

Communiqué

Issue Number 80

STARFLEET: The International Star Trek Fan Association

April / May, 1997

Overseas Coupon Project: Help for Military Families

Greetings. Over the past two years, I have noticed a lot of new names on the roster of chapters within STARFLEET. This is great news, because it means more people are wishing to join in Gene's dream ... the dream of all people working together and helping others who may need it. We call it "community service" and usually involves helping out in the LOCAL communities.

However, there is one very big community that gets largely overlooked ... that of U.S. Military families living overseas. I know that a lot of people in STARFLEET have never been in the military so have never experienced the tremendous hardships that are a part of the military life. The active duty military personnel are trained for, and expect, this type of life. Their families, on the other hand, are not trained for this life and are the ones that suffer the most. They not only have to live with moving every few years (sometimes to far away locations) and having their active duty husband/wife or father/mother going on exercises for days or months at a time; but they also have to live with EXTREMELY high inflation rates in the countries they live in (often ranging from 25%-150% each year) with virtually no additional money to help offset these costs. This is where the OVERSEAS COUPON PROJECT comes into play.

Lately, I have received numerous requests for information about this program and quite a few are from chapters who did not even know this program existed. This, I suppose, is to be expected with the amount of new chapters being formed, and given the state of communications within STARFLEET during the past two years. So let me tell you a little bit about this very worthwhile project.

The Overseas Coupon Project is a program that was started in 1992 by a few people in Texas as a way to help American military families overseas with their expenses. In the past four years, this program has grown to more than 100 STARFLEET chapters fleetwide, as well as other organizations (Star Trek organizations and civilian organizations). The amount of coupons collected and mailed off is growing as well. In 1995, the

program collected and shipped more than \$500,000 worth of coupons. These coupons were mailed to over 30 American military bases world-wide. The figures for 1996 is showing promise of surpassing that amount.

Why is this program growing at this rate? It is because of its simplicity. The only requirement to participate in this program is a pair of scissors, a stack of coupons and a desire to help others. No special qualifications are needed, simply a desire to help others that would otherwise be hard-pressed to make ends meet. Whether your chapter is a small chapter or a large one, this is a program that you can participate in and feel good that you are helping others who need all the assistance they can.

You do not need to belong to a chapter to participate. We have many individual members who are sending coupons to us. Each of them have the same desire to help others as the chapters do. They just send in their coupons themselves instead of going through a chapter. EVERYONE's coupons are welcome!

If you feel that this is a program that you would feel good about participating in, or if you simply need more information about the program and how to get started, please feel free to contact one of the coordinators for this program by E-mail or by snail-mail (with SASE) to one of the addresses below:

(East of the Mississippi River)

Carl R Lewis Jr
5600 Dorchester Rd
1205
N Charleston, SC 29418
E-Mail: OCP-East@sfi.org

(West of the Mississippi River)

Becky Thane
701 Seminole Trail
Hewitt, TX 76643
E-Mail: OCP-West@sfi.org

With everyone's participation, this program will continue to grow and make life overseas easier for the military families who are stationed there. Please help.

Next Communiqué Deadline:
June 15, 1997



Region 1 Wedding



Region 1 Coordinator Linda Neighbors is escorted by John Sprouse of the USS Hemidal at the Region 1 Summit during her and Willy Smith's wedding ceremony.

Communiqué

Starfleet Operational Chart

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Protocol Department

Admiralty Board:

REGIONAL COORDINATORS

REGION 1

REGION 2

REGION 3

REGION 4

REGION 5

REGION 6

REGION 7

REGION 9

REGION 10

REGION 1 1

REGION 12

REGION 13

REGION 15

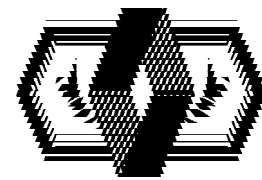
REGION 17

REGION 21

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Operations

COMMODORE TOM MONAGHAN



Editor's note: Last issue's report was sent as two separate documents. I inadvertently left one of the documents out. -bds

Welcome one and all to another action-packed, fact-filled Operations Report! I think that it goes without saying that the first four months of the new administration have been a tremendous success. Yes, we've had our fair share of problems but we didn't let that stop us from achieving our number one goal - to provide the membership with quality services. I'm quite sure the others on the Executive Committee and within the Headquarters Staff will be more than helpful to bring you up to speed on our recent successes in their areas.

Starfleet Operations has been humming along like a well-oiled machine since day one. I would like to take this moment to thank each and every member of the Starfleet Operations staff for a job not only a job well done, but for a job done well above the call of duty. Les, Matt, Dave, Barb, Mark, Alex, Dennis - we couldn't have done it without you and the entire Fleet owes you a debt of gratitude. I just wanted to be the first one to deliver. Thanks for the excellent work, y'all!

Despite the tremendous successes accomplished throughout the Fleet and FleetOps, one of the major misunderstandings coming from the chapters still concerns when and where to report. Well, I'm going to keep repeating this until you all get this one right.

Monthly chapter reports (MSRs) are to be sent to Vice Chief Les Rickard by the 5th of each month. You can mail your reports to: Starfleet Operations, c/o Les Rickard, PO Box 22, Lexington, NC27293-0022. However, e-mail reports should now be sent to Matt Myers, Assistant Vice Chief of Operations, at avops@sfi.org. The important thing to remember is to send in those reports! If you have any questions or need further assistance please feel free to contact Les or myself.

I bet all you chapter CO's out there are wondering why you should bother sending your monthly reports to Starfleet Operations when sending them to your Regional Coordinator seems good enough to you. Well, that's a good question and it deserves just as good an answer. Not only is reporting to Starfleet Operations a chapter requirement it also keeps us notified that your chapter is an active chapter. The information that you send with each report is important to us because it gives us the opportunity to update your chapter's information in the Starfleet Chapter Database where necessary. And that information saves Starfleet badly needed funds. With an up-to-date Chapter Database, Starfleet won't be wasting your valuable

membership and chapter charter fees by mailing Command Status Reports and other correspondence to wrong addresses or decommissioned chapters.

Example: Captain Bob of the USS Bigfoot moves to another town and fails to report to Starfleet Operations about the chapter's new address. Fleet HQ sends out the latest Command Status Report and other correspondence to Captain Bob's old address. Weeks pass. Captain Bob begins to get upset that he has not received any timely information from Starfleet HQ as promised. Starfleet HQ begins to wonder why the USS Bigfoot's mail is suddenly being returned as undeliverable. Captain Bob assumes things are starting to unravel at Fleet HQ again. Fleet HQ wonders if the USS Bigfoot no longer wishes to continue as an active Starfleet chapter.

And the misinformation cycle escalates. Captain Bob sends nasty letters to various EC members. The EC members reply to Captain Bob's mail, this time to the correct address as noted on his stationery, letting him know that information is being sent to him (not knowing that the address for the USS Bigfoot in our database is wrong). However, the true solution to this scenario has been totally overlooked - the address for the USS Bigfoot remains incorrect in the Fleet Chapter Database. This apparent major communications breakdown could have easily been prevented if Captain Bob remembered to report to Starfleet Operations.

Okay, maybe I could have done better with the above example but you all should get it's meaning. Those reports that you send to us may look like a waste of time and money to you now but, in fact, it only becomes a waste of time and money if you don't report. Of all the chapter requirements, I rate reporting monthly as the most important. Without your monthly report we won't know if your chapter's address has changed or we wouldn't be able to assist you with any problems your chapter and it's members have experienced. So, remember, reporting is not just a requirement, it's your monthly link to Starfleet HQ. Take advantage of that link. It can prevent unnecessary problems and frustration in the long run.

Yes, reporting is important, but so is maintaining your other chapter requirements. An active and healthy chapter requires members. An active and healthy chapter also requires qualified leadership. Keeping the chapters and their COs informed on a regular basis also requires funding.

This is why it is necessary for every chapter to have at least ten members, to have every CO and XO OTS & OCC certified, and to pay the annual chapter charter fee. Without these requirements it would

be difficult for any chapter to exist as a healthy and active unit and it would be just as difficult for HQ to provide quality service to the chapters.

In a related issue, the Six Month Chapter Grace Period is quickly drawing to a close. Thanks to our Addendum policy, we have been able to tackle the reporting issue with great success. So far we have finally been able to get our Chapter Database up-to-date. We've also been able to identify chapters that were either decommissioned or preferred to no longer associate with Starfleet and we've been able to assist chapters with various reporting difficulties. And now the time is drawing near to address the other chapter requirements that have been graciously overlooked by Starfleet Operations over the past few months. I urge all chapters to use the remainder of the Grace Period wisely by renewing your lapsed memberships, getting your CO and XO OTS & OCC certified, and paying your chapter charter fee.

Remember, the Six Month Chapter Grace Period ends June 30th. Following the Grace Period, I will be sending out letters of notification to every chapter that still fails to meet one or more of our chapter requirements. These chapters will be placed on Standby Status until August 31st or until all requirements are met. A listing of chapters placed on standby will also be sent to each Regional Coordinator. If any chapter still fails to meet all their chapter requirements by August 31st they will be sent notification of their decommissioning. A listing of decommissioned chapters will also be sent to each Regional Coordinator.

I really hate having to get tough on chapters for failing to meet chapter requirements. I did not take this position to fulfill some inner need to harass our valued chapters. However, these requirements were established for a reason and it is every chapter chairperson's obligation to Starfleet to make sure their chapter meets these requirements. And it's my job to make sure that the chapters and their COs are meeting their chapter requirements. This is no big Starfleet secret. All COs should know what is required of their chapter and if they don't they can catch up on those requirements by reading the Starfleet Member Handbook. Either way, if your chapter is having difficulties meeting your chapter requirements please get in touch with me as soon as possible so that I can assist you with resolving your problem.

Okay, so what was the final tally of all the chapters placed on standby in March? Good question! The following is a listing of the chapters that were placed on the Standby Status List for failure to report to Starfleet Operations. This list has been broken down into three sections - (1)

chapters that were either decommissioned by the previous administration or have recently been decommissioned, (2) chapters that have been taken off standby status by contacting Starfleet Operations, and (3) chapters that are still on standby due to other special circumstances.

THE STANDBY STATUS LIST AS OF 9704.15:

DECOMMISSIONED: USS Tempest, U.S.S. Encounter, U.S.S. Millennium, U.S.S. Gagarin, U.S.S. Lancelot, U.S.S. Vindicator, U.S.S. Alliance, U.S.S. Harry Benjamin, Mystere Station Pacifica Station, U.S.S. Trieste, U.S.S. Buckaroo Banzai, U.S.S. Rebellious, U.S.S. Yakima, U.S.S. Behr'ak, U.S.S. Aegis, U.S.S. Merlin, U.S.S. Odin, Susquehanna Station, U.S.S. Lewis & Clark, U.S.S. Locksley, U.S.S. Missouri, U.S.S. Sally Ride, U.S.S. Celestial Dragon, U.S.S. Liberator, U.S.S. Texas, U.S.S. Storm Bird, U.S.S. Alexandretta, U.S.S. Itasca, U.S.S. Maelstrom, U.S.S. Avalon, U.S.S. Sekhmet

OFF STANDBY DUE TO RESPONSE TO LIST: U.S.S. Valkyrie (recommissioned 9704.03), U.S.S. Renegade, U.S.S. Astra, U.S.S. Discovery, U.S.S. Ranger, U.S.S. Miramar, U.S.S. Richmond, U.S.S. Oklahoma, U.S.S. Starchaser, U.S.S. Bexar, U.S.S. Intangible, U.S.S. Essex, U.S.S. Thunderchild, U.S.S. Cape Fear, U.S.S. Confederate, U.S.S. Gryphon, U.S.S. Shaun Christopher, U.S.S. Wasp, U.S.S. Galactica, U.S.S. Thor, U.S.S. Concord, U.S.S. Nimitz, U.S.S. Indestructable, U.S.S. Konkordium, U.S.S. Potemkin, U.S.S. Alacrity, U.S.S. Bonaventure, U.S.S. Justice, U.S.S. Toronto, U.S.S. Star League, U.S.S. Stargazer, U.S.S. Ari, U.S.S. Oberon, U.S.S. Hazard, U.S.S. Aries

STILL ON THE LIST: U.S.S. Leif Ericson (Put back on standby - chapter is reforming), U.S.S. Chronos (sent decommissioning letter), U.S.S. Apollo (sent decommissioning letter)

STARFLEET OPERATIONS BY THE NUMBERS: A Brief Look at the Chapters and Regions of Starfleet since 9701.02

It appears that this section of the Ops Report was inadvertently dropped from the previous issue of the Communiqué. Well, that's just dandy. Now you can read two issues worth of new chapters, new commanding officers and recently decommissioned chapters. I hope you enjoy reading this section as much as I enjoyed slapping it together.

CHAPTERS COMMISSIONED OR RECOMMISSIONED SINCE 9701.02: U.S.S. Solar Flare, Captain Deanna Blanchard, CO, U.S.S. Adamant, Captain Mary Ann Pugliese, CO, U.S.S. Rogue Phoenix, Captain Shaughn O'Connor, CO, U.S.S. Bean

**—Continued
on Page 5**

Communications

COMMODORE GORD GOLDBERG

Hailing Frequencies Open! It's been a busy couple of months at Communications Central, as the Division continues to grow and take shape. The influx of volunteers and new ideas has been amazing!

I'd also like to thank everyone who took the time to write or email me with their comments (almost every one positive) about the Communiqué and the Web site, and especially those who gave suggestions for how we can improve things even further.

The Communiqué you are holding, courtesy of Greg Trotter and his wonder-team, will hopefully be the last one to go out at bulk rate. If all goes well the Post Office will come through with our periodical-rate permit. This of course means that Communiqué #81 should get to everyone a lot faster, and will be properly forwarded to those of you who move and don't let CompOps know of the address change in time. And just so you know — the members whose original copies of the last issue didn't get to them because of incorrect addresses in the database, who informed us (after the fact) of their new addresses (and there were over 100 of those), had new copies mailed to their corrected addresses.

On the Fanzine front, submissions have been pouring in. Wendy Fillmore and her staff have been working tirelessly to review and select the finest offerings for your viewing and reading pleasure. The deadline for submission of written work is May 1, with artwork submissions due by May 15. Submissions may be sent by email to Fanzine@sfi.org, or may be mailed to:

Capt. Wendy Fillmore
Vice Chief of Communications - Fanzine
72 Dickens Road
North Brunswick, NJ 08902-3448

Subscriptions for the July 1997 issue must be received by June 15. Checks should be made out to STARFLEET (at \$13 for a single issue or \$24 for the full year's two issues, postage included) and mailed to the above address. Those of you on the Internet can check out the Fanzine web site at <http://www.castle.net/~olgief/fanzine>.

Since I've mentioned the Internet, I'd like to applaud Allyson Dyar and the NetServices staff for the phenomenal job they've done. Not only does the STARFLEET web site at <http://www.sfi.org> provide net-enabled members and chapters with access to useful forms, documents, and data; but members can send mes-

sages via the feedback page and have their questions routed to the appropriate individuals to get them the answers they need. A moderated announcements-only mailing list server has been set up. To subscribe, send an email message to listener@sfi.org and in the body of the message put "subscribe sfi-announce" followed by your name (for example: subscribe sfi-announce Michael Q Fleeter).

A new section of NetServices is the Office of Web Consultation, headed by David Goudsward. This office will answer questions about HTML code, and assist chapters and regions in developing their own web pages. The Web Consultation web site provides links to many resources to help the reader learn more about HTML on the web, and is located at <http://www.epix.net/~goudswrd/owc>.

The STARFLEET Online Directory, maintained by Michael Dugas, provides a great way to look up other STARFLEET members or chapters on the net, and is located at <http://www.sfi.org/directory>.

I've received applications (both email and snail-mail) from many highly qualified members interested in the STARFLEET Language

Bank and the Diplomatic Corps. Because of the postal delays in the delivery of the previous issue of the Communiqué, I'm going to wait until the end of April to select the Directors of those two offices. However, I'm pleased to confirm the appointment of Bill Herrmann as Director of Subspace Communications. Bill informs me that Cheryl Stevens is in the process of organizing a Rural Chapter Support Network, and Marian Brooks has been appointed Assistant Coordinator for "OPERATION: EAGLE", the program which provides outreach to members of the Armed Services overseas.

In closing, I'd like to again thank everyone who has taken the time to get in touch with us, for giving us ideas and suggestions and feedback. Communication is a two-way street, and it's important for us to hear from you — to find out what we're doing right and what we're doing wrong; what you want us to do and what you don't want us to do; how we can make things better. STARFLEET belongs to its members, and STARFLEET Headquarters should serve the members — but we can only do that if you tell us what you want. So let us know. I'll be keeping all channels open....

Operations Report —Continued

Sidhe, Captain E. Jerry Beaulieu, CO, U.S.S. Broadsword, Colonel Randy Bisig, CO Station Lewis B. Puller, Captain David McCabe, CO, U.S.S. Cydonia, Captain Kurt Pfeiffer, CO, U.S.S. Wind Spirit, Captain Bill Sowers, CO, U.S.S. Valkyrie, Captain Sally Moag, CO, U.S.S. Phantom, Commodore Jack Hopkins,

CO*NOTE: , U.S.S. Rogue Phoenix was launched through Starfleet's Existing Fan Club Program under the directorship of Dennis Rayburn. This marks the first chapter commissioned as a chapter of Starfleet by this program. A hearty round of congratulations are in order for both Shaughn and the crew of the, U.S.S. Rogue Phoenix as well as Dennis and the staff of EFCP. Keep up the excellent work!

*NOTE: All New Chapters must have their commissioning approved by your Regional Coordinator, the Chief of Shuttle Operations, Starfleet and the Chief of Operations, Starfleet. If you are a member of a new chapter and it is not listed above please contact either the Chief of Shuttle Operations, Starfleet or the Chief of Operations, Starfleet as soon as possible.

CHAPTERS THAT HAVE BEEN DECOMMISSIONED OR LEFT STARFLEET AS OF 9701.02: U.S.S. Crazy Horse, Region 5 , U.S.S. Encounter, Region 2 , U.S.S. Farhion, Region 17 , U.S.S.

Freedom, Region 1 , U.S.S. Intrepid, Region 1 , U.S.S. Alexandretta, Region 12 , U.S.S. Maelstrom, Region 12 , U.S.S. Itasca, Region 6, U.S.S. Edgar D. Mitchell, Region 1, U.S.S. Avalon, Region 14, U.S.S. Sekhmet, Region 1

NEW CO's OR RECONFIRMED CO's PROMOTED TO CAPTAIN SINCE 9701.02: Captain Jeff Spurgeon - U.S.S. Mir, Captain Gary Ensey - U.S.S. Triton, Captain Rochelle Eldridge - U.S.S. Pendragon, Captain Deanna Blanchard - U.S.S. Solar Flare, Captain Matt Black - U.S.S. Thagard, Captain Leanna

Morgan - U.S.S. Rubicon, Captain Donna Tucker - U.S.S. Yamato, Captain Baylus Brooks - U.S.S. Lynx, Captain Pete Briggs - U.S.S. Simonov, Captain Peggy Mackey - U.S.S. Constar, Captain Chris Spink - U.S.S. Star Union, Captain Stephen Stott - U.S.S. Ronald E. McNair, Captain Sam Black - U.S.S. Quanah Parker, Captain Mary Ann Pugliese - U.S.S. Adamant, Captain Pat Fryer - U.S.S. Freedom, Captain Paul Shirley IV - U.S.S. Imperial Star, Captain Earl Patterson - U.S.S. Galactica, Captain Tracy Newby - U.S.S. Northern Lights, Captain Shaughn O'Connor - U.S.S. Rogue Phoenix, Captain Phill Wright - U.S.S. Ambassador, Captain Patricia R. Davis - U.S.S. Arizona, Captain Abe Smith - U.S.S. Odyssey, Captain Cheryl Lowe - U.S.S. Briza, Captain Richard Getz - U.S.S. Kepler, Captain E. Jerry

Beaulieu - U.S.S. Bean Sidhe, Colonel Randy Bisig - U.S.S. Broadsword, Captain David McCabe - Station Lewis B. Puller, Captain Kurt Pfeiffer - U.S.S. Cydonia, Captain Bill Sowers - U.S.S. Wind Spirit, Captain Theresa Batson - U.S.S. Starchaser

*NOTE: All New Chapter Commanding Officers must have their appointment to Commanding Officer and promotion to Captain approved by the Chief of Operations, Starfleet. If you are a new Commanding Officer and you are not listed above or you have not received your commissioning and/or promotion certificates please contact the Chief of Operations, Starfleet.

REGIONAL ROUNDUP (REGIONS REPORTING FOR REPORTING PERIOD 9612): 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 10, 12, 15

REGIONAL ROUNDUP (REGIONS REPORTING FOR REPORTING PERIOD 9701): 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 15, 17, 21

REGIONAL ROUNDUP (REGIONS REPORTING FOR REPORTING PERIOD 9702): 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 15, 17, 21

REGIONAL ROUNDUP (REGIONS REPORTING FOR REPORTING PERIOD 9703): 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10, 11, 12, 15, 17, 21

*NOTE: if you are a Regional Coordinator and your region is not listed above or you have not submitted your monthly report to the Chief of Operations, Starfleet or the Commander, Starfleet

by the 15th of the month please do so as soon as possible.

STARFLEET OPERATIONS REGION OF THE MONTH: And now the moment you have all been waiting for - the monthly award for Best Region in Starfleet according to Starfleet Operations. As you may or may not know, this award is presented to the region that we feel best represents the true ideals, enthusiasm and integrity of Starfleet: The International Star Trek Fan Association.

9701: Region Five, Captain Kurt Roithinger, Interim Regional Coordinator

9702: Region Fifteen, Commodore Joe Ruttar, Regional Coordinator

9703: Region Ten, Fleet Captain Paul Reid, Regional Coordinator

(Selections by Commodore Tom Monaghan, Chief of Operations)

Congratulations to our winners! Keep on sending in those monthly reports. Remember, your region may already be a winner! Until next time, keep an eye on your mailbox. Take care and the very warmest of regards from all your pals in Starfleet Operations are extended to each and every one of you.



Shuttle Operations

COMMODORE DENNIS GRAY

Howdy! Let me start off, by saying that we have LOTS to talk about this issue. ShOC has had a rather busy couple of months since my last article. We've had number of new shuttles launch, and some old ones commission to starship status as well. But I'll get back to those in just a bit. Meantime, I want to go over a few ShOC policies with everyone first...

Everyone knows that they must submit a VRR to ShOC in order to launch as a shuttle. What everyone does not seem to know, is that you must also send your VRR to ShOC when you wish to commission as a space station, or starship from being a shuttle as well. The correct order that your paperwork must follow for commissioning is: your mothership CO, your RC (mothership's RC as well, if it is different than your own), ShOC, then finally, to Ops.

It is very important to include ShOC in that chain, as we do most all of the work in approving a shuttle for commissioning. We check to make sure that DTS has approved your name, class, and NCC number, we check to make sure that both the CO & XO have taken OCC, we check to make sure that you have the required 10 members for full chapter status, and verify their active status through CompOps, we check to make sure that as a shuttle, they've been reporting regularly, and are not on probation, etc. We also send the \$10.00 fee for commissioning to HQ. So you see, we do a lot here to get a shuttle commissioned.

If a VRR goes to Ops before going to ShOC, Ops will only have to mail it back to ShOC for processing first, thus delaying your commis-

sioning. There will be no exceptions to this. Your co-operation would be greatly appreciated, as it enables us to better serve the shuttles and members under our wings.

Secondly - and this has become a bit of an issue lately - if your chapter wishes to launch as a shuttle, or a shuttle wishes to commission at a regional summit, conference, or event, or at the International Conference, you MUST start your paperwork off WELL in advance of said event. Ideally, you want to send your VRR off approximately 6-8 weeks before the event happens that you want to launch or commission at, no later than 4 weeks in advance, at an absolute minimum. Remember, the US Postal system is not exactly known for speediness of delivery.

It takes time for your VRR to go via mail from you to your mothership's CO, etc. on down the line. It also takes some time at ShOC (typically anywhere from a few days, to a week or so) to process your VRR, assuming there are no problems. If it's for a shuttle launching, ShOC then puts together your launch packet, and mails it out. For commissioning, when ShOC gets done with it, it gets mailed to Ops, then they must put together your commissioning packet and mail it to you. So you see, you need to allow PLENTY of time for your VRR to make it's round, and process, before your desired launching or commissioning date.

Now, on to more fun things. The following shuttles have commissioned since last we talked.

The Shuttle Lewis B. Puller is now the Space Station Lewis B. Puller, SFR-123, an

Alamo-Class Defense Outpost, Region 1, Capt. David McCabe, commanding.

The Shuttle Broadsword is now the USS Broadsword, NCC-73288, an Entente Class Dreadnought, Region 12, Captain Randy Bisig commanding. The Shuttle Cydonia is now the USS Cydonia, NCC-74687, an Intrepid Class, Region 12, Captain Kurt Pfeiffer commanding.

The Shuttle Uintah is now the USS Wind Spirit, NCC-14110, a Konkordium-Class Dreadnought, Region 17, Captain bill Sowers, commanding.

Now, while ShOC has bid a fond farewell to these shuttles, we also welcome into the fold the following new shuttles:

Shuttle Relentless, Region 2, Commander Henry Olsen, commanding

Shuttle Bounty, Region 7, Commander Stephen Buonocore, commanding

Shuttle Osiris, Region 7, Commander Edgar D. Torres, commanding

Shuttle Asimov, Region 15, Commander Martin A. Lessem, commanding

Shuttle Belgica, Region 21, Capt. Jurgen Puype, commanding (special note - the Belgica actually launched last August, but because of overseas postal delays, and misplaced paperwork, did not get mentioned previously)

Unfortunately, we had one shuttle de-commission at the request of their CO. The Shuttle Gorkon, out of Region 6, has dis-banded. I am informed by their CO that they will be re-forming in the months to come, and will re-launch as a new shuttle in the near future. We look forward to seeing their return.

ShOC also has currently one more shuttle waiting on commissioning, and 4 more pending launches.

Starfleet is coming back, my friends. Slowly, surely, we are recovering. It's a great thing to see, and an even better thing to be a part of.

ShOC also wishes to apologize to former ShOC Vice Chief Peggie Kennedy, for mis-spelling her name in my last article. I wish to assure her that it was entirely un-intentional, and that ShOC now stands corrected. Do you think she'll forgive me? :)

Finally, as I sign off, I wish to stress again, that we would like all shuttles to please report, or file VRR's with the appropriate ShOC office. We understand that this is a new concept, and is somewhat confusing still. Dan has received very little in the way of VRR's since last issue, and I have been swamped. Real life often keeps me very busy, so this, with handling most of the ShOC workload, has slowed things down a bit.

If you are in region's 1, 2, 7 or 15, PLEASE send your MSR'S & VRR'S to my vice chief, Daniel Friesen. Dan can be reached at: 5820 Old Mooringsport Rd., #5820, Shreveport, LA 71107. (318) 929-3783, or email at VShOC@sfi.org. All other regions should report or send VRR's to myself at: 2652 W. Hampden Ave., Englewood, CO 80110. Email at: ShOC@sfi.org. Thank you VERY much for your help & co-operation with this. We would appreciate it! See you in two months!

Serving the 'Children' of the Fleet.

Starfleet Awards

REAR ADMIRAL M.L. MURPHY-TOMPKINS

9704.15

By the time this gets to the hands of the general membership, the great dread date of Taxes Due will have past. Also, another deadline will have passed, the 3rd quarter submissions for the Awards Department. A "wise" individual has told me that you can lead a horse to water but you cannot make it drink (wonder where he heard that??).

The International Awards are to be given at the International Conference (Cherry Hill, New Jersey) on August 22nd through 24th

and as of the writing of this report NO SUBMISSIONS have been received by this department.

The committee and I appreciate the RCs, Awards Directors of the Regions and the members helping to ease our burden of work. It does, however, create its own predicament. When only one or two regions make submissions, then those regions walk away with all of the Awards and members in the other regions want to know why someone in their Region that had done particularly outstanding work had not been recognized and again feel the old "well the

Committee is from Region So-in-so, so naturally that region wins everything." THIS IS NOT SO. This department has wrestled this same "bear" for sometime.

The Committee is good but they all failed Mind Reading 101. The clock is ticking and if you, as a member, wish to have someone in your region recognized at Fleet level, then perhaps it is time you did something about it. You know the people in your region, and their actions. The members that deserve this type of recognition do not seek it, you must do it for

them. Do not think that someone else is going to do it because they are thinking the same thing. If you have a question, ask!!!! If you think you know someone that should be submitted, submit them and find out. If you have Internet access, go to <http://www.telepath.com/mlmw>. There is a form and instructions for submissions via e-mail.

We are available by phone most evenings after 6:00 P.M. CDT for questions, comments, or suggestions (405) 681-5908. Or write to us at 1317 S.W. 83, Oklahoma City, OK 73159.

The OCP and STARFLEET Computer Operations

COMMODORE SAL LIZARD

Greetings Ladies and Gentlemen of STARFLEET.

My name is Captain Donna Friesen, and I am the Chief of Staff to the Vice-Commander, STARFLEET.

As the first order of business, I need for the Directors of the following departments to contact me as soon as possible regarding the monthly reports to the Office of the VCS: Director, STARFLEET Chocolate Program; Director, STARFLEET Stampede; Director, STARFLEET Departmental Resource Center; Division DRCs; Director, Disabled Consultants Program.

You can contact me through the U.S. Postal Service at:

5820 Old Mooringsport Rd.
Shreveport, LA 71107

or by telephone at (310) 929 - 3783.

If you receive the voice mail when you call, just leave me a message, and I will return your telephone call just as soon as I can...collect. For those of you with access to the world of cyberspace, you may send me an e-mail to vcscos@sfi.org. I thank you for your time and cooperation in this matter. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

And now...on to the technical portion of our program...

During my recent attempts to contact the Director of the Overseas Coupon Project Becky Thane, it was brought to my attention that the OCP is not currently an "official" project within STARFLEET. While many STARFLEET Chapters do support this worthy project, it is an independent charitable corporation, incorporated within the state of Texas. The official word on all of this came directly from Becky Thane herself. After reading Becky's post to me about this, I spoke with Fleet Admiral Mike Smith about it. He was unaware of this. I then spoke with Admiral Chuck Freas about it. He informed me that he had been told this from Becky several months earlier. Yes, we can all slap him around now for not telling anyone before this. If you would like more information regarding the incorporation of the OCP, you may contact Becky or myself (with a request for the information and a long self-addressed, stamped envelope). I will be more than happy to send you what information I have.

It was in this same post that Becky recommended Carl Lewis to act as the Liaison Officer between the Overseas Coupon Project

Greeting from deep in the recesses of HQ where only the staff of Computer Operations dares to tread!

Membership renewals and applications continue to pour in at an ever increasing rate, the membership decline has slowed and we are beginning to edge back up in numbers again. We are definitely on the road to recovery.

There are three questions that are common to most of the mail that we get at CompOps, so I wanted to take some time to answer them here. However, before I do, I want to let everyone know that by the time you have this Communiqué there will no longer be a backlog of membership packets! We are on track to have the backlog completed by the end of April, which means that everyone who was lacking a membership kit should have one by mid-May. If you are still missing your packet at the end of May, please contact Liz Woolf at the address on page 2 of the Communiqué.

With that said, on to question 1: What's the story with the Fleet Database? During the change of administrations, as often happens, the structure of the database was changed in an

and STARFLEET. This was discussed with both Mike and Chuck. After much debate, we agreed to ask Carl to take on this awesome task. This will allow us to maintain the top quality of support from the Chapters of STARFLEET to the OCP. It is with great pride and pleasure that I announce to you, the members of STARFLEET, that Captain Carl Lewis has agreed to do just that. Please, join me in welcoming Carl as he takes on his new job for STARFLEET. I'm certain that he will do an outstanding job and look forward to working with him to maintain the outstanding sponsorship which STARFLEET has shown to the Overseas Coupon Project over the years.

Well...guess that's all I have for now. Remember that the door to the Office of the Vice-Commander, STARFLEET is always open. We are here to serve you, the members. If there is anything that I or any member of the VCS staff can do to assist you, don't hesitate to contact us.

May you always have fair winds and following seas,

Captain Donna Friesen
Chief of Staff to the Vice-Commander,
STARFLEET

effort to make it more manageable. During the transition, many ship assignments were lost, however, this was the only thing affected. We are working with the Regional Coordinators to ensure that crew/ship assignments are corrected and hope to have that completed very soon. Regional Coordinators were sent copies of their regional rosters earlier this year and are now working with the chapter Commanding Officers to help restore this information. We are requesting that chapters go through their Region Coordinators for copies or fixes to their rosters. If you have any questions, please feel free to address them to our local Microsoft Access expert, FCapt. Jesse Smith.

The next popular question is Starfleet population. We currently have close to 4000 members and the number is beginning to rise. FCapt. Mandi Herman and her crew are processing over 500 applications and renewals a month. To help Mandi with processing please make sure that you and your fellow members include an application or a note with the application information with your check. We've received a few checks with nothing attached and have had to deduce

the membership information from what's printed on the check. This can lead to incorrect address, primary memberships, and many other things, so please be sure to include an application.

Last is the issue of preassigned membership packets. We are currently discussing this within CompOps and hope to have this program back on-line in the near future. Please be patient, this is going to take a bit of planning on our part to avoid some of the problems that CompOps staffs have had in the past. We had hoped to have this on-line again by May, however membership processing had to have everyone's undivided focus until the back log was completed. We'll let you know when we were ready to start this back up again, along with all the details of how to get the packets.

With summer comes moving season. If you plan on moving, please be sure to update your address with CompOps. While the Communications staff will happily forward your change of address to us, it can cause a delay in updating your records and we want to make sure that your Communiqué arrives safely at your new home.

International Charities Department

Greetings from the new International Charities Department! I am Lt. Patricia J. "P.J." Trotter off the USS Star Empire located in the great state of Oklahoma. I am the International Charities Department Coordinator. My assistant is Ensign Thomas Spiker, Chief of Communications, USS Oklahoma. STARFLEET established the International Charities Department as an information center for all STARFLEET charities and charitable activities. As the International Charities Coordinator, my job is to assist chapters in finding charitable causes in their areas.

I have set the following goals for the International Charities Department:

1. To collect and record all data on hours and moneys donated to charities by STARFLEET and STARFLEET's chapters.
2. To inform charitable organizations of the resources available to them through STARFLEET.
3. To inform STARFLEET chapters of the volunteer activities available to them from various charitable organizations.

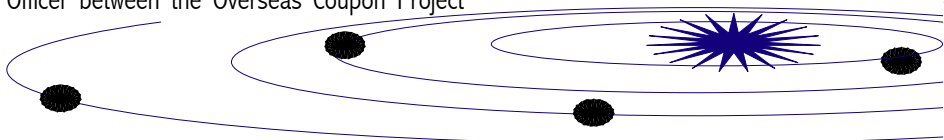
We need to establish this information to maintain our 501c(7) non-profit status, and to set up and maintain a database of charities

(local, state, national, and international) who receive our manpower and money.

We hope to accomplish this through the Regional Coordinators or their Regional Charities Directors and through the individual chapters. What you as individual members, executive officers and commanding officers can do is to make sure that everything is reported correctly as well as completely. I hope by the time that you receive this there will be a form available to record all the hours and the moneys donated to the various charities you participate in, but until then please jot down a quick note and send it to my office so we can begin to record all the hard work that is being done. We cannot do this alone; we need your help to move STARFLEET into the 21st century.

Please send a copy of your reports to:
Patricia J. Trotter
attn.: ICD
3003 River Oaks Dr. #132
Norman, OK 73072

Thanks for your time and help.
Lt. Patricia "P.J." Trotter
International Charities Coordinator





Charlott Reeves and George Heichelheim of the USS Star Empire pose in their wedding picture flanked by Tonea Morrow, the bride's sister; and her husband Brett Morrow, also of the Star Empire.



Booker Tompkins (top) and ship during the Okey's c Oklah



Ron, Tracy and James Fell of the USS LeConte in Gatlinburg, TN show how to get good local publicity.



Jurgen Puype of the Shuttle Belgica in Bel, Steichen of the USS Matrix plays a game w



Eric Gay of the USS Oklahoma man the charity work building sandboxes at the Omaha City YMCA.



A preview of the 1997 International Conference, the Region 7 USO Showgirls kick up their heels. Left to right: Hazel Gilbert, USS Lexington; Kris Ragan and Rhonda E! Green, USS Thagard; Lisa Paradis-Berkenbilt, USS Athena; and Sharon Yoresh, USS Justice.



gium looks on as Christine with a Belgica crew member.



Region 12 Summit Coordinator Alicia Boyd of the USS Battlestar hangs on for dear life while Carl Johnson of the USS Nomad gives her a ride around the main meeting hall.

Recruiting Officers Needed

Greetings from the Chief Cheerleader!

Since I've technically been in office for three years but this is the first time anything I've written has seen print, allow me a moment to introduce myself.

I am Fleet Captain Ron Fell, Starfleet's Director of Recruiting. I have been in Fleet since 1992 and have served as the CO of the USS LeConte out of Gatlinburg, Tennessee in R/1 since 1993. I was appointed to the office of Director during the last administration and was reappointed by the current Fleet Admiral. Enough of the boring personal stuff.

I am here to help you with your recruiting efforts. We need to rebuild Starfleet's eroded membership base. We need to let old members know about the new Starfleet and we need to reach out to potential new members in a new way.

I don't claim to have all the answers, but I know someone who does. That someone is YOU. Each and every one of you probably has a really good recruiting idea or two and I'd like to hear about them. If your ship had a fantastic recruiting drive that resulted in a bunch of new member sign ups, wouldn't you like to share that information with other ships? And if somebody else had a great idea about how to increase the numbers on your roster, wouldn't you like to hear it? That's why the Recruiting Department is here.

We do the usual dull things like sending out applications and information to people who write or e-mail for it.

But I'm anxious to get started on the exciting part of the job, the Recruiting Handbook. Now, I've got a bunch of ideas of my own that I've written down. I'll be sharing some of those in this space in the months to come. But I'm really hoping to get input from every ship in every region of Starfleet in order to make the Handbook a really comprehensive guide to great recruiting ideas. And I also want disasters. If you did something that sounded like a world-beater on paper and then turned out to be a debacle of epic proportions, I'd like to know about that, too. That way maybe we can steer some other ship thinking along the same lines into safer sailing space.

To do this efficiently, I need recruiting officers. I have asked the RC's of each region to appoint a Recruiting Officer at the regional level. Several regions have done so, most recently Region 17 and Region 6. Region 1 will likely have filled the position by the time this reaches print and several other regions are searching for qualified candidates. Only one RC has flatly refused to cooperate. Guess you can't have everything, huh?

I'm also looking for recruiting officers on each individual ship. These are the folks we'll really be depending on to make things work. They'll report their ideas to the regional officer, who will, in turn, report to me on a regular basis. Unless you live in that region that ain't gonna playball. Then you'll just have to drop me a line directly.

All you need to be qualified for either of these positions is enthusiasm. We need people who are "up" on Starfleet to sell it to the uninitiated public and to resell it to those who might have fallen away because of past experiences.

If you are a CO, please find me an enthusiastic Starfleet cheerleader on your ship. If you are "Joe Member" and think you could do the job, let your CO know. Then contact your RC and see who is handling the regional office, put the two together and we're ready to rock and roll. Unless you live in that region... If you hit a snag, contact me directly. If you're excited enough about Starfleet to want to serve it in this way, I'll find a place for you.

My staff and I are busy working up recruiting materials. So far, we don't have much to work with other than the membership application, an information sheet and a cover letter. And, of course, our wonderful Starfleet web site, which I use extensively. We're working on some other things and hope to have them ready to report on soon.

In closing, let me introduce the rest of my HQ staff. To my right (your left as you're reading this) is Capt. Dominique Oakley, my Executive Assistant. She's the one who reads and sorts and files and sometimes screams and yells and just generally keeps the place running. Next in line is Capt. Lisa Paradis Berkenbilt, Deputy Director in charge of Electronic Communications who deftly deals with things in cyberspace which are usually way beyond my comprehension. Then comes Cmdr. Tracy Fell (let's keep nepotism in the family), Deputy Director in charge of International Services who is currently working on a project to translate basic recruiting literature into several foreign languages.

That's the gang. You can reach us through the web at www.sfi.org, via e-mail at RecruitHQ@aol.com or by dropping a line to Starfleet Recruiting Headquarters, P.O. Box 161, Gatlinburg, TN 37738-0161. We'll be glad to hear from you.

Until next time, THINK FLEET!

Rn Fell, Fleet Captain
Director of Recruiting, STARFLEET

Calendar of Events

May 3, 1997

Creation Convention
Hynes Center Boston -900 Boylston Street - Boston, Massachusetts
Guests: William Shatner, Leonard Nimoy
Write: Creation Entertainment
411 N. Central Avenue Suite 300
Glendale, CA 91203
Call: 818-409-0960
Web Site: <http://www.creationent.com>

May 3-4, 1997

24th Century Fan Productions
The Egan Center
555 West 5th Avenue
Anchorage, Ak
Guests: Robert Picardo, Lolita Fatjo, Robin Curtis (Sat), Peter Mayhew (Sun)
Tickets available at Bosco's Stores or all CARRS TIX locations.
Write: 24th Century Fan Productions
P.O. Box 3001
St. Louis, MO 63044

May 10, 1997

Star Trek Celebration - Mothers Day Special - Dayton OH
Dayton Convention Center, Dayton OH
Guests: Walter Koenig, Majel Barrett
Write: Trek Productions 13109 W88th St Ct #62, Lenexa, KS 66215
E-mail: trekprod3
Call - (913)894-TREK(8735)
World Wide Web Site: <http://www.shamag.com/trekprod>

May 11, 1997

Star Trek Celebration - Mothers Day Special - Champaign IL
Chancellor Hotel, Champaign IL
Guests: Walter Koenig, Majel Barrett
Write: Trek Productions
13109 W88th St Ct #62
Lenexa, KS 66215
E-mail: trekprod3
Call - (913)894-TREK(8735)
World Wide Web Site: <http://www.shamag.com/trekprod>

May 24-25, 1997

Tacoma Trek
Tacoma Sheraton, Tacoma, Washington
Guests: (Saturday only): Max (Rom) Grodenchek, Andrew (Garek) Robinson
Guests: (Sunday only): Walter (Chekov, Bester) Koenig, Robin (Saavik) Curtis
Tickets: Collectors Gallery at (206) 473-4653 or through TicketMaster.

May 30-June 1, 1997

ThunderCon 7
Clarion Hotel & Conference Center, OK City, OK
Guests: Bob Picardo, Rick Biggs, Richard Hatch, Larry & Janet Nemecek, Steve Erwin
Write: ThunderCon 7 Inc.
PO Box 892545
Oklahoma City, OK 73189-2545
Phone: 405-692-7035
E-mail: chairman@ThunderCon.okc.ok.us
WWW site: <http://ThunderCon.okc.ok.us>

June 14 - 21, 1997

Cruise Trek '97: "The Treasures of Tahiti"
Sail the Islands of French Polynesia aboard Windstar Cruises Wind Song from Papeete, Tahiti to Bora Bora, Moorea, Huahine and Raiatea.
Guests: John de Lancie (Q), Wil Wheaton (Wesley Crusher), Eric Stillwell (ST writer) and Ron Moore (Visual effects super.)
Write: Cruise Trek
PO Box 2038
Agoura Hills
Ca 91376-2038
E-mail: cruisetrek
Call: 818.597.2940 or Fax: 818.597.7576
World Wide Web: <http://members.aol.com/cruisetrek/cruisetrek.html> with links to TahitiC97 & Alaskac98 pages

June 15-22, 1997

Seatrek 97
Cruise from Los Angeles to Puerto Vallarta/ Mazatlan/Cabo San Lucas, Mexico
Guests: Majel Barrett Roddenberry, William Campbell, Ethan Phillips, Marina Sirtis
Write: Seatrek 97
8306 Mills Drive
Box 198
Miami FL 33183 (include large SASE)
E-mail: ruthanned or rdevlin@fla.net
Call: (800) 326-8735 or (305) 388-2890
World Wide Web site: <http://scifinetwork.com/startrek/>

June 20-22, 1997

Star Trek Celebration
Radisson Hotel & Suites - Buffalo Airport - Buffalo NY
Guests: Walter Koenig, Ethan Phillips, Mark Goddard, Beverly Washburn, Gary Lockwood, Michael Carter, John Ordovery, Diane Carey, Greg Brodeur
Write: Trek Productions
13109 W88th St Ct #62
Lenexa, KS 66215
Email: trekprod3
Call - (913)894-TREK(8735)
World Wide Web Site: <http://www.shamag.com/trekprod>

NASA Press Release

Brian Dunbar
Headquarters, Washington, D.C.
April 15, 1997
(Phone: 202/358-0873)

RELEASE: 197-4

ASTRONOMERS CONTRIBUTE 4,500 HALE-BOPP IMAGES TO NASA WEB

Astronomers from around the world have submitted more than 4,500 images of Comet Hale-Bopp to NASA Web sites, where Internet users can see them and enjoy the celestial show.

The Comet Hale-Bopp Home Page: <http://www.jpl.nasa.gov/comet/index.html> at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Pasadena, CA, contains more than 3,200 images, including one obtained by a California astronomer the night after the comet was discovered in July 1995.

The Near-Live Comet Watching System <http://comet.hq.nasa.gov/> at NASA Headquarters, Washington, DC, contains more than 1,300 images.

Astronomers from Australia, Asia, Europe and the Americas have submitted images, which have been captured by everything from professional observatory equipment to the backyard gear of an amateur astronomer. The archives include photographs of the comet over San Francisco, U.S.A.; Dublin, Ireland; and Genoa, Italy.

Tens of thousands of Internet users have made use of the Web sites, which have been receiving hits of up to 1.2 million per day.



A Profile on Jonathan delArco

Hartriono B. Sastrowardoyo

Jonathan delArco, present at Seaside Con on the weekend of September 14th-15th, appeared on "Star Trek: The Next Generation" playing an adolescent Borg designated Third of Five and later renamed "Hugh" by the Enterprise-D crew. Appearing in just three TNG ("I, Borg," and "Descent, Parts I and II"), the character of Hugh has had a tremendous impact on the Borg. Hugh's sense of individuality permeated into his collective, resulting in a loss of group purpose.

Of the three episodes, Jonathan liked "I, Borg" better, saying that the other episodes dealt with too much at once, that there were too many mixed things. He also stated that he was happy he had changed the Borg- but also that his changes may not matter with the then-upcoming portrayal of the Borg in "Star Trek: First Contact." Of that, Jonathan also noted that he had not been asked to appear in it.

He recently appeared in the 1/2-hour sitcom "Pacific Blue," where he played a bike thief. Jokingly, he stated that in that episode he would form a collective of bike thieves, much as he formed a different collective of the Borg! Currently, he is also writing a then-unpurchased theater piece, and was scheduled to appear in three "Twilight Zone" episodes airing in January. Like his character of Hugh, Jonathan's journey is just beginning, and he is sure to make just as big an impact in the entertainment field.

Photos courtesy of
(top) Dr. Paolo Candy of Italy,
(middle) Patrick Espinosa of
United States, and (bottom)
Marco Paolo Pavese of Italy.
All images were on The Comet
Hale-Bopp Home Page and
printed here with permission.

Shuttle Pilot & Her Crew Supported By Local Good Luck Card

A SERIES OF ARTICALS FROM THE MISSING COMMUNIQUE'S

First Article

Article first published in the AUGUSTA FOCUS, Nov. 14, 1996 issue, page 5.

Augusta-born shuttle pilot and her crew supported by local good luck card

By Capt. "Cherrystem" Lillian Wan
Treasurer/Medical Officer
USS Star League NCC-2101 R/1
AUGUSTA FOCUS Staff Writer

NASA has announced that Lt. Cmdr. Susan Still , an Augusta native, will be piloting Shuttle Columbia for a 16-day flight scheduled to begin March 27, 1997. Other crew members aboard will be: Jim Halsell, commander; Janice Voss, payload commander; Mike Gernhardt, mission specialist; Don Thomas, mission specialist; Roger Crouch, payload specialist; and Greg Linteris, payload specialist.

Lt. Cmdr. Still was born in Augusta, Ga. on October 24, 1961. She graduated from Walnut Hill High School in Natick, Mass. in 1979. She earned a bachelor of science degree in aeronautical engineering from Embry-Riddle University in 1982 and her master of science degree in aerospace engineering from Georgia Institute of Technology in 1985.

She has several honors listed on her record: Distinguished Naval Graduate of Aviation Officer Candidate School; Distinguished Graduate of the United States Naval Test pilot School, Class 103; and the Navy Commendation Medal, the Navy Achievement Medal and the National Defense Service Medal.

NASA lists her personal interests as triathlons, martial arts and piano-playing.

Lt. Cmdr. Still was selected by NASA in December 1994 and reported to the Johnson Space Center in March 1995. She has since completed a year of training and evaluation.

The main purpose for flight STS-83 will be to perform the operations necessary to fulfill the requirements of the first Microgravity Science Laboratory (MSL-1). The MSL-1 is a complement of experiments that focus on microgravity materials processing technology and other science and research requiring the low-gravity environment of Earth orbit.

In honor of the upcoming mission by flight STS-83, a CSRA resident has started a good luck card to be signed by local residents for Lt. Cmdr. Still and her crewmates. Mr. Carnell Eubanks, a member of a local Star Trek group, the USS Star League, designed a card which will consist of many sheets. The front cover is a beautifully colored computer-generated graphic of a shuttle in front of the planet earth. STS-83 mission information is also listed. The second page notes:

Good luck to the crew of the Space Shuttle Columbia! Mission STS-83. On behalf of the city of Augusta, the Central Savannah River Area and the crew of the USS Star League, we wish to extend to you best

wishes on being chosen for this flight. We would also like to extend a special heartfelt congratulations to Lt. Cmdr. Susan Still, the Augusta-area astronaut who has been chosen to pilot this mission. May you have clear skies and fair winds! Good luck to you all!

Succeeding pages have a shuttle graphic, spaces for names to be signed and a note of congratulations at the top of each sheet. Copies of this card are being distributed to various businesses for the collection of signatures of anyone who would like to sign it. The card will then be sent to Lt. Cmdr. Still and her crew.

Local businesses and events involved currently in displaying the cards are:

- Barnes & Noble, Cafe area.
- The Augusta Book Exchange, Southgate Plaza on Gordon Highway.
- Modern Day Heroes, Gordon Highway.
- AugustaCon 25, sci-fi convention to be held at the Sheraton Hotel the weekend of Nov. 16 - 17. Look for the card at the USS Star League table.
- Star Trek VIII: First Contact movie premiere weekend at Regal Cinemas on Wrightsboro Rd., Nov. 22 - 24. Look for the card at the USS Star League table within the theatre.

Notable signatures already collected in support of the shuttle crew include Mayor Larry Sconyers, AUGUSTA FOCUS editor Frederick Benjamin, some of the Augusta State University faculty and others.

Second Article

Published in the November 28, 1996 issue of the AUGUSTA FOCUS, page seven.

Over 1,100 signatures For Lt. Cmdr. Still and Her Shuttle Columbia Crewmates

By Capt. "Cherrystem" Lillian Wan
Treasurer/Medical Officer
USS Star League NCC-2101 R/1
AUGUSTA FOCUS Staff Writer

A good luck card has been circulating around the Augusta area now for several weeks. Per a previous article (AUGUSTA FOCUS, Nov. 14 issue, page five), the card was begun by Mr. Carnell Eubanks in support of Lt. Cmdr. Susan Still and her shuttle crewmates in honor of their upcoming flight in March 1997. To date, over 1,100 signatures have been collected so far, including that of Senator Charles Walker. The biggest gain took place this past weekend during the premiere weekend of Star Trek VIII: First Contact at Regal Cinemas. The USS Star League, a local Star Trek group, had set up a table to promote the movie, their chapter, a trivia contest and the good luck card. The response generated has been enthusiastic. Four other local businesses have agreed to display a copy of the card:

- The Baldino's on Gordon Highway.
- Osbon Foundation.

- Department of Family and Children Services (DFCS).

- Office of Dr. Joseph M. Still Jr., 1220 George C. Wilson Drive. Dr. Still is Lt. Cmdr. Still's father.

The USS Star League is the local chapter of STARFLEET, the Star Trek International Fan Association. Besides being involved in local charities, highway cleanups, adopt-a-whale, and other worthy causes, the members also enjoy the fun of Star Trek: watching videos, making costumes, etc. The next monthly meeting will be held in January 1997. For more information, call Barbara Lariscy at (706) 554-2970 or Denise Thompson at (803) 278-1137.

Third Article

Good Luck card plans being finalized
By Capt. "Cherrystem" Lillian Wan
USS Star League, R/1

Here is the latest word about the Good Luck card as of Dec. 19th, 1996. Dr. Still's office has been in close contact with Lt. Cmdr. Still. Ms. Still has worked it out so that the card may be presented to her and her fellow astronauts by her father personally. Then her father will be able to display the card at a special private party he is holding for 200 of his family and friends.

The Stills also love the idea I proposed of having the card go afterwards to the Augusta-Richmond County Museum! Ms. Still has also offered to obtain some additional items from NASA such as shuttle crew photo, etc. to go along with the display. I have suggested to Capt. Barbara Lariscy, CO of my local Star Trek group, the USS Star League of R/1, that we might ask the crew to OK a raffle or auction to raise funds for a plaque of some sort, in coordination and agreement with the museum, to go with the display. Something that will make sure to note that our member, Archivist LTjg Carnell Eubanks, is the originator of this unique idea of the Good Luck card for the collection of signatures and to note the involvement of the USS Star League. We have copies of the card displayed around town.

As of this date, we have just over 1,400 signatures.

Thanks to everyone who has helped!

Last Article

Published in the Feb. 20, 1997 issue of AUGUSTA FOCUS, page 4B

LOCAL INDIAN ARROWHEAD TO ADD TO EXHIBIT HONORING SUSAN STILL

By Capt. "Cherrystem" Lillian Wan
Treasurer/Medical Officer
USS Star League NCC-2101 R/1
AUGUSTA FOCUS Staff Writer

The Augusta-Richmond County Museum has coordinated with NASA and Lt. Cmdr. Susan Still to add a local flint Indian arrowhead to Lt. Cmdr. Still's baggage when she flies on shuttle mission STS-83 in April. Mr. Frank Spears, the Museum's Exhibit Program Committee chairperson, noted that the arrowhead had been delivered recently to Ms. Still. After being flown into space and back, the arrowhead will then be added, along with the Good Luck Card, to a special exhibit honoring Ms. Still for her achievement of becoming the CSRA's first Augusta-born astronaut.

Months of efforts on the part of the local USS Star League has resulted in the collection of over 2,000 signatures on the Good Luck Card, including that of President Bill Clinton when he visited Augusta State University on Wednesday, February 5th. The last additions to the card included the signatures of Star Trek stars George Takei (Captain Sulu) and Marina Sirtis (Counselor Troi) from the Greenville, S.C. convention held on Feb. 15.

Plans are being prepared to present the card to Dr. Joseph M. Still Jr., father of Lt. Cmdr. Still, in March. Dr. Still will then, per NASA, be the official presenter of the card to the astronauts of Shuttle Columbia before their scheduled April 3rd flight. Arrangements will be made in May for a special presentation of the Good Luck Card by both Lt. Cmdr. Still and Dr. Still to the Augusta-Richmond County Museum.

Previous articles following the progress of the Good Luck Card, reported here in the AUGUSTA FOCUS, can be found in the following issues: Nov. 14, 1996, Nov. 28, 1996, Jan. 23, 1997 and Feb. 6, 1997.

Reprints of AUGUSTA FOCUS articles on the Good Luck Card have been published in Colorado and South Carolina.

Update

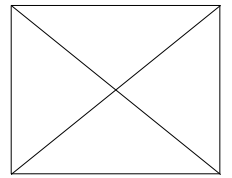
First published in the March 13, 1997 issue of AUGUSTA FOCUS, page 18.

Good Luck Card totals 4,156 signatures

By Lillian Wan
AUGUSTA FOCUS Staff Writer

The Good Luck Card, a local project begun by resident Carnell Eubanks, has a final total of 4,156 signatures. The most recent highlight took place this past weekend on Saturday, March 8, when the 4,156-signature Good Luck Card was presented by the USS Star League to Dr. Joseph M. Still Jr., father of Lt. Cmdr. Still. Later this month, the card will be presented to the shuttle astronauts before their launch.

STARFLEET HELPS USS RANGER CELEBRATE 7th ANNIVERSARY



Ranger has an indisputable reputation for doing things “her” way and she did not disappoint, doing what she always does, her best.

Invitations to Regions 3, 6 and 12 requested attending guests wear 1930's-40's “Dixon Hill” or black tie attire for the evening. Among the 95 accepting were Commander Starfleet Michael D. Smith; Vice Commander, Chuck Freas; Chief of ShOC, Dennis Gray; Region 12 RC, Michael Malotte; Region 6 RC, David Kloempken, and other distinguished guests.

It looked like prom night! The ladies in formal gowns, all looking fine, and the gentlemen in tuxedos or suits. The only correct word is WOW!!

Guests entered the gala via the holodeck arch, courtesy of Capt. Tony McSpadden, USS Cochrane. A professional photographer was on hand to capture the evening, with each couple to receive a copy of their photograph as a gift from the Ranger.

Each table was gorgeous, with center-pieces made of lilies and ivy bowls with candles floating on rose water. A revolving mirror ball on the dance floor highlighted suspended ceiling decorations of silver balls dancing in the air. At each plate were boutonnieres for the gentlemen and corsages for the ladies.

A “cigarette girl” sold candy cigarettes and accepted donations adding another \$85 to the Fleet's general fund.

Tables were assigned to promote conversation, an original tradition of the Ranger. After a few words of introduction from “Ranger late” hostess and CO Marian L. Murphy-Tompkins, the microphone was turned over to F.Admr. Mike Smith, who promoted Gregg Trotter, Vice Chief of the Communique and Brittany Sloan, News Editor, Communique, to the rank of Captain. You should have seen the looks on their faces.

Guests were treated to musical performances by the “Maquire Sisters”, a lovely barbershop quartet, singing “Unforgettable,”

and Michelle Thomas, of the USS Ranger, who sang “Stormy Weather.” To Michelle's chagrin, the hostess then announced it was Michelle's birthday and all were lead in “Happy Birthday” by Starfleet's songbird, VAdm. Eric Gay.

The crew of the USS Ranger presented Starfleet a \$500.00 check to completely fund the James Doohan/Montgomery Scott Engineering Scholarship. This is ONE scholarship that will continue to be funded, so says the crew of the Ranger!!!

Dinner was served, the food was excellent, the service impeccable and prompt. Many thanks go to Roy Espy and the entire staff of the Meridian Banquet Centre. All Starfleet functions should be so fortunate.

The next significant moment came when Mike Smith staggered onto the dance floor and collapsed, DEAD. Oh, horrors! The headlines will read “Fleet Admiral dies at Ranger party!” Wait! Dixon Hill is present.

Dixon Hill and his friend from Scotland Yard, Allen Leddon, questioned all suspects, including “Nickie the Nose” until MPs lead Marian Murphy-Tompkins away for the “murder” of the holodeck incarnation of Smith. Enormous fun was had with snappy ad libs, particularly from Mike's beautiful escort, Carissa Walker. All who participated deserve an Oscar for their “acting” abilities.

The evening dance festivities were lead off by Marian and Eric Gay, doing a well-executed TANGO!!! (Eric tried to have the Tango executed prior to dancing it, but was not successful). Dancing began with music attended from DJ Dan Murphy, USS Concord, ranging from Big Bands of the 1940's to the Zefram Cochran line dance by the Shuttle Canaveral' crew.

Along the way two new shuttles were launched, welcome Shuttles Cicero and Canaveral.

We hope everyone had a good time, we think it was worth the effort. From the crew of the USS RANGER, THANK YOU STARFLEET.

STARFLEET Marine Corps Report

Greetings from the STARFLEET Marines Corps to you the STARFLEET members. I am Major General Scott A. Akers, Commandant of the STARFLEET Marine Corps, I have been a member of STARFLEET for going on 9 years now, and a member of the STARFLEET Marines for all but 6 months of that. I am both honored and privileged to be asked by Fleet Admiral Smith to lead the Marines during his term. Next let me introduce the Corps. Many of you are new members, and are wondering what the STARFLEET Marine Corps is all about. The Corps was first created as a part of STARFLEET in 1983 and provides for STARFLEET members a certain military air not available in the other departments and arms of STARFLEET. The Corps offers its own manuals including the newest version of the marine manual series, the Marine Force Manual, written by our own Colonel Matt Kelley, This manual is an entirely new work, that not only improves on the old manuals, but goes farther and further in developing the Corps. We have our own school, the STARFLEET Marine Academy open to all members

of STARFLEET. For information and prices contact Colonel Matt Copple at 4901 Aztec Blvd., Apartment 75, Columbia, MO 65205, so far the Academy has ran three classes through the Marine Initial Entry Training program with 31 graduates. We also have service projects, our most popular is the Toys for Tots program run by the Real US Marines. This brings us to a very important point, we are not real Marines, nor do many of us want to be, we are Star Trek fans who just enjoy their hobby a little differently then others, just like some fans can be fascinated with the engineering aspects while others enjoy the medical field.

There are no extra dues for joining the Marines, all it takes is a decision. For the various chapter CO's whose crew members might want to be Marines, they normally are put into a Marine Strike Group, under command of the senior Marine onboard, but Marines have been assigned to assist Security, Shuttle operations, even Medical. In the end it is the chapter that has the final say on internal chapter matters. My staff exists only to serve

and assist the Marines in the fleets, ergo no one has command authority over anybody on your ship except you. On the Regional level, there are two officers, the Regional Division Chief, who is a Liaison between the Corps and the Regional Coordinator, this person is selected by the RC and reports to the same. The other officer is the Brigade Commander, whose responsibility is to see that the Groups and Marines in the region are kept informed and supplied, the BCOs are selected by the Commandant and report to the same. If the same person fills both roles, they report first and foremost to the Regional Coordinator.

Finally, I am proud to announce the formation of our Campaign program. All Marines are encouraged to participate in our standing service project Toys for Tots, but in addition the Corps Headquarters will be sponsoring an additional yearly campaign, that participants both Fleet and Marine can earn a Campaign Ribbon and/or a certificate for their work. The campaign will be a different one each year. This years campaign will be Marines for Youth. Every Marine unit and individual

Marine is encouraged to sponsor and/or work with some youth organization. As an adult leader in both Scouting and DeMolay, I know how desperately adult involvement is needed with these organizations. And as children are the basis of our future, what better tribute can we give to Gene Roddenberry then to insure that that future is bright for yet one more child. Any organization that needs help, Adopt-A-School, Scouting, Campfire, DeMolay, YMCA, Rainbows, Job's Daughters, Big Brother/Sisters, Boys & Girls Clubs, and any others will qualify the individual Marine or unit for this award.

I leave with this saying : “It is not the amount of my bank balance when I pass on, or the size of my house, or even the kind of car I drive, that will be remembered. But what will be remembered for all time, was that I made the difference in the life of a child.”

Semper Fidelis - Always Faithful
Major General Scott A. Akers,
SFMC

Chapter Reporting Summaries

Our sincerest appologies: due to computer difficulties, Chapter Reporting Summaries are not available for this issue. Look for them again in our next issue.

Starfleet Academy

STARFLEET ACADEMY - COLLEGE APPLICATION FORM

The Scholastic Division of STARFLEET: The International Star Trek Fan Association, Inc.
STARFLEET ACADEMY, Fadm Rob Lerman - Commandant, P.O. Box 554, Fair Oaks, CA 95628-0554 (academy@sfi.org)

TYPE or CLEARLY PRINT all information:

NAME:	STARFLEET SCC#:
ADDRESS:	E-MAIL:
	CITY:
STATE/PROV:	POSTAL CODE:

o OFFICER’S TRAINING SCHOOL (OTS) - \$2.00, SASE, 2 Loose 32 cent Stamps - (You must pass this course to take OCC.) - ots@sfi.org
Adm. Peg Pellerin, RFD #3, Box 5460, Winslow, ME 04901
RAdm. Leanne Jackson, Unit 2, 10 Lynette Ave, Hectorville, SA 5073, Australia - no email

o OFFICER’S COMMAND COLLEGE (OCC) - \$4.00, SASE, 3 Loose 32 cent Stamps- (Copy of OTS diploma required when applying for this school)
RAdm Carolyn Donner, PO Box 158, Hammersville, OH 45130 or occ@sfi.org
Intergalactic Information BBS - baud rates from 300 to 14,400 accepted - 24 hrs, 7 days a week: 937-379-2832 (\$2.00 for on-line course)

o FLAG OFFICER SCHOOL (FOS) - \$5.00 for first course / \$2.00 each for the second and third course / One manual for all 3 courses. - no email yet
Comm Helen Pawlowski, PO Box 22225, St. Louis, MO 63116-2225
(Copy of OCC diploma required when applying for this school - do NOT send original OCC certificate!)

o CADET SCHOOL (SACS) - \$2.00, SASE, 2 Loose 32 cent Stamps per course - (For Starfleet International members ages 10 to 15 ONLY) - sacs@sfi.org
Comm. Raymond Quinones, 1400 Ft. Bragg Rd., Fayetteville, NC 28305

o COLLEGE of COMMUNICATIONS (COC) - \$4.00, SASE, 2 Loose 32 cent Stamps per course - coc@sfi.org
Capt. Laura J. Begley, 312 Potomec Dr., Winchester, KY 40391-8409

o COLLEGE of COMPUTER HISTORY (COCH) - Free, SASE, 2 Loose 32 cent Stamps per course - coch@sfi.org
RAdm Sharon Ann Campbell, 720 218th Ave. NE, Redmond, WA 98053

o SCHOOL of ENGINEERING (SOE) - \$2.00, SASE, 2 Loose 32 cent Stamps - soe@sfi.org
Cmdr. Brian Dougherty, 5630 Pershing Apt #32, St. Louis, MO 63112-1759

o COLLEGE of FEDERATION STUDIES (COFS) - \$1.00, SASE, 3 Loose 32 cent Stamps per course - cofs@sfi.org
Capt. Donna Tucker, 7066 Goodner Mtn Rd., Pinson, AL 35126

o SCHOOL of LANGUAGE STUDIES (SOLS) - \$2.00, SASE, 2 Loose 32 cent Stamps per course - no email yet
Comm. Sherry Anne Newell, 5 NW 40th, Lawton, OK 73505

o COLLEGE of MEDICINE (SACOM) - \$3.00, SASE, 2 Loose 32 cent Stamps per course - sacom@sfi.org
Cmdr. Kevin West, P.O. Box 1418, Colonial Heights, VA 23834

o COLLEGE of SURVIVAL STUDIES (COSS) - \$3.00, SASE, 2 Loose 32 cent Stamps per course - coss@sfi.org
Capt. Carol Thompson, P.O. Box 135, Ester, AK 99725

o VULCAN ACADEMY of SCIENCE (VAS) - \$2.00, SASE, 2 Loose 32 cent Stamps per course - vas@sfi.org
RAdm. Marlene Miller, 461 Harmony Lane, Campbell, OH 44405

o COLLEGE of STARSHIP OPERATIONS (COSO) - \$2.00, SASE, 2 Loose 32 cent Stamps per course - coso@sfi.org
Cmdr James W. Lee, 214 Jamestown Dr., Spring Lake, NC 28390

o SECURITY SCHOOL (SFASS) - \$2.00, SASE, 2 Loose 32 cent Stamps for each of the four courses available -
Capt. Gregory Staylor, P.O.Box 9796, Chesapeake, VA 233321-9796

o COLLEGE of TRADE and COMMERCE (COTAC) - \$3.00, SASE. 2 Loose 32 cent Stamps per course - cotac@sfi.org
Cmdr Teddy Begley, 312 Potomec Dr., Winchester, KY 40391-8409

o COLLEGE of HISTORY (COH) - \$2.00, SASE, 2 Loose 32 cent Stamps per course - no email yet
Cmdr George K. Clark Jr., 8100 Lichen Dr., Citrus Heights, CA 95621

o SCHOOL OF COMMAND STUDIES (SoCS) - \$2.00, SASE, 2 Loose 32 cent Stamps per course - socs@sfi.org
Fleet Captain Mark Hanford, 21 65th St. Apt 3, West New York, NJ 07093-4103

o POST GRADUATE SCHOOL (PGS)
College under re-development

o STARFLEET OFFICERS RADIO SCHOOL (SORS)
New program to help possible new Amateur Radio (Ham) Operators.

ALL CHECKS OR MONEY ORDERS MUST BE MADE OUT TO “STARFLEET - ACADEMY FUND”. DO NOT SEND CASH.

PLEASE SEND THE FUNDS AND APLPLICATION DIRECTLY TO THE SCHOOL THAT YOU WISH TO ATTEND.

Talaxian Trade Show

MEMBERS

WANTED

Define the final frontier with the Outpost Shadowstar Cathedral Flight team, a correspondence ship that field tests spacecraft and related systems. No dues, just six (6) first-class stamps for newsletter. Send SASE to: Hartriono Sastrowardoyo, PO Box 446, Seaside Heights, NJ 08751-0446.

The, newly commissioned, USS Belgica is looking for additional staff to help explore the outer reaches of the Fleet. For more information contact [Capt.] Jurgen Puype, 107 Stokstraat, B-8650 Houthulst, BELGIUM or at E-hail, Region21@sfi.org.

Members wanted to help form a new chapter in Colville, Washington area. If interested, contact: Burt Mader (e-mail at: bmader@plix.com), 1331 E. Elep, Colville, WA 99114.

USS Jurassic, a correspondence chapter, is looking for new members. We have a newsletter, computer bbs, and lots of other projects. For more information send SASE to: USS Jurassic, PO Box 158, Hamersville, OH 45130 or e-mail to: Carolyn.Donner@galaxy.weyr.org.

Attention unassigned STARFLEET members in the NW Louisiana area! The Shuttle Rodger Young is looking for recruits. For more information contact: (LTC) Adam R. Thompson, 119 E. Slattery, Shreveport, LA 71104 or hail by phone (318) 861-3856 or e-mail to eagle@prysm.net.

Space Station Nexus is an internet-only, dues free chapter. Our primary focus is all things internet and our own fiction. We are especially looking for anyone interested in administrative positions. Query: Fleet Captain Kurt Roithinger gren@teleport.com for more info.

United Starfleet Command: ships leaving for exploration of space, new officers and ships are welcome to join! For more Info send a LSASE to: USCP O. Box 5864, Asheville NC 28813-5864 or e-mail us at FAdmCliff@Aol.com.

COOL NEW STARSHIP! The USS Orion (Regular Meeting Chapter) is looking for new crew members to join our AWESOME CREW! For more info, write to: Capt. Larry Ferguson, 1415 North Vassar, Wichita, KS 67208-2925. Ph. (316) 682-3086, e-mail to: lfergy@feist.com

FOR SALE

STARFLEET Watches: gold trim with a shock and water resistant quartz assembly. The watch face is the STARFLEET logo in blue and white. Leather-like adjustable band. Cost: \$30 (includes P&H). Send check or money order to: USS Stargazer, PO Box 411793, Kansas City, MO 64141.

StellarWind is Disbanding in August and has back issues (some dating back to the late 80s, early 90s), Membership & Writer's Handbooks for sale. SASE to Allyson M.W. Dyar, PO Box 941, Kirkland WA 98083-0941 or e-mail dyar@halcyon.com

Over 500 Film Clip Cells: from 1966-1969 original Star Trek series mounted in slide casings. Lincoln Enterprise sold these in the 1970's (all mounted in slides!) Inquiries call Kirk (314) 949-2976.

MISCELLANEOUS

Want your chapter to sport a NEW LOOK? Need that little extra OOMPH! to make your chapter something special? Then check out the GIANT FEATURE for the Chapter Promotional Sweepstakes in THIS edition of the COMMUNIQUÉ, or visit <http://www.cptmike.com/promo.htm> TODAY!!

COMPANION

WANTED

ISO: SWF, 19-37, that loves ST, for companionship. I am SWM, 35, SF Officer and love ALL ST. Contact: (Capt.) Larry D. French, Sr., 1220 Vermont Avenue, White Oak, PA 15131-1630.

Seeking companionship, SWF, 17-25 in D/FW area who loves all sci-fi, esp. Star Trek, Star Wars, Dr. Who, & B5. I am a SWM, 21, STARFLEET officer on USS Comanche. Contact: (Ensign) Russell Jackson, 1624 Pelican Ct., Azle, TX 76020-4785.

SWM ISO SF: Must be willing to send letters overseas to New Zealand. I am 31 years old, & love all Star Trek series. If interested, contact John Kane by e-mail: kiwi-nz@royal.net or P.O. Box 68-474 Newton Auckland New Zealand.

FOR SALE

Embarrassed by unsightly, inaccurate belt clips on your TNG phaser and tricorder? Patterns now available with detailed instructions for making attractive leather holsters. Send \$3 for one (indicate phaser or tricorder), or \$6 for both to Kathy Warren, 1183 Lawrence Rd., Murfreesboro, TN 37128.

Hallmark Christmas ornaments, 1992, mint condition in original boxes, \$35 each plus postage. Shuttlecraft Galileo with Spock's voice! Captain Pete Mohny, USS Hephaestus NCC-2004, 1105 Oak Creek Trail, Birmingham AL 35215, or call (205) 680-5723.

Hallmark Starship Enterprise-1701 Twenty-fifth Anniversary Edition ornament, still in original box. \$600 or best offer. Contact Tamara Owens at (509) 445-1000 or send e-mail to: raponte@povn.com.

FOR SALE: white mesh knit polo shirts with embroidered STARFLEET logo on left breast. Cool and comfortable. S-M-L-XL-2XL \$23 plus \$3 s&h. make checks payable to: STARFLEET-Region 2 at 110 Napier Ave., Warner Robbins, GA 31093.

VOLUNTEERS

NEEDED

ThunderCon is coming up again, and we're looking for a few good volunteers. If you are interested, contact George Heichelheim (405) 842-4182. Leave a message, if no one is home.

PEN PAL

MATCHING

COMPATIBLE PEN PAL MATCHING is a service from Space Station Freedom III's Communications Department. Continental U.S.A. residents may obtain a service questionnaire by mailing a SASE to: Curtis J. Stenovich, 1409 Maryland Dr. #3, Corpus Christi, TX 78415-4949

FANZINES

The Anvil is the 40-page monthly zine of the USS Hephaestus, Region 2. We exchange with other chapters, and subscriptions are available for \$10 per year (12 issues). For a sample issue, send 2 stamps. Captain Pete Mohny, USS Hephaestus NCC-2004, 1105 Oak Creek Trail, Birmingham AL 35215.

Sci-Fi Spotlight. Star Trek, Babylon 5, Dr. Who & more! Sci-Fi Spotlight (formerly Space-Time Continuum) newsletter for visual media fans. Great behind-the-scenes tidbits, celebrities, appearances, letters! Sample copy \$2 US; \$3 foreign. Send to: Bjo Trimble, PO Box 6858, Kingwood, TX 77325-6858.

MEMBERS

WANTED

Romulan International Chapter IRC Kavar needs Terrans, Vulcans, and Klingons. Contact Sub-Commander Jason Taylor, 5225 Canyon View Dr., Sparks, NV 89436 or hail him at (702) 626-7334. You must join the R.I.E., and you must enclose a LSASE.

Honor above all else! the RSE/Romulan Star Empire seeks those loyal to the Empire for adventure and battle. for details send a SASE to RSE INC., PO Box 3508, Dayton, OH 45401 or e-mail to: info@homeworld.com.

SUBMISSION

GUIDELINES

FREE ADS TO STARFLEET MEMBERS. 80 word maximum on any classified ad. First 40 words are free to STARFLEET members. There is a 25 cent per word charge for each additional word. Phone numbers and e-mail address count as one word. Please include your SCC# and phone number where you can be reached when submitting an ad. Maximum of two (2) ads per issue. Classified rates for non-STARFLEET members are \$1.00 per word. Ads must be resubmitted each issue. Make check or money order payable to: Starfleet and send to: Communiqué Classifieds, PO Box 722038, Norman, OK 73070-8546. Ads for STARFLEET members that are 40 words or less may be submitted electronically to

Starfleet's Youngest Captain

BY RON FELL

In the center of the room is an attractive, dark-haired young woman with a flashing smile. She is directing activities with the panache of a symphony conductor and commanding the attention of all the assembled company. Someone comes to her with a question. "See the CO. He's over there." Another person, another problem. "I can take care of that. Give me a minute." Someone else. "I'm not sure, but I'll find out and get back to you." Again, the smile beneath snapping blue eyes. Your first impression is summed up in one word: ENERGY!

You've just encountered the youngest captain in Starfleet. She is Dominique Oakley, Chief of Operations for the USS LeConte out of Gatlinburg, Tennessee in Region One. She is also the Executive Assistant to the Director of Recruiting, Starfleet, a position held by her long-time CO, FCapt. Ron Fell. Right now she is directing traffic at the third extremely successful Region One Summit, an event she helped create and shape. And, should you ask, she's just a few months past her sixteenth birthday.

This dynamo entered service with Starfleet three years ago at the urging of her mother, Cmdr. Linda Oakley. Her service record now runs four full pages in length. And that's just the Starfleet side of an incredibly busy life that also includes Girl Scouting (she's a Silver Award recipient with ten years service), AYSO soccer and an outstanding academic record from Caton's Chapel Elementary School and Gatlinburg-Pittman High School.

Dee, as she is frequently called, has found fulfillment in Starfleet. "I'm happy in Starfleet because, from the very beginning, Fleet people have always treated me as a peer and have always accepted me and my ideas and opinions at face value. Nobody looks at me as 'just a kid'. In Starfleet I've found two of the things that are very important to me; fun-loving friends and respect."

A mark of that respect came recently from her CO, her RC, Adm. Linda Smith, and FAdm. Michael Smith when they jointly agreed to her promotion to the rank of Captain. "It caused a little controversy and brought some of the whiners out of the woodwork when it hit the lists, but I'll match her record against any 'adult' Commander in Starfleet", says FCapt. Fell. "We've gotten a lot



Dominique Oakley (left) poses at the Region 1 Summit with Region Coordinator Linda Smith and USS LeConte CO Ron Fell.

of messages of support from all over the Fleet. Most people are saying things like 'This is the future of Starfleet. Be proud of it'. Believe me, I am."

A glance at her record leaves little doubt of her qualifications. Starting with an extensive list of previously earned promotions and duty rotations, the record moves through Starfleet Academy courses (graduate with distinction from Vulcan Academy of Science) and into an awards and citation list that includes a Regional DSA, a Ship DSA, a Squadron DSA, four Unit Citations, seven Certificates of Recognition and an Achievement Award. Then follows a page of attendance and participation statistics including meetings, parades, conventions and travel to other ship's events. The document wraps up with a page long synopsis of day to day, week to week and month to month activities adding up to a staggering investment of time and energy.

The "Mom-who-started-it-all", Linda Oakley, comments, "I'm very proud of Dee. I've always supported her in everything she's

done. She has worked very hard and deserves the recognition." This from a woman who has run neck-and-neck up the promotion ladder with her daughter and whose own service record is just as lengthy. "She's next up", states her CO.

Capt. Oakley plans to move right on to college after high school. Although she has had a strong science background, more recently she has been involved in the performing arts and has done some professional acting as well as performing with various school groups. She plans to direct in the future and wants to attend a school with a solid arts curriculum to help her further her goal. Says Oakley, "I'll probably apply for the Patrick Stewart Scholarship when the time comes."

For the present, she's pleased with the track her Starfleet career is taking and is honored, and perhaps just a little awed, by her new rank. And if you look behind that flashing smile and those sparkling blue eyes, you might see a glint of excitement at being just a little controversial. As her CO states with a hint of amusement, "It's put her in the center of attention. Right where she likes to be."

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