STARFLEET COMMUNIQUÉ
120
DEC 2003/
JAN 2004
THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF STARFLEET: THE INTERNATIONAL STAR TREK FAN ASSOCIATION, INC.
http://www.sfi.org

"GUMBY" SIMMONS SAYS "I DO"!

Top (L to R): The Napoleon of R17, Johnathan "Gumby" Simmons sent out invites far and wide (obviously, they were blue) and even engaged the little drummer boy to get the word out. **Center (Left):** Gumby had realized it was time to toast his swingin' bachelor days good-bye. Damon Schanover helped out. **Right:** So, what brought all this on? Why, his impending nuptuals to the lovely Lady Frances (seen here with her groom to be and her mother). **Bottom:** Phaser Rifles, Bath'lets and Lightsabres made up the Honorguard.

Photos courtesy of: Johnathan Simmons,

USPS 017-671

THE COMMUNIQUE STAFF WISHES ALL OF STARFLEET A HAPPY NEW YEAR AND HOPES THAT ALL YOUR HOLIDAY WISHES HAVE COME TRUE!

CONTENTS

"Gumby" Simmons Says "I Do"!.....1
Table of Contents.....2
Colophon.....2
From the Center Seat.....3
EC/AB News.....3
IC 2006 Bids: The Time is Now!.....3
Off-Center Viewpoint.....4
New Chairman Sought for ASDB.....4
Ops Center.....5
COMM As You Are.....6
The Shuttlebay.....6
SFI Chapter Care Program Update.....6
Computer Operations.....7
Coordinated Recruiting.....7
STARFLEET Treasurer Report.....8
Commandant's Corner.....9
SFI Academy Graduates.....10
STARFLEET Flag Promotions.....11
How to Submit a Proper Promotion.....11
School of Cryptography.....12
Walk for Dog Guides.....12
Office of the Inspector General.....12
House Calls.....13
A Journey of Self-Discovery.....14
USS Avalon: Having Fun.....14
The Crew of the USS Ares.....15
Every Little Bit Helps.....15
Wilderness Challenger 2004.....16
Building a Model of Your Ship.....17
Operation: Crimson File.....18
SFI in the City at the Top of the World.....19
Region 13 Summit Away Mission.....19
The Starship of the Living Dead.....20
My Big, Fat Geek Wedding.....22
Meeting, Greeting, and Eating.....24
One Year Journey into Homelessness....26
Addressing Controversial Topics.....27
Voyager 1 Leaves Solar System.....27
A Rocket Scientists View of Space.....28
Section 31: Year End Report.....28
The Newest Fighters for the 750th MSG...29
Lng'We Chi-Class Exploratory Cruiser...30
A Tale of Two Conventions.....31
UFC: No Longer a Star Trek Fan's Wish?.31
Activate the Quantum Slipstream.....32
From the 'Dant.....33
From the Deputy Comandant, SFMC.....33
FORCECOM Report.....34
State of INFOCOM.....35
State of TRACOM.....35
SFMC AWARDS.....35
111th MSG – SFI Heavy Guards.....35
Games and Puzzles.....36
Convention Listings.....37
What Exactly Does "SCC" Stand For?....39
Monthly Status Report Summaries.....40
SFI Announcements.....43
SFI Directory of Contact Information.....44
STARFLEET Classified.....46
STARFELET: Special Ops.....47
Challenger Goes Trick or Treating!.....48

"Doesn't his costume remind you of Dan?":
Bill Couture, Ty Campbell and Caroline Couture of the Thagard
For more about the Thagards Halloween party, turn to ***Page 20.***

Photo courtesy of Sonny Wright

No, this isn't the latest in US Armed Forces fashion:
It's just Bob Vosseller of the USS Challenger, ready to let the paintballs fly on Page 22.

Photo courtesy of Bob Vosseller

SEND US MORE PICTURES OR ELSE...

Hello. My name is Toby. You may remember me from my triumphant starring engagement in CQ 114. You may be asking yourself what a feline superstar such as myself is doing in this issue. Well, the answer is simple: The CQ team needs more pictures and in their ever-loving quest to get a few good pix, they have resorted to disturbing felines in their sleep.

Shocking, no? So please....won't you help a poor, little itty-bitty kitty to get some rest and send some more pictures to the addresses at the right? Thank you from the bottom of my...*zzzZZZzzZZZZzZzZzzzzz....*

STARFLEET Communiqué
Volume I, No. 120

Published by:
STARFLEET: The International
Star Trek Fan Association, Inc.
3212 Mark Circle
Independence, MO 64055

Publisher: Greg Trotter
Editor in Chief: Dixie Halber
Graphics Editor: Johnathan Simmons
Copy Editors: Claire Halber, Dixie Halber, Michael Klufas, Tracy Lilly, Stuart Roth
Layout: Team Jaguar

Send Submissions to:

STARFLEET COMMUNIQUÉ
8606 King George Rd.
Evansville IN 47725
cq@sfi.org

The STARFLEET Communiqué is a publication of the Communications Department of STARFLEET: The International Star Trek Fan Association, Inc. It is intended for the private use of our members. STARFLEET holds no claims to any trademarks, copyrights, or properties held by Paramount or their parent company, Viacom.

The contents of this publication are Copyright © 2003 STARFLEET: The International Star Trek Fan Association, Inc. and/or the original authors. All rights reserved. No portion of this document may be copied or republished in any way or form without the written consent of the Office of the Chief of Communications, STARFLEET.

(USPS 017-671) Entered as periodical matter at the Post Office of Tecumseh, Oklahoma, under the act of March 8, 1879. The Communiqué is published bi-monthly by STARFLEET: The International Star Trek Fan Association, 101 North Broadway, Tecumseh, OK 74873

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS FOR CQ 121: Jan. 25th, 2004

POSTMASTER:

Send Address Changes to:
STARFLEET Communications
510 Osage St.
Leavenworth, KS 66048

FROM THE CENTER SEAT

FLEET ADMIRAL MIKE MALOTTE
COMMANDER , STARFLEET

As the year winds down, I hope everyone had, and is having, a happy holiday season. With the temperatures dropping, I hate the cold! Things are going well at Fleet HQ as we head into the end of 2003. For many, the end of the year is a time for reflection, for looking back at past achievements and looking forward to what we can accomplish in the year to come. This year has been especially challenging for me, both personally and as a member of this organization. On a personal level, Deb's health issues have taken up a pretty good chunk of my time. Between hospital runs, surgeries, tests, X-rays, MRIs, CAT scans, examinations, doctor's visits and all the care in between, I have a new respect for those in the convalescent care industry. The amazing thing about all of this is that even with her health issues, she took the time to keep up with her duties as the Promotions Director and didn't get very far behind very often at all. Within the club, I think we've accomplished a lot of what we set out to do. We've solidified the financial security of the organization with the creation of the Chief Financial Officer, got a good start on building a comprehensive awards program, did unbelievable things with the number of folks taking Academy courses, and have increased the involvement of our International members within the offices of the EC.

Did we accomplish everything we set out to do this year? No, but the groundwork was laid for things to come next year. The Public Relations office didn't quite work out the way I had envisioned. As of November 2nd, the Public Relations Department is officially disbanded. I've spoken with Gerry Sylvester and informed her of the decision. I want to thank Gerry for her work and accomplishments while heading this department. Inclusion into the Guinness Book of World Records is just one of the many things she was able to do. When the department was first conceived, it was done so to further publicize the Scholarship Program and get more folks participating in it. Since that time, it has taken on a life of it's own and gone in directions I hadn't considered. Due to this, as well as a few other things, I've decided to pull the plug on this while its function and scope of operation are looked at again. Allyson Dyar, my Chief of Staff, has been tasked with reorganizing this department and helping to define where it will go from here. Hopefully, this will return in 2004 as a better operating department.

I want to take a moment to thank everyone who has worked so hard this year to get us to where we are. First, the Executive Committee; Mark Anbinder, Joost Ueffing, Greg Trotter, Scott Akers, Jerry Tien, Sandy Berenberg, Mandi Livingston, Tammy Willcox and Denby Potts. Each of these folks has put in countless hours trying to improve every aspect of your Fleet experience. Next, their staffs, too numerous to name, but just as dedicated to making this organization all it can be. And finally, thanks to you, the members. Without your support, suggestions, and input, we wouldn't have the direction needed to take care of your vision of this club. Thanks, everyone!

With everything going on, we've had our share of changes and challenges, including some personnel changes at the highest levels. STARFLEET's first Chief Financial Officer, Tammy Willcox, had to step down due to personal obligations. I can't tell you how much of an impact she has made on this organization in the last three years. Fleet owes her a debt we may never be able to repay. Fortunately, Denby has been up to the challenge of filling her shoes and the transition has gone pretty smoothly. I know Denby will do a great job in her new role and I'm very confident in our continued financial future.

Sandy Berenberg is the second Executive Committee member who has needed to step down, for many of the same reasons Tammy did, plus an additional school load coming up. In his years as a member of Computer Operations and, finally, as Fleet's Chief of CompOps, he has made a profound impact on the way we collect, store and retrieve information and data. Transitioning from an old FTP site based, Access-driven database to our present online, anyone-can-access-it-24-hours-a-day, database was no small feat. But Sandy and his staff did an outstanding job and have forever changed the face of CompOps and Membership Processing. Fortunately, as in the case of our CFO, we had a strong Vice Chief in place, ready to step up and assume the leadership role. Mandi Livingston, already a veteran of the EC in a past administration, is a welcome addition to our team and will carry on the work started by her predecessor.

Finally, one other upcoming change I need to address. I have the unfortunate task of announcing that Carl Johnson has tendered his resignation as STARFLEET's Quartermaster. Between his duties as Region 12 RC and the work on his new house, he doesn't have the time he feels is necessary to devote to this. Carl has done a great job and his influence and "buy early, buy often" sales pitch will be sorely missed.

At this time, I'm taking applications for the position until at least January 1st, 2004, depending on when this issue hits the mailboxes; with an announcement by the end of that month. The ability to secure high quality merchandise at reasonable prices is a plus, as well as the ability to attend IC to work the STARFLEET merchandise table. Please send your applications to me at cs@sfi.org.

That about does it for me. Please remember to send back your ballots for the two constitutional amendments. It's critical that we get these things updated so that, in the future, our procedures are in line with our policies.

Take care and I'll see ya in 60!

Michael W. Malotte

EC/AB NEWS

By Commodore JC Cohhen • Chief of Staff to the Vice-Commander, STARFLEET

Greetings, STARFLEET members! Herein is the record of what your Admiralty Board, the board of directors of STARFLEET as represented by your Regional Coordinators, have done up to November 25th, 2003.

It was proposed by the CS that two changes to STARFLEET's Constitution were needed to make STARFLEET run more efficiently. The first changes STARFLEET's fiscal year. This will allow our financial officers more time to prepare our documents for the IRS. The second brings the IGs term of office in line with the new length of term for the CS's time in office. Both of these proposals passed the AB, and should be presented to the membership for ratification at a later date - most likely the next CS election.

The AB also discussed the changes the IG has made in regional elections, opening them up from votes of confidence to general elections. Worries were expressed about the practical application of these elections, especially in smaller regions. No conclusions were reached.

The AB officially welcomed two new additions to its rolls, with the opening of Regions 9 and 20. Brigadier Marie Wilson is now the Regional Coordinator of Region 20 and Fleet Captain Isaque Fernandes is now the Regional Coordinator of Region 9, as elected by their regions.

Lastly, the AB discussed, based on a proposal from the Marine Commandant, to change the membership handbook and alter the E-8 rank of First Sergeant to Master Sergeant. The AB, after much discussion, was leaning towards putting both ranks in the rank section of the MHB but no vote has yet been taken on this subject.

IC 2006 BIDS: THE TIME IS NOW!

By Admiral Allyson M. W. Dyar • Chief of Staff to the Commander, STARFLEET

Bids for the 2006 International Conference (IC) are due to the Chief of Staff, Commander STARFLEET, by 15 February, 2004.

Bidding guidelines are available from the STARFLEET website (http://www.sfi.org) documents page or directly from Allyson via email. The bidding guidelines are in pdf format, so you'll want a copy of acrobat reader available to read them.

Committees may submit their bids in hard copy, text, pdf or word processing format. I would prefer to receive the bids in either text or word processing format for me to pdf, but I will work with the committee if the submission format is a problem.

Once I receive and put the bids into pdf format, I will make them available to the Executive Committee. The EC will discuss the pros and cons of each, giving me any questions the EC wishes asked of the bidders. After a suitable amount of time (ranging from 2-4 weeks), the EC votes for IC2006.

Once the EC makes a decision, the CS will contact the bidding committees. Only the bid committees will know who has won IC 2006; the formal announcement won't be made until IC 2004 in Birmingham, AL, July 29-August 01, 2004 (http://www.ic2004.org/).

Please direct your bid questions or the bids themselves to:

Allyson M. W. Dyar
Chief of Staff, STARFLEET
1209 SE 89th Avenue
Portland OR 97216-1715

Email: cs-cos@sfi.org or
nitehawk@ussjaguar.org

OFF-CENTER VIEWPOINT

VICE ADMIRAL MARK H. ANBINDER
VICE-COMMANDER , STARFLEET

As I write this column, we're rapidly approaching the end of the first year of our two-year term as your Executive Committee. Tempting though it might be to write a "year in review," I'm more inclined to look forward into the coming year.

This summer, at STARFLEET's annual International Conference, and immediately thereafter on STARFLEET-L and in these pages, I announced that I was seeking applications for two new positions within the Office of the Vice Commander, STARFLEET. I'm pleased to be able to tell you, a few months later, about the results of those searches.

The Diplomatic Corps

The newly reconstituted STARFLEET Diplomatic Corps will keep track of and help Fleet chapters make contact with other fandom operations in their areas. The DC will have a staff divided into regions, so the people in a given area not only have the best chance of being familiar with what's in that area, but also with a central core in touch with the national or international cores of other fandom organizations as well as access lists of local chapters.

The staff positions will be part of the Diplomatic Corps staff, and not part of the various RCs' regional staffs, though we will welcome feedback and suggestions from RCs and others in the various regions.

I'm pleased to announce that Rear Admiral Jeffery Higdon of USS Black Hawk, who was also involved with past incarnations of the Diplomatic Corps, has been appointed as its new Director. Even before taking on this new role, Jeff was instrumental this year in helping STARFLEET interact with another fandom organization, the International Federation of Trekkers.

Office of Accessibility Resources

The STARFLEET Office of Accessibility Resources will serve both as a source of information for disabled members of STARFLEET, and as a helpful planning resource for STARFLEET events, publications, and other functions, for planners who want to ensure what they do will meet the accessibility needs of all of our members to the greatest extent possible.

It's my pleasure to announce that Petty Officer 3rd Class Claire Halber of USS Flying Fox will serve as the first Accessibility Resource Coordinator. Claire and I had a great conversation about this program at this fall's Region 7 Conference, and I'm very much looking forward to working with her.

We envision this office to be of huge potential benefit to the members of STARFLEET. We hope that International Conference and regional summit and conference planners will be able to solicit help making accommodations for disabled members; web site developers will seek information on how to make their web sites as accessible as possible with screen readers or other accessibility technology, and more.

Embarrassment of Riches

As is often the case with position openings in STARFLEET, we had more than one highly qualified applicant for each of these new posts. I was glad to see that several people who contacted me about these two new programs within the Office of the Vice Commander, STARFLEET were interested in helping out, not just as directors, but also as assistants, foot soldiers, if you will.

Jeff and Claire will undoubtedly have many volunteers as they build these programs from the ground up. I wish them both the best of luck, and I offer my full support!

If you're interested in participating in either of these programs, or can help in some way, please contact Jeff or Claire to offer your time and assistance. You'll be able to find their contact information in the STARFLEET staff directory, elsewhere in this issue.

Note from Mark's Chief of Staff:

The CQ staff asked me to fill out the article by about 150 words. I'm tempted just to write variations of that statement until it equals 150 words, but instead, let me just say how excited I am about these positions opening and how much I am looking forward to working with the new officers in the office of the VCS. While most of my job is advisory rather then staff-wrangling, Mark and I work closely together on many tasks and I know that we are both looking to do great things in the upcoming year.

I also know that we are always, ALWAYS looking for new ideas and suggestion for making STARFLEET even better then it is, especially ideas that fall within the office of the VCS to implement. If you have any suggestions, please contact Mark at VCS@sfi.org. Well, I've more then reached the end of my 150 words, so maybe Kurt and Allyson will give me back my pet hamsters now [*Never! They are needed to power the CQ generators! - Editor.*]

Let it Snow

Last winter, many STARFLEET members attending the Farpoint convention at the Hunt Valley Marriott in Maryland were snowed in while I was watching the Cornell University men's ice hockey team beat the Harvard Crimson at Bright Arena in Cambridge, Massachusetts. (Otherwise, I'd probably have been at Farpoint.) What's usually at most a 48-hour affair turned into a five-day marathon con for those who didn't escape before the area before the area highways were closed.

Unfortunately, the organizers of this year's Region 7 Holiday Party didn't learn from this. I was unable to attend the party because I was watching the Cornell University men's ice hockey team beat the Harvard Crimson on home ice, at Lynah Rink here in Ithaca, New York. The result? What must be the worst winter storm to hit the eastern seaboard at the beginning of December in years meant that some would-be attendees couldn't even get to the party! (Also true, I'm sorry to say, of the hockey game.)

As I write this, I'm looking forward to USS Accord's tenth anniversary party, secure in the knowledge that there's no conflicting hockey game scheduled, and even if there were, I'm in walking distance of Accord's meeting site! I'll look forward to attending many other Fleet events in the coming months, but if there's a hockey game the same night as your event — especially against Harvard — better keep the snow shovels handy.

NEW CHAIRMAN SOUGHT FOR ASDB

By Admiral Alex Rosenzweig • Director, DTS

FCAPT David Lockwood has stepped down as Chairman of the Advanced Starship Design Bureau, citing personal issues. We thank him for his service to STARFLEET, and wish him well in his future endeavors.

But we do need someone to follow that act. Thus, the Department of Technical Services is seeking applicants to fill the position of Director, Advanced Starship Design Bureau. We're looking for qualified members who love starship and space station design, and would like to share that love with fellow members.

What follows is the job description. If this sounds like you, why not apply?

The Director of the Advanced Starship Design Bureau (ASDB) will be charged with assisting STARFLEET members/ shuttles/chapters in the creation of new starship designs and/or the upgrade/ modification of existing designs within the framework of a coherent, established Star Trek Universe.

New design proposals are reviewed by the ASDB, which helps groups iron out any possible engineering/design issues and then submits a recommendation to the Director, DTS for approval or disapproval of the design, based on the results of the design review.

The successful candidate will:

1] Be comfortable with and possess full understanding of Star Trek technology and engineering in all Star Trek eras (from the 22nd Century of "Enterprise" to the 24th Century of TNG/DS9/VOY).

2] Be comfortable with Star Trek engineering and starship design as explicated in fan-tech (e.g., Star Fleet Printing Office, Star Station Aurora, Mastercom Data Center), as well as Paramount-tech, since the former is critically important to the proper development of the universe.

3] Be willing to guide groups designing starships to develop their projects to fit realistically within the existing framework (e.g., if we already have 2 extant shuttlecarrier designs (and "actually", we have about 8 right now.), a group creating a third should show that the new design does something that the others do not.) New designs created simply for the purpose of being new will not necessarily be accepted, but the ASDB Director can assist groups in giving the new design a fresh characteristic that would aid in its acceptance. Alternatively, the ASDB Director will show the group the existing designs and see if one of those might not suit the purpose. The deadline for applications is 31 January 2004. Applications should be sent to:

STARFLEET DTS
980 Linwood Place
North Brunswick, NJ 08902-2267

Or e-mailed to:
DTS@sfi.org or
alexr@castle.net

I'll look forward to hearing from you.

OPS CENTER

BRIGADIER GENERAL JOOST UEFFING
CHIEF OF OPERATIONS, STARFLEET

As this issue is probably going to hit the mailboxes at Christmas, I'm going to take this time to say a few words about the first year in office for this Chief of Operations.

First, as this will be a heck of a lot cheaper than trying to send a Christmas card to every member in Fleet, I want to wish everyone here a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. A special greeting to all of the COs of SFI, the people I work with the most in my job. I want to thank you very much for making my life a lot easier than I thought it would be. On that same vein, my first year in Ops has been a very enjoyable experience. Apart from a glitch here and there, overall the daily operations I've overseen have really been problem free. I attribute this to several things:

1. The Membership. What can I say? You guys are Fleet, you keep it going, and you are the reason it exists. My thanks and hat off to all of you. 'nuff said.

2. The COs. Again, my sincere thanks to the COs of this fleet for working with me while different methods were added for you to report, change chapter information, Changes of Command information, etc. You could have all revolted or made my life a living hell, but you didn't. Trust me, my sanity and I appreciate this.

3. The EC/AB. I interact with my colleagues, the directors of this organization a lot in my job. Again, you all could have made my life a living hell, but we all worked together to keep SFI running smoothly. My thanks to you as well.

4. The Database. This wonderful piece of software has been a godsend to me. I estimate it has cut down my workload at least 50%, and that's a conservative estimate. My sincere thanks to the database team, and CompOps in general for the work they did with this.

I look forward to continue working with everyone that interacts with Operations in the future.

Ops Abroad

The Region 13 Summit in Ontario Canada was, to say the least, very enjoyable. I think it was not only the first time we had *three* EC members in attendance (Mike -CS, Mark- VCS, and me), but we also had two RCs (Mike Dugas of R13 and Manon Lessard-Belanger of R14) here as well as well as reps from all five ships in the region. I'm definitely putting it on my list of summits I'll be trying to attend on a regular basis in the future. My thanks to the USS Hadfield who sponsored the R13 Summit this year.

MSR REPORTING

Please note the following reporting rates for September and October, 2003:

SEPTEMBER 2003:

Region	Reported	Total	Percentage
R1	52	53	98%
R2	26	28	93%
R3	19	19	100%
R4	18	19	95%
R5	9	11	82%
R6	5	5	100%
R7	26	31	84%
R9	1	1	100%
R10	3	5	60%
R11	1	1	100%
R12	19	28	68%
R13	5	5	100%
R14	1	1	100%
R15	12	12	100%
R17	9	9	100%
R20	1	1	100%
Totals:	**207**	**229**	**90%**

OCTOBER 2003:

Region	Reported	Total	Percentage
R1	53	53	100%
R2	26	28	93%
R3	19	20	95%
R4	18	19	95%
R5	6	11	55%
R6	5	5	100%
R7	25	30	83%
R9	1	1	100%
R10	3	5	60%
R11	1	1	100%
R12	19	28	68%
R13	4	5	80%
R14	1	1	100%
R15	12	12	100%
R17	9	9	100%
R20	1	1	100%
Totals:	**203**	**229**	**89%**

Just to review Ops policy on reporting: reports are due by the 5th of the next month for the month you're reporting for (April MSRs are due May 5th for instance) and late MSRs are considered between the 6th and 10th of that month (April MSRs are late between May 6th and May 10th for instance). Four failures to report (FTR) or eight late reports in one year will result in a contact from me. Another FTR or two more late reports will be cause to put the chapter on 60-day standby.

A note on the DB: for those of you that submit via normal e-mail, you may notice another e-mail come to you that looks like a MSR from the DB, this would be the staff of Operations inputting the MSR into the DB and the DB spitting out a "record" for Ops, your RC, and you. So if the submitter has listed as someone other than the CO or designate, no worries. Any questions about this are welcome, but hopefully this will clear up some confusion.

Welcome To the Fleet:

STARFLEET Operations welcome the latest additions to the fleet:

USS Pleiades, Region 2
Capt. Ariel Strickland commanding.

USS Dark Phoenix, Region 2
Capt. Ralph Planthold commanding.

USS Vanguard, Region 4
FCapt. Roger Stearns commanding.

This year we've had 16 ships commissioned or recommissioned to date. Congratulations to all the chapters that have been welcomed into SFI this year, and I look forward to commissioning more ships in future!

Chapter Care Program

The Chapter Care Program is now in operation. This program is designed to make sure the chapters of SFI are being fully taken care of to the best of the ability of Operations. The dedicated staff of the CCP will do their best to make sure any questions or concerns are taken care of and followed up on if necessary. I ask that all COs that when you are contacted to please respond to the letter, even if it's to say "all is well, no problem".

Currently, the staff of the CCP consists of Kandyleigh Provencher (Director, justkandys@metrocast.net), Guy Champagne (guychamp@lamere.net), and Mark Craft (pudgnutt@metrocast.net). Any CO having questions about the program can direct it to the new director of the Chapter Care Program, Kandyleigh Provencher, at justkandys@metrocast.net.

Vessel Registry

The latest version of the VR is available for download at http://documents.sfi.org/downloads/vr.pdf. Any changes for requests can be sent to chapterinfochange@sfi.org or to ops@sfi.org directly. And as a reminder, if anyone wishes a printed copy sent to them please contact me with your name and address.

Understrength Program

Those chapters that are below strength should have been contacted by e-mail by the Understrength Chapters Program run by CompOps. This program is for you; they're there to help you in any way to get your chapter back up to strength. If they have contacted you this means your chapter strength has fallen to below strength. Don't let the opportunity for help pass you by.

Correy Operations

Michelle Fanelli and Joe Hoolihan are doing a fantastic job with Correy Ops. Remember that they are great resources for corry chapters or those chapters looking to become correy chapters, so use them if you have any questions, comments, concerns, etc. Michelle can be reached at mrbasil@flash.net and Joe at joehooli@erols.com.

That's about all I have to say this for this year. Merry Christmas Everyone!

COMM AS YOU ARE...

REAR ADMIRAL GREG TROTTER
CHIEF OF COMMUNICATIONS, STARFLEET

Greetings from the Caribbean!

As I write this, we've not yet encountered any swishy pirates or undead crewmen, and alas, my hope of finding Incan gold, even cursed Incan gold, and never going back to work remain unfulfilled. Still, it is sunny and warm, so I guess things are well enough.

It has been an exciting period of STARFLEET communications, with old programs continuing apace and new programs being brought in. Many thanks need be extended to Dixie, Joan, Kurt, Allyson, and the many other staffers who help keep Communications going strong. Kurt and Allyson, for example, not only keep the CQ going but also take member suggestions and added a puzzle page to the CQ this very issue.

Also, a big kudos to Mike Wilkerson and his revamping of the STARFLEET website. The new look and feel has garnered a lot of praise and we hope to continually make it better. We also have some exciting new events in the world of Comm!

First of all, I'd like to announce the formation of KHI. KHI is pronounced "chee" and it's a new Communications program designed to solicit more articles and photos for the CQ. KHI stands for the Kidnap Hamster Initiative. It came to me in a vision after I fell changing a light in the bathroom and hit my head on the sink.

No one submitting to the CQ? Steal their beloved small pets. And it is not just Hamsters. Gerbils, Guinea Pigs, Mice, Rats... even small cats and dogs... all might be stolen by our operatives recruited from STARFLEET special forces.

They will be returned to their owners upon receipt of a CQ article or photograph. Or when we are tired of playing with the little furry cuties! Whichever.

Additionally, we're going to start making your CQ experience a bit more fun every issue. I already mentioned the puzzle page. But now, your entire CQ is going to be a puzzle. We call it the CQCP... the CQ Cryptography Protocol! Every article in the CQ will now have hidden messages in it. Sometimes the messages will be easy to see as long as you know the secret. Sometimes the messages will be nearly impossible to find. Maybe even stare at it like a magic eye poster. Eventually, you'll figure out the secret!

The two programs actually work together with remarkable synergy. Generating hidden messages creates plenty of paperwork... which is then shredded and used as bedding for the hamsters. The circle of life continues.

Well, FLEET, until next time!

(Ghost-writers note: In all seriousness, it is regrettable that a series of unfortunate events prevents a Comm. article from appearing this issue. Greg is on a well-deserved break from real life, including a cruise in the Caribbean. Dixie, his vice-chief, was going to do the article but an unforeseen family emergency prevented her from doing so. Keep an eye out for future CQs, in which I may write each and every EC article! - JC)

STARFLEET CHAPTER CARE PROGRAM UPDATE

By Captain Kandyleigh Provencher • Director, STARFLEET Chapter Care Program

Greetings from the Chapter Care Program. My staff, Mark Craft and Guy Champagne, and I wish to thank all the chapters that have replied. If you have not, please do so as soon as possible. All we need from you is the answer to the following question: "How are you doing and is there anything we can do to assist you?"

The Chapter Care Program (CCP) is here to offer assistance to chapters. But now, I have to ask for your assistance. We have several chapters with e-mails that bounce back. If you, the chapter, or anyone out there can help us correct our database, we would be greatly appreciative. Please reply to me privately at justkandys@metro cast.net.

EFC S L Heya slheya@hotmail.com	**USS Asgard** captharper@ameritech.net	**USS LaGrange** nevin_allet@yahoo.com	**USS Royal Sovereign** mavric@sky.net
Shuttle Cascadia acecrockett@msn.com	**USS Athena** pardis@ql.org	**USS Malverne** uss.malverne@sfi.org	**USS Shadow Hawk** ajthorton@charter.net
Shuttle Firestorm cofirestorm@aol.com	**USS C. M. Russell** vickym@icstech.net	**USS Morning Star** newellsherryanne@juno.com	**USS Shawnee** kcscifi@aol.com
Shuttle Indianapolis rodneliane@msn.com	**USS Debraak** ussdebraak@comcast.net	**USS Nebula** muquis@wideopenwest.com	**USS Starlord** co@ussstarlord.org
Shuttle Titan blue_eyes66002@yahoo.com	**USS Devastator** captain@ussdevastator.org	**USS Onizuka** ussonizuka@hotmail.com	**USS Titanic** usstitanic@aol.com
Station Troubadour helenpawloski@sbcglobal.net	**USS Drakenfire** thedrakenfire@bellsouth.net	**USS Osiris** uss_osiris@earthlink.net	**USS Tristar** tristar@esper.com
Station Grey Wolf greystation@cableone.net	**USS Francis Marion** co@francismarion.org	**USS Palavra** ncc2021@juno.com	**USS Triton** co@usstriton.com
Station Lewis B. Puller mccabedb@musc.edu	**USS Highlander** uss.highlander@sfi.org	**USS Parallax** co@ussparallax	**USS Umiak** walter3142@earthlink.net
USS Archer ussmalverne@aol.com	**USS Highroller** tintle@worldnet.att.net	**USS Republics** ussmab@bellsouth.net	**USS West Virginia** captainwva@aol.com
USS Arizona garfield@yahoo.com	**USS Horizon** williac@jaynet.wcmo.edu	**USS Richthofen** baroness@ussredbaron.org	

We thank-you in advance for your help.

THE SHUTTLEBAY

By Commodore Jerry Tien
Chief of Shuttle Operations, STARFLEET

Happy New Year everyone. I hope you all enjoyed a great holiday season. 2003 has been a great year for shuttle launches. The fourth quarter of 2003 was certainly no exception. The following shuttles were launched since the last issue of Communiqué:

Shuttle Essex (R1)
Shuttle Falcon (R4)

We even have two R7 shuttles waiting in launch bay as of this writing. Hopefully we'll have more good news by the time you read this. I would also like to congratulate the following chapters on their recent commissioning:

USS Dark Phoenix (R2)
USS Pleiades (R2)
USS Vanguard (R3)

Not only do we have many successful launches and commissionings, the MSR performance is also at an all time high of 100% on time reporting. Great job, everyone!

I have confidence we will be continuing a strong trend of shuttle launches in 2004. To aid everyone on that quest, we are updating our website and publications to reflect the latest changes. In addition, I'd like to emphasize a few things regarding the Vessel Registration Request:

1. VRR fee is $10, because we no longer publish the Command Status Report.

2. If you wish to pay by credit card, be sure to include the expiration date & security code of the card.

3. Verify all contact info (name, address, e-mail, phone number) are correct

4. The VRR should be routed in the order of shuttle CO, support ship CO, Regional Coordinator(s) and finally Shuttle Operations Command.

While ShOC will do everything in its power to expedite your launch requests, I'd like to offer a word of advice to future shuttle CO's - if possible, recruit some extra members prior to launch or commissioning. This will provide a safety cushion of crew strength to ensure the launch or commissioning will take place.

In order to meet the growing demands of new shuttles, ShOC has a few open positions at this time, mainly within the Department of Technical Services. Not only will these jobs provide an opportunity to apply your Trek knowledge, they might even bolster your resume outside fandom. If you are interested, please contact Adm. Alex Rosenzweig as soon as possible at dts@sfi.org.

Looking forward to another great year in ShOC for 2004. If you need any help, remember - we are only an e-mail away!

COMPUTER OPERATIONS

LIEUTENANT GENERAL MANDI LIVINGSTON
CHIEF OF COMPUTER OPERATIONS, STARFLEET

Thank you to all of you who welcomed me into this position as Chief of Computer Operations. I'm looking forward to the challenge of filling Sandy's shoes as best I can. I wanted to touch base with the members and regions to let them know of a few changes, as well as issue a few reminders.

And now, the reminders. As I'm now working 99% of the CompOps related helpdesk cases. I'd like to remind you to use your first and last name and SCC# when contacting the Helpdesk or CompOps. This helps greatly in resolving cases.

Although we are usually way ahead of the curve on this, please remember that it could potentially take 6-8 weeks for processing memberships and getting you your membership packet (as stated on our membership application). I've had a few people renew online and within a day or two ask where their membership information is. While I would love to say we had the technology to "beam" your packet to you, unfortunately, we still rely on the postal service to get that packet to you.

Furthermore, many of you have inquired about getting an email from Dynee, the database, about membership renewals and expirations. These are automated messages from the database based on your expiration date as in the database. Because they are automated, sometimes you may receive one after you have sent in your renewal. Please realize that your renewal and the automated email may have crossed in the mail, and your membership is in the processing queue waiting for approval.

Here's the important one... the proper way to renew online. If you go to the main SFI.org page, you will see two links: "Join SFI Now" and "Renew Online." Please, only use the "Join SFI Now" link for NEW memberships. If you are an existing member, please use the "Renew Online." Lately, there have been several instances of a member choosing the wrong option (or forgetting their current SCC#). If you choose the "Join SFI Now," the database will assign you a new SCC#. Hence, there will be a duplicate record for you. If you are renewing and have forgotten your current SCC#, please contact us. We will be glad to look it up for you so that a duplicate record is not created using a new SCC#.

Okay, now for some changes in CompOps. The current CompOps staff has been a little reorganized due to Sandy stepping down, and my moving up into his old position. Martin Lessem has transitioned into the position of my Chief of Staff. Bran Stimpson has transitioned into the position I formerly held, Vice Chief - Recruitment & Unassigned Members. Bob Vosseler, previously STARFLEET Recruitment Coordinator, has transitioned into the position of Recruitment Education, where he will work on education tools and courses for membership issues of Recruiting and Retention. Finally, transitioning from an advisory capacity in CompOps to the role of STARFLEET Recruitment Coordinator is Pete Mohney. Pete bring a wealth of knowledge and experience into this position and I am expecting some awesome things from that department.

We have a need of personnel to staff a Forms Department. We are looking for individuals with desktop publishing experience to help design some recruiting flyers, postcards, and other documents. If you are interested in helping out in this area, please email myself at CompOps@sfi.org. A sample piece of your work would also be appreciated so we best know how to use your skills and talents. You can also use my postal mailing address that is listed in the staff directory in this CQ.

In an effort to make Computer Operations as accessible as possible to the membership, I'd like to announce "Office Hours." During these times, myself, or another senior member of CompOps will be available in the #CompOps Channel in IRC to help resolve any issues you may have with programs related to our work in CompOps. Of course, we'll also be available just to chat as well. <G> For starters, our office hours will be Tuesday - Thursday, 9pm - 11:00pm EST.

Please note that this may be subject to change. Please check the CompOps webpage (http://compops.sfi.org) for any changes or updates to this schedule. The page is getting ready for some changes, but the schedule should be on there soon. We hope to add some more times in the future. Of course, you can still always contact myself or CompOpsHelp@sfi.org or Helpdesk@sfi.org if you can't come visit during the office hours time periods. For instructions on how to use IRC, please visit (http://www.fleetchat.org/).

Likewise, I want you to know that CompOps is here for the membership. One of the great pleasures of this position is interacting with all the members. Thank you all for your support in this recent turnover of leadership in CompOps. Please know that my door is ALWAYS open.

You can contact me regarding anything related to CompOps, or even non-CompOps related. I'm here for you, the membership, and that is my primary objective. Hope you had a happy holiday season!

See you in sixty!

Mandi Livingston

COORDINATED RECRUITING

By Pete Mohney • Computer Operations Recruitment Coorindator

Before I get into the heart of this article, I'd like to thank Mandi Livingston for having the confidence in my to ask me to take this position, especially since she knows how busy I am with planning the STARFLEET International Conference 2004. I hope to show that I deserve this, by doing some real good for Starfleet, in the form of Communiqué' articles, helping to organize SFI Recruiting, and bringing more of a professional marketing technique to SFI's Recruiting office.

Okay, so just what is "Coordinated Recruiting?" It's using tried and true methods, experience of those who have gone before, drawing on methods that professionals use in related efforts, and continuing to adapt to the changing times. When I joined SFI, I could gain enough members every year to keep the club growing just by dropping off some flyers in the local comic shop each month. There wasn't much competition for science fiction clubs then, and there wasn't much competition against Star Trek on television back then either. Things have changed, and if your chapter wants to keep a healthy-sized roster, you'll have to adapt.

There's a scene I remember vaguely from the movie Fame, where as the students go from class to class on their first day, each teacher tells them that THIS class is the most important class they will ever take. Most of us like to think that our area of life, family, and even fandom is the most important part, that we are indispensable. I'm going to try to show you a group of people who I think are, by far, the most important people you need to recruit for STARFLEET.

Before I reveal who the members of that group are, you may ask, "Why pick one group?" It comes down to efficient use of your time and resources. You go to the grocery store to buy bread, and you go to the auto parts store to buy brake pads. So, why shouldn't you go after the people most likely to pay money to belong to STARFLEET, when you are recruiting?

The really cool thing about this is that these people are very easy for you to find, and the likelihood that they will pony up their dues is pretty good – but you've got to make the effort, or you'll have lost the chance to have them in STARFLEET. Who are these people, you ask, that are so easy to recruit? Why, they are current and former STARFLEET members!

If you are a chapter CO, you are probably familiar with the fact that many people don't stay in STARFLEET for more than a year or two. Looking at my own chapter roster on the database, I see that there are actually more people on the expired list than on the active list, and we have 23 members! Most of the expired members only stayed in STARFLEET for a year or two.

Why do they leave? That is the question you must answer, by communicating with them. Some of them probably don't even know they expired. Some of them just didn't get enough out of their STARFLEET experience to renew. Some of them may be having money problems, and others may have just lost interest.

You can contact these people, find out why they didn't renew, and it will give you an idea of what you need to do to keep the members you still have.

Then, having done that, you look at your current roster. Who is approaching their expiration date? Have you talked to them, e-mailed them, phoned them, sent a pigeon, to make sure they know it? Tell them that you really hope they stay with STARFLEET and the USS Whatever for another year, but make it clear that is not a condition of your friendship, and that they are still welcome to club meetings even if they don't stay in STARFLEET (unless club policies prohibit that). I've seen a lot of people who expired from STARFLEET eventually come back, just because the things they saw going on at meetings and other events raised their interest level back up to where they felt it was worth it again.

Have you ever noticed that if you subscribe to a magazine, that you will shortly be bombarded with subscription offers for more magazines, and that if your subscription expires, you will continue to get mail for months, even years, afterwards? That's because businesses recognize the same strategy that I am talking about here, the customer that is easiest to get is the person who has already spent money at your store. The more you target your marketing, the more successes you will have. Nobody is more likely to give their hard-earned money to STARFLEET than someone who has already done so!

The lesson here is that the second group you need to work hard to recruit is former members. It's wonderful for us as SFI members that the database contains information on former members, because it makes it much easier for us to contact them and try to interest them in coming back.

After all, they joined SFI once, so they odds that they will come back are much higher than they are that the average guy on the street will join. Target these people, but keep in mind, if you know it, why they left, and respect that.

In my next article, I'll talk about the number three group of people you should try to recruit, why they are in that group, and how you can recruit them. The bad thing about this group is that the likelihood that any one of them will join is very low – but the good thing is that there are millions of them!

STARFLEET TREASURER REPORT – OCT./NOV. 2003

SFI GENERAL ACCOUNT - OCTOBER

10/01/2003 through 10/31/2003
Opening Balance: $22,947.02

10/2/2003	NPC	Discount Fee	(- $1.95)	$22,945.07
10/2/2003	NPC	Discount Fee	(- $76.00)	$22,869.07
10/3/2003	First Viginia Bank	Online Banking	(- $24.95)	$22,844.12
10/7/2003	Credit Card Processing	MP	$212.00	$23,056.12
10/7/2003	Stamps.com	Stamps.com	(- $18.99)	$23,037.13
10/13/2003	Network Solutions	Comm Expense	(- $135.00)	$22,902.13
10/20/2003	Membership Processing	MP	$810.90	$23,713.03
10/21/2003	Credit Card Processing	MP	$788.00	$24,501.03
10/27/2003	Postmaster	CQ Expense	(- $600.00)	$23,901.03
10/28/2003	Credit Card Processing	MP	$15.00	$23,916.03
10/30/2003	Credit Card Processing	MP	$1,066.00	$24,982.03
10/31/2003	Credit Card Processing	MP	$46.00	$25,028.03

Income above revenue: $2,081.01

Ending Balance: $25,028.03

SFI GENERAL ACCOUNT - NOVEMBER

08/01/2003 through 09/30/2003
Opening Balance: $24,463.51

11/3/2003	Paypal.com	MP *	$292.39	$25,320.42
11/3/2003	NPC	Discount Fee	(- $112.33)	$25,208.09
11/4/2003	Credit Card Processing	MP	$22.00	$25,230.09
11/4/2003	The Countywide News	CQ Expense	(- $523.59)	$24,706.50
11/4/2003	Postmaster	CQ Expense	(- $1,500.00)	$23,206.50
11/6/2003	Membership Processing	MP	$72.02	$23,278.52
11/6/2003	Stamps.com	Postage	(- $475.00)	$22,803.52
11/7/2003	Stamps.com	Stamps.com	(- $18.99)	$22,784.53
11/18/2003	Postmaster	MP	(- $126.00)	$22,658.53
11/19/2003	Credit Card Processing	MP	$1,102.00	$23,760.53

Expenses above revenue: $1,267.5

Ending Balance: $23,760.53

* MP = Membership Processing

All transactions in parentheses, such as this (- 5.00) are deductions/expenses. All other transactions are additions/deposits.

SAVINGS ACCOUNTS

10/01/2003 through 11/30/2003

Scholarship Account:

Opening Balance: $4,006.50

Interest Gained: $2.10

Ending Balance: $4,006.50

SFI Savings:

Opening Balance: $5,658.50

Interest Gained: $1.32

Ending Balance: $5,659.82

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

10/01/2003 through 11/30/2003

Opening Balance: $3,517.24

Deposits:

None.

Ending Balance: $3,517.24

STARFLEET ACADEMY CHECKING

Opening Balance: $2,841.75

October:

8/9/2003	Franklin Covey	Office Supplies	($79.95)	$2,761.80
8/14/2003	Marlene Miller	Expenses	($37.00)	$2,724.80
8/18/2003	Tuitions	Other Income	$129.00	$2,853.80
8/18/2003	First Viginia Bank	Correction	($1.00)	$2,852.80
8/25/2003	First Viginia Bank	Returned Check	($31.00)	$2,821.80
8/25/2003	First Viginia Bank	Ret. Check Fee	($5.00)	$2,816.80
8/26/2003	Tuitions	Other Income	$53.00	$2,869.80
8/26/2003	First Viginia Bank	Correction	($1.00)	$2,868.80

November:

9/2/2003	First Viginia Bank	Returned Check	($4.00)	$2,864.80
9/2/2003	First Viginia Bank	Ret. Check Fee	($5.00)	$2,859.80

Ending Balance: $2,859.80

DOLLARS AND SENSE

By Commodore Denby Potts • Chief Financial Officer, STARFLEET

Greetings and a Happy Holiday Season!

Just because some of the following article looks the same as last time, don't assume it is the same article! Some information is important enough to repeat, but the rest is new! The transition is going as smoothly as it possibly can. We're not exactly on the timeline we had hoped to be on, as real life situations have caused a few transition issues, but nothing that has prevented the department or Starfleet, Inc. from operating in it's usual manner. We in the Treasury Department are fully committed to serve the members of STARFLEET, Inc. with gladness.

We are a little behind on processing credit cards that returned issues needing to be researched. I have been getting many card numbers with mistakenly entered information, causing them to return as a "Bad Account Number" by the credit card machine. I have also been getting several "Decline" messages, which brings up an important fact that has recently surfaced. For some reason, our credit card company is having trouble accepting some Debit Cards. Rest assured I will be contacting those affected and get this matter resolved. I can fully understand the membership's frustration concerning this new set back. That is why I am so excited about the possibility of integrating an eCommerce vendor into the Starfleet, Inc. renewal process. This will allow the member to enter their credit card information and be assured that all measures to secure the information is valid has taken place. More on this feature as it becomes available.

Some, but not all, of SFI's vendors have been notified that a new CFO is taking office. Currently, I am not a signatory on the various accounts of Starfleet, but that change is underway. In the interim, Tammy is continuing to pay the bills, and she and I are in contact with each other, keeping each advised on what both hands are doing.

CVV is a new authentication scheme established by credit card companies to further efforts towards reducing fraud for internet transactions. It consists of requiring a card holder to enter the CVV number in at transaction time to verify that the card is on hand. If you've used the current SFI credit card process, you are probably aware that there is currently no place to enter a CVV number, which has resulted in some transactions not being processed, which is when you've been hearing from me!

There are a few different ways of remedying this situation, and we haven't finalized on any one of the yet, but if we manage to get an eCommerce vendor into place, then this issue will resolve itself! Until then, please be understanding when you hear from me, because I will call!

We have recently changed Starfleet's Fiscal year from the calendar year (January 1 - December 31) to starting it six months later (July 1 - June 30). This will allow for a smoother transition between administrations following elections. The Form 990 is due five months and fifteen days after the end of the fiscal year, which (in the past) for SFI meant May 15th.

With the new fiscal year, it means that the Form 990 will be due by November 15th of every year, which will give a new administration plenty of time to get established and prepare for filing it. This was presented at the 2003 International Conference EC/AB meeting and was overwhelmingly approved. To complete the process of changing from a calendar year to a fiscal year, Tammy and I completed the six-month Form 990 to take us from January 1, 2003 - to June 30, 2003, and it was reviewed and filed by Mike Malotte on time!

COMMANDANT'S CORNER

GENERAL SCOTT A. AKERS
COMMANDANT, STARFLEET ACADEMY

My first year as Commandant is complete, and I have one more year to go as your loyal servant. It has been a lot more work than I would have imagined. But it has also all been very worthwhile. Many changes in the Academy have occurred, mostly in personnel, as long-term directors and deans have moved on and newer directors have stepped up to serve the membership. Some of those new staffers have been in fleet for years, others less than two years, but all have the same hope and goal to provide the members with an enjoyable and enlightening experience during their stay at the Academy.

I would also like to extend a huge amount of gratitude to Commodore JC Cohen, who has graciously stepped in for Brigadier General John Adcock, while John was serving overseas with US Forces in the Middle East. JC stepped up to the plate and, along with his other duties, served ably as my Acting Assistant Commandant for the duration. John should be back by the time you read this, and will be spending the next few weeks getting sand out of all of his clothing.

Next we bid a fond farewell to our Deputy Commandant for International Campuses, Dave Blaser. Dave's job is demanding more and more of his free time, and he had to make a choice between the Academy and his family. He has made the right choice, and is moving on to spend more time with Debbie Blaser and their two lovely dogs. The position is under review now, and I welcome applications for it, but we may go a different route in the new year.

Now for the other changes:

I have accepted the resignations of Greg Staylor, and PJ Trotter as Deans respectively for the Institute of Military Studies and the Cadet Academy. Greg has been promoted to Lieutenant on the police force where he works, and will no longer have the time to perform the duties of Dean. PJ also wants to move on, but will continue to advise Academy HQ on both youth and access issues.

As a result, including the previous resignation of Peg Pellerin from Leadership Institute, we have some new Deans to announce. First, in the Leadership Institute, I would like to announce the appointment of Admiral Kurt Roithinger to the position of Dean. He will be working closely with John Adcock in the total redesign of OCC and FOS to accompany the new OTS that was put into place last year.

With this, I would like to thank both Helen Pawlowski and Marlene Miller for their years of service to the Academy and wish them well as they move on in their Fleet Careers. Garry Cameron will stay on as the Canadian Point-of-Contact for FOS. See the application in this issue of the CQ, or online at http://academy.sfi.org/ for more details.

How does Scott A. Akers get everything done?
Alcohol.

Photo courtesy of Joan E. Pierce

In the Institute of Military Studies, I would like to welcome Colonel Sean Meyers of the USS Matrix. Sean has been a member of USS Matrix since 1995, serving as the CMO in 2000-2001 and currently as her Chief Nursing Officer.

He is the OIC of their ship- based academy, the Internet Starfleet Academy, School of Nursing, which has a Bachelor's through PhD program. As a Marine aboard the Matrix, he is the Chief Medical Officer and DOIC of the 787th VMFA White Knights, and has been a member of the SFMC since 1997.

He is currently serving as the Director of the Medical Branch of Tracom, having previously served as the Director of the Leadership Branch since January 2003.

In real life, Sean is currently a registered nurse working in the Surgical Intensive Care Unit at the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston, TX. He has been working there since graduating from nursing school in December 2001. Before nursing, he worked as a computer repair technician. His military background included six years in the Nebraska Army National Guard as an 11B, Light Weapons Infantryman, six years as a 91B Medical Specialist, Medic in the Texas Army National Guard, and two years as an Ensign in the Medical Corps of the US Navy Reserve.

Database Matters:

The Membership Database created by CompOps is a hugely useful and popular tool, allowing members, CO's, RC's etc, to look up which courses a member has taken and track the member's progress. HOWEVER, we are now getting complaints from members and requests to update the database. When a member's score has not shown up for months, I can understand the frustration. But we have gotten complaints on a Tuesday morning at 2A.M., that a test that was scored at Monday at 11P.M. had not been recorded. Please, Please, Please, give the directors time to input your scores. Not everyone has the same access or ability to use the database. Coming directly to the Deans or HQ is always allowed, but we are NOT going to step over the Directors to input scores.

Henceforth, ANY database request that comes in, with a request for an update that is less than a month old, will be returned to the student, with a note advising patience. If, after that month, you are not being helped, we will gladly take care of the problem for you.

I am very exited to introduce the two newest courses in the Graduate School of XenoAnthropology: The Cetacean Institute Overview Course and the Cetacean Institute Deep Sea Course. These courses take a sharp turn back towards Earth,

and its own final frontier, our oceans and the marine mammals that inhabit them. For more information, visit the Xeno section of the SFA site at: http://academy.sfi.org/courses/xeno/index.shtml

In the next issue we will be rolling out the twin programs of Degree Tracks and Institute Certifications. Despite the CQ Editor's misguided attempt to sign me up for Joe Schmoe, I have managed to survive the temptation of that island, escaped the influence of big brother and am finally back in the real world.

On page 10, you will find the graduates for the September/October timeframe. Please take time to congratulate your shipmates for work well done. And, if you see any of the Directors, let them know as well that you appreciate the time and effort they have given to our club.

All of us at SFA Headquarters wish you had the happiest of Holiday Seasons and look forward to working with each and every member of STARFLEET over the next twelve months. It has been a wild ride, but an exciting one, and the best is yet to come.

Scott A Akers

SFI ACADEMY GRADUATES – SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2003

By Carol Thompson • Vice-Commandant, STARFLEET Academy

INSTITUTE OF LEADERSHIP

OFFICERS TRAINING SCHOOL

Jamie Weakley
Tracy Flick
Morgan S. Kirby
Eric Weisberg
Renee J. English
Juan Canto
Trisha Dean
Shane Evans
Lorna LaPoint
Brian Willard
Joseph Sare
Craig Martin
Michael D. Martin
Paul Rochester
Gerald Diehl
Jonathan Sare
Donna Diehl
Greg McDermott
Joseph Wisniewski
Kelly McIlwain
Gary Hudson
Travis Hinnenkamp
Jerris Hof
Patrick Flick
Karen Hof
Lindsey Jones
Keith Keppley
Thomas King
Bobby Robbins, Jr.
Andrew Gabriel
T'Anna Harrington
Royce W. Essig
Stephen Humphrey
Diane Kruse
Kristen Earnest
Kara Doddema
Michael Myron
Emmett Plant
Delton Wilson
Lucy Ferron
Alex Ihnatowycz

OFFICERS COMMAND COLLEGE

Karen Elder
Cheryl Gunnett
Brad Austin
Robert Mink
Nancy Bonica
Paul Rochester
Joseph Sare, III
Eugene Roy Sherrill
Tracy Flick
Jeremy Carsten
Emmett Plant
Andrew P. Gabriel
Stephen Whyat
Bobby Robbins
Thomas King
Matthew Fuhrman
Shawn McMichael
Renee J. English
Ken Hanger
Lindsey Jones

FLAG OFFICERS SCHOOL

Kenneth Hontz
Ron Novak
Victor Swindell

INSTITUTE OF ARTS

COLLEGE OF ALIEN HISTORY AND CULTURE

Adrian Jones
Anthony Ramini
Antonio Lopez III
Arnel Carigo
Audi Jack
Brett Morelock
Cher Couch
Chris Knoblauch
Christopher Parker
Crystal Layman
Darlene Topp
Debra Bostick
Eric Johannson
Gary Hollifield
Glendon L. Diebold
Guy Blandford
James Monroe
Jennifer Kelley
Kelly Diebold
Leo Rogers
Leslie Vann
Lisa Phillips
Lucy Landis
Michael Timko
Michael Vermoesen
Mingka Layman
Nancy Hall
Rob Vann
Ruth Diebold
Sean A. Meyer
Shane Evans
Shawn Gregory
Shawn Slattery
Sidley Howard
Tany Morris
Thomas King
Thomas Pawalczak
Thomas Pecorao II
Timothy Waldrop
Victor Swindell
Yvonne Hughes

SCHOOL OF AUSTRALIANA

Chris Knoblauch
Glenn D. Martin
Elizabeth Worth
Carolyn Donner

SCHOOL OF EUROPEYA

Truman Temple
Karyn Lloyd-Hontz
Arthur Van Rhee
Adrian Jones
Chris Knoblaugh

FEDERATION STUDIES

Joseph Sare
George Pimental
Sean A. Meyer
Gary T. Stewart, Jr.
Arnel D. Carigo
Victor Swindel
Chris Knoblauch
Truman Temple
Russel Ruhland

CULINARY SCHOOL

Gillian Swaim

COLLEGE OF MYTHOLOGICAL STUDIES

Claire Halber
Gregory A. Franklin
Donald E. Jones
Steven P. Bowers
Cheryl Gunnett
Tracy Andrews-Isquith
Raymond Burkhart
Arnel D. Carigo

COLLEGE OF TREKNOLOGY

Darlene Topp
Robin R. Smith
Glenn D. Martin
Jim Bellon
Lisa Owens
Julie Gohlke
Arnel D. Carigo

SCHOOL OF XENOANTHROPOLOGY

Sidley Howard
Robin R. Smith
Shane Evans
Arnel D. Carigo
Dean Andre Rogers
Corey Grant
Thomas Pawelszak
Glendon L. Diebold
Chris Knoblauch
Greg Franklin

COLLEGE OF COMMUNICATIONS

Kurt Roithinger
Wayne N. Snyder
Victor Swindell

DELTA QUADRANT COLLEGE

Arnel D. Carigo
Chris Knoblauch
Gary Hollifield
Glendon L. Diebold

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

Judith A. Waldrich

CRYPTOLOGY SCHOOL

Glendon L. Diebold
Max Khaystus
Sam Black
Marie Wilson
Robin R. Smith

INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

VULCAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCE

Debbie Artrip
Dorothy Tuttle
Jonathan Hogan
Annette Wood
Amber Coe
Scott A. Akers
Tracy Andrews-Isquith
Gregory Franklin
Eddie Milbrant, Jr.
Janice Graham
Sean Meyer
Nancy Hall
Richard Hewitt
Darlene Topp
Jim Bellon
Thomas Pawelczak
Thomas King

SCHOOL OF BORG TECHNOLOGY

Stephen Farris
Glenn Martin
Chris Knoblauch
Gary T. Stewart
Tanya Morris
Paul Rochester

COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

Kenneth B. Hontz
Scott A. Akers
Elizabeth C. Martin
Eric Johannson
Arnel D. Carigo
Matthew C. Fuhrman
Lisa Phillips
Loraine S. Fanning
Paula J. Kesler
Walter V. Ewing
Sharon R. Russell
John "Kiwi" Kane
Thomas King
Max Khaystus
Peter Yohe
Wayne N. Snyder

COLLEGE OF COMPUTER HISTORY

Barbara Buffington

SCHOOL OF TRADE & COMMERCE

Chris Knoblauch
Monica Rhinholz
Russell Ruhlund
Scott Akers
Wayne Killough, Jr.

SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING

Dean Rogers
Michael Timko
Barney Cole

STARFLEET RADIO SCHOOL

Arnel D. Carigo
Marie Wilson
James Wilcox
Ron Novak
Dorothy Tutle

INSTITUTE OF MILITARY STUDIES

COLLEGE OF STARSHIP OPERATIONS

Lisa Owens
Jeffrey A.
Robert W. Chin
Arriel Carigo
Victor Swindell
Richard Sussman
Glenn D.Martin
G. T. Stewart, Jr.
Michael Timko
Sean Meyer
Tom Webster
Jeffery A. Davis
Thomas Pawelczak

COLLEGE OF STRATEGY AND TACTICS

Christopher Parker
Arnel Carigo
Scott Grant
Sean Meyer
Truman Temple
Cher Couch
Anne Miller

VESSEL READINESS CERTIFICATION

USS Ohio

KLINGON WARRIOR ACADEMY

Everett Brooks
George Pimentel
Arnel Carigo
Michael Balewitz
Scott Grant

THE GORN ACADEMY

Shane Evans

SECURITY SCHOOL

Christopher Parker
Michael Givens
Dennis Relyea
Shane Evans
Sean Meyer
Dorothy Tuttle
Anne Miller

STARFLEET FLAG PROMOTIONS

By Colonel Deborah Malotte • STARFLEET Director of Promotions

Hello from the Office of Promotions! Here are those who have been promoted since the last CQ - Congrats to all the recipients!:

Captain/Colonel

Robert Levtzow
Michael Worth
Kandyleigh Provencher
Damon Schoonover
Jonathan Smith
Douglas Mayo
Myron Moody

Fleet Captain/Brigadier

David Horst
Isaque Fernandes
Steve Harper
Manon L. Belanger
Wendy Urvand
Glenda Blanks
Marie Wilson
Tom Webster
Jason Schreck

Commo. / Brig. Gen.

Ruth Green
Kathryn Webster
Shawn D. Fields

Rear Adm. / Major Gen.

Jeffery Higdon

HOW TO SUBMIT A PROPER PROMOTION REQUEST

As the coordinator for promotion requests for STARFLEET and the STARFLEET Marine Corps, I see all of the requests for promotions that are submitted through the STARFLEET Promotions Department. These include nominations submitted through the online form, in email and the US Postal Service.

Requests for promotions to Commander and below are redirected to the appropriate Chapter Commanding Officer. Chapter COs approve the requests for Commander and below, so it's not possible for me to track those. If you have any questions about promotion requests for the ranks up to and including Commander, please contact the appropriate CO.

Promotion requests for Captain/Colonel are forwarded to the respective Regional Coordinator for consideration. I can track them if the RC informs me of the promotion to Captain. If you have any questions on promotion requests for Captain/Colonel, please contact the appropriate RC or send me an email at promotions@sfi.org.

All requests for Fleet Captain/Brigadier and above are forwarded to the Promotions List, where the Executive Committee votes on them. Contrary to rumors heard every now and then, I have absolutely no voice or vote on this decision. My function is to coordinate the process, not to do any actual voting.

The most common reason for being turned down is insufficient information in the promotion request. I've seen quite a few requests that list everything a person has done since joining Fleet and I mean everything! While this is great for a Fleet resume, it's not what the Executive Committee is looking for.

The nominee qualification section requires you to document, in your own words, why you believe this nominee deserves the promotion at this time. Be specific, and comment about all contributions made by the nominee at the International, Regional, and Chapter levels of STARFLEET. You can prepare this ahead of time and paste it into the "Nominee Qualifications" area on the online form if you wish.

When you submit someone for promotion, concentrate on what the individual has done since his or her last promotion. Be specific, give details, and be sure to tell the EC every example of why the nominee deserves this promotion at this time. What has she/he done since then? What positions has she/he held and what responsibilities were required since his or her last promotion? How has she/he gone above and beyond the norm in her/his position? What is it that makes her/him stand out above all others in their duties? What has she/he done since her/his last promotion*to make her/him eligible for the next promotion?

These are the things the Executive Committee is looking for, along with the minimum Time in Grade, when they consider someone for promotion.

Once promotion requests are approved by the Executive Committee, I print certificates for those who have passed. I sign them, Fleet Admiral Mike Malotte signs them, and I send them to the appropriate individual. If the certificates are being presented at a function that Mike is attending, he brings them with him to the event in which they are being presented.

Some tips to help:

- **Online Form:** Use the online form at http://promotions.sfi.org for the fastest results. I can forward your Nomination to the EC Promotions listserve immediately after receiving it if you use the online form. You can request an e-mail form also, just send an e-mail to promotions@sfi.org and ask for a blank e-mail nomination form. This method takes a bit longer to process.

- **Nominee Name:** Enter in the nominee's name exactly as it should appear on the certificate. Please note that the promotion certificate will be printed with the name exactly as it is given on the Nomination Form for the promotion request. So unless "Big Tater Tot Billy" really does like to see his name displayed as "Big Tater Tot Billy" instead of William, please use his proper name. Otherwise, he may be disappointed with his new promotion certificate.

- **Double-check everything:** Double-check all addresses, names, numbers, and proof read the Nominee Qualifications.

- **Give your contact info:** Make sure you supply a phone number and/or e-mail address for yourself, just in case the EC needs to reach you regarding your Nomination. This can save weeks or more of time.

- **Filling out the Nominee Qualification section:** "She is a wonderful person." "The chapter would not have survived without him." "She is an incredible asset to the region." "He promotes STARFLEET every chance he gets." These sentences are nice compliments for the nominee, but do not add any weight to the nomination for the EC's consideration. They do not give specific details on the contributions the nominee has made. Remember, you are trying to convince others (the EC) that this person truly deserves this promotion at this time. I can't stress this enough, be specific, give details. Point out every reason the nominee deserves this promotion and back it up with why she/he is an asset to the region, how she/he promotes STARFLEET, etc. Only include details of contributions the nominee has made since her/his last promotion. The EC only wants info about the nominee since the last promotion.

- **Endorsements:** Enlist the help of the nominee's CO, XO, or others who may know some of the nominee's contributions. Ask others to send an e-mail to me at promotions@sfi.org including the reasons why the nominee deserves this promotion. I will add these as endorsements to the original promotion request.

- **Nominee and nominator must be different individuals:** Nominating yourself is not allowed for any reason. Occasionally, a member will submit a self-nomination. These are returned to the member and not accepted as a valid promotion request.

One last thing to remember - if someone you have nominated is turned down for a promotion, that person will not become eligible again for promotion for six months. If you need to know when someone can be resubmitted for consideration, or if you have any other questions, drop me a note at promotions@sfi.org and I'll be happy to help in any way I can.

Congratulations to all the Promotion recipients in 2003 and Best Wishes to everyone for a Safe and Happy 2004!

TIME IN GRADE:

Promotions are denied for two primary reasons: insufficient Time in Grade (TIG) or insufficient information. At the 2002 IC, the Admiralty Board approved revised processes and guidelines for promotions. This revision changed the minimum TIG for the ranks. Under the old guidelines, eligibility was based on a combination of Time in STARFLEET (TIS) and a minimum 12 months Time in Grade (TIG). This has been changed to reflect a straight minimum TIG scale based upon current rank. Here is the new minimum TIG scale:

A promotion to:	Requires:
Captain/Colonel	24 months Time in Fleet
Fleet Captain/Brigadier	18 months Time in Previous Rank
Commodore/Brigadier General	21 months Time in Previous Rank
Rear Admiral/Major General	24 months Time in Previous Rank
Vice Admiral/Lieutenant General	30 months Time in Previous Rank
Admiral/General	36 months Time in Previous Rank

You'll note that, other than Captain/Colonel, all increases are based on minimum TIG. In recognition of Extraordinary Service to STARFLEET or Outstanding Performance of Duty, six months can be dropped from the minimum TIG requirements. This change went into effect on 1 January 2003.

ANNOUNCING THE SCHOOL OF CRYPTOGRAPHY

By Rear Admiral Victor Swindell • Director, School of Cryptography

Captain's Log: Stardate 54213.2

With the Shakedown cruise completed, we have been given our first deep space assignment. Seems that piracy is at an all time high. Next the Briar Patch. In the last solar month, there have been numerous attacks on unprotected Federation cargo vessels. We have been assigned to identify and put an end to the piracy.

We are currently waiting in the Briar Patch, on minimal power, waiting to catch the bandits in action.

"Sir, I'm picking up an unusual transmission, sounds coded," chimes your Communications Officer. You turn toward the communications station. "Can you identify it, Lieutenant?" you inquire.

Quickly the officer's hand dances over the computer interface, and you wait for an answer "It matches no know code in our databanks, sir," the officer replies. You stand and walk toward the station, to review the data yourself.

"Send it to our Cryptographic Specialist, top priority," you order. The officer turns and looks at you. "Sir, we don't have a Cryptographic Specialist, yet. He won't arrive till Tuesday," the Communications Officer replies.

You slap your forehead…

Introducing a New School at STARFLEET Academy. The School of Cryptography.

In the early 80's after I first joined STARFLEET and was serving aboard the Alaric, Captain DJ Smith of the USS Encounter and I developed the STARFLEET Code Book. It was about 150 pages of fantastic and comprehensive cryptographic information. The book was copyrighted and passed around in electronic and printed form on various BBS. If anyone has a copy of the original file, please send it to me. In late August 2003, while purging my STARFLEET files, I came across one copy of the tattered printed version, which at that point resembled the Dead Sea scrolls.

After some deep thought, nostalgic reflection, and talk with the marvelous staff at STARFLEET Academy, I asked if I could develop courses in cryptography. I thought it would be an enjoyable addition to the current academy curriculum. I was given the green light. It took me about 4 hours to develop all of the courses. It may take some of the students considerably longer to take even one of these courses.

Since the school has opened, and at the time of this writing, one student has already successfully completed all of the currently available courses. We are planning one other course to add to the school.

The School of Cryptography is an intense and challenging institution that covers the history, uses, and application of cryptography from the 19th century to the 24th century. The School currently offers three levels of study. One more is under development. Each level increases in difficulty.

These are:

Basic Cryptography: Introduction to Cryptography

Students will become familiar with the basic terms and history of Cryptography including commercial and military uses in the 19th - 23rd Centuries.

Intermediate Cryptography: Exploration of Cryptography.

Students will become familiar with the uses of Cryptography and Cryptanalysis including commercial and military application in the 19th -24th Centuries.

Advanced Cryptography: Advanced Applications of Cryptography.

Students will become familiar with some of the more unique and advanced commercial, governmental, and military applications of Cryptography and Cryptanalysis in the 20th – 24th Centuries.

Complex Cryptography: Utilization of Advanced Cryptography.
(Currently under development.)

Students will become familiar with utilizing and exploring some of the more complex aspects of cryptography in the 20th – 24th Centuries.

Sign up today. Don't get caught without a Cryptographic Specialist on board. Enrollment is free on the Academy web site.

Dif-tor heh smusma.

WALK FOR DOG GUIDES: HADFIELD DOES IT AGAIN

By Dave Blaser • CO, USS Hadfield

The Hadfield does it again! For the second year running, we've won the Team Challenge Cup for The Lion Foundation of Canada's Walk for Dog Guides.

During a recent ceremony, Executive Officer, Commander Debbie Blaser, and the Hadfield's Unofficial 472nd Marine Strike Group Mascot, FRBL Serrah Blaser accepted the Team Challenge Cup on behalf of the USS Hadfield. The members of the Hadfield raised $906.50 for the walk, beating the Mountainview Veterinary Clinic in Georgetown by only $8.

Participants in the walk were:

Debbie Blaser
(Team Lead, Pledge & Walker)

Shirley Graham
(Largest Fund Pledge & Walker)

Tracey Gonneau
(Pledge & Walker)

John Sargeant
(Pledge& Walker)

Darlene Topp
(Pledge)

Dave Blaser
(Pledge)

This makes approximately $1,663.50 raised by the Hadfield for The Lion's Foundation of Canada, Walk for Dog Guides!

OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

By Maj. Gen. Robb Jackson • Inspector General , STARFLEET

Logo by Ben Kokochak • USS Dominator

Greetings and felicitations.

Fleet Business

Relative calm continues to be the news of the day in the Realm, but the work of the OIG never stops.

Region Business

Region 09 And 20

Voting for Regional Coordinators concluded on September 30, 2003.

Region 01

The Election Process commenced the week of 03 November 2003 with the official Nomination Announcement to the Chapter Commanding Officers.

Other Issues

Work continues on the joint venture between the OIG and STARFLEET Webmaster to create informational pages through the SFI website. This site will provide detailed information about the workings of the Office of Inspector General.

OIG Personnel

Here is a current list of personnel.

Lee Shamblin
Deputy Inspector General

Paul Wheeler II
Assistant Inspector General, Region 01

Joseph Perry
Assistant Inspector General, Region 02

Jess Neumann
Assistant Inspector General, Region 03

Michael Butwinick
Assistant Inspector General, Region 04

Andrew Rogers
Assistant Inspector General, Region 05

Ben Johnson
Assistant Inspector General, Region 06

Don Burke
Assistant Inspector General, Region 07

OPEN
Assistant Inspector General, Region 09

OPEN
Assistant Inspector General, Region 10

OPEN
Assistant Inspector General, Region 11

Ray Brown
Assistant Inspector General, Region 12

Rich Smith
Assistant Inspector General, Region 13

OPEN
Assistant Inspector General, Region 14

Rich DeMidio
Assistant Inspector General, Region 15

Chris Chontos
Assistant Inspector General, Region 17

Jay McPherson
Assistant Inspector General, SFMC

Glenn Overby, II
Deputy Assistant Inspector General, Governing Documents

Parties interested in the open positions should send a Fleet/Real Life resume to my attention.

Your most humble & obedient servant. in Service to the Fleet,

HOUSE CALLS

By Admiral David Miller • Director, FDP Medicine

Presented herein are important health and medical information I've gleamed from the ton of medical stuff I receive each week!

Lung Cancer Research Trial

I've received information this week that the American Cancer Society and the National Cancer Institute are conducting a clinical trial, testing chest x-rays versus spiral CT scanning as early detection methods for lung cancer. This trial is currently seeking "current or former heavy smokers (who have quit within the past 15 years) between the ages of 55-74 who have no prior history of lung cancer and who have not received treatment for any type of cancer within the past five years." If you are interested in participating in this study, or know friends or relatives who might be interested, the contact info is: 800-ACS-4904 or via their website at www.cancer.org/lungtrial.

New Cancer Palliative Care Booklet

The National Institute of Medicine has put out a new booklet on palliative care – care for those dying of cancer that seeks to make them more comfortable rather than attempting to cure their often incurable cancer. Titled "Improving Palliative Care: We Can Take Better Care of People With Cancer," it was released in late August. The booklet "summarizes the recommendations of the IOM 2001 report Improving Palliative Care for Cancer ... uses lay terms to describe the types of comfort care that should be available for people dying from cancer ... include(s) information about steps society and individuals an take to improve access to palliative care." To review the booklet, go to http://www.nap.edu/catalog/10790.html and click on "Read it Online – FREE," above the illustration of the book in the left column. The site also gives directions for purchasing copies of the booklet."

Breast Cancer Vaccine?

The results of a study presented recently at the American College of Surgeon's meeting in Chicago were promising for a new breast cancer vaccine derived from parts of the cancer's growth-stimulating protein. Although there is no current vaccine to prevent breast cancer, this study's results indicated that the vaccine prevented recurrence of breast cancer in women who were already suffering from the disease. And the time for recurrence was greatly increased – from about 5 months in unvaccinated controls to about 10 months in those vaccinated. Besides the cancer protein, the vaccine also contained a drug to increase the body's disease fighting white blood cells.

Breast Cancer Genes

In a related story this week to the above paragraph, a study from the University of Washington and reported in the journal "Science" found that women with a specific gene mutation had an 82% lifetime risk of developing breast cancer in their lifetime. The study looked specifically at Jewish women, especially Ashkenazi Jewish women, and mutations to their BRCA genes (which are thought to have a role in repairing damaged DNA, specifically the BRCA1 or BRCA2 genes). Those with changes to these genes were at increased risk of developing breast cancer – even without any family history of breast cancer. The study also discussed the merits of screening all women for the gene mutations and the prophylactic measures of possibly removing the breasts and ovaries of women with the mutations (but without breast cancer). While it's well known in the medical community that these gene mutations increase a woman's risk of breast cancer, the high 82% rate found in this study – even in this subpopulation – is unexpected and sobering.

NASA Physicians Oppose Space Station Missions

As reported by major news services, NASA physicians – including two top NASA officials responsible for the environment and health conditions on the International Space Station (ISS) – refused to approve the recent launch of a new crew for the ISS and have signed a dissent that it is unsafe for crews to continue living and working at the station for extended periods of time. The problems are with broken or deteriorating medical equipment that monitors both the health of the astronauts and their environment. Specific problems include: air, water, and radiation monitoring sensors that have been non-working for months; other monitoring devices that measure trace amounts of dangerous chemicals onboard have been problematic for almost a year; medicines onboard are expired and need to be replaced, broken exercise equipment; and unreliable malfunctioning cardiac monitoring equipment including a defibrillator. The two NASA officials on record as being opposed to launching new crews to main the ISS are Nitza Cintron (NASA's Chief of Space Medicine) and William Langdoc (NASA's Chief of Habitability and Environmental Factors Office). Even citing findings from the Columbia disaster investigation concerning the problematic mindset culture of NASA wasn't enough to keep a new crew from docking with the ISS. (Fascinating. I'm sure we'll be hearing more about this in the near future.)

Learning to Play Music Improves Verbal Memory

A study reported in Neuropsychology noted that children with music training had improved verbal memory scores on word testing than age-matched controls without any music training – they could recall words from a list better and were able to learn more new words. Interestingly, the longer the music training the better the improvement, and the improvement stopped if the training stopped. Obviously, music training stimulates an area of the brain that supports verbal memory.

Licorice for SARS?

A research letter in The Lancet from researchers in Germany has noted that the chemical compound in licorice root, glycrrhizin, inhibited the replication of a SARS-associated virus and prevented penetration of the virus into cells.

Belt-Positioning Booster Seats Better for Older Kids

A recent study in JAMA concludes that children older than four are safer in belt-positioning booster seats versus seat belts. The belt-positioning booster seats improve safety by raising the child up so that their seated height is more like that of an adult, thereby ensuring that the car's seat belt fits more properly.

Osteoporosis Website

Check out the official website of the National Osteoporosis Foundation: www.nof.org. Their snailmail address and phone number are: 1232 22nd Street NW, Washington, DC 20037-1292, 202-223-2226.

Health on the Net Foundation

Speaking of websites, here's a new one that's based in Switzerland (in English) with excellent European sources for web health information that often don't make your standard websearch: www.hon.ch/HomePage/Home-Page.html. It has a search engine but I'm told that single word searches do better than multi-word ones

Does Black Tape Under Football Player's Eyes Really Reduce Glare?

Yep. A study in a recent issue of Archives of Ophthalmology compared the potential for glare-reduction of black grease, black antiglare stickers, and petroleum jelly (a control used in the study) – you know, the stuff NFL players but under their eyes. They tested contrast sensitivity in volunteer students facing the sun for three hours. Black grease was best over the stickers or the petroleum jelly.

No More Ipecac

For decades, syrup of ipecac has been a staple of the American medicine cabinet used to induce vomiting if a child swallowed something poisonous. However, this will change as a very recent recommendation by the American Academy of Pediatrics recommends not using it at all and to call poison control centers instead. Besides unwanted side effects and effectiveness issues (i.e. not emptying the stomach enough, emptying it too much including any antidotes given), and frequent inappropriate use (you are supposed to contact a physician or poison control center before giving any ipecac), another study showed that its use did not reduce ER visits or improve medical outcomes. In fact, advisors to the FDA have recommended an end to over-the-counter sales of ipecac. Both the FDA and the American Association of Poison Control Centers will be coming out with new ipecac use guidelines soon.

New Blood Test for Heart Attacks

As reported in the New England Journal of Medicine, there is a new blood test that, when combined with existing blood testing of troponin levels, has an 85% predictability rate for those at most risk for an imminent heart attack. This new test measures an enzyme in white blood cells that is produced when arteries are thickened with cholesterol deposits – myeloperoxidase. Both easy to measure and inexpensive, I'm sure we'll be hearing more and more about this test that helps us determine who's having a heart attack and who isn't.

Comfort Foods Really Help Relieve Stress

In case you were unsure, researchers at the Univ. of California, San Francisco, have shown that comfort foods (i.e. ice cream, candy, other sweets) actually do help reduce stress. It appears that these goodies help regulate and reduce stress hormones found in the brain that are produced in response to stress, thereby reducing the body's response to stress. Non-food rewards (including artifical sweetners) didn't produce the same results. (Hmm, does pizza count?)

12 Year Old Starts Medical School

Sho Yano, a 12-year-old boy, began medical school at the University of Chicago this fall – the youngest student ever to attend one of the University's professional schools. He's actually in the combined MD/PhD program. He was composing music at age 3, aced the SAT exam at age 8, and completed college with honors in three years starting at age 9. Because he's also getting his PhD, he'll probably graduate later at age 19 or 20 and won't qualify for the Guiness Book of World Records – that award has already gone to a 17 year old who graduated in 1995 from a medical school in New York. (Med school was hard enough without having to go through puberty at the same time!)

Aspirin Use and Pancreatic Cancer?

Although regular use of aspirin daily has been shown to reduce the risks of strokes, heart attacks, and colon cancer, results from the prestigious Nurses Health Study at Boston's Brigham and Women's Hospital indicate that women who take regular aspirin are at increased risk of pancreatic cancer – in fact, of those taking at least two aspirin tablets a week for 20 or more years there was a 58% increased risk, and an even higher 86% increased risk in those taking 14 or more tablets a week. The authors of the study cautioned that further studies are needed to bear out this unexpected finding. To show that medicine is still more art than science, a different long-term study of women by the University of Minnesota found a 43% decrease in the rate of pancreatic cancer in aspirin users!

Two New Possible Vaccines on the Way

English researchers are working on a new one-dose vaccine for traveler's diarrhea that's effective against E.coli bacteria strains. And a vaccine to prevent cavities is also in the works – it's effective against the bacterial species (Streptococcus) that usually cause cavities.

A JOURNEY OF SELF-DISCOVERY

By Cherry Nelson • USS Angelfire , STARFLEET Region 4

For as long as I can remember, I have struggled with my weight. Though I was not a fat child, I was larger than most of the girls in school and was never one to be considered a waif or even petite. Standing 5'11" tall by the time I was 15 years old made it awkward for me and made me stand out. I hated it. I always felt inadequate to the other kids and felt that there was something wrong with me.

When high school ended, I began trying to focus on becoming a smaller person, but was derailed in my efforts at every turn. I was not ready to commit to such a life-altering plan. I was young and wanted to be carefree like the others my own age, so each attempt I made failed.

Like so many others, I have dozens of diets and lose-weight-quick gimmicks, but none of them worked. And, the more I failed, the more I ate to make myself feel better. Stress in other areas of my life didn't help the problem any. In fact, other stresses actually made my eating addiction worse, and before I knew it, I had ballooned to nearly 400 lbs.

I was miserable. I could no longer shop in the normal clothing stores and was frequently disappointed with the selection of clothing available to me because of my size. I stopped swimming, attending public events, going anywhere by myself, and I stopped wanting to dream about my future.

I hated to see myself in the mirror and the thought on being seen in public just made me sick. I hated myself. I hated my hair, my body, I even hated food (well, I still consider food to be an enemy, but I am working on changing that). The heavier I got, the worse I felt about my situation, but still I wasn't ready to commit to anything long-term.

For eight years I struggled and fought with myself, and it was only after I divorced my first husband that I began to realize that I had to do something - and fast. It was also after this that I accepted that I deserved to do it for me and not anyone else. That is when I began to notice a drop in my weight.

By changing my diet and not snacking all the time, I was on my way to a smaller, happier me! And I lost 75lbs just by being careful and ignoring my brain's obsession with food.

It's been nearly 5 years since then and I have gotten side-tracked several times, but I have been a member of Weight Watchers for over 18 months now and I enjoy the plan. However, outside of work (where our meetings are), I have struggled to make sure that I follow the program and that I get in the required activity levels, so having Angelfire there to keep me focused is going to be a huge help for me.

Likewise, I want to be able to help the others stick to whatever diets or dietary plans they choose to follow.

On August 27, 2003, the women of Angelfire (the men were invited, but declined) met at my home for the first ever Angelfire Fitness Work-Out. Many of our members have decided that they are tired of being overweight and/or unhealthy and have decided that it is time to do something about it.

While a membership to a gym is ideal, it's also very costly, so we have decided to meet two-three times per week and exercise together. Each of us knows that, left to do it on our own, we won't. Whether it's because we don't make the time, don't like it, think it's boring, or just don't want to do it, we all know that doing it as a group is beneficial for us.

For the first time in my life, I am actually excited about doing exercise. I am hoping to show good results in my weight loss goals from it. If I can maintain it and keep motivated, I could, literally, be half the person I am today!

That thought brings me a lot of joy and encouragement. And the bonus to it all is that I will also be healthier and perhaps prolong my life by a couple of years, which, I know, thrills my new husband, our Captain, John Nelson.

Our first work-out lasted about 30 minutes and each participant did very well for our first attempt at getting in shape. Sure there were some moments of grumbling and complaining and there were some unhappy participants, but in the end, we had a great time and had fun.

As we continue on and adjust our diets to accommodate the new, healthier Angelfire philosophy, we are hoping that the men will take an interest and join us, if not for the exercise, then for the dietary changes and the support system.

We could all use the extra support at times. Our new philosophy includes healthier snacks at our meetings such as a veggie tray instead of chips and lighter desserts in place of the rich cakes and goodies we have eaten in the past.

I don't know exactly what has inspired me to share all this at this time, but I am hoping that someone else who is feeling dejected, disappointed with their dietary efforts, or just hating themselves will gain a little bit of inspiration from knowing that they are not alone and that there is hope for a healthier, better tomorrow.

There are ways to do it, ways to inspire yourself, and people to support your efforts. But more importantly, all of those things don't matter until you make an honest commitment to yourself.

Cherry Nelson is marred to Angelfire CO John Nelson. In December they will celebrate their first wedding anniversary.

USS AVALON: HAVING FUN AND MAKING A DIFFERENCE

By Scott Baker • Online Editor, http://www.aroundmaine.com/ • Reprinted with permission of the author.

You'll find Star Trek fans in every corner of the world where a television screen is available. The franchise has developed a massive following over the years and the fan base grows as each new generation discovers the vision of Gene Roddenberry. As a result, quite a few Star Trek fan clubs have been born along the way.

The U.S.S. Avalon is based in Standish and belongs to Region 15 of STARFLEET: the International Star Trek Fan Association, Inc. Over 4000 people are members in the worldwide organization, united in their appreciation for Star Trek.

"My husband wanted to be involved in some sort of Star Trek fan club. Of the ones we came across, it seemed that STARFLEET was the most organized. Everything seemed to be very well put together, so we looked for a chapter in our area," explains Tracy Andrews-Isquith, Chief Science Officer of the Avalon and public relations coordinator for the STARFLEET region.

Like most chapters, the Avalon is united by a love for a wide range of sci-fi and fantasy subject matter. The group attends various sci-fi and comic book conventions, holds monthly pot luck dinner meetings, visits renaissance fairs, participates in fantasy swordplay with padded weapons and armor, and the list goes on.

However, it's the group's dedication to serving the community that sets them apart from your average organization. Avalon's respect for the tenets of Star Trek serves as the foundation for their efforts.

"What's the cornerstone of Star Trek? It's a better world, a better humanity," says Isquith. "The thing that brings us together in Star Trek is the quest or the yearning for that world, for that Star Trek world where humanity is taking care of itself and each other."

The Isquiths have established a food pantry in their home where local citizens in need can visit each Sunday to pick-up an allotment of goods. The group also participates in the Coats for Kids project, the annual Multiple Sclerosis walk, and has adopted a US Military base in Germany for the Overseas Coupon Project.

"Soldiers overseas and their families don't qualify for food stamps -- a private hardly makes any money at all. If they were stationed in the US, their families would probably qualify for services, like food stamps and general assistance that they don't qualify for overseas. So, the PX (the on-base store) participates with the overseas coupon project to take coupons (that can be up to 6 months expired) to help the families."

Some members of the U.S.S. Avalon enjoy a monthly pot luck dinner before their meeting begins.

With the holiday season just around the corner, the U.S.S. Avalon is getting ready for their annual Christmas wrap at Borders in South Portland on December 9th (1pm - 6pm). The crew dresses up in full Star Trek uniform and wraps gifts in return for donations. Proceeds go towards gifts for residents of Portland's Peabody House, a residential treatment facility for people in the advanced stages of HIV.

"In the past, we've done four maybe six days worth of fundraising, and it had been our biggest fundraiser of the year," says Isquith.

There's also an affiliate group within STARFLEET, called the STARFLEET Marine Corp. This STARFLEET offshoot works closely with the United States Marine Corp every year to assist the Toys for Tots Foundation.

While the STARFLEET fan association does not have a mandate requiring charitable acts from chapters, this spirit of giving and philanthropy is not uncommon for its members. "I think the people who I've met throughout the region are very giving, motivated people. I think overall, we have a good blend of people who are head over heels for the whole fandom thing and are good people who just want to help out. That's what I've seen."

For more information on the U.S.S. Avalon, or to inquire about membership, visit: http://u.s.s.avalon.tripod.com.

If you'd like to know more about the STARFLEET: The International Star Trek Fan Association, Inc. visit: http://www.sfi.org/

February 13 –15, 2004

FARPOINT

Marriott's Hunt Valley Inn • 245 Shawan Rd, Hunt Valley, MD

Proud to host the IFT East Coast Conference, the STARFLEET Region 7 Meeting & The Collective Model Contest!

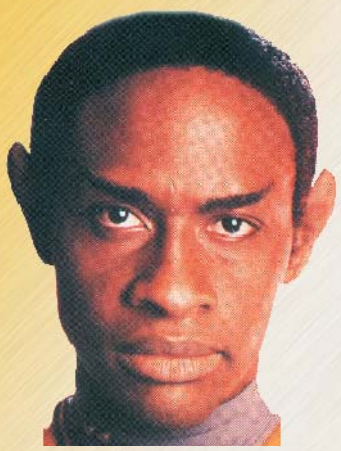
Our Celebrity Actor Guests:

Bill Mumy

From "Lost In Space" and "Babylon 5"

FEATURING:

The Boogie Knights, Peter David, Michael Jan Friedman, Luna-C, Bob Greenberger, Inge Heyer, Marc Okrand, Prometheus Radio Theatre, David Batchelor, Vic's Place with the Pack Ratz, Howard Weinstein, Liliana Mumy, TA Chafin, Polly Luttrell and The Not-Ready for Paramount Players!



Tim Russ

From "Star Trek: Voyager"

Fan Guest of Honor: Suzanne Elmore

Membership Rates:

Weekend:	$55
Friday:	$5
Saturday Only:	$30
Saturday Evening Only:	$5
Sunday Only:	$25
Friday Banquet Ticket:	$35

Registration Hours are:

Friday:	12:00pm - 07:00pm
Saturday:	09:00am - 07:00pm
Sunday:	09:00am - 02:00pm

Contact Information:

Postal Mail:

Farpoint Enterprises
PO Box 164
Woodbine, MD 21797

E-Mail:

Trekcontact@comcast.net

Web:
http://www.farpointcon.com/

Hotel Room Rate:

$106 per night
(plus tax)

For Reservations Call:

(410) 785-7000
and mention **Farpoint!** *

* Rooms not booked under Farpoint's name do not count toward the conventions room night commitment with the Hotel. The fewer rooms we are credited with, the more we pay for the event space. In the long run, this means higher membership prices. Help us keep YOUR costs down by alerting us if you are offered a better room rate via some other offer. The con is supposed to have the best rate available, and we WILL follow up. And no, we will NEVER ask you to pay more to give us credit.

WILDERNESS CHALLENGER 2004

By Captain Commander Gerry Sylvester • DOIC, 773rd MSG, SFMC

The Commandant of the Corp had thrown down the gauntlet and issued the Challenge.

The challenge was to partake in a 2-day/ 15 mile hike in the Great Smoky Mountains National located in eastern Tennessee and western North Carolina. It is considered one of the greatest natural sites within the US and is one of the largest protected areas in that area of the country.

Many heard the call but few would answer and even fewer would succeed.

It meant that those who answered the call would be asked to challenge themselves in ways that went above and beyond the everyday. It meant that the few, and the proud would confront their own personal demons during The Challenge.

The members of the Dant's Challenge were:

SFMC Commandant Wade Olson
USS Rentless/674th MSG

SFMC First Lady Linda Oakley-Olson
Bennu Station/123rd NSG

Richard Graham
USS Khai Tam/78th MSG

Reye Crews/USS Khai Tam
78thMSG

Jill Rayburn
Nikola Tesla Station/163rd MSG

Gerry/Robyn Sylvester
USS Highlander/ 773rd MSG

Ground Crew:

Ben Redding
Bennu Station/123rd MSG

Dennis Rayburn
Nikola Tesla Station/163rd MSG

DJ Allen
USS Relentless/674th MSG

Greg Franklin
USS Reprisal/162nd MSG

Anthony Leopard
Bennu Station/123rd MSG/OIC 1st Brigade

HQ was a chalet in the mountains. In order to reach the chalet, it required the car and driver to scale slopes that in one case was no less than 70° (That is no exaggeration.) However the view from the site was well worth the strain on the car transmission.

The chalet was also the shrine to Fred the Bear. Fred is a local Southern Appalachian Black bear. Everywhere you looked there were pagan effigies of Fred.

Fred is a frequent visitor to the chalets in the area. There is a sign along the road warning of bears, and trashcans are placed in a wire enclosure. Well, Fred decided to make his usual rounds on Friday night. There was a brief sighting.

After the Fred sighting, the out of town folks decided to go for a visit into nearby downtown Gatlinburg. Our tour guide was Ben Redding.

The downtown area resembles Las Vegas with all the lights and tourist shops and attractions. There was lots of fun for all.

Back at the chalet, the Dant handed out maps of the trail and the custom bandanas that all were required to wear. There was no joking around, as safety was the main concern

Then DJ went through my pack. She was concerned that I did not pack any more than was necessary for the challenge. She discarded unnecessary clothing and other items. Items such as an emergency cell phone hand crank charger as there are no cell towers in the park. Suffice to say that was an indication of how much some of us now depend on cell phones. There was the concern about excess weight in the backpack as well.

When I made the decision to answer the Challenge, I realized that I needed a backpack among other items. Upon going on the Internet for info, I got a quick education about the need for lightweight items. I later discovered the reason why. The only exception to this was potable water.

It was well before dawn when the ground crew awoke and started breakfast. The hikers gathered their respective gear and were well taken care of by the ground crew. From there, the backpacks were loaded into cars and trucks and the entire crew were on the road to the start point of the great outdoors challenge.

We were at the starting point took a group photo. From there it was over the river and through the woods into the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, by way of "Jake's Trail."

Now one would expect to see wildlife and so we did, three White Tail deer. It was Robert Graham, who made the comment that will live in infamy,

"A deer, oh deer, oh deer! Three White tail deer and they are waiting for you Sandy!

And so the tone of the hike was set.

Along the trail were all sorts of endangered and exotic plants. It was thanks to the keen eyes of the Dant and Linda Olson, who spotted such. Were it not for them, the rest of us would have missed viewing this true beauty of nature.

The hike was no picnic by any means. It was a lot of uphill climbing and in some spots traversing streams. One stream in particular could only be crossed via a split log bridge. It was not for the faint of heart by any means. The merry band of hikers persevered through the terrain and foul, rainy, weather. After a long hike, we finally stopped to set up camp. The campsite was already equipped with a fire area and cables and pulleys to store food items away from the reach of the local black bears.

We were lucky to set up camp just in time as the rain came down in a deluge. Having said that, there were three tents. One tent, for the Dant and his Lady. One for the other ladies.

Then there was Richard. He set up his own hammock and a clear plastic pup tent. We were concerned for him being alone, and by the time that the morning sun came through, we found out that Richard had a visitor during the night A creature happened upon his hat and chewed a quarter sized hole in it.

So what happens when you get a group as diverse as the WC hikers in one spot? Well of course, you start swapping war stories and showing off "battle scars." It started with Richard showing off his leg scars. I followed suit by showing shoulder surgery scars. Then, Reye showed off her recent back surgery scar.

The Dant issued a list of required items for each participant of the Challenge. One of those items was a whistle. I thought this was silly as there were a number of two-way radios. Now mind you that the two-way radios were a great help between all of us when it came to the actual hike itself. As there was an advance group and then there was the end group. So we were able to communicate.

So why the need for a whistle? I found out first hand why. I went in search of firewood. I traversed along a lush green path, no problem there. It was only until I sought to return to base camp that I realized that I was lost. Well, I followed a green path… #1 rule of the Fleet, Highlanders can't navigate. It's no wonder I ended up lost.

So I blew the whistle. Loudly! In return I heard someone at base camp whistle back. It as then that I realized that a two-way radio would have been utterly useless as there would have been no real direction from the two-way. So I followed the sound of the base camp whistle. In my way back to the camp, other hikers who were on a trail across the brook that base camp was next to greeted me. I mention this, as they were concerned as to my safety. It was comforting to realize that others do care. I followed the sound of the camp whistle and made it back to base. Needless to say, that the directives of the Dant were for the good of all.

It was the ground crew that saw to it that the hikers were well fed before the hike and saw to their rehab after the hike. While we were on the trail, the ground crew was prepping for our return. In between their duties they went running to get the souvenir 8x10 group pictures that were part of the Challenge.

A severe storm had hit the area. While on the trail, the hikers were sporting ponchos and shoring up the tents for what was a nasty deluge. The ground crew was listening to the TV news and hearing of massive wind gusts, rain etc., and praying for our safety. We on the hike figured that this was part of the challenge, and we proclaimed that we are SFMC and we will survive this.

It was dark and stormy night, which led to a beautiful, cold morning. And the long hike back to civilization.

Going up hill was bad enough. Downhill on wet terrain was treacherous. It was a bit easier this time as the backpacks were somewhat lighter, having consumed much have the water and food supplies.

There was still the problem that some of us suffered from orthopedic injuries of the past. I personally suffered a dislocated shoulder in an earthquake. That resulted in the afflicted shoulder suffering. But newbie here was determined to keep going on.

Wade and Linda are veteran hikers. Both had trusted hiking staffs. Otherwise known as spirit sticks. The spirit stick concept is that the staff will absorb the spirit of the ground that the hiker is traversing. Jill Rayburn was a newbie to wilderness hiking as well. She ended up with her own battle wound when she fell "bum" first on a steep, downward, sloping rock. Richard was dubbed "King of the Great Outdoors." He was always at the ready to help the others across streams, and load and unload backpacks. He also discovered what turned out to be a wonderful hiking staff that I will always treasure. Reye however, was the true trooper of the group. She was two weeks off of back surgery. (She had medical ok for the hike.) While the spirit is willing, the body still has its limits. She portrayed the true spirit of the Challenge.

At the Chalet, the ground crew was busy. DJ served as Chief of Ground Operations. All she had to say was jump and the other Marines asked how high. Dennis Rayburn was chief cook and bottle washer. As a married man, he knew better than to even think of giving DJ any back talk. All kidding aside, his cooking was very tasty. Ben Redding spent most of the time driving due to the fact that he is a local resident.

The bet is that he was a pro stock car racer in a previous lifetime. (Ben, you don't need to do a hood slide to get in the car.) Anthony Leopard was the Morale Officer for the weekend. He kept in touch with Ben during the weekend. He was at the Chalet on Sunday night to cheer his fellow Marines.

Greg Franklin is in real life a medical professional. When the hikers were in the hot tub; he kept an eye on the time. When he said time's up, it was everybody out! He also made for a really hot cabana boy. Fetching drinks and handing out towels was his specialty. I ended up with some rather large blisters on both feet. Large enough that Greg was adamant that the needle I intended to use to drain the blisters was sterilized in boiling water.

On Sunday night, Dennis Rayburn was fetching wood for the fire. Fred was on his usual rounds. Suffice to say that the two met! It is uncertain who scared whom, but both went scampering off in their respective directions. Of course the question was, who was more scared, Dennis meeting the demi-god of the chalet, or Fred meeting Dennis face to face. I know Dennis has found religion, now I'm sure Fred has too!

The Dant ran a slide show of some of the pictures from the Challenge. One in particular he told all that I was in the picture. Everyone kept asking "where?" I guess that's what you get for wearing camouflage.

The next morning it was time to pack the cars up. We drove into town and met with Linda Olson for a final Marine lunch. From there, we were scattered to the four corners of the earth. Each person undertook the Challenge for a different reason. For some it was the challenge of dealing with the great outdoors. For others, it was leaving behind cell phones, hot rollers, make-up, etc.

All kidding aside, for me it was a personal challenge to travel alone on a long car trip. It was a 10-hour drive from Baltimore. That was a challenge. Not too long ago, I traveled by air alone for the first time. This may seem strange to some, but we all have our own personal demons to overcome.

The Future of the Wilderness Challenge: The Dant was talking of how other regions within that were attempting to plan their own challenge especially those in the non-US regions. Just because those Marines cannot travel to the US, that does not exclude the reality of setting up their own unique challenge.

Hike in the "Outback" anyone?!

BUILDING A MODEL OF YOUR SHIP

By Colonel John Nelson • USS Angelfire, STARFLEET Region 4

So your chapter has decided to have a model of your ship built, commissioned as a gift to an out going CO, or just to have one at meetings. Now you are asking, "Where do I get the model?" "What if my ship is not available as a model?" or "Where do I find the parts to create the variant of the ship we are?"

Well, let me give out a few pointers and some advice about building a chapter model. First off, where to find the model for the ship you need. As most knowledgeable Star Trek modelers know AMT/ERTL manufactured most of the Trek related models from 1968 to 2000 (with the exception that Voyager era ships where tooled by Revell/Monogram), and are no longer available in stores. This is true, but if you are patient and are good at eBay, all the different models are there for the taking Just watch out for the Sovereign class i.e. the E-E.

It is a highly rare kit and very expensive on-line. I have seen them list at almost $200 for an intact kit with the plastic covering on it. Also check sites such as CultTVman (www.culttvman.com) and Federation Models (www.federationmodels.com). These sites have lots of links and suppliers that carry all the items available to build Trek models. If they do not have the items you are looking for, they know where to find it for sale. After finding your model, you now may need specialized parts and or decals to make that model shine. No fear as again Federation Models can assist, from resin "Aftermarket" (built based off of a commercially available) kits, to custom decals for your ships name and registry numbers are available.

Even resin conversion kits, designed to make the Nebula class out of a Galaxy class AMT kit or whole resin models to represent ships seen on the series can be purchased. From early versions of the Constitution (TOS Enterprise) to the newer Nova (USS Equinox) class and the ships from First Contact (Norway, Yeager, and Steamrunner classes) can be found and purchased.

Remember that some of these parts can be expensive to procure. These suppliers have invested large sums of money to make these available. Some with very large Trek licenses to pay for, so budget out the resources your idea carefully. Perhaps scaling down the size of the model or having a fundraiser to offset the cost. Now that you have the model, resin parts and decals ready, it's time to start assembling your model. I have building plastic and wood models for over 25 years, and have come to realize that there are certain keys to making an effective model. The most important key is: "Haste makes waste."

Colonel Nelson with his pride and joy's: *(back) USS Defiant NX-74205, Soveregin Class USS Enterprise NCC-1701-E, Constitution refit (ST 4-6) USS Enterprise NCC-1701-A, (Front) TOS Constitution Class USS Enterprise NCC-1701, Constitution Class refit (ST 1-3) USS Enterprise NCC-1701 (Holding in center) Galaxy Class Dreadnought USS Excelsior NCC-77246 ("Hero" ship built on assignment for the internet based fan series Star Trek: Hidden Frontier)*

Photo courtesy of John Nelson

When beginning a project such as a model for your chapter, research is crucial. Do a web search for the Trek ship you are building and check out the colors and details that can make your model stand out from the others. Most TOS era ships where concrete in their hull colors. TNG era ships where more ducks egg blue or RAF azure blue while Voyager, DS9 and even the movies where more gray, than blue. Find the colors that look the best to you, for it's your decision on how to represent your ship.

Another important thing to consider is rushing. Rushing can cause serious errors and possible problems with the model in the long run. Take your time; let the model cure before proceeding to the next step. Even the most powerful of glues needs time to set properly. If not set properly the result could be an inadvertent saucer separation or a nacelle might just fall off.

By allowing the glue to bond to the plastic properly your model will be strong and show the care you want to present. Care should also be taken with the paint job and decal placement. The paint should be done in a well ventilated place, with ample natural light. Enamel model paint fumes are dangerous and if inhaled for long periods of time can cause serious health problems. Artificial light and lamp bulbs will affect your colors indoors and give a distorted view. Take the model outside on a clear sunny day, and you will see the difference.

When applying the water slide decals care must be used as they can be fragile, you need to follow the instructions very carefully. First use a mild clear gloss coat to the surface of the model. This gives the decals something to stick too and make the decals look like they where painted on to the model.

Cut carefully around the decal, not leaving too much paper around the decal. Carefully dip the decal into luke-warm water and use tweezers to remove them from the water. After application and the decals have set, seal the decals in another clear coat after they have dried. This is to protect them from peeling and fading away after exposure to sunlight.

Now how to display your completed model? You mount it to a base. Most plastic kits have a simple base of made of the same plastic that the kit is made of, but they are not the strongest or best design to hold the model. Take this case in point, the stand that comes with the Sovereign class USS Enterprise-E kit. It wobbles around like a drunken sailor, and just plain looks ugly. I personally replaced those stands on my models with a wood plaque about 5"x 8" and ½" thick, from a craft store and a metal or wood dowel about 1/8" thick and about 6" to 10" in length (depending on the model it's supporting) to hold the model upright.

The base is drilled through and the rod glued into place with a wood or superglue. Then a slightly larger rod is inserted into your model and secured with glue and putty. The two rods are then joined and sealed together making one continuous part. This gives a stronger area to hold your model and also allows the wood base to be painted, shellacked, varnished, or left as it is. As a note, most display models seen on Star Trek have this type of stand and it gives a presentation feel to the model.

For more information on the building and display of Star Trek models I would refer you to these books available at bookstores or online:

"The Art of Star Trek" by: Rick Sternbach,

"CultTVman's Ultimate Modeling Guide to Classic Science Fiction Movies"
by: Steven "CultTVman" Iverson

"Spaceships at the Final Frontier"
by Rick Jackson

Or these on-line sites:

Cultvman.com
Starshipmodeler.com

R12 SUMMIT 2004: SURVIVOR SUMMIT

By Ensign A. N. Other • Communiqué Staff Writer

Missed out being a contestant on Survivor: Pearl Islands? Never fear, the good folks in R/12 present you with a chance to see who in STARFLEET can "Outwit, Outplay, and Outlast" the rest of the competition!

The 2004 Region 12 Summit will be held the weekend of May 21 - 23, 2004, in Joplin, Missouri. It will be in the same hotel as the 2002 Summit (Holiday Inn Joplin). Room rates are $79.00 per night.

For information or to book your room, call (417) 782-1000 (remember to mention your room is for the Region 12 Summit).

Prices for adults range from $30 to $60 depending on if you choose to join everyone for two meals and for cadets, $15 to $30.

The Cadets will be having a fun-filled time with our Cadet Coordinator, Paula Herring. She has a line-up of fun (and educational) activities planned for their Cadets while the "grown-ups" attend the Panels and Meetings.

They will be making creative projects that will be on display Saturday evening. All Cadets that make a project will receive a little something for their work, with a separate prize going to the project that is voted on as the "Best of Show".

They are planning a trivia-type competition throughout the entire weekend to see who can make it to become the Sole Survivor. A prize will be awarded to the one person who can 'Outwit, Outplay, Outlast' the competition. Are you ready to prove to yourself and the rest of Fleet that you can be the Sole Survivor?

As an incentive, they hold periodic drawings for those who pre-register (and prepay).

Below is the schedule:

By December 31, 2003:
One free night stay at hotel

By January 31, 2004:
One free upgrade to Soliantu Package

By February 29, 2004:
One free Summit T-shirt

By March 31, 2004:
One Full Package to the 2005 R12 Summit

For more information, check out http://www.region12.org, or contact Wayne L. Killough, Jr, the 2004 R12 Summit Coordinator at killough@southshore.com.

PAINTBALL MADNESS 2003 – OPERATION: CRIMSON FILE

By Lt. General Bob Vosseller • USS Challenger, STARFLEET Region 7

We came, we saw, we conquered! We also were chilled to the bone and blew a lot of money on paint but who cares. We worked off all those Thanksgiving calories.

For the last several years the USS Challenger has hosted a fall and spring paintball game at Fireball Mountain in North Hanover Township New Jersey. It is a stone's throw away from where I work at the New Egypt Press.

The paintball field is located in a nice rural wooded area filled with multiple fields. It features bunkers, a citadel field, a few towers, old trucks and a recently added speedball field.

Last year's spring game was canceled due to a late winter snow in March so for those of us who only play a few times of year, we were eagerly awaiting our traditional Thanksgiving weekend game. With the formation of Challenger's MSG (# 704th The Fighting Bulldogs) its also become somewhat of a 7th Brigade event.

This year seven members of the USS Starlord including its CO RADM. Joe Podesta and a few civilians that he recruited for the game. Dan Tunis represented the ISS Lexington. His CO, VADM Mark Hanford, heard reports of snow in the air and so he figured the game was canceled as it was in the spring. Imperial Empire Intel must not be what it once was but we are confident the Vice Admiral will be back with us in April.

This year's game was not all stag. We had two ladies join the fray. The first was Kathleen Connelly, fiancée' to USS Challenger SFMC Marine Strike Group OIC and 4th Battalion leader Col. Pat Comune.

Col. Comune always manages to intimidate some of the younger players who play opposite us when he dons his gillies suit that makes him resemble a cross between a porcupine and the Swamp Thing. Let's just call it Pat's own individual cloaking device.

Our second "Rambet" was USS Highlander Ops Chief Gerry Sylvester who showed off her tactical skills during her very first time playing paintball.. Being a STARFLEET Marine she couldn't resist trying and is set to return when the Fighting Bulldogs play again next spring.

She wore her first hit, a shot to the face which splattered on her face-mask, as a badge of honor. She and Kathleen contributed much to the games with ideas and strategy and plenty of firing power.

A few weeks prior our R7 list and 7th Brigade list featured an online LARP scenario developed by VADM Hanford and which featured a number of submissions from Lexington members and others. The fictional scenario involved the rescue of a group of SF Special Operations members who retrieved a stolen Intel file of STARFLEET operatives.

The Spec Op force also managed to steal a counterpart file of Romulan Tal Shiar agents. While we could not truly incorporate the storyline onto the field it did add to the adventures we had during the day.

November 29, was a crisp fall day. Perfect weather if not a bit windy for paintball play. By the end of the day, having won all but one game (which we tied) the time had come for some hot food and beverage. So we adjourned for some hot coffee, hot soup and some hot food over at the nearby Cookstown Diner. The owner at first thought his place had been invaded by soldiers from Fort Dix or McGuire AFB which are also located nearby.

Members of the 7th Fleet definitely enjoy paintball. While this game was a far cry from Splatt II featuring William Shatner it did provide some exercise, some fun and a chance to get together with fell Fleeters and those who enjoy the sport. We've decided to try a different field in the spring for some variety.

For an old time SF member, the games remind me of the 7th Fleet's early days when we terrified mundanes at the annual (and now discontinued) Creation 'Turkey Cons' (coincidentally which were also held on Thanksgiving weekend) in New York City, with water Uzis. Those were the days when they didn't have to be painted pink or orange and looked very realistic.

From there we moved on from super soaker wars to the old clunky Photon battles. When the various Photon centers around New York and New Jersey were closed we enjoyed Lazer Tag wars between our various interested chapters in the woods.

That was until Lazer Tag recreation facilities opened up, with much less cumbersome equipment. That is a pastime many of us still enjoy, but paintball seems to be much more popular.

No matter what the game, no matter what the equipment, no matter what our age is at the time, we'll always enjoy defending the final frontier, or at the very least, our corner of it.

Left: USS Highlander Ops Chief Gerry Sylvester shows off her very first paintball hit. This marked the first time Gerry played a paintball game. Being a Starfleet Marine she couldn't resist trying and is set to return when the Fighting Bulldogs host their spring game in April.

Right: Hot coffee, hot soup and some hot food came in handy at the nearby Cookstown Diner following a day of paintball play at Fireball Mountain the usual haunt of the fall and spring paintball games hosted by the USS Challenger and its MSG # 704th The Fighting Bulldogs. Pictured are members of the USS Challenger, USS Starlord and USS Highlander.

A few civilians got recruited to play as well and the ISS Lexington was represented in the games as well. A special larp, "Operation: Crimson File" was also part of the fun and ran on R7 List forums prior to and after the game.

Photo courtesy of Bob Vosseller

A QUARTER YEAR WITH THE CREW OF THE USS ARES

By Commander Tracy Isquith • Region 15 Public Relations

The Ares had a fun July. Members had a great time over the 4th of July holiday. Ares' members Richard and Andrew Maraget attended the Boston Pops concert in Boston and enjoyed the music and Fireworks. Crewmembers Tony and Louisa Scherma along with Larry Henderson enjoyed the holiday in a most American way, by shopping. They enjoyed trips to Suncoast Video, Build a Bear workshop, and to a local tattoo parlor where Tony added to his tattoo collection with an Italian flag.

As for our meeting this month the Ares meeting used it's meeting day to hit the R15 minigolf with a vengeance. We had several members attend including Paul and Phyllis Fest, Tony and Louisa Scherma, Dave Chin, and Dave "Trip" Kennedy. We started the day at the minigolf tournament where we had a blast with our Region buddies. While out teams did their best and had respectable scores we didn't unfortunately win. After the game we all went to RC Gary Halverson's house for a barbecue where we had even more fun with the region as well as food and lots of it. It was during the barbecue that we took a few minutes to go over a little chapter business. The crew represented the Ares very well and we all had a lot of fun.

The Ares had a fantastic time at our meeting this month. We had our meeting at King's, which is a funky bowling alley in Boston near the Hynes convention center. We started the day by butchering the sport of bowling. In all seriousness we didn't do that bad. Even I managed to work in a strike and I've never bowled tenpin before. Once we were finished with the bowling we had lunch in King's Deville Lounge and used that time to go over chapter business. One of the first things we discussed involved ships archaeologist Chris Deangelo.

Chris who is an actual archaeology student just recently returned from a six-week dig in Peru, and will be in an article in the September National Geographic. I can't stress enough how proud we are of Chris and how cool that is. We also discussed the upcoming United Fan Con. As of that meeting there will be at least ten Ares members attending and we are very much looking forward to it. This meeting also marked the end of our second annual Ares academy marathon.

The way it works is that Ares members had until this month to complete at least three SFA or SFMC academy courses and the people that completed at least three got a prize and the one with the most got a bigger prize. The Ares members who got at least three this year were Phyllis Fest, Jerry Beaulieu, and David Kennedy, and the one with the most courses was Jerry Beaulieu. We are very proud of all 3 of them and everyone else who participated.

It was fun and we look forward to doing it again next year. We passed out the most recent Ready Room (the Region 15 newsletter) and Ares Update to the crew and Louisa Scherma collected coupons for the OCP program. David Kennedy passed around a scrapbook that he made with the pictures he got from the recent R15 minigolf.

Once we were done with the meeting and lunch we went to King's Billiards room mainly because butchering one sport for the day wasn't enough for our crew, no sir we wanted to butcher two. We had fun with that and heck we even sank a ball or two. We had a great time with Kings and we look forward to going back soon. After we were done at kings a few of us ventured over to the New England Aquarium to watch *The Matrix Reloaded* at their Imax Theatre. It was amazing seeing a movie like that on a screen that was 7 stories tall. All in all it was an amazing day and the whole team had a lot of fun.

The Ares had its September meeting at Borders in Boston. This was a nice easy going meeting compared to the busy but of course very fun last couple of months. We went over chapter business and had a nice afternoon. We discussed the R15 fundraiser and handed out the packets with the catalogs and order forms. We don't see any problem at all reaching the suggested $300 goal for our chapter. We went over updates with United Fan Con, and discussed plans to help out with the recruiting table. CMO Dave Chin discussed updates to the Ares web page. Assistant Chief Tactical Officer Dave "Trip" Kennedy went over the Tactical Departments plans to create a convention survival packet, which would include several items to help you get through long con weekends.

Trip unveiled the prototype container for the kit. Chief Engineer Jerry Beaulieu led a discussion with regard to the layout for the Ares and several of the key areas like the bridge, engine room, sickbay, and the science lab. After the business portion of the meeting we went over plans for some Star Wars role-playing we are planning on for future meetings.

The Ares Had its October Meeting back at Kings bowling alley in Boston. The crew had a blast. The folks at Kings were kind enough to let us use their private lanes. This very cool set of lanes is themed to the movie kingpins, and has funky lighting and a disco ball. It all makes for a seriously neat experience. Everyone did well, and it does appear that for the most part we are improving.

Once we were done at Kings we went over to the nearby Prudential Mall and had our lunch and business meeting time at their food court. At our meeting time we did a final United Fan Con rundown and discussed out meeting schedule for the rest of the year. Ops Officer Phyllis reminded everyone to change their clocks as daylight saving time was ending. Science officer Eric Willette went over an article he got involving a scientist trying to clone an extinct breed of Tasmanian tiger. Ships Archeologist Chris DeAngelo went over his plans to involve the Ares in Geocaching.

This seems like something we could have a lot of fun with. CMO Dave Chin reminded everyone to remember any prescriptions you might have for United Fan Con and also told the chapter about training he will be receiving in the use of a defibulator at his job.

Communications Officer Louisa Scherma handed out the latest Ares Update, and Intel Officer Tony Scherman gave a review of the movie Kill Bill. We also spent some time discussing our 5th anniversary celebration which if all goes well will be at Mohegan Sun Casino in Conneticut. It should be a blast.

EVERY LITTLE BIT HELPS

By 1st Lieutenant Brant Sparks • USS Avalon, STARFLEET Region 15

Hard times hit everyone, at one point or another. Layoffs, injuries and simply not being able to maintain an affordable cost of living, these are just a few of the woes that hit so many families in America today. When hard times to befall a family, it's comforting to know that there is help. That's where organizations, like U.S.S. Avalon's food pantry come in.

It started, on February 8, 2003, as an idea born from a desire to help those in the community who are in need of assistance. At first helping only a handful of families, by June of 2003 it was serving 21 families and since August, over 50 families and growing every week. One patron, who wished to remain anonymous said, "Thank God for this. At least I know we won't starve." Sources for food have come in the form of generous donations from Food Rescue out of Portland, Maine and the USDA, as well as local scout troops and other people in the community.

The process of setting up the pantry was no easy task. Space had to be allocated, freezers had to be found and brought in (graciously donated by members of the community) so that perishable foods could be stored, a record-keeping system had to be established, and of course word had to get out that the pantry was open and accessible. Nobody has to prove anything, and nobody gets turned away, unless we run out of food, which our members work diligently to avoid.

Through word of mouth and local newspaper community bulletins, families all over southern Maine know where they can go each Sunday to get much need food items. It also bears mentioning that there is a considerable amount of effort involved in getting the food from the donators to the pantry and preparing it for the families in need. It's a lot of work that takes dedication and love, but it's worth it, just come over and ask the people who are so grateful for the help they receive, and you'll agree. What does the future hold for the Standish Avalon Food Pantry? Temporal Investigations might have a glimpse, but we're not worried about it.

CANDY FOR THE CURE!

The USS Richthofen, in Region 7, is selling **Candy for a Cure** on Valentine's Day Weekend at the Farpoint Convention in Hunt Valley, MD.

For **$1**, you'll get a Candy Bag filled with 10 pieces of **delicious Hershey chocolate.**

Candy Bags can be pre-ordered until 2/11 through **terpette@hotmail.com**, and will be available for pick-up and purchase before and after the STARFLEET Meeting and at various points throughout the weekend.
Please make us aware of any food allergies.

*All proceeds directly support the **American Cancer Society's Relay for Life** fundraiser, an overnight team event to fight cancer.*

For more information about **Relay for Life**, visit **www.cancer.org** and look for the "Relay for Life" link.

THE STARSHIP OF THE LIVING DEAD

By Commander Susanna Reilly • USS Thagard, Region 7

On Saturday, November 1st, witches, ghouls, zombies and undead of every variety descended on the Hermitage Mansion in Philadelphia for the Region 7 Holiday party hosted by the USS Thagard and the USS Sovereign.

Almost 50 creatures of the night from eight STARFLEET chapters (Adamant, Ascension, Avenger, Flying Fox, Osiris, Prevailing Wind, Sovereign and Thagard) attended, with members of the Osiris (from the Bronx, New York) and Prevailing Wind (from the Harrisburg area) driving over two hours each way to attend the festivities.

We could not have had better weather if we programmed it on a holodeck. The beautiful, clear, warm night was perfect for lounging on the mansion porch, talking to friends, enjoying the beauty of the area, savoring the Caribbean delicacies from the Jamaican Jerk Hut, or getting your tarot read by the Amazing Carl.

There was plenty of indoor fun too, with lots of delicious food, plenty of games to play, doorprizes to win, dancing to the music of DJ TC until the wee hours, and an incredibly fun costume contest. Everyone especially enjoyed watching the assorted creatures of the night strutting their stuff to try and win the "best performance" prize.

But charity was not forgotten in the midst of all the fun. $80 worth of raffle tickets were sold for the chance to win either a Star Trek bag of goodies, a Star Wars bag of goodies or a Halloween theme bag of goodies with all proceeds benefiting the host chapters' charities – Philadelphia Children's Alliance and Delaware Valley Opera Company.

Philadelphia Children's Alliance cares for children who are sexually abused. They provide a home like setting where the child can be interviewed, act as liaison between the various agencies that will interact with that child and make sure the family gets the care/counseling needed. The Alliance focuses primarily on the children; providing them with a safe environment and working to keep them from experiencing further trauma. Contributions can be sent to PHA at 4000 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104.

Delaware Valley Opera Company was founded in 1979 with the mission of conveying the love and language of opera to contemporary audiences and providing production and performance opportunities to Philadelphia area singers. The Company performs at and maintains the historic Hermitage Mansion in the Wissahickon section of Philadelphia. Further information on the company's shows can be found at http://www.libertynet.org/~dvoc/

Winners of the various games and contests held throughout the evening included:

Doorprizes:
(winner's choice from a variety of Star Wars and Star Trek action figures, books and Halloween themed items)
Everyone!

First Contact Game:
(Goodie bag & friendship bag)
Everyone!

Guess the Page Contest:
("I Am Spock" plus four other books):
Mike Stritnitz (guest)

Guess What's in the Box Contest
(13" papier mache figure of Death)
Ben Carpenter (Thagard)

Costume Contest - Best costume
($50 plus commemorative party t-shirt)
Cher Schleigh (USS Sovereign)

Best performance
($25 plus commemorative party t-shirt)
Sonny Wright (USS Sovereign)

Raffles - Star Trek bag of goodies
(including a puzzle, several ST:TNG action figures, a Picard Hallmark ornament and a party t-shirt)
Penni Schmon (Thagard)

Star Wars bag of goodies
(including several action figures, a watch, stickers and a party t-shirt)
Claire Halber (USS Flying Fox)

Halloween bag of goodies
(including a decorative witch, several candles in Halloween shapes, pot and candle holders and a party t-shirt)
Cathy Simons (Thagard)

Everyone who has ever planned a special event knows that it cannot be a success without the help of a lot of people. Our thanks and appreciation go out to the following people whose time and effort helped make the evening fun for everyone: Jennifer Black, Stephanie Campbell, Ben Carpenter, Mary Croak, Vaughn MacDonald and Carl Schmon (all of USS Thagard) and Traci Georgianni and Joe Horton (of the USS Sovereign);

Special thanks go to the Halloween Party committee who spent many hours on the Hallowdeck working tirelessly to ensure a great party: Chris Allan, Matt Black, Ty Campbell, Cheryl Gunnett, Susanna Reilly, Cheri Rosen, Penni Schmon, Cathy Simons (all of the USS Thagard) and Beryl Washington and Sonny Wright (of the USS Sovereign).

Commemorative t-shirts (designed by Chris Allan) are still available and can be purchased at http://www.cafeshops.com/R7Halloween.

Photos from the party can be viewed at http://www.ofoto.com/l.jsp?c=rec7gvv.ajtu9tj3&x=0&y=-blsrof and http://www.ofoto.com/l.jsp?c=rec7gvv.614ujydb&x=0&y=-fizzqx.

A crowd of eager partygoers gathers at the main door to buy raffle tickets as Thagardian Chris Allan desperately tries to remember why he volunteered to sit at the registration table.

Photo courtesy of Sonny Wright

Which way is it? Are we there yet?
Are we there yet? Are we there.....ARRRGGHHH!!!

Photo courtesy of Sonny Wright

SFI IN THE CITY AT THE TOP OF THE WORLD

By Commodore Dave Blaser • USS Hadfield, Region 13

"The Summit of 150 Sheep" is what we called it, not that it had really much to do with what the Region 13 Summit was all about, it was just something that we thought was a little funny.

How did we come up with the name? Well, we didn't think that "The SARS Summit" would be especially well received given what happened in Toronto, so we started looking at the other facts surrounding the summit. It was being held in Brampton, Ontario, Canada, which was celebrating its 150th birthday in 2003. 2003 was also the Year of the Sheep on the Chinese Calendar. So we put A and B together and came up with something slightly less "normal" than C.

All joking aside, we had a really great time at the Region 13 summit this year. It was a pleasure to play host to so many traveling dignitaries from STARFLEET this year, including the Commander, STARFLEET, Michael Malotte; Vice Commander, STARFLEET, Mark Anbinder; Chief of Operations, Joost Ueffing; and Region 14's Regional Coordinator, Manon Lessard-Belanger.

A small note to Manon: Je suis très heureux que vous ayez pu être là Manon. J'attends avec intérêt un moment où je peux venir à la région 14 pour un événement là, au rencontrer vos membres, et au rassemblement Pierre-André. Vous étiez vraiment une personne fantastique à avoir là, et un ami très bon. Ooo.. vous êtes chaud! ?

Summit business is generally all the same, there's your regularly scheduled CO, XO and RC Meeting, ours being an "open door" this year for anyone else who wanted to join in and listen to the discussion. This year was an added benefit for us in having the CS, VCS and OPS all in the same room who could answer questions that we had in regards to STARFLEET related items.

Panels are another certainty of summits. The one that particularly interested me was one that we'd entitled "Cadets: Keeping the Kids Involved in Our Chapters." As a CO of a chapter with some families coming onboard who have young children, and as someone who is not a parent,

I have a real difficulty in figuring out how to relate to the kids, making them feel welcome, and keeping them having fun. It was especially helpful to have the viewpoint of a kid in a Star Trek fan club. Bryn Dugas was part of this panel and helped us to see it from the perspective of a young member.

The fun parts of the summit for me were: the trips back and forth from the airport to the hotel on Friday, so that I could bring in various people from the airport, help others get lost in Toronto because the road sign I thought was there really wasn't, and freaking out trying to figure out when a flight from Montreal was supposed to be coming in and realizing that I'd completely missed on of my passengers, who got herself a rental car and drove herself to the hotel (very likely to get herself ready to give me a good thwap on the head for it too).

The Saturday Night Dinner and Charity Auction was great as well. I look forward to Region 13 Summits more for the social times that I get to spend with my friends that I don't get to see too often, and it was a great time for me.

Luckily, Richard Smith and I didn't get too heavily into the "Pump and Dump" routine with each other at the auction, but we still did manage to raise a good amount of money for Guide Dogs of America. Rich and I have this little competition, it would seem, of pumping up the auction price of something the other is interested in, raising the price the other is going to have to pay, then just walking away from it and letting the other have it. Sometimes, it's not even something that either of us really want! Everyone even seemed to get the items they wanted, including the Shuttle Commonwealth's Paul Williams who'd been bidding on some models, but wasn't expecting to have someone outbid him and then give him the models after they were paid for. Sorry Paul, we had to raise a few more bucks for the kibble that those Guide Dogs eat!

Sunday ended off things with a blast for some of our STARFLEET Brass who were visiting. Unfortunately Manon couldn't join us for a trip to the CN Tower, but we did manage to get Mike, Mark, Joost, Susan Fugate (CO of the Jaguar) and Sandy Ueffing (Joost's brother, and member of the Hadfield) to the tallest free-standing structure in the world.

Mike wasn't exactly speechless. "This is so cool!" was one of many things we heard from him more than once. Pictures of everyone standing (laying, etc) on the glass floor, as if they were floating in mid-air were taken. We managed to get a group picture of all of us who were able to make it before we went up the tower, a copy of which we sent Mike home with as a reminder of his visit to the Top of Toronto.

It was a great weekend overall, not too much pomp and circumstance, not too much ceremony, but a good deal of fun for everyone, hopefully most of all for our CS and VCS both.

REGION 13 SUMMIT AWAY MISSION

By Marine Captain Paul Williams • Shuttle Commonwealth, Region 13

After weeks of anticipation the Region 13 Summit finally was in full swing. I arrived at the holiday inn in Brampton excited and a little nervous.

I'd made it just a wee bit late for the opening ceremonies. When I arrived Dave Blaser CO of the USS Hadfield kindly introduced me to the other members in the room. I made like poindexter and stuck myself to a wall, right next to Mike Malotte the commander STARFLEET after saying hello to everyone. The items for the summit auction were displayed for all to see. Some very nice stuff was up for grabs on those three tables.

Toronto's sfx donated quiet a few autographed Star Trek photos. There were model kits, books, toys and other collectibles for those willing to open their wallets. All of the proceeds were going to charity. At the end of the opening ceremonies, Dave Blaser presented me with my summit package.

The package had some nice stuff in it, also donated by local merchants, which included a photo of the enterprise crew donated by hobby star, which is a local science fiction convention organizer.

Next up was the Region 13 CO/XOs meeting. A number of issues were discussed such as visiting other Region 13 chapters, the potential start up of a Toronto chapter and a revamping of the Region 13 relay station program.

After that it was on to the match game, Joost Ueffing and I being the first contestants. Joost won and got bragging rights for a prize. Other victims, I mean, contestants included Mike Malotte the commander STARFLEET.

The next event I attended was a panel on flight simulation and gaming. I gave a short presentation on battletech. Mike Dugas the Region 13 coordinator and Matt Baillie CO of the 472 MSG had an interesting talk about flight sims.

After the presentation there was an hour break to allow people to relax a bit and prepare for dinner. During this period I met and spoke with both Mike Malotte and Mark Anbinder, it was nice to finally meet them. Mark kindly introduced me to a beer, which was nice of him, thanks Mark. He also presented me with a gift earlier in the day, a Region 7 STARFLEET Marine Corps challenge coin, thanks for that too.

Finally we all arrived at the motels banquet hall and we all chatted, some took pictures and everyone was looking dashing in either uniform or evening attire. Finally supper arrived, for which we had a choice of beef turkey or fish.

Me being the cannibal I am chose turkey with small baked potatoes and chestnut stuffing, yum. For dessert there was a nicely prepared strawberry cheesecake and coffee to boot. Funny how every time I eat turkey I always feel stuffed.

Finally the big charity auction got underway. For that auction I donated an autographed Claudia Christian Babylon 5 collectable gaming card, a TNG communicator toy and a TNG science/ medical tunic.

The live auction was held after the silent auction, there was lots of bidding, kidding and laughter. Dave Blaser, the summit coordinator, and I got into a bidding war over a set of three Star Trek models, Dave won and then gave me the shock of the night by looking at me and saying, "Paul you've got your models!" He presented them to me after the auction, saying, "from the Hadfield to the Commonwealth" lookout for a parcel of one of the kits there James, an early Christmas present.

Dave - thanks for your friendship, generosity, and kindness. The rest of the evening was spent socializing over drinks, jokes and lots of laughter and friendship.

All too soon it was time for me to head home, Dave Blaser gave me a ride to the bus terminal in Bramptom. After two buses and a subway train ride I made it as far As Warden Station in Toronto and had to catch a bus to Kennedy Station, which seemed odd to me. On arrival at the station I found out why.

There has been a shooting there earlier that evening. I caught a bus to the Scarbrough Town Center at 2:30 am Sunday morning and was stranded there. I was prepared to hitchhike the rest of the way home, but I lucked out again. The bus driver of the bus I'd just gotten off of, stopped, picked me back up and dropped me off just before the bus yard. He told me to meet him at the gas station at the corner just up from the yard and he'd give me a ride home.

Well he did just that, turns out it was on his way home in Oshawa, I was a very relieved marine when I got home at 3:30 am that Sunday morning. It's nice to know that the Toronto transit commission's employees perform acts of kindness on a regular basis.

I'll have fond memories of my first big STARFLEET event and seeing my old friends and making new ones there. Thanks to the USS. Hadfield and all the participants for making it a special event for me personally.

AFTER ACTION REPORT: MY BIG, FAT GEEK WEDDING

Words and Pictures courtesy of Admiral Johnathan "Gumby" Simmons • USS Stormbringer, Region 17

This message was found on an abandoned PADD in an airlock on Starbase 17. The whereabouts of Admiral Gumby remain a mystery wrapped in an Andorian Fortune Cookie. The log is reprinted here for the first time. Portions of this log have been redacted for reasons of Federation Security…

On Friday, October 24th well over 100 folks from all across STARFLEET gathered together at the wedding of Admiral Gumby to the Lady Frances. This was a unique event in the annals of the Rocky Mountain Fleet. Region 17 and House Veska joined forces to produce a dramatic presentation of a test of courage and honor for the admiral. There were many last minute changes during the 6 weeks prior to the big night but never before had Region 17 hosted an event of this magnitude!

Larger than we ever expected:

Chapters and organizations represented were: USS Arc Royal, USS Mir, USS Omega Glory, USS Orion, USS Pioneer, USS Stormbringer, USS Wind Spirit, USS William O. Darby, IKV Vendix Siren, IKV Vicious Adversary, IKV Vindicator , ISS Executioner, House Veska, House K'ralvaj, House Vam'Pyr, The Romulan Star Empire, USS Avatar, The Order of the Grey, The Intergalactic Fleet of Honor, The Betan Astronomical Survey and a Partridge in a Pear Tree. Luckily, we were prepared… almost.

Preparations:

Many members from the region pitched in to help us make for a memorable event. We created a souvenir package with class and elegance. We wanted the folks that came to our special day to take home with them a program and a rose. It was then that we decided to follow the Rocky Mountain Fleet Tradition and order custom glassware for the event.

We decided on etched champagne flutes. We wrapped the roses around the flutes (black roses, mind you… after all, the bride is Klingon) and then we rolled the mini program booklets into the glass and handed them out to our guests. Lt Diane Kruse of the USS Arc Royal took care of the floral arrangements and the decorations for the reception suite while Lt. Colleen Wagner of the USS Orion went above and beyond making dress uniforms for the wedding party that are just fantastic!

The Orion's XO, Dan Smartt took it upon himself to polish all the silver for the event. Gary Hudson of the USS Pioneer brought a custom-made Holodeck Arch that they use for formal events. Nancy Lynch, Deb Kern, and Everett Brooks supplied the arsenal that would form the basis for the Arch of Swords the wedding couple would walk through as they exited the ballroom.

Top: The fluted glasses from the Wedding.
Bottom: The Wedding Party

My Big Fat Geek Wardrobe:

The costuming for the wedding party had to be resolved at the next to the last moment and we had a few STARFLEET members over for a 5-day sewfest to create 3 custom jackets and 1 wedding dress with appropriate "fru-fru."

Colleen Wagner from the USS Orion along with Pat Stewart, Carrie Marsh and Diane Kruse from the USS Arc Royal and my lady Frances worked for over 5 days as Bob Bulkeley and I helped create a special "Stormbringer Dom Perignon – Vintage 2267" that consisted of a case of champagne and some custom labels and gold foil. All the arrangements and costumes looked spiffy; especially the black and blue Insurrection Dress Uniform variant for the USS Stormbringer's Delta Force! The Groom and Best Man's dress whites were made out of white satin. Tamara "Shan" Lehman of the Grey Jedi came in at the last minute to help with the costumes and sacrificed a day's pay to make sure we were set. Thanks Shan! Oh, and the Klingon Bridal Dress was spectacular!

My Big Fat Geek Ceremony:

At 10PM, Matthew "Qossaq" Spreer led members of the High Council of House Veska onto the stage and addressed the crowd, As he did so, the other members of the council filed around him forming a half circle facing the audience. Qossaq stood before those in attendance and narrated the event as the leader and Regent of the Fire Mountain Fleet of House Veska. He spoke of the joining of two warrior hearts… the greatest of all challenges. He spoke of an era of peace and honor betwixt the Federation and the Empire… an era of cooperation. "Where is the daughter of Veska who wishes to be joined?" he spoke to the crowd.

Lady Frances "B'Khanna" Alvarado entered the ballroom and made her way before the Regent of Veska. She was asked why she was here this night. "To tell the Regent that I have found my champion," she replied.

"Who is this champion?" asked the Regent.

"Gumbeh!" replied the bride, in a bold and haughty fashion.

"Very well, where is the Little Green (expletive deleted)?"

At this point two large Klingon warriors carried the Admiral of Clay into the main ballroom by the upper arms. The admiral's feet dangled 8 inches above the floor as the warriors shuffled him in and dropped him next to the bride. Gumby hit the floor with an audible thud then he faced the Regent.

"Him?" Asked Dejeinera…

"Him?" Asked the Regent…

"Yes, me!" Gumby said, adding a small grin.

My Big Fat Geek Pain Sticks:

Gumby stepped up to the stage and looked the Klingon in the eye and announced, "hit me with your best shot, baby… I can take it." Qossaq motioned to the council and shouted, "We'll see about that! First you must prove yourself a true warrior!" and with a wave of his hand warriors filed to the two long platforms that had been assembled along the center aisle between the crowd. Each one carried a Klingon Pain Stick… something like a cattle prod crossed with a branding iron. Charming. Six Warriors on two sides would surely turn the admiral to mush. No Feddie had ever survived sox pain sticks.

But the admiral was prepared.

As he stepped to the beginning of the procession of pain, Gumby hesitated, and turning to the side, clapped his hands twice. "Garcon!" said the admiral. Captain Damon Schoonover of the USS Stormbringer marched smoothly in his waiter's whites and white gloves. He was carrying a tray with what appeared to be a small bottle of Romulan Ale. Gumby took the bottle and as he was drinking, someone spoke of the heart of a warrior. Upon finishing the bottle in two long draughts, Gumby replaced the bottle on the platter and nodded to his best man. Captain Schoonover executed a smart "about-face" and walked off the stage as Gumby shook his head from the massive intake and professed to the crowd… "Tonight, I will show you… the liver of a warrior!"

The crowd laughed heartily at that one.

Gumby made it through the first pair of pain sticks with minor discomfort. The second set hit him just as the Romulan Ale started to kick in, thus negating some of the effect as well as most of the pain. Nonetheless, he fell to his knees and grasped the rails of the platform, pulling himself up. Reaching the final pair of pain sticks, Gumby looked up at the wielders and with the strength he he found deep within shouted, "Like they say at the barber shop… next!" Suddenly, all six warriors hit him with the pain sticks simultaneously; two in the sides, four in the back.

The pain seemed to last forever and after a few seconds, the admiral lost his footing. Silence fell over the crowd as they watched Gumby fall to the carpeted floor. An agonizer tip from one of the pain sticks rolled onto the floor behind him. The crowd cheered as Gumby made them break a pain stick!

Gumby stirred and reluctantly pulled himself up with the help of two Klingons who had just witnessed a federation admiral (of all things) take six pain sticks and live to tell the tale. As Gumby regained his footing, the Klingons showed respect and delight at the coronation of a new fellow warrior as they pulled him to his feet.

Gumby made his way to the Lady B'Khanna and took her hand as the Regent gave way to the Visor. The Visor would make the bond between the Lady and her admiral. As the drumming of a heartbeat set the mood, the Visor (Michael "M'Keng" King) spoke with a loud monotonous voice: "Mawwage!"

"First, there was the heart of a warrior… cast out… drawn away… alone in the cold universe. The lone heart looks out amongst the worlds and finds a kindred spirit. A heart that beats as hers does. These two have found one another…" (The drumming became obnoxiously loud here.)

"Silence!" shouted the Cleric. "Does any warrior here object to this union of blood and house? Speak now!"

Johnathan and Frances Simmons

(May god have mercy on her soul.)

One warrior spoke up. Gumby turned and glared at the warrior. After a brief heated exchanged in Klingon, the warrior sat down as Gumby said, "Well, OK then."

M'Keng continued, "GumbeH… B'Khanna… you have chosen to live as one. What do you pledge to each other?"

Gumby and B'Khanna exchanged vows and the time came for the exchange of the rings. Somehow, the rings were switched and B'Khanna smiled joyfully as the Admiral of Clay had to improvise the moment (The drumming resumed, albeit more subdued.)

M'Keng addressed the crowd, "With this exchange of tokens, you have pledged your love to one another. Blessed be in all that you do. You are now sealed. I pronounce… I gladly pronounce Admiral Gumby and Lady B'Khanna are now husband and wife… partners and mates. Forever and a day."

A hush descended over the crowd.

"You may now kiss the bride!" said the Cleric.

The crowd went wild.

Above the cheering, the voice of Captain Schoonover thundered, "Honor Guard, form up!" On command, sixteen warriors from different genres of science fiction fandom formed up along both sides of the holodeck arch. As the wedding couple approached, Captain Schoonover shouted the command, "Present… arms!" STARFLEET Officers with sabers, STARFLEET Marines with Phaser Rifles, Jedi with Lightsabers, Klingons with Bat'leths, A Colonial Warrior with a blaster and a Security Officer from Babylon 5 with a PPG all brought their arms to the ready.

Beaming with joy, Gumby and B'Khanna made their way under the weaponry and through the honor procession. As they approached the arch, Captain Schoonover lowered his sword, blocking the wedding couple's escape.

"Permission to pass…" asked the admiral.

"Go with honor, admiral sir," replied the captain.

And as they made their way through the holodeck arch, the Captain executed a smart snap of the wrist and swatted B'Khanna on the behind.

Intoxicated by the moment, the Klingon Bride refrained from taking his head off.

My Big Fat Geek Reception

Now, how many lifeforms can you pack into a presidential suite? Our guess was about 80 and it was standing room only as the best man, the intrepid Captain Schoonover, made the wedding toast. Each STARFLEET Chapter CO was asked to pop the cork on a bottle of champagne. One by one, champagne flutes were filled and the wedding couple toasted (in more ways than one). We cut the cake made by the Admiral's brother, Master Chief (and Chef) Joseph Simmons, who donned a custom made chef's white jacket with MCPO stripes on the sleeves. B'Khanna cut the cake with the Bat'leth of Honor and allowed Gumby to lick the frosting off the blade. That was trust.

And now it was time for the bride and groom to enter the command Jacuzzi. From there, the bride and groom tossed the bouquet and the garter. As luck would have it, Diane Kruse caught the bouquet and Bob Bulkeley caught the garter. (Yes Virginia… it was a set up)

As the night segued into the dawn hours, the Lakewood Police showed up to honor a noise complaint about 45 minutes after most of the party participants had departed. Upon learning about the wedding and noting Klingons in armor, they couldn't help but pose for pictures with us.

My Big Fat Geek Post-Traumatic-Stress-Disorder:

The morning after coffee washed through Gumby's head like the Genesis Wave. After checking out of the suite, the members of the Stormbringer hosted our out of town guests to a BBQ. We started early and talked about the wedding and the future of Region 17, amongst other things. As the evening progressed, the planning, preparations, and partying caught up with the Admiral and the Lady.

The crew of the Stormbringer hosted aftermath, while the Admiral and his Lady went off to the master bedroom… And slept for 20 hours!

Photos are available at http://www.region-17.org/images/Webwedding. If you have photos contribute, please submit them to gumbytrek@hotmail.com.

The Video is in post-production and will be available on the Region 17 website.

We'd like to thank:

The Mile Hi Con Committee, The Denver Post, KDBI Channel 12, Rose Beetam, Jonathan Smith, Damon Schoonover, Pat Stewart, Gary Hudson, Matthew Spreer, Michael King, Arilyn Starling, Andrea French, Bob Bulkeley, Diane Kruse, Colleen Wagner, Dan Spence, Dan Smartt, Carrie Marsh, Don Day, Nancy Lynch, Debra Kern, Everett Brooks, Joseph "Smokey" Simmons, Dennis Gray, Josh & John from House Veska, Bruce Kesler, Lionel Smith, Destiny Rothermel, Shan, Eris, Sio and Kenny from the Grey Jedi, all the chapters and organizations listed above, anyone we might have forgotten in the chaos.

Last but not least… we'd like to thank STARFLEET. Were it not for STARFLEET, we would have never met and this special event would have never taken place.

See you at the IC in Birmingham!

MEETING, GREETING AND E

Photos courtest of Nancy Lynch, Everett Brooks, Sharon Bloom

Beware: *USS Alioth's Lynnette Knox is traveling incognito as an Andorian business woman.*

M. Anbinder, S. Fugate, D. Blaser, J. Ueffing, M. Malotte and Sandy Ueffing at the CN Tower in R13

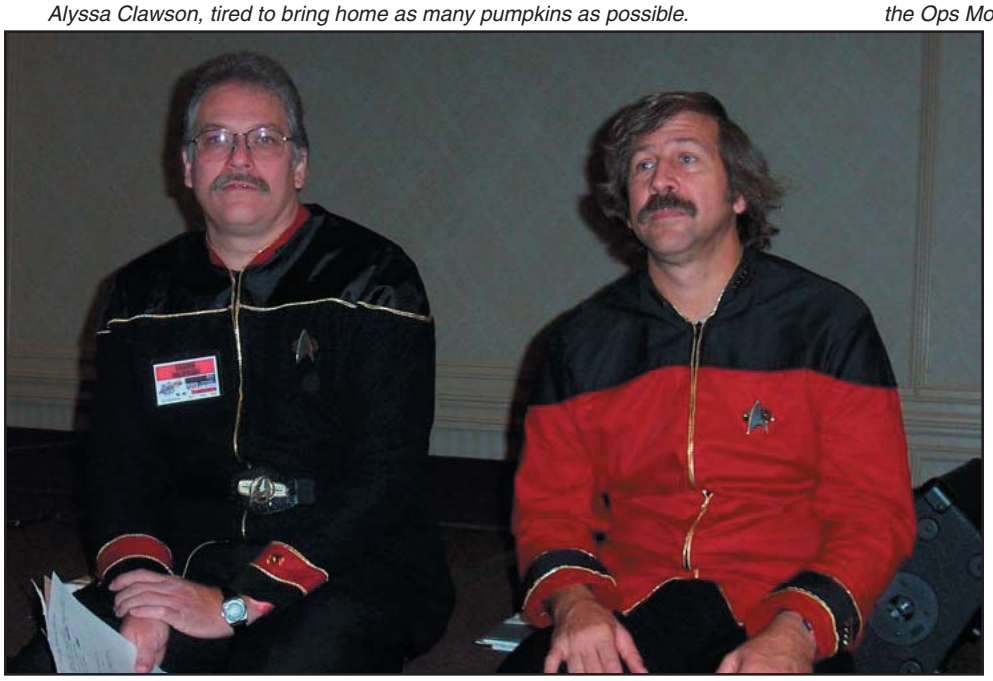
A Special Guest, Pt 1: *Walter Koenig stands in front of the USS Mir and Anasazi table while Nancy Lynch, Randy Lynch and Sharon Bloom answer questions from fans and potential new members.*

The USS Alioth hosted a Murder Mystery Party: *Dayne Clark, Tiffany Knox, Anne Strong, D. Justin Taylor, Keira Strong, Janet Shepherd, Joey and Katherine Ercanbrack, Richard and Lynnette Knox.*

Looking for the great Pumpkin: *The USS Alioth's youngest member, Alyssa Clawson, tired to bring home as many pumpkins as possible.*

Ever wondered?: *Who r the Ops Moo*

Trinity and Beyond: *The USS Alioth's Keira Russell-Strong dropped into the Matrix recently. She was overheard saying, "Take the picture! I haven't done a side kick since 1997! Get on with it!"*



RC R15, Present and Past: *Garrick Halverson (current RC R15) and Joe Ruttar (former RC R15) at this years UFC (see Page 31).*

ATING AROUND STARFLEET!

, Keira Russel-Strong, Merv Reid, Joost Ueffing, Trey Isquith and

A Special Guest, Pt. 2 (L-R): *R17's John Roberts, Deb Kern, Randy Lynch, Eugene Roddenberry, Jr., Steve Sutherland and David Cerame.*

A Klingon Feast: *Klingons enjoy their repast on Saturday night at the Star Trek Convention in El Paso, TX (See page 31).*

eally runs SFI Ops? Why, se, of course.

"Oh, Santa?": *Truman Temple, Carolyn Henderson & Eileen Duckett of the USS Centurion during a Christmas Parade*

The officers of Region 10's USS Majestic(L to R): *Joseph Houle, K. Alan McDougall, David Tataryn, Jeremy Denegar, Gary Pearse, Paul M. Reid, Tiger (Trouble Maker) and Devin Brown.*

UFC Rollcall: *Members of Region 15 set up a recruitment table at this years UFC in Springfield, Massachusetts.*

Santa Claus is coming: *Two Cadets of the USS Rubicon in Region 5, Jena Robbins and McKenzie Kania got to visit with Santa during the Walk for the Needy and Luminaria in Richland, WA on 11/28.*

ONE YEAR JOURNEY INTO HOMELESSNESS

By Commander Eugene Sanford • USS Highlander, Region 7

Some of you may have already received several e-mails from me regarding a situation in my life that occurred over a year ago. I would like to share with everyone how this ordeal began for me, the emotional and physical drains that I went through, the people who have supported me, and how this adventure finally came to an end. On Stardate: 0202.7, my life suddenly changed forever.

Just as everything was heading in the right direction for me, the goals and plans I had set, came crashing down in flames. It began when I was an employee at a restaurant in Clinton, Md. I had worked there for 3 1/2 years as a dishwasher. I had reached my third year at the restaurant, and was ready to go on vacation. In addition to that, I was already registered to go to school and complete my first year at Prince Georges Community College. My major was in Computer Information Systems.

I was working on a Sunday night as the closing dishwasher, and went to check the schedule for the following week. I noticed something rather odd. I was only scheduled for one day, a Thursday. I went to the office and, one of the supervisors on duty. Without a care in the world, all she could tell me was, "If you have a problem with the schedule, talk to the general manage." I then went to the shift manager who normally does the schedule every week. When I brought this to her attention, she told me that she didn't do the schedule for that week, that she had things to do. To me, that didn't sound like the truth. After finishing my shift for that evening, I ended up with four days off from work.

When I went in on that scheduled day Thursday night around 7:30pm, I noticed something else rather strange. There were two other dishwashers there who should not have been there. One was off, and the other was on suspension. That night at the restaurant was very packed, and very busy. The closing manager that night took a minute to ask if I knew that I was no longer on the schedule. I didn't know what was going on, because she couldn't talk to me while she was taking customer orders. Then I asked her if the general manager would be there the next day, and she said yes. Afterwards, I left for what would soon be my former residence in Fort Washington, Maryland.

The next day at 0900 hours Friday morning, I headed back to the restaurant and saw that the general manager was the opening manager on duty. I hurried back to the office and explained to him the error on the schedule. What he told me that morning, was not what I expected to hear. He told me that he was tired of me having issues with everyone at work. There were a lot of issues, but not enough to give me the axe. This was rather sudden, and out of the blue. He also suggested that I find another job. After some much heated words between us, he then asked me to leave.

When I left that morning, I felt like a part of me had died, because I couldn't go to work like I always did, and support myself the same way. I went home and told my landlord about the situation. After my conversation with the landlord, I went to pack all of my things. I had some money saved up to go to the 2002 Region 7 Conference in Fort Lee. NJ, but instead, I had to pay for a moving van to move my stuff out of the house, and the remaining cash I had went for a two-night stay at Motel 6 in Camp Springs, MD.

I had to give up a lot of things that day I was packaging. I sold my TV/VCR along with some furniture I bought when I first moved in there. That only left 17 boxes, a mountain bike, and three bags to haul to the Motel 6. When I arrived at the hotel, I paid for the room, and then got something to eat. I was so depressed about what had happened to me, that I made some phone calls to a couple of friends and explained to them my situation.

When I got back to the hotel room, I then decided to make some calls to members of the Fleet. I made contact with Lt. Geraldine Sylvester of the USS Highlander, and explained everything to her about what had happened. She was instrumental in helping me make contact with BGN Dennis Rayburn and his wife, Jill. The next day Lt. Sylvester arrived with PO3C Ed De Ruggerio, and helped to pay for the room, and supply me with food and drink. I also had some assistance from Captain Dean Rogers of the Highlander, who helped me to transport the boxes I had to a storage basement at the condominium of a friend.

My two days were coming to an end at the Motel 6, so I ran into my then CO, , Commodore Shirley Weaver of the USS Alpha Centauri, and asked if I could stay with her family until I found a job and a place. After a few months it became clear I needed to make other arrangements and wound up back at the same hotel where I started my journey.

Unable to stay there long and unable to make other arrangements, I wondered where I would be sleeping next. Then a wild idea came to me. Though it was crazy, and somewhat illegal, I went to where my things were stored, and made a temporary home there.

My friend lived in a condominium in, and had a storage basement/laundry room there. It was inside, chilly, but I had to make a home there because I didn't want to sleep outside. It was cold and ready to snow at that time, and also I could keep an eye out on my things there.

A month later, I made contact with store in Largo, Md to see if they were hiring, and sure enough, I wound up going to an orientation there on November 5th. It lasted an hour and a half, and I was hired as a seasonal employee for 90 days. As I worked, and the paychecks came every week, I made enough to get back and forth to work, and to stay in a hotel almost every night.

During my travels back and forth to the store, I also made time to check e-mails, make contact with other friends, and get some help from people on campus about shelters and so on. One day, I noticed a truck giving food to the homeless one day, and decided to check it out. There I met John Schafer and Francisco Silva of First Helping, which was a part of DC Central Kitchen. I got back to eating breakfast again, after my appetite went bezerk on me due to everything that had happened three months prior. I kept them informed about work and how it was going, and got some good advice about saving money, working, school, etc.

A program came that they encouraged everyone to join. I took a look at it, and was immediately interested. It was a 12-week program, where you would be trained in culinary arts, learn new skills in the kitchen, and graduate with a certificate and foodhandlers card.

In order to join the program, I had to be in transitional housing, or live in a shelter, thus my experience at the Community for Creative Non-Violence (CCNV) began. I had to be there at 0530 hrs on Sunday morning in order to be signed up as a resident there. So for an entire Sunday, I was a new resident of CCNV, doing paperwork, seeing a case manager, getting a bed (top bunk, I might add), and maintaining my job with Target.

After the new intake process took place, it got so crazy in there for me that I had to leave and get some fresh air. Once I was in the shelter, I then went downstairs to DC Central Kitchen, which produces over 4000 hot/cold meals a day for the homeless. I was signed up as a new student there, and began class Monday.

During those 12 weeks, there were 25 of us in the class, learning new skills, assisting in feeding the homeless in Washington, DC, taking morning and afternoon classes, meeting with guest chefs in the DC metro area, taking field trips to Georgetown University and Stratford College, then going on other field trips dealing with the field of culinary arts. One weekend, I was looking for a job with several resumes in hand. I went to eight different places, and wound up with a job another restaurant. I was the first one in our class to be hired while taking the 12-week program. That also meant having to juggle two jobs. The first one was as a student cook with DC Central Kitchen, making $50/week for expenses, and there was the store. I traveled back and forth everyday that I had to work. When I was off, after leaving class for the day, I would go upstairs to the shelter, and rest.

Sometimes, I would get a ride from a co-worker at the store, and most nights, I would walk a few miles to the nearest bus stop in order to get back to the shelter before 0200hrs. If you were not there by 0200hrs for bedcheck, you would be barred from the shelter from anywhere between 72 hours and forever! On July 22nd, our class from DC Central Kitchen graduated and passed with a certificate and foodhandlers cards.

I then ended up with three jobs, one as a student cook, the other would be my new job at the restaurant, and the store. Sadly, the restaurant where I was newly employed closed on Labor Day of this year. Fortunately for me, I still had the department store for permanent employment

My time at CCNV was coming to an end, and after endlessly checking the internet, and the newspaper, I finally found a place to live in Capitol Heights, MD. On Stardate: 0307.11, an emotional and physically demanding ordeal came to an end, as I went to see my new home. I was familiar with the area because my mom and I used to live in Capitol Heights when I was in high school.

During my homeless experience, I saw a number of people sleeping in front of buildings, pushing shopping carts with all of their worldly belongings, and it scared me. It scared me to see what had happened to those people who lived on the streets, who slept on park benches, in shelters, alleyways, etc. I knew that I didn't want to live like that, and was determined to find a home. And so, my journey has ended.

Editor's note: *To find out more information on the Community for Creative Non-Violence, please visit their website at: http://users.erols.com/ccnv/. To learn more about the DC Central Kitchen please see: http://www.dccentralkitchen.org/*

HOW STAR TREK & SCIENCE SHOULD ADDRESS CONTROVERSIAL TOPICS

By Colonel Adam Bernay • Camp Wendell Fertig, STARFLEET Region 4

Caution – Spoilers Ahead

In the recent Star Trek: Enterprise episode "Similitude," Captain Jonathan Archer is faced with a terrible choice: his friend and chief engineer, Commander Charles "Trip" Tucker, has been in an accident, and his only real chance for survival is new brain tissue transplanted from a clone made from a strange animal that can grow itself into a short-lived clone of another being.

The process is banned on the home world of this animal and Doctor Phlox isn't so much recommending the procedure as giving it as an option to just watching Trip die. We learn that this similitude of Trip will live a "normal" life for about two weeks, and then die of natural causes. Phlox is also certain that the doppelganger will survive having the brain tissue removed and live out its normal lifespan, so, after much internal, heart-wrenching debate, Capt. Archer tells him to go ahead with the procedure.

The clone Trip is dubbed "Sim" by the crew, and we watch his breath-taking growth from baby in-utero (well, in-tank) to adulthood, much as fans of Star Trek: The Next Generation watched Deanna Troi's son Ian Andrew grow from baby to boy in the second season's premiere episode fifteen years ago. Then, Phlox discovers that Sim will not survive the transplant as he expected, bringing up all the same ethical issues all over again.

In the meantime, Sim is showing signs that he has much – possibly most or all – of Trip's memories and is "remembering" them, to the interest of the crew and to Capt. Archer's somewhat horror, especially when Sim demands to live out his life; now Archer must try to get killed what has essentially grown to be his friend Trip – although it is also not him. In the end, Sim bravely accepts his fate, and is given a hero's burial in space, the same way Spock was in Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan.

When the episode began, and the plot first unfolded, I was filled with dread. As much as I enjoy Star Trek, they have not had a grand and glorious track record since the beginning of TNG of dealing with controversial topics where there are identifiable "religious/conservative" and "liberal" sides with much fairness towards the religious/ conservative side, at least, in the view of religious conservatives. A few examples:

• TNG – Who Watches The Watchers: Picard gives a monologue on the dangers of religious belief of just about any kind.

• DS9 – In the Hands of the Prophets: A religious leader who objects to secular education supplanting sacred beliefs is portrayed as evil.

• DS9 – Paradise: A colony of humans who reject technology for their community but do not demand that the worlds around them keep their beliefs – much like the modern Amish – are portrayed as people being manipulated by a conniving leader.

• VOY – Death Wish: A Q who is tired of immortality resists the Continuum's attempts to keep him alive, which are portrayed as cruel and inhuman; in the end, our familiar Q helps his depressed friend commit suicide; the ethics of assisted suicide are not fully addressed.

• Star Trek: First Contact: The reasonable and necessary point reached by Picard that continuing to surrender to the Borg is foolish is portrayed as an obsession such as portrayed in the novel "Moby Dick."

These are just five examples of where one side is clearly favored over another without really giving the other side much of a fair hearing. It has been described by Phil Farrand, author of the Nitpickers Guides to Trek as not just being message television, but Trek's tendency to hit people over the heads with a placard reading "Message! Message! A Message is being imparted! PAY ATTENTION TO THE MESSAGE!"

This attitude, in fact, nearly caused me to simply stop watching Trek after other shows (like Babylon 5) showed much more even-handedness. In the end, however, my enjoyment of the rest of the series overcame that concern, at least in so far as I continued watching Trek.

My concerns were not, however, mollified…until recently. When "Similitude" began, as I said, I was leery. Can you blame me, given Trek's unfortunate track record on these issues? As the plot unraveled as an exploration of the modern issue of stem cell research, I felt even more uneasy. And then, as the story unfolded, I could see that this time, no side was being championed over the other. Yes, Trip was saved by this treatment, but not without the captain, the doctor, and yes, the whole senior staff confronting the obvious ethical issues of creating a life merely to destroy it, even though that might save another life.

This open and frank discussion, favoring neither side but showing both to have some merit, is precisely the sort of thing I've come to enjoy about science fiction. When the episode merely becomes a rah-rah cheerleader for a particular perspective, it becomes an "easy out" for the writers (since no one can leave their perspective behind, it is very difficult to craft a truly balanced piece of writing), and will usually offend that perspective that is given short shrift.

"Similitude" was written by Manny Coto, a writer whose previous credits include "The New Outer Limits" and "Odyssey 5." Now that he is a co-executive producer on Enterprise, I am in high hopes we can look forward to more thought-provoking, balanced looks at the issues facing modern society. Afterall, going back to The Original Series, that's what Trek's been best at.

VOYAGER 1 LEAVES SOLAR SYSTEM...OR DOES IT?

By Lt. Gene Adams • Communiqué Staff Writer

The Voyager 1 spacecraft has either become the first man-made object to leave the solar system, or it hasn't quite made it yet, depending upon which experts are doing the talking. Either way, there is no disagreement that the craft has traveled farther from Earth in the 26 years since its launch than any human-made object. It is currently far beyond the orbit of Pluto and has entered a portion of space unlike anything encountered by humans or their probes previously.

From this distance of more than eight billion miles, the Sun is only a dim spot and messages from Voyager, traveling at the speed of light, take more than 10 hours to reach Earth. By comparison, light from the Sun takes only about nine minutes to reach Earth. To put it in perspective and to help visualize the unimaginable distance that Voyager has traveled, suppose that the Earth is represented by a ball one inch in diameter. The Sun would be a ball nine feet in diameter, located about 325 yards away (think three football fields, including the end zones). On this same scale, Voyager 1 would be located about 17 miles from the nine-foot ball representing the Sun.

Part of the problem in determining whether Voyager has left the solar system is that no instruments have ever previously penetrated this area. Not much is known about this region and no one knows exactly where the boundaries are. Even though they don't know precisely where they are, scientists have identified three boundaries to define the edge of the solar system.

The first clear boundary is known as "the Termination Shock" and is located 8-9.5 billion miles from the Sun, or more than twice the distance from Pluto to the Sun. The Termination Shock is the point where the supersonic solar winds slow as they hit the wind of charged particles from distant stars. This is the region in which Voyager 1 is now cruising, where the solar winds which stream past Earth at a million miles per hour slow abruptly and radiation increases to 100 times the normal level.

The next boundary is termed the "Heliopause" and is located 10-15 billion miles from the Sun. This is defined as the point where the pressure from the solar winds is in balance with the interstellar wind. The third and final boundary has been named "the Bow Shock" and is approximately 21 billion miles from the Sun. This is a violent wave where the interstellar medium is pushed outward by the Heliopause. To confuse matters even more, not only are these boundaries not known exactly, but they don't remain in one place. Instead they move inward and outward over several million miles as the Sun's activity waxes and wanes.

The disagreement over whether Voyager 1 has crossed the Termination Shock was made manifest in dueling papers published this month in Nature by scientists from the space department at the John Hopkins University Applied Physics Lab, who believe that the boundary has been crossed, and the University of Maryland, who believe that the Termination Shock still lies ahead.

The disagreement stems from different interpretations of the same data received from Voyager. The group who think the boundary has been crossed point out that data obtained from the spacecraft last August showed radiation levels more than 100 times more intense than normal.

Nothing of this kind was recorded by Voyager 2, which lags more than a billion miles behind its sister ship. They believe this marks the event when Voyager 1 crossed the Termination Shock. The group disputing this points out that when the craft reached 8.4 billion miles from the Sun, the radiation readings suddenly dropped off. They also didn't see a high number of cosmic rays or high intensity magnetic fields as expected. This group believes a surge in solar activity has caused the solar wind to rush out in front of the craft, putting it back in the solar system, and that the Termination Shock still lies ahead. The dispute between the two groups may be just the splitting of hairs, as even the scientists who don't believe that the boundary has been crossed yet admit that if Voyager hasn't quite reached the mountains, it's definitely in the foothills and will be surfing the shock wave for the next 3-4 years.

The Voyagers were launched in 1977 and have onboard a suite of scientific instruments, photos of life on Earth, greetings in 55 languages, and a collection of songs, including Chuck Berry's "Johnny B. Goode." It could always be worse. They might have included Tiny Tim's version of "Tiptoe Through The Tulips," in which case a future Earth might find itself being assaulted by an offended species from another star system. Voyager has a nuclear fuel system onboard, and it is estimated that it will keep the instruments and transmitter running until at least 2020.

But even then, if the craft should go silent, it will continue on its long voyage through interstellar space. It boggles the mind to imagine that this object, fashioned on the warm, bustling Earth has left it forever to wander in space. It may drift in the void forever, or it may be found someday by another species who will be filled with wonder about those who sent it, and it may still be drifting out there billions of years from now when the Earth has become cinder from our Sun's eventual Nova.

A ROCKET SCIENTISTS VIEW OF THE STATE OF SPACE

By Lt. Cmdr Karen Mitchell • USS Richthoven, STARFLEET Region 7

Yes, I am actually a rocket scientist. Certified, degreed, and everything. I even work at NASA. Not for NASA, though, just at NASA, as a private industry contractor. When I approached the CQ Staff to volunteer my writing skills, Dixie suggested I do a regular article about the aerospace industry, given my rather unusual job. Since Space and Star Trek go hand in hand, I thought it would be a good idea.

I often wonder what Gene would think about the current state of the space industry. The International Space Station is floundering. The Space Shuttle is grounded. The woefully pitiful amount of money Congress appropriates to NASA is barely enough to get by, much less to fuel a comprehensive plan to get mankind to the Moon and beyond. I can tell you what I think about it: it stinks!

But Congress is accountable to the American public, after all. Write to your elected officials and express your own dissatisfaction on how the space program is run.

Seek out candidates who are committed to keeping us in Space and pushing those boundaries, and VOTE.

Make Star Trek a reality for future generations. The official website for the US Congress (www.congress.gov) has links to the websites for the House and Senate.

From there you can find your elected officials, many of whom have their own websites and online contact forms. Join space advocacy groups like the Mars Society (www.marssociety.org), the Planetary Society (www.planetarysociety.org), and the National Space Society (www.nss.org).

I haven't forgotten the international members. If your country has a space program, or is involved in another country's endeavors, be sure to let your government know of your support. If not, write them and ask them why they aren't committed to our future in space.

Yes, I'm passionate about space. I've always wanted to work in this industry, and Star Trek fueled that dream. Star Trek fueled the dream for many aerospace engineers and space scientists. Perhaps it will inspire you too, or your children.

As I said earlier, I work at NASA. My project is the Landsat 7 satellite. We're the latest in a series of Landsats, stretching back into the mid 70s. Landsat is an Earth mapper, and it passes over most of the Earth's surface over a 16-day cycle.

Landsat images are available for commercial use, and I've seen them on the Internet and in magazines.

For more information (and to see just how the world uses Landsat data), check out our website at http://landsat.gsfc.nasa.gov/.

November has been an interesting month for satellites. Around the 4th, the Sun spit off the largest solar flare ever recorded. It saturated solar x-ray detectors on the GOES satellite for 11 minutes. Auroras generated by this flare and others during the same period of solar activity were seen as far south as Florida. Landsat, thankfully, wasn't all that affected.

Our main scientific instrument points downward towards the Earth, and we fly inside the Earth's magnetic field, which diverted away a lot of the radioactivity. Space.com has an interesting article on this flare and other recent solar activity, at http://www.space.com/scienceastronomy/xtreme_flare_031105.html.

In the past few days the sunspots that caused the early November storm have rotated back to face the earth, so by the time you read this we may have gone through another interesting flare (no pun intended!) of solar activity. For more info about solar flares and auroras, check out the Space Environment Center's website at www.sec.noaa.gov. They have some excellent graphical tools to help you understand Space weather.

Also up in mid-November is the Leonid meteor shower. This is a yearly event, caused when the Earth orbits through a cloud of comet dust. In past years, the show has been quite spectacular. Check Space.com for the results of this year's storm.

What do meteor showers mean for satellites? Well, that depends on your orbit and your satellite. My first job out of college was working on a satellite called FUSE (Far Ultraviolet Spectrographic Explorer, http://fuse.pha.jhu.edu/), which was in essence an ultraviolet telescope.

Since we pointed our instrument out to space, before the Leonids we had to turn the spacecraft around so the instrument was pointing in the opposite direction of the storm's radiant (the radiant is the point in space from which the meteors emanate) and turn off some of our systems, including the telescope. This was a massive daylong well-scripted undertaking.

At Landsat, we don't do anything special for the Leonids. Since our instrument points downward, there isn't much of a threat to it from passing meteors. Of course, if something directly strikes the spacecraft, especially through the thin solar array, we'll be in trouble.

But that can happen no matter what steps you take. By not turning our satellite off and maintaining normal operations, it saves wear and tear on the spacecraft and allows us to keep delivering our payload data.

Also in November was a stunning total lunar eclipse. I hope you all had a chance to take a look at it. Impact to satellites: none, although the full moon can interfere with some satellite sensors by either blocking their view of the stars or flooding them with light. Again, that's something that will vary with spacecraft design and mission.

Though I hate to end my first column on a serious note, I'd like to take a few moments to talk about the Columbia tragedy. The effects of this incident have been felt throughout the industry. It's important to remember that space exploration is dangerous.

NASA has done a very good job of convincing the world and the US Government that their manned flight operations are safe and routine, and that really isn't the case. I don't believe space travel will be as safe as air travel for a very long time, if only because there are hundreds of thousands more airplane flights a year than Space Shuttle flights.

The Columbia Accident Investigation Board (CAIB) released Volume I of their report on the tragedy in August. This report is free to download (in PDF format) from the CAIB website at http://www.caib.us/default.asp. It's an 11MB file, and is also broken into chapters for quicker download.

I've read the entire thing, and I highly recommend that you do the same. The report discusses the causes of the accident in detail, and goes on to examine NASA business culture and sets forth recommendations for the future. Volumes II-VI contain supporting documentation for Volume I.

In my next column, I'll be discussing this report, how it relates to my job, and where I think manned Spaceflight is going. Please note that the CAIB website has an announcement that it will become inactive on February 1. I'm not sure if that will affect your ability to download the report.

Any questions, comments, or requests for explanation of my technical jargon can be sent to terpette@hotmail.com. Be sure to reference the CQ in your subject line, otherwise you might end up in my spam filter.

SECTION 31: YEAR END REPORT

By: We Know – but then we'd have to Trout you.

This report reflects the activities of Section 31 for the 2003 calendar year for Sol-3.

The year started with a very clear warning.

After the stroke of Midnight on January 1, 2003, The Commander of STARFLEET was presented with the Bird.

The bird in this case being Special Agent Ferdinand. Agent Ferdinand is a fowl species.

The following were successfully targeted:

Joost Ueffing – SFI Chief of Ops
Region 2 Summit- Attempted assimilation.

Brad Pense – Region 3 RC
Region 3 Summit - A warning of future plans was sent to the Regional Coordinator.

Vaughn Armstrong - Admiral
Baltimore, Maryland/July. Officially presented with Section 31 Dress Uniform, camouflaged as attire suitable for members of the Church of the NFL!

Tammy Wilcox - Treasurer
SFI International Conference

Continued attempts to procure her services have failed. More stringent measures may need to be taken.

This year we suffered the loss of several of our best field agents. Agent BenK and Agent Penguin were the best of the best.

We will avenge our fallen bretheren.

Due to a fowl up in paper work within the Section 31 staff, my name ended up in the victim line on Section 31 Victim Authorization Form 1031.

Said Fowl up happened during the Region 2 Summit.

Report from Section 31 – A:

Wilderness Challenge 2004

Be afraid! Be very afraid! Special Agent Fred will be on the case.

We would like to extend our thanks to the members of the local UAW. For it was they who provide the covert tracking devices that enabled the Section 31 agents to target specific vehicles.

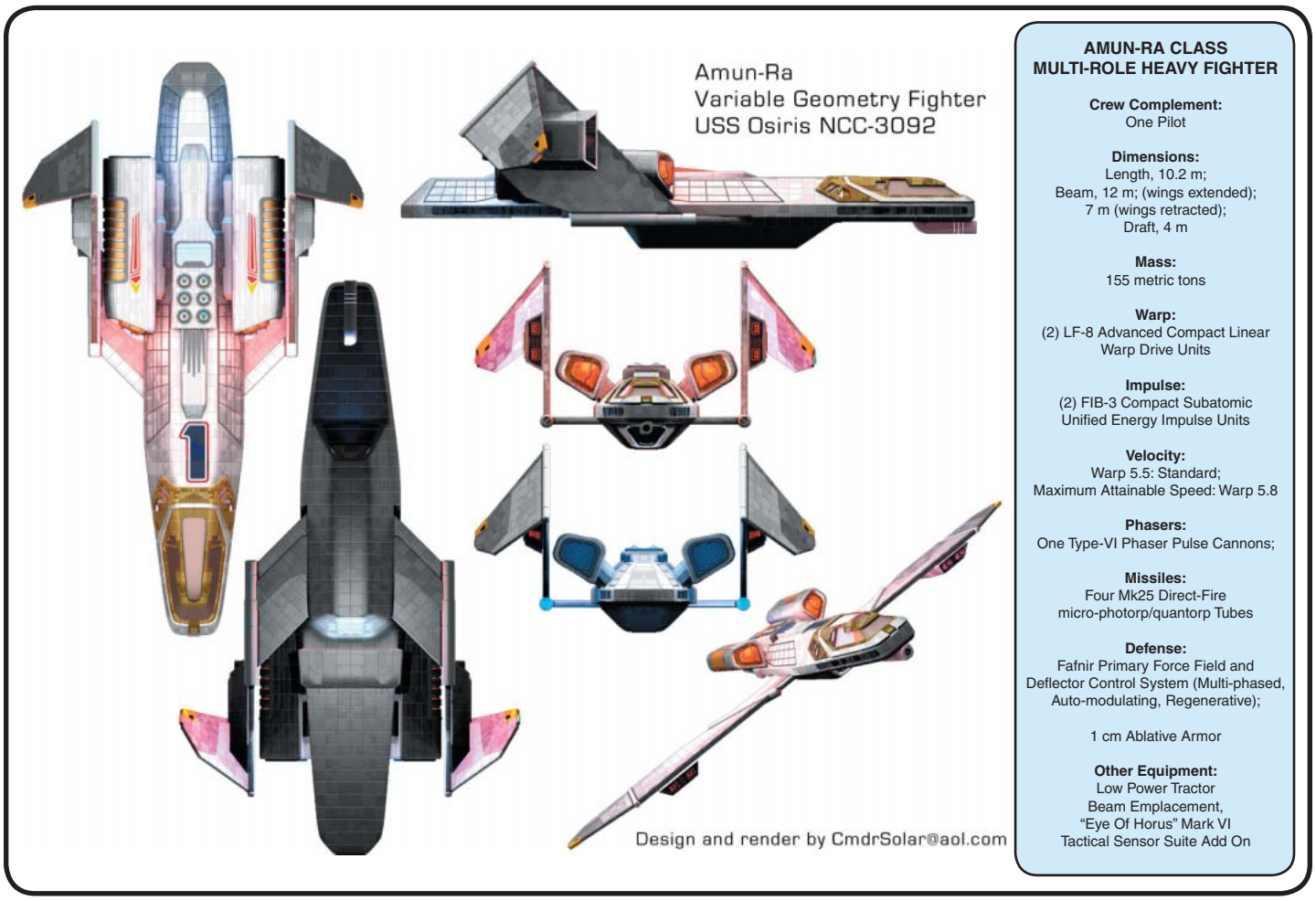
THE NEWEST FIGHTERS FOR THE 750th MSG – THE SCARABS

By Major Rey Codero • OIC, 750th Marine Strike Group, SFMC

Let me introduce myself, I am Major Rey Cordero, OIC of the 750th MSG "The Scarabs," and OIC of the 5th Battalion (NY), 7th Brigade. Let me give you a brief description of the 750th. We are a RDF (Rapid Deployment Force) attached to the USS Osiris consisting mainly of Aerospace/ Special Ops with detachments of Infantry and Mecha. Within our arsenal we have fighters that are used by the unit. One of them is a Banzai class designed by Paul Cargile.

We have been using this class for quite sometime but decided that a newer, better fighter would be needed, something of our own design. FCAPT Edgar Torres, CO of the USS Osiris and I spoke about what we wanted it to look like and what tech specs were needed.

I came up with an idea to combine an USAF A-10 Warthog with a Type 10 shuttle used on the Defiant class. With this in mind I sent out my ideas to a CGI expert named Jon Kolton. He was person who created the recent CGI pics of the USS Osiris. While this project has been going we had been giving updates to Greg Fitsimmons, then Aerospace Branch Director of the STARFLEET Marine Corps. His input and encouragement help makes this fighter a real prize. With that I like to present to everyone The Amun – Ra.



AMUN-RA CLASS
MULTI-ROLE HEAVY FIGHTER

Crew Complement:
One Pilot

Dimensions:
Length, 10.2 m;
Beam, 12 m; (wings extended);
7 m (wings retracted);
Draft, 4 m

Mass:
155 metric tons

Warp:
(2) LF-8 Advanced Compact Linear Warp Drive Units

Impulse:
(2) FIB-3 Compact Subatomic Unified Energy Impulse Units

Velocity:
Warp 5.5: Standard;
Maximum Attainable Speed: Warp 5.8

Phasers:
One Type-VI Phaser Pulse Cannons;

Missiles:
Four Mk25 Direct-Fire micro-photorp/quantorp Tubes

Defense:
Fafnir Primary Force Field and Deflector Control System (Multi-phased, Auto-modulating, Regenerative);

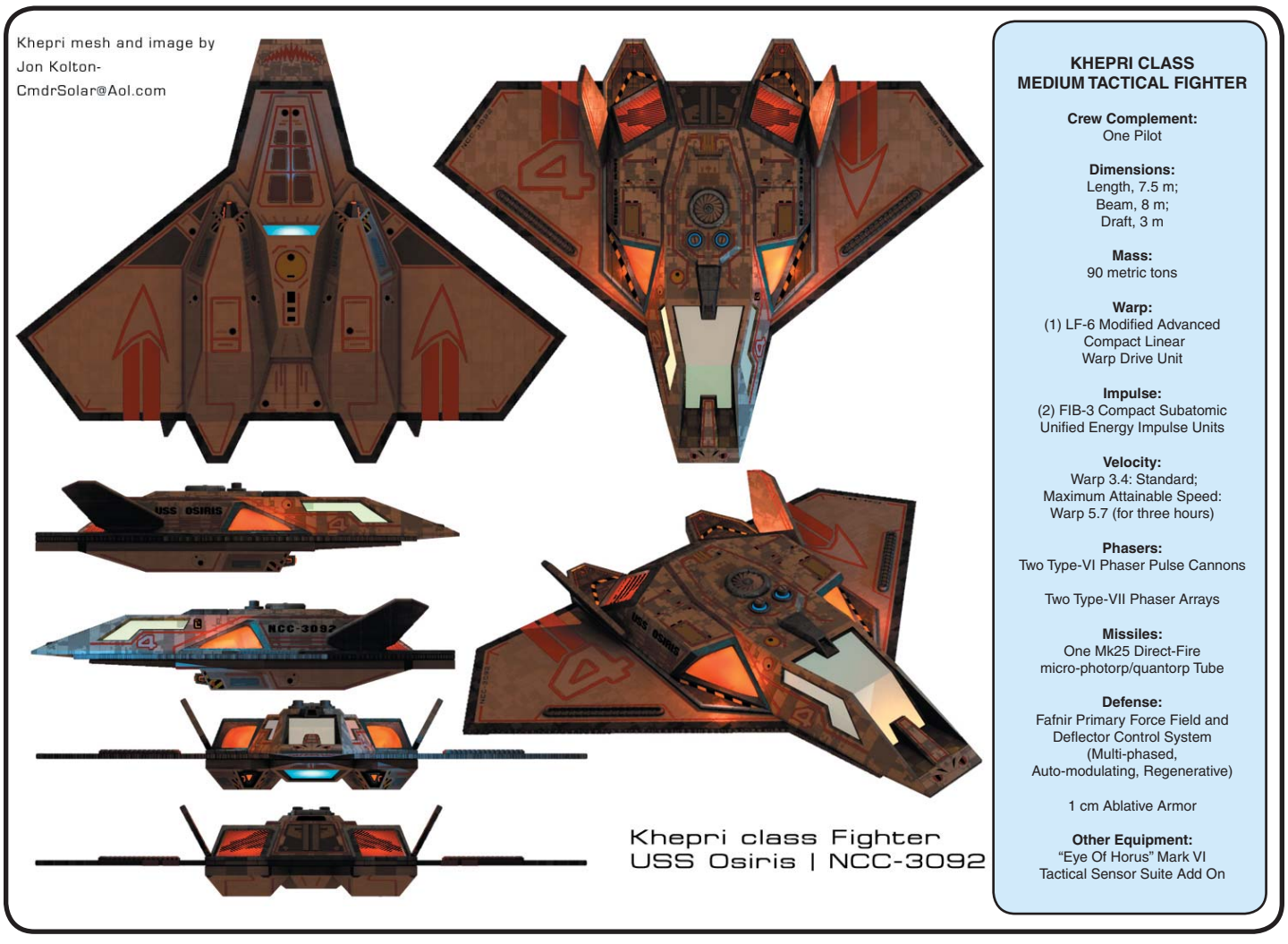
1 cm Ablative Armor

Other Equipment:
Low Power Tractor Beam Emplacement,
"Eye Of Horus" Mark VI Tactical Sensor Suite Add On

Once this fighter was completed in the beginning of the summer we started work on the next class of fighter we wanted to replace. We were using the Valkyrie class as our medium range fighter and decided that something in that size and range would be great again. This time we gave some suggestions to Jon Kolton on what we wanted to see and let him use his imagination to design the fighter. After some revisions, the final design was completed. I now present the Khepri…

This class was named this because the Khepri was the one of the class of Egyptian gods associated with a particular animal. Khepri was the sacred scarab, which is the nickname of our MSG unit "The Scarabs". This fighter's fire power of 2 Phasers arrays, 2 pulse cannons and 1 micro photorp tube makes this a very formidable spacecraft great for close combat and defense. Its main use is support of the marine dropships aboard the USS Osiris when entering a planets atmosphere and also air support for the Osiris itself. The Khepri and the Amun – Ra make for a dangerous combination in space for anyone who encounters them.

If you have any questions you can email me at Scaraboic@ussosiris.org or to Edgar Torres at Osirisco@ussosiris.org. I look forward to any input you might have. If you are interested in any CGI work you may contact Jon Kolton at CmdrSolar@aol.com.



KHEPRI CLASS
MEDIUM TACTICAL FIGHTER

Crew Complement:
One Pilot

Dimensions:
Length, 7.5 m;
Beam, 8 m;
Draft, 3 m

Mass:
90 metric tons

Warp:
(1) LF-6 Modified Advanced Compact Linear Warp Drive Unit

Impulse:
(2) FIB-3 Compact Subatomic Unified Energy Impulse Units

Velocity:
Warp 3.4: Standard;
Maximum Attainable Speed: Warp 5.7 (for three hours)

Phasers:
Two Type-VI Phaser Pulse Cannons

Two Type-VII Phaser Arrays

Missiles:
One Mk25 Direct-Fire micro-photorp/quantorp Tube

Defense:
Fafnir Primary Force Field and Deflector Control System (Multi-phased, Auto-modulating, Regenerative)

1 cm Ablative Armor

Other Equipment:
"Eye Of Horus" Mark VI Tactical Sensor Suite Add On

STARSHIP PROFILE: LNG'WE CHI-CLASS EXPLORATORY CRUISER

By Admiral Alex Rosenzweig • USS Avenger, STARFLEET Region 7

While the Star Fleet Division was deep in the process of revising the Menahga-class battlecruiser design, correcting the flaws that had been uncovered and detailed at length by the Saess'tan development group, the ship's original design-team was applying the many lessons learned to several new classes of ships. Among these were the Mitannic-class battlecruiser, the S'harien-class battlecruiser, and the Venture-class deep-space survey cruiser.

The Venture prototype was "rolled out" in 2285. Unlike the battlecruisers, the Venture design applied the concepts of advanced modularity and the housing of the engineering systems in the "beavertail" hull structure to a long-range exploration vessel. It was an aggressive move to advance the exploratory wing of the Fleet. Given the resource pressures of the time, however, Star Fleet only received funding for a single vessel, and that vessel was specifically dedicated to scientific missions, as such receiving a "custom" registry.

For a time, things remained at that point, with the U.S.S. Venture completing its shakedown cruise and beginning its operational life. But the Venture was being watched, and assessed, and the quality of the design was being noted in a number of circles.

In the year 2290, Star Fleet was preparing to authorize funding for a new class of exploratory cuiser. As a cost- and time-saving measure, the proposal was floated: Use the successful Venture spaceframe design as the basis for the newly-proposed Lng'we Chi-class exploratory cruiser.

A review of the Venture's performance record lent strong support to the proposal, and soon afterward the ASDB also endorsed it. Star Fleet Command accepted those recommendations, although the planners did request some minor alterations in the basic design, including a repositioning of the nacelles which yielded improved warp dynamics and overall performance, enhanced long-range sensors, and weapons suite upgrades.

Construction began in 2292, and the slightly revised spaceframe design was put to space as U.S.S. Lng'we Chi NCC-23005 in 2294. Since the design was adapted from a previously-existing frame, confidence was high enough that two additional hulls were begun on the lines in 2293, and the proving runs on the Lng'we Chi did not disappoint. In keeping with the schedule, NCC-23006 and -23007 were put to space in 2295.

VESSEL SYSTEMS DESCRIPTION FORM:
LNG'WE CHI-CLASS EXPLORATORY CRUISER

PHYSICAL DIMENSIONS:

Length Overall: 296.9 meters
Beam Overall: 140.4 meters
Draft Overall: 69.4 meters

Primary Hull Beam: 140.4 meters
Primary Hull Draft: 35.9 meters

DISPLACEMENT:

Standard: 202,315 metric tons

Light: 199,480 metric tons

Full Load: 205,615 metric tons

PROPULSION:

Warp Engines:
Type: LN-64B Mod 3
Linear Warp Drive Units
Number: 2

Impulse Engines:
Type: RSM Mk. II Mod 3b Subatomic
Unified Energy Impulse Units
Number: 2

VELOCITY:

Cruising (Warp Factor): Warp 7.5
Maximum (Warp Factor): Warp 10

CREW COMPLEMENT:
Officers: 50
Crew: 300
Total: 350

ARMAMENT:

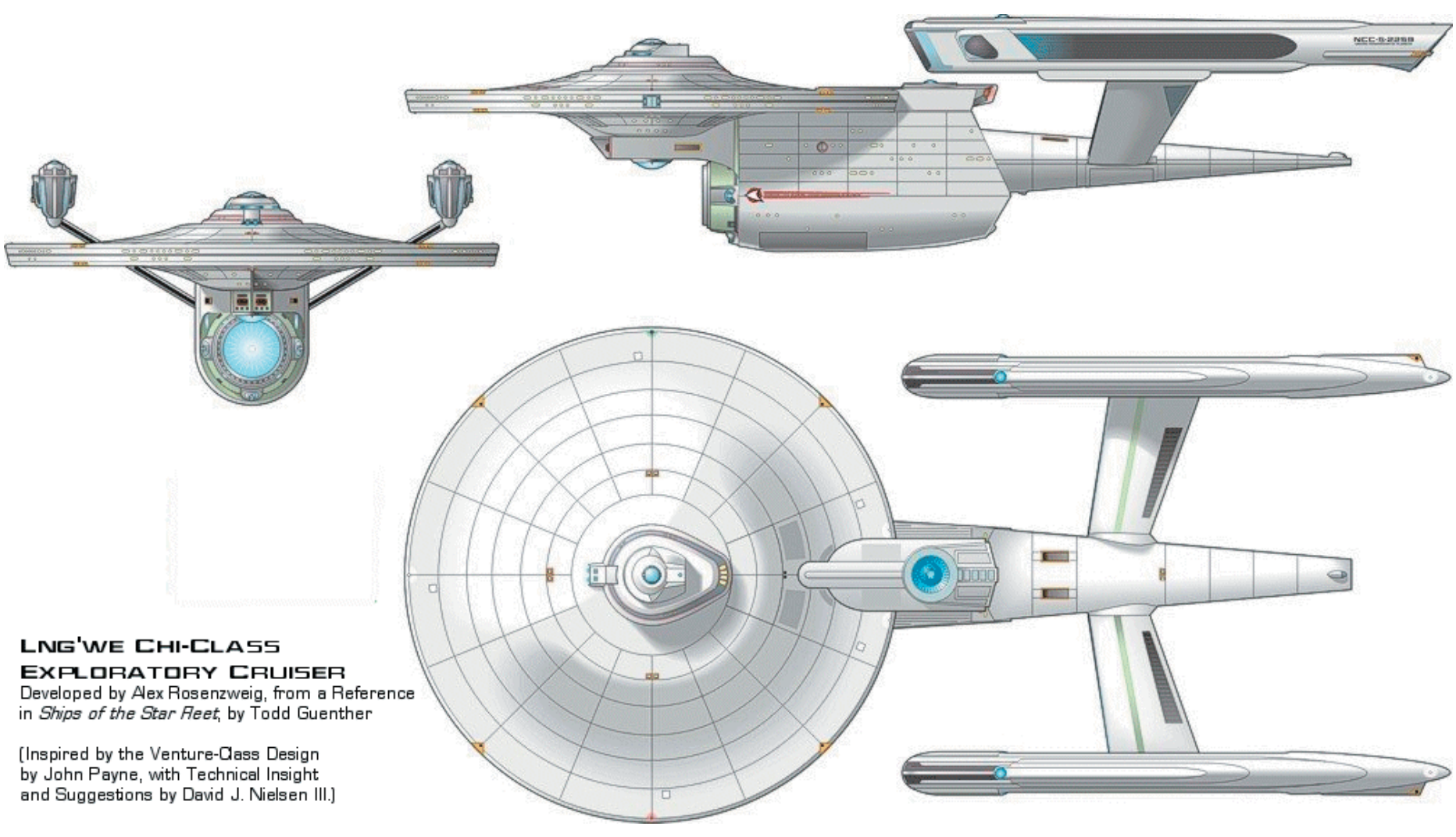
Phaser Banks/Arrays:
Type: RIM-12C Independent Twin Mount
Number: 16

Emplacements/Bank (if applicable): (8 Banks/2 Each)

PhotonTorpedoes:
Type: "Thor" Mod 2 Direct
Number of Tubes: 2

EMBARKED CRAFT:

Shuttlecraft
Number: 4
Type(s): Standard Shuttle



LNG'WE CHI-CLASS EXPLORATORY CRUISER
Developed by Alex Rosenzweig, from a Reference in *Ships of the Star Fleet*, by Todd Guenther

(Inspired by the Venture-Class Design by John Payne, with Technical Insight and Suggestions by David J. Nielsen III.)

A TALE OF TWO CONVENTIONS

By Brigadier John Roberts • USS Anasazi, Region 17

It was the Best of Cons, It was the Worst of Cons. It was the Trek our dreams, it was the Trek of our nightmares. This is a story of two Star Trek Conventions and their promoters.

October 2002, El Paso, Texas. Slanted Fedora and its owners, Dave and Jackie Scott are promoting a Star Trek Convention to help celebrate the renaming of the El Paso Planetarium as the Gene Roddenberry Planetarium (El Paso is Gene's birthplace). The stars in attendance are: Michael Dorn, Marina Sirtis, Ethan Phillips and Robert Picardo as well as Astronaut Rick Seafoss and Herbert Jefferson, Jr. (Boomer on Battlestar Galactica). The con is held in a very small venue (an old Target Store that has gone out of business) with extremely poor sound. The dealers, main stage and registration are all held in the same open area. While Dave Scott did give the USS Mir and USS Anasazi a small table from which to recruit and help promote STARFLEET, it was in a very bad location. Autographs and access to the stars was extremely limited (especially Sirtis and Dorn). All in all a poorly organized and executed event, but was at least a little bit of fun as there had not been a Trek in the area for many years. The con was attended by about 2000-3000 people during the weekend.

November 2003, El Paso, Texas. Planet-X hosts their first ever Trek convention in El Paso as part of the annual celebrations honoring Gene Roddenberry. The Gene Roddenberry Great Bird of the Galaxy Star Trek Convention is held in the El Paso Convention Center. The stars in attendance are: William Shatner (Sunday only due to his Saturday appearance at Vulkon on Tampa), James Doohan (in his second to last appearance at a con, ever), George Takei, Nichelle Nichols, Walter Koening, Tim Russ, Cirroc Lofton, Vaughn Armstrong, Richard Herd, Gary Lockwood, Herbert Jefferson, Jr. and Eugene Roddenberry, Jr. This con had a large main events auditorium for the stars to speak from, a large dealers room and a separate registration area. The STARFLEET chapters (USS Anasazi-Albuquerque, NM, USS Mir-Las Cruces, NM and Shuttle Hapsburg-El Paso, TX) were given tables to recruit from in the dealers room in very good locations, one near the autograph lines for Doohan, Nichols, Takei and Koening and one near the "lesser" stars, in fact we were neighbors with Richard Herd. The tables donated by Planet-X for our use would have sold to dealers for about $1500 AND we were given Exhibitor passes for people to work the tables and get free con admission. We weren't the only ones from STARFLEET to attend this con either, members from the USS Lone Star in Lubbock, TX were also in attendance. Several of our group members also volunteered to work the con and were given free admission to the con as well. This con was attended by at least 6000 people during the weekend

The con was well organized with many events for the fans. There were the normal times for the stars to be on stage and talk about their experiences and answer questions. There was also a "Klingon Feast" and a "Night with the Stars." Saturday night saw the world premiere of the new Trek parody "Roddenberry on Patrol" directed by Tim Russ and starring many original and later series' Trek stars. We saw Richard Herd and Walter Koening perform "Duck Variations" (a short play by David Mamet), we got to see Nichelle Nichols sing (she has a wonderful voice) and we also got to see Tim Russ and the Tim Russ Mix Band perform (we got to do some "Tuvok Rock"). The four-hour drive from Albuquerque to El Paso was made worthwhile by this one two and a half hour show. There is nothing like seeing Nichelle Nichols sing "If They Could See Me Now" (with references to Gene and her fellow Trek stars) while dancing and wearing a 14 foot white feather boa. She has aged very gracefully and has a lot of fun when she gets a chance to perform.

The stars were very accessible and very kind in talking with the fans when time allowed. Nichelle Nichols donated an autographed copy of her music CD to our chapter for use in helping to raise funds and toys for the USMC Reserve's Toys for Tots program and Richard Herd did the same thing with a copy of the "Roddenberry on Patrol" DVD. Our chapter has had glassware made up every year to commemorate our Anniversary and Commissioning, we were able to present all of the stars, except Shatner and Doohan with one of our glasses form this year and Jimmy Doohan received the last spare Region 17/17th Brigade Challenge Coins from one of our members. All of the stars were very appreciative of the gifts and it was just our way of thanking them for coming to El Paso and spending a weekend with the fans.

Gene Roddenberry, Jr. also spent several minutes talking to our group and answering our questions about the ongoing negotiations with Paramount to let them carry the props and such they had at their store. We were told that the negotiations are continuing and he has high hopes that things will be resolved amicably for all parties. He also expressed his appreciation to the fans for their continued support of the Roddenberry family and their willingness to assist in any way they can. He and his mother know that Trek fans all care about the family and want them to be successful in their negotiations with Paramount over the licensing and other issues related to the current misunderstanding. He will be posting more frequent updates as they are available to the family's website, www.roddenberry.com.

This was the very first Con ever put on by Planet-X and Doug Conway. There were minor problems with the volunteers schedules as we had been told we would only be needed for one six hour shift but ended up having to work full days. The promoter, Doug Conway, and his volunteer coordinators were very apologetic about this mix up and did everything they could to thank their volunteers for understanding. We were given free autographs from Nichols, Doohan and Takei, free DVD's of "Roddenberry on Patrol," free Con T-shirts and many other little perks for helping them out. The biggest difference between promoters on theses two cons was readily apparent: Doug Conway said thank you to his volunteers and did what he could to make sure they were appreciated and given the chance to see what they wanted from the con, even though they were working.

Doug Conway and Planet-X have a second con set for June in LA, it will be the Jimmy Doohan Tribute. This will be Jimmy Doohan's very last appearance at a Trek con ever. If you can go, I highly suggest you go. More information on this con will be put on the Plant Xpo website (www.planetxpo.com) as time gets closer. All of the original series stars (Shatner, Nimoy, Doohan, Nichols, Takei, Koening, Grace Lee Whitney, Majel Roddenberry and several other stars) are confirmed (as we were told this weekend) for this event.

UNITED FAN CON: NO LONGER A STAR TREK FAN'S WISH?

By Trey Isquith • STARFLEET Region 15 Corespondent

Well, it's been coming to head, I guess. There has been alot of talk about the new direction of UFC, held every November in Springfield, Massachusetts. For Region 15, UFC has been our annual meeting place and the one time each year that most of are able to get a vacation and meet Star Trek VIPs. Mostly now we go to see our regional friends, and while that is terrific, and certainly worth looking forward to, a lot of Region 15 members are having a difficult time justifying the expense. It is, after all, a big financial undertaking with travel, hotel stay, con admissions and meals for a weekend, and the reward is not what it used to be.

A strong voice in the region, Capt. Bob McCann of the U.S.S. O'Bannon, put it quite succinctly when he said, "I believe the real reason why Trek stars are not coming is a question of payment. They are not cheap... We're also seeing a decline in the vendors. Ever since Paramount in its infinite wisdom years ago knuckled down on the vendors not to sell other than their merchandise, they only have crap. Fewer vendors each year is because with the Internet we can get anything we want at a click…It is no longer a question of are the Trek folks dropping interest in it more than is the average person getting tired of the increased cost and not having the bottomless pocket."

And now the hosts of UFC are confirming that they are gearing less towards Star Trek fandom and more toward Buffy-type shows and Dr. Who. Another voice in the region, Capt. Doug Mayo of the U.S.S. Nelson, has stated, "As a Trek fan for many years I believe in supplying fans with as many opportunities to celebrate who and what we are as fans of a unique vision, i.e. Trek and it's many incarnations through conventions. The trick now becomes, with the so-called declining interest in all things Trek, where do we as fans find these opportunities? WishCon and now FanCon have fed into that decline by their open acknowledgement that the Trek fans are aging and disappearing.

I may be getting older, but I'm certainly far from disappearing. It's my belief that one of the first things we need to do is to try and not buy into the Paramount theory that there is a declining interest in all things Trek. Trek has had it's problems in the past few years. But, in my opinion, it can be chalked up a number of things like releasing Trek 10 two weeks prior to The Lord of the Rings and discarding the Star Trek cannon. If the producers of UFC are willing to look at things through a set of non-tainted Paramount Trek glasses, then I believe that UFC can be and should be saved and is worthy of our efforts as a Star Trek Fan club. If they are unwilling to look at things differantly, it seems counterproductive to me to establish and or continue any relationship with an organization that will perpetuate Trek's demise."

While all of this is disheartening, the 2003 UFC, for most Region 15 members, was nice and we made some fantastic strides, as we joined together creatively and collectively for mass assimilation, I meant recruitment effort. Sorry, no borg intended. We did get to hang out with old friends and meet a few new friends. Some pertinent regional business was discussed and finally some headway was made. I'm not sure what this means for future UFC gatherings, only time will tell.

And, as time tells, I will endeavor to keep you updated. Untill then , tune in next time.

ACTIVATE THE QUANTUM SLIPSTREAM

By Commodore David E. Klingman • USS Jaguar, Region 1

Once again, it's time for my year end review of the people and places I've seen and been to during my 'fleet year This year was, of course, a bit lighter in terms of my activities in STARFLEET, given my recent commission as an officer in the United States Air Force .Those of you who still have no idea what I am talking about should know I accepted a commission as a Captain, that's an O-3, in the USAF in March of this year. I'll talk more about that in a bit. I managed to attend two major functions this year in my 'fleet travels, the first was the Region 2 Summit held in Huntsville, Alabama and the second was Watkins Glen Weekend 2003, held in Ithaca, NY.

R2 Summit

This was my second year visiting the folks in Region 2. Since I moved to the region less than 3 months later, I am currently stationed at Robins AFB in Warner Robins GA, it was an excellent opportunity for me to revisit some friends I had made in the region and to connect with some new people in the region. The location couldn't have been better for a bunch of space nuts. With the US Space Camp right near the hotel, the opportunity was perfect for us to spend time both in regional and fleet mode as well as in science mode. As usual, I was able to see many familiar faces, some of whom traveled great distances. That's you, Chris Wallace!

I have to say, being a fan of the US Space Program, particularly the Mercury, Gemini, and Apollo missions, that the highlight of the time in Huntsville was seeing and standing inside the rocket engine of the Atlas rocket used to launch the Apollo missions, ultimately the moon landings. I highly recommend visiting Huntsville if you have the chance. Check out the U.S. Space and Rocket Center and Space Camp web site at http: //www.spacecamp.com/spacecamp/ for more information.

Watkins Glen Weekend 2003

This was my second year visiting my friends in Ithaca, NY for the 14th Annual Watkins Glen Weekend hosted by the USS Accord. Check out http:// www.ussaccord.org/wgw.html for more on the weekend and the location, and http: //www.ssnexus.org/wgw2003/ for my own photos from the weekend. For those of you who don't know what this event is all about, it's about a group of people, hiking the gorge at Watkins Glen State Park, enjoying some spectacular waterfalls.

It is a weekend of excellent food and fun, and of course, enjoying each other's company. It's, in some ways, a very un -STARFLEET event, since there are no costumes, no ranks, and very little STARFLEET business discussed. It is a weekend of connection between people who over time grow closer and closer. One attendee at the event noted that what keeps people in STARFLEET isn't the $15 they shell out for the newsletter. W hat keeps people around through the good and the bad are weekends like WGW, events and places where we can get together to know each other as individuals.

I find it rather interesting that those of us who are active on a national/international level and who attend these events may in fact know each other ,our good, our bad, our quirks, our personality traits,better than we know some of our own actual families. I think we really do know each other inside out sometimes as a group, and when we get together for events like WGW, or regional summits, or IC, we draw even closer. It's a good thing. It's our community, and it's up to us to keep it vital.

Greetings from the Middle East: Capt. David Klingman, USAF abroad.

Photo courtesy of David Klingman

Other Highlights from the Year

Okay, a little talk about my first six months in the USAF. As many of you know, I am drawing close to deploying for four+ months to an overseas location that I am not at liberty to discuss, and, in fact, by the time you read this I will already be overseas.

As such, I have been participating in a great deal of training in order to be properly prepared for my deployment One of the courses I took was EMEDS, Expeditionary Medical Support. which was given at Brooks AFB in San Antonio, TX. The week -long course provided me with vital information on setting up, running, and working in a mobile field hospital.

The course also afforded me the opportunity to take a day of leave and spend part of a weekend with Steve and T.J. Gordon and some of the crew of the USS Victory, many of whom live in San Antonio. I would like to thank Steve and T.J. for allowing me to stay in their home for part of the weekend, and to accompany them to the Texas Renaissance Festival, a tremendous Ren Faire if ever I have seen one.

We ate, we drank, and we were most certainly merry. Once again I had the opportunity to connect face to face with people I have come to know over time in STARFLEET. Steve and T.J. are embodiments of the family we have in STARFLEET.

I would be remiss, of course, if I didn't say that the MAJOR highlight of 2003 has been the United States Air Force. I could go on for pages describing all the things I do on a daily basis. I consider it an honor to serve my country, I enjoy every day at work. I have the opportunity to do things I never thought possible, and I will build what I hope will be an illustrious career as an officer in the United States Military.

I can't say where the time will take me, nor can I say what the outcome will be, but I am looking forward to moving through the places of the world and the regions of STARFLEET, getting to know the people. Chances are, I'll wind up in YOUR region at some point; so in some sense I really DO have a quantum slipstream taking me to places unknown and worlds undiscovered.

My homage to the people, I don't care, I'm gonna talk about my friends, so there! I have come to enjoy talking about the people that have made an impact on me in STARFLEET, people that have made my year in STARFLEET memorable; Mark Anbinder, JC Cohen, Alan Rose, Dave Botsch, and the crew of USS Accord and of the Ithaca NY area.

Once again, thanks for a memorable weekend and for being an embodiment of the family I have come to appreciate in STARFLEET and for once again welcoming my dad into the family.

Thanks also to Scott Akers, John Adcock, Allyson Dyar, Kurt Rothinger, Susan Fugate, Joan Pierce, Rob Alpizar, Mike Malotte, Les Rickard, Joost Ueffing, and all the crew of the #Nexus IRC,Channel for being the voices of friendship each and every evening I needed someone to just talk to over the 'net.

Thanks to Dave Blaser, Commodave 2, for being my alter ego to the north .Go Canada! Some of us down here actually DO like you folks to the north!

Also, thank you to my new friends this year, people who have entered my extended family, Mike Dugas, Matt and Alice Baillie, and the Region 13 electronic crew for welcoming me as a cyber-member of R13, Steve and T.J. Gordon, my newest family members in Texas, Fred McCarthy, who I have gotten to know a bit better this year over the 'net, and Mike Wilkerson, who can now share with me stories of new parenthood.

Bringing the slipstream online

I can't say for sure what the next four months will bring. I'll be out of the country. I'll already be gone by the time you read this, so my access to SFI will be much more limited. But I do plan to remain in touch through electronic mail and, security issues permitting, I look forward to providing my next two articles to the Communiqué as travel diaries from my deployment.

I can't be certain yet if I'll be permitted to do this, but be assured you'll hear from me and I'll try to have something interesting to say.

So ends my 33rd consecutive submission to STARFLEETs Communiqué. I started writing for Issue 88, and here we are in Issue 120! My goal is 100 issues, then I'll retire. Here's to the next 67 issues! Slipstream activated... [Cut to a tunnel of bluish-green light and the streak of stars and space...]

FROM THE 'DANT

By LGen. Wade Olson • Commandant, SFMC

I would like to welcome, once again, our three newly appointed Brigade OICs, Travis Littou of the 12th, Kevin Burke of the 15th and Marie Wilson of the 20th. I hope you have long and happy tenures. The General Staff is always at your disposal.

By the time this issue is released we will already be late in the Christmas Season, but I would like to remind all Marines if you participated in the Toys for Tots Campaign this year make sure your activities are reported in your next unit report. We need all the individual names of Marines who participated and details of what they did with the program. This information must be in no later than June 30, 2004 to qualify for the '04 Commandant's Campaign Ribbon.

I would like to congratulate the Marines who received awards from this office since the last CQ. They were:

Roy Henderson, Prentares Award
Scott Grant, Gold Nebula
James W. Monroe, Disaster Relief Ribbon
Sandy Berenberg, Service Commendation
Raye Crews, Gold Nebula
Roy Henderson, Disaster Relief Ribbon
Carolyn Henderson, Disaster Releif Ribbon
Roy Henderson, Disaster Relief
Carolyn Henderson, Disaster Relief
Greg Franklin, United Nations Service
Greg Franklin, Wounded Lion
Fred Martin, Wounded Lion
David Miller, Commandant's Meritorious Service
Joost Ueffing, Commandant's Meritorious Serv.

Anyone who wishes to submit a bid for next year's Wilderness Challenge should do so by 31 January, 2004. However, there has been one major change in the program. Each Brigade is now allowed to have a challenge. So you may now submit bids for your Brigade. For details on bid requirements please contact me (captwho@tallynet.com) or Linda Olson (ST_DragonLady@msn.com).

The two new ribbons introduced December 2002 have now been included into the awards program. The ribbons are now in the MFM and have new names and criteria stated as well. The 20th Anniversary ribbon is named after the second Commandant of the SFMC, Jim Harris, and the 20-year service ribbon is named after Joost Ueffing. We also added two existing ribbons to our inventory; the Marine Honor Guard Ribbon named after the third Commandant of the SFMC, Ted Tribby and the Medical Proficiency Ribbon named after Dr. David Miller. All of these ribbons are now available for purchase from the SFMC.

We are still accepting names for the Wall of Honor and it has now been added to the SFMC website. If you wish to see the Wall or look up a name that you have submitted please visit the website and check it out. Submit as many names as you like. This is an ongoing project that will be traveling to most regional functions I attend next year including the International Conference in Birmingham, Alabama.

We recently renewed the domain name for the Corps. Considering the exceptional savings we renewed for nine years. A single year was $35 where as a nine-year renewal was only $15 per year. I look forward to seeing the Corps renew again on its 30th Birthday.

As an international organization we try our best to avoid centering awards, activities and the like on the United States. Recently other countries petitioned to have their junior military programs added to the Cadet Legion of Arms criteria. The United Kingdom is now added with their Army Cadet Force and Air Training Corps. Other countries will be added as submitted. The Commandant's Campaign Ribbon is another such award. As we were not familiar with charities in other countries there were none included. We have added the Salvation Army and the Army's National Charity to the list for the United kingdom and the Hospital for sick children foundation and Children's Wish foundation for Canada. So make sure to report your activities with these organizations in our next unit report.

I would like to recognize Sandy Berenberg. The SFMC Service Commendation issue on 11/6/03 was in recognition of his hard work and dedication on behalf of the Corps creating and implementing the Marine Tools in the SFI Database. A big "Thank You" goes out to Sandy for his outstanding support.

We recently acquired a Patch of which we have a very limited supply. It is an in depth color version of the SFMC Patch. You can view it at http://www.tallynet.com/captwho/patch.jpg. If you wish to order this patch please contact the Commandant to make sure they are still available.

Here are the September and October finance reports:

We started the month of September with $1173.49. There was one deposit made during the month on 9/18/03 in the amount of $48.30. There were no checks cashed on the account. The Service Charge on the account for the month totaled $0.74. This leaves a total in the checking account at month's end of $1221.05.

The GS will be discussing the donation of funds that are earmarked for charity. The funds total $65.25.

We started the month with $1.13 in petty cash. We had three expenditures for postage during the month. One on 9/11/03 totaling $1.20, the second on 9/17/03 totaling $0.83, and the third on 9/17/03 totaling $.34. This leaves the SFMC owing the Dant $1.24. This makes the total amount of Corps funds $1219.81.

We started the month of October with $1221.05. There were four deposits made during the month. The first on 10/6/03 for an order received in the mail in the amount of $13.20. The second was on 10/7/03 for a merchandise order received in the mail in the amount of $44.35. The third was a check from CafePress in the amount of $29.85. And the fourth was on 10/29/03 for merchandise orders received in the mail in the amount of $138.07. There were two checks cashed on the account. The first was to Stadri Emblems, Inc. for a patch order in the amount of $175.00. The second was to The HOCK for a ribbon order in the amount of $166.50. The Service Charge on the account for the month totaled $1.64. This leaves a total in the checking account at month's end of $1103.38.

We started the month with Petty Cash owing the Commandant $1.24. We had five expenditures for postage during the month. One on 10/6/03 totaling $1.09, the second on 10/7/03 totaling $2.74 (a delayed posting from 5/8/03), the third on 10/7/03 totaling $1.45, the fourth on 10/14/03 totaling $0.49, and the fifth on 10/29/03 totaling $3.85. We had two expenditures for supplies during the month. One on 10/2/03 totaling $5.99 and the second on 10/25/03 totaling $8.55. We had two deposits to Petty Cash during the month. The first on 10/6/03 in the amount of $.30 which was a donation to the Corps and the second was merchandise sales in the amount of $5.00. This leaves the SFMC owing the Dant $20.10.

The GS is still discussing where we are going to donate the funds earmarked for charity. With the recent check from CafePress, 50% of which goes to this fund, the funds total $80.17.

At the time of this writing the GS had the information for the Columbia Families Fund and had decided to proceed with donating the monies there. There was a question raised about the donation and payment was pending an answer from the Fund Administrator. The answer was not received in time to include in this report.

FROM THE DEPUTY COMANDANT, SFMC

By Brigadier Aaron Murphy • Deputy Comandant, SFMC

1.Chaplain of the Corps - On 08 November 2003, S-4 Officer, Brigadier General Dennis Rayburn, announced the appointment of Lieutenant Timothy Waldrop as the Chaplain of the Corps.

Also announced was the appointment of Colonel Adam Bernay as the Assistant Chaplain of the Corps. I would like to congratulate these two officers and welcome them to my staff. May God have mercy on your souls.

2. By the time this article reaches your homes, we will have announced a new Commanding Officer, Forces Command.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Colonel Mark West for his service to the Corps and to his him luck in his future endeavors. May the wind be at your back.

3. I would like to wish each of you a safe and happy holiday season.

As always, if anybody needs to contact me, I can be reached through the following e-mail address: depdant@sfi-sfmc.org

In Service to the Corps,

Brigadier Aaron Murphy

FORCECOM REPORT

By Colonel Mark West • CO, FORCECOM

Greetings to you from my corner of the universe for the final time as COFORCECOM. This is my final report to the Corps as COFORCECOM, as real life issues will not allow me to give the time and attention to this office that it deserves.

I want to thank the Commandant, Wade Olson, for his confidence and trust in me when he selected me to take over this office from my predecessor, Joost Ueffing.

I also want to thank the members of the SFMC for their patience and trust while I was in office. I am going to concentrate on life closer to home, and hope to work with you all in the future.

Open Positions: Two new Brigade OICs were named. I want to congratulate the newest Brigade commanders: Travis Littou for the 12th BDE and Kevin Burke for the 15th BDE. The 9th BDE will remain open for the time being, and my successor will see to that post.

State of the SFMC as of 23 September 2003:

The following is as it appears on the BDE Reports. If it is incorrect, contact your Brigade Officer in Charge to have to have the information corrected.

Recruits (6):

Mary Brown
Jan Agee
Larry Jones Branch
Rik Rösken
Jeff Weber
Adrian Jones

Discharges (3):

Jason Batts
Paul Woodward
Dustin Williams

Current Membership Reported:

Last Period: (Active & Reserve): 679
This Period: (Active & Reserve): 578
Decrease of 15%

Brigades Reporting:

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, 12, 14, 15, 17, 20: (13)

Brigades Listed:

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, 12, 14, 15, 17, 20: (13)

93% BDEs Reported

Marine Strike Groups Reporting:

Last Period Reported: 102
Last Period Listed: 110
Report Rate: 84%

This Period Reported: 84

This Period Listed: 102
Report Rate: 82%

Marine Strike Groups Formed: 1

54th MSG

Marine Strike Groups Deactivated: 3

615th MSG
650th MSG
378th MSG

The Following Marine Strike Groups did not file a report with their Battalion or BDE OICs (Note: this number will not match with the MSG stats above, due to some units not being reported at all.)

112th MSG
135th MSG
169th MSG
615th MSG
650th MSG
695th MSG
203rd MSG
225th MSG
237th MSG
252nd MEU
269th MSG
282nd MSG
95th MSG

Awards Received:
(As reported to FORCECOM)

1st BDE:

Honor Guard:
Linda Olson, PeteYohe, Alan Jack, John Kane, Dennis Relyea, Jill Rayburn, Dennis Rayburn

Brigade Achievement:
PeteYohe

Embassy Duty:
PeteYohe

Great Barrier Expedition:
PeteYohe

Community Service Citation:
Paul Williams, James Cecil

Leadership Commendation Award:
Paul Williams, James Cecil

Initial Entry:
Robert Roush

Leader's Commendation:
Howard Knapp

Commandant's Campaign:
Bill Herrman, Mandi Livingston, Eric Livingston

2nd BDE:

Wilderness Challenge:
Raye Crews, DJ Allen, Richard Graham, Wade Olson

Commandant Campaign Ribbon:
Raye Crews, Richard Graham

3rd BDE:

Honor Guard:
Joe White, Evan Darnell, John Adams

Initial Entry Training Award:
Joe White, Evan Darnell, Kristi Long, Dan Long

International Service:
Joe White, Evan Darnell

Great Barrier Expedition:
Joe White, Evan Darnell

Embassy Duty:
Joe White, Evan Darnell

Professional Development:
Joe White

4th BDE:

Community Service Citation:
Peggy Slayer, Thomas McKracken

Meritorious Unit Citation:
14th MSG

Leader's Commendation:
MCapt Lee D. Williamson

Brigade Service Commendation:
Colonel John Nelson

5th BDE:

Legion of Arms:
David Kania

Embassy Duty:
Jeff Bragg, Russell Garrison, Joel Housworth, David Kania, Jon Rider, Steve Idell, Norman DeRoux

Joint Service Ribbon:
Steve Idell (x2)

Community Service Citation:
Sean Capellan, Steve Eizenberg, Arlene Sickels

Great Barrier Expedition:
Steve Idell, Norman DeRoux

Marine Honor Guard:
Rick Ervans, Joel Housworth, David Kania

Brigade Achievement Award:
Norman DeRoux

Brigade Service Commendation:
Norman DeRoux

6th BDE:

None

7th BDE:

None.

9th BDE:

None.

10th BDE:

None.

12th BDE:

Brigade Service Commendation:
Justin E. Donovan, Wayne Morrison, Troy S. Cash, Rick Gale, Philip A. Decker, Matthew G. Copple, Scott C. Lanham, Joseph N. Brouhard, Brenna Littou, Travis J. Littou

Meritorious Unit Citation:
211th MSG, 218th MSG, 222nd MSG, 223rd MSG, 226th MSG, 263rd MSG, 276th MSG

14th BDE:

None

15th BDE:

Leaders Commendation:
Michelle Kissel

17th BDE:

Legion of Arms:
Charles Fisher

Community Service Award:
Nancy Lynch, Debra Kern, Randy Lynch, Everett Brooks, Sharen Bloom, Elsa Baker, William Baker, Ethel Lynch

Great Barrier Expedition:
Michael Sunderman, Fleona Dysast'ar, James W Monroe

Embassy Duty:
Michael Sunderman, Fleona Dysast'ar, James W Monroe

Joint Service Ribbon:
Fleona Dysast'ar, James W Monroe

To all SFMC Unit OICs, DOICs, and Members: to ensure that this report is accurate as possible, please ensure that all information is as up to date as possible.

If there are errors, please contact your Unit/BN/BDE OICs to make sure the corrections are taken care of.

Thank you for allowing me to serve the Corps in this office. I hope we will be working together again soon.

STATE OF INFOCOM

By Wade Hoover • CO, INFOCOM

Greetings from the Office of Information Command. I hope this finds you well, and ready for the holiday season. The web team continues to work on updating the SFMC site, as well as adding new features. Next on our plate is the Wall of Honor.

By the time you read this, the wall will be accessible on the site. Please visit http://www.sfi-sfmc.org and follow the link to view it. Also, every log of the *Ask the GS* meetings are now available, as well as information about the *Ask the GS* meeting.

A couple of months ago, I suffered a minor hard drive crash, and I lost part of my e-mail. If you have sent anything to me, and I haven't gotten back with you, please resend. Also, if you have submitted any requests for a Communications Award and have heard nothing, please resend as well.

Should you find any problems with the SFMC site, please send an e-mail to webmaster@sfi-sfmc.org. Include the exact page where you found the error, and any error messages that may show up. Without your feedback, we can't fix the problems.

STATE OF TRACOM

By Brigadier John Roberts • CO, TRACOM

Greetings once again! This month's report will be short.

We have several new staff members so please give them a little time to adjust to their new roles before you slow down on the course requests.

We also have several staff positions open within the Command. If you are interested in any of these posts, please contact either Jill Rayburn (jazdan@wk.net) or me (jcroberts2@hotmail.com) for more information. The requirements for these posts are as follows:

1. Be a member of SFI in good standing

2. Must have completed OTS, but do not need to be a commissioned officer

3. Completed PD-10 (PD-20 is desirable)

4. Complete all courses offered by that Branch or School (the 30 course can be completed within 60 days of appointment).

We also have many openings left for Brigade Training Officers in Brigades around the SFMC. These are the people on the Brigade level who help us carry TRACOM and the SFMCA to the general membership.

These members are authorized to administer any SFMCA Course that they have passed to those in their BDE at various gatherings that may be held in their BDE or that they are able to attend. If you are interested in this type of position, contact either me or Jill Rayburn at the addresses above.

We are always looking for people with new ideas or creative writing abilities who want to help, even if it is not on the full staff member level.

If you have an idea for ways to improve the current branch structure, revise the manuals or for new tests, then we want to hear from you!

If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me. My inbox is always open and I will reply as quickly as possible to all inquiries. Until next time, keep taking our courses.

SFMC AWARDS

By Linda Olson • Chief of Staff, SFMC

The Categories of STARFLEET marine Corps awards are Achievement, Service, and Training. In order of precedence, all Achievement Ribbons are worn ahead of all Service ribbons, which are worn ahead of all Training ribbons.

I will be detailing the different awards starting with the most prestigious and working down in up coming reports. I hope to also announce the names of all the Marines who are authorized to wear each award as part of the article concerning that award.

I will be accessing the Marine records to gather many of these names, therefore if you do not wish your name included in the article please send me a message to that effect.

if you would like your name mentioned in the articles, please submit a list of all awards earned to the following address:

ST_DragonLady@msn.com

Thank you for participating!

111th MSG – SFI HEAVY GUARDS

By Marine Captain Paul Williams • OIC, 111th MSG

A lot of things have been said of the Canadian Forces recently, some good and some bad. But in spite of all that the Canadian Forces have as a whole have served with honour and distinction, the people of Canada and the world. Canadian Soldiers are by their very nature decent, honourable, steadfast, loyal and compassionate. The Canadian Forces are one of the major participants in peacekeeping efforts around the World. I'm proud to have been a member of this organisation and of one of its Reserve (Militia) Regiments. I joined the Governor General's Horse Guards on 4th November 1986 and was Honourably Discharged on 28th September 1988. The Horse Guards are one of Canada's oldest and most senior Militia Regiments tracing its lineage back to 1822.

The Horse Guards have a long tradition of unblemished service to Canada, after all it is a Guards Regiment and as such is considered one of the Elite units in the Canadian Forces. I hope you enjoy this creation, blending the real past with a fictional future.

The Historical Lineage of the 111th. M.S.G., SFMC

1822: Captain G. T. Denison forms a Troop of Dragoons to augment a local militia (reserve) infantry battalion.

1839: Became independent of infantry battalion, was named the Governor General's Body Guard in 1886

1866: Denison's Troop active against the Fenians routing them from Fort Erie and the Niagara frontier, taking many prisoners.

1876: George Taylor Denison III expands the troop to a squadron and then a regiment in 1889. Canada's oldest cavalry troop, the Markham (Button's) Troop, formed in 1810, was one of the troops amalgamated to form the regiment. Both Denison's Troop and Button's Troop active during the North-West Rebellion in 1837.

1885: During the Louis Riel Rebellion the Governor general's Body Guard earned it's first Battle Honour, The North – West Rebellion 1885.

1899: The Governor General's Body Guard supplied volunteers to the Canadian Contingent in the Boer war in South Africa. One of its members, Capt. H. Z. C. Cockburn, earned the Victoria Cross.

1901: The Toronto Mounted Rifles formed at Toronto by regimentation of J and K Squadrons, Canadian Mounted Rifles.

1914-18: 170th Infantry Battalion, Mississauga Horse. The 4th. Canadian Mounted Rifles (CMR) formed by the Mississauga Horse and the Governor General's Body Guards. 4th. CMR was one of the most highly decorated Battalions of the Canadian Army, including a Victoria Cross by Private T.W. Holmes at Passchendale.

1914: Williams Avery "Billy" Bishop enlists with the Mississauga Horse and is sent overseas in 1915.

1916: Billy Bishop leaves the Mississauga Horse, transferring to the Royal Flying Corps.

1917: Bishop promoted to Capt., after flight training, then sent to France. In April Bishop is awarded the Military Cross and in May the Distinguished Service Order. He received the Victoria Cross in June for Gallantry.

1918: Bishop is credited with downing 72 enemy planes, five of them on his last day of combat. Discharged with Honours from military service.

1936: The Governor General's Body Guard and the Mississauga amalgamate to form the Governor General's Horse Guards.

1938: G.G.H.G. receives it's first Standard, which is the unit's flag.

1940: Activated for overseas duty

1941-1945: The Governor General's Horse Guards lose their horses to become a mechanised regiment of tanks. The Regiment saw action in Italy and later North – West Europe. It received nine battle honours for distinguished performance in W.W. 2

1950: The G.G.H.G. sent 50 volunteers for duty with the Special Service Force in Korea.

1965: The Regiment is tasked as a light Reconnaissance (Recce) Regiment equipped with jeeps.

1982: The Regiment converts back to an armoured regiment with the Cougar Armored Car. The regiment continued to send volunteers to NATO. into the 21st. Century.

1990: The Regiment is deployed during the Eugenics Wars as a light mechanized recce force.

Early 21st. Century: World War 3 the G.G.H.G. fought with distinction, was severely decimated in battle and deactivated.

2075: The Governor General's Horse Guards are reactivated in the Colonial Marines as a light armour rapid reaction regiment.

2158: The Governor Generals Horse Guards are absorbed into the newly created United Nations Peace force in June of that year. It is recalled to Earth and is assigned to guards the H.Q. of the U.N.P.F.

2161: The United Federation of Planets is formed. STARFLEET is formed at the same time and all ground units are absorbed into the STARFLEET Marine Corps. The Governor General's Horse Guards are re-designated the Guards of the Commander, STARFLEET, 111th. Marine Strike Group and is equipped with heavy armour units.

2195-2199: The Klingon Wars gave the Guards a chance to shine. It spearheaded the offensive against the Klingons, fighting gallantly and suffered heavy losses. Regardless it achieved all of its objectives and never retreated in battle. No less than five STARFLEET Crosses were awarded for gallantry.

2200: The Unit's designation is changed to the 111th Marine Strike Group, STARFLEET Marine Guards, in honour of their service in the Klingon War.

2347: Cardassian war 111th M.S.G. STARFLEET Marine Guards participates in several engagements causing heavy losses to Cardassian military forces.

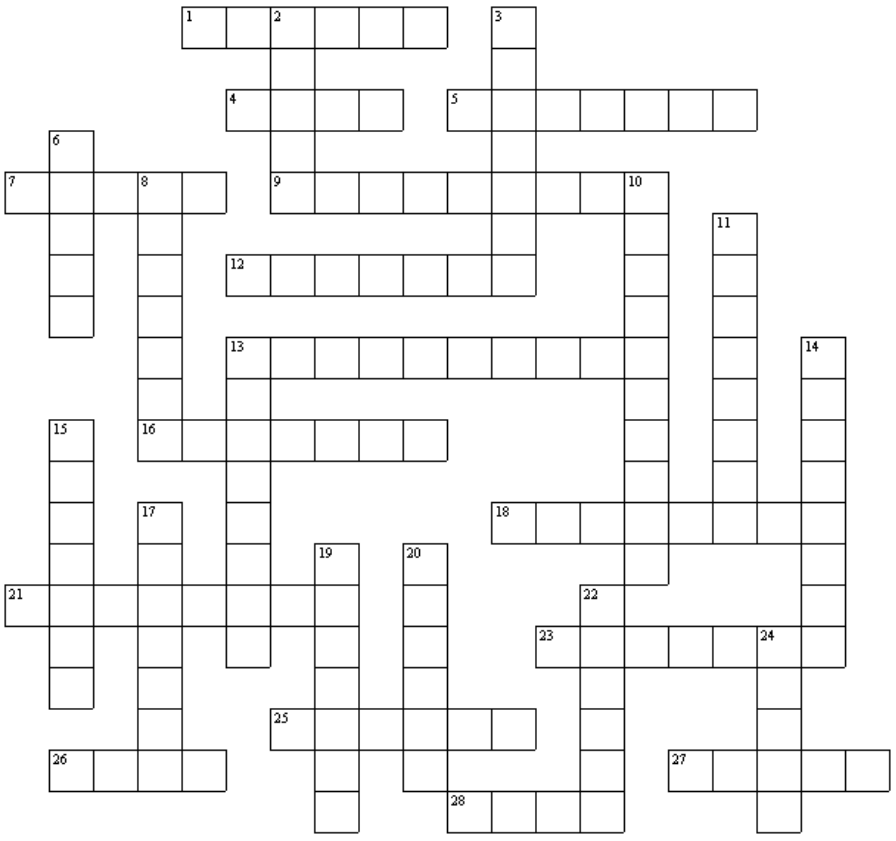
2355: The 111th. M.S.G. is equipped with Mecha and re-designated the 111th. STARFLEET HEAVY GUARDS STARFLEET's Own Mecha

2366: The unit participates in "Operation Hammer" and together with other Marine units devastates the Cardassian military, this Action Leads to the truce in 2367.

Today the 111th M.S.G. operates on a rotating bases with Headquarters Squadron and "A" Squadron tasked to the defence of Terra and the Body Guard of the Commander STARFLEET. B and C Squadron based on the Federation/Cardassian Border Regions.

GAMES & PUZZLES

A STARFLEET CROSSWORD — By Dallas Vinson



Down:

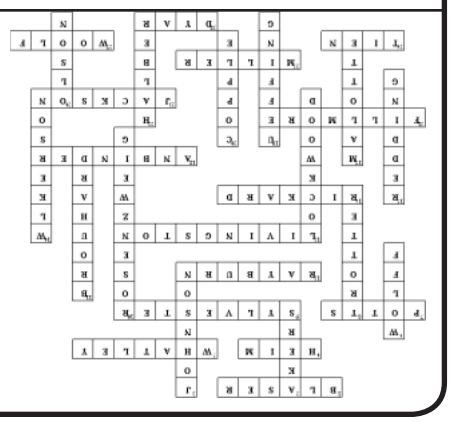
2 Historian
3 Quartermaster
6 Director: Stampede Program
8 Chief of Communications
10 Director: DTS
11 Director: Dept. Online Gaming
13 Director: Engineering
14 SFI Webmaster
15 Director of Personnel
17 Commander STARFLEET
19 Chief of Operations
20 Director: FDP Program
22 Communiqué Editor
24 Commandant, SFMC

Across:

1 Director: Communications
4 Director: Sciences
5 Director: Morale
7 Chief Financial Officer
9 Director of Public Relations
12 Director: Chaplains & Couns.
13 Chief of CompOps
16 Loss Prevention Specialist
18 Vice-Commander Starfleet
21 Scholarships Coordinator
23 Inspector General
25 Director: Medical
26 SHoC
27 Awards Director
28 Chief of Staff

All Personnel current as of 11/25/2003

If you need some help with the clues, just turn the CQ upside down and consult to the solution to the right!



A STARFLEET YOUTH WORD SEARCH — By Mysteri Tullis

C	H	A	P	T	E	R	F	C	M	C	R	C	S
E	E	M	A	I	L	F	D	O	M	A	S	X	P
F	K	W	T	C	D	A	P	M	A	D	T	H	A
D	R	Q	H	H	D	N	Y	M	R	E	A	K	C
S	R	I	Z	F	K	C	O	U	I	T	R	E	E
T	H	E	E	S	I	L	U	N	N	A	T	S	S
C	X	U	G	N	S	U	T	I	E	C	R	P	T
T	K	P	T	I	D	B	H	Q	S	A	E	C	A
V	M	R	L	T	O	S	C	U	M	D	K	I	T
F	D	I	I	C	L	N	H	E	H	E	W	Z	I
X	U	W	K	F	X	E	G	I	T	M	S	U	O
F	D	N	G	D	L	T	E	F	P	Y	R	Y	N

Things youth can expect to find in STARFLEET.

REGION
STAR TREK
FDP YOUTH
CHAPTER
SHUTTLE
SPACE STATION
COMMUNIQUE
MARINES
CADET ACADEMY
EMAIL
FAN CLUB
FRIENDSHIP
FUN

BUILD A BUBBLE POWERED ROCKET

By Mystery Tullis • Shttle Claymore, STARFLEET Region 12

Materials:

- Paper, regular 8-1/2- by 11-inch paper, such as computer printer paper or even notebook paper.
- Plastic 35-mm film canister (The film canister MUST be one with a cap that fits INSIDE the rim instead of over the outside of the rim.)
- Cellophane tape
- Scissors
- Effervescing (fizzing) antacid tablet
- Paper towels
- Water
- Eye protection (like eye glasses, sun glasses, or safety glasses)

Basic Steps:

- Wrap and tape a tube of paper around the film canister. Hint: Tape the canister to the end of the paper before you start wrapping. Important! Place the lid end of the canister down.
- Tape fins to your rocket body, if you want.
- Roll a circle, with a wedge cut out, into a cone and tape it to the rocket's top.

Blasting Off

- Put on your eye protection.
- Turn the rocket upside down and remove the canister's lid.
- Fill the canister one-third full of water.
- Drop one-half of an effervescing antacid tablet into the canister.
- Snap the lid on tight. Work quickly!
- Stand your rocket on a launch platform, such as your sidewalk or driveway.
- Stand back and wait for blast off!

How does the pop rocket work?

When the tablet is placed in water, bubbles of gas escape. Because the bubbles weigh less than the water they go up, instead of down. When the bubbles reach the surface, they break open. The gas escapes from the bubbles and push on the sides of the canister. The pressure of the gas causes the top to pop off the canister. This causes all the water and gas to rush down and out, pushing the canister rocket up. Real rockets work kind of the same way. But instead of using tablets that fizz in water, they use rocket fuel.

CONVENTION LISTINGS

Compiled By Corporal Captain Blair Learn

Convention attendees: When calling conventions for information, don't call collect and don't call too late in the evening (many organizers list their home phone numbers). When writing for information, it's frequently a good idea to include a self-addressed stamped envelope.

Convention Organizers: Please send the convention's name, dates, location, and contact information to Blair Learn at 11604 King's Arrow CT, Germantown, MD 20876 or to Fanboy@dactylmanor.org. Please allow a minimum of three months time between your submission and the convention's date.

Thank you to everyone who's contributed information to the list. Special thanks to: Anthony Colon, Sheryl Schopfer, James Armstrong, Ed Dravecky, Jerry Tien, Margaret Organ-Kean, Mali Munch, Sheryl Schopfer, Colin Douglas, Laura Jenks, Kris Pitman, Beth Agnew, Susan Harris, Paul R Jones, Rick Gale, and Bobbie DuFault

---

Alabama

Apr 30-May 2 **PersaCon**, Madison, Alabama; Info: PO Box 1035, Madison, AL. 35758 http://www.geocities.com/chibicon2k3/ PersaConInfo@aol.com Guests: Stephanie Chateau, Steve Bennett, Crystak Gilleland, Michael Coleman,

May 21-23 **Mobicon**, Mobile, Alabama; Info: PO Box 161632 Mobile, AL 36616 http://www.mobicon.org/ president@mobicon.org Guests: Lee Seed, Albrecht, Andrew Greenberg Benefits: Make A Wish Foundation

Arizona

Feb 14 **Creation**, Phoenix, Arizona; Info: 217 S. Kenwood Street, Glendale, CA 91202 Ph: 818-409-0960 http://www.creationent.com/ tickets@creationent.com Guests: William Shatner

Feb 15 **Creation**, Phoenix, Arizona; Info: 217 S. Kenwood Street, Glendale, CA 91202 Ph: 818-409-0960 http://www.creationent.com/ tickets@creationent.com Guests: Stephanie Romanov, Julie Benz, Iyari Limon, John Kassir, Robin Atkin Downes, Jacqueline Lichtenberg

Apr 8-11 **World Horror Convention 2004**, Phoenix, Arizona; Info: PO Box 26665, Tempe, AZ 85285 Ph: 480-945-6890 http://www.whc2004.org/ whc2004@leprecon.org Guests: Douglas Clegg, Caniglia, Stephen Jones, David Morrell, Dee Snider, Mort Castle

May 7-9 **LepreCon 30**, Phoenix, Arizona; Info: PO Box 26665, Tempe, AZ 85285 Ph: 480-945-6890 http://www.leprecon.org/ lep30@leprecon.org Guests: Donato Giancola, Sylvana Anderson

California

Feb 13-16 **Gallifrey One**, Los Angeles, California; Info: PO Box 3021, North Hollywood, CA 91609 Ph: 818-752-3756 http://www.gallifreyone.com/ info@gallifreyone.com Guests: Janet Fielding, Yee Jee Tso

Feb 14 **Creation Super Sale**, San Jose, California; Info: 1010 N. Central Ave, 4th Floor, Glendale, CA 91202 Ph: 818-409-0960 http://www.creationent.com/ tickets@creationent.com

Feb 21-22 **Alternative Press Expo**, San Francisco, California; Info: PO Box 128458, San Diego, CA 92112-8458 Ph: 619-491-2475 http://www.comic-con.org/ cciweb@nucgen.com Guests: Daniel Clowes, Chynna Clugston-Major, Howard Cruse, Jhonen Vasquez, Robert Williams

Feb 27-Mar 29 **ConDor**, San Diego, California; Info: PO Box 15771, San Diego, CA 92175-5771 http://www.condorcon.org/ Info@ConDorCon.org Guests: Robert Silverberg, Karen Haber

Mar 19-21 **Wizard World Los Angeles**, Los Angels, California; Info: 151 Wells Avenue, Congers, NY 10920 http://www.wizarduniverse.com/ conventions/la.cfm

Mar 26-28 **Creation**, Pasadena, California; Info: 217 S. Kenwood Street, Glendale, CA 91202 Ph: 818-409-0960 http://www.creationent.com/ tickets@creationent.com Guests: William Shatner, Leonard Nimoy, Brent Spiner, Sally Kellerman, Connor Trinneer, Alexander Siddig, Dominic Keating, Anthony Montgomery, Walter Koenig, Andrew Robinson, Armin Shimerman, Rene Auberjonois, Cirroc Lofton, John Rhys-Davies, Amanda Tapping, Michael Shanks, Michael Rosenbaum, Mark Verheiden, Anthony Michael Hall, Nicole de Boer, Chris Bruno, John L. Adams, Kristen Dalton, Andy Hallett, Mercedes Mcnab, Robia La Morte, Iyari Limon, Mark Lutz, James Leary, Julie Benz, Jeremy Bulloch, Kenny Baker, Rusty Goffe, Ken Colley, Peter Mayhew, Leni Parker, Gina Torres

Apr 3-4 **Hollywood Collectors Show**, Hollywood, California; Info: PO Box 5040, Spring Hill, Florida 34611 Ph: 352-683-5110 http: //www.hollywoodcollectorshow.com/ hcs@atlantic.net

Apr 24-25 **Creation**, Burbank , California; Info: 217 S. Kenwood Street, Glendale, CA 91202 Ph: 818-409-0960 http://www.creationent.com/ tickets@creationent.com Guests: Chase Masterson, Misty Mundae, Ellie Cornell, Jenya Lano, Julia Rose, Julie Strain, Paget Brewster, Audie England, Mia Zottoli, Celeste Yarnall

Apr 30-May 2 **WonderCon**, San Francisco, California; Info: PO Box 128458, San Diego, CA 92112-8458 Ph: 619-491-2475 http://www.comic-con.org/ cciweb@nucgen.com Guests: Adam Hughes, Bill Morrison

May 23-24 **Creation**, Burbank, California; Info: 217 S. Kenwood Street, Glendale, CA 91202 Ph: 818-409-0960 http://www.creationent.com/ tickets@creationent.com

May 28-31 **BayCon**, San Jose, California; Info: PO Box 610427, San Jose, Ca. 95161-0427 Ph: 408-450-1788 http://www.baycon.org/ reg@baycon.org Guests: Michael Swanwick, Jael, Elaine Pelz, Sean Stewart

May 28-31 **FanimeCon**, San Jose, California; Info: PO Box 8068, San Jose, CA 95155-8068 http:// www.fanime.com/ help@fanime.com

May 28-31 **KublaCon**, Burlingame, California; Info: PO Box 170436, San Francisco, CA 94117 Ph: 866-KublaCon http://www.kublacon.com/ info@KublaCon.com

Colorado

Feb 12-15 **Genghis Con XXV**, Denver, Colorado; Info: PO Box 472664, Aurora, CO 80047-2664 Ph: 303-690-6054 http: //www.denvergamers.com/genghis/ dgagames@aol.com

Apr 16-18 **Starfest**, Denver, Colorado; Info: PO Box 24955, Denver, CO 80224-0955 Ph: 303-757-5850 http://www.starland.com/ starland@starland.com

Apr 16-18 **Chosen Con 2**, Denver, Colorado; Info: PO Box 2333, Fairfax, VA 22031 Ph: 414-333-1295 http: //www.chosenentertainment.com/cc/ staff@chosenentertainment.com

Connecticut

Mar 19-21 **ConnCon**, Stamford, Connecticut; Info: PO Box 444, Sherman, CT 06784-0444 http://www.conncon.com/ Willi@ConnCon.com

Florida

Mar 5-7 **MegaCon**, Orlando, Florida; Info: PO Box 1056, Safety Harbor, FL 34695-1056 Ph: 727-712-8700 http://www.megaconvention.com/ info@megaconvention.com

Mar 18-21 **Sleuthfest**, Fort Lauderdale, Florida; Info: 6619 Roxbury Lane, Miami Beach, FL 33141 http://www.mwa-florida.org/sleuthfest.htm Sharonrpotts@aol.com Guests: Robert B. Parker, Dr. Michael M. Baden

Mar 24-28 **IAFA**, Fort Lauderdale, Florida; Info: PO Box 10416, Blacksburg, VA 24062 http: //www.iafa.org/ Guests: Daìna Chaviano, Marcial Souto, Elizabeth Hand, Brian Aldiss

Apr 30-May 2 **Vulkon**, Tampa, Florida; Info: PO Box 297122, Pembroke Pines FL 33029-7122 Ph: 954-441-TREK http://www.vulkon.com/ joemotes@aol.com

May 28-30 **Oasis 17**, Orlando, Florida; Info: PO Box 592905, Orlando, FL 32859-2905 http: //oasfis.org/oasis_17.html oasfis@sff.net Guests: Allen Steele, H. Ed Cox, Michael Longcor, Jack McDevitt, Rebecca Schumacher

Georgia

Apr 2-5 **CostumeCon 22**, Atlanta, Georgia; Info: PO Box 656, Decatur, GA 30031 http://www.costume-con.org/ georgialei@hotmail.com

Apr 8-11 **Fantasm**, Atlanta, Georgia; Info: 67 Gail Drive, Athens, GA 30606 Ph: 706-369-1561 http:// www.fantasm.org/ info@fantasm.org Guests: Michael Manning, Andy Lee, Lyn Gaza, Mark Jackson, Mike Weaver

Idaho

Mar 19-21 **Anime Oasis**, Boise, Idaho; Info: 420 9th Ave North, Nampa, ID 83687 http: //www.animeoasis.org/

Illinois

Feb 6-8 **Winter Wars**, Champaign, Illinois; Info: 304 E. Sherman Box 1012, St. Joseph, IL 61813 Ph: 217-469-9917 http://www.prairienet.org/ winterwar/ winterwar@prairienet.org

Mar 5-7 **Slanted Fedora**, Chicago, Illinois; Info: 4623 Aminda, Shawnee, KS 66226 Ph: 913-441-9405 http://www.sfedora.com/ SFedora1@aol.com

Mar 13-14 **Chicago ComicFest**, Rosemont, Illinois; Info: 33228 W. 12 Mile Rd, PMB #286, Farmington Hills, MI 48334 http://www.motorcity comiccon.com/chicago_comic_fest/ info@motorcitycomiccon.com

Mar 26-28 **Egyptian Campaign**, Carbondale, Illinois; Info: c/o SIUC Strategic Games Society, Office of Student Development, 3rd Floor Student Center, Carbondale, IL 62901-4425 Ph: 618-457-5702 http:/ /www.siu.edu/~gamesoc/ecgamcon/ EgyptCampaign15@aol.com

Apr 9-11 **2 Be CONtinued**, Rosemont, Illinois; Info: PO Box 1582, No. Riverside, IL 60546 http://www.2becontinued.com info@2becontinued.com

Apr 24-25 **Creation**, Chicago, Illinois; Info: 217 S. Kenwood Street, Glendale, CA 91202 Ph: 818-409-0960 http://www.creationent.com/ tickets@creationent.com Guests: William Shatner, Leonard Nimoy

May 14-16 **Anime Central**, Rosemont, Illinois; Info: 1694 Paysphere Circle, Chicago, IL 60674 http://www.acen.org/ aceninfo@acen.org

Iowa

May 1-2 **Demicon XV**, Des Moines, Iowa; Info: PO Box 7572, Des Moines, IA 50322-7572 Ph: 515-224-7654 http://www.demicon.org/ info@demicon.org Guests: Emma Bull, Will Shetterly, Frank Kelly Freas, Rusty Hevelin, Tadao Tomomatsu

Kentucky

May 15-16 **Wonderfest**, Louisville, Kentucky; Info: PO Box 5757, Louisville, KY 40255-0757 http: //www.wonderfest.com/

Maryland

Feb 13-15 **Farpoint**, Hunt Valley, Maryland; Info: 6099 Hunt Club Road, Elkridge, MD 2107 Ph: 410-579-1257 http://www.farpointcon.com/ trekcontact@home.com Guests: Bill Mumy, Brad Dourif, TA Chafin, Polly Luttrell, Peter David, Jan Michael Friedman, Bob Greenberger, Howard Weinstein, Liliana Mumy, David Batchelor, Inge Heyer

May 28-31 **Balticon 38**, Baltimore, Maryland; Info: PO Box 686, Baltimore MD 21203-0686 Ph: 410-563-2737 http://www.balticon.org/ balticoninfo@balticon.org Guests: Lois McMaster Bujold, Dave Seeley, Heather Alexander, Patricia Bray

Massachusetts

Feb 13-15 **Boskone 41**, Boston, Massachusetts; Info: PO Box 809, Framingham, MA 01701-0809 http://www.nesfa.org/boskone/ info@boskone.org Guests: Stephen Baxter, Richard Hescox, Betsy Mitchell, Bill Sutton, Brenda Sutton

Feb 19-22 **Total Confusion**, Mansfield, Massachusetts; Info: PO Box 70585, Worcester, MA 01607 Ph: 603-644-0437 http://www.totalcon.com/ info@totalcon.com

Apr 16-18 **OurCon**, Amherst, Massachusetts; Info: c/o Game Hobbyists' League, RSO 178 - 416 SUB, UMass, MA 01003 http: //www.ourcon.org/

Michigan

Apr 16-18 **Penguicon 2.0**, Warren, Michigan; Info: PO Box 401302, Redford, MI 48240-9302 http://www.penguicon.org/ info@penguicon.org Guests:

CONVENTION LISTINGS (CONTINUED)

Compiled By Corporal Captain Blair Learn

Neil Gaiman, Jeff Bates, Steve Jackson, Wil Wheaton, Jon Hall, Eric Raymond, Rob Malda, Fred Gallagher, Howard Tayler

May 28-31 **MediaWest*Con 24**, Lansing, Michigan; Info: 200 E. Thomas St., Lansing MI 48906-4047 http://members.aol.com/MdiaWstCon/mwc.htm mdiawstcon@aol.com

Minnesota

Feb 6-8 **Con of the North**, St. Paul, Minnesota; Info: PO Box 18096, Minneapolis, MN 55418 Ph: 651-698-8565 http://www.conofthenorth.com/ info@conofthenorth.org

Mar 5-7 **Marscon**, Bloomington, Minnesota; Info: PO Box 21213, Egan MN 55121 Ph: 612-724-0687 http://marscon.org/ 2003info@marscon.org Guests: Doctor Demento, Richard Biggs, Baron David E. Romm, The Great Lukeski

Apr 9-11 **Minicon 39**, Minneapolis, Minnesota; Info: PO Box 8297, Lake Street Station Minneapolis, MN 55408 http://www.mnstf.org/minicon/ request@minicon.mnstf.org Guests: Walter Jon Williams, Sharyn November, Deb Geisler

Apr 18 **Creation Super Sale**, Minneapolis, Minnesota; Info: 1010 N. Central Ave, 4th Floor, Glendale, CA 91202 Ph: 818-409-0960 http://www.creationent.com/ tickets@creationent.com

Mississippi

Apr 2-4 **CoastCon XXVII**, Biloxi, Mississippi; Info: PO Box 1423, Biloxi, MS 39533 Ph: 228-435-5217 http://www.coastcon.org/ coastcon@coastcon.org

Missouri

Feb 20-22 **Visioncon**, Springfield, Missouri; Info: PO Box 1415, Springfield, MO 65801-1415 Ph: 417-886-7219 http://www.visioncon.net/ junior@visioncon.net Guests: Gary Bedell, Mary Capps, Fredd Gorham, Eugene Roddenberry, Mike Strain, Al Turner, Mike Worley

Apr 2-4 **Slanted Fedora**, Kansas City, Missouri; Info: 4623 Aminda, Shawnee, KS 66226 Ph: 913-441-9405 http://www.sfedora.com/ SFedora1@aol.com

May 21-23 **STARFLEET Region 12 Summit**, Joplin, Missouri; Info: 1538 MC 2061, Yellville, AR 72687 Ph: 870-436-6100 http://www.team12.org/ summit/ killough@southshore.com

May 28-30 **ConquesT**, Kansas City, Missouri; Info: PO Box 36212, Kansas City MO 64171-6212 Ph: 816-822-2740 http://www.kcscien cefiction.org/ joyce@downing.net Guests: Jennifer Roberson, Steve Francis, Sue Francis, Jody Lee

Montana

May 28-31 **MisCon 18**, Missoula, Montana; Info: PO Box 7721, Missoula MT. 59807 http://www.miscon.org/ enigma@bigsky.net Guests: Ellisa Mitchell

Nebraska

Mar 26-28 **Willycon 6**, Wayne, Nebraska; Info: Wayne State College SF & Fantasy Club, c/o Conn Library, Wayne, NE 68787 http://www.wsc.edu/student/ activities/clubs/sfclub/willycon/ scifict@wsc.edu Guests: Eric Flint, John Debnam

New Jersey

Feb 27-29 **Ubercon**, Secaucus, New Jersey; Info: 370 Ramsey Rd, Yardley, PA 19067 http://www.ubercon.com/ acasbarian@ubercon.com

Mar 20-21 **Creation**, Secaucus, New Jersey; Info: 217 S. Kenwood Street, Glendale, CA 91202 Ph: 818-409-0960 http://www.creationent.com/ tickets@creationent.com

New York

Mar 19-21 **Lunacon**, Rye Brook, New York; Info: PO Box 3566, New York, NY 10008-3566 http:// www.lunacon.org/ info@lunacon.org Guests: Storm Constantine, Michael Whelan, Lucy Schmeidler, Pete Abrams

Mar 26-28 **I-Con 23**, Stony Brook, New York; Info: PO Box 550, Stony Brook, NY 11790-0550 Ph: 631-632-6045 http://www.iconsf.org/ info@iconsf.org

Apr 2 **UBCon XV**, Buffalo, New York; Info: 308 Student Union, SUNY at Buffalo, Buffalo, NY 14260 http://www.ubsarpa.com kristophth@hotmail.com

Apr 16-18 **EerieCon VI**, Niagara Falls, New York; Info: PO Box 412, Buffalo, NY 14226 http://www.eeriecon.org/ info@eeriecon.org Guests: Larry Niven, Brian Lumley, Anne Bishop, Hal Clement, Carolyn Clink, David Clink, David DeGraff, Lynn Flewelling, Charles Gannon, James Alan Gardner, Mark Garland, Sephera Giron, Lois Gresh, Paul Levinson , Derwin Mak, Will McDermott, John-Allen Price, Robert J. Sawyer, Darrell Schweitzer, Josepha Sherman, David Stephenson, Edo Van Belkom, Pat York

May 16-23 SuperTrek 1, New York, New York; Info: 10370 USA Today Way, Miramar, FL 33025 Ph: 866-456-1263 http://www.supertrek.com/ registration@supertrek.com Guests: George Takei, John Billingsley, Roxann Dawson , Dr. Lawrence Schoen, J. G. Hertzler, Robert O'Reilly

North Carolina

Mar 19-21 **Stellarcon 28**, High Point, North Carolina; Info: 5701 Running Ridge Rd, Greensboro, NC 27407 Ph: 336-294-8041 http://www.stellarcon.org/ info@stellarcon.org Guests: Fred Saberhagen, M. Wayne Miller, Aaron Allston, dgk goldberg, Julie Anne Parks, John Ringo, Michael Stackpole, Timothy Zahn, James Roberts, Cheralyn Lambeth

May 28-30 **Animazement**, Durham, North Carolina; Info: PO Box 1383, Cary, NC 27512-1383 http: //www.animazement.org/ informatio n@animazement.org

North Dakota

Apr 23-25 **ValleyCon 29**, Fargo, North Dakota; Info: PO Box 7202, Fargo, ND 58106-7202 http://www.valleycon.com/ valleycon@hotmail.com

Ohio

Mar 19-21 **Millennicon**, Kings Island, Ohio; Info: 143 Schloss Ln., Dayton, OH 45418 Ph: 513-659-2258 http://www.millennicon.org/ millennicon@mvfl.org Guests: Harry Turtledove, Tom Smith

Apr 2-4 **Frightvision**, Westlake, Ohio; Info: PO Box 547 Ravenna, OH 44266 Ph: 330-297-5441 http://www.frightvision.com/ FrightVisionInfo@aol.com

Apr 2-4 **Cinema Wasteland**, Strongville, Ohio; Info: PO Box 81551, Cleveland, OH 44181 Ph: 440-891-1920 http: //www.cinemawasteland.com/ info@cinemawasteland.com Guests: Marilyn Burns, Robert A. Burns, Allen Danziger, Gunnar Hansen, Edwin Neal, Paul A. Partain, Bill Johnson, Stephen Blickenstaff, Tom Sullivan

Apr 23-15 **Vulkon**, Cleveland, Ohio; Info: PO Box 297122, Pembroke Pines FL 33029-7122 Ph: 954-441-TREK http://www.vulkon.com/ joemotes@aol.com Guests: Mercedes Mcnab, Julie Benz

May 28-31 **Marcon 39**, Columbus, Ohio; Info: PO Box 141414, Columbus, OH 43214 http://www.marcon.org/ marchair@cshellsweb.com

Oregon

Mar 5-7 **Gamestorm**, Portland, Oregon; Info: PO Box 764, Portland OR 97207 http://www.pdxgames.com/ chair@pdxgames.com

Pennsylvania

Apr 30-May 2 **Pittsburgh Comicon**, Monroeville, Pennsylvania; Info: 1002 Graham Ave., Windber, PA 15963 Ph: 814-467-4116 http://www.pittsburghcomicon.com/ pcomicon@nb.net Benefits: Make A Wish

May 21-23 **Wizard World Philly**, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Info: 151 Wells Avenue, Congers, NY 10920 http://www.wizarduniverse.com/ conventions/philly.cfm

South Carolina

Apr 16-18 **Roundcon**, Columbia, South Carolina; Info: 1119 Flora Drive, Columbia, SC 29223-5222 http://www.roundcon.org/ Roundcon@aol.com

Tennessee

Mar 19-21 **Galacticon**, Chattanooga, Tennessee; Info: 6636 Shallowford Rd, Chattanooga, TN 37421 http: //www.thewebfool.com/galacticon/ galacticon@vei.net

Mar 26-28 **MidSouthCon 22/ DeepSouthCon 42**, Memphis, Tennessee; Info: PO Box 11446, Memphis, TN 38111-0446 Ph: 901-274-7355 http: //www.midsouthcon.org/ info@midsouthcon.org Guests: David Brin, Todd Lockwood, C. J. Cherryh, Glen Cook, Jane Fancher, Selina Rosen, Stephen Pagel, Joy Marie Ledet

Apr 2-4 **Middle Tenessee Anime Convention 4.01b**, Nashville, Tennessee; Info: PO Box 290423, Nashville, TN 37229-0423 http: //mtac.animenashville.org/

Texas

Feb 20-22 **ConDFW**, Richardson, Texas; Info: 2183 Buckingham Road #282, Richardson, TX 75081 http: //www.condfw.org/ info@condfw.org Guests: Lois McMaster Bujold

Mar 25-28 **AggieCon 35**, College Station, Texas; Info: Memorial Student Center, Box J-1, Texas A&M University, TAMUS 1237, College Station, TX 77844-1237 http://aggiecon.tamu.edu/ baldeagle@tamu.edu

Apr 3-4 **Sci-Fi Expo & Toy Show**, Richardson, Texas; Info: PO Box 941111, Plano Tx 75094-1111 Ph: 972-578-0213 http://www.scifiexpo.com/ scifiexpo@aol.com

May 7-9 **Vulkon**, Houston, Texas; Info: PO Box 297122, Pembroke Pines FL 33029-7122 Ph: 954-441-TREK http://www.vulkon.com/ joemotes@aol.com Guests: Mercedes Mcnab, Julie Benz, Juliet Landau

Utah

May 28-30 **CONDuit**, Salt Lake City, Utah; Info: PO Box 11745, Salt Lake City UT 84147-0745 http:// conduit.sfcon.org/CONduit/ Guests: Sharon Lee, Steve Miller, L.E. Modesitt Jr, Dave Wolverton

Vermont

Apr 23-25 **Bakuretsu Con**, Burlington, Vermont; Info: PO Box 44, Vergennes VT 05491 Ph: 802-877-2647 http://www.bakuretsucon.org info@bakuretsucon.org

Virginia

Feb 13-15 **Katsucon 10**, Arlington, Virginia; Info: PO Box 62424, Virginia Beach, VA 23466-2424 http://www.katsucon.com/ katsucon@katsucon.com Guests: Fred Gallagher

Feb 27-29 **SheVaCon 12**, Roanoke, Virginia; Info: PO Box 416, Verona, VA 24482-0416 Ph: 540-248-4152 http://shevacon.org/ Guests: Jim Butcher, Charles Keegan, Stephen Pagel, Alan Siler, Warren Lapine, Mark Pederson, Catherine Twohill, James Emery Barnes, Christopher Howard

Mar 19-21 **Technicon 21**, Blacksburg, Virginia; Info: PO Box 256, Blacksburg, VA 24063-0256 http://www.technicon.org/ info@technicon.org

Mar 26-28 **Madicon 13**, Harrisonburg, Virginia; Info: PO Box 607, Harrisonburg, VA 22801 http://www.madicon.org/ conchair@madicon.org

Apr 30-May 2 **Malice Domestic**, Arlington, Virginia; Info: PO Box 31137, Bethesda, MD 20824-1137 http://www.malicedomestic.org/ info@malicedomestic.org Guests: Dorothy Cannell, Jan Burke, Erle Stanley Gardner, Marian Babson, Linda Pletzke

May 28-30 **Anime Mid-Atlantic**, Richmond, Virginia; Info: PO Box 2636, Glen Allen, VA 23060 http: //www.animemidatlantic.com/ anime midatlantic@hotmail.com

Washington

Feb 6-8 **Creation**, Seattle, Washington; Info: 217 S. Kenwood Street, Glendale, CA 91202 Ph: 818-409-0960 http://www.creationent.com/ tickets@creationent.com Guests: Robert Beltran, Amanda Tapping, Tim Russ, Robert Picardo, Ethan Phillips, Peter Mayhew, Jeremy Bulloch

Feb 13-15 **Radcon 4**, Pasco, Washington; Info: PMB# 162, 2527 West Kennewick Ave, Kennewick, WA 99336-3126 http://www.radcon.org/ shawn_pack@yahoo.com Guests: Gardner Dozois, Chris Bunch, Radcon Waste Cleanup, Mary Hansen Roberts, Meryl Birn

Feb 13-15 **STARFLEET Region 5 Conference**, Pasco, Washington; Info: 1707 W 8th Place, Kennewick,

CONVENTION LISTINGS (CONTINUED)

Compiled By Corporal Captain Blair Learn

WA 99336 http://www.uss-rubicon.org/Summit/RadCon.htm

Feb 27-29 **Potlatch 13**, Seattle, Washington; Info: PO Box 31848 Seattle, WA 98103-1848 http://www.potlatch-sf.org/ info@potlatch-sf.org Benefits: Clarion West

Apr 8-11 **Norwescon 27**, Seatac, Washington; Info: PO Box 68547, Seattle WA 98168-0547 Ph: 206-270-7850 http://www.norwescon.org/ info@norwescon.org Guests: Mike Resnick, Ben Bova, Joe Haldeman, Jim Baen

Apr 23-25 **Sakura Con**, Seattle, Washington; Info: 800 5th Ave, Box 142, Seattle, WA 98104 http://sakuracon.org/ Lorna@shadowydreamer.com

May 14-16 **TolCon**, Seattle, Washington; Info: 13522 39th Ave NE, Seattle WA 98125 Ph: 206-440-3221 http://www.tolcon.org info@tolcon.org Guests: Dany Slone, Jasmine Watson, Jen Leigh, Julie Haehn, Lori Sammy, The Great Luke Ski, Maddy DuMont, Molly Winter, Jaida Jones, Dorian Mirth, David Salo Benefits: People for Puget Sound & American Diabetes Association

Wisconsin

Mar 5-7 **Congenial**, Racine, Wisconsin; Info: PO Box 542911, Chicago, IL 60654 http://www.congenial.org/ info@congenial.org

Apr 2-4 **Odyssey Con**, Madison, Wisconsin; Info: 901 Jenifer St., Madison, 53703 http://www.venture-1.com/~oddcon/ oddcon@venture-1.com Guests: Joe Haldeman, David Weber

May 28-31 **WisCon 28**, Madison, Wisconsin; Info: PO Box 1624, Madison, WI 53701 Ph: 608-233-8850 http://www.sf3.org/wiscon/ concom@sf3.org Guests: Eleanor Arnason, Patricia McKillip,

Australia

Australian Capital Territory

Mar 13-14 **Best Of Both Worlds**, Canberra, Australian Capital Territory; Info: PO Box 960, Belconnen Mall, Belconnen ACT, 2616, AUSTRALIA Ph: +61 2 9453 0290 http://www.bobw.com.au/ alc@bobw.com.au Guests: Dominic Monaghan

Apr 23-26 **Conflux: 43rd Australian National Science Fiction Convention**, Canberra, Australian Capital Territory; Info: PO Box 903, Belconnen, ACT 2616 Ph: +61 0 418 540 160 http://www.conflux.org.au info@conflux.org.au Guests: Greg Benford, Sean McMullen, Harry Turtledove, Karen Herkes

New South Wales

Apr 24 **Friends of Science Fiction Presents**, Sydney, New South Wales; Info: PO Box 797, Fairfield NSW 1860, Australia Ph: +61-02-9523-8385 http://www.fsf.com.au/ FSF_Presents@yahoo.com.au Guests: Corin Nemec

Queensland

Apr 26 **Vortex Events**, Brisbane, Queensland; Info: GPO Box 2004, Brisbane, QLD, 4001 Ph: +0 61 7 3356 5472 http://www.vortexevents.com vortex_events@yahoo.com.au Guests: Corin Nemec

Western Australia

Apr 8-12 **SwanCon 29**, Perth, Western Australia; Info: GPO Box G429, Perth WA 6841, Australia http://www.swancon.com/

Canada

Ontario

Feb 20-22 **Pandemonium 21**, Toronto, Ontario; Info: c/o Ken Barton, 1975 Memory Lane, #22, Pickering, Ontario, Canada, L1V 3M3 Ph: 905-839-2182 http://www.realmsquest.org/ pandemonium/ pandemoniumcon@rogers.com

Apr 2-4 **Ad Astra 23**, Toronto, Ontario; Info: PO Box 7276, Station "A", Toronto, ON CANADA M5W 1X9 Ph: 905-305-0827 http://www.ad-astra.org/ info@ad-astra.org

Apr 2-4 **Orion**, Toronto, Ontario; Info: 122 St. Patrick Street, Suite F24/130, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5T 2X8 Ph: 416-698-6052 http://www.rigelgroup.org/ info@rigel.cx

May 2 **SFX: Toronto Sci Fi Con II**, Toronto, Ontario; Info: 4 Varsity Road, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, L6M 4N4 Ph: 416-761-1760 http://www.hobbystar.com info@hobbystar.com Guests: Casey Biggs

May 28-30 **Anime North**, Toronto, Ontario; Info: c/o Dufferin Mail Postal Outlet, PO Box 24090, 900 Dufferin St, Toronto, ON M6H 4H6, Canada http://www.animenorth.org/ info@animenorth.com

Germany

May 21-23 **Federation Con XII**, Bonn, ; Info: Schisslerstr. 4, 86154 Augsburg, Germany Ph: +49 821 219 1936 http://www.fedcon.de/ info@fedcon.de Guests: Anthony Montgomery, Rene Auberjonois, Armin Shimerman, Armin Shimerman, Armin Shimerman, Terry Farrell, Richard Arnold, Marc B. Lee

Ireland

Mar 5-7 **Mecon**, Belfast, ; Info: 12 Hopefield Avenue, Belfast, BT15 5AP http://www.mecon.org/ mecon@qubscifi.org.uk Guests: Ian McDonald, Paul J. Holden Benefits: Ulster Cancer Foundation

New Zealand

Apr 16-18 **Armageddon: Pop Culture Expo**, Auckland, ; Info: PO Box 13419 Onehunga, Auckland, New Zealand Ph: +64 9 625 8054 http://www.pulpexpo.com/ info@pulpexpo.com Guests: Corin Nemec

United Kingdom

England

Feb 6-8 **Wolf Events: SG-7**, London, England; Info: PO Box 1419, Slough PDO, SL2 5WJ Ph: +44 01753 771 078 http://www.wolfevents.com/ Guests: Teryl Rothery, Ronny Cox, Steve Bacic, Dion Johnstone, Alex Zahara

Feb 13-15 **Starfleet Ball**, Bournemouth, England; Info: 6 The Street, Sutton Waldron, Near Blandford, Dorset. DT11 8PF, United Kingdom http://www.starfleet-ball.com/ info@starfleet-ball.com Guests: Celeste Yarnall, Michael Dorn

Mar 12-14 **Mount Olympus**, Bristol, England; Info: PO Box 3250 Glastonbury, Glastonbury, BA6 9WL United Kingdom http://www.kumara.org.uk/ Benefits: The Kevin Smith Memorial Fund

Mar 14 **Invasion 4**, Essex, England; Info: Unit 36 Vicarage Field Shopping Centre, Ripple Road, Barking, Essex, IG11 8DQ, United Kingdom Ph: +44 (0)20 8591 5357 http://www.tenthplanet.co.uk/invasion/ sales@tenthplanet.co.uk Guests: Sarah Mowat, Sylvester McCoy, Lalla Ward, Peter Purves, Mary Tamm

Apr 9-12 **Eastercon/Concourse**, Blackpool, England; Info: 63 Providence Way, Waterbeach, Cambridge, United Kingdom, CB5 9QH http://homepage.ntlworld.com/ concourse2004eastercon/ membership.concourse@ntlworld.com Guests: Mitchell Burnside Clapp, Danny Flynn, Sue Mason, Christopher Priest, Philip Pullman

Apr 24-25 **Star One**, Bedford, England; Info: Unit 36 Vicarage Field Shopping Centre, Ripple Road, Barking, Essex, IG11 8DQ, United Kingdom Ph: +44 (0)20 8591 5357 http://www.tenthplanet.co.uk/ starone/Star%20One%202004/ staroneindex.htm sales@tenthplanet.co.uk Guests: Paul Darrow, Jacqueline Pearce, Janet Lees Price, Gareth Thomas, David Jackson, Stephen Grief, Lynda Bellingham, Glyn Owen, Glynis Barber

Apr 30-May 3 **Collectormania 5**, Milton Keynes, England; Info: 2 Waterside, Peartree Bridge, Milton Keynes. Bucks, MK6 3DG. England Ph: +44 (0)1908 671138 http://www.collectormania.com/ info@showmastersonline.com Guests: Brad Dourif, Corin Nemec, Robert Picardo, Robert Englund

May 28-30 **Crashdown**, Northampton, England; Info: PO BOX 409, Sittingbourne, Kent, ME10 1WU Ph: +44(0)17 9542 8440 http://www.crashdown-conventions.co.uk/ steven.frost@crashdown-conventions.co.uk

JUST WHAT EXACTLY DOES "SCC" STAND FOR?

By Comander James Cecil • Shuttle Commonwealth, STARFLEET Region 1

For all the time I've spent, off and on, in STARFLEET I've never questioned what the SCC stood for on our membership cards that we all receive when we join.

It just happen one day that a new member of my crew asked me that question. "What does the SCC on my membership card mean?" At first he thought it was the shuttle's vehicle registry number of which I quickly explained told him what our number is that DTS has recorded for the Commonwealth as well as to further explain why all correspondences have our mother ship's registry number on it followed by a dash and then another number.

I sent out to ask the question to our newly appointed Chief of Computer Operations Chief Mandi Livingston who has informed me via subspace communications that the SCC stands for Security Clearance Code which is also confirmed in the STARFLEET Membership Handbook.

Your SCC number is used for storing information about you like the various STARFLEET Academy Courses you take, renewal of your membership, ECT.

Have you also wondered what to do with the other card that you get in your membership packet the Assignment card?

In your membership packet you have a vessel registry to browse through to help you find a ship to join.

You'll notice that the assignment card will already have your name printed on it and all you have to do is write the name of the chapter that you'd like to join and then send it off to the Commanding Officer of the ship your joining. He or she will then sends it out to the Chief of Computer Operations.

So why did I write this article?

I wrote for those new members coming into STARFLEET as well as to share a little bit of information to the membership.

HELPDESK: HERE TO HELP!

By Joan E. Pierce

If you have any questions, concerns, problems or issues with how things are functioning in SFI today, contact us at helpdesk@sfi.org.

If you do have e-mail access, please use helpdesk@sfi.org, otherwise call or fax (507) 299-2015, which is a toll-call.

Make sure to leave us enough information so we know how to contact you!

Any questions?

Answers are just an E-mail away from helpdesk@sfi.org!

MONTHLY STATUS REPORT SUMMARIES

Compiled By Fleet Captain Dixie Halber

Region 1

USS Aeon, NCC - 75022
Memphis, TN
Crew welcomed visitors from other area chapters to the monthly meeting. Holiday plans are underway.

USS Alaric, NCC – 503
Asheville, NC
Recycling efforts continue. Crewmembers enjoyed gaming at the regular meetings.

Shuttle Altrusia, NCC – 75021
Bristol, TN
Crewmembers enjoyed a movie day.

USS Appomattox, NCC – 75001
Appomattox, VA
Crewmembers celebrated the ship's 2nd anniversary. The ship sponsored a Halloween party. Crewmembers collecting items for an eBay charity auction.

USS Aries, NCC – 71806
Johnson City, TN
Crewmembers enjoyed a cookout.

USS Arizona, NCC – 71839
Alliance, OH
Crewmembers adopting a family for the Holidays.

USS Asgard, NCC – 72402
Lancaster, OH
Crewmembers collected school supplies for a local elementary school. An away team traveled to another ship's meeting. Collection efforts for OCP continue. An away team attended a Halloween party.

USS Athena, NCC – 51896
Reston, VA
The ship sponsored a bridge building contest. Crewmembers enjoyed a Halloween party. Ship sponsored a craft day fundraiser.

Bennu Station, SFR - 119
Gatlinburg, TN
Crewmembers participated in a blood drive and a fundraiser. An away team attended the Marine Wilderness Challenge. Crewmembers raised money to send children to the Shriner's Circus. An away team volunteered at a Halloween Carnival.

USS Bonaventure, NCC - 102-A
Greensboro, NC
An away team attended an ice cream festival. Crewmembers enjoyed a movie event.

USS Carolina, NCC - 74222
Greenville, SC
Crewmembers enjoyed a movie night.

USS Charleston, NCC - 71813
Charleston, SC
The ships sponsored a feal market. Collection efforts for OCP continue. Crewmembers celebrated the ship's 11th anniversary.

USS Chesapeake, NCC - 1887
Richmond, VA
Crewmembers enjoyed a Halloween party.

USS Columbia, NCC - 75017
Wooster, OH
An away team traveled to visit with a former CO to celebrate his birthday. Crewmembers enjoyed a dinner night.

USS Columbus, NCC - 72401
Columbus, OH
Crewmembers participated in a charity car wash. Crewmembers celebrated the ship's anniversary. Away teams attended several conventions and festivals.

Shuttle Commonwealth
Richmond, KY
Crewmembers held a raffle to raise funds for a children's hospital.

USS Dark Wolf, NCC - 75002
Blountville, TN
An away team attended a nearby convention.

USS Dominator, NCC - 18076
N. Charleston, SC
An away team attended a convention. Collection efforts for OCP and Stampede continue.

USS Francis Marion, NCC - 2006
Kingsport, TN
Crewmembers collected cell phones for charity donations. An away team visited a planetarium.

USS Gallifry, NCC - 81631
Elryia, OH
Crewmembers enjoyed sci-fi nights and role playing events. Crewmembers volunteered at a local haunted forest for Halloween.

USS Heimdal, NCC - 1793
Madison Heights, VA
Crewmembers enjoyed a sundae and trivia night. The ship sponsored a Halloween party.

Shuttle Hell's Fury, NCC - 71874
Simpsonville, SC
An away team volunteered at the MDA telethon. Collection efforts for OCP underway.

USS Hornet, NCC - 1714-D
Charlotte, NC
Crewmembers enjoyed a dinner night. An away team attended another chapter's end of summer party. Collection effrots for OCP continue. Crewmembers participating in Vessel Readiness Program.

Shuttle Indiana, NCC - 79158
Indianapolis, IN
Crewmembers attended a local convention.

USS Intrepid, NCC - 74655
Mansfield, OH
Crewmembers volunteered at a scout jamboree.

USS Jaguar, NCC - 74750
Kingsport, TN
An away team attended Watkins Glen Weekend in Region 7. Another away team attended the Region 13 Conference.

USS Jamestown, NCC - 1843-D
Hampton, VA
Crewmembers volunteered at the Virginia Air and Space Center. Crewmembers celebrated the ship's anniversary with a dinner. An way team attended the Maat's anniversary dinner.

USS Jurassic, NCC - 3500
Hamersville, OH
The ship celebrated its anniversary.

USS Kitty Hawk, NCC - 1659
Raleigh, NC
Crewmembers enjoyed a meeting and a cookout.

USS Lagrange, NCC - 3916-B
Cuyahoga Falls, OH
Collection efforts for a local food bank continue. The ship celebrated its 21st anniversary.

USS Liberator, NCC - 75008
Akron, OH
Collection efforts for OCP continue. An away team attended a convention. Crewmembers donated blankets to a local charity.

USS Maat, NCC - 1794-A
Virginia Beach, VA
An away team volunteered at a concert. The ship celebrated its anniversary with dinner at a local restaurant.

USS Maelstrom, NCC - 74218
Hertford, NC
Crewmembers enjoyed a cookout, and a Halloween party.

USS Nebula, NX - 61800
North Royalton, OH
The ship's website is up and running at http://www.ussnebula.org

Space Station Nikola Tesla
Puryear, TN
An away team took part in the SFMC Wilderness Challenge.

USS Normandy, NCC - 36000
Correspondence
An away team attended Watkins Glen Weekend in Region 7.

USS North Carolina, NCC - 75019
Hickory, NC
Crewmembers enjoyed a guest speaker at the monthly meeting., and a scary movie night.

USS Ohio, NCC - 75007
Barberton, OH
An away team attended a convention. Crewmembers toured a local observatory.

USS Pathfinder, NCC - 2121
Lima, OH
Crewmembers continue to process packets for SETI @ Home.

USS Powhatan, NCC - 1967-A
Chesapeake, VA
Crewmembers cleaned a highway.

USS Providence, NCC - 71796
Jackson, TN
Crewmembers enjoyed a dinner event after their regular meeting.

USS Questar, NCC - 75435
Louisville, KY
Crewmembers enjoyed a stargazing event. An away team volunteered at a zoo for Halloween.

USS Renegade, NCC - 2547
Youngstown, OH
An away team attended a local convention. Crewmembers enjoyed a movie night.

USS Reprisal, NCC - 1896
Kingsport, TN
Crewmembers attended a Heritage Days celebration.The ship sponsored its first annual Patriot's Day party. An away team attended the SFMC Wilderness Challenge.

USS Richmond, NCC - 2003
Covington, Va
Recycling efforts continue. Crewmember collected items for a local animal shelter.

USS Ronald E McNair, NCC - 61809
Columbia, SC
Collection efforts for OCP and pop-tops continue. Crewmembers enjoyed a Halloween party.

USS Rutledge, NX - 72415
Ladsen, SC
Work for Operation Eagle continues. Fiction writing continues.

USS Star League, NCC - 2101
N. Augusta, SC
Crewmembers enjoyed a miniature golf event.

USS Starward Fury, NCC - 2122
Fayetteville, NC
Crewmembers started a food drive.

USS Tycho, NCC - 59325
Toledo, OH
Crewmembers decorated the display case at a local library.

USS Tristar, NCC - 71829
Knoxville, TN
Crewmembers participated in a Halloween Zoo event.

USS Wasp, NCC - 1721
Bristol, VA
The ship sponsored a star gazing event that was attended by several chapters.

USS West Virginia, NCC - 2008
Charlestown, WV
Crewmembers volunteered at a disability awareness fair. Ship sponsored a Halloween party.

USS Yeager, NCC - 61893
Bluefield, WV
Recruitment efforts continue.

USS Yorktown, NCC - 1704-A
York, SC
Crewmembers enjoyed an end of summer bash.

Region 2

USS Continuum, NCC - 71821
Pensacola, FL
Crewmembers enjoyed a Star Trek Uno match.

USS Dark Phoenix, NCC - 74920
Pascagoula, MS
Crewmembers volunteered at a local Special Olympics. Plans for commissioning celebration are underway.

USS Dark Silence Station
Florence, AL
Crewmembers attended a Renaissance Faire. The ship made a donation to the local Big Brothers and Big Sisters organization.

USS DaVinci, NCC - 74671
Columbus, GA
Crewmembers enjoyed an end of summer barbecue. Crewmembers participated in a clean the river event.

USS Draco, NCC - 78501
Cullman, AL
An away team volunteered as security at a local concert. Crewmembers enjoyed a haunted house hop for Halloween.

USS Dräkenfire, NCC - 71822
Odenville, AL
Away teams enjoyed shopping trips. The ship's website has been updated.

USS Gasparilla, NCC - 74400
Tampa, FL
Krewemembers enjoyed dinner and gaming events.

USS Guardian, NCC - 26244
Cape Canaveral, FL
Recruitment efforts continue. Crewmembers enjoyed an Enterprise premier party. Ship celebrated its 16th anniversary with a party.

USS Haise, NCC - 74664
Jackson, MS
Crewmembers enjoyed a Mars viewing party. Crewmembers also had a pizza and Enterprise premiere party.

USS Hephaestus, NCC - 2004
Birmingham, AL
An away team traveled to Atlanta for a convention. Crewmembers enjoyed a Halloween party.

USS Jubilee, NCC - 57299
Mobile, AL
Crewmembers enjoyed the monthly meeting at a coffee shop.

Shuttle King George
Claxton, GA
Crewmembers enjoyed a movie night. An away team attended a local convention.

USS Khai Tam, NCC - 81000
Tallahassee, FL
Crewmembers enjoyed several

MONTHLY STATUS REPORT SUMMARIES (CONTINUED)

Compiled By Fleet Captain Dixie Halber

cookouts. The captain had a poker night. An away team participated in a trail clean up. The ship sponsored a garage sale.

Shuttle Myrddin, NCC - 74400/01
Clearwater, FL
An away team attended a convention. The ship sponsored a yard sale.

Shuttle New Hope, NCC - 50335
Montgomery, AL
Crewmembers enjoyed a tv night.

USS Odyssey, NCC - 454-A
Hattiesburg, FL
The ship sponsored a conference.

USS Okatoma, NCC - 74695
Collins, MS
Crewmembers volunteering as bell ringers for the Salvation Army.

USS Paegan, NCC - 1755
Orlando, FL
Crewmembers enjoyed the monthly meeting at a nearby lake.

USS Pleiades, NCC - 72388
Elwood, GA
Crewmembers celebrated the ship's commissioning.

USS Relentless, NCC - 81001
Madison, FL
An away team volunteered with Habitat for Humanity. Crewmembers enjoyed bowling and minigolf. An away team toured the Star Trek Experience in Las Vegas. Crewmembers cleaned local parks.

USS Republic, NCC - 1371
Atlanta, GA
Crewmembers hosted a panel at Dragon Con. An away team participated in an Iron Trek cookoff.

USS Rogue Phoenix, NCC - 75005
Savannah, GA
Crewmembers enjoyed a dinner night. Recruitment efforts continue. Crewmembers enjoyed movie nights.

USS Shadow Hawk, NCC - 74660
Opilika, AL
Recruitment efforts are underway.

USS Spiritwalker, NCC - 31097
Decatur, AL
Donations to a local animal shelter continue. An away team volunteered at the Muscular Dystrophy telethon. Crewmembers enjoyed movie nights.

USS Trident, NCC - 74692
Stuart, FL
An away team participated in an MS Walk. Crewmembers enjoyed a Halloween party.

USS Triumph, NCC - 26228
Ft. Lauderdale, FL
Recycling efforts continue. Collection efforts for OCP continue. Crewmembers enjoyed a miniature golf event.

USS Werner Von Braun
Huntsville, AL
Collection efforts for OCP continue. Crewmembers attended a Salute to Star Trek event at a local library. Crewmembers celebrated the ship's 10th anniversary.

USS Yamato, NCC - 71087
Pinson, AL
An away team attended a Greek Food Festival.

Region 3

USS Ark Angel, NCC - 74622
Georgetown, TX
Crewmembers volunteered at the Alamo Sunshine Gardens. Crewmembers enjoyed role playing and gaming.

USS Aurora Vulcanus, NCC - 1888
Houston, TX
Collection efforts for OCP continue. Away teams attended an air show and went to the races. Another away team attended the region's trip to the Johnson Space Flight Center.

USS Bethel, NCC - 74663
Grapevine, TX
An away team attended an air show. Crewmembers helped out at a con.

USS Bexar, NCC - 71718
San Antonio, TX
An away team participated in a fundraiser for the Susan G Komen Foundation. Collection efforts for a local trauma buddy program continues. Crewmembers enjoyed a movie night.

USS Comanche, NCC - 71809
Fort Worth, TX
An away team attended a local Klingon gathering.

USS Devastator, NCC - 10533
Paris, TX
Crewmembers enjoyed the monthly meeting.

USS Firebird, NCC - 74662/1
Houston, TX
Crewmembers enjoyed gaming and a meeting.

SS Freedom Station III
Euless, TX
An away team attended a gathering at NASA.

USS Intangible, NCC - 65421
Bryan, TX
Crewmembers enjoyed a trip to the space center in Houston.

USS Joan of Arc, NCC - 73289
Corpus Christi, TX
The ship's cadets enjoyed an astronomy sleep over. Later in the month they took a trip to a botanical garden. Crewmembers passed out candy at a local Halloween festival.

USS Laredo, NCC - 1375
Laredo, TX
Crewmembers enjoyed several monthly meetings.

USS Lone Star, NCC - 73628
Lubbock, TX
Crewmembers enjoyed a cookout and Enterprise premiere party. An away team participated in an ADA walk. Crewmembers enjoyed a pool and darts outing. Crewmembers enjoyed several gaming nights.

USS Palo Duro, NCC - 61914
Amarillo, TX
Support efforts for the local Ronald McDonald house continue.

USS Panther City, NCC - 74917
Fort Worth, TX
Crewmembers enjoyed a Labor Day party. An away team attended a movie event. Crewmembers enjoyed two Halloween events, one for adults and one geared for the cadets.

USS Rhyanna, NCC - 1892
Austin, TX
Crewmembers celebrated the ship's anniversary at the monthly meeting. An away team participated in a rally for breast cancer research. Collection efforts for a local food pantry continue.

USS Spirit Wolf, NCC - 74300
Houston, TX
Crewmembers celebrated the ship's 5th anniversary.

USS Tejas, NCC - 9756
Vernon, TX
Crewmembers participated in the annual alien ball fundraising event. Collection efforts for OCP continue.

USS Texas, NCC - 74207
Killeen, TX
Recruitment efforts continue.

Shuttle Trinity River, NCC - 74663/4
Dallas, TX
Crewmembers enjoyed movie nights. An away team attended the region's pool and darts tournament.

USS Victory, NCC - 74208
San Antonio, TX
Crewmembers participated in a local Cajun festival.

Region 4

USS Angeles, NCC - 71840
Los Angeles, CA
An away team attended the Region 4 Conference. Plans for holiday events underway.

USS Angelfire, NCC- 75025
Phoenix, AZ
Crewmembers enjoyed a dinner and meeting at the CO's home. An away team visited a traveling exhibit of the Declaration of Independence and toured the USS Arizona exhibit in a local museum.

USS Augusta Ada, NCC - 55011
San Francisco, CA
Crewmembers celebrated the ship's 3rd anniversary with a party.

Shuttle Battleborn, NCC - 23401/1
Carson City, NV
Crewmembers participated in the Muscular Dystrophy telethon and a Diabetes Walk fo Research. Crewmembers enjoyed an Enterprise premier party.

Cascade Station, NCC - SS0003
Redding, CA
An away team attended the Regioni 4 conference. Crewmembers enjoyed an end of summer barbecue.

USS Centurion, NCC - 74801
Moreno Valley, CA
Crewmembers enjoyed a Klingon Iron Chef competition.

USS Dragon's Club, NCC - 81003
Shafter, CA
Crewmembers enjoyed a Halloween celebration.

USS Eagle, NCC - 1719
Fremont, CA
Crewmembers enjoyed a gaming night. Collection efforts for OCP continue. Crewmembers participating in a toy and food drive for the holidays.

Shuttle Falcon, NCC - 79430
Briggsdale, CO
Crewmembers hard at work getting the shuttle running smoothly.

Shuttle Gallant, NCC - 1950
Fresno, CA
Crewmembers journeyed to a local planetarium only to find that they were closed. Plans for future activities are underway.

USS Highroller, NCC - 23104
Reno, NV
Crewmembers enjoyed an Enterprise premiere party. An away team volunteered at a local convention.

USS K'Ehkeyr Station
Las Vegas, NV
A small away team attended the Region 4 Conference. Crewmembers enjoyed a recognition dinner.

USS Northern Lights, NCC - 27001
San Jose, CA
Crewmembers participated in a gaming night. The ship sponsored a Halloween party.

USS Oberon, NCC - 71820
Citrus Heights, CA
Crewmembers enjoyed a picnic.

USS Onizuka, NCC - 71815
Chico, CA
An away team attended the Region 4 conference. Crewmembers enjoyed a Halloween party.

USS Palavara, NCC - 2021
Chula Vista, CA
Crewmembers enjoyed a Halloween party.

USS Peacekeeper, NCC - 72300
Visalia, CA
An away team attended the Region 4 Conference. Crewmembers enjoyed a barbecue.

USS Pegasus, NX - 9755
Las Vegas, NV
Collection efforts for pop tops continue. The ship sponsored a Halloween party.

USS S L Heya, NCC - 1604
Fresno, CA
Recruitment effrots continue. Crewmembers participated in a walk for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. Crewmembers enjoyed a Halloween party.

USS Tikopai, NCC - 1800
San Jose, CA
An away team attended the Region 4 Conference. Crewmembers enjoyed a Halloween party.

Camp Wendell Fertig
Fresno, CA
The ship sponsored a bake sale. An away team attended the Region 4 conference.

USS William O'Darby, NCC - 12474
Grand Terrace, CA
An away team attended the Region 4 conference. Recruitment efforts continue.

Region 5

USS Carson, NCC - 0592-A
Weiser, ID
Collection efforts for OCP continue.

USS Crusader, NCC - 74711
Spokane, WA
The ship held its annual bake sale.

USS Destiny, NCC - 97301
Salem, OR
An away team attended a gaming event sponsored by a Klingon vessel. Proceeds from the event benefited MDA. An away team participated in a walkathon. Collection efforts for a local food bank continue. An away team visited a local aviation museum.

Greywolf Station
Boise, ID
Plans for future activities are underway.

USS Kensington, NCC - 75016
Meridian, ID
An away team toured a local museum.

USS Rubicon, NCC - 71816
Richland, WA
Crewmembers installed a bronze plaque in honor of DeForest Kelley at a local library. The ship celebrated its 11th anniversary with a party.

Region 6

Shuttle Cimarron, NCC - 81002/01
Waukesha, WI
Crewmembers participated in a bowling competition.

USS Czar'ak, NCC - 1798-A
Minneapolis, MN
An away team attended a nearby Renaissance Festival. Crewmembers enjoyed the annual all ships picnic. An away team attended a local

(Continued Next Page)

MONTHLY STATUS REPORT SUMMARIES (CONTINUED)

Compiled By Fleet Captain Dixie Halber

convention.

USS Fox River, NCC - 81002
Appleton, WI
Crewmembers enjoyed a bowling tournament.

USS Imperium, NCC - 2125
Fargo, ND
An away team enjoyed a laser tag event. Crewmembers enjoyed a picnic. Ship hosted the Region 6 conference.

USS Saint George, NCC-63541

Collection efforts for Overseas Coupon Project continue. An away team attended the Region 6 conference.

USS Thunderchild, NCC - 3122
Rapid City, SD
Crewmembers participating in a fan movie.

Region 7

USS Accord, NCC - 1842
Ithaca, NY
Crewmembers enjoyed a very successful Watkins Glen Weekend. Sixty-seven people from all over the Fleet attended.

USS Adamant, NCC - 3029
Valley Forge, PA
An away team attended the Region 7 conference. Crewmembers enjoyed a restaurant night. Crewmembers enjoyed several movie nights.

USS Albany, NCC - 587
Scotia, NY
An away team volunteered at the Muscular Dystrophy telethon. Crewmembers enjoyed a miniature golf outing. An away team participated in a Heart Walk. An away team attended a craft show. Crewmembers enjoyed a bowling event. The ship sponsored its 15th annual Halloween party. Collection efforts for OCP continue.

USS Alpha Centauri, NCC - 71812
Washington, DC
Crewmembers enjoyed the ship's annual picnic.

USS Ari, NCC - 1723
Buffalo, NY
An away team visited the Dinamation exhibit. Crewmembers enjoyed dinner nights.

USS Archer, NCC - 1069
Mantua, NJ
An away team attended the Region 7 conference.

USS Ascension, NCC - 2520
Lehigh Valley, PA
An away team attended the Region 7 conference. Crewmembers enjoyed movie nights.

USS Asimov, NCC - 1647
Yardley, PA
The ship helped sponsor the region 7 conference. An away team attended a renaissance faire.

USS Avenger, NCC - 1860
North Brunswick, NJ
A small away team visited the Sea-Air and Space museum in New York City. An away team attended the Region 7 conference.

USS Challenger, NCC - 1767-D
Dover Township, NJ
Crewmembers enjoyed an Enterprise night. The ship sponsored an end of summer party and hosted members from other area ships. Crewmembers attended many festivals and faires. Crewmembers attended the region's Halloween party.

Shuttle DeBraak, NCC - 63543
Frederica, DE
An away team attended a renaissance festival. Crewmembers attended the Region 7 conference. Crewmembers enjoyed a pizza night.

USS Edinburgh, NCC - 77930
Gaithersburg, MD
Crewmembers helped out at the regional conference.

USS Flying Fox, NCC - 3116
Philadelphia, PA
The ship sponsored a tea party. Crewmembers enjoyed a Halloween party. The ship celebrated its 1st anniversary.

USS Highlander, NCC - 10530
Frederick, MD
Crewmembers hard at work on the next Polar Bear Plunge.

USS Inferno
Pittsburgh, PA
Crewmembers enjoyed a dinner night.

USS Justice, NCC - 556
Florham Park, NJ
Crewmembers participated in a paintball event with William Shatner. Work on the ship's video project continues.

Shuttle Kerberos, NCC - 74929
Newark, NJ
An away team attended the Region 7 conference.

USS Lexington, NCC - 1703 - C
West Point, NY
Crewmembers attended the Region 7 Conference.

USS Lone Wolf, NCC - 72214
Ocean City, MD
Recruitment efforts continue.

USS Malverne, NCC - 2205
Upper Darby, PA
Ship donated care packages to members deployed overseas.

USS Matrix, NCC - 72296
Correspondence
Crewmembers enjoying current role playing game. Fiction writing continues. An away team attended the Region 7 Conference.

USS Niagra, NCC - 75634
Buffalo, NY
An away team attended a convention in Cleveland. Crewmembers participating in many STARFLEET Academy schools.

USS Northstar, NCC - 10462
New York, NY
Crewmembers enjoyed an Enterprise and gaming night.

USS Osiris, NCC - 3092
Bronx, NY
An away team attended the Region 7 Conference. Crewmembers enjoyed a guest speaker at the meeting.

USS Sovereign, NCC - 75000
Philadelphia, PA
An away team attended a renaissance faire.

USS Starlord, NCC - 74225
Ramsey, NJ
Crewmembers enjoyed role playing nights. An away team attended the Regional Conference. Crewmembers enjoyed a Pumpkin Party.

USS Thagard, NCC - 652
Philadelphia, PA
Crewmembers enjoyed a craft night. An away team attended an Enterprise premiere party. Crewmembers enjoyed monthly poker night.

USS Titanium, NCC - 72385
Horsham, PA
An away team attended a nearby air show. Crewmembers welcomed one members home from overseas and sent another one off.

USS Triton, NCC - 71819
Glen Burnie, MD
Crewmembers enjoyed a party.

Shuttle Vanguard, NCC - 72296
Dallas, TX
Crewmembers enjoyed online gaming. An away team enjoyed gaming events.

Region 9

USS Europe, NCC - 74668
Lisboa, Portugal
The CO was interviewed for a Star Trek documentary.

Region 10

USS Majestic, NCC - 78601
Victoria, BC
Crewmembers enjoyed several movie nights and a quiet Halloween.

USS Sol, NCC - 1733
Fairbanks, AK
Fundraising plans underway.

Region 11

USS Southern Cross, NCC - 1886
Sydney, NSW Australia
Crewmembers enjoyed a fundraising lecture.

Region 12

USS Antonio Maria Valsalva
Wildwood, MO
STAMPEDE and OCP collection efforts continue. Crewmembers continue to collect pop tops for the Ronald McDonald House. Crewmembers volunteered at a Greek festival at a local church.

USS Atlas, NCC - 75013
Bridgeton, MO
Crewmembers enjoyed restaurant nights. An away team participated in a fund raiser at a local haunted forest.

USS Black Hawk, NCC - 75004
Rockford, IL
Crewmembers celebrated awards winning ship of the year.

USS BortaS, NCC - 74211
Urbana, IL
Crewmembers participated in a local "Light the Night" walk or the Leukemia Foundation.

USS Celt, NCC - 75018
Fayetteville, AR
An away team attended a Halloween party sponsored by another area ship. Recruitment efforts continue.

Shuttle Claymore, NCC - 4126/07
Midwest City, OK
Crewmembers celebrated the birth of their newest members. The ship hosted gaming nights. The ship made a donation to a local infant crisis center. Crewmembers donated a months worth of groceries to a needy family.

USS Delta Clipper, NCC - 72302
Atchison, KS
The ship postponed the anniversary party in order to allow the Commanding Officer to recover from an illness.

USS Discovery, NCC - 1308
St. Louis, MO
Crewmembers enjoyed birthday parties and movie nights. An away team attended a local convention.

Shuttle Firestorm, NCC - 75006/01
Wichita, KS
An away team attended a local Renaissance festival.

USS Flying Fortress, NCC - 31904
Tulsa, OK
Crewmembers enjoyed an astronomy gathering. An away team gave a sword fighting demonstration at local Scottish games. Recycling efforts continue.

USS Hellfire & Brimstone
Emporia, KS
An away team attended a movie event.

USS Hexum, NCC - 2199
Belleville, IL
Crewmembers made a donation of hair to Locks of Love. Collection efforts for Stampede continue. An away team provided tribbles for a local convention. The Klingons in attendance were not amused.

USS Jeannette Maddox
Wichita, KS
Crewmembers enjoyed game nights. Plans for holiday activities are underway.

USS Marko Ramius, NCC - 23103
Fayetteville, AR
Crewmembers enjoyed the new monthly dinner night.

USS Morning Star, NCC - 4126
Lawton, OK
Collection efforts for Overseas Coupon Project and Stampede continue. Crewmembers also collected items for the Humane Society and a local food bank.

USS Phoenix, NCC - 2155
Columbia, MO
Crewmembers enjoyed a Saturday social.

Shuttle Proxima, NCC - 73707/1
St. Joseph, KS
Crewmembers participated in a Halloween event.

USS Shawnee, NCC - 7802
Paola, KS
Recruitment efforts continue. Ship's website getting a facelift.

USS Sunflower, NCC - 74679
Augusta, KS
Collection efforts for Overseas Coupon Project continue. New recruitment brochures were introduced.

USS Thunderbird, NCC - 71845
Oklahoma City, OK
Crewmembers enjoyed a trip to an exotic animal park.

USS Titanic, NCC - 75015
Lawton, OK
Recycling efforts continue.

Shuttle Titan, NCC - 72303
Kansas City, KS
The ship sponsored a benefit dance for a fellow Fleet member. Crewmembers enjoyed a Halloween party.

USS Umiak, NCC - 3142
St. Louis, MO
Crewmembers attended a local convention.

USS Witchfire, NCC - 75006
Harrison, AR
Recruitment efforts continue.

Region 13

USS Banting, NCC 17220
Guelph, ON
An away team took a historical walking tour. Crewmembers attended a charity dog walk.

USS Empress, NCC-15025-A
Sterling Heights, MI
An away team attended a Civil War reenactment. Crewmembers collected

MONTHLY STATUS REPORT SUMMARIES (CONTINUED)

Compiled By Fleet Captain Dixie Halber

school supplies to send to Iraq.

USS Hadfield, NCC - 75020
Georgetown, ON Canada
An away team toured a local pioneer village. Crewmembers attended a Renaissance Festival. Ship sponsored a charity barbecue. An away team participated in a charity dog walk. An away team attended the Region 13 conference.

USS Valkyrie, NCC-74658
Dearborn, MI
An away team toured a traveling Titanic exhibit at a local museum.

USS Whitestar, NCC - 71012
Port Huron, MI
Crewmembers enjoyed a trip to a Renaissance Festival. An away team attended the Region 13 conference. Plans for the ship's anniversary party are underway.

Region 14

USS Magellan, NCC - 72014
Rouyn-Noranda, Quebec
An away team traveled to the Region 13 conference.

Region 15

USS Anubis, NCC - 586
Boston, MA
Many crewmembers in sick bay but most are on the mend. An away team enjoyed a movie night.

USS Ares, NCC - 26291
Boston, MA
Crewmembers enjoyed a bowling event with their monthly meeting.

USS Atlantis, NCC - 71803
Brockton, MA
Fundraising efforts continue. The website has been updated.

USS Avalon, NCC - 74914
Standish, ME
Crewmembers continue their work on the food pantry that the ship sponsors.

USS Darwin, NCC - 1116
Brockton, MA
Crewmembers threw a surprised bridal shower for one if their fellow members.

USS Endeavor, NCC - 1716
Baltic, CT
Crewmembers enjoyed a movie night at the captain's house. Plans for future activities are underway.

USS Galaxy, NCC - 70637
Springfield, MA
Crewmembers enjoyed a Halloween party.

USS Hood, NCC - 1707
Nashua, NH
Crewmembers enjoyed the region's lawn olympics.

Space Station Ian Flemming
Newburyport. MA
Crewmembers enjoyed a late summer boating event on a nearby lake.

USS Nelson, NCC - 74804
Northhampton, MA
Collection efforts for Overseas Coupon Project and local charities continue.

USS O'Bannon, NCC - 5372
Sanford, ME
Crewmembers enjoyed an Enterprise premiere party. An away team enjoyed a trip to Boston. Crewmembers enjoyed a movie night. The Marine group got together for breakfast. Collection efforts for a local animal shelter continue.

USS Omar Khayyam, NCC - 79001
Watertown, MA
An away team attended a Renaissance Faire.

Region 17

USS Alioth, NCC - 72383
Orem/Provo, UT
The ship sponsored a yard sale. Crewmembers participated in a round robin story telling event.

USS Anasazi, NCC - 62001
Albuquerque, NM
Crewmembers enjoyed a movie marathon for Halloween.

USS Arc Royal, NCC - 63546
Colorado Springs, CO
Recruitment efforts continue. An away team traveled to the anniversary of another regional ship.

Shuttle Hapsburg, NCC - 73281/4
El Paso, TX
Crewmembers participated in a haunted house for Halloween. An away team attended a nearby convention.

USS Mir, NCC - 73281
Las Cruces, NM
An away team visited a local museum. An away team participated in a highway cleanup.

USS Omega Glory, NCC - 26197
Denver, CO
Crewmembers enjoyed a craft and movie night. The ship sponsored an Enterprise premier party. Crewmembers participated in a Citizens Academy sponsored by the local police force.

USS Orion, NCC - 74915
Colorado Springs, CO
An away team traveled to the Regional Coordinator's Johnathan "Gumby" Simmons' wedding.

USS Pioneer, NCC - 5280-D
Westminster, CO
Crewmembers enjoyed an Enterprise party. An way team traveled to Dinosaur National Monument. Ship celebrated its 8th anniversary. An away team attended the Regional Coordinator's Johnathan "Gumby" Simmons' wedding.

USS Stormbringer, NCC - 74213
Englewood, CO
The ship sponsored the first annual Region 17 Rocket Derby.

USS Wind Spirit, NCC - 14110
Colorado Springs, CO
Crewmembers enjoyed an Enterprise night. Crewmembers enjoyed a Halloween Party/meeting.

Region 20

USS Britannia, NCC - 5311
Stevanage, UK
Crewmembers enjoyed a house warming party for the Commanding Officer. Crewmembers enjoying an e-mail RPG.

STARFLEET ANNOUNCEMENTS

Compiled By Robin Smith • Announcements Coordinator

November 2003

2003.11.24 : Allyson M. W. Dyar, Chief of Staff STARFLEET, (nitehawk@ussjaguar.org) announced that bids for the 2006 International Conference (IC) are due to the Chief of Staff, Commander STARFLEET, by 15 February, 2004.

2003.11.24 : MGN Jill Rayburn, (jazdan@wk.net), announced that TRACOM is now accepting applications for Xeno-Studies Romulan Branch Director.

2003.11.24 : Matthew G. Copple, Fleet Division Program Director, (mcopple@ussproxima.org), announced that the Cadet Corps will be closed temporarily.

2003.11.20 : MGN Jill Rayburn, (jazdan@wk.net) , announced that TRACOM is now accepting applications for the Special Operations Branch Director position. She also reminds us that applications are still being taken for Maritime Operations Branch Director and Leadership Branch Director.

2003.11.18 : Comm. Jerry Tien, Shuttle Operations Command Director, (shoc@sfi.org) announced the launching of the Shuttle Essex.

2003.11.17 : Captain Lauren Milan, SFA Webmaster, (laurenmilan@yahoo.com), anncouned two new courses now available from the School of XenoAnthropology.

2003.11.14 : Admiral Alex Rosenzweig, Department of Technical Services Director, (alexr@castle.net) reminds us that the Department of Technical Services (DTS) is (still) seeking qualified and talented applicants for 1 or more available position(s) to execute engineering drawings of starships and space stations.

2003.11.14 : Commodore Wayne Lee Killough, Jr., 2004 Region 12 Summit Coordinator, (killough@southshore.com), provided an update on the Region 12 2004 Summit scheduled for May 21-23 and reminds us that the first drawing deadline is at the end of November

2003.11.12 : LGN Mandi Livingston, Chief of Computer Operations, (ussrutledge@sc.rr.com), announced Computer Operations' new 'Office Hours'. for the #CompOps channel in IRC. Hours will be posted on the CompOps webpage, http://compops.sfi.org.

2003.11.08 : Brigadier General Joost "Excalibur" Ueffing, Chief of Operations, (ops@sfi.org), announced the commissioning of the USS Dark Phoenix, NCC-74920.

2003.11.06 : Mandi Livingston, Chief of Computer Operations, (ussrutledge@sc.rr.com), reminded us about Helpdesk reporting guidelines, membership processing timeframes as well as some hints on renewing online. She announced the CompOps staff changes as well as a request for personnel to staff a Forms Department.

2003.11.05 : Comm. Jerry Tien, Director of Shuttle Operations Command, (ncc1719@yahoo.com), announced the commissioning of the U.S.S. Vanguard, NCC-75026.

2003.11.04 : Comm. Jerry Tien, Shuttle Operations Command Director, (shoc@sfi.org), announced the launching of the Shuttle Falcon out of Region 4.

2003.11.03 : Michael W. Malotte, STARFLEET Commander, (cs@sfi.org), announced that the Public Relations Department is officially disbanded. He also announced that applications are now being accepting for STARFLEET Quartermaster.

October 2003

2003.10.29 : MGN Jill Rayburn, (jazdan@wk.net), announced that TRACOM is now accepting applications for Maritime Operations Branch Director.

2003.10.29 : MGN Jill Rayburn, (jazdan@wk.net), announced that TRACOM is now accepting applications for Leadership and Infantry Branch Directors.

2003.10.23 : Brigadier Linda Olson, (ST_DragonLady@msn.com), reminds us that the 2004 Region One Summit has a scottish theme and asks that as many people as possible join in the fun.

2003.10.23 : MGN Jill Rayburn, (jazdan@wk.net), reminds us that TRACOM still has several open positions.

2003.10.22 : Pete Mohney, STARFLEET IC 2004 Chairman, (chair@ic2004.org), announced that the IC 2004 information packets have been sent to all chapter COs via the U.S. Postal Service.

2003.10.21 : Captain Lauren Milan, SFA WebDiva, (laurenmilan@yahoo.com), announced the SFA's two newest schools, Xeno Anthropology and Cryptography.

2003.10.14 : Greg Staylor, SFA Security School Director, (sfass@sfi.org), announced that the STARFLEET Academy's Security School will be Closed until November 1, 2003.

2003.10.14 : Comm. Jerry Tien, Director of Shuttle Operations Command, (ncc1719@yahoo.com), announced the commissioning of the U.S.S. Pleiades, NCC-72388.

2003.10.14 : CDR David Lee Kania, Region 5 Chief of Staff, (n.t.saenz@verizon.net), announced details for the Region 5 2004 Summit.

2003.10.13 : Michael W. Malotte, Commander, STARFLEET, (cs@sfi.org), announced the new RCs for Region 20, Brigadier Marie Wilson, and Region 9, Fleet Captain Isaque Fernandes.

2003.10.11 : Pete Mohney, SFI International Conference 2004 Chairman, (chair@ic2004.org), provided us with an electronic copy of the IC 2004 mailing which will be mailed to all chapter Commanding Officers.

2003.10.05 : MGN Jill Rayburn, (jazdan@wk.net), announced the two newest members to the TRACOM team, Romulan Studies Director - Colonel Vivian Kitson and Professional Branch Director - Colonel Jonathan Wilson.

STARFLEET DIRECTORY OF CONTACT

OFFICE OF THE COMMANDER, STARFLEET

COMMANDER, STARFLEET:
Mike Malotte
3212 Mark Circle,
Independence, MO 64055
cs@sfi.org

Chief of Staff
Allyson M. W. Dyar
1209 SE 89th Ave.
Portland, OR 97216-1715
cs-cos@sfi.org

Director of Promotions:
Deb Malotte
3212 Mark Circle
Independence, MO 64055
promotions@sfi.org

Awards Director
Liz Woolf
31 Front Street
Chatham, NJ 07928-2016
Awards@sfi.org

Director of Personnel
Ben Redding
2917 Heritage Way
Sevierville, TN 37876
Personnel@sfi.org

Inspector General
Robb Jackson
354 Lexington St.
Watertown, MA 02472
ig@sfi.org

Quartermaster
Open for Applications

OFFICE OF THE VICE-COMMANDER, STARFLEET

VICE-COMMANDER, STARFLEET:
Mark H. Anbinder
34 Sheraton Drive
Ithaca NY 14850-1671
vcs@sfi.org

Chief of Staff
J.C. Cohen
412 Winston Court #1
Ithaca NY 14850
vcs-cos@sfi.org

Stampede Program
Denise Wolff
PO Box 62351
N. Charleston, SC 29419

FDP Program Director
Matthew Copple
2829 E 8th St
Kansas City MO 64124-2508
mcopple@kcosc.com

Director, Cadet Division
Currently Vacant

Director, Sciences Div.
Richard Heim
PO Box 2072
Asheville NC 28802
alaricrh@sprynet.com

Commandant, SFMC
Wade Olson
Rt 3 Box 626
Madison, FL 32340-9513
captwho@tallynet.com

Overseas Coupon Program East:
Becky Thane
5818 Stream Pond Court
Centreville, VA 20120
BeckyThane@aol.com

Deputy Director, FDP
Wade Hoover
312 W 5th St
Emporia KS 66801
astro@osprey.net

Director, Engineering Div.
David Lockwood
1825 NE 49th St
Kansas City MO 64118
adjudicator3@aol.com

Director, Comm. Div.
Dave Blaser
260 Guelph St Box 74072
Georgetown Ontario
L7G 5L1 CANADA

Director, Diplomatic Corps
(See page 4.)

Overseas Coupon Program West: Edward Allen III
P.O. Box 104794
Jefferson City, MO 65110

Director, Chaplains/Couns.
Dennis Rayburn
121 South McDonald
Puryear, TN 38251
stoncold@wk.ne

Director, Medical Division
David Miller, M.D.
16572 Manchester Rd #220
Wildwood MO 63040
dtamnet@aol.com

Morale & Birthday Officer
Jimmy Whatley
176 County Rd 606
Hanceville AL 35077
jwhatle2@bellsouth.net

STARFLEET OPERATIONS

CHIEF OF OPERATIONS, STARFLEET:
Joost Ueffing
207-96 Highfield Park Drive
Dartmouth, NS, Canada
B4A 3W3
ops@sfi.org

Vice Chief, Operations
Chrissy Killian
P O Box 712
Kingsburg CA 93631
chrissy.killian@comcast.net

Correspondence Chapters
Michelle Fanelli
P.O. Box 591874
Houston, TX 77259-1874
mrbasil@flash.net

Chapter Care Program:
Kandyleigh Provencher
408 Main Street
Springvale, Maine 04083
justkandys@metrocast.net

STARFLEET COMMUNICATIONS

CHIEF OF COMMUNICATIONS, STARFLEET:
Greg Trotter
510 Osage St.
Leavenworth, KS 66048
comm@sfi.org

Vice Chief - Publications:
Dixie Halber
8606 King George Rd.
Evansville, IN 47725
cqsummaries@sfi.org

Vice Chief - Help Desk:
Joan E. Pierce
2615 Whitehall Terr. Apt. 213
Louisville, KY 40220
HelpDeskAdmin@sfi.org

Vice Chief - Elec. Services:
Ed Nowlin
PO Box 494781
Redding, CA 96049-4781
NetServices@sfi.org

Communiqué Editor:
Dixie Halber
8606 King George Rd.
Evansville, IN 47725
cq@sfi.org

Online Internet Directory:
Michael Dugas
2627 Keewahdin Rd.
Ft. Gratiot, MI 48059
Directory@sfi.org

Sfi.org - Web Master
Mike Wilkerson
PO Box 701
Bridgeton, MO 63044
WebMaster@sfi.org

Department of Online Gaming:
Joe Brouhard
525 NW Candletree Drive
Blue Springs, MO 64015
director@sfigaming.net

STARFLEET Historian:
Scott A. Akers
3024 139th Place, SE
Bothell, WA 98012
chunone@nwlink.com

Announcements Editor:
Robin Smith
743 Campanello Way
Brentwood, CA 94513
announcements@sfi.org

INFORMATION (AS OF DECEMBER 1, 2003)

STARFLEET ACADEMY

COMMANDANT, STARFLEET ACADEMY:
Scott A. Akers
3024 139th Pl. SE
Bothell, WA 98012
academy@sfi.org

Vice Commandant - Instruction
Carol Thompson
PO Box 135
Ester , AK 99725-0135
viceacademy@sfi.org

Deputy Commandant - Internat.
Dave Blaser
74072-260 Guelph Street
Georgetown, Ontario 0 L7G 5L1
CANADA
depacademy@sfi.org

Assistant Commandant, Admin.
John Adcock
4213 Bel Air Street APT 205
APG, MD 21005
asstacademy@sfi.org

Scholarships Coordinator
Wendy Fillmore
6770 E. Judson Avenue
Las Vegas, NV 89156
kitten63@lvcm.com

STARFLEET SHUTTLE OPERATIONS COMMAND

STARFLEET SHUTTLE OPERATIONS:
Jerry Tien
45018 Cougar Circle
Fremont, CA 94539
shoc@sfi.org

Vice Chief, ShOC
Jennifer Rosbury
1021 Mocking Bird Ln. Apt 115
Plantation, FL 33324
jrosbury@hotmail.com

Vice Chief, Publications
Johnathan Simmons
7024 E. Maplewood Place
Englewood, CO 80111-4510
shocman@hotmail.com

Staff Assistant / Webmaster
William "Biff" Bassett
2652 W. Hampden Ave.
Englewood, CO. 80110
biff@pcisys.net

Dept. of Technical Services
Alex Rosenzweig
980 Linwood Place
North Brunswick, NJ 08902
alexr@castle.net

Director, ASDB
Open for Applications

STARFLEET COMPUTER OPERATIONS

CHIEF OF COMPUTER OPERATIONS, STARFLEET :
Mandi Livingston
102 Washington Drive
Ladson, SC 29456
CompOps-Chief@sfi.org

Chief of Staff
Martin Lessem
27 E. Central Ave. N-2
Paoli, PA 19301
CompOps-COC@sfi.org

Vice Chief - Recruitment
Bran Stimpson
PO Box 1145
Bangor, ME 04402-1145
CompOps-VCAdmin@sfi.org

Vice Chief - Membership Proc.
Gerri Wampler
909 Old New Windsor Pike
Westminster, MD 21157-6750
membership@sfi.org

Roster Coordinator
Michael Dugas
3735 Teeple Ave.
Fort Gratiot, MI 48059
rosters@sfi.org

Database Administrator
Robin Smith
743 Campanello Way
Brentwood, CA 94513
database@sfi.org

Unassigned - Member Director
Bran Stimpson
PO Box 1145
Bangor, ME 04402-1145
SFI-Unassigned@sfi.org

SFI Recruitment Coordinator
Pete Mohney
1105 Oak Creek Tr
Birmingham, AL 35215-1502
pdmohney@aol.com

Understrength Chapter Supp.
Steven Bowers
120 Highpoint Ave
Weehawken, NJ 07087-5603
understrength@sfi.org

Forms Director
Robbie Lewis
5394 N Street NE # 166
Magnolia, OH 44643-8475
formsrequest@sfi.org

Director of Special Projects
Larry Neigut
304 Parkville Station Rd #105
Mantua, NJ 08051
co@ussarcher.com

STARFLEET FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT

STARFLEET CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER:
Denby Potts
2912 Dublin Drive
Helena, AL 35080
cfo@sfi.org

Senior Vice Chief Fina. Officer
Tammy Willcox
1909 Stillwood Lane
Virginia Beach, VA 23456
sceditor@aol.com

Vice Chief Financial Officer
Randy Norris
3513 Amberwood Circle
Nashville, TN 37221-1381
randy.norris@worldnet.att.net

Loss Prevention Specialist
Dee Rickard
PO Box 30341
Winston-Salem, NC 27130
Lossprevention@sfi.org

Budget Specialist
Currently Vacant

STARFLEET REGIONAL COORDINATORS

REGIONAL BREAKDOWNS AVAILABLE AT:
http://www.sfi.org/html/region.html

REGION 1: Robin Pillow
808 Franklin ST
Lima OH 45804
R1RC@wcoil.com

REGION 2: Danny Potts
2912 Dublin Drive
Helena, AL 35080
TrekNoid@aol.com

REGION 3: Brad Pense
PO Box 1756
Coppell, TX 75019
rc@region3.com

REGION 4: Ed Nowlin
PO Box 494781
Redding, CA 96049-4781
capt_ed@shasta.com

REGION 5: Nat Saenz
2301 Rouchelle Lane
West Richland, WA 99353
rc@region5.org

REGION 6: Michael Urvand
12400 Inglewood Ave. #4
Savage, MN 55378
mikeurvand@hotmail.com

REGION 7: Alex Rosenzweig
980 Linwood Place
North Brunswick, NJ 08902
alexr@castle.net

REGION 9: Isaque Fernandes
Apartado 50263
1700 Lisboa
Portugal, Europe

REGION 10: Paul M. Reid
1050 Beverley Place
Victoria, BC V8S 3Z8, Canada
sakaari@home.com

REGION 11: Jennifer Yates
PO Box 103
Harbord, NSW 2096, Australia
rcregionxi@ay.com.au

REGION 12: Carl Johnson
510 Osage
Leavenworth, KS 66048
rc@region12.org

REGION 13: Michael Dugas
3735 Teeple Ave
Ft. Gratiot, MI 48059
rc@region13.org

REGION 14: Manon L. Belanger
542 Regaudie Rouyn-Noranda
Quebec, J9X 3W6, Canada
region14m@icqmail.com

REGION 15: Garrick Halverson
10 Williamson Ave.
Newburyport, MA 01950
hlvrsnrc15@yahoo.com

REGION 17: Johnathan Simmons
7024 E. Maplewood Pl.
Englewood, CO 80111
r17rc@hotmail.com

REGION 20: Marie Wilson
183 Milverton Road,Wood End,
Coventry, West Midlands,CV2 1GL
United Kingdom

01 • FOLKS WANTED

Join the USS Stormbringer! You can be recruited for an organization that doesn't exist. Upon assignment to the STORMBRINGER, the crewmember must undergo the most classified training procedures usually resulting in a "Training Accident" that claims the life of the crewmember upon assignment to the STORMBRINGER. Documents are signed, insurance policies are processed, service files are closed. From there, the crewmember is briefed and covert service aboard the STORMBRINGER begins. Welcome to the World of Covert Correspondence Chapters. Sign aboard at: www.section-31.com or email federationscum@hotmail.com for more info!

ATTENTION: Unassigned members and any other members of STARFLEET residing in the Saint Louis MO metropolitan area. We are looking for people to form a new Region 12 chapter in the Saint Louis area. All Department head positions are available. Anyone that might be interested please email Jeff Weber at jmweber63135@yahoo.com.

STARFLEET CLASSIFIED

The 999th MSG "End of Days" (SpecOps), part of the BEOWULF Project and currently attached to the USS OMAR KHAYYAM, is looking for any and all unattached Marines in the Corps. The 999th will be involved in highly classified black ops and will definitely be on the sharp end of things. You will be part of a group of excellent writers, who are writing the mission logs for the combined operations.

Looking for the Youth of STARFLEET! Did you know you had a department of your own in STARFLEET? Did you know you have your own chat room on IRC? The answer is YES! STARFLEET does have a youth program and we have our own rooms on irc! Check us out at http://blaser.tzo.com/fdp-youth/ and visit us in #fdp-youth on IRC. Or email joacadetcorps@hotmail.com for more information.

Fleetchat – SFI's cyberspace version of 10 Forward! Come join us and chat with fellow members of SFI in the chatroom #starfleet. The network is operational 24/7 utilizing four servers (destiny, bedrock, rogue & highwind) -- for our list of server addresses, surf over to: http://www.fleetchat.org/servers.html. We even provide a webpage java interface http://javaserver.fleetchat.org/ (sorry to all of those using the Apple Macintosh, it only works on the PC platform) for those of you who don't want to install a dedicated IRC client like mIRC or Pirch. For more information, check out our web page: http://www.fleetchat.org or email nitehawk@ussjaguar.org. And don't forget to bring your party hat!

02 • ITEMS FOR SALE

The USS Arc Royal has Commemorative Memorial Patches produced by the Astronaut Memorial Foundation for sale. The patches are only $15.00 plus shipping and handling. To order, go to:http://www.arcroyal.org/

Show your support for the space program, purchase one of these awe inspiring patches. Posters also available at the website. Patches are 6 inches in diameter. Posters are 3' x 2' and are $12.50 each plus shipping and handling.

USS Jaguar, NCC-74750 Patches for Sale of our official Jaguar Logo. They are 3" round and can be seen on our home page: www.ussjaguar.org. Patches are $5 each, includes postage. We accept payments via PayPal (account: allyson@dyarstraights.com).

Send money to:

Allyson M. W. Dyar,
1209 SE 89th Avenue
Portland OR 97216-1715.
Email: co@ussjaguar.org

JOURNEY TO THE LAND OF VULCAN
BIRMINGHAM, AL • JULY 29 - AUGUST 1

Chairman and Vice-Chairman Pete Mohney and Danny Potts invite you to join your friends and fellow STARFLEET members at IC 2004 held in Birmingham, Alabama – right in the heart of Region 2!

For more information, check out:
http://www.IC2004.org or email: info@IC2004.org

For postal mail inquiries, please contact:
STARFLEET IC 2004
c/o Pete Mohney
1105 Oak Creek Trail
Birmingham AL 35215

STELLAR VISIONS V: ORDER YOUR COPY TODAY!

That's right, STARFLEET's Fanzine, made its return with Stellar Visions V at IC 2003 in Greensboro, NC and you can purchase your very own copy today. Simply fill out the form below and send it to:

Dixie Halber
8606 King George Rd.
Evansville, IN 47725.

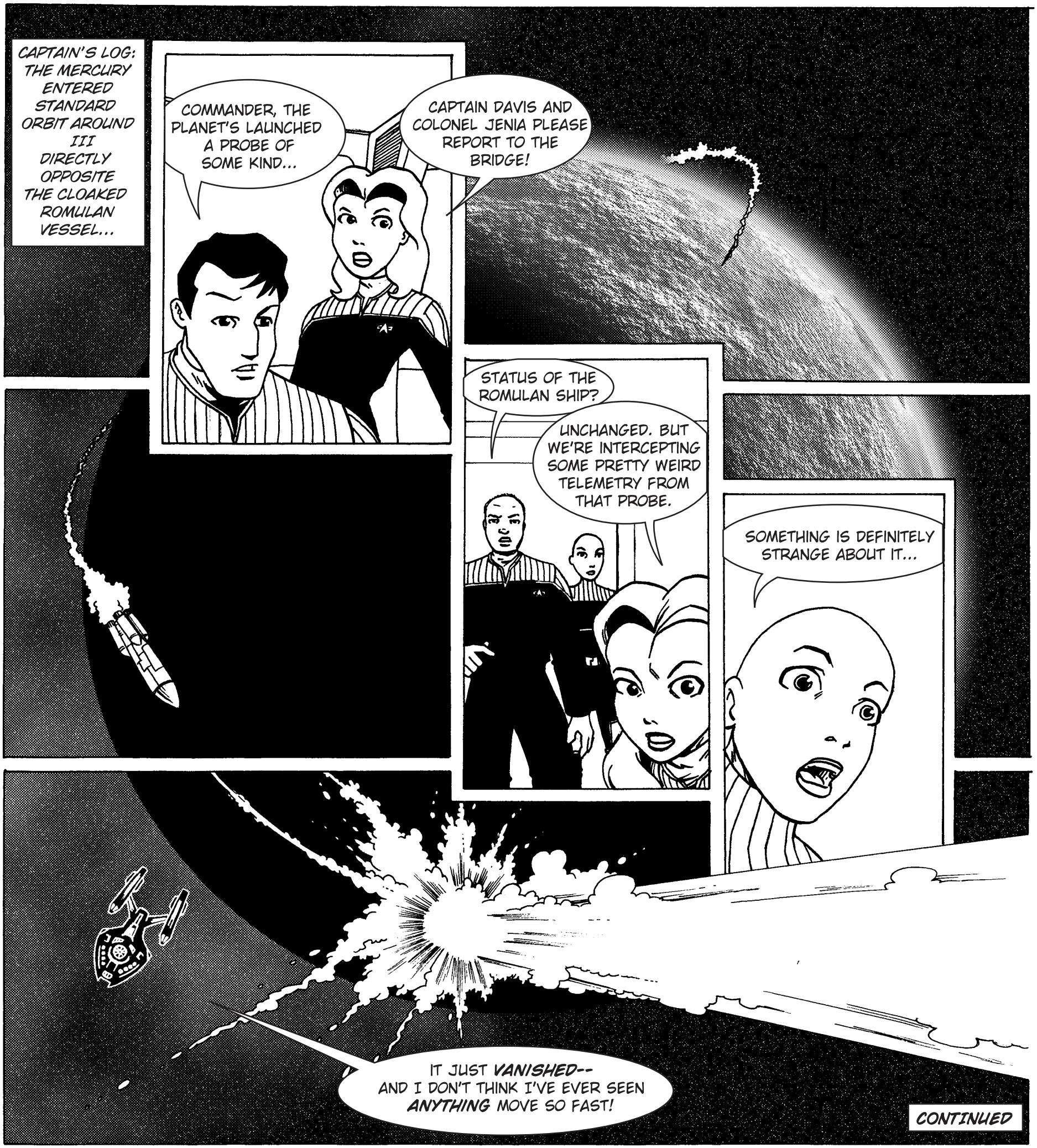
The cost is just 8.00 USD per hard copy, CD versions will be available for 2.00 USD. Shipping and handling is 2.00 USD for anywhere in the United States, 5.00 for outside the US. If you plan to pick your copy up in person, no shipping is required. Order early, order often! If you any questions or need to receive PayPal instructions please contact me directly at the above address or e-mail to: **dhalber@sigecom.net.**

Name: _____
Address: _____
Address: _____
City, State, ZIP: _____
Country: _____
Hardcopy or CD version? _____
Amount enclosed: _____

STARFLEET: SPECIAL OPS

BY CHRISTOPHER ALLAN • U.S.S. THAGARD
www.ak-studios.com www.ussthagard.net

EPISODE ELEVEN



USS CHALLENGER GOES TRICK OR TREATING!

Words and Picture courtesy of Bob Vosseller • USS Challenger, STARFLEET Region 7

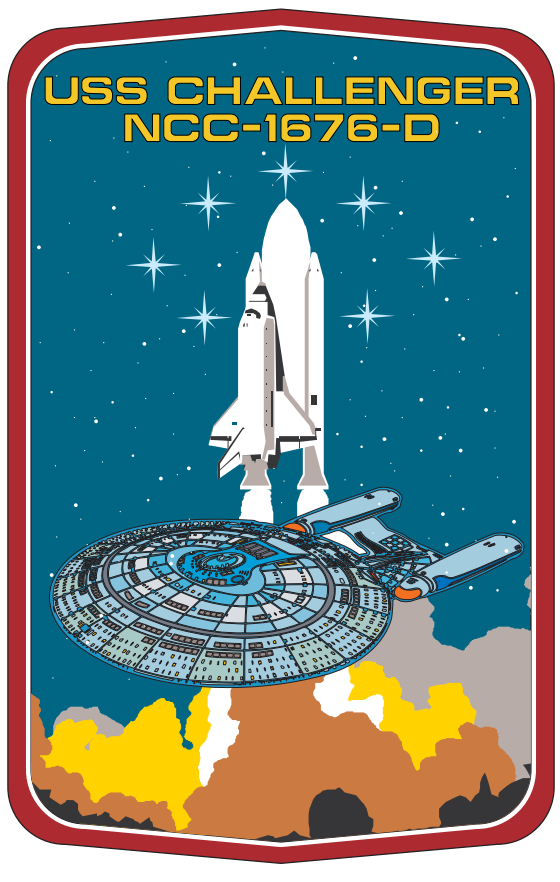
Point Taken: *Engineer Erik Bishop may be getting the point or giving the point of this argument in his Ren Faire attire worn at the USS Challenger's Halloween party held on October 31.*

" Doctor..Doctor Give Me Some News..." *Doctors Tod Bruggman of the USS Avenger at left, joins USS Challenger Chief Medical Officer Capt. David Singleton during the Challenger's annual Halloween Party.*

The USS Challenger enjoyed a large chocolate and vanilla sheet cake during the evening...as well as at their November ship meeting.

Security Chief Ken Dohn joins XO Capt. Mary Francen and Communications member Dorothy Rose during the party.

Wizard Bob Vosseller joins Cadet Victoria Rose for some fun during the party.



"Schoolgirl" Emily Vosseller gets into the spirit of things.