* STARFLEET Region 04 relief effort.

OPERATION: STABILIZE is still an ongoing *USS Vindicator* and STARFLEET project. We are currently trying to arrange more shipments of goods through PVI Industries. We are still getting calls from STARFLEET members, Star Trek fans, and many good people who believe that natural disasters affect us all. If you feel this way and would like to help, contact Fleet Captain Johnathan Simmons at (817) 737-9543, or LCdr. Brian Walrath at (817) 498-1738, or write OPERATION: STABILIZE, c/o *USS Vindicator*, 6200 Carswell Access #82, River Oaks, TX 76114-3143.

Miramar Crew Coordinates Local Earthquake Relief Effort by Troy Walker and Gaye Holder, *USS Miramar*

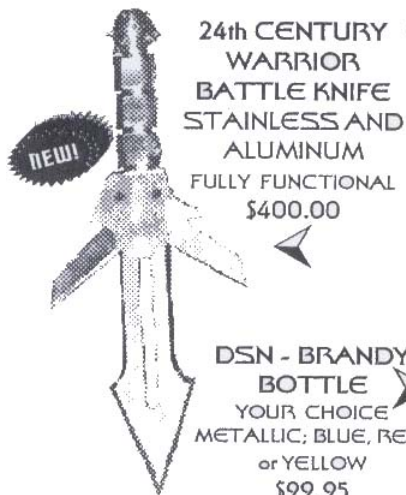
At 0430 on 9301. 17, Los Angeles, CA was rocked by a 6.5 (later upgraded to 6.8) Earthquake, that took over 50 lives and left thousands of people without shelter.

Our first thoughts were of the *USS Alliance* and other STARFLEET personnel in the LA. area. We called CAPT Jennifer Cole of the Alliance (also Sector Four Chief for Region 04). She had heeded training, by rolling out of bed and heading for the doorway, when her hutch fell. She was all right but had not had time to contact any of her personnel. It took a bit longer to get a hold of CDR Allyson Dyar, but she also fared well, so we called CAPT Knight, the Regional Four, South Vice Coordinator and volunteered our services as needed.

A short while later, we got the call that the *USS Miramar*, was the coordination point for Quake relief for the Fleet in Region 04. All the phone lines, to the area, were tied up and we'd been the only ones to get through. We, being in San Diego County, were also closer than most of the other vessels of Region 04.

Adam Bernay, the Medical coordinator for Region 04 had only recently moved to LA, so all anyone had on him was a PO Box. We had a tense couple of days until he checked in with CAPT Cole. He had been in the middle of a move,

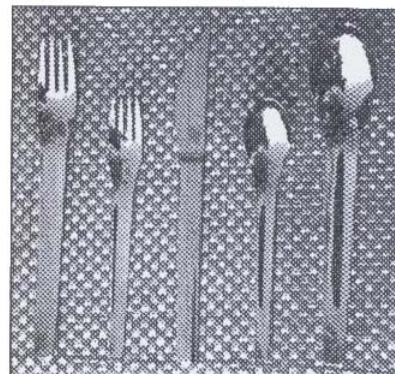
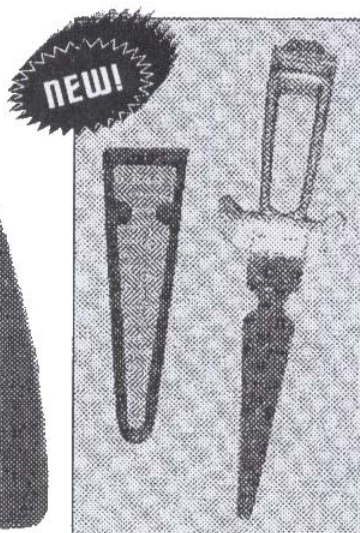
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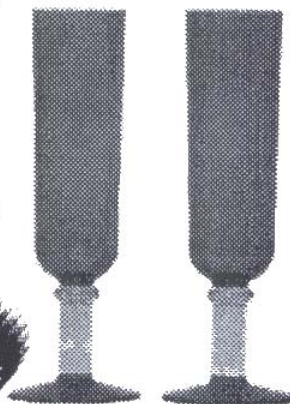
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Earthquake continued

thus suffered no appreciable loss. Physically, all STARFLEET members were all right.

Property wise, the assessments were under way. Capt Cole, reported that none of her people required any of the donations raised by Region 4 so *that* the money & items should go to the local community.

The *USS Mirimar* collected donations of nine bags of stuffed animals to ease the children of the quake that first week. This was handed over to Project Cuddle, San Marcos, Ca. who trucked them up to LA. The donations of clothes, jackets, towels, sheets, a comforter, food, bottled water, etc. (worth approx. \$400.00) were turned over to Father Joseph of the St Vincent DePaul Mission, San Diego. He was organizing regular shipments to LA.

Because of the distance, ships to the North who wanted to help, were advised to send checks either to the *Miramar* or to their local RED CROSS DISASTER RELIEF, who's agencies could use the money to the best advantage.

CDR Paul Walker of the Shuttle *Peacekeeper*, NCC 231 OS/02 from Visalia, CA, sent a check for \$100.00 donated by his crew. Roy C. Seiler & Carol Seiler, Marie Noel Mansfield & Anne M. Woods, all sent checks that totaled \$55.00 from the *USS Atrides*, NCC 60022. This money has been turned over to the Red Cross Disaster Relief - Earthquake Fund.

Oklahoma City, home of the "Feed the Children" foundation, had a 3-mile long convoy on the road to LA the day after the quake. San Diego put out a call for donations, organized by KFMB radio & TV. It was to be a one day event planned from 6am to 7pm. However, the response was so great that by 4pm they had filled 12 semi-trucks and were asking for more trucks to hold the donations; this after a big turnout a year ago to aid the victims of the floods that devastated LA, San Diego and Tijuana- The quake event netted 21 semi-trucks, full of donations from that one day. Who said that America has lost her heart?!!

One STARFLEET member, who is a carpenter, from Visalia, called to offer assistance with the rebuilding. He was told to call the Red Cross, who could best direct him to the area most needed- Three days later, a group in San Diego had organized a caravan of construction skilled people to LA for the same purpose.

A lot of people came to the aid of those totally unknown to them. They are to be commended. The STARFLEET members who answered the call are indeed living up to our organization's ideals. A tremendous THANK YOU to the ones named and to those who have given of themselves without leaving a name.

The Storm Bird is Away!

by Daniel Hislop, *USS Comanche*

At AggieCon 25, something very special occurred. The *USS Storm Bird*, the first shuttle launched from the *USS Comanche*, was commissioned. . CAPT Damien Harrelson and his crew are now an official STARFLEET and Imperial Klingon Empire Starship. The *USS Storm*

Bird, NCC-KL8501 is currently the only vessel in STARFLEET with the "KL" designation signifying it is a true Klingon vessel rather than a vessel build by the Klingons and operated by STARFLEET, as is the case with the other Klingon vessel in Region 03, the *USS Kronos*.

It has been a honor to sponsor the first vessel that is registered in both fleets. Her crew represents a variety of cultures as she is an ambassadorial ship. Orions, Bajorans, Caitians, Klingons, Humans, and a variety of other races make up her crew complement If this bunch can get along with all their differences, all us Terrans should be able to.

The *Storm Bird* is a Vor'cha class Klingon Battle Cruiser. Its legend indicates that it was purchased from the Klingon Empire by an Orion, her current Captain, and was registered with the Orions, STARFLEET, and the IKE. It began a quest to assemble ambassadors from all over the know empire to promote peace across the galaxy. This quest continues *today*.

A spirit of acceptance is the order of the day on board the *Storm Bird*. Differences are welcome and encouraged. There may be a lesson in this for us all to learn.

I hope more vessels join STARFLEET and receive the "KL" designation. But, for now, the *Storm Bird*'s unique as is her special crew. I hope you all give CAPT Harrelson and his crew your congratulations. They have done us and themselves proud. God Speed *Storm Bird*!

The Wreck of the Edmund Fitz-Maddox

by Allen Leddon, *USS Maddox*

*"Bangles and beads and
Ribbons and bows;
That's the way
The 'Jenny M.' goes."*

*"Ho, ho, ho! Make it so! Make it so!
The jolly ol' elf didn't sound like 'is jolly ol' self!"*

The streets of "our town" were bright and shiny with tinsel and all the joys of Christmas shone in the little faces lining the route that we were to take. The shuttle *Asimov* from the *USS Jeannette Maddox* was just one of more than fifty escorts to 01' Saint Nick as he arrived in Wichita in mid-December. (For those of you who don't know, the shuttle *Asimov* is a 1/3 scale model of the Shuttlecraft used in the original *Star Trek*, constructed by Michael Capps, and used by the *Maddox* in fund raising). Since the FAA didn't want to approve low level fly-overs, the *Asimov* was on the back of an Arrow Wrecker Service truck, (This would be a good place to thank our sponsors: Arrow Wrecker Service, Dwyer's Hallmark Shop, and KSAS Fox 24) the whole kit-'n-caboodle was festooned with holly and evergreen boughs until it reeked of holiday cheer.

Marching before and abeam the shuttle was the entire crew (darned near) of the *USS Jeannette Maddox*, and several crew members from the *Oklahoma* and the *Krazny Oktyabr*. Some of the hits we had aboard the shuttle platform were the

KSAS Fox (Complete with Uniform Top), and our two Vulcan guests. The discordant sound of enthusiastic high school bands playing every happy song of Christmas-time was just one more festive note to our march through downtown Wichita. Each band was playing a different song, and they never matched, but everyone was in such a jolly mood that the musical cacophony was instantly forgiven.

Atop the shuttlecraft was a large brass ring, and blaring from it was the sound (every ever-leaving-ear-busting-nose-hair-curling forty-five seconds) of Mr. Spock's inimitable voice: "Shuttlecraft to Enterprise... Shuttlecraft to Enterprise ... Spock here! Happy Holidays! Live long and prosper!"

The appearance of each entry in the Holiday Parade was a simultaneous new excitement and crushing disappointment to the children who lined the route: Each was something new, and each *wasn't him yet*. Where was Santa? Surely HE'D made it, hadn't he? But...but all these people had gone past already and NONE of them were him! Where was Santa? Oh, look, Star Trek people. But they're not HIM.

"Shuttlecraft to Enterprise... Shuttlecraft to Enterprise..."

"Look, it's Scotty! Beam me up, Scotty!"

"Sorry, lad, the Trrransporter's brroken again. Say, lad, d'ya know any good sub-warrmp mechanics? I'm from oot a' toon, an' as ye can see we're being hauled in on the back of a truck."

Giggle, giggle.

"Shuttlecraft to Enterprise... Shuttlecraft to Enterprise..."

In a low mutter - "I'm goin' to make an Enterprize O' cramin' that loud speaker in a Vulcan..."

We appeared to be a hit with the crowd, certainly, I got a lot of recognition during the march. Any number of time I could hear, "Oh yeah, those guys were at Treasure Island..." or at Dog Days, or at the Duck Race, or at some other local event, and many of the waves appeared to be genuine and friendly. Or maybe they were just waving us out of the way so HE could get down the road faster.

In any event, we had one whale of a good time, got some good TV air time, and were in the public eye once more. It was some work, especially by Mike Capps and Jay Jones, but it was more fun. It was sort of a reward for one year of hard work, to be strolling down Main Street surrounded by my friends, .enjoying the cheers the assembled population, gathered just to give us a hero's welcome. Well, maybe not just us...there was HIM, too.

Until next year, friends and colleagues, Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year! "Shuttlecraft to Enterprise... Shuttlecraft to Enterprise..." *Will somebody shut that darned thing off!*



USS Valiant

Commissioning Party

by Monica Waldron, USS Valiant

Well, our day had finally arrived. It was time to get our group together to finally celebrate our long sought after commissioning. It had been a long time, since we started our ship, nothing more than a shuttle with a skeleton crew to guide her.

Now here we were, 28 people in force, all gathered together to help us celebrate our blessed event. The shuttle *Valiant* was now a full fledged Starship! With the wind at our backs we were ready to go forward to "Expand the Frontiers of Knowledge". (Or for some of crew we were "boldly going forward, cuz' we can't find reverse!").

No matter what the reason, we were going on our first adventure to end all adventures, which was the *Valiant's* commissioning party. It started out with a small band of members arriving at the restaurant early for dinner, where we managed to commandeer the main lobby as we waited out the remaining crewmembers. After a short period of time (mostly getting in way of the public), our fearless Captain John P. Lawrence lead the away team to our private dining area.

Here the team encounters a problem, and without engineering personnel present, it was now up to the Captain, Chief of Services as well as the Ship's counselor to solve the problem of rearranging the tables to incorporate a square appearance, so all members could talk facing each other, instead of sitting at small individual tables, which is standard for restaurants to do. With the task accomplished, we settled down and waited for the remainder of the crew.

Slowly, in small groups or one by one they trickled in, and people picked their seats, swapping stories of how their lives were going. The captain had taken a few minutes to show me our official certificate of commissioning. Yes, I held it in my hands and with gladness in my heart realized, we did it!

By then, a good majority of people had already shown up, and we were ready to get down to business. The first event of the night was the passing out of Star Trek party gifts, placed in small party favor bags with a picture of the U.S.S. Enterprise on it. This was graciously done by our CMO Shirley Rivoli and Science Officer Stephen Rea. Both had worked on their gift to the club, which made the event all that more special.

The next event, with the efforts of the XO Julie Anne Schill, Communications Officer Kat Campbell, CMO Shirley Rivoli and Science Officer Stephen Rea, we had a raffle for Star Trek related items. Books, comics, erasers, and an autographed photo of Nana Visitor were up for grabs. The lucky winner of the autographed photo was Chief of Services Terry Bush. With that all

and done, the next decision, for the club was to get a picture of everyone all together. The question remained, where, especially when you are talking about 28 people. The only logical place is the outside of course! With a lot of moaning and groaning the crew dons their coats and long sleeve shirts and head outside. The manager of the restaurant was generous enough to let us go out the nearby emergency exit so we don't go parading through his restaurant and then back through when we are done.

Out into the cold and gloomy weather, we assembled the crew. Most of the men choose to stand on the right hand side while all the less than tall people are off to the other side or behind them. Breaking this little problem up, we managed to get two pictures of the group, while various members continued to complain. With that accomplished, we head back into the restaurant only to find ourselves faced with a new problem. The emergency door was locked!

It appeared as though our only civilian who stayed behind so she wouldn't have her photograph taken, chose to lock us out, while standing in the restaurant nice and warm. She laughed as we stood their pounding on the door, so she relented and let us in.

Back inside, the CMO had to start working on treating the chilled and frostbitten,

while the Ship's Counselor was seriously considering not driving our civilian back home (NOT!). I had to admit it was funny (after the fact!).

The crew settled down at the table as Captain John along with XO Julie Anne Schill, made the official announcement of our commissioning. Finally, we were off and ready to eat. Plate upon plate of food passed by, some people carrying two to three plates of food at a time. Some even went back for more. There was even a desert area, that would make a person gain weight just by looking at the desert on the trays.

With the crew full, we went with another raffle, while the Ship's Counselor ran around taking photos of the crew acting normally, or as close to normal as this crew can get. One picture we felt as appropriate for this point in time was one of the entire command crew. We assembled the group into a small 4x4 area, and attempted to get the picture taken as quickly as possible while maintaining a certain composure. The Chief of Ops Wayne Brown constantly looking over the Captain's shoulder made for a very interesting picture. Both the Capt & the Xo held our official certificates, and the photos were snapped.

Our final event of the evening was the toasting of Commissioning with a bottle of champagne purchased by the Chief of Services for this special occasion. With the cork popped, the task was at hand to serve everyone (who was old enough) to drink champagne. For those of us who weren't old enough mentally or physically there was ginger ale. Usually soda pop is supposed to be

drank from a glass, not spilled down the front of someone's shirt (Sorry about that Dave!)

(MEOW!!! Right, Kat?)

People gave their toast to the group, and it became a somber moment for many of us. It was a form of reflection, as to how far we had really come. At this time we shared much joy, but also shared the loss of some of the crew to other areas of their lives. Students and those who were going away, would sadly be missed by all. The *Valiant* will always have a place for them in her heart.

With the celebrations finally over, the crew slowly started to leave. The crew shared much of their conversations on various topics, not wanting the moment to end. Butas with all good things, everything ends. I knew I would see most of them again real soon, for those I don't I won't forget them.

I borrow a quote that was mentioned when I attended the commissioning party of the *USS Accord*, in Ithaca, NY. "May the Winds Be to our Backs", and my own personal favorite saying, "May the *USS Valiant* protect us, and bring us Home safely every time".

Swiss Fandom: Struggle

At The Final Frontier

by Andreas Weder, USS Vanguard

Andreas Weder is one of the Vanguard's international members, at his outpost in Zurich, Switzerland.

Who are they?

They can't simply go to a shop and get the most recent Star Trek collectible.

They are still special, because there are not many of them in their home country.

Their newest TNG episodes on TV date from season 4.

They normally don't Wear Trek uniforms and makeup, and consider American fandom some what crazy.

And yes, they live in the center of Europe.

Guessed it? Swiss Trekkies!

It's fun to be a Trekkie here, though there are not too many of us. People my age (25) know of Spock, Kirk and "Pille" (meaning "pill"), which is how the Germans translate "Bones." All Star Trek on TV here is in German. You get accustomed to the voices. I can't watch any of the original series any more; it just doesn't seem to sound right.

Everything we get, we get in pieces. There's probably no sci-fi shop in Switzerland devoted to Star Trek and Star Wars. You can find some items in bookstores, but no holocards, blinking models or squeaking phasers. There's simply no market for these things over here, apart from the books.

The sad thing - there are almost no conventions. Most are in Germany (an increasing number, by the way), which requires a long and expensive trip normally. The big stars don't fly to Europe much; you have to go to big conventions to meet them. An exception is Walter Koenig. He seems to be everywhere at the same time. I wonder who did the cloning...

Fandom is quite different here as you can see. I guess it's more exciting, because it's a big event if somebody comes up with a TNG phaser. It's

Continued next page



Valiant crew at commissioning

Swiss Fandom continued

great when the packet with the new DS9 episodes arrive. Or when the nearest bookstore carries the *Star Trek Chronology*.

In fact, I like this situation so much, I don't want it to change right now. I just wait for the items to appear seemingly out of nowhere. Or I eagerly browse through the sci-fi shops in the UK, Germany or Denmark, if I'm on holiday:

But times they are a changing. Star Trek is somehow being revived by a renaissance of the 60's and 70's (I hate to associate my favorite TV series with those heavy, ugly shoes made out of plastic). The private German TV station SAT1 is promoting Star Trek. They bought the rights to all Trek series and will be airing them in the near future. Right now, they're having special offers and contests (for Apple Newtons), selling Trek books and the movies on video. Good, isn't it? If only you had access to that German TV station...

Being behind schedule has some serious advantages. You hardly get reruns. SAT1 is currently showing a new TNG episode every day, all translated to German, of course. New Trek still has a hard time, because people are not very much into sci-fi here, TNG is getting aired at 4pm - conclusion: science fiction is for kids. Or fans. Oh well.

But TNG is gaining new ground. A lot of people living in WGs (Wohngemeinschaft, meaning several people living together in one flat/house/apartment to split the costs), for instance, will get together to watch the latest episode. The number of people watching the show is constantly increasing.

Our group is currently trying to launch a shuttle here in Zurich. It will be the first chapter of Starfleet in Switzerland, the second chapter in Europe. And the *USS Vanguard* will be our mothership (hopefully). As soon as we have the runabout up and ready to go, we hope to find more fans interested in Star Trek. It's nice meeting with people from the same species.

Greetings from Switzerland. Jooooddeeliuuuuuuu (that was a yodel).

The Lady J Earns Her Wings

by Debbie VanZandt, USS Joan of Arc

On Stardate 9401.08, the newest Starship in Region 03 held her commissioning ceremony on board the USS Lexington. We are the first ship in the region to hold our commissioning ceremony on board an actual military vessel, and are now the Ambassador Class Starship *USS Joan of Arc*, NCC-10522. The official commissioning date is recorded as 9401.06, the birthday of Saint Joan, but because that date fell on a Thursday, we scheduled the ceremony so that out-of-town guests could attend. Guests included Region 03 Regional Coordinator Bill Schwab and personnel from the following: Starships *Lancelot*, *Joshua*, *Intangible*, *Vindicator*, and *Gagarin*, and shuttles *Silent Warrior* and *Freedom III*.

On the day of our commissioning ceremony, God must have been smiling on us. In one of his speeches, *USS Joan of Arc* CO James Van

Cleave commented on the fact that on a day which was supposed to have been overcast and very cold we were graced with beautiful clear skies and a 70 degree temperature. Our ceremony was moved from the Officers' Mess (where some of our members had about 1/2-inch clearance of the ceiling. CAPT John Bunton commented that he would have been too tall) to Hanger Bay 1 (where headroom was NO problem, unless someone was about 100 feet tall). Jim Van Cleave told me about the plaque he had made for our commissioning. He put a Comm badge on it with hot glue. Five minutes after the ceremony ended, the badge fell off! He now has it fixed to the plaque with epoxy.

Carol Elmore made a very emotional appeal to all of us to carry on the dreams and vision of the late Gene Roddenberry. She encouraged everyone, to realize that the future may not be perfect, but that each of us should do our part to make Roddenberry's vision become reality.

During dinner, several rousing and entertaining speeches were made. Bill Schwab talked about what the Fleet was and what membership in it should mean to each of us. John Simmons, CO of the *Vindicator*, reminded us that we are family and that in the Fleet there is always a hand to hold and shoulder to cry on. He also discussed some of our accomplishments. CDR Ford congratulated us on behalf of USS *Intangible* CO Daniel Coburn, who was unable to attend due to an unfortunate bout of chicken pox. Jim Van Cleave complained that the other speakers stole most of his commentary, but then proceeded to make an emotional speech about how much we all meant to him. I hope he knows that he means as much to us.

After James Van Cleave and Carol Elmore were promoted to Captain and Lt Commander respectively, we were entertained by a local comedian. Then Jim read a poem written by our Science Department entitled "The Night Before Christmas on the Starship *Joan of Arc*".

The crew received blanket promotions of one grade. Both the Science Department and Engineering Division changed chief officers. The honorary position of Standard Bearer, a position unique to the *Joan of Arc*, was passed on. It is an annually-awarded position which honors the participation of one crewmember, and stems from Saint Joan's standard, which was a rallying point for all of her troops. Three people attending the banquet received door prizes.

We gratefully received certificates from our mothership, the *USS Intangible*, our grandmothership *USS Joshua*, and the *USS Vindicator*, and a card from the *USS Lancelot*. I, for one, can't wait to see *Joshua* CO Gail Rushing's reaction when Jim calls her Grandma!

Captain "Gum by" Simmons presented us with a contraband bottle of Romulan ale with instructions not to drink it all at once, and not to drink it

alone. He also warned not to store it at room temperature (because it tends to explode!) When I spoke to Jim, he mentioned that it is now sitting on a shelf with some of his older models. He said he didn't care if they were blown up.

The climax of the evening was a dramatic reading of "Rising From the Ashes," co-written by James Revilla of Stargazer Comics and Robert



Joan of Arc crew celebrates commissioning

Cortez of the *Joan of Arc*. James read the story as James Good, the son of Jonathan Good, a captain of the *Joan of Arc*. The story involved the Borg attack at Wolf 359 and told how Captain Good sacrificed his life so that his ship, and the survivors it had rescued, could escape. As I looked around the room, I saw tears in many eyes at the end of

the reading.

I think anyone who was present at the ceremony would agree that it was very successful (if only it hadn't been quite so cold in the hanger bay at night.)

On behalf of all the members of the Ambassador Class Starship *Joan of Arc*, I would like to thank all of the guests who attended our ceremony (both those there in body and those who could attend only in spirit), and all of the members of STARFLEET for making the Fleet such a great group to be a part of!

Set Your Coordinates for Ireland

by Hartriono Sastrowardoyo, USS Challenger

We're wearing the green and we ain't Vulcans -- so we must be at the 10th Annual Jersey Shore Saint Patrick's Day Parade, which was held March 12th in Seaside Heights, NJ.

Just as the parade is an annual tradition to Seaside Heights, so is Challenger's participation in the parade. This year, as last year, the theme of the parade was "Volunteers: The Spirit of America." With a car decorated in green streamers and bearing both a Federation and Jolly Roger flag, the Challenger crew was joined by a lone representative from the STAR FLEET chapter-in-training Justice, based in Lake Hopatcong, NJ. Although the Justice has been active as a chapter-in-training for several months, they were glad for the exposure on local cable. Their banner made its debut at this parade, which caught the attention of many spectators lining the route.

This parade was not without its mishaps, however. Several of the audience thought we were a Star Wars group, and the judges announced that a 'Lois Smith' was the Executive Officer. The weather did cooperate, although it was a bit nippy. Still, all had a good time and several of us hit the boardwalk afterwards, enjoying the good weather while it lasted. Next year we hope to have a shuttlecraft completed and entered as a float, as well as a cadence and marching routine, so watch for us!

Marina Sirtis, Maddox Socialize for Charity

Big Bucks Raised for Local Women's Shelter

by Jay Jones, *USS Jeannette Maddox*

As my van pulled along side the cab to my left, I noticed it carried Marina Sirtis. She had just concluded a two-day appearance in Wichita for Creation Entertainment's Star Trek convention. I was concerned she might recognize me from the show and think I was one of the proverbial wide-eyed Trekkie types trying to get one last look at her. In reality, I was merely on my way home after an exhausting three days preparing and working various functions at the con.

My concern diminished when I noticed she was devoting all her interesting examining a 6-inch bronze medal, ensconced in a velvet case - the one our fan association had arranged the city to present to her at a very special ceremony. She seemed very gratified to have received one of our municipality's highest awards, one never before awarded to a nonresident. Bluntly speaking, she had earned it. How and why, you ask? Please read on.

Gene Roddenberry's dream of the future is one of hope, involvement, and asking, "why not?" The vehicle of the dream is, of course, the USS Enterprise. *Star Trek, The Next Generation, Deep Space Nine*, and the upcoming *Voyager* continue to build the Trek mythos, as do those who represent the various crews.

Within these crews, there are those who live and even promote the dream. They are willing to take risks, and further the dream by through their helping and caring. These are to be recognized as true members of Gene's Future. Ms. Sirtis has proven herself to be one of this elite group.

When Creation announced it's biannual convention would be held in some ninety days, I proposed that the *USS Maddox* should find some way to raise money at the convention for the local Women's Crisis Center, as it was in desperate financial straits. They had just sustained tremendous storm damage to their facility and were barely meeting operational expenses, let alone emergency funds; "Deanna's Chocolate Delights" an Old-Fashioned Ice Cream Social, to be hosted by Marina Sirtis, was proposed.

The first hurdle was to contact, then somehow convince Ms. Sirtis to work with our group to benefit the charity. This was accomplished by acquiring a letter of introduction to Ms. Sirtis via Bjo Trimble, *Star Trek's* most famous and ardent fan. We then contacted Ms. Sirtis' talent agency and explained the proposal. Her agent promised to speak to her and get back to us within a few days. Less than 24 hours later, the call came back with an enthusiastic YES! At this point, real fear replaced optimism as we came to a full understanding of what we were attempting. There were so many things that could go wrong. Only tremendous planning and re-planning would give us a successful event.

The next hurdle was to convince Creation to share their star and their facilities. We had to let them know that our event would add to the convention, not detract.

I called Eric Stillwell at Creation, as recom-

mended by Ms. Trimble. I explained who we were and what we were proposing. His first words were not encouraging. He doubted that Ms. Sirtis would agree to the event. Stars are usually very cautious about placing their reputation in unknown hands. Agreeing to an event like this, if not successfully handled, could make the star look very silly. However, after he spoke with Jackie Edwards, Ms. Sirtis' personal assistant, and verified her commitment, Eric moved mountains to help us.



Marina Sirtis receives community accolades in Wichita

The planning logistics of the event were as follows. We contacted local businesses for needed supplies: Ice cream, chocolate syrup, sprinkles, bowls, etc. When told who would benefit from the event, and who would be there, 100% of the supplies were donated. This meant that 100% of the money collected could go to charity.

The convention would run until 6:00 PM Saturday night. Ms. Sirtis would sign autographs until 6:45 PM. There would be no autographs at our event. Only those with paid convention tickets could purchase the \$4.00 chocolate sundae vouchers. Limited to only 300 seats, we hoped to raise \$1,200.00.

To aid in promotion of both the convention and the Ice Cream Social, we contacted several people in the media. The Features Editor of the local newspaper wrote a very flattering article, and positioned the article just prior to the start of the convention. Maddox members appeared on three local radio stations, asking Trek Trivia questions to win free tickets to the weekend. We prepared a promotional video featuring "TroI" talking about her love affair with various forms of chocolate and

arranged to have it played at other conventions prior to ours. We also contacted the local "Target," "Toys-R-Us," comic and specialty shops, and collected over \$600 worth of Trek collectibles and toys to be autographed and auctioned. To reward their involvement, we promised personalized, signed 'Thank You' letters from the star. Ms. Sirtis also promised to bring some items.

Finally, we contacted the Mayor's office about proclamations and civic awards. Once again, after explaining what we were attempting, the doors swung open.

The convention started on Saturday morning. Ticket sales to our event were brisk. Eric Stillwell played our promotional video several times with the expected results - more ticket sales.

At 2:00 PM the first bomb shell dropped. Ms. Sirtis' plane, scheduled for 3:00, would be four hours late. This would put her arrival at 8:00, which meant our event would start at 10:00 PM, rather than the planned 7:00. This delay wouldn't cancel our event, but it wouldn't help, either.

Creation refunded several thousand dollars in gate receipts because Ms. Sirtis would not speak at the promised time. We, on the other hand, actually sold more tickets, as some who could not make it at the originally advertised time, could attend at the later time. Eric would later admit that our event probably saved them from refunding much more.

The plane finally arrived, and she went on stage at 8:20 PM. After a sixty minute "press conference" style presentation, Ms. Sirtis dashed off to begin signing autographs. While she signed, we used the 45 minute window to convert the Creation Video Suite over to tables and chairs. The Ramada Hotel staff was a great help, allowing us to store the 30 pounds of ice cream in their freezer and even helping with the set up.

Our VIPs arrived: Sue Hampton, the director of the Crisis Center; the Mayor; Eric Stillwell, representing Creation; Larry Nemecek, author of the *ST:TNG Companion*; and, of course, Marina Sirtis. They were seated at the head table and served sundaes.

Our M.C. took over and introduced the VIPs, and began the thank-yous, Listing all those who contributed to the evening. At this point Ms. Sirtis motioned me to come over, and setoff the second bomb shell. She whispered that the bag she had brought with the items she was donating to the auction could not be found. My ears heard, but my brain didn't really register. Her contributions were intended to be a major part of the auction, and we had about 15 minutes to come up with a back-up plan. I assured her that we could handle the problem, but really had no idea what to do.

As our M.C. thanked Creation, Mr. Stillwell and Ms. Sirtis were presented with signed, original parchment City Proclamations, full of 'whereas' and 'therefores' declaring the that weekend a citywide' Star Trek Weekend. Posing with Ms.

Continued next page

Sirtis and the proclamation, Eric gave us a wink of appreciation.

Then it was time to thank our star. We had done our homework and found out that Ms. Sirtis really does adore chocolate, especially English chocolate. She is also very active in promoting animal rights, and misses her native England. We were lucky enough to have a local store that carried Crabtree & Evelyn toiletries. They are an environmentally friendly company that refuses to be involved in animal testing of its products. They are also a favorite of Ms. Sirtis'.

The M.C. began to read from the city proclamation about what it means to step forward and become a part of the community. Ms. Sirtis' jaw literally dropped open when she was presented with one of our city's highest honors - the 6" bronze "Community Involvement" medallion.

As she stepped to the microphone and regained her composure, she expressed her delight. She thanked all who were attending, and began to explain what had delayed her arrival and about her missing bag. She explained that she is



A surprised Marina

always happy to sign autographs for all who attend her conventions. She can never personalize, however, because it isn't fair to all those standing in line. She then opened her bag and produced a "Hard Rock Cafe" exercise outfit, and promised to personalize it for whoever made the winning bid! She promised that she had sweat in the outfit. When corrected that she must mean "glowed" she said, "I mean, I *sweat* in there. I lost 26 pounds over the last year, and I did it while wearing that."

With that note, the auction was on and in less than two minutes, the winner walked away with a priceless collectible and the Women's Crisis Center had collected \$500, on the way to a total sum collected for the evening of \$3,406. A Cellular Peptide Cake was auctioned off during the evening, which the winner then cut into pieces and sold for a dollar a slice (slightly higher depending on the portion of the anatomy), and then donated all those proceeds.

After the evening finally came to an end, I noticed the prop oversize check used in the obligatory presentation picture was missing. I assumed that an overzealous participant had taken it as a souvenir. Monday morning, the director of the Crisis Center called to ask if we wanted it back. She had taken it to prove that the evening had indeed been real and not a dream. She wanted to have something tangible the next morning.

We are reminded that everything tangible once started as a dream. Gene must be smiling about our event. From dream to reality - Ms. Sirtis, we thank you for taking chances!

Powhatan Heads Renew Vows

by Mike Broome and Garrick Eppinger, USS Powhatan

On January 8th the culmination of a ten-year marriage was celebrated in Star Trek fashion as the CO and XO of the *USS Powhatan* of Chesapeake, Virginia, renewed their vows in a combination Klingon/Betazoid ceremony. CAPT Linda B. Eppinger and CDR Garrick L. Eppinger said "I do" once again in the company of Starfleet officers, Klingons, Romulans, mundanes, and one gate-crashing Ferengi. The ceremony began with the commander of the Klingon Black Inferno Battle Fleet, Admiral K'alazar Epetal Kymbrya, as the officiator, calling all assembled to witness the event. CDR Eppinger, a.k.a. K'Rok Kymbrya, stepped up to the ceremonial platform, dressed in formal Klingon wedding attire, escorted by his best man, the *Powhatan's* navigator, LT JG Carl Grossman. The bride, Captain Eppinger, entered next, preceded by a STARFLEET Marine escort, consisting of MAJ Thomas Rawls, Jr. and 2nd LT Richard Kleiner, followed by two attendants, CAPT Eppinger's daughters, cadets Cori and Robbyn Molin.

With the wedding party assembled, ADM Kymbrya began the ceremony, commenting on Klingon ritual and the special circumstances which made this union possible. Noting the current alliance between the Federation and Klingon Empire, he commented on the qualities which all races share and that love and the gift of sharing one's self remind us all that our differences are not as great as our similarities.

As ADM Kymbrya finished his remarks, CAPT Eppinger and CDR Eppinger were called upon to face each other and express their vows of love and devotion. CDR Eppinger went first, proclaiming his strength in his honor, his devotion as his service to the Empire, and his heart as belonging to his mate. He promised strength, devotion, love and passion to his bride, pronouncing himself as only complete with her.

CAPT Eppinger, in turn, promised her mate, her *imzadi*, that he would always have a home where there was a warm fire, children who would always honor their father, and love always.

Their vows exchanged, the couple turned to face ADM Kymbrya, who then called for them to stand forth and face any challenges. It was at this point that a Ferengi interrupted the ceremony, charging forward and announcing that he wished to purchase the bride. The Admiral cursed the Ferengi, denouncing him as a "useless animal" and ordering him out of the wedding hall. The Ferengi persisted, offering thirty bars of gold-press latinum for the bride. The Admiral responded by turning to CDR Eppinger and informing him that he now had the right to defend the family honor. CDR Eppinger leaped forward and grabbed the Ferengi, pinning his arms behind him, and carried him from the hall, the Ferengi threatening revenge as he was thrown through the door.

His family honor restored, CDR Eppinger returned triumphantly to the platform to receive the blessing of ADM Kymbrya. Completing the wedding ritual, ADM Kymbrya called the couple forward to light the single candle representing two

lives joined as one. The candle lit, CDR Eppinger then sealed his commitment to his mate with the shedding of his blood by a ceremonial dagger, after which CAPT Eppinger sealed her commitment by dressing the wound. The ritual completed, the Eppingers then drank from the ceremonial cup of life and presented to each other a symbolic gift as ADM Kymbrya proclaimed them as mated in the name of the United Federation of Planets and the Klingon Empire and called upon CDR Eppinger to kiss his mate.



Garrick and Linda Eppinger let a Ferengi come

The ceremony was followed by a traditional wedding procession. The Eppingers then invited their guests to join them in a celebratory feast, which everyone enjoyed to the fullest. Even the Ferengi was there, with the STARFLEET Marines keeping a close eye on him. The entire ceremony served to remind us all of the strength of love, the power of commitment, and the intensity of the dream we choose to emulate.

Avenger Attends Astronomy Sunday **by George Padovan, USS Avenger**

It was chilly and windy despite the sunshine on Sunday, February 27, at the Trilside Nature and Science Center in Mountainside, New Jersey. Nevertheless Mother Nature did not stop several members of the *USS Avenger* from attending and participating in Astronomy Sunday that day at Trilside.

Arriving early before the opening, the members, lead by VADM Alex Rosenzweig and event coordinator CDR Brenda Bell, set up a recruitment table, which the center kindly provided for free for participating in the day. We set up the flyers and other STARFLEET materials on the table while behind the table all types of ship diagrams and designs were hung up. Trek music was brought in by the Admiral to finalize the setting.

Other individuals and organizations also set up their tables. An organization that builds and launches model rockets had a table with all different kinds and sizes of model rockets. An individual was selling all types of astronomical equipment and accessories, which were all very educational. A table was set up on how to view the May 10th partial solar eclipse, while another had a scaled down model of the solar system.

Continued page 28

Avenger Sunday continued

Many people came soon after Astronomy Sunday was open at 1 PM. There was plenty to do for individuals of all ages.

The Center's planetarium had three shows. First was "Ecstatic About Eclipses," which covered the upcoming May 10th eclipse and explained what a solar eclipse is. Second was "Hubble Space Telescope Update" - up-to-date information about the orbiting telescope since its repair. Third was "Winter Wonders," which covered constellations and other stellar wonders that can be seen in the New Jersey skies in the winter.

There were to be some outdoor demonstrations, including model rocket launches and solar viewing, but they were cancelled due to the windy conditions: Despite the uncooperative weather, the rockets were on display indoors, and the Center's staff had set up a camera outside attached to a video screen indoors, which gave a live picture of the Sun shooting off small flares.

For the children, workshops were set up. There was face painting, with the staff painting small space-related images on the children's faces, and many projects, such as creating a solar system or other astronomical object out of construction paper and art materials.

Keynote speaker, Kitty Ferguson, author of *A Brief History of Stephen Hawking*, presented "Trek To A Black Hole" in the Center's auditorium. She went through an easy method of how black holes form and showed a picture taken by the Hubble Space Telescope of a galaxy which appears to have a black hole in its center. This was the highlight of the day, and very educational.

Overall, the entire day was great! The Trailside Center's staff was very nice and helpful. The announcer for Kitty Ferguson even mentioned the *Avenger* and our table after he said, "speaking of TREK..." We learned many things, like the news about the May 10th eclipse and black holes. Many people who didn't even know that STARFLEET and the *Avenger* existed stopped by our table, and that was good not just for the *Avenger*, but for STARFLEET as well.

As we said good-bye and drove to a nearby restaurant, we all agree that we would return to Trailside Nature and Science Center when the next time it has another event that relates to Star Trek. This day proved to the *Avenger* what many chapters of ST ARFLEET already know: That the more we attend public events, the more the public will know we exist. This not only makes the chapter grow, but strengthens STARFLEET as a whole.

Walkfest Challenge: Follow-up Report by Steve Flaer, USS Briza

It started out a wet and cloudy early Saturday morning, the third of October, 1993, as the crew of the *USS Sovereign* and the Shuttle *Briza* (commissioned December 4, 1993 as the *USS Briza*) met to register to walk. The group of eight adults and one child were there to raise funds for the American Diabetes Association to find the cure for diabetes. Our ships' goal was to raise \$1,000.00, and as we started the walk we only had \$890.00 pledged.

As the walk went on, the sun began to poke its warming rays through the dark clouds. By the walk's end, the sun was shining brightly, and

most members were in good spirits and most had sore feet. The day started out with it cloudy, dark, and short of our goal, but it ended bright and shiny, with our goal met and passed! The ship turned in \$1,160.00 for the 1993 ADA Walkfest.

I hope to walk again this year and raise more money to cure this disease. If any other ship would like to walk with us in South Jersey, please contact me, Steve Flaer RN BSN CEN, at 709 Pomona Rd., Cinnaminson NJ 08077-4261. Or contact your local American Diabetes Association (the address and phone number will be in local telephone book).



L. to r: Larry Sail, Cynthia Sall (in stroller), Tony Honebrink, Barbara Sall, Pam Fernsler, Steve Flaer, Cheryl Lowe, Marla Flaer

Care+Con and Trek Fans Will "Make It So" for Kids 'N Kamp by Kim McClain, Star Base Columbus

CARE+CON COLUMBUS, the world's largest charity Star Trek convention, will be held September 16-18, 1994, in the Greater Columbus Convention Center. The convention is sponsored by radio station WNCI97.9 and Star Base Columbus to benefit Kids 'N Kamp, a nonprofit organization that assists children with cancer and their families.

"(Trek creator) Gene Roddenberry's vision for the future - that if we work together, we can and will make the world a better place - is what Care+Con is about," according to convention organizer Kim McClain, co-owner of Star Base Columbus, a store that specializes in Trek collectibles. McClain has been one of the driving forces behind the convention idea during more than a year and a half of planning. Her motivation has been some very special children. "Everyone at Kids 'N Kamp is special. Like all children, they are our future. We need to work together and try to make things better for them. This convention has come together and will be successful because we are focused on that purpose."

Nineteen Star Trek actors and guests are confirmed to appear at Care+Con. McClain said. "Some of the actors called us directly when they heard about the convention. They wanted to be involved. These are wonderful people, and they truly care about the charities they support as well as all the fans. We expect 8,000 Trek fans from all across the United States and Canada during the convention's three days. Our goal is to raise enough money for Kids 'N Kamp to build a permanent center for the kids - and I've confirmed that it will be named in honor of Gene Roddenberry where they can find counselling, understanding, video games - where the children can interact as kids having fun, not just as cancer patients."

Trek personalities from all three generations - original Star Trek, Star Trek: The Next Generation, and Star Trek: Deep Space Nine - are scheduled for Care+Con. Brisk ticket sales are being prompted by fans' anticipation of the end of the Next Generation's seven-year mission on syndicated television and the first Next Generation movie (seventh in the Trek feature film series from Paramount Pictures), which will be released nationwide at Thanksgiving.

"At least six of the stars at Care+Con appear in the movie," McClain said. "We have two of the film's (and the series') writers, Brannon Braga and Ron Moore, joining us with series production staffer Lolita Faqo to conduct their Star Trek Writers Workshop. This is the first time that workshop has been available anywhere east of the Mississippi." McClain said they hope to have film clips of the movie and of Star Trek: Voyager, the new series premiering in 1995.

Exhibits that will fill 160,000 square feet in the convention center include an art room, video room and dealers' room. More than 100 consumer electronics companies will participate in a technology showcase, displaying the newest developments of the 20th Century that are paving

the way to the 24th. Care+Con's centerpiece is an 8,000-seat multimedia theater where WNCI radio will conduct interviews with celebrity guests, including audience question-and-answer sessions. A costume contest and Klingon wedding are sure to delight Trek fans.

The guest list of Trek celebrities includes James Doohan (Scotty), George Takei (Sulu), Robin Curtis (Saavik), Mark Lenard (Sarek), Michael Dom (Worf), Marina Sirtis (Troi) and John de Lancie (Q). Bjo Trimble, #1 Trek Fan, whose letter-writing campaign in the 1960s helped keep Star Trek on television after its first shaky ratings year, will also be appearing. Convention organizers are still negotiating, so the roster may change several times before September.

Reserved tickets for the three-day CARE+CON COLUMBUS are \$75 each, are tax deductible and include entrance to all convention events except the Writers Workshop. Workshop tickets are an additional \$50 each, and seating is limited to 250. Tickets can be purchased from Star Base Columbus, 5541 Westerville Road, Suite G, Westerville, Ohio 43081. For credit card orders, call (614) 895-7827 Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. (There is a \$2.50 service charge on tickets ordered by credit card.) Tickets can also be purchased through Ticketmaster, (614) 431-3600. The Greater Columbus Convention Center is fully handicap accessible.

Care+Con proceeds benefit Kids 'N Kamp, founded in Columbus in 1982 by Beverly Circone. Kids 'N Kamp is a nonprofit organization that assists children with cancer and their families by providing for their needs such as counselling, recreation and much more. The organization started by serving 10 families and now has almost 200. Its primary activity is "Kamp" where kids get together just to be kids and not cancer patients.

In September 1994, the kids will also have that opportunity at Care+Con. Through the generosity of the celebrities, the sponsors and the fans, these children will become a part of the Star Trek family, as well.

Explorer on Parade by Rose Thomas, *USS Explorer*

Bright and early one cold Saturday, the crew of the *USS Explorer* turned out to decorate a car and walk in the annual Brunswick, Georgia Christmas parade. The parade, sponsored by the Jaycees, took place in December 11, 1993. A mostly obscured sun shone down on the crew as they prepared the "El Co" for the trip. The wind whipped through the Andorian first officer's hair, knocking her antennae slightly askew.

While the chief engineer assembled a frame to hold models that he had put together, the captain and chief medical officer attached banners, garlands, bows, stocking and bulbs to the sides of the car. Other decorations included a wreath made by the medical officer, a line drawing by a crew members, and a rendering of the ship's logo fabricated by the first officer and her husband.

While waiting to line up, several members of a local high school band walked over to look at us Trekkies/Trekkers standing around in uniform. They asked trivia questions, and joked around for

USS Atreides First Annual Toy Drive

by Helene Donohue, *USS Atreides*

One of the highlights of our last meeting on December 18, 1993 was the look of sheer delight on Ensign Unicorn Escobedo's face when he saw all the toys stacked on the table under the *USS Atreides* banner. Now if only the firefighters would arrive.

Firefighters? At a Star Trek Club meeting, you ask? Yes, if they were representing the SAN FRANCISCO FIREFIGHTERS TOY PROGRAM

the year. It would give everybody a chance to contribute. We'd be doing it together - something like this is close to home," commented Unicorn.

When asked how he went about organizing the drive, Unicorn replied, "I called the fire department and said 'I want to organize a toy drive. Who do I talk to?'" He got all the details, then presented the idea to Captain Cyndi Gaedy by letter, and



Standing L to R: Carol & Roy Seiler, David Nottage, Helene Donohue, Firefighters John Voelker and Augustine Munoz, Rachel Delgado, Douglas Griggs, & Rhonda Jones. Seated L to R: Joseph Luna Unicorn Escobedo, Sedalia "Sassy" Williams, & Steve Stilson.

for whom the toys were collected. The program distributes toys and Christmas cheer to over 40,000 children in San Francisco each year. December 18, 1993 marked the first *USS Atreides* Christmas toy drive, which resulted in over \$400 worth of toys.

Captain Cynthia Gaedy was pleased with the members' show of support for the program and Unicorn's initiative. "The captain, the officers and the crew of the *USS Atreides* would like to thank and commend Ensign Unicorn Escobedo for his exemplary service to the community in organizing our First Annual Toy Drive for the San Francisco Firefighters Toy Program," she said. One of the reasons Unicorn joined STARFLEET is because he believes in supporting his community. If his love for Star Trek can be part of serving his community, all the better.

Ever on the lookout for an opportunity for our club to participate in something together, Unicorn thought it would be nice to organize a toy drive. "It would be for a good cause and a nice way to end

made an announcement at our November meeting. A firefighter would come to our next meeting to take the toys for the program.

December 18th arrived and with it lots of toys! Mostly Star Trek related. Kudos go to new members, Cadet Douglas Griggs and Cadet Joseph Luna, for being so generous on the first night of their membership. Together, they contributed over \$100 worth of toys. Fourteen members of the *Atreides* and various guests were present for the meeting and what a party! But no firefighters.

When Unicorn called to find out about the delay he came back to tell us to expect two firefighters, one of whom was John Voelker, the CHAIRMAN of the Toy Program. The other firefighter was Augustine Munoz. Chairman Voelker was delighted with the toys. Captain Gaedy presented the toys to him. If you were to add white hair and a beard, he'd be Santa. Cameras went off like popcorn. Everyone applauded Unicorn who turned it around to the group. All agreed we should do this every year.

a short while. Many people wandering through the parade line-up area did double-takes upon seeing us. Several small children wondered if we were "really from Star Trek." The wait seemed eternal, so the CMO and CO walked over to a nearby convenience store to get a drink and a snack. While there, a potential new recruit gave us her name and address so we could send her information on joining the club.

Finally we go our line-up number, and set off down the line to find our spot. It turned out we were two spaces behind the "pirates" and clowns from the Kiwanis Club. The clowns did card tricks and

told jokes as we settled down to wait for the parade to actually get started. After what seemed like an eternity, we began moving forward.

About halfway through the two mile route, we had to stop and wait while groups ahead of us performed for the judges. A firefighter stood ready with a portable fire extinguisher in case someone caught fire. He turned out to be a fan, so we tried to recruit him for the club, too.

As we neared the end of the parade route, we all sighed with relief. Oh, our aching feet! Finally, it was over. We collapsed into the car, and immediately started planning for next year.

Newsletter Exchange Program

by Pete Mohney, *USS Hephaestus*

My chapter has had a monthly newsletter for nearly four years. We felt a monthly newsletter was important for several reasons. Some of our members could not attend all of our meetings. Also, as we used to be the only chapter in Alabama we have had several members in other cities, or in other states. Our newsletters kept these members informed and interested in what our chapter was doing and planning.

Originally, our newsletter was about four pages long, and was printed on an old dot-matrix printer. It contained a captain's report, a short report of what we did at our meetings, and a crew roster.

Over the years, we have added many sections, graphics, special typefaces and have moved up to desktop publishing with a laser printer. We print our newsletter in a mini-magazine format, creating a 8.5" by 5.5" magazine.

Our members have contributed many ideas over the years, but a major source of the changes has been from other chapters' newsletters. About two years ago, we began trading with another chapter and, after that, we began sending out at least one copy of our newsletter each month to other chapters in our region, or which another chapter told us was a good chapter to trade newsletters with. We now exchange newsletters with more than a dozen chapters, and the number keeps rising. We have gained a lot of ideas, and given a lot of ideas, which have improved our newsletter and our chapter. These include: Using a desktop computer publisher, so we could lay out the newsletter in magazine format. Monthly columns by all department heads. Letters from our members out of town, to let everyone know what they have been doing. Convention reports. Convention listings of all conventions in the nearby states for the next year or two. A Want Ad column, free to chapter members and for a small charge to others. Advertising, targeted to comic shops, hobby shops, conventions and book shops primarily. A publisher's disclaimer, somewhat like you see at the beginning of the CQ. Extensive meeting notes, to keep those who can't attend meetings in touch with chapter activities. A Captain's column, to give an overview of the ideas and plans the chapter president has for the group. Promotions awarded and Fleet Academy degrees earned. Star Trek news and rumors from many sources. A treasury report. An address list of the members. In our newsletter, this occupies the center page, and is replaced by a STAR-FLEET recruiting flyer in the copies that are distributed outside of Starfleet membership. A future Star Trek episode list. Book reviews. A calendar of future chapter meetings and other activities. An organization chart, showing who is in what departments and what their ranks are. Fiction and graphics by club members, and writers and artists outside of the club.

Our newsletter has reached the point where we can't fit everything into 20 pages, and we're expanding to double that! It will take 2 stamps to mail each issue, but we have learned that a handsome, informative newsletter is one of the best recruiting tools a chapter can have. *NIMOY*

Communique TREK NEWS & VIEWS



Star Trek: In the News

by Bill Mason, *USS Thagard*

NIMOY PULLS OUT OF FILM: Citing "creative differences; Leonard Nimoy says he will not be participating in any way in the upcoming TNG film. It is rumored he was dissatisfied with the script.

OTHER FILM GOSSIP: After much to-do about what TOS cast members would join the TNG movie, it was finally settled that William Shatner, James Doohan, and Walter Koenig would be appearing in the film. Malcolm McDowell was signed to play Dr. Saran, the villain of the movie. The entire TNG cast, plus Guinan, are in the film.

The production team includes: Rick Berman (producer), Peter Lauritson (co-producer), David Carson (director), Ron Moore and Brannon Braga (script-writers), and executive producer Bernard Williams (other films he has been executive producer or production manager include *What About Bob?*, *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, and *Flash Gordon*. He also served as producer supervisor of the TV series *The Prisoner*).

Speaking at conventions, William Shatner and Herman Zimmerman have dropped some tidbits from the upcoming film. It opens with the Classic cast attending the commissioning of a new starship (possibly the Enterprise-B). Captain Kirk meets Guinan and Captain Picard in the film. The Duras sisters will join Malcolm McDowell as villains in the film.

Special effects will be by ILM and the TNG staff. Budget overall for the film is \$25 million.

COLM MEANEY NOMINATED FOR AWARD: Colm was nominated for a Golden Globe award in the Best Actor, Musical/Comedy category, for his role in "Snapper: He lost to Robin Williams for "Mrs. Doubtfire."

VOYAGER UPDATE: Rumors continue to fly that Lindsay Wagner is being considered for the role of Voyager captain, but no one has offered any confirmation. Meanwhile; Michael Piller confirmed in an appearance at UCLA that the planned holographic character would be: Sentient, a Starfleet member, and doctor on the Voyager. (What a combination!)

TREK WINS AWARD: The 8th annual Satellite TV Week Dish Awards named TNG (and "Northern Exposure") best dramas, while the best new series award was a tie between DS9 and "Dr. Quinn, Medicine Woman."

BLESSED EVENTS: LeVar Burton and his wife Stephanie, and Jonathan Frakes and his wife Genie Francis, are all expecting their first child.

GAME PLAYING: Playmates (makers of the Star

Trek action figures) announced they would be releasing a DS9 video game in September (for Super Nintendo and Sega Genesis). Also coming this year (in the summer), is a DS9 multimedia computer game for PCs and Macs. "Star Trek: Deep Space Nine - The Hunt" is intended to be the first of a series of science-fiction mysteries from Tachyon Inc. A text-based version of floppy disk is also planned.

THE PARAMOUNT NETWORK: WHO IS IT? So far, these stations are the ones around the country that have joined the Paramount Network (and will therefore be carrying *Star Trek: Voyager* in (January 1995): Anchorage = KYES, Charlotte = WJZY, Chicago = WPWR, Cleveland = WUAB, Dallas/Fort Worth = KTXA, Denver = KTVD, El Paso/Las Cruces = KZIA, Evansville = WAZ, Fort Meyers = WNPL, Fresno = KAIL, Honolulu = KFVE, Houston = KTXH, Indianapolis = WTTV, Little Rock = KASN, Los Angeles = KCOP, Louisville = WFTE, Miami = WDLZ, Memphis = WLMT, Minneapolis/St. Paul = KMSP, Mobile = WJTC, Nashville = WXMT, New York = WWOR, Norfolk = WGNT, Oklahoma City = KOCB, Philadelphia = WTXF, Phoenix = KUTP, Portland (OR) = WPTV, Salt Lake City = KJZZ, San Antonio = KABB, San Diego = KUSI, San Francisco = KBHK, Santa Barbara = KADY, \$1. Louis = KDNL, Tampa = WTOG, Tulsa = KTFO, Tucson = KTTU, and Washington DC = WDCA

ON THE COMIC BOOK FRONT Malibu Comics, publishers of the DS9 comic, have been granted the rights to do a Voyager comic as well. Meanwhile, Malibu will be joining forces with DC Comics to do a TNG-DS9 crossover. The four-issue story will involve the Enterprise coming to DS9 to investigate a problem with the wormhole. Each company will do two of the limited series' issues.

NEW RODDENBERRY-CREATED PROJECT The company BIG Entertainment has acquired the rights to an unpublished characters and universe created by Gene Roddenberry. BIG plans to develop comic book and paperback novels based on Roddenberry's work. Majel Barrett and D.C. Fontana have been signed by BIG to flesh out storylines for this universe-setting, and create more characters for that universe.

PLAN AHEAD This year's Star Trek ornament from Hallmark will be a Klingon Bird of Prey.

AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL George Takei's autobiography, *Yesterday to the Stars*, is scheduled to be released this November.

That's a wrap! See you next issue.

Brannon Braga: Writing For Star Trek

by Kelly Cline, *USS Carson*

Brannon Braga is one of the hottest writers on TNG's staff. Over the past few years he's given us such mind bending episodes as "Frame of Mind," "Realm of Fear," and this year's "Phantasms," where nightmares and hallucinations twist Data's reality out of shape. His episodes always have a unique creativity, and he seems to love mixing disturbing, almost horrific elements into a story. If you see an episode where someone appears to go psycho, odds are that Brannon Braga wrote it. I asked Brannon a few questions to try to better understand this creative man.

How did you become a writer and get involved with Star Trek?

I've always been a "writer," in that I have been writing since I was four years old. Stories, plays, screenplays - you name it. I have always been an imaginative and prolific person. I became a "professional" writer about seven years ago, when I began to write and direct music videos for various production companies. After that, I got an internship through the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences, which brought me to Star Trek. I hit it off well with the staff (which was only two people at the time) and was quickly given my first assignment - a re-write of an episode called "Reunion." I never left. I've been here for four years now...

What were your inspirations for "Phantasms"?

Purely on my own. And I couldn't begin to tell where they came from. I'm very interested in dreams and surreal imagery. And after writing "Birthright, Part I", I was dying to do a show where Data had nightmares. My episodes tend to have a darker edge to them... and I enjoy mucking with reality to make the audience question their own perceptions. The most I can say is that if you want to understand me or my inspirations, watch the shows.

How does the original concept for this episode differ from the filmed version?

My original concept for "Phantasms" was filmed exactly as I wanted it. One of the rare cases.

What do you think are the strengths and weaknesses of "Phantasms"?

All around, I am happy with the episode. It's one of those shows where everything came together: a solid script, good direction, fine performances, great FX, and a creepy musical score. The only thing I would've changed is the Geordi/Ensign Tyler subplot - a scene was cut for time, and the arc didn't quite play out the way it should have. And the story was superfluous to begin with. I wish it were gone. The strength of the show was its complexity, the way the dreams held symbolic information to help solve the mystery. That final dream sequence was just wonderful.

What advice would you give to aspiring writers?

Advice to aspiring writers: WRITE. No matter what you're doing - school, flipping burgers, raising a family, etc. - KEEP WRITING. And write in a variety of mediums because you never know what or who you'll be writing for. I never thought I'd be writing for television. As far as getting a job in the industry: Get an agent. It's the

best way to get your foot in the door.

What can you tell us about the upcoming Next Gen movie?

As far as the next Star Trek movie goes, I can only say that although the plot involves both the original series crew and the Next Generation crew - it is definitely a NEXT GEN MOVIE! And it's going to be great, of course. Please do me a favor and sent this message out to your readers: There are many "fans" out there who have gotten a hold of the movie script and are selling it at conventions, and even posting the entire script on the computer bulletin boards. I think this a real drag. The people doing this should be ashamed of themselves. How dare they spoil the movie for others and for me - the person who's been working on it for a whole year! PLEASE help stop these people. Turn them in. Tell them of. Burn their scripts. Whatever it takes. It would be much appreciated. One final thing: Thanks for watching.

A Kinder, Gentler Dreadnought

by Johnathan Simmons, *USS
Vindicator*

The question: Why does everyone consider dreadnoughts to be slow, bulky, but admittedly well-armed space faring fortresses of mass destruction? Folks tend to be single minded about the concept of a three nacelle on a starship, and the idea that the warp field generated by the three nacelle can nought be balanced to provide a stable warp continuum. The general idea seems to be that these well designed vessels are only built or used during wartime or similar instances...I say NOUGHT!

As Region Three's first Olympus-Class Dreadnought, we feel it our responsibility to inform those who wish to know more about our vessel and her mission. First, we are a rescue vessel. It is our task to render aid and assistance to any and/or all who require it. By now, many of you are saying, "Why do you use a dreadnought for a rescue vessel?!", and things of that sort.

Well, the first reason is space. (Regarding the internal volume of the ship, NOUGHT is the final frontier). The more space we have, the more lives we can save. The *USS Vindicator* is a Mk. VII Medevac Refit. In response to the Borg incursion at Wolf 359, Starfleet decided that one of the best uses for their Olympus Class Development Project was to dedicate one of these massive vessels to rescue and evacuation. So, in effect, we are the most advanced rescue team currently deployed by Starfleet. We are equipped with advanced Biotransportation technology that allows us to evacuate over 3,500 persons per hour site-to-site or 4,250 persons per hour one-way. In addition to this, keep in mind that our saucer section has been solely devoted to sickbay facilities. Coupled with our secondary sickbay (located in the



Stardrive section) this gives us an overall sickbay capacity of over 14,250 personnel.

In today's times of Romulan incursions, Klingon internal unrest, nought to mention the ever-present threat of the Cardassians and the Borg, one can begin to see Starfleet's wisdom in designing a rescue-oriented dreadnought.

On board, we have a specialist in most of the known forms of medicine. From triage technicians, to Betazoid empathic healing specialists, we have a well-rounded variety of personnel devoted to saving precious lives in whatever form they may be.

Slightly larger than a Galaxy-Class vessel, the O.C.D. has what is called a continual warp field balance generator. This, in effect, is a dummy fourth nacelle that generates no surplus power, but rather a low level warp field that removes the imbalance that accrued in previous tri-nacelle designs. This unit is located in the elongated tail section of the dreadnought.

Along with this (yes, there's more) we have state of the art weaponry. I would like to go into more detail on this, but most of our tactical systems are still classified by Starfleet Command. But I can tell you that, as with all Federation starships, we are equipped with phasers and photon torpedoes. In fact, we are equipped with 25 independent photon torpedo tubes - and that will give you some idea of our offensive capabilities without my being brought up on charges of espionage.

With the addition of the third warp nacelle, nought to mention another matter/antimatter assembly, deuterium storage tank, antimatter pods, as well as an entire secondary engineering staff to operate it - the saucer section becomes warp-capable, adding faster response time for the saucer during a separation-sequence. During separated flight mode, the *Vindicator* relies a system of two separate complete computer cores

that constantly interface while the ship functions as a whole entity, yet maintain full operational capability during separated flight mode.

Defensive capabilities include a shielding system that incorporates four separate master generators and grids that used, when necessary, cumulatively for better protection of those on board who are injured (in the novel *Dreadnought*, the *USS Star Empire* had triply redundant shielding as well as other goodies). But, for close encounters, we prefer to cloak (yes, we can) and generate holographic images of, oh, say 12 Olympus-Class Dreadnoughts to further confuse the aggressor(s), while we proceed to rescue the source of the distress.

So, as you can see, we are truly a rescue oriented vessel. A defender of sorts, for those who are no longer able to defend themselves. For this reason, we patrol the hotspots of the Federation, searching for those who are oppressed by hostile forces, natural disaster, or those who find themselves in need of assistance. We are NOUGHT a contradiction in terms. We are, in fact, a kinder, gentler dreadnought!

Seeking Autographs by David Pipgras, USS Ingram

This article comes on the heels of several requests I have received on how to contact various cast and crew members from *Star Trek*, *Star Trek: The Next Generation*, and *Star Trek: Deep Space Nine*. Usually these requests are from people who seek autographs; however, there are usually a few who would like to know about inviting persons to upcoming events, such as conventions, etc. What people often do not know, is that there is something of an established procedure for contacting these people, and it is on that topic, that I would like to share some information on both the correct and incorrect procedures for contacting your favorite cast or crew members.

Many people simply do not understand just what to expect, which can lead to bruised feelings or worse. The first thing, is that you are not the only one who is making such requests. Granted, this should be fairly obvious, but many times, people will write letters and ask specific questions, expecting the person to write back personally. This is where the problems are created. Since each cast and crew member works about ten to sixteen hours each day, and receives thousands of letters from fans each month, there is simply not enough time to personally respond to all of them, much less in a timely matter. I know that some of the actors do insist on answering every piece of mail they receive, but with the general backlog of letters, and time available to answer these, the average response may take several months.

The next thing is that actors, even those on *Star Trek*, are ordinary people too. They have a right and need for privacy just like the rest of us. Cast and crew members will generally not give out their home addresses for a reason: they don't want to be disturbed at home. Contrary to popular belief, they have lives outside of *Star Trek*, many with families, and as much as they love their jobs, *Star Trek*, and the fans that support them, most would rather not wake up with forty rabid *Trek* fans parked on their front lawns waiting for an autograph. The proper way to contact any of the cast members is either via Paramount Pictures, or another designated source. Some actors will sanction "official" fan-clubs, who will accept fan mail and pass in onto the star in question, while others simply prefer to have Paramount take care of it.

When contacting a cast or crew member for any of the *Star Trek* series, you should send a letter to the actor, to the show title, in care of Paramount Pictures, as in the following example: Jonathan Frakes, *Star Trek: The Next Generation*, Paramount Pictures, 5555 Melrose Avenue, Hollywood, CA 90038

This is the best way to ensure that your letter will actually reach the person you would like it to. When the Paramount mail room receives these letters, they are forwarded to the proper persons, as you addressed the envelope to. For crew members (those who work behind the scenes), you may also include the department in which they work, such as: Mike Okuda, *Star Trek: The Next Generation* Art Department, again, in care of

Paramount Pictures.

When writing to these folks, please remember to be a brief and to the point as possible. Five page letters are nice for friends and relatives, but can you imagine receiving and having to read a five page letter from 35,000 fans ??? Please remember, typically you do not know these people personally, so don't write as if you do. Using first names is acceptable, but asking personal information, beyond birth dates, eye colors, etc. is not, and most such questions will be ignored, if not the entire letter. Also, remember to either print clearly, or type (preferred). A letter that is hard to read is probably not going to get read. Lastly, always remember to include your name, mailing address and sign your letters. Often anonymous or unsigned letters (along with those asking too personal of questions) will generally end up in the nut file or trash.

One important item, which is a must to follow, is to never, NEVER, "NEVER" write to the actor or crew member at their home address, unless, and ONLY unless, you were given that address BY the actor or crew member. This falls under the persons right to privacy. Of course, there are endless sources for these addresses, including those wonderful "maps of the stars" in Hollywood; people willing to share them with you; friends; and more. Most of these people have good intentions, but are wrong in doing so. This, plus the fact that when these folks receive mail from at home from people they do not know, it is usually placed in the round-file, often unopened. You can save yourself a lot of time and at the very least, a lot of postage, by going directly through Paramount.

CONTACTING AUTHORS

Very much like contacting the casts and crews, when you wish to contact an author of a *Star Trek* book or novel, there are proper ways to do so. With books, you should contact the author at Pocket Books, via Paramount Publishing, as in the following example: Michael Jan Friedman, Pocket Books *Star Trek* Division, Paramount Publishing, 1230 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10020.

Again, do not contact these people at their home addresses unless you were specifically asked to do so. Many times, authors will share information and answer questions about their works and such, but please keep the same considerations in mind, as listed above for the casts and crews of *Star Trek*. Keep in mind, that which ever author you wish to contact, you should contact them via the publisher of their latest works. For example, if you wanted to contact an author who writes for the *Star Trek* comic books, you should contact them at the comic publisher, as opposed to Pocket Books, or Paramount. This helps speed the process up, and also means there is less of a chance of your letter being returned to you.

GUEST AND FORMER ACTORS

Unlike the regular and reoccurring cast members of *Star Trek*, Paramount is not set up to handle the potential flow of mail for actors who are either no longer working on *Star Trek* (ala Denise Crosby or Michelle Forbes) or who only make rare 'guest' appearances, such as James Worthy (who played a Klingon), etc. These letters, when received are usually either returned to the sender,

or tossed in a box until enough of them are received to ship to the actor (which can take even longer). This is a bit of a hit-and-miss type of chance, unless the actor does other work for Paramount, or is a regular guest star, such as Whoopi Goldberg, etc.

GUESTS AT CONVENTIONS

One great way to meet people is at the numerous conventions that are being held all over the country (and world). These often feature folks from *Star Trek*, and feature a Q&A session. If you know a guest coming to your local area, you may consider giving them a letter in person, which ensures they actually get the letter. However, on the flip side, many actors do not do autographs at conventions, so access may be limited. It is best to know this in advance.

DISAPPOINTMENTS (OR THATS LIFE)

One thing that everyone must keep in mind is that when they write and ask for an autograph, that the autograph on the photo they receive may be real, or may be from a machine that turns out hundreds of autographed photos an hour. The only true way to guarantee the authenticity is to have the person sign in right in front of your face.

There is also, of course, the fact that some actors simply will not sign any autographs anymore. This is mostly due to the folks who have items signed and then turn around and sell them for large amounts of money to collectors, which in turn tends to lead to a feeling that people are only after the autograph to make some money, not as part of a collection to be kept and cherished. William Shatner, and Leonard Nimoy are among these whose autographs are difficult, if not impossible to obtain.

CONTACTING CAST AND CREW FOR CONVENTIONS

Many people might be interested in contacting cast members for appearances at local conventions. There are different ways to go about this, but the first, best and most recommended, is to call the SCREEN ACTORS' GUILD (213) 856-6737. You can ask for the name and contact information on up to three actors for each phone call. From this information, you will be able to contact the actor's agent, who usually does the physical work of arranging convention appearances, etc.

Other ways are to write the actor, in care of Paramount, but you run the risk on ending up on the bottom of a very large stack of fan mail. Another is to speak in person with the actor at a local convention near you. They may be willing to give you their agent's name and number to contact and arrange something with them.

Whichever way you choose, please be sure to give yourself plenty of lead time: a minimum of twelve months is recommended, so that you have time to contact several people, and get dates that they are available. You will also need to have as much information as possible about your event handy, and be able to answer any question you might be asked.

Well, I hope that this information is of use to some of you, and has helped answer some of your questions, or helped in some other fashion. I encourage everyone to wishes to reprint and share this information. I only ask that proper credit is given.



THE FATE OF THE FUSIONS



by Alex Rosenzweig, STARFLEET
Office of Technical Information

In the Deep Space Nine episode "Blood Oath," Star Trek fans are reintroduced to the Klingons Koloth, Kor, and Kang. Each of those characters had appeared in the original Star Trek series, in episodes set some 101-103 years prior to the DS9 episode. In the new episode, though, make-up changes create a problem: These three characters are made-up in the standard Klingon form -- more or less -- of ST:TMP onward, looking very different from the way they had previously. This creates a quandary: Either we ignore the changes "yet another Trek inconsistency," accept Paramount's facetious claim that "Klingons always looked that way, but we didn't have the money to show you in the original series," or seek a third alternative. Fortunately, two other Star Trek stories -- Debt of Honor (DC Comics, 1992) and Star Trek VI: The Undiscovered Country -- give us what we need to seek a third alternative. The following article presents the case...

Prior to approximately 2273, most Federation contacts with the Klingon Empire -- except for some of the earliest ones -- had revealed a race very much like humans in appearance, although Klingons tended to be dark of skin tone and almost always bearded. It was not until the V-Ger incident of 2273 that the realities were fully understood. The pure Klingon race -- the Imperial Klingons -- were bulkier and taller than the human-like Klingons, and sported a heavily ridged forehead with a boney structure running from the bridge of the nose up the center of the forehead and over the top of the cranium. The human-like Klingons were the result of an intensive program of genetic modification to create a sub-race of Klingon "designed" to deal more effectively with the human-dominated (as the Klingons perceived it) Federation. These Klingon-Human fusions dominated UFP/Klingon interactions from the 2220's through 2272. (It was also learned that a similar fusion race had been created to deal with the Rihannsu, although these were rarely seen in Federation territories). During this 50-year period, political power in the Empire was shared among the Imperial race Klingons and their fusion counterparts. However, tensions did exist.

Beginning after the Four-Years War, the Imperial race grew increasingly uncomfortable with the Fusions' influence in Imperial politics. A significant concern was the view that the Fusions would adopt more moderate and conciliatory positions toward the Klingons' traditional adversaries than was deemed appropriate. Certainly the inconclusive results of the Four-Years War did not imbue the Imperial race Klingons with optimism for "the Empire's great future: They

therefore began pursuing a campaign to reassert complete Imperial race control over the Empire. The Fusion races, already on the defensive because of the view that they were "manufactured tools" for dealing with the Empire's adversaries, were hard-pressed to counter Imperial race moves. However, by adroit political maneuvering, including establishing the alliance with the Rihannsu in 2268, they were able to retain a certain measure of power.

This changed in the early 2270's. The Fusions were already losing status and power to the Imperial race when a new Klingon dreadnought design -- the brainchild of a Human-Fusion Thought Admiral (and, unofficially, an attempt to prove that the fusions could be as militaristic as the Imperial race) -- was destroyed in 2273, apparently as a corollary incident to V-Ger's passage through Klingon space. The dreadnought's loss was a great disgrace to the Human-Fusion leadership, and resulted in the Imperial race's gaining full control of the High Council. With that control secured, the High Council acted swiftly and decisively. The fusion races were discommoded, and banished to the farthest reaches of the Empire. Fusion-crewed ships, under the leadership of Fusion captains still operated within the Imperial fleet, but they were given no opportunity for ascendancy within the Klingon hierarchy, and only rarely given a chance to regain their honor. During the time from 2273 through 2293, this unstable balance held, but events were once again to disrupt the position that Fusions held within the Empire.

Councillor Gorkon came to the High Council with an unusual point-of-view for an Imperial race Klingon. He stood as a moderating influence in Imperial politics. Watching events unfold around the galaxy, he became ever more concerned that another major war among the three great powers of the galaxy at the time (the Federation, the Klingon Empire, and the Rihannsu Star Empire) would, rather than being an opportunity for conquering and glory, instead be an avenue only toward complete destruction of all the powers, at the cost of billions of lives. For a time, he was unable to pursue his more moderate instincts, especially as the Klingon/Rihannsu Alliance broke down in 2292 and tensions rose with the Federation, as well, in 2292 through mid-2293. By mid-2293, however, Gorkon had become the Chancellor of the High Council, and had taken a highly unusual step. He had brought on, as his Chief of Staff, a Human-Fusion Klingon named Chang. This step at first appeared to offer hope to the fusion races, but Chang's actions turned it into a devastating setback. When, after the destruction of Praxis, Gorkon chose to sue for peace with the Federation, Chang seized upon what he saw as

an opportunity to restore Fusion honor with the more hawkish factions of the High Council. In concert with individuals from Starfleet Command and from within the Rihannsu hierarchy, he orchestrated a conspiracy to disrupt the peace process, first assassinating Chancellor Gorkon and then attempting to disrupt the Khitomer Conference. The conspiracy was exposed by the actions of the crews of the Enterprise and the Excelsior, and Chang himself was killed.

Unfortunately, Chang had underestimated the feeling that war was increasingly less-attractive option within the High Council. He had also underestimated the Klingon disdain for deceit and trickery, which in many quarters are looked upon as dishonorable. The result was, instead of promoting the Fusions' cause, he nearly brought on a genocidal pogrom against them. Only entreaties from the Federation during the Khitomer negotiations prevented such an action. But the prejudice against the Fusions steadily increased. During this time, the Fusion races lost much of what they had held onto for themselves, as ships and senior positions were routinely taken from them.

In a desperate attempt to survive, the remaining Fusions, including a number of notable political and military figures, withdrew to a remote sector of the Empire, and undertook the only option they felt would give them a chance to continue to function as Klingons. In large numbers, the Fusion Klingons underwent radical cosmetic surgery to change their appearances to match those of Imperial race Klingons. Once this was accomplished, they slowly began to re-infiltrate the Empire. In most cases, they looked sufficiently different that they went unrecognized, and it was not until they had reestablished themselves in successful positions -- although rarely high in the Imperial hierarchy -- that they revealed their identities.

Once this took place, the remainder of Klingon society largely ignored the Fusions, permitting them to live out their lives in relative peace... provided they did not champion the Fusion cause. By taking the actions they did, the Fusions were perceived as having demonstrated their loyalty to the Empire, and while they were not allowed to return to positions of power, they had -- in the eyes of most Klingons -- earned the right to function unmolested. Most of the children from the Fusion lines were genetically modified to restore dominance to their Klingon traits, and to ensure that any remaining non-Klingon genes would be permanently recessive. By the mid-24th century, it was predicted that by the end of the next 105 years, almost no Fusion traits would remain in the Klingon genetic makeup. In effect, the Fusion sub-races would die out, restoring the Klingon race to purity.

Delta Clipper Exceptional

by Edward Kiker, *USS Nomad*

On September 19, 1993, I was fortunate to be present for the second flight of the DC-X Delta Clipper Single Stage Rocket Technology Experimental Vehicle at White Sands Missile Range, New Mexico. I had been involved with the project since 1987 as a Department of the Army civilian Military Analyst (Space Systems) with the Army Space Institute, but at this flight I made sure to wear my Starfleet cap and "show the colors."

The DC-X is a proof-of-concept vehicle designed to demonstrate some of the technologies needed in a full-scale single-stage-to-orbit spacecraft, that is, a spaceship that is completely reusable and does not drop any boosters or external tanks. It is to demonstrate airline-like supportability with a small ground crew and control room crew, and turn-around time measured in hours or <days instead of months. It must also demonstrate intact abort from any altitude, being able to land safely from any altitude with one or more of its engines out.

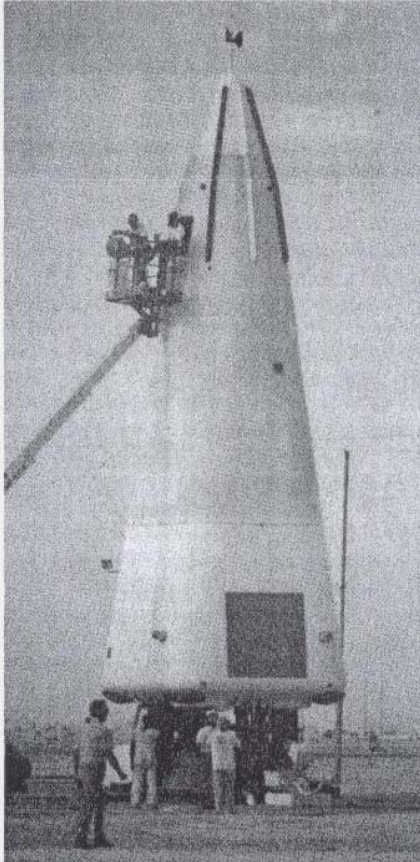
Back in 1991 the Ballistic Missile Defense Organization, the called the Strategic Defense Initiative Organization, called on industry to see if current technology was up to building such a vehicle. McDonnell Douglas, Boeing, General Dynamics and Rockwell all decided that it was, and presented competing designs. The different designs featured various approaches to the problem, including vertical take-off, horizontal take-off, and horizontal landing. The McDonnell Douglas DC-X Delta Clipper design was selected, and in 18 months it was engineered, built, and rolled out for under 60 million dollars.

The DC-X is a one-third scale experimental version of an actual SSTO craft. It is forty feet tall, weighs 41,600 pounds fueled, 20,000 pounds empty, and is shaped like an elongated cone. It is powered by four RL-10A5 rocket engines each generating 13,500 pounds thrust, throttleable from 30% to 100% and burning liquid oxygen and liquid hydrogen. Its aeroshell is graphite epoxy composite with special silicone-based protection coating. It has a ground crew of about thirty-five personnel, and the Flight Operations Center is manned by three personnel. Quite a change from Space Shuttle operations! During its engine trial runs it fueled and fired its engines twice in an eight-hour period, demonstrating fast turn-around capability.

The DC-X made its first flight August 18, 1993, with range personnel only, no observers. It rose

from its flight stand to an altitude of 150 feet, stopped and hovered. It then translated about 350 feet to one side to hover over an alternate landing pad. It then extended landing legs, and came down and landed on its tail.

On September 10 I went out with other official observers to see the DC-X close up, take pictures as it sat on its flight stand and was serviced and checked out, and talk to designers and engineers. The next day was the second flight. The observers were three miles distant, liquid oxygen



DCX Delta Clipper ready for launch

and liquid hydrogen not being the friendliest of fuels should something go wrong. This time it rose to 300 feet, hovered, translated over to the other pad, hovered, then came down extending its landing legs as it did so. It landed and shut itself off to the cheers of observers. I had my camcorder, and filmed the event.

On a third flight later in the year it rose to about 1200 feet, completing the same maneuvers. Each time it flies, it "pushes the envelope" a little more. Eventually, it will perform three crucial tests. One will be rise, cut out one of its four engines, then land safely on the three remaining engines. Second will be to make two flights within a short period, probably three days apart. Third will be to rise to 20,000 feet or more, turn and make a

horizontal flight as if re-entering the atmosphere, then perform a rotation maneuver to enable it to land on its tail again. It automatically maintains a correct position in airspace on its programmed flight plan by "listening" to the global positioning system of satellites.

If all the tests go well and funding is available, a DC-X2 may be built which will be a 2/3 scale test vehicle. It will be able to demonstrate still more of the technologies and capabilities of an SSTO. Finally, should that go well, a full-scale SSTO called DC-Y may be built which can go all the way to orbit and back, the first fully reusable spaceship. Buck Rogers, eat your heart out! Eventually, McDonnell Douglas would like to see whole fleets of Delta Clippers blasting into space from spaceports all over the world, and, with careful management of the craft designations, it would dearly love to designate the first large production version the DC-3!

All may not go according to McDonnell Douglas' plan, of course. The other rocket manufacturers for the first competition are developing their own designs, and it may be that what finally evolves as our production SSTO will be made either by one of the other companies or by a consortium of companies. In any case, the DC-X is already an outstanding success story, and has already become an historically significant milestone in developing cost-efficient access to space. McDonnell Douglas, our hats are off to you for a job well done!

An excellent article with cut-away illustrations of the DC-X is in the February 1994 issue of *Popular Science*, and the DC-X is the cover story.

Brooks at Star Trek Expo

by Marlaina Sastrowardoyo, *USS Stellar Wind*

Avery Brooks was the big draw at this con, which was FREE to those who ordered tickets in advance. Added to the lineup of guests was Michael O'Hare (of *Babylon 5*) and Jonathan Del Arco (Hugh Borg).

For a free con, attendance was disappointing. The unofficial count was an attendance of 500 on Saturday, the 23rd, and 350 on the 24th. Of those 850 attending, 100 were STARFLEET members. Most were from the Region 07 chapters, although Region 01 (*USS IDIC* and *USS Lagrange*), Region 15 (*USS Konkordium*), and of course, Region 05 in the form of the *Stellar Wind*, were represented among the 20-odd chapters present.

Jonathan didn't speak either of the two days. A friend of one of the dealers, he signed autographs and talked with fans both days. I didn't see Michael O'Hare because I'm not into *Babylon 5*.

For his first con appearance, Avery was very entertaining, coming across as a warm and dynamic speaker. He answered many of the fans' questions and told stories about the behind-the-scenes happenings with 089. After much persuasion, Avery sang the "Alamarain" song from the episode "Move Along Home." He refused,

Continued on page 40



Edward Kiker ready for lunch

Response to "Yes, Virginia, There Was Science Fiction Before 1985"

by Lisa N. Paradis Berkenbilt, *USS IDIC*

Several months ago, the STARFLEET electronic mailing list was created on the Internet (To join the list, send email to starfleet-request@mailhost.panix.com.) This mailing list has been useful for airing concerns about Fleet politics, acquiring information about other ships and how they operate, and discussing general topics of interest. One of the more recent "topics of interest" was the sequence of *Communiqué* articles written by David N. Allen. After several messages on this topic flashed by, someone mentioned that the column in question was expected to generate a lot of responses, but, alas, none were received. At that point, I volunteered to attempt a summary of the mailing list traffic on the subject to submit to the *Communiqué* and encouraged others to do the same for future "hot topics." This summary is meant to be an overview of the messages up to January 8, 1994. Due to the amount of information that I received (approximately 16 pages printed out), everyone's views may not be fully expressed by this article. I strongly encourage anyone who wants their own views to be heard in their entirety to submit an article to the *Communiqué*.

In the August/September issue of the *Communiqué*, David Allen discussed the seemingly general lack of classic science fiction knowledge among the younger fans. (On the mailing list, this has been defined as "under 25.") He is not the only person who has noticed this. Sashi German of the *USS Thagard* stated, "I was pretty horrified when I read the [Allen] article because [he] ... wrote about something which has been on my mind for some time... how TNG fans are increasingly arrogant over anything that ISN'T TNG to the point of dismissing TOS and the Movies outright" After running into a fan that did not know the Asimovian roots of Data's "positronic brain," Amy I. Sheldon of the *USS Lagrange* decided to conduct some informal research among her Star Trek friends and people she met at conventions. What she found was "that most younger fans (...younger' [is considered] to be age 25 and under) *are* fairly well versed in TOS lore. They've seen the most famous episodes, they've seen the movies, and they recite trivia with the best Unfortunately, the vast majority of them know NOTHING about the science fiction tradition that led to Star Trek, and helped make it into something different and new and important"

At this point, we can see that there is some agreement about the science fiction ignorance of the "younger" generation. However, some of the under-25ers (myself included, but don't worry; I'll outgrow it) defended the honor of our age group and even offered some insight into how we managed to become educated. Scott Fredericksen of the *USS Intangible* stated that since his ship is in a college town, "there are quite a few people between 20 and 25. All of the people in [his] ship have sci-fi interests outside of Star Trek and are generally knowledgeable about Sci-Fi/Fantasy."

He went on to say that "sometimes [they] get together to share other interests than Star Trek such as Night of the B-movies... In [their] newsletter [they] sometimes have book reviews of sci-fi/fantasy books that the members have read." He summed up his feelings by stating, "Let's educate the masses!!"

I agree with Scott Fredericksen's sentiments. If I were not such a devious little sister, I would probably number among the ignorant fans. My start with science fiction was borrowing my brother's books and reading them. Once he figured out why his books were mysteriously disappearing and reappearing, he started giving me sci-fi books (used ones, of course... but, then again, what are brothers for?). Basically, my early sci-fi education was from someone older than me. I think that it is up to those who know vintage science fiction to bring that information to the younger generation.

If we do not pass the information to the next generation, we could have a situation like the one John "Jess" Naumann (another "younger fan" who knows his sci-fi) related about his nephew. Jess Naumann's 2 year old nephew watches Barney. For those of you who have had the "experience" of watching this show, on Public Television, you may have noticed that Barney takes some old tunes like "This Old Man" and "Yankee Doodle Dandee" and substitutes his own Words. According to Jess, "The family even at one point sang the original songs to my nephew, and he flipped! He couldn't accept that the songs were real songs and that Barney to him was ALL he needs." If the information is not passed along, we could have future generations of fans who only know TNG, DS9 and/or Voyager without knowing how they got there.

Then again, how many know that the 1953 hit "A Stranger in Paradise" is really an excerpt from Alexander Borodin's *Polvovetsian Dances*? (What does that have to do with Trek? read on...) One aspect of Star Trek I really enjoy is that the more a person knows about literature, history, music, culture, life in general, AND science fiction, the more references one understands and the more a person can get out of an episode - just as the person who knows music history can understand where some of the popular tunes of today came from. This leads to an interesting question: how many of those science-fiction ignorant fans are knowledgeable in literature, history, culture and music and how many science-fiction literate fans are ignorant in these fields? Variety is the spice of life: we should not limit ourselves.

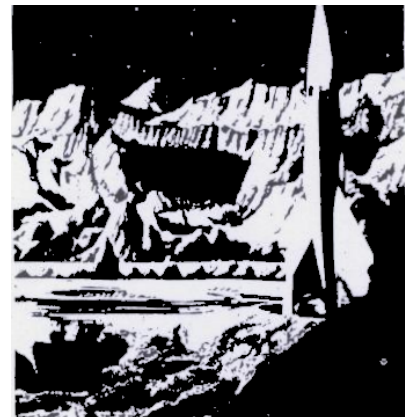
Some people were offended by the article. Helene Donohue of the *USS Atreides* felt that the article was "quite harsh." She also stated that "if one expects to find ignorance among the young, then one will likely find ignorance and be too busy proving oneself right to notice when a really intelligent young person comes along."

Kelly Cline of the *USS Carson* found the

article "discriminatory and offensive." She is another member of the "younger generation;" started out with the old series; and "is quite literate in SF, having read the classics, and ... prefer[s] 50's SF to a lot of modern stuff." She stated that "I know a reasonable number of young fans, and I find them to be knowledgeable of science fiction and the original series. While I think the various generations are equal in quality, if others do not, that is simply a matter of taste and not reason to castigate anyone under 25." In her message, she explained that perhaps the reason why Dave Allen (and others) have noticed this phenomenon is that TNG has a much broader appeal. "TNG and now DS9 are drawing people into fandom who would never have gotten into the original series or even been interested in science fiction. Now that these people are showing up at conventions, ignorant of SF's roots, some people like this writer [Dave Allen] simply assume that this means that TNG fans aren't quite up to snuff.... Now that TNG has pulled them in, we'll get them [up to speed with the old series and SF], and in the end, SF and trek fandom will be richer for having them." Kelly was not the only one who felt this way.

So, there you have it. It seems that Dave Allen should not fear for the future of fandom. There are people in the younger generation who know the roots of Star Trek. However, it is up to the people who know to pass the information along. Since Star Trek has such a wide appeal, there is a much larger audience out there who need the science fiction education. Perhaps these newcomers have knowledge that some of us lack. Learning is a two-way street, and we should not limit ourselves to science fiction. After all, Star Trek is rich with references about all parts of life, science fiction included.

Contributors: In addition to myself, the following people contributed to this article: Sashi German, Amy I. Sheldon, Scott Fredericksen, Jess Naumann, Deb Murphy, Erik Stovall, Rahadyan Sastrowardoyo, Helene Donohue, Kelly S. Cline, and Michael A. Smith.



Adapting To Life In Outer Space

by Dr. Fran Terry, *USS Lagrange*

As humans set out to explore the universe, to "boldly go where no one has gone before," they will encounter environments much different than those familiar to them on earth. Looking just at the earth and at the planets and moons of this one solar system yields some idea of the potential variety of environmental conditions. On our home planet alone, plants, humans and other animals have adapted to life in the extremes of arid desert, polar cold and tropical rain forests. The local planets present us with much greater challenges: The acid atmosphere on Venus dissolves metal spacecraft; ammonia and methane storms on the gas giants (Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus) that are corrosive as well as toxic to life as we know it; the volcanoes of Io (eruptions photographed by Voyager!); the heat and unfiltered solar radiation on Mercury and the near-absolute zero of the outer planets. These obstacles are already known. Legions of inhospitable aliens have populated literature - Arthur Clarke hinted in 2010 that there is some creature on Europa who is not pleased with our landing there. On a somewhat more hopeful note, the elements of DNA have been located on Titan. Maybe there are folks like us out there after all. . . .

In addition to all of the physical problems of interplanetary travel (left to the physicists and engineers), and the psychosocial issues of contact with other species, there is the matter of finding or creating environments where humans can work, explore and communicate with the new species they encounter.

CLASS "M" PLANETS

Homo sapiens (terran humans) are only able to live within narrow limits of temperature, pressure, atmospheric content, humidity, gravity and other environmental parameters. Space travel and visits to the surface of alien planets may present exposure to environmental extremes. Spacecraft and space station designers must consider these factors when designing, constructing and operating these facilities. Other species may have differing requirements. These may become more important barriers to inter-species contact than differences in language and custom.

Humans have adapted to an environment of temperate climate (70-80 degrees Fahrenheit for minimal clothing requirements, 40% humidity); one earth gravity; atmosphere 78% nitrogen, ~21% oxygen, and trace amounts of other gases. Humans do live within wide environmental variations even on earth, but require significant environmental modifications to do so -heating/cooling, de/humidification, clothing, structural insulation, etc. Persons with debilitating medical conditions may require additional temperature/humidity control and supplemental oxygen. Terran land-dwellers do not experience much variation from 1 G gravity, even at high altitude. A standard total atmospheric pressure of 1 ATM is present at sea level and diminishes with altitude. This is why oxygen (partial pressure of oxygen) decreases as altitude increases - essentially less oxygen on Mount Everest than in Miami - and persons traveling to high altitudes require time to adjust to

the "thinner" air.

The *ST:TNG Technical Manual* lists Class M compatible conditions as 260 Celsius (790 Fahrenheit), 45% relative humidity, pressure 101 kilo pascals (760 mm Hg), and atmosphere of 78% nitrogen, 21 % oxygen and 1% trace gasses.

Other environmental conditions don't preclude intelligent life: Vulcans live in a hotter, dryer place but seem to adapt well to a Class M environment. Benzites need to breathe the gas wafting from the generators worn on their chests. The Vorlon ambassador to *Babylon 5* requires a full environment suit outside his living chambers; visitors to his chambers wear respirators suited to their needs. We need to be aware that intelligent species may look quite different from us and be adapted to thrive under much different conditions.

ATMOSPHERE

Humans function best in an atmosphere of ~21 % oxygen. Oxygen-enrichment is necessary at high altitudes, and for persons with severe heart and lung diseases. When oxygen is less than 18-19%, people feel sluggish, performance and judgement decrease; eventually coma ensues if the level drops low enough. Very-low-oxygen atmospheres will not support human life even briefly. Some birds are even more sensitive to slight drops in oxygen level - canaries were carried into coal mines to warn of changes in the air which would be harmful to humans (oxygen being displaced by methane or other mine gases). Since then, various sensing devices including electronic meters and chemical crystals that change color have been developed and put into use. Anesthesia machines use sensors that detect both oxygen and carbon dioxide in inspired and expired air. Color-change indicators are now commercially available for most hazardous gases (these have been demonstrated on TNG). These are particularly useful when the gas is colorless and odorless, like carbon monoxide or methane, and hazardous or explosive in small concentrations.

Some gasses are toxic to humans in trace concentrations - cyanide, chlorine, phosgene and other nitrogen mustards, for example. Others are irritants at concentrations much lower than their toxic levels - ammonia, acetic acid (vinegar), "tear gas," etc. Low concentrations of irritants may be tolerated for short periods.

Breathing air in which oxygen has been displaced by some inert (but not toxic) gas like nitrogen leads to suffocation: Toxic gasses kill either by suffocation, by formation of acids which can dissolve lung tissue (acid gas + lung water = liquid acid), or by interfering with normal cellular processes (cyanide). Effects by body system can include: nervous system - confusion, lethargy and loss of consciousness; lungs - pulmonary edema (water on the lung) which interferes with the exchange of oxygen and carbon dioxide between lung and blood stream, as well as outright destruction of lung tissue (cigarette smoke does this!); heart - any compound that reduces the amount of oxygen carried in the blood damages heart, kidney, liver, and muscle, and can cause a "heart attack" (carbon monoxide, cyanide). Some gasses or chemical fumes can cause cancers (lung, liver, blood), usually after repeated

exposure, although ANY exposure cannot be risked.

Wearing eye, skin and respiratory protective devices allows people to work in higher concentrations of irritants and moderate levels of toxic gasses. Air- or oxygen-supplied suits (now used in industrial settings as well as the space program) allow work in highly-toxic or low-oxygen atmospheres -protection at the expense of dexterity. Exploration of planets that present these conditions, and contact with species who live there, could be done either via electronic media or with at least one party in a containment suit.

Thagard's Namesake Begins Voyage to Mir

by Hartriono Sastrowardoyo, *USS Challenger*

Dr. Norman E. Thagard, for whom the *Crippen*-class *USS Thagard* was named, arrived in Moscow in late February to begin training for his planned March, 1995 space flight to the Russian Mirspace station. Accompanying him was Bonnie Dunbar, his backup.

Dr. Thagard is a veteran of four shuttle flights, two of them before the Challenger accident. In 1983 he spent six days on board shuttle flight STS-7 to study space adaptation syndrome, better known as "Space Sickness." He was on STS-51 B, the Spacelab 3 flight, which dealt with space manufacturing and medicine. Dr. Thagard was first assigned to the STS-61 H flight, then to STS-61G upon the resignation of John Fabian, which was to launch the Galileo space probe in May, 1986. Both flights were postponed with the loss of the Challenger. Dr. Thagard's first flight after that was on STS-30, which launched the Magellan space probe. He has a total of 604 hours in space.

Along with two cosmonauts, Dr. Thagard will spend 90 days on board Mir, conducting various medical experiments. He will also study the environment on the station and process data on microgravity. This data will be compared to that collected by French researchers over the last year. The samples collected by Dr. Thagard on Mir will be transferred to identical holding refrigerators on the shuttle's Spacelab module. Further refining of data will be accomplished by him before the shuttle lands.

Scientists are excited over the forthcoming Mir-shuttle flight. Not since the Skylab flights in the 1970s have they had a chance to study physiological reactions to three months of space-flight. Combining the earlier data with that of this flight means that the data can be applied to longer flights means that the data can be applied to longer flights, and in turn, be used to preparation of a permanently crewed space station.

Dr. Thagard's flight is just the beginning, however, as ten shuttle flights are planned to Mir. In preparation for those flights, while Dr. Thagard and Dunbar are training in Moscow, Russian instructors are set to visit the Johnson Space Center to see how NASA trains their astronauts.

In addition, NASA officials are working on a means of communicating with the Mir station. The station is in contact with ground stations only when it flies over Russia and other former Soviet states.

Communique

REVIEWS

FILMS • EPISODES • BOOKS • ETC

BOOKS

DaFydd ab Hugh

FALLEN HEROES

Reviewed by Edmund Trafford



Much as I enjoy Trek fiction, I usually read each new book as it comes out just once and then put it on the shelf (exceptions are John Ford and Diane Carey—many times). But this new DS9 novel is so compelling that I went from the last page to the first and started over again. It is a dark and fatalistic novel: Through an unusual chain of events, Odo and Quark find themselves stranded in DS9's near future, a future in which the station has been invaded and ultimately conquered by an unknown force, and all aboard the station have been murdered. As the story unfolds, it moves back and forth between the station's last moments and the heroic actions of its personnel to the bleak future in which Odo and Quark discover the bodies of their fallen friends and comrades. The story is masterfully constructed so that, as Odo and Quark explore the ruins of DS9 and come across Dax or Kira or Bashir, the narrative shifts to the past, revealing how these brave individuals met their tragic ends against the ruthless, merciless, and almost invulnerable invaders. I constantly found myself thinking helplessly "No . . . No!" as the story inexorably moves forward, knowing that because Odo and Quark have discovered each body, that person's actions are already doomed to be futile and must inevitably end in death.

There is some wonderful "gallows humor" between Odo and Quark—can you imagine two more different types stranded together? Their scenes reinforce and expand convincingly their evolving relationship that we have already seen in the DS9 series. They "love to hate" each other, yet beneath their constant bickering, we suspect that there exists something like a McCoy-Spock grudging respect.

How Quark and Odo reverse the events which resulted in the destruction of DS9 was, frankly, for me the least compelling part of the story—no, I certainly wouldn't want the story to leave me hanging with the fate of the station unresolved and its inhabitants dead. But the drama and tension and individual acts of courage and heroism and self-sacrifice that produced the situation which Odo and Quark must unravel are made to seem almost meaningless when at the end of the book the fate of DS9 is changed and all those involved never had to die anyway. (This is not, as you might suspect, giving away the climax. After all, Pocket Books/Parmount certainly wouldn't permit publication of a story which effectively spelled *finis* for its copyrighted characters; they

must remain alive to have still further adventures.)

Fallen Heroes is a book worth reading not only because it so lovingly recreates characters that are familiar to us but also because it is quite simply strongly written fiction, *Star Trek* or otherwise.

GAMES

Interplay Productions

Star Trek: Judgement Rites

Reviewed by Scott Campbell



Requirements: IBM-compatible 386sx (16Mhz or better recommended), 2 Mb RAM, VGA, DOS 3.1 or higher.

Recommended: Mouse or joystick. Supports most major sound cards.

Price: \$39.95 retail.

Interplay Productions has come out with *Star Trek: Judgement Rites*, the sequel to its 1991 release *Star Trek: The 25th Anniversary*. Fortunately, the rule that the sequel is usually worse than the original does not apply here. To begin with, the graphics have been revamped. The warp sequence, for example, has definitely been improved. But the major improvement is the sound effects. *The 25th Anniversary's* sound was just various shades of beeping, even with a sound card, but *Judgement Rites* uses the sound effects from the original series, from phasers and photon torpedoes to the twang made by alien transporters (you'll know what I mean when you hear it). This added to the game playing experience considerably.

The plot of *Judgement Rites* is simple. An alien race is evaluating the crew of the USS Enterprise as representatives of humanity for an unknown purpose and the various episodes of the game are the tests. These episodes are more complex in structure than *The 25th Anniversary* and rely more on philosophy than action. There is enough space combat for those who would like some action. But for those that don't enjoy or are not adept at space conflict, the game gives a choice between no space battles, easy space battles, and full-powered space battles.

There are a few problems. This game takes around two hours to install and, while a mouse is only recommended, the game has obviously been designed with a mouse in mind. But the game as a whole was exceptional. I found this game so involving I stayed up all night playing it without getting tired. In my opinion, *Star Trek: Judgement Rites* is a game to lose sleep over.



TV

Fox Network

Mantis

Reviewed by James Wilcox



On January 24th, the Fox network aired the possible pilot of *Mantis*. TV Guide previewed the pilot in less than enthusiastic terms. However, I loved the thing. The special effects were very good, and most of them were extremely simple. What I would like to determine is if there are any other ST ARFLEET members that have the same feelings as I concerning non-*Star Trek* science fiction and fantasy.

The time is the Spring of 1994 and the place is Ocean City, a busy metropolis somewhere on the West Coast. The Dragons and K-10, two rival Black gangs, are enjoying a tenuous peace. MANTIS is the main reason for this, although the authorities do not recognize or even give credence to such an entity. M.A.N.T.I.S. is an acronym for Mechanically Augmented Neuro-Transmitter Interception System, accessible through a video game played in Dr. Milles Hawkins's (Carl Lumbly) lavish cliff-top home. Dr. Hawkins is a paraplegic because of a wound inflicted by a white sniper during the 1991 race riot.

Recovering from his injuries, this arms manufacturer withdraws from society to develop MANTIS in secret. Yuri Barnes (Bobby Hosea) and Dr. Amy Ellis (Gina Torres) begin their respective careers in Ocean City which include an investigation of MANTIS. Yuri is a reporter at a local TV network affiliate and Amy is the Assistant Medical Examiner.

Dr. Hawkins (as MANTIS) begins "walking around" helping to keep the peace. His weapons are paralyzing sleep drugs either in mist form for crowd control or darts for individual targets. He kills *nobody* in this movie. This simplest of special effects requires that the affected actors stand perfectly still when hit. This they do in excellent fashion. MANTIS' power suit exacts a heavy toll on its wearer with slowly progressing nerve damage, but to continue his war on crime he must continue its use. Dr. Hawkins also has a marvelous car that changes, when needed, into a magic flying machine. A little fantastic, considering current technology, and this is the only problem I have with the movie.

Although MANTIS is able to overcome the villain, he learns that his battle may have just begun. The movie ends on this point, with Dr. Hawkins looking out over the sea from his veranda.

If you have seen this pilot movie, please let me know if you think it has a chance to succeed and let the producer (Fox) know also. TV Guide said only one truth in its review - Black superheroes aren't exactly a dime a dozen...

CDR James B. Wilcox
745 E. Home Ave., Apt. 2
Fresno, CA 93728-1836

(Editor's note: The Cyberspace Vanguard electronic magazine reports that Fox Network has picked up *Mantis* as a series to begin next year.)



STARFLEET CLASSIFIEDS

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STARCHILD COLLECTIBLES FEATURES A WIDE VARIETY OF SCIENCE-FICTION/FANTASY MERCHANDISE, SPECIALIZING IN STAR TREK, NEXT GENERATION, DEEP SPACE NINE, STAR WARS AND DR. WHO! WE OFFER A HUGE SELECTION OF UNIFORMS, INSIGNIAS, POSTERS, BOOKS, JEWELRY, T-SHIRTS, HALF-FAN SHAPED EARRINGS, HOUSEWARES AND LOTS MORE! TO RECEIVE YOUR COPY OF OUR FULLY ILLUSTRATED CATALOG & QUARTERLY UPDATES, SEND \$3.00 TO ST ARCHILD COLLECTIBLES, P.O. BOX 1643, DEPT SC, CONCORD, NC 28026-1643, CREDIT CARD ORDERS CALL 1-800-322-2157.

AUCTION: An autographed production script from the DS9 episode "The Homecoming" is being auctioned to benefit the Armin Shimerman Scholarship. The script, donated by Mr. Shimerman, has been appraised at \$150.00. Autographs include: Armin Shimerman, Frank Langella, and Richard Beymer. Bids (opening bid: \$100.00) will be accepted up until June 15, 1994. The successful bidder will be announced at the National Conference. To submit a bid or for more information contact: USS Maddox, 2724 S. Seneca #C-11, Wichita, KS 67217.

CUSTOM ID BADGES: Choose from many styles or create your own! Badges are laminated. Can be carried or worn with uniform. Contact Jennifer Mark, ID badges, 6515 Wydown Box 31 01, St. Louis, MO 63105-2298 or e-mail jmark@artsci.wustl.edu.

SHORECON '94 IS COMING! Sept. 9-11, 1994, Sheraton Eatontown Conference Center, Eatontown NJ, Proposed site for Region 7 conference. Guests: Jim Hivaty, Jeff Menges, Louis Small. Star Trek, gaming, LARPs, comics, auction, dealers, anime, Costume Dance, Registration \$15 for weekend, \$20 at door, Contact Shorecon, 142 South St., Unit 9C, Red Bank, NJ 07701-2216.

PHASER HOLSTERS: Genuine leather Next Generation Phaser and Tricorder holsters. For info, send a SASE to: Holsters, P.O. Box 1934, Sanford, FL 32772. NOTE: For a reply you must include postage on your SASE.

RAFFLE: An original animation cel featuring Kirk and Spock, for the ST cartoon series, is being offered by the USS Columbia II. Tickets are \$1.00 each. The cel is beautifully framed and valued at over \$350! Drawing will be held June 8th. Please include your phone number and send all entries to: USS Columbia II, c/o Commander Taylor, 5194 Sandstone Dr., Las Vegas, NV 89122.

Do you serve aboard a Olympus Class Vessel? Do you disagree with the Technical Specifications listed on the poster blueprint? If so...then the **USS Vindicator Technical Manual** is just for you. Layouts, Armaments, and Shields, OH MY!! For more info, send SASE to: USS Vindicator, 6200 Carswell Access #82, River Oaks, TX 76114-3143.

FOR SALE: USS LAGRANGE (Heavy Transport) Blueprints! 7-8 highly detailed sheets. TNG (Macpherson) and TOS (Dollond) classes available. \$9 each + \$2 s/h. Custom Metal Insignia pins/letter seals/Ship's Plaques avail-

able as well. Add SASE for catalog. Pat Uchty, 8211 E. Wadora NW., N. Canton, OH 44720.

Do you have a question about Star Trek, science, or technology? Is it complicated or hard to solve? Let me help you with it. I will research your problem. Send SASE and \$5.00 for each specific question to: Baylus Brooks, 3601 Damascus Rd., Fayetteville, NC 28303. This price will include an answer with references and/or copies of relevant material.

Super LOW price, **COMMUNICATOR PINS, STNG & BJORAN** NOW ONLY \$9.95 ea. plus \$2.50 S/H. (check or MO) to: TREASURES The Star Trek Store, PO BOX 612, Lone, WA 99139-0612, VISAMC- 509-442-304710 - 6 PST Mon-Sat (WA res 7.5% tx).

FOR SALE: Star Trek: The Next Generation books. Six books for sale. #5 Strike Zone, #14 Exiles, #20 Spartacus, #21 Chains of Command, #23 War Drums, #24 Nightshade. \$5 each, \$30 for the whole set. Best price ever hurry. If interested please write to: Tanya Treguboff, 1634 Jordan Dr., S. Salem, OR 97302.

FOR SALE: vinyl Star Trek VI, The Undiscovered Country movie poster, approx. size 70 1/2" x 47 1/2". \$100.00. contact Doug Manley, 10 Winter Street V-15, Claremont, NH 03743-2380.

TREKOPOLY! GAME combines Star Trek/Monopoly! This incredibly fun and humorous game is a must for Trekkers -- spans classic, TNG and DS9 characters/topics. Sent \$15.00 plus \$2.90 shipping to Kit Boettcher, 350 Mathilda Dr. #12, Goleta, CA 93117.

Attention Fleet Fishermen! Trills make great bait! Catch the big ones with our exclusive "Wonder Wiggler" Trill brand bait and lures. Discounts for Fleet members. Billy Ray's Bait and Tackle, 1/2 mile south of the Jasper exit on the Greater Lamar Expressway. Mention this ad and get a free combination spinner/Bajoran earring.

FOR SALE: 1991/92 Hallmark Enterprise/Shuttlecraft ornaments, Shatner autograph, Galoob action figures (Data-speckled face, Riker, Geordi, Worf [unusual]), Holograms, Unopened card boxes, Uncut card sheet inaugural editions, and more. Prices negotiable. Lee Thompson, 3284 Altruria, Bartlett, TN 38134. 901/377-5553.

RAFFLE: The USS Savannah is raffling a wrist watch with the STARFLEET logo on the dial valued at \$25. tickets are \$1.00. Drawing on June 12. Make checks payable to Joseph Colanero. USS Savannah, PO Box 60992, Savannah, GA 31420.

T'sear's World Publishing Inc. is my new and first business venture. Computer base selling Trek/Sci Fi and general needs for stationary of all types, graphics both color, black and white, business cards, cards, flyers, labels, and much more. SASE for catalog and/or request for your choice of graphic, colors, borders, fonts, etc. T'Sear's World Publishing, 21 Onondaga St., Yonkers, NY 10704-2052.

FOR SALE: Custom costumes and uniforms. Star Trek, Klingons, Romulans, Next Generation, and Deep Space

Nine. Award winning! Your own ideas as well. Send LSASE to: Superior Costuming, 225 E. Ridge, Ste. 4, Marquette, MI 49855.

CELEBRITIES ADDRESSES: Your favorite celebrities can receive your praise, criticism, offer of help...in return, celebrities often provide letters, photos, autographs, or other tokens of appreciation. Send SASE, \$1.00 per two addresses, to: JAS, 518 Edgecreek Trail, Rochester, NY 14609-1876.

TREK MANUALS, BLUEPRINTS, PINS AND MORE: Discounted rates for Starfleet members, send \$1.00 or 3 loose stamps for catalog to: SDF Books & More, PO Box 361, Wayland, KY 41666-0361. Please include SCC# and chapter if applicable.

THE NATIONAL DIRECTORY OF HAUNTED PLACES chronicles over 2,000 supernatural sites in all 50 states complete with addresses, phone numbers, and travel directions. 408 pages, 100 photos. Send \$24.95 plus \$4.00 s/h to: Athanor Press, 5550 Franklin Blvd. 101, Sacramento, CA 95820.

FOR SALE: Hallmark Shuttlecraft Christmas ornament with display stand and battery operation - \$300.00. 8 1/2 x 11 inch art prints of Star Trek characters - \$3.00 each. Beautiful acrylic painting of Excelsior in Starfield - \$250.00. Baylus Brooks, 3601 Damascus Rd., Fayetteville, NC 28303.

FOR SALE: 39 paperback ST:TNG books in excellent conditions. Issues ranging from first published through #30, including the paperback versions of all hard-bound except *Dark Mirror*. Asking \$150.00 and would prefer not selling them separately. Contact: Peg Pellerin, RFD #3, Box 5460, Winslow, ME 04901.

FOR SALE: Custom costumes and uniforms. Star Trek, Klingons, Romulans, Next Generation and Deep Space Nine. Award-winning! Your own ideas as well. Send LSASE to: Superior Costumes, 225 E. Ridge, Ste. 4, Marquette, MI 49855.

HAND CRAFTED BAJORAN EARRINGS, ETC: Various styles, unique, also for multiple-pierced ears. Plus hand beaded products: Trek/non-Trek. For catalog pamphlet

Continued next page

FREE ADS TO STARFLEET MEMBERS:

80 word maximum on each ad

DEADLINE: JULY 10, 1994

First 40 words are free to STARFLEET members. There is a 25¢ per word charge for each additional word. Please include your SCC# when submitting an ad. Maximum of 2 ads per issue. Indicate how long the ad is to be run (maximum 3 issues). Classified rates for non-STARFLEET members: \$1.00 per. word. Send to: Communiqué Classifieds, 656 Lafayette, Medina, OH 44256

Display Ad Rates: Contact Michael Sawczyn, 8474 Dover Crest Court Galloway, Ohio 43119.

sent SASE to: Kimara Creations, c/o Kim Capelle, 238 Main St., Apt. 2, Springvale, ME 04083.

Avoid warp drive problems caused by old-fashioned dilithium. We have two sizes of **high quality trillithium crystals**. Mined on Quantox VII and encased in lucite for ease of installation. Large crystal \$9.95; Medium crystal \$6.95. Optional mirror base \$4.50. SIH \$2.00. Contact Shuttle Chung Fu, 615 Stafford Lane, Pensacola, FL 32506.

PROFESSIONAL MODEL BUILDER for hire. Is Starfleet keeping you too busy to build your ST and Sci-Fi kits? Let us build them! Your finished kit will be museum quality! For information and prices, contact: Museum Quality Models, 1006W. Sixth St. S., Newton, IA 50208. SASE is helpful.

FOR SALE: Magazines, Cassettes, & books. For lists of episodes, sale items & starships, send SASE & \$1.00 to D. Manley, 10 Winter St. V-15, Claremont, NH 03743-2380.

Custom Made ID Badges! A new design ID badge for your ship and crew. The badges are laminated and are in full color. For more information, write: ENS Ken Oziah, 210 S. Water St., Apt. 36, Olathe, KS 66061.

Don't waste money on enhanced Playmates Phaser/Tricorder which use unflattering kits. I've seen the rest - I do the best. Get superior workmanship/electronics on **completed Playmate, Show Quality PROPS**. Information? Send LSASE. Starchaser, P.O. Box 1505, Renton, WA 98057.

ST:TNG Video Tapes. Episodes 1-17 and 22. These are the commercially available tapes from Paramount. Practically brand new. Only used once. All for \$180 or \$12 per tape/episode. Cheryl Lowe, 203 W. Center Ave., Maple Shade, NJ 08052. SASE please.

WILLIAM SHATNER: A BIO-BIBLIOGRAPHY chronicles all his film, television, radio, theatrical, and personal appearances, plus contains a detailed biography and bibliography with nearly 1,000 references. Price: \$49.95. Order from Greenwood Publishing, 88 Post Road West, Westport, CT 06881. Call 1-800-225-5800.

SPECTACULAR! ALL ORIGINAL BAJORAN. EARRINGS! We \$35, now \$20. No two alike! Specify French Wire, ball post, clipped, Gold/Silvertone. Send postal money order **only** (\$20 + \$2 S&H) to: James McCarthy, 65 Drummond Ave., Waterville, ME 04901.

WANTED

SECURITY PERSONNEL. If you wish to contact me with pride & tell me what you and/or your group have done - submit LOGO designs for the Starfleet Security logo - Or you have ideas or questions - Or just want to get on my mailing list - Write Capt. Cindy Glenn, P.O. Box 2104, Blowing Rock, NC 28605 or East Vice Cmdr. Bev Hater, 2680 Wendee Dr. #2302, Cincinnati, OH 45238.

WANTED: Fans and Dealers of Battlestar Galactica Fandom. Send long SASE to: Clara M. Coapstick, 91 Westland Ave., Box 32, Boston, MA 02115-3827.

ATTENTION FLEET ENGINEERS/TECHNICIANS! Join with the many like-minded individuals in pursuit of TREKNOLOGY already in THE GALACTIC ENGINEERS CONCORDANCE! Now in our fifth year - ship designs, logistics, blueprints, models, and more! SASE for info today! GEC, 11400SE Abby Lane, Clackamas, OR 97015.

SWM: Almost 34, interested in Trek, sci-fi, anthropomorphic cartoons, games, and has good sense of humor; seeks SWF of same age (approx) with similar interests for companionship. Contact: Zach Zulkowski, 264 Hale St., New Brunswick, NJ 08901.

WANTED: I am trying to collect logos, patches and paraphernalia from evership and shuttle in Starfleet. Please contact Lt. David Cooney at 4367 Whittier Rd., Clayton, WA 99110 (509) 276-5684.

ARTWORK OR PHOTOGRAPHS OF "GALACTIC BABES" nothing pornographic, but tasteful bathing suit scenes welcome for special publication to benefit scholarship fund. Orion Slave Girls, Dabo Girls, Risa Waitresses welcome! Photos should be color with persona characters preferred. If successful we will do a male counterpart next year for you gals. Write to Alien Girls, 22 Crescent Rd., Edison, NJ 08817-0881.

PEN PAL or fellow info seeker wanted to discuss or trade info on **Beauty and the Beast** series or/and actor **Edward Albert**. Contact Dell Ray, 1013 N. 5th St., Nashville, TN 37207-5727.

WANTED: Male/female Pen Pals for lonely Scottish Trekker, Male, 23, enjoy sports especially soccer, most sci-fi, music. All replies will be answered. Write to: Ewan Chalmers, 10 marchfield Place, New Elgin, Morayshire, IV30 3YR, Scotland, UK.

WANTED: Submissions to "The Book of Bajor" - a special publication by Starfleet officers about the war-torn planet of Bajor and its political intricacies. We need articles and artwork about Bajoran history, its religious customs seen on DS9, and the history of its Freedom Fighters. We would especially like short articles compiled by those with Bajoran personas. Write to: 2028th Ave., Orley Beach, NJ 08751. Set for completion by spring/summer '94.

Any beings with any information regarding Klingons (clubs esp.), Klingon paraphernalia, or quality Klingon art, contact me immediately: Keith Sellers, 707/449-4293, 106 Fallen Leaf Dr., Vacaville, CA 95687.

WANTED: Pen Pal I like original ST, SUNG, & ST:DS9. I am 12 years old. Please write to: Matthew Smith, 439 De Witt Ave., Belleville, NJ 07109.

PHOTOS/VIDEOS NEEDED: Trek convention/Trek Cruise photos of Daniel Davis (Moriarty). Episodes of "Cheers", "Frank's Place", "LA. Law", "Civil Wars" and pilot to "The Spirit" with Mr. Davis. Contact K.Grimm, 5621 Nave St. S. W., Canton, OH 44706.

WANTED: Writers and artists to contribute to amature anthology of short works dealing with different perceptions of reality. For guidelines or more info, send SASE to PERCEPTUALREALITY do Amy Beth Lillie, 1922 Russell, basement, Cheyenne, WY 82001, or call 307/637-5327.

STARFLEET COMMANDERS & SHIPS/SHUTTLE-CRAFT: Info requested on your operations & newsletters for in-depth new fandom article publishing in "Lunar Phases" the newsletter of the Shuttle *Moonchaser* (NCC-2002-03). Make yourself known to Trekkers! Send all info possible. Write to: Fandom Frontiers, P.O. Box 10142, Pittsburgh, PA 15232-0142.

WANTED: '93 Hallmark Ornament: In mint condition and in original box. Please contact Michael Trelease, 701 Pine Tree Road, Danville, PA 17821.

NEWSLETTER EXCHANGE: Addresses lost due to change in editorial staff. If you were enrolled, or wish to be, in a newsletter exchange with the USS Aquila, please send chapter name/address to: Glenna Juiffs, 1658 Carl St., Cincinnati, OH 45225-1936. Sorry for the inconvenience.

Ms. Bast P. de Bubastis (AKA. "The Golden Bastet" of Ancient Egypt) wants other immortals from other worlds and dimensions to be pen pals with. Send your letters to: Ms. Bast P. de Bubastis, P.O. Box 1322, Post Falls, ID 83854.

Commodore VIC-20 Software wanted! Looking for certain cartridges or cassettes for the obsolete VIC-20 computer. Write me with a list of what you have. Daniel Toth, P. O. Box 3111, Paradise, CA 95967-3111.

WANTED: Fine to mint copies of "The Official Star Trek Cooking Manual" Bantam, 1978, by Mary Ann Picard, and "Leonard Nimoy, A Star's Trek", Dillon Press, 1988, by John Mickles Jr. Buy or trade. Joyce Hill, 124 E. Franklin St., Hagerstown, MD 21740.

WANTED: Bajorans and other compatible beings to join the ranks of the Bajoran fleet. To form a ship or if you just want to join one. Send a SASE to: B.T.S.F. Fleet Commander, Greg Swanson, 34504 Rd 124, Visalia, CA 93291.

MEMBERS WANTED

Searching for Fleet Members in/near **Frederick County, MD** to organize into a shuttle for Trekkin', Community Service Projects, and Plain Old-fashioned FUN. Interested? Contact Jeannette Moore/Tom Restivo, 1218 Stillmeadow Place, Apt 1 D, Frederick, MD 21702.

STARFLEET members wanted for new **correspondence shuttle dedicated to Original Series/Movies**. If you are stuck too far away from the nearest meeting ship or move too much, and if you love to write or draw, this is the way to enjoy your Starfleet membership! For more information, send a SASE to: E.C. Kinzly, P.O. Box 1273, Freedom, CA 95019-1273.

The SHUTTLE JURASSIC is looking for new members from all over the world. We are a **correspondence only ship**. We cater to the needs of the STARFLEET member who can not or does not want to attend meetings. You can be as active or inactive as you like through our newsletter, computer bbs, or phone. If this sounds like your type of ship, send a SASE to: SHUTTLE JURASSIC; Recruiting Officer: 4396 Eastwood Dr., Apt. 4102: Batavia, OH 45103-2424.

STARFLEET members in **Boise, ID** area wanted to join shuttle now forming. For more information write: Julie M. Prescott, 518 S. Eagleson Rd., Boise, ID 83705-1811.

Join the U.S.S. STELLAR WIND, a **STAR FLEET correspondence ship** and receive our bi-monthly newsletter, The IntraStellar Medium featuring fan-fiction based on member-created characters. All this for \$11 which includes a membership handbook. SASE Allyson M.W. Dyar, 221 9th St. C-203, Kirkland WA 98033-6010 or e-mail <dyar@netcom.com> for further info.

STARFLEET members wanted in the **Pennsylvania** area for the USS Hazard, NCG-91813. All welcome. For more information write Captain Carol Pfeifle, 2712 Greencrest Dr., Erie PA 16506, or write Commander Elaine A. Prizinsky, 443 E. 6 St., Erie, PA 16507.

TaskForce ShadowGuard, the Headquarters of Starfleet Covert Operations, is looking for new recruits. We are based out of **Hanford, CA**. But are looking for members worldwide. SASE to Captain Michael Knight, TaskForce ShadowGuard, 797 E. Fargo Ave, Hanford, CA 93230-2329.

THE ADVENTURE CONTINUES is a unique **role-playing writing club** continuing the adventures of Enterprise-D. Create a character and participate in missions. Send a SASE to P.O. Box 70495, Eugene, OR 97401 for more info.

"Live the Adventure!" STARFLEET members in **Mississippi**, join the Shuttle Confederate. We are a very active shuttle now taking on new members! Cmdr. J. Michael Long, 1502 Holly St., Ellisville, MS 39437.

Continued next page

ATTENTION ALL TRILLS! If you are among the select who are going, or have gone, where few have gone before, transport up to the USS Harry Benjamin and explore new worlds that were once thought unreachable, in a **mostly-Trill correspondence-class pre-shuttlecraft** with bidirectional transwarp drive. Write USSHB, 584 Castro St. #288, San Francisco, CA 94114, or call 415/995-8775.

STARFLEET members wanted for shuttle starting in **East Texas (Henderson, Kaufman, and Van Zant counties)**. For more info, contact Jay Epps at 126 Maple Trail, Payne Springs, TC 75417 or call 903/451-3782.

STARFLEET members in **Northwestern CT** area to join a shuttle about ready to go to ship status real soon. A few positions are still open. Write to: Shuttle Monitor, NCC-1860-15, 66 Lester Dr. Waterbury, CT 06704-1356. Please enclose a LSASE.

Come socialize and have fun wit the crew of the USS Millennium, NCC-20014, Starfleet's **Tampa** chapter. All Starfleet and non-Starfleet members welcome. If you are interested in the Star Trek universe, role-playing, conventions, ST collectables, science, and **community service** this is the ship for you. Please call Lt. Mike Ruiz, 813/882-8503 or write: USS Millennium, P.O. Box 20014, Tampa, FL 33622-0014.

Marines take notice! Want to give command a try, form your own Marine Starbase or Starship, then contact SMI Southern Sector Command, 24th Marine Regiment, Colonel Michael Wallace, 1629 Lawing Rd., Charlotte, NC 28216 (704) 394-7915.

ALERT! All Starfleet members in **Hillsboro, TX** area. I want to form a shuttle in Hillsboro and areas around. Send SASE if interested to: ENS Tommy Holman, 618 Corsicana Hwy., Hillsboro, TX 76645.

ATTENTION STARFLEET MEMBERS in **NW Alabama, SE Mississippi and SCen. Tennessee**, the *Dark Silence* in the Florence/Shoals area is preparing to launch, join us. Call 201-718-0383 or write *Dark Silence*, Rt. 6, Box 60, Florence, AL 35633.

RED ALERT! FLEET is recruiting new officers! Join one of the most rapidly expanding **Next Generation roleplaying clubs** know to Federation Space! Only \$10 per year. Write: Admiral Dane Baker, RAF HQ, 10110 Westland Dr., Knoxville, TN 37922-5122.

UPDATE: The Bajoran Liberation organization is now a Starfleet shuttle in the making called the S. Drachen. To join, write: Ryan Schiffbauer, 106 Willow Way, Fairmont, WV 2655.

STARFLEET members needed for shuttlecraft **THUNDERHAWK** located in **BROWARD COUNTY Florida**. Shuttle supported by USS Guardian, NCC-26244, Cocoa, FL for more information contact CDR Joe Dobson, PO Box 21611, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33335 or call Voce Comm at 305/537-3162.

PUBLICATIONS

CORDAZINE HALLUCINATIONS: Issue 1 or 2. A ST/TNG fanzine complete with stories and artwork, only \$4 a copy. A Visitto Vulcan: Everything you ever wanted to know about Mr. Spock's homeworld. 25 pages at \$3 each! **NEW! USS Challenger Medical Manual.** Learn what it is like to serve the Fleet Medical Corps with info on alien races and med equipment from Classic-ST:TNG eras. \$5 a copy and a top seller through the *Communiqué*. To order any of these fabulous items, write to: USS Challenger, 554 Hollywood Ave., Toms River, NJ 08753 670B. Make all checks out to USS Challenger.

SPACE-TIME CONTINUUM: Unique bimonths entertain-

ment field newsletter edited by Bjo Trimble. Fantasy & Sci-Fi movie & TV news from the source! \$10/6 issues Bulk rate; \$15/6 issue first class. Space Tim Continuum, P.O. Box 6858, Kingwood, TX 77325-6858.

CCSTSG Enterprises, the monthly Star Trek newsletter that challenges and informs. The latest hot news, in-depth features, Ferengi Awards, reviews, humor and more! \$9/6 issues or \$16/12 issues. Sample issue: \$1.50. Checks to: Jeff Mills, 7 Quarry St., Vernon, CT 06066-2614.

COMLINK: The Letterzine of Media Fiction. Each issue contains LoCs (ST, movies, TV, etc), and occasional articles. Current issue #57 (02/94), \$1.50 (\$3 overseas) - Special Deal: #55-57, \$4 or \$6 o/s. Cheques payable to Allyson Dyar, 221 9th St. C-203, Kirkland WA 98033-6010 or e-mail <dyar@netcom.com> for more info.

ATTENTION SECURITY PERSONNEL: If you enjoy collecting manuals, you'll love the new STARFLEET R/1 Security Manual! Contents include info on department setups, newsletter publishing, weaponry, & an excellent **CONVENTION SECURITY GUIDE**. Contact: Amanda Herrmann, 9908 Berrywood Dr., Ladson, SC 29456.

NEW VOYAGES, a ST:TNG fanzine, needs contributors and subscribers. Short stories, poetry, artwork, letters of comment, book reviews, and episode/movie discussion. We cover ST:TNG and the upcoming Voyager series only. Send SASE to P.O. Box 70495, Eugene, OR 97401.

Kail - Each issue contains new fiction and general interest Trek-related articles. \$6.50 per issue (includes P&H) or \$22 for a one year subscription. Checks to **Kail**, 1076B Cottonwood Lane, Tallahassee, FL 32310. SASE for writers/artists guidelines.

DATABASE is an all-new Science Fiction & Fantasy Classified Newsletter looking for fandom advertisers. Free text ads. Open to all non-profit clubs, fanzines, newsletters, etc. Legal SASE for more info: P.O. Box 10142, Pittsburgh, PA 15232-0142

CLUBS

WANTED: Star Trek Fans to join the "**Bajoran Liberation Organization**", a free, non-profit club for forming local chapters and mail correspondence! Will also meet at cons. Write: B.L.O., Ryan Schiffbauer, 106 Willow Way, Fairmont, WV, 26554.

Join Now! **Be a member of PAB - People Against Barney!** Are you annoyed with that Purple Dinosaur! Then correspond with like minded individuals who would like to see that irritating dinosaur extinct. Pres. E. J. Levy, VP Dawn Weil. Free Dues! Write to: PAB, 65 Decatur Ave. Apt. C1, Seaside Park, NJ 08752.

Join a different Romulan club! The Lost Ships of the Rihannsu (SOF) are searching for all of the lost ships and their crews. If you're Rihannsu, but want something unique, join the Lost Ships today. Send a SASE to: Z'Varaad Tierdam, 9100 County Road 142, Williamsburg, MO 63388.

Join the Colonial Warriors. Battlestar Galactica Fan Club. Members receive membership kit and C.W.U. newsletter. Dues: \$10.00 domestic, \$15.00 foreign (U.S. funds only). For more info/questions, write: Colonial Warriors United c/o Clara Coapstick, 91 Westland Ave, Box 32, Boston, MA 02115-3827. Please enclose a long SASE.

ATTENTION FLEET ENGINEERS/TECHNICIANS! Join with the many like-minded individuals in pursuit of TREKNOLOGY already in THE GALACTIC ENGINEERS CONCORDANCE! Now in our fifth year - ship designs, logistics, blueprints, models, and more! SASE for info today! GEC, 11400 SE Abby Lane, Clackamas, OR 97015.

DEFEND THE EMPIRE! Romulans unite to extend our frontiers and defend our honor. Military, civilian and diplomatic positions. Send SASE or First Class Stamp to: Romulan Star Empire, P.O. Box 3508, Dayton, OH 34301, for information.

THE DOUBLE D CLUB: For Daniel Davis/Moriarty fans. Need to see more of him? For more information send SASE to The Double D Club, 5621 Nave St., S.W., Canton, OH 44706

STARFLEET COVERT OPERATIONS, the Secret Service arm of STARFLEET, is looking for recruits worldwide. Belonging to more than one club is a plus. SASE to Captain Michael Knight, Commandant SCO, 797 E. Fargo Ave, Hanford, CA 93230-2329e

"WE ARE BACK" The Romulan International Empire is seeking to expand our borders into the stars. To join or start a local chapter, send a business size envelope SASE to: RIE, 36 Forest St., Asheville, NC 28803.

The B.T.S.F. is looking for Bajorans and other compatible being to form and fill the ships of the Bajoran fleet. So, if you are looking to find even more new adventures, send a SASE to: B.T.S.F. Fleet Commander, Greg Swanson, 34504 Rd. 124, Visalia, CA 93291.

Do you like Star Trek role-playing? Then join the Romulan Birds of Prey and R.I.E. for 1 year: 1 person - \$15. Family of 4 - \$30. You choose your department and I assign your rank. Move up in rank by joining training schools. Call 215/423-4765 or write R.I.E./R.B.P., P.O. Box 12737, Philadelphia, PA 19134 and you will be sent application & Information. Include a SASE with your request. Allow 4-8 weeks for delivery.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commodore Steve Stein, Captain Dona Stein, and Crewman Jake Stein (USS Lagrange) joyfully announce the birth of their son and brother Gerard Neil Stein on Stardate 9402.28. Wanted all our old Fleet friends to know!

ATTENTION STARFLEET! REMEMBER COLLECTIBLES EXPRESS? WE'VE MOVED & CHANGED OUR NAME TO STARCHILD COLLECTIBLES AT P.O. BOX 1643, CONCORD, NC, 28026-1643. CHECK OUT OUR NEW AD IN THE FOR SALE CATEGORY!

Brooks Con continued

However, to say what type of underwear he wore, or indeed, if he wore any at all.

Avery also mentioned that there was no experience comparable to that of having an action figure made of him. His favorite cast members are Nana Visitor and Colm Meaney; Avery shares many laughs with Colm over everything on DS9.

He didn't sign any autographs initially, stating that if he had to sign one, he had to sign for all. There were pre-signed photos available, proceeds of which would go to the United Negro College Fund. However, on Sunday Avery did sign for two educators, and later on signed for many of the children in the audience. In my opinion this was a bad judgement call, as this disappointed many of the other fans in the audience, and convention security didn't know Avery was going to do such a thing!

All in all, it was an enjoyable con. With his busy schedule, Avery didn't know if he was going to do another one. If he does, I encourage you to go and attend his presentation. It's an experience not to be missed.



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