



# COMMUNIQUÉ

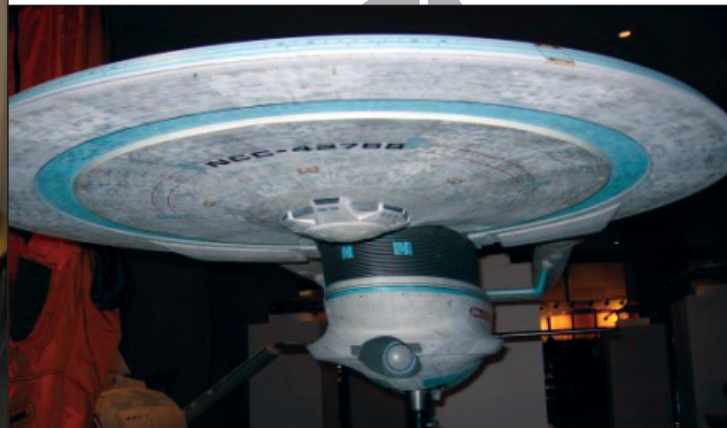
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139



## Christie's STAR TREK Auction: Part of TREK History



Words from the Fleet Admiral

Reviews

IC Savvy

Attention On Deck

What is a MSR and why do I  
have to file one?

USPS 017-671

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# AGU 2006: Dragon Planet

By: Rear Admiral Richard Heim - USS Alaric - Region 1

On December 11-15, I participated in the 2006 Fall Meeting of the American Geophysical Union (AGU). In terms of size and vast range of science material covered, the AGU Fall Meeting is the DragonCon of the scientific world. I described the AGU and general information about this meeting in another article for the *Communique*, so I won't get into that here. In this article, I want to discuss the Planetary Sciences, and Environmental Consequences of Nuclear War, sessions I attended.

In STARFLEET, we have Planetary Sciences departments aboard our starships and space stations and shuttles, where we discuss fun things about the planets in our solar system and beyond. In the AGU, they do Planetary Sciences *for real!* The sessions I attended discussed research and observational discoveries from the Mars Express, Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter, and Cassini Saturn missions.

The first session I attended was the talk, "Mars Express – Scientific Overview After Three Years in Orbit," by Dr. A.F. Chicarro. Mars Express is a Mars exploration mission of the European Space Agency, consisting of two parts: the Mars Express Orbiter and the Beagle 2, a lander designed to perform exobiology and geochemistry research. The orbiter entered Mars orbit on December 25, 2003, but contact with the lander was lost after it entered the atmosphere on the same day.

As summarized by Wikipedia ([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mars\\_Express](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mars_Express)), Mars Express instruments include the following:

-- Visible and Infrared Mineralogical Mapping Spectrometer (OMEGA) (the acronyms come from the instrument names in the participating country's language), contributed by France, determines the mineral composition of the surface.

-- Ultraviolet and Infrared Atmospheric Spectrometer (SPICAM), contributed by France, assesses the elemental composition of the atmosphere.

-- Sub-Surface Sounding Radar Altimeter (MARSIS), contributed by Italy. MARSIS is a radar altimeter used to assess the composition of the sub-surface aimed

at a search for frozen water.

-- Planetary Fourier Spectrometer (PFS), contributed by Italy, makes observations of atmospheric temperature and pressure.

-- Energetic Neutral Atoms Analyzer (ASPERA), contributed by Sweden, investigates interactions between the upper atmosphere and the solar wind.

-- High Resolution Stereo Camera (HRSC), contributed by Germany, produces color images with up to 2 meters resolution.

-- Mars Express Lander Communications (MELACOM), contributed by the UK, allows Mars Express to act as a communication relay for landers on the Martian surface.

-- Mars Radio Science Experiment (Mars), uses radio signals to investigate the atmosphere, surface, and subsurface.

I also listened to project scientists talk about the Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter (MRO) mission. I described the MRO instruments in an article recently submitted to the *Communique*, so I won't go into that here. The MRO attained Martian orbit on March 10, 2006, and the JPL scientists presented data that they had just finished analyzing, so everything was fresh and new. Dr. R.W. Zurek discussed "An Overview of Early Results and Plans for Further Observation." The remaining five talks mainly showed pictures and discussed data taken by the various instruments. Very very interesting!

I attended four Planetary Sciences poster sessions. They dealt with things like Trans-Neptunian Objects and Kuiper Belt Objects (observations and analyses of the objects of the outer solar system), Cassini observations of Titan and Enceladus, a proposed mission for the scientific study and search for life on Enceladus, and analyses of the Martian atmosphere.

One poster discussing global warming on Mars was especially interesting. Yes, Mars is a cold planet, with temperatures as cold as -140 degrees C (-220 degrees F) and as warm as +20 C (+68 F), with an average temperature of -63 C (-81 F). But it actually can experience global warming due to global dust

storms. More dust darkens the Martian surface, which decreases albedo, which means more sunlight is absorbed, which causes more warming, which causes more dust storms, which darkens the surface more, which causes more warming ..... this is what's called a positive feedback. The warming certainly is not going to make the planet habitable, but it is large enough to be detected!

On Monday afternoon, the first day of the 5-day conference, a session was held called, "Environmental Consequences of Regional Nuclear Conflicts." Some 20 years ago, a group of scientists analyzed the potential environmental and climatic effects that would be caused by a full nuclear exchange between the United States and the Soviet Union. They concluded that so much dust and smoke would be put up into the atmosphere that it would cause a "nuclear winter" worldwide, not to mention the countless deaths that would directly result.

These scientists did some new analyses on the effects of smaller nuclear wars, and discovered things would be just as bad. Even a limited nuclear war (say, only 50 low yield nuclear bombs) between small countries (say, India and Pakistan) would cause as many deaths as a full scale nuclear exchange between the U.S. and the old U.S.S.R. because people are now clustering in megacities.

Other consequences: An enormous firestorm would result from such a limited nuclear exchange. The protective stratospheric ozone layer would be destroyed by nitrous oxide produced by the nuclear explosions, thereby potentially devastating life on Earth due to deadly UV rays from the sun. And, of course, there is the nuclear radiation fallout.

All of these factors led Dr. O.B. Toon and his associates to conclude that: "Today's nuclear proliferation, political instability, and urban demographics form perhaps the greatest danger to the stability of society since the dawn of humanity."

And that's not even considering the climatic consequences of nuclear war. Even the exchange

of only 100 Hiroshima-size (15 kiloton) bombs would have devastating consequences, and that's way less than one percent of the explosive yield of the current global nuclear arsenal (it's 0.03%, actually). Even such a small limited nuclear exchange between countries in or near the Middle East would put so much dust, smoke, and soot into the upper atmosphere that it would block out the sun worldwide. We've seen some hints of this from the smoke created by massive forest fires, volcanic eruptions like Pinatubo, and the nuclear tests of the mid-20<sup>th</sup> Century. Based on computer models, global *average* temperatures would cool 5 degrees C (9 degrees F) with some areas cooling *20 to 35 degrees C*. That's cold enough to keep SUMMER temperatures BELOW FREEZING in many agricultural areas of the world. There would be a complete collapse of the Asian/African monsoon and a drastic drop in rainfall over other parts of the world as well. This "nuclear winter" would last for at least three years before the atmosphere started clearing and the temperatures began to recover. Could society survive SEVERAL YEARS with absolutely no food grown anywhere in the world? There would be massive famine at the very least, complete collapse of civilization as people tried to cope – at the worst. It seems to me that even a limited nuclear strike by a U.S. naval task force to take out Iran's nuclear reactors, which President Bush has considered, would have disastrous environmental consequences worldwide.

The conclusion of Dr. Alan Robock and his colleagues was: "Only nuclear disarmament will prevent nuclear environmental catastrophe."

During the Cold War, the threat of Mutually Assured Destruction (MAD) kept the U.S. and U.S.S.R. from engaging in a nuclear conflict. If sane minds prevail in all countries and terrorists don't get their hands on nuclear weapons, we can prevent this new Globally Assured Destruction from happening. Unfortunately, there are minds loose in the world that are not sane. We, as a world, need to keep nuclear weapons from falling into the hands of such extremists.



## Be Careful of Picking Up Purple Stones, They Just May Be Filled with Baby Dragons! A Review of Eragon

By: Admiral Bob Vossellor - USS Challenger - Region 7

This past holiday season didn't feature any major big budget blockbuster like last year's King Kong. Eragon however was released at the right time to provide a light lightheartedness complete with magic, sword fighting and of course dragons.

I don't know if Eragon, which is the first of a trilogy of films to be adapted from a book series, will stand out among the genre but it was a good popcorn movie and for those who enjoy fantasy films, you'll have a good time.

The story of a young man who finds a purple stone which of course is actually a dragon egg and leads to his destiny as a dragon rider is very similar to a certain space fantasy featuring another farm boy who is coached by an elder knight to combat an evil empire. The similarities between the themes and plot to Star Wars are definitely there.

The film certainly opens up the plot for a larger saga and gives enough tidbits to capture interest for further installments. Jeremy Irons plays the senior Dragonrider role and I think we'll see a love interest develop in the second installment.

I liked the idea of the dragon being able to communicate mentally not verbally with the host rider and the bond connected to both. As much as I liked

Dragonheart I just didn't like the dragons talking even if with the voice of Sean Connery. This seemed better and the CGI was pretty good. We're not talking Lord of the Rings but few films, even of the same genre can compare to that trilogy.

In all, when it comes to DVD, rent it for some fun and enjoyment.



## Bill Johnson (1971-2006) Former Officer in Region Seven

By: Fleet Captain Rahadyan Sastrowardoyo - USS Malverne - Region 7

William Robert Johnson, Jr., a former member of STARFLEET and the USS Avenger in Region 7, died on June 9, 2006 from leukemia. He had just turned 35.

In civilian life, Bill was an analyst for the U.S. Department of Justice, based in New York City and then in Washington, until 2004. In the late 1990's he received a doctorate from New York University

in global studies. He also taught government studies at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore.

In his Starfleet life, Bill reached the rank of Commander in Starfleet and served in several billets on the Avenger, including executive officer in the early 90's.

A native of Elizabeth, New Jersey, Bill is survived by his parents, William (Sr.) and Ellen; his sister Elizabeth, a niece Amanda and a nephew Joseph.

Bill was one of the first people on the Avenger I met during the summer of 1992. We grew to be friends over the next two years. I lost touch with him for a while then got back in touch with him via mutual

friends Bob and Wendy Fillmore and Tom and Jennifer Colgan (the parents of my younger godson Cullan).





This is a Region 1 Sciences report. But before I get to RDC business, I want to discuss a news item I read recently.

### "Pure Antiproton. Absolutely Pure!"

In the Star Trek original series episode, "The Doomsday Machine," the USS Enterprise comes across several destroyed solar systems. In System L-374 they discover a disabled starship, the USS Constellation. As Kirk, Scotty, and McCoy enter the Constellation's Auxiliary Control Room, they find its commander, Matt Decker. Do you remember how the Commodore tried to explain what happened to them, what they found? Some kind of huge weapon, he said.

Decker: "It destroys planets, chops them into rubble."

Kirk: "Matt, your log stated that the fourth planet was breaking up. You went in to investigate."

Decker: "We saw this thing hovering over the planet, slicing out chunks of it with a force-beam."

Kirk: "Did you run a scanner check on it? What kind of a beam?"

Decker: "Pure antiproton. Absolutely pure!"

That episode illustrated the destructive power of antimatter. A beam of antiprotons could destroy a planet! Could such a weapon be used for constructive purposes?

I'm glad you asked, because I have the answer you're looking for and it is: "Yes!" In an article published by World Science on November 2, 2006, we learn that scientists at CERN, the European Organization for Nuclear Research, outside Geneva, are testing the effects of beams of antiprotons fired at live cells ("Antimatter rays studied as medical treatment"):

[http://www.world-science.net/othernews/061102\\_antiproton.htm](http://www.world-science.net/othernews/061102_antiproton.htm)

This could arguably be the first application of antimatter in medical treatment. The work could lead to a new form of radiation therapy, a cancer treatment in which beams of particles are aimed at tumor cells to destroy them. Protons are used in standard radiation therapy, and the research shows that antiprotons have four times greater cell-killing power than protons. Or, in other words, "To achieve the same level of damage to cells at the target area one needs four times fewer antiprotons than protons," said Michael Holzschneider, spokesman for the project.

CERN's Michael Doser, one of an international team of physicists, doctors and biologists collaborating on the project, said, "Although it still has to be compared with other existing methods, it is a breakthrough in this area." It's a breakthrough because using antiprotons will enable doctors to limit tissue damage in areas along the beam path where it is undesirable, thus sparing healthy tissue while destroying tumors.

As most (if not all) Star Trek fans know, antimatter consists of atomic and other fundamental particles that are essentially identical to matter particles, except they have some properties reversed. The

antiproton is the reverse mate of the positively-charged proton, and has a negative charge. When a particle and its antiparticle meet, they annihilate each other, producing a large amount of energy ( $E=mc^2$ ). This would be a useful property for antiprotons on therapy, the researchers argue, because an antiproton annihilates with protons in atoms of the target cell. The result is a sort of tiny explosion that spreads the damage to immediately neighboring cells. The thing that I don't understand is how they expect the antiprotons to get to the protons in the tumor. Wouldn't they be annihilated en route? There are air molecules and skin molecules and all kinds of other atoms between the antiproton emitter machine and the tumor cells.

The researchers are planning further tests, and if all goes well, the first clinical application would still be a decade or more away, according to project members.

Antimatter is currently harnessed in medicine for a few limited applications, but not normally in actual treatment, Dr. Doser said. A diagnostic technique called Positron Emission Tomography uses positrons, antiparticles of electrons, for scanning tissue. And an uncommon form of radiation therapy uses pions, "a hybrid form of matter and antimatter subatomic particles called quarks," Doser added. "In that sense, one could perhaps talk of antimatter having been applied in medical treatment, but it would be stretching it a bit." Other than that, the CERN experiments would be the first application of antimatter in medical treatment, he said.

Wow, someday in the future cancer survivors may be able to say, "I was cured with a beam of pure antiprotons, absolutely pure!"

### **Region 1 Sciences**

Region 1 Sciences serves as an information resource for the Chief Science Officers of Region 1 ships, shuttles, and stations. Each spring we give out annual Sciences Division Awards. The Steven R. Hawking Award for Original Article and the Galileo Award for Chief Science Officer of the Year are selected by vote of the region's Chief Science Officers. The Albert Einstein Award for Regular Article Submission is presented to the CSOs who report to me regularly. We have an online handbook which provides ideas for science activities which can be conducted by the CSOs. The handbook can be accessed at the following web page:

<http://alaricrh.home.sprynet.com/science/R1Sci2.htm#handbook>

Our main web site is:

<http://alaricrh.home.sprynet.com/science/R1Science.htm>

Our email address is: AlaricRH@charter.net. If you don't have internet access, we can be reached via land mail at: Region 1 Sciences, P.O. Box 2072, Asheville, NC 28802.

### **Region 1 Science Officer Reports**

Each month I send an RDC report to the RDC Program Director, Commodore Ruth Green. Among the things I include in the report is a list of the reports I receive from the region's Chief Science Officers. In this issue of the *Communiqué*, I'm including excerpts and information from the CSO reports to give you an idea of some of the science activities that are going on in the region.

Admiral Willy Smith reported that the guest speaker at the September USS Heimdal meeting was Mike

Robinson, who is a professor of Communication Arts at Lynchburg College. The title of his talk was "40 Years of Boldly Going: Trek, Academics, and Popular Culture." According to CSO Willy: "Mike is an expert, having done his master's thesis on Star Trek and presented a lecture on this topic during a symposium on the '60's at the college last fall. It was a very interesting and enjoyable meeting." Also, the science department contributed to the Heimdal's 2006 Amherst Christmas Parade float, which won first prize!

USS Tycho Chief Science Officer Karolyn Wojtowicz was named "Science Cadet of the Year" for 2006. Congratulations Karolyn! She includes a discussion of present-day science topics in each of her CSO reports, which she also presents at the regular Tycho meetings. In her September report, CPO Wojtowicz reviewed the recent reclassification of the solar system, and reported on a trip to East Asia. "In the new solar system, there are eight planets, at least three dwarf planets, and tens of thousands of so-called 'smaller solar system bodies,' like comets and asteroids. For now, the dwarf planets include Pluto, Ceres (the largest asteroid), and an object known as UB 313 which is larger than Pluto that orbits out beyond Neptune in a zone of icy debris known as the Kuiper Belt. ... This past summer, I spent 3 weeks in a town called Hofu in Japan. The first part of my stay was during the rainy season and overnight it changed to the hot season. I visited Hiroshima five days before the big memorial they hold every year and saw the shrine for the paper cranes. I also visited the science museum (like COSI), salt production museum, MAZDA and DELTA plants, and I got to be on the radio. Everyone is nice in Japan and they bow and greet each other often. I miss the food, the mountains, the language, and the people. I know I want to return again, hopefully to teach English in a school for a couple of years." At every Tycho meeting, the crew talks about all the latest Sci-Fi news, gossip and what movies of interest are set to come out in the months ahead, and each meeting concludes with a trip to a local eatery for socializing.

Several ships from the area (the USS Ohio, USS Renegade, USS Liberator, and USS Gallifrey) sent away teams (16 people altogether) to see Leonard Nimoy in Akron, Ohio in September. It was an informative talk on his life works. The CSOs of the USS Alaric (FCapt. Dennis Relyea), USS Wasp (Lt. Cmdr. Cyndi jo Ashby), and USS Appomattox (Capt. Debbie Artrip) reported on personal happenings with science department personnel aboard their ships. Capt. Artrip noted a recent report on a Japanese company that "incorporates human unconscious movements in robots to make them startlingly real-looking." Lt.Cmdr. Ashby reported on several science and Fortean news stories. Fleet Captain Janice Graham, CSO and XO of the USS Renegade, helped staff the Dark Xmas Horror and Sci-Fi Expo in November, and she also made an appearance as the beautiful and seductive Orion Slave Girl (this is the Orion that debuted at the 2006 Region 1 Summit!).

Aboard the USS Jurassic, Lt. Dawn Jenkins continued to update the Astra's Star Gate. She has posted her first cut on Astra's Starfleet and Stellar Cartography web page. The Starfleet address is: <http://www.astras-stargate.com/starfleet.html>. "The big news is Astra's Stellar Cartography page complete with my first installment of the Flash gallery that I created to teach a little bit about light and show off some of the images of the Milky Way that we've retrieved from Earth-bound and orbiting observatories. Here's the address that will beam you into the Cartography page:

[http://www.astras-stargate.com/fleet\\_cart.html](http://www.astras-stargate.com/fleet_cart.html). One of the latest features at Astra's Star Gate is a monthly sky almanac written by Ron Leeseberg, a.k.a the Star Geezer. Also, Nancy and I are preparing to speak on NASA's new launch system and space exploration plans at the Cuyahoga Astronomical Association (CAA)." Their talk was quite successful and can be found at <http://www.astras-stargate.com/ares.html>. In December, Lt. Jenkins visited the ancient Mayan city of Tulum, a small town (actually a fort) built near the sea during the dying days of the Mayan empire.

Lt.Cmdr. Janet Wagoner reported on several away teams of the USS Ohio, including Monster House and observatory outings. Catalog information from NASA was shared at the ship's Christmas Party and plans were made to order the Hubble video for showing at a future meeting. Cmdr. Barbara Slater, Commanding Officer of the USS Charleston, reported on a new life support system installed aboard the International Space Station "that seems to come right out of the pages of science fiction!" Details are at: [http://science.nasa.gov/headlines/y2006/30oct\\_eclss.htm](http://science.nasa.gov/headlines/y2006/30oct_eclss.htm).

VAdm. Victor Swindell, Sector Commander 003, summarized the Genographic Project (<https://www3.nationalgeographic.com/genographic/index.html>), which is a landmark five-year study by the National Geographic and IBM that will assemble the world's largest collection of DNA samples to map how humankind populated the planet. Victor explains that "the human genetic code, or genome, is 99.9 percent identical throughout the world. What's left is the DNA responsible for our individual differences -- in eye color, skin color, fondness for Spock or disease risk, for example -- as well as some that serves no apparent function at all." DNA studies suggest that all humans descend from a group of Africans who about 60,000 years ago began a remarkable journey. The Genographic Project aims to uncover how we migrated and mutated and hopes to discover the details of how we journeyed around the world. People around the world are invited to participate in the project.

I want to thank each and every one of these fine officers for reporting! The strength of any regional department can be traced back to the interest and involvement of 'Fleet's members in its activities.

### **USS Alaric Science Flagship of Region 1**

I'm the Region 1 Science RDC and also the Commanding Officer of the USS Alaric. That makes the Alaric the science flagship of Region 1. The USS Alaric schedules gaming activities at every meeting, including several space-oriented games such as Twilight Imperium and Star Fleet Battle Force, but also games such as Star Trek Uno, Settlers of Catan, and Star Wars The Game of Life: A Jedi's Path. We also participate in an ongoing Star Trek The Customizable Card Game tournament.

In addition to games and discussing regular club business, members give reports on topics of interest to them. At recent Alaric meetings, topics have included: status of the upcoming Star Trek movie, climate change and global warming, antimatter as a medical tool, and the history of manned space flight. In past years we have dabbled in the writing of fiction. To read our Star Trek James Bond parody, "The Universe Is Not Enough," go to the May and July 2000 issues of our online newsletter at: <http://www.ussalaric.org/cc/cc0005.htm> <http://www.ussalaric.org/cc/cc0007.htm>

(Note: Parts of this article originally appeared in Channel 01, The Official Publication of Region 01.)





# STARFLEET Sciences - Investigating Planetary Weather Systems

## By: Rear Admiral Richard Heim - USS Alaric - Region 1

Greetings from Starfleet Sciences! In this report, I'd like to talk about the weather. All planets with atmospheres experience some degree of weather. According to the textbook, *Introduction to Meteorology*, by Dr. Franklyn Cole, weather is defined as "the short-term variations of the atmosphere in terms of temperature, pressure, wind, moisture, cloudiness, precipitation, and visibility." And climate is simply the mathematically averaged weather ("climate normals" are the average weather over a standard 30-year period).

On Earth, the atmosphere consists mostly of oxygen and nitrogen with lesser amounts of argon, carbon dioxide, and ozone, and varying amounts of water vapor. Because of its unique property of existing in a solid, liquid, and gaseous state at Earth temperatures, water plays a crucial role in Earth's weather. But a planet can have weather no matter the composition of its atmosphere. Saturn's moon, Titan, for example, has an atmosphere that is 98% nitrogen and 1.6% methane with only trace amounts of other gases such as hydrocarbons. It is so cold (-290 degrees F, or -179 C) that liquid methane and other organic compounds "rain" out of the atmosphere onto the moon's surface.

Planets that are close enough to their sun are heated unevenly. Weather is just the atmosphere's way of redistributing the heat. With this in mind, I want to discuss the weather on an extrasolar planet recently examined by astronomers. The discovery is reported in a *Science News* article entitled, "Feeling the Heat of an Extrasolar Planet." I discussed this a couple months ago on the Science-Lab e-mail list. The article says:

"Researchers used NASA's infrared Spitzer Space Telescope, which measures the heat emitted from distant objects, to study a massive extrasolar planet that lies 40 light-years from Earth. This so-called hot Jupiter, known as Upsilon Andromedae b, orbits its parent star at only about a tenth of the distance that Mercury resides from the sun.

"Joe Harrington of the University of Central Florida in Orlando and his colleagues found that the temperature difference between the icy, dark side and the fiery, bright side of the planet is about 1,400 degrees C. The huge variation comes about, the researchers theorize, because one side of the planet always faces toward its star, while the other side faces away. The same side of the moon likewise always faces Earth. Unlike the moon, however, Upsilon Andromedae b is a giant ball of gas."

Imagine a planet like Jupiter orbiting so close to its sun (about a tenth as close to the Sun as Mercury orbits in our solar system) that it is tidally locked, meaning that its rotational period (day) is the same as its orbital period (year), so the planet always has the same side facing its sun. The sunlight side would be super hot, and the dark side would be super cold. These astronomers measured a 1,400°C (2,520°F) temperature difference between the night and day sides of planet Upsilon Andromedae b. You may say, so what? We have tidally locked planetary bodies in our solar system: the Moon is tidally locked to the Earth. And we have planets in our solar system that are hot on one side and cold on other parts: take Mercury, which has temperatures ranging from about 90 to 700 K (-180 to 430°C), with the subsolar point being the hottest and the bottoms of craters near the poles being the coldest.

But the fascinating thing about Upsilon Andromedae b is that it has an atmosphere, it is mostly gas,

like Jupiter. Think of the thermodynamic effects a nightside/dayside thermal gradient of 1400 C would have on the meteorology! The weather on this planet would be horrific! Solar heating on the dayside would result in hot less dense air constantly rising, the frigid nightside would have colder denser air constantly sinking, with horizontal currents roaring planetwide at the surface from the nightside to the dayside and horizontal air currents rushing planetwide in the upper atmosphere from the dayside to the nightside. Constant, never-ending hurricane-force winds, across the entire surface of the planet! Wow! What a tame planet Earth is...

I want to discuss weather in more detail in a moment, but first here is a brief description of the Sciences Fleet Resource Center.

As we say on our web site, the mission of Starfleet Sciences is simple: to serve as an informational and communications resource for the Science Regional Division Chiefs, Regional Coordinators, and chapter Chief Science Officers throughout STARFLEET. In doing so, we hope to enhance interest in science within STARFLEET's membership and to promote science education whenever possible. We have abundant science resources on our website

<http://alaricrh.home.sprynet.com/science/starfleet-sciences.html>

including links to real-world science web pages, photographs, educational materials, and science museums worldwide. Our Regional Science Contacts page is updated with the latest information provided to us by the Science RDC's across 'Fleet. We have two listserves, an administrative list (SFI-FDC-Science) and a fun info list (Science-Lab). Anyone with an interest in science, both real-world and as depicted in Star Trek, is invited to join. My email address is: AlaricRH@charter.net. If you aren't connected to the web, we can be reached by land mail at: Starfleet Sciences, P.O. Box 2072, Asheville, NC 28802 USA.

Now, I have sought some help to aid us in understanding the ins and outs of weather. The help comes from a tap into a temporal rift, where I acquired the visual/audio log of a starship from the 23<sup>rd</sup> century. Here is a transcription from that log.

---- AUTOLOG, U.S.S. ENTERPRISE, STARDATE 3715.3 ----  
---- TRANSCRIPTION BEGINS ----

"Astrophysics Laboratory Log, Stardate 3715.3, Lieutenant Nancy Klein reporting. Upon conducting standard scans of planet Gamma Trianguli VI, we have detected unusual meteorological, geological, and geomagnetic readings. We have just learned that the landing party has suffered a casualty, and I suspect they are in even more danger. To complicate matters, the ship has started losing potency in the antimatter pods. At least this is providing an excellent educational opportunity for our four new recruits."

An excellent educational opportunity, Ensign Tom Thacker repeated in his thoughts, you bet! He watched as Klein hurried to each of the Lab's stations, receiving reports, issuing orders. Soon the activity abated, just a little.

"Sir," Thacker asked, "what can we do to help?"

Nancy Klein surveyed the group of young ensigns, her eyes studying Thacker, Roberto Odarezo, Dwight Fugherouea, and Kara Lenemann, especially their faces. The excitement, the alarm, these she

expected, but the calm in Fugherouea's eyes she found surprising.

"We need answers," Klein said. "You have fresh minds, new perspectives. I need you to figure out an explanation for these odd readings." She thought for a moment. "Start with the globally constant temperature of 76 degrees. Gamma Trianguli VI is no different from any other Class M planet. The axis of rotation is tilted only," she checked a monitor readout, "15 degrees from the perpendicular. Orbital mechanics demand that the differential heating of the planet should result in warmer temperatures at the equatorial regions and colder temperatures at the poles. Start with the basics."

"Right," Thacker said. "This system's star is the source of heat energy for Gamma Trianguli VI. Sunlight is absorbed by the ground, and the heat is conducted into the atmosphere. The atmosphere is the mechanism whereby a planet redistributes the heat: the air should flow from the warm equatorial regions to the cold polar regions."

"Generally speaking," Lenemann said, "that's the case. Continents, oceans, mountain ranges, and other factors complicate the atmospheric circulation."

"And you need to consider vertical motions," Odarezo added.

"But still," Thacker replied, "heat flows from where there's an excess of it to where there's a deficit."

"The temperature differential is the main driver of atmospheric motion," Odarezo explained, "but it's the pressure differential that is the actual mechanism. Air flows from high pressure to low pressure. The relationship between temperature and pressure is defined by the ideal gas law, which states pressure times volume equals temperature, with a conversion multiplier thrown in. If the volume stays constant, like in a closed system such as a bottle, the pressure will increase as the temperature increases. But in an open system like the atmosphere, the air expands as it heats up. As the volume increases, the pressure and density decrease, and you get hot air rising. So, the tropics are a region of rising air, with the air flowing towards the pole in the upper atmosphere. At the poles, the air is colder, denser, and sinks, with a return flow at the surface toward the equator, your basic Hadley cell."

"But it's not that simple," Thacker barked.

"Right," Lenemann agreed. "As I said, topographical features can disrupt the circulation, and your basic vertical Hadley cell structure is really broken up into several cells. One cell has rising air at the equator and descending air at the subtropics, another with rising air at the mid-latitudes. The mid-latitude currents spread out north and south in the upper atmosphere, with one branch descending at the subtropics and the other branch descending at the poles."

"So, bottom line," Fugherouea said, "the atmosphere is always in motion. As the air rises, it cools adiabatically, water vapor condenses out, you get clouds and precipitation."

"And where the air descends," Lenemann continued, "it warms adiabatically, dries out, and you get deserts or dry climates in the subtropics."

"Cold fronts and warm fronts at the surface," Fugherouea added, smiling, "are how the heat is redistributed horizontally." It was almost as if he were

doing a verbal dance with Lenemann.

"And tropical systems, like hurricanes," Kara Lenemann replied, "move heat and humidity and kinetic energy from low latitudes to mid-latitudes."

"Right! Right!," Thacker interrupted. "The atmosphere is always in motion, there is always weather somewhere on the planet. Or at least there should be." He glared at a monitor which showed a full-disc view of Gamma Trianguli VI rotating beneath them, its oceans and continents placid, cloudless, weatherless.

"Sir?" Lieutenant Baidongong was motioning Klein to her station. "I'm picking up a transmission in the high energy end of the spectrum."

"What is it? What frequency?"

"Difficult to say, sir. The frequency is variable, constantly changing, almost in a random pattern."

"Source?"

Baidongong displayed the coordinates on the monitor. "It's the village near the landing party," Klein surmised. Fingering the station's intercom, she said, "Astrophysics Lab to Bridge."

As Klein reported their discovery to the Bridge, Lieutenant Baidongong worked other controls at her station. "Sir, the intensity is increasing."

Lieutenant Klein put a communications earpiece in place, listened intently.

"Sir?," the ensigns asked in unison.

Klein gave them a worried look. "The antimatter pods have gone completely inert," she said. "Commander Scott has made fixing them our top priority, shipwide. Smith, Kapalkin," she said, motioning to the officers at two nearby stations. "Your first assignments were in engineering, right?"

"Yes, sir!"

"Report to Mister Scott on the bridge." Klein turned to the recruits. "I have two unmanned stations. What—"

Before she could finish her sentence, Thacker and Odarezo were on station, adjusting the controls.

"Lieutenant Klein," Lenemann said, "there has to be some artificial mechanism redistributing the heat in the atmosphere."

"I agree," Klein replied. "But what, and how?"

"Sir," Baidongong said, "I cross-analyzed the magnetometric and spectrometric readings. That high-energy transmission is piggy-backing off the planet's magnetic field. And there's a definite connection between the planetary magnetic field and the stratospheric iron oxide layer. It's like the iron oxides are acting like an electrical conduit."

Klein thought for a moment. "Are you saying the atmosphere is wired for electricity?"

*Continued on page 6.*

# Battlestar Galactica Classic...or “I Waited for This?”

By: Admiral Bob Vosseller - USS Challenger - Region 7



Battlestar Galactica Classic...or “I waited for this?”

By Adm. Bob Vosseller, Region 7

For months I've been pestering the comic book shop managers in my area as to when I could pickup a copy of the new Dynamite Entertainment Battlestar Galactica “Classic” comic book. That's the version where Starbuck was a male and Richard Hatch's image was used for Apollo not the sinister political manipulator Zarek.

Oh don't get me wrong, while not a big fan of reimagined sagas (like Tim Burton's Planet of the Apes) I am a big fan of the new Battlestar Galactica and enjoy that saga but despite the new Galactica coming to comics, I wanted to get a classic Galactica fix.

Heck I'm now a member of the Colonial Defense Force which is a BG club more focused on the new version but there will always be a part of me that ponders “what if Galactica survived a few more seasons before it morphed into the disappointment we came to know as Galactica 1980.

Well for those who are also asking that question, don't bother to pickup Battlestar Galactica (classic). Despite some extraordinary artwork by Carlos Rafael the first issue at least, featured imposters who resembled our favorite Colonial Warriors.

Right off the bat on page 1 you have Starbuck spouting off “Come on Adama, even if those relics did somehow survive, last report I read says there's three (Cylon) motherships down there.” Col. Tight quickly curbs the officer's questioning.

Starbuck may have been the reckless, maverick pilot but he always demonstrated respect to Adama so unless this is some alternate universe, something is wrong. The story is set at some point early on in the TV series as Serina is still alive. Ironically, Dynamite Entertainment is based in Runnemede New Jersey a short distance from my South Jersey apartment. I'm really tempted to stop by with a Colonial blaster armed with a DVD series of the original show and have writer Rick Remender watch each episode to truly get a feel for how Starbuck talks.

The story itself is intriguing but the characters just don't sound right. I was thinking wait a centon here,

Starbuck wouldn't react this way and Apollo wouldn't say this...what gives...is Baltar writing this comic?

Battlestar Galactica, like Star Trek has had a long history with comics and multiple comic book companies. BG began with a comic book adaptation of the pilot movie by Marvel Comics and a series that ran about 20 or issues or so afterward.

Later a comics company headed by Mark Haynes, once known as the CO of the Maryland based STARFLEET chapter USS Odin, helmed a new series of BG comics which even spawned a new line of action figures.

Maximum Press had the series for awhile. In total there have been either four or five companies handling the property. Now Dynamite Entertainment has it. They are associated with DC Comics and have produced a top notch version of Red Sonja created by Robert E. Howard. Ironically, the comic book rights to Howard's more well known hero Conan, are in the hands of another company so we won't see any cross overs.

Dynamite is also producing another female warrior

book which sprang from TV, Xena Warrior Princess. Another property they have is Highlander.

I end this review with the happy (and know doubt known) note that Star Trek has returned to comic book form thanks to the folks at another comic book company which produces CSI comics.

I can't wait to see their treatment of Picard and company and hope that the company may also be bringing us stories of Kirk and crew. Wishful thinking would have the Enterprise NX crew with stories that we would have actually like to have seen on the series but I tend to doubt that is in the works.

As to Galactica Classic, I find myself, so far, enjoying the Maximum Press version of comics which I only now am getting around to reading which seem to feature characters (if not the actual likeness of the actors who portrayed them) that are more familiar.

I'd like to hear what other BG fans think. Feel free to submit a review of your own or a review of a later issue or one of the new BG comic. Its really to bad that after the long wait, the book seems to be just so much feldercarb!

## My “TREK” Into STARFLEET

By: Crewman Robyn Price - USS Hatfield - Region 13



I have always been a Trekkie. Not a “Trekker”, a Trekkie. I've been a Trekkie since I started watching the original Trek with my dad as a little kid. I always loved the whole Trek concept! Then, when I was in Junior High, my nickname was “Spock”! So I guess it's something of a mystery that I didn't find STARFLEET until I was almost 31.

I watch TOS every weekday at 2pm on Space. About a month ago, during Trek they advertised they were showing Trekkies and Trekkies 2. I hadn't seen either, although my husband Tony claims to have seen both (don't know how I missed them?!). I taped them late at night, and watched them the following day. And lo and behold, I found out that you could join STARFLEET:

The International Star Trek Fan Association, Inc. So I set out to do just that.

I went to my computer, and I Googled Starfleet, and I came across the STARFLEET International Star Trek Fan Association, Inc. website. From there, I just had to locate my local Region, and decide which of the two chapters near me I wanted to apply to. I decided that Georgetown Ontario was slightly closer to me than Guelph, and sent an e-mail to Captain Debbie Blaser of the USS Hadfield.

Within 24 hours, I had a reply, and was sending messages back and forth with both Debbie, and with her XO, Commander Shirley Graham. What a welcoming group of people! I felt welcomed and I

certainly felt that this was a group of people that I'd like to be a part of! Debbie invited me out to the next General meeting, which was on January 21<sup>st</sup>, and said that I could see how I fit with the group, and see if I wanted to join. But the more I sent e-mails back and forth with Debbie and Shirley, the more I knew I would join. I was invited to the Costuming Day, the day before the meeting, and accepted.

When I rang the doorbell at Debbie's house, and we met face-to-face, I knew that I had made a new friend. We seemed to click. Shirley arrived about 2 minutes after me, and we all chatted amiably, and it just seemed so natural! By the time Darlene, Jane and their kids arrived, and we all set off to get our fabric, I felt accepted. The whole day, we all chatted

and laughed, and I knew I was there to stay. I just fit in with the group and there was no question that I was an accepted member of Hadfield's crew. At the meeting the next day, I met three more crew members, and got to know Dave (Debbie's husband and our RC) a bit better. I couldn't believe that there were that many kindred spirits out there, and I found myself so comfortable, more comfortable in a group than I had been in a very long time. I have joined STARFLEET, and I'm now an accepted member of the USS Hadfield's crew. I'm looking forward to a very long association with both.

When I sat down to watch Trekkies that day, I never thought it would begin my “continuing mission to explore strange new worlds”, but I'm glad it did! I guarantee I'll be better off because I did.

## STARFLEET Sciences - Continued

“Lieutenant!” Thacker was pointing to a monitor above his station. It showed a huge cloud mass forming over the coordinates of the landing party where there had been clear skies only moments before. Convective cloud tops boiled violently, building massive static electric potential which discharged in brilliant flashes of lightning. “We need to warn them!”

Ensign Lenermann stared wide-eyed at the monitor as Lieutenant Klein spoke into a station intercom. “Of course!” Lenermann exclaimed. “The iron oxide layer! It's an electric generator. Electric fields! That's how the heat is distributed! A constant, planetwide redistribution of heat, steadily, slowly, horizontally, vertically. No need for weather systems, fronts, to redistribute the heat. Electric fields could also

create extreme vertical instability at the drop of a hat, instant clouds, but the updrafts must be horrific!”

They watched as the atmosphere churned beneath them, and then, just as suddenly, the skies cleared and the air calmed.

And then the report of Kaplan's death reached them. Vaporized by a lightning strike.

Klein gave the ensigns a moment to let the shock of the news pass. Then, with a determined look on her face, she said, “It's time we did something about this. Up to this point, we've been conducting passive sensor scans. Mister Odarezo, initiate a sensor sweep, starting with ground-penetrating radar, of the area around the landing party, especially that village. The Captain and Mister Scott think there is an underground generator powering the entire system -- the warp-dampening field, the weather controller, everything. Tricorder readings on the surface can't pinpoint its location. But the ship's sensors can.”

“Yes, sir,” Odarezo said, entering the commands at his console. He put the incoming data on two screens, one showing general planetwide scans and the other showing the more intense localized scans around the landing party. The underground complex was huge. There were many small villages scattered across the planet, but the village near the landing party was the only one with what appeared to be a surface access point into the complex. And the scans revealed more Gamma Trianguli VI secrets.

Just then, the Enterprise suddenly shook, knocking crewmen to the floor. As the inertial dampeners restored stability to the ship, Lieutenant Klein called to the bridge. The red alert klaxon echoed throughout the Astrophysics Lab as she reported their findings and received follow-up information.

A pale Nancy Klein took the communicator earpiece from her head and announced, “Something has grabbed the ship from the planet's surface. Like a tractor beam, only much more powerful. They think

we're dealing with a highly sophisticated planetary defense system. We're stuck ... and going down ...”  
---- TRANSCRIPTION ENDS ----

Wow, things just keep getting worse for the Enterprise crew! I needed help in preparing this report and decoding the transcription, so I utilized the following resources:

Cole, Franklyn W., 1975, *Introduction to Meteorology, Second Edition*, John Wiley & Sons, Inc.: New York.

Miller, Albert and Jack C. Thompson, 1975, *Elements of Meteorology, Second Edition*, Charles E. Merrill Publishing Company: Columbus, Ohio.

“Feeling the Heat of an Extrasolar Planet,” *Science News Online*, Vol. 170, No. 18, p. 285, 10/28/2006: <http://www.sciencenews.org/articles/20061028/note10.asp>

“Titan (moon)” [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Titan\\_%28moon%29](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Titan_%28moon%29)



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# Starship Profile: Arcadia-Class Exploratory Cruiser

Originally By: Michael P. Smith, Adapted By: Admiral Alex Rosenzweig - USS Avenger = Region 7



In the 2270s, Star Fleet identified a serious need for cruiser type starships capable of independent exploration duty while maintaining a capability to act as a front-line ship in time of conflict.

In 2279, Star Fleet Command directed the Advanced Starship Design Bureau to develop designs for a cruiser type starship to fill this need. Excerpts from the instruction stated that the class should:

- Be capable of extended independent exploration duty, even in regions where hostile encounters are possible or even likely.
- Maintain a strong tactical capability for service as a front-line vessel in time of armed conflict.
- Include adequate facilities for limited research independent of Star Fleet research facilities.
- Maintain performance consistent with other cruiser type vessels.

The designs proposed were designated as the *Arcadia* (CE 20021)-Class Exploratory Cruiser and the *Nineveh* (CKE 21050)-Class Large Exploratory Cruiser. Both would see eventual construction, though the *Arcadia* was developed first.

The class design was approved on 10 February 2283, with a low rate of production scheduled to begin in 2285 and continue over the next 10 years. There was a bit of controversy over the class designation prior to approval. Some members of the Federation Security Council felt that a designation of heavy cruiser was appropriate, considering the extensive exploration and defensive capabilities of the class. But Starfleet Command insisted that reduced research facilities differentiated ships of this class from heavy cruisers, making a classification of exploratory cruiser more appropriate. The exploratory cruiser designation was approved on 5 February 2283, thereby reducing the chances of a contentious debate on approving a new heavy cruiser project.

The *Arcadia*-class had particularly notable characteristics in three areas:

## Design

These ships were similar in overall configuration to the *Enterprise* and *Belknap* classes. The primary hull was similar in most respects to other cruisers, but incorporated improved shield grid implementation and a new impulse deck (on CE 20021-20023). The connecting dorsal mounted three photon torpedo tubes (two forward and one aft) (on CE 20021-20026). The secondary hull was smaller than that of the *Enterprise*-class, the space saved coming from reduced cargo capacity and more limited research facilities. The shuttle bay was enlarged significantly in order to accommodate the additional five shuttles that form part of the Extended Sensor Perimeter (ESP) system (see below). The first two vessels of the class were fitted with "Daystrom" Duotronic II computers during initial trials, but the remainder were fitted with the newer "Daystrom" Duotronic III systems and the earlier units were replaced.

## The Extended Sensor Perimeter (ESP system)

The ESP system was a network of sensors mounted on spacecraft and communicating via a high bandwidth subspace data link. It allowed several spacecraft to combine their sensor systems in a large network and to share this information among them in one unified manner. The concept is quite old, but only recently had Star Fleet R&D developed a subspace data link robust enough to be suitable for production of such a system. The system could use a starship's full sensor suite, or a special compact sensor pod designed for installation on larger shuttlecraft. The system could be used tactically, to allow the information gleaned by the most advanced starships in the fleet to be shared with lesser equipped vessels, or for exploration purposes, allowing a solitary exploration vessel to survey in detail a very large area of space, or all sides of a celestial body at once. The system was first installed on *Arcadia*-class ships to enhance their exploratory capabilities. The system as implemented on the *Arcadia*-class consisted of the ASP-16E sensor package (enhanced for ESP compatibility), the ESP software modules in the computer core, the ESPL subspace data link, and the ARN-43 synthetic geometry antenna. The sensor packages on the five ESP-equipped shuttles were optimized for research and celestial survey purposes and were not intended for tactical use. The ESP was expected to be part of the standard sensor complement on all new classes beginning with the *Enterprise (II)*-class ships, though without a special use link or antenna (which will be integrated into the standard subspace communications system), and without the special purpose shuttles.

## Engineering

The *Arcadia* class represented a significant attempt to improve basic engineering design in cruiser types. The RSX experimental impulse units were fitted on CE 20021-20023. These units were designed to be smaller and more efficient than the standard RSL units. The RSX units proved quite successful once implemented, but turned out to be quite difficult to manufacture and integrate due to the extraordinarily tight tolerances required for the impulse deflection crystal. Hulls 20024-20029 were fitted with standard RSL units.

The warp nacelles for these vessels were configured similarly to the *Belknap*-class strike cruisers in that they were positioned lower and slightly more forward than on the *Enterprise*-class. This configuration allows for more efficient operation at higher warp speeds. Consideration was given to adopting the *Belknap*'s support pylon configuration, as well, the *Belknap*'s support pylons being a single unit designed to be replaced easily and rapidly (in the field if necessary), but to accomplish this, a more complex EPC system was required in the secondary hull. It was decided that the *Arcadia*-class would not adopt this system due to the greater reliability of the "standard" configuration. The nacelles themselves are LN-64 mod 3 units.

VESSEL SYSTEMS DESCRIPTION FORM: *ARCADIA*-CLASS EXPLORATORY CRUISER

## PHYSICAL DIMENSIONS:

Length Overall: 290.0 meters  
Beam Overall: 141.7 meters  
Draft Overall: 68.3 meters

Primary Hull Length: 145.5 meters  
Primary Hull Beam: 141.7 meters  
Primary Hull Draft: 32.6 meters

Nacelle Length: 154.8 meters  
Nacelle Beam: 12.6 meters  
Nacelle Draft: 18.3 meters

## DISPLACEMENT:

Standard: 205,250 metric tons

## PROPULSION:

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

## Units

Impulse Engines:  
Number: 2  
Type: RSL Subatomic Unified Energy  
Impulse Units  
Maneuvering Thrusters Type: QASR particle  
Beam Maneuvering Thrusters  
Reaction Control System Type: "Trentis"  
Reaction Control System

## VELOCITY:

Cruising (Warp Factor): Warp 8  
Maximum (Warp Factor): Warp 13

## ACCELERATION (Times in Seconds):

Rest - Onset Critical Momentum: 8.23 seconds  
Onset Critical Momentm - Warp Engage: 1.03 seconds  
Warp 1 - Warp 4: .70 seconds  
Warp 4 - Warp 8: .62 seconds  
Warp 8 - Warp 13: 2.25 seconds

## CREW COMPLEMENT:

Officers: 65  
Crew: 400  
Total: 465

## NAVIGATION:

System Type: "Astrolabe" Warp Celestial Guidance

## COMPUTERS:

System Type: "Daystrom" Duotronic III  
Supplements/Add-Ons (If Any): Extended Sensor Perimeter (ESP) Modules

## SENSORS:

Main Sensor Array Type: ASP-16E Sensor Package

## ARMAMENT:

### Phaser Banks/Arrays:

Type: RIM-14A Independent Twin Mount  
Number: 16  
Emplacements/Bank: 2 (8 Banks)

Type: RSM-19A Single Mount  
Number: 2  
Emplacements/Bank: 1 (2 Banks)

### Photon/Quantum Torpedoes:

Number of Tubes: 2  
Torpedo Type(s): Mk 50 Mod 3 Direct  
Photon Torpedoes; Mk 50 Mod 4 Direct Photon Torpedoes

## DEFENSES:

### Deflector Systems

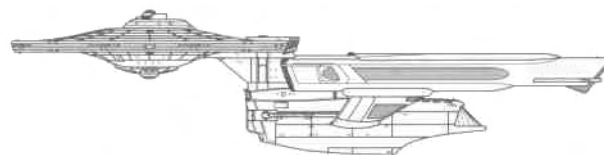
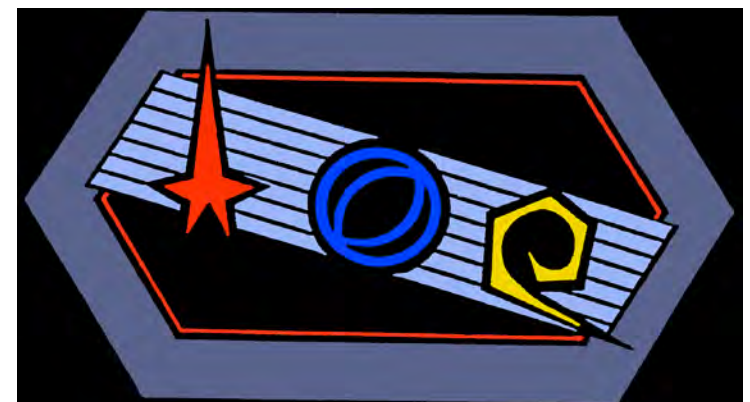
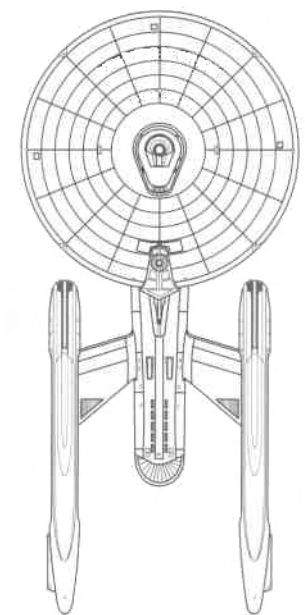
Type: "Pavis" Force Field and Deflector System with Stasis Countermeasures  
Cloaking Device (Y/N): N  
Defense Scanning/Computer/Tracking Systems:

Type(s): ASP-16E Direct Interrogation Sensor System  
Extended Sensor Perimeter (ESP) Tactical/Exploration/Research Package

## LIFE SUPPORT:

### Gravity/Atmosphere Systems:

Type(s): MM3 Modular Gravity and Atmosphere Maintenance Unit  
Radiation Shielding:  
Type: "Faraday" Radiation Shielding  
Waste Reperation Systems:  
Type(s): "Cerix 2" Waste Regeneration System







# Fan Production Highlights

By: Lieutenant Commander Kiros of L'Stok - USS Southern Cross - Region 11

## Star Trek: Hidden Frontier

<http://www.hiddenfrontier.org>

Hidden Frontier has finally announced the release date of their last episode. The feature-length series finale, which has yet to be titled, will be available for free download on the internet on May 19. It is currently being filmed together with the preceding episode "*The Center Cannot Hold*". Their latest episode, "Things Fall Apart" was released on Jan 19 and features the return of two celebrity guests from a previous episode ending in a thrilling cliff-hanger!

Rob Caves, their executive producer, gave us a detailed run-down on what is going to happen in the near future on Jan 17 in their latest newsletter (available on their website). The burning question is - can the HF crew be persuaded to make a season 8? Rob says there is no way, BUT, "we will have a movie of sorts in the form of 708 which I just started putting together ... and we hope to bring you some shorts films as well as something new in the coming year." For more, read the in-depth interview on their website by the USS Angeles' Jonathan Connor-Foertsch.

In other news from Hidden Frontier, plans are being finalised for the second Excelsior Ball which will run from Friday Apr 27 to Sunday Apr 29 in Irvine, CA. On Saturday they will be filming panels at the Arboretum at UCI. Checkout the HF forum for details.

## Star Trek: New Voyages

<http://www.startreknewvoyages.com>

James Cawley, Exec Producer of New Voyages has piloted an new and entirely novel way of giving Star Trek fans a way of seeing their latest episode, *To Serve All My Days*, as he has always envisioned it, as the third season of the Starship Enterprise's "five year mission." As detailed in their newsletter (subscribe on their website) they will release the episode as a DVD entitled "*To Serve All My Days - A Night in 1969*". This will be "a special edit DVD release by Erik Goodrich and Ralph Miller, featuring original series music, period commercials, and a surprise at the end that makes this re-envisioned version uniquely different from the original."

## Star Trek: Intrepid

<http://www.ussintrepid.net>

Nick Cook of *Star Trek: Intrepid* has bad news and good news for us this month. Unfortunately Intrepid's first episode, "Heavy lies the Crown" looks like being released in the northern hemisphere summer, as Nick explains on the Intrepid forum. The good news is that he has been invited to appear as a guest on an episode of *Star Trek: New Voyages*!

More good news coming from the Scottish fan film group is that a 'behind the scenes' short was released on Dec 2 and that on the weekend of Jan 13-14 they shot *Machinations*, "a 7 minute Intrepid short, and sequel to the events of *Heavy Lies the Crown*, directed by Steve Hammond." They are now moving into pre-production on *My Way or the Highway*, a second short and although a filming date has not been scheduled yet, Nick is guessing April.

## Star Trek: Dark Armada

<http://www.darkarmada.nl/CMS>

This Dutch fan film group have had massive publicity recently! On Dec 12, the major newspaper, Blik Op Nieuws featured an article about them followed a couple of days later by an interview on the Dutch TV channel RTL 4! These were followed by articles in the Algemeen Dagblad, NRC next (a two page article) a mention by the columnist of the Sp!ts and another interview for TUdelta.

## Star Trek: Lexington,

<http://www.starshiplexington.com>

Originally based in Ohio, Lexington has recently moved their production base to the Birmingham / Anniston area of Alabama and have held auditions with encouraging results. They will be holding more auditions on Feb 17 at the City of Irondale Public Library Conference Room between 11am - 6pm, see their forum for details.

## Star Trek: Unity

<http://www.st-unity.net>

With their website on a new server, and sporting a new composer for their original music, Kori Carothers, Unity moved a little closer to their first release with the announcement on Jan 10 of the cast for their first audio drama, or audiosode, *Disunity*.

## Starship Farragut

<http://www.starshipfarragut.com>

February is the big month for *Farragut* as they premiere their first episode, "*The Captaincy*" at the Farpoint Convention at Hunt Valley, Maryland on Feb 16-18 (Check out the DVD art on their website). It also marks the start of filming on their second episode, "For Want of a Nail".

## Star Trek: Excalibur

<http://www.startrekexcalibur.com>

Excalibur, still fighting for justice after the vandalism of their sets, have been contacted by a local Star Trek club discussing help when they restart building sets. Good onya!

## Starship Exeter

<http://homepage.mac.com/starshipexeter>

Dec 9 saw the release of their 13th podcast - excellent value! However the release date of their next act? It's coming some time real soon ...!

## Borg War

<http://www.borgwarmovie.org>

The smash machinima hit of 2006 is now available as a mail order DVD for the cost of the DVD and mailing! This is a special edition, showing this amazing project as a single movie rather than partial downloads.

## Foyager Park

<http://members.outpost10f.com/~lindax/hp/foayer/voyagerpark.html>

New site with parodies of Voyager in the style of South Park.

## - New Concept Groups that are looking for members ...

Star Trek: Animation:

<http://startrekanimation.275mb.com>

Star Trek: Predator:

<http://www.usspredator.com/main.htm>

Star Trek: Reanimated:

[http://64.225.237.28/Star\\_Trek\\_Reanimated](http://64.225.237.28/Star_Trek_Reanimated)

Star Trek: The Neutral Zone:

<http://uk.geocities.com/zefno>

## Audio dramas

### Star Trek: The Section 31 Files

<http://www.darkerprojects.com/section31.html>

With the completion of the 'Escape from Rura Penthe' story arc in Nov, Mark Kalita is taking S31 in an entirely new direction, involving a crossover with an entirely different franchise! *Behind the Scenes at Darker Projects*, their regular podcast features Mark Bruzee and Paul Mannering, both old hands on DP's Star Trek audio drama, in Dec & Jan.

### Star Trek: Pioneers

<http://www.darkerprojects.com/pioneers.html>

I've noticed that Kevin Cho, the creator of Pioneers is sporting a sig line that mentions a "Season 2" these days. I can tell you for a fact that the scripts are with the actors for the next episode.

### ST: Defiant

<http://www.pendantaudio.com/defiant.php>

In Dec & Jan, Pendant Productions released Episodes 8 & 9 of Defiant, *Rejuvenated Core* parts 2 & 3, as well as their weekly podcasts of This Week In Pendant (TWIP). Their producer, Jeff Bridges has decided to delegate writing *ST: Defiant* and from the next episode it will be written by Theresa J. McGarry, a long-time friend and writing buddy from the old Defiant fan fiction list.

### Star Trek: Eras

<http://www.twerponline.net/eras>

This new audio drama has completed their first episode with the release of the third act of "*The Big Bang*" this month. Watch their website for special features including the script and soundtrack, composed and produced by Matt Hallaron. Their second episode, "*To Err Is Human.... To Really Mess Things Up, You Need A Directive*" is well under way and should be available for download shortly. Episode 3 is with the script editor.



# Fun and Friendship with the USS Gasparilla

By: Fleet Captain Ralph Planthold - USS Gasparilla - Region 2

Fun and Friendship with the USS Gasparilla  
By Ralph Planthold

We recently received a framed Certificate of Appreciation from Central Florida's U.S. Marine Corps Reserve for our participation in December's Santa Saturdays. We don't just preach Fellowship, Fun, & Friendship; we live it!

On Saturday, 12/16/06, after spending four hours helping collect more than five full 6 X 6 military trucks full of toys on the Channel 9 Plaza in downtown Orlando we all went to lunch with CO Norm Liddell and members of the crew of the independent Star Trek fan club USS Haven.

Then the three of us from USS Gasparilla headed to the 3rd annual Very Trekkie Christmas Party thrown by our SFI sister ship the USS Paegan, at the home

of its CO, Ray Burkhart, in Lake Mary, FL. There we were joined by our XO, James Muench, and his wife, Michelle, as well as a couple of members of the USS Trident crew, Cheryl Rogers and the new R2 RC, some guy named Jack Eaton.

On Friday evening, 1/12/07, after we'd spent the week at a timeshare in Kissimmee, FL with my Mom, my brother Robert, and his younger son Ray, Sunnie and I once again made the jump to Lake Mary to attend the January meeting of the USS Paegan. CO Ray Burkhart, when told where we'd started from that evening, exclaimed, "Wow, that's as far as if you'd driven back to Tampa!" That was an exaggeration, of course; but instead of correcting him, we chose to bask in the glow of his appreciation.



USS Gasparilla members help the USMC gather Toys for Tots

Members, from left to right - Sunnie Planthold, Norm Liddell, USS Haven CO, Ralph Planthold, Denise Liddell, Jon Williams.



# Black Christmas...not a holiday special

By: Admiral Bob Vosseller - USS Challenger - Region 7



Many people looking for a diversion from the usual holiday fare may still have said no, no, no, instead of ho, ho, ho, after seeing Black Christmas.

The film features two familiar favorites in the form of Kristin Cloke of Space Above & Beyond and Michlle Trachtenberg of Buffy fame. The story centers around a killer who grew up in a very dysfunctional family. When your mom is a murderer who kills your dad, locks you in the attic and has sex with you to produce a sister you're going to have issues.

You can't blame the kid for eventually doing in his mom and step dad although plucking out and eating your sister/daughter's eyeball is a bit much.

After making holiday cookies out of the bodies entrails is a bit much but at least he didn't give any resistance to arrest.

Years later his home is a sorority house and he's in a psycho prison while his one eyed sister/daughter is no where to be found. Girls start dying right after he flees the mental ward having escaped with the use of a candy cane on Christmas Eve.

Yup, this is no holiday special and the idea of mixing Christmas with a horror flick has never been one that has caught on much but I will say the flick, for as gross as it is has its share of suspense. You may not guess correctly as to who survives and no there aren't many. Is this a new horror franchise? No, at least I hope not, but if you are a die hard (no pun intended) horror fan you may want to check out Black Christmas.

If not, this is one holiday package you may well wish not to unwrap.

The Holiday Season, The Slay Ride Begins!

## Region 15 Tops \$300,000 in OCP Donations for 2006

By Commodore Douglas Mayo - USS Nelson - Region 15



Region 15 warped past its wildest expectations in its efforts to surpass the 300k milestone towards the Overseas Coupon Program (OCP). Between the U.S.S. O'Bannon; U.S.S. Kasimar; and the U.S.S. Nelson, the Region collected, sorted, counted up, and sent to the U.S. Navy base in Ikego, Japan \$303,237.92 dollars worth of coupons for all of our military personnel and their families to make use of.

It seems everywhere I go family members and friends alike are handing me bags of store coupons on a weekly and sometimes on a daily basis. On board the Nelson, I've taken to calling this mission 'the casting out of our OCP net, you just never know who you going to catch?' At last count we had close to 75 people giving us their excess coupons

All of us in Region 15 are very proud to contribute in some small but meaningful way in the lives of our military personnel through OCP



## Christmas and New Year's with the USS Alioth

By Vice Admiral Keira Strong - USS Alioth - Region 17



The USS Alioth made giant Christmas Stockings and passed them out at their Sub for Santa even at their December meeting. out when we do our Sub for Santa at our Dec. meeting. Now it's already time to make more. To celebrate New Years Eve a party was held at the home of the CO. We watched "King Kong" and the CO couldn't convince anyone to fast forward through the first hour to the point where Kong actually makes an appearance. After a midnight toast to just under two years to go, everyone left for home.



All photos by VADM Keira Strong  
LEFT - D. Justin Taylor is punching out itty bitty mittens to put on the stockings while Julia Dawson and Nathan Shumway discuss their future.  
TOP - Janet Shephert is cutting and gluing the snow man and other parts onto the stocking.  
RIGHT - The USS Alioth rings in the New Year. From left to right: Richard Knox, Lynnette Knox, D. Justin Taylor, Alyssa Clawson, Tiffany Knox, Janet Shephard.





# Region 6 Summit Announced

By: Captain John Schulte - USS Riverside - Region 6

The USS Riverside NCC 1660 one of the newest chapters of Starfleet is proud to announce Region 6's Summit will be held in Riverside Iowa, which is the future birthplace of Captain James T. Kirk. Summit activities are still being planned, but festivities of the summit will be centered around the towns annual Trek Fest, [www.trekfest.com](http://www.trekfest.com). More information on Region 6's summit can be found at <http://www.geocities.com/r6summit/>.

This year's Trek Fest theme will be centered around "City on the Edge of Forever." The region and staff of the USS Riverside is planning an official commissioning party during Trek Fest and would like to invite all members of Starfleet to attend. Trek Fest dates are always the last full weekend in June, this year's events will be June 29th & 30th.



## IC 2007: Reaching New Heights In STARFLEET

By: Admiral Johnathan Simmons - USS Stormbringer - Region 4

**T-5 months and counting... Have you registered yet?**

STARFLEET Region 17 and friends continue working hard to bring you the 2007 STARFLEET International Conference and SFMC International Muster! As you know by now, the event will be held in sunny, scenic Denver, Colorado from August 10<sup>th</sup> through the 12<sup>th</sup> at the luxurious 4 Star Adam's Mark Hotel. !

Register now by going to: <http://www.ic2007.org/hic3.html>

Want to know more about Denver? Located at the base of the Rocky Mountains, Denver is one of America's most beautiful cities. Blessed with 300 days of sunshine a year, Denver is a lively city with a great love of the outdoors, where you'll find the largest city park system, 90 golf courses and an incredible 650 miles of paved bike trails. But Denver is also a culturally sophisticated city. Denver has the tenth largest downtown in the U.S. - a bustling area centered around a mile-long pedestrian promenade that is lined with outdoor cafes. Down every street there are mountain views with a 120 mile long panoramic view. Downtown Denver is home to three new sports stadiums, 300 restaurants, a restored historic district filled with 90 bars and brewpubs, a collection of museums, a performing arts center, a variety of galleries and shopping and even a unique downtown amusement park, Six Flags Elitch Gardens.

The Denver Performing Arts Complex has ten theatres seating 10,000 people for theatre, symphony, opera and ballet. Denver also has an amazing collection of

museums devoted to the wonders of Planet Earth. The Denver Zoo is the fourth most popular zoo in the nation and is undergoing a \$130 million improvement program. The Denver Museum of Nature & Science just added a space museum and the world's most advanced digital planetarium.

But that's not all... read on!

### LATEST NEWSFLASHES...

**ICBay:** ICBAY is LIVE!!! **ICbay** is the official online auction! All items posted before the IC are for the purpose of offsetting IC costs and allowing more funds to be used for charity. Donated items for the charity auction or ICBay are accepted. For more info, surf over to <http://www.ic2007.org/cgi-bin/icauction/auction.pl>

**Guest List:** Tim Russ is still scheduled to appear. Want to know who will be appearing at the International Conference? Check out the list at <http://www.ic2007.org/hic2.html>

**SURVEY:** We want to know what YOU want in an IC... Take the online survey here: [http://www.ic2007.org/survey/public/survey.php?name=Survey\\_628](http://www.ic2007.org/survey/public/survey.php?name=Survey_628)

**Great Stuff Store:** A Full line of IC2007 Merchandise is available for purchase. Polo shirts, Cloisonné Pins, Travel Mugs and Messenger Bags are just the tip of the iceberg! More items to be added soon. To order... go to <http://www.ic2007.org/hic3.html>

### PANELS & DISCUSSIONS...

Do you have anything to say? Panels and Workshops are still in planning stages. If you'd like to preside over a panel, please contact our contact our Programming Chair, Wayne Snyder at [programming@ic2007.org](mailto:programming@ic2007.org)

### PROGRAM BOOK ADVERTISING...

The Official IC2007 "Reaching New Heights" is now in the planning stages. If you require advertising space, please contact our PR Chair, Johnathan Simmons at [pr@ic2007.org](mailto:pr@ic2007.org)

### WE NEED YOU...

Want to Help? We can always use an extra hand. Any help anyone has to offer is gladly accepted and appreciated. If you'd like to volunteer for IC2007, contact the IC Chair, Bran Stimpson at [bran@ic2007.org](mailto:bran@ic2007.org)

### AWAY TEAMS...

There are many attractions within a short driving distance and even walking distance too! Your IC2007 TEAM is planning away teams for guided tours and group rates for certain attractions. These will be announced in upcoming press releases. Listed below are some of these attractions:

- **Wings over the Rockies** (Air & Space Museum complete with an X-Wing Fighter from Star Wars)!
- **Denver Museum of Nature & Science**
- **The Denver Zoo**
- **16<sup>th</sup> Street Mall** (Shopping and Food and Much, Much More)
- **Denver Mint**

- **Six Flags Elitch Gardens Amusement Park**
- **Casino Excursion in the mountains**
- **Caving and Hiking Expeditions**
- **Pike's Peak and Cheyenne Mountain**
- **Whitewater Rafting Excursion**

These are just to name a few of the attractions that are within about an hour's drive! Go to the website and take the online poll and tell us what YOU want to do!

So... plan now to attend the SFI International Conference and SFMC International Muster now! Our operators are standing by!

For even more information via US Mail, write to:

### STARFLEET IC 2007

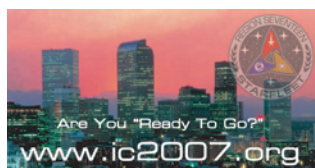
1120 Magnolia Street  
Denver, Colorado 80220

Look for more exciting news over the next few weeks as we continue...

*Reaching New Heights in STARFLEET!*

Admiral Johnathan "Gumby" Simmons  
IC 2007 Public Relations Chair  
[pr@ic2007.org](mailto:pr@ic2007.org)

**PS. Have you marked your calendar yet?**



**STARFLEET INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE**  
August 10 - 12, 2007  
Adam's Mark Hotel, Denver, CO, USA, Earth  
Reaching New Heights In STARFLEET



# The 2006 Denver Parade of Lights

By: Chief Petty Officer David Cook - USS Alaric, Fleet Captain Max Khaytsus and Chief Petty Officer Gaylene Speaect - USS Omega Glory - Region 17



Helping out with the Denver Parade of Lights is an established annual Omega Glory assignment. We have been supporting the event as a group for three years and some of our members have been involved in the event just a little bit longer. The parade is organized by the Downtown Denver Partnership and is a way to attract people to visit the downtown area, long mistaken for an unexciting business district. The Parade of Lights is held the Friday and Saturday closest to December 1 to inaugurate the holiday shopping season in the downtown area. On Friday night the Parade is televised live on Denver's KUSA Channel 9, making for a tense first night. On Saturday the staff and participants are much more relaxed and things always seem to move along smoother. As a deliberate joke, the brightly lit night time parade is sponsored by Xcel Energy, the local utility company.

As always the Omega Glory had a great turnout for the event. Our participants included Allison Cook, David Cook (KCØMHT), Donita Hilfinger (KCØSWX), Max Khaytsus (KØKHA), Jennifer Scott (WØJEN), Alaya Speaect, Gaylene Speaect (KCØVAR), Rick Speaect (KCØVAM) and Talon Speaect (KCØVAS). USS Moontype sent Kathryn Johnson and Brooks Williams to enjoy the festivities and Allison also brought a gaggle of friends to root for the staff rather than the floats.

The parade tradition is for all radio operators to gather at a local Arby's to eat and get their assignments before deploying to their posts. Position assignments tend to be a secret right up until they are handed out and it's not unusual to see last minute handwritten corrections on the roster, modifying the assignments to get things working correctly.

This year was no different. Rick was assigned to the Equestrian Marshal. This was not a problem until Rick mentioned his little known horse allergy and his name was quickly swapped with Gaylene's on the roster. This was a sacrifice on Gaylene's part as well as she's not particularly fond of animals larger than human size.

We got our staff shirts for the 2006 parade. Each year the shirts are a different color with a slightly modified logo on them. The color for 2006 was gray. Most of our members have several years' worth of shirts hanging in their closets and as a group we're getting very close to opening up an official Denver Parade of Lights clothing shop.

Our staging location is also used by the parade clowns and when they show up and start honking, giggling and squirting, we know it's time to head out to our assigned positions. There isn't a lot of love lost between the radio operators and the clowns. In 2005 we tried to displace the clowns, but that was a serious failure on our part. We discovered that clowns have no known predators in nature. It turns out no animal will eat them because they all taste funny.

2006 was a banner year for temperature extremes. As the sun was setting, the temperature hovered in the 20s and we knew that as the evening progressed, things would get a lot worse. For most

of us the battle gear included two or three layers of pants, three or four layers of shirts and jackets (before the staff hoodie), hiking boots with multiple pairs of socks, heavy duty gloves, hats, ear muffs, ... by the time everyone was dressed, we generally doubled our starting weight. A lot of us looked like the parade helium balloons, too.

Our tradition is to assume our positions by entering the parade from the participant side. We walk past all the bands and the floats and the balloons and the animals. The horses generally stand around and chew hay. For many of them eating is a rapid through process. Standing along side the horses you will see hay going in one end and almost simultaneously coming out the other. They're beautiful animals, especially the Clydesdales, but it's the smell that makes people want to work a different assignment.

We walk past the staging area where the balloons are getting inflated. That's a lot of helium being used in the parade! The balloons are inflated behind the grandstands and the KUSA broadcast platform, which explains why all the reporters sound like Mickey Mouse on the air.

On cold years there is usually at least one band kid with his lips stuck to the tuba. They're always warned not to lick the metal on cold winter nights and they never learn.

The Colorado Fire Tribe, a group of performers that specialize in juggling fire and fire breathing usually have a big fire going. The excuse is that they are getting their props ready, but everyone knows the truth behind that excuse.

And there are always packs of half-naked cheerleaders shivering in the cold because their costumes don't allow for much cover.

As we travel the staging area we are stopped several times by parade security. Radio operators work "under cover." If we were dressing up like Christmas trees with strings of lights and garlands, no one would give us a second thought. Showing an identification card or the staff shirt is usually enough to run this gauntlet.

This year we made it about twenty feet into the parade route before being pulled over by a spectator in the grandstands whose kid dropped his gloves down the hole in the bleachers and needed help getting them back. This was a critical item because the kid was turning blue and with the bleaches being metal it was only a matter of time before he'd be stuck to them just like the tuba kid.

As we walked the parade route, members would peel off the group as they reached their assigned posts. The entire parade is about two miles long and we got lucky in that all of our members were stationed in the first half of the parade route.

The first major issue for us was that Talon got bagged by parade security and told that she may not be on the parade route, but instead has to stand behind the barricades with the rest of the tourists. This was a problem because Talon is a radio operator. She takes traffic from the parade organizers and passes it on to the security folks. She gets to tell them what to do. In their minds, though, it was a 14 year old girl with a walkie-talkie. For the rest of us it was an FCC licensed first responder and a veteran of Operation Safe Haven, the big Katrina airlift from the year before.

Problem number two was that not all of the parade route was closed down at the same time and we still had regular street traffic going through the route with drivers often waving to the spectators as if they are a part of the parade. Many of these cars also came from office building garages that feed into the parade route. The building managers are warned in advance to restrict access to parade facing garage exits and most of them don't take the request seriously until faced with a ticked off police officer holding a citation book.

The third spark of excitement was an ambulance that needed to cut across the parade route as the parade was about to start. Getting the mob of people who have spent the last two hours jockeying for the best positions to part is a borderline miracle and the ambulance driver wisely chose not to come back the same way he went out.

Most of the Omega Glory members have dual band radios and were able to maintain a secondary net among themselves, which proved to be a good source of behind the scenes information and often a good stress reliever.

Each major intersection also gets one or two officers from the Denver Police Department. For the most part these folks have the holiday spirit and do a spectacular job. A few years back a police officer had the dinosaur balloon handlers pull the dinosaur down so that his head ended up in the dinosaur's mouth. It was a tragic mistake. The crowd went wild. Cameras everywhere started snapping pictures. The parade ground to a dead stop. We love our cops when there is a problem, but our job is also to keep them from doing stupid stuff.

Right before the parade starts a police cruiser drives the route and makes sure that the final clearing check is performed. This particular cruiser managed to bag an eight year old boy who wanted to see the parade up close and got away from mom. That's our cue to put a message out giving the description of a lost mom so we can get her back in the custody of her kid. With a police cruiser around the solution for finding mom was very simple. With overhead lights on and a couple of blasts of the siren mom surfaced very quickly and was reminded that at parades kids and leashes go well together.

As the parade was getting ready, Gaylene and the Equestrian Marshal were running a gauntlet of horses to get the equestrians organized and lined up in the correct order for the parade. One would think that a trained horse and rider function as a single unit, but as these single units were being lined up, it was obvious that the lower half didn't always agree with what the upper half wanted. And the upper half didn't always understand what the Equestrian Marshal wanted.

This year David's assignment was to shadow Gretchen, the parade manager responsible for the orderly entrance of parade groups and floats on the parade route. She was the one with the responsibility for making sure that the parade did not fall apart out of the starting gate. Gretchen was a twelve year veteran of the parade and had the distinction of doing her job the year before while six months pregnant. Gretchen spent a lot of her time running between parade groups, making sure they knew their assignments and were ready to enter the parade route at the appropriate time. David commented at one point that in one night she racked up enough mileage to get airline discount tickets.

Once the parade was underway Gretchen would police the approaching floats, balloon teams and marching bands to prevent them from entering the parade in the wrong slot. She would position herself in front of the offending team and stand her ground, her steely gaze being enough to stop the most brazen of the parade participants. Once the order error was corrected, Gretchen would always thank the group for not running her over and would get a look from them as if it was the first time they had ever seen her.

For many participants this was the first time they saw Gretchen. She was dressed in a black ski outfit with no lights or reflective gear. She looked like a heavily winterized ninja. What they saw instead was, using David's description of himself, a tubby old dude in a gray parka with a reflective vest holding a flashlight behind her. By the end of the evening Gretchen was coming around to the notion that lights and bright clothes might be appropriate for some of the staff positions as well.

At the start of the parade Gretchen noticed a white rental truck parked near the grandstands. It was locked and unattended and no one in the area seemed to know anything about it. Per Gretchen's request David called the truck in to see if anyone was familiar with it. With Oklahoma City and 9-11 still fresh in everyone's mind a mysterious truck in a secured area tends to make people nervous. It took a while to get a decision, but eventually a guard was assigned to the truck, pending location and identification of the owner.

The parade was on! Participants would start past the grandstands where they would then pause and complete whatever performance was a part of their routine, then move on. Because the parade was live and with commercial interruptions, it would be halted every ten minutes for a two minute break. This always creates a problem as the participants already on the parade route refuse to slow down and create a huge gap in the parade. Getting them synchronized is akin to herding cats.

Another problem is that even though the parade managers, the floats, the marshals and the police have their own radio networks, information that's passed through is sloppy at best and the signal coverage for these nets is nothing short of spotty. We can stand right next to one of these guys and get a clear signal on our radios while they have no idea that an informational message was sent out. That's why the parade organizers want radio operators involved in the event. To compensate for bad coverage and distracting chatter we make the other staff aware of where parade front and back are and when the parade is in and out of the commercial break.

On one particularly icy corner a drummer slipped and tumbled down. The rest of the band and the band's handlers completely missed that he fell and the band continued on. To make the situation worse, the drummer ended up tangled in his drum harness and spent a long time flopping around on the ground like a huge guppy trapped in a fishing net. Jennifer and parade security had to help him resolve his embarrassing dilemma.

Ambulances were a popular parade distraction this year. They raced all over the downtown area picking up customers. Injuries ranged from people slipping and falling on the icy streets to a heart attack.

*Continued on page 13.*



This last event managed to come in completely under the police department's radar and it was the radio operators who dispatched and received the ambulance and provided the status reports to the police department.

As the tail end of the parade ran past assigned positions, some of the operators relocated themselves to the back side of the parade to help finish out the route and after it was all over the crew adjourned to a very busy Hard Rock Café.

The Denver Parade of Lights is a major annual event for our group. We know that we help make it a smoother functioning event by relaying

communications that would take too long to reach their intended targets or get lost all together. Each year we end up assisting in recovering a handful of lost kids and pitching in on medical emergencies. Our ability to notify the parade marshals about gaps helps streamline the parade flow so that commercial pauses are less obvious to the spectators. And all of us get the biggest bonus of all. We're in the middle of the parade route, dodging floats and balloons, always a turn of the head away from the best seat in the house. We already have this event on the schedule for 2007, for Friday, November 30 and Saturday, December 1. Want to see how a parade works? Come join us!



TOP RIGHT – KUSA anchor Mark Koebrich harassing one of the bands before the start of the parade.

MIDDLE RIGHT – Donita Hilfinger, KCØSWX, facing down Santa at the dressing area.

BOTTOM RIGHT – KUSA (9 News) float with a pack of reporters.

TOP LEFT – Allison Cook (left) and a friend at Hard Rock Cafe.

BOTTOM LEFT – David Cook, KCØMHT, and Donita Hilfinger, KCØSWX, at Hard Rock Cafe.





Greetings From "The Other" Chapter Downunder

Say a big SFI "hello, greetings and welcome" (or in "Downunder speak" – G'day and Kia Ora) to the newest chapter-in-training – the USS Southern Cross – which further enhances the SFI presence in Region 11 (Australia, New Zealand and Indonesia).

Commissioned on 14<sup>th</sup> November, the Southern Cross boasts a crew of 33 members with 27 of these being members of SFI – so already this chapter has firmly marked its stamp upon the Region with probably the largest SFI membership for the region, and a chapter that is truly international with members from both Australia and New Zealand.

As currently the only Correspondence Chapter in the region, we are dedicated to servicing the sci fi needs of our very vast region (Region 11 encompasses some 9,874,970 square miles, with the total population of Australia and New Zealand alone in excess of 24,000,000 people) and as such we are determined to carry our message to as many as we are able to reach.

Crew activities within the chapter are well supported with not only enthusiastic participation by its members, but also by Affiliate Members from other chapters scattered about the globe. Our 360 Club (Xbox Online) enjoys regular inter-action and the passionate gamers of the 'Cross offers challenges to any other chapter wishing to join in the online gaming fun.

With our very skilled Chief Science Officer, Lt Cmdr Kirok of L'Stok, we are working towards the establishment of either an audio drama or even possibly a fan film that should produce both a challenge and area of excitement and fun for those involved.

Lt Cmdr Kirok is also heading our Cadets Corps which has attracted much attention from many younger sci fi fans in the region – and this section is expected to be one of the 'Cross's major commitments as we strongly believe in the development and attraction of young people into the sci-fi fan world as being one of crucial development for the future. Young cadets have already signed aboard for a tour of duty with the 'Cross.

Charity and community work has already progressed, particularly in New Zealand, where Kiwi crew members have been involved in fund-raising for both the Starship Children's Hospital (yes that IS what it is called) and for one of the local volunteer Coast Guard units in Auckland.

Southern Cross members were in attendance at the Stargate Convention held in Adelaide, Australia in early November, and we look to major participation in the sci-fi conventions to be held in Australia and New Zealand over coming months.

While the majority of our crew are new to SFI, the Command officers and a few other key personnel have been around for some time – with many coming from the USS Mawson, a few from the USS Matrix, and others from the USS Magellan (the Southern Cross's Support Ship)

Like all new chapters, the members are keen, enthusiastic and highly motivated and we are extremely passionate about our position within the Region 11 and of our 'place' within SFI. We can assure you that you will hear plenty more of this "Downunder Battle Cruiser" which is bursting at the seams with friendliness, fun & frivolity and a burning desire to be the brightest light in the Southern Hemisphere.

Come and check us out by visiting our website at [www.uss-southerncross.com](http://www.uss-southerncross.com) – you will always find a welcome there



ABOVE – The XO, Lt Cmdr Wayne Smith mixing with people of the planet Fijianis  
TOP RIGHT – The SO, Lt Cmdr Gary Amor trying hard to out smile a Gorn  
MIDDLE RIGHT – Southern Cross member Donna Reid poses with Tony Amendola (Master Bra'tak SG1) and Rachel Luttrell (Teyla Emmagan - SG Atlantis) at Terra Nova held in Adelaide.  
BOTTOM RIGHT – Southern Cross member Louise Hup takes her turn to pose.





## **BOND A Spy's Paradise** Hosted by: **USS Dragons Fury**



Comfort Inn and Conference Center, Midtown  
3200 West Broad St. Richmond, VA 23230  
Telephone: (800) 866-0553  
Contact: Milissa Colgin



Visit the Virginia Science and Touch Museum  
2500 West Broad St. Richmond, VA  
<http://www.smv.org>

**LAST CHANCE!!!**

**"Register by April 1st at the prices below, or pay more at the Door!"**

***RATE: 30. Agent, 10. Cadet  
Banquet: 30. Agent, 25. Cadet  
Recruits (4 and younger) FREE***

### **SUMMIT STAFF SHIPS**

Host: **USS Dragons Fury**  
CO-Host: **USS Jamestown**

### **ASSISTING SHIPS**

**USS Hornet, USS Liberator**  
**USS Glory, USS Star Runner**  
**USS MAAT, USS Chesapeake,**  
**IKV Bat'Leth**

### **"Support The Summit Charity"**



**Ronald McDonald House**

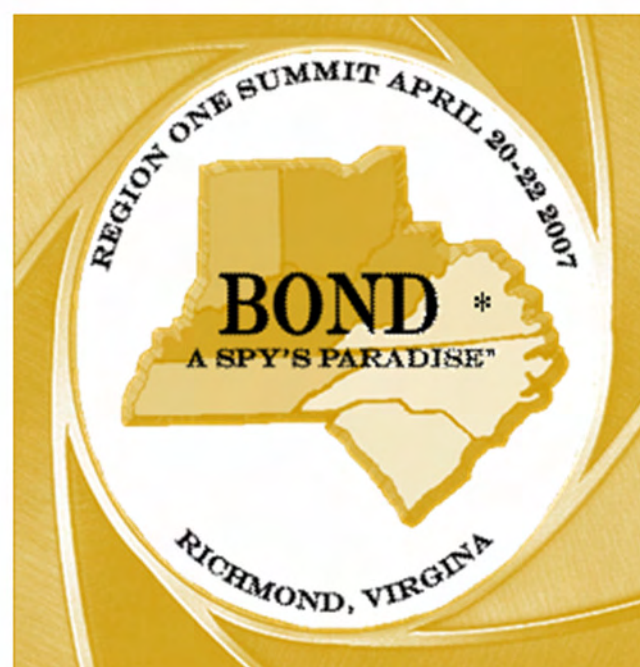
**Bring in Pop Tabs and  
Play the Games in  
The Royale Casino,  
Brought to us by  
USS MAAT,  
USS Jamestown,  
and IKV Bat'Leth.**

**MEET: The New Region One Coordinator  
"Rear Admiral Bill Herrmann"**

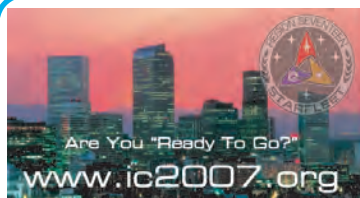
**And be part of the formation of the RCAB  
Saturday Morning April, 21 at R1 Summit 007**

## **CELEBRATE The City of JAMESTOWN's 400th BIRTHDAY**

Register through our website at  
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## STARFLEET INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

August 10 - 12, 2007  
Adam's Mark Hotel, Denver, CO, USA, Earth  
Reaching New Heights In STARFLEET



### ARE YOU READY TO GO?

While business brings us together for STARFLEET's biggest yearly event, fun & games, food, and socializing is what TREK 5280 IC 2007 is all about. The IC 2007 team is hard at work, making IC 2007 the best International Conference ever!



Our goal is to reach higher and farther in making the 2007 IC a highlight in STARFLEET history. Denver is, after all, the Mile-High City, and we will strive to make each and every aspect of TREK 5280 a "mile"-stone for future IC's to reach for.

We believe that the IC should be more than just a meeting of the EC/AB, and in many ways it already is, but our goal is to use it to expand STARFLEET. With several guests in the works, IC 2007 will be a great recruiting tool. With our programming and facilities we will make this a Fleet-wide event that will reach new heights in STARFLEET.

"Second Star to the Right,  
And Straight on Till Morning"

- James T. Kirk

Star Trek Voyager's: Tim Russ has given IC 2007 a commitment to not only appear but also to help promote STARFLEET. The definitive Vulcan, Tuvok, will be supporting Fleet in many ways. Tim will not only be appearing on stage to speak with you, the



STARFLEET members, but he will be mingling with you and assisting with other areas of the IC as well.

The IC Committee has chosen the National Jewish Medical Research Center to be the official charity of the 2007 STARFLEET IC. Named the best respiratory hospital by U.S. NEWS & World Report for nine consecutive years, National Jewish Center is a global leader in Lung, Allergic and Immune Diseases. NJC will be the primary beneficiary of our IC's fundraising efforts.



ICbay is the official online auction for 2007 STARFLEET IC merchandise. It is the only place where you can find exclusive items and event packages for the IC. Registration is free, and no information is used beyond the auction site. Auction items include: IC 2007 packages & exclusive merchandise, autographs, limited edition art, non-Trek stuff, other rare collectables, and even a website by the designer of ic2007.org. All items posted before the IC are for the purpose of offsetting IC costs and allowing more funds to be used for charity. Donated items for the charity auction or ICbay are accepted.



Polo shirts,  
Travel mugs, Cloisonne pins, and

Messenger bags oh my! The IC 2007 team has decided on some excellent merchandise choices for you to choose from. Don't forget that you do not have to attend IC 2007 in order to purchase any of the TREK 5280, IC 2007 merchandise. Also, if you have already registered, but forgot to add on a useful Travel Mug or comfortable Polo shirt, no worries, you still can. Just go to the IC website place an order and the IC registration team will match up your orders for you.



We encourage anyone and everyone whether you are attending or not, to purchase a polo shirt or get yourself a cloisonne pin. The IC team is continuing to look at new and exciting options for additional merchandise.

TREK 5280, IC 2007 brings some innovative changes to the STARFLEET MARINE CORPS International Muster. For the first time, on Friday night will be the SFMC Mess Night. What is a SFMC Mess Night you ask? Well, it is a formal dinner party for the SFMC. Also, the International Muster will have an all new program track.

The meat and potato's of any International Conference is it's programming. TREK 5280, IC 2007 is working hard to provide the attendees with a wide variety of entertaining and informative programming. Of course the staples such as Meet the Brass will be included, however we are also interested in new programming such as IC

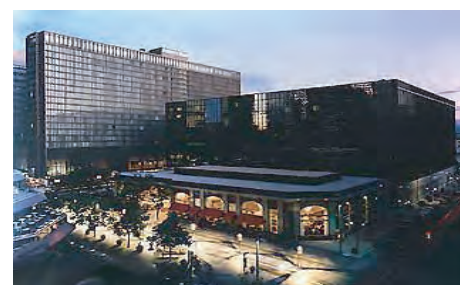
for Newbies, TREK 5280, IC 2007 is an election year conference, on my gosh I said it. Well, instead of running in terror, the IC team is integrating election year activities into the programming, we are not just holding a meet the candidate, we are planning to have a full & formal CS debate, with questions submitted from the membership prior to the debate.

If you are interested in hosting an IC panel, or just have an idea for one. Please visit the schedule page of the IC site and fill out a panel form. We are always looking for new ideas to add to our schedule.

Located in the heart of Downtown Denver, The Adam's Mark is within walking distance of exciting visitor locations such as the Denver Art Museum and the State Capitol, and just minutes away from the Pepsi Center and Coors Field. To book your hotel room online visit the IC 2007



adam's mark



website and under Hotel choose reservations.

Of course for all things IC 2007 the definitive source of information ic2007.org. The IC team is working hard to provide members with not only information but also a place where they can ask questions and make comments to help shape their International Conference.

Hope to see you all in Denver Colorado August 10-12th for TREK 5280, IC 2007!





# IC Savvy: Negotiating With Hotels

By: General Mark H. Anbinder - IC Committee Liaison - Office of the Commander, STARFLEET

Probably the single most important aspect of planning a bid for an International Conference or a regional conference or summit is working out a viable plan with a hotel. Selecting the hotel can be easy if there's only one suitable one around, or you can get competitive bids from various area venues to see who offers the most for the best price. (Cheapest isn't always best. More on that later.) From there, it's a matter of nailing down the details with your selected hotel.

## A Buyer's Market

Remember that you're the one bringing the money to the table, and the hotel is looking for your business. This is the business they're in, and you can rest assured that while a STARFLEET event may not be the biggest event the hotel's ever seen, it's almost certainly not the smallest, either. If you don't feel that the hotel's sales or events department is taking you seriously, find another place.

Feel free to be honest that you're looking at other locations; no need to hide it, and no need to go into specifics. A hotel that knows it's not the only game in town is likely to be more accommodating to try to get your business. (By contrast, a hotel that's far and away the best in town at hosting a conference, and will certainly fill up every single weekend with or without you, may not be as flexible, and you have to think about whether it's worth it. It might be.)

## Approaching the Hotel

Even if you've never done this before, STARFLEET has been around for three decades, and for most of that time, we've been holding meetings, conferences, and conventions in restaurants, hotels, and other locations. We've been holding a single, annual, standalone, international conference open to all members for over a decade, in cities of various sizes all over the United States. (Before that, our gatherings were mostly attached to other events, like science fiction conventions.) We have thousands of members worldwide, and hundreds come to each IC, from all over the U.S., from Canada, and beyond.

Our expectations of what we want from the hotel are pretty high, but they're reasonable — and their expectations of us should be high, as well. A hotel with attractive eateries, bar, and shops can expect to make certainly hundreds, and probably thousands of dollars of additional income on attendees spending money beyond what we're arranging for them. At a

minimum, they should bring in lots of money from a banquet — perhaps more than one, thanks to recent ICs and their plans for group lunches and a STARFLEET Marine Corps "Dress Mess."

## What's a Room Night?

The holy grail of hotels in the conference business is the "room night." A room night is the paid use of one guestroom for one night, so a group of three friends sharing one room for three nights is using three room nights. Depending on how many room nights your attendees are likely to use, the hotel may be very generous in other areas; see below.

Room nights are distinct from the "room rate," the amount per night that attendees will be paying for the guestrooms. While a good rule of thumb is to try to keep the room rate under \$100 per night, that's been getting harder and harder the last few years. (Note that hotels in the south tend to charge a little less, and hotels in major cities tend to charge a little more.) Paying a little more may mean you get a little more; for example, last summer's IC in Philadelphia had our highest room rate yet, but the rooms were all suites that could hold four to six people, and the price included a nightly cocktail reception and breakfast each morning.

## What Questions Should We Ask?

For starters, is the hotel big enough to handle an IC? We've seen a few IC hotels with plenty of guestrooms but not really enough conference space, and one or two with oodles of conference space but not quite enough guestrooms. (The latter isn't a catastrophe if there's an overflow hotel that's *really close by*, but generally speaking, folks attending an IC want to stay in the IC hotel.) The hotel should be able to handle 300 guests with 2-4 people in most rooms, and 300 people at once in a single ballroom for the general session and banquet. Not every IC has 300 attendees, but that's a good number to allow for.

Can the hotel give you a discount room rate for attendees? The more affordable the rooms, the more people will be able to attend. This is often the single biggest expense for an attendee. Often, the hotel will give you a lower room rate when they know you'll be spending lots on food over the course of the weekend.

Can the hotel give you a discount on the conference space, or give it to you for free? This usually depends on how many "room nights" your attendees use. Don't aim too high; if your conference space isn't discounted or free until you hit 400 room nights, you probably won't make it. A sliding scale that starts giving you a discount with an easy number of room nights is a great approach.

Will the hotel give you free (or "comp") guestrooms? Many hotels will sweeten the deal by giving you a free room for every so many rooms sold, such as one comp per 30 rooms. Since you may need to provide a free room to the Commander, STARFLEET or your Regional Coordinator as part of the bid guidelines, this is a good way to keep that free room from costing your budget real money. If possible, ask the hotel to provide a suite as one or more of the comp rooms.

Can the hotel set aside a certain number of rooms for your attendees? Most hotels will set aside plenty of rooms, otherwise known as a "room block," for a conference. There's usually a deadline after which they'll release those rooms to the general public, and anyone (including conference attendees) can reserve them, so you'll need to encourage early reservations. Find out when the deadline is.

Make sure the hotel doesn't think of the number of rooms you've asked them to set aside as a commitment on your part to take all those rooms! And, make sure if your attendees fill up your room block sooner than you expect, but there are still hotel rooms available, the hotel will keep honoring your special rate.

You'll want to get a letter of intent from the hotel, providing *in writing* what they're promising to do for you. The IC bid guidelines and most regional conference or summit bid guidelines require such a letter from the hotel, so the bid committees selecting the event can be confident that the hotel will stand behind what you're saying they'll do.

## What's Included?

Some hotels throw in everything under the sun when you're holding a conference there, and others charge separately for every little thing. Find out in advance what they consider a separate item, such as meeting room supplies (pads and pens), pitchers of water, whiteboards or easels, projectors and screens,

podiums, etc. If they charge for such things, you may or may not be allowed to bring in your own! Find out in advance.

Does the hotel charge for Internet access? If so, does the charge cover you wherever you are, or might an attendee have to pay separately for wired access in the guestroom and wireless access in a meeting room? While leisure travelers have gotten used to seeing free Internet access at budget hotels, the fancier business traveler hotels — not coincidentally, the ones most likely to have the conference space we need — still tend to charge separately.

## Read the Contract!

Most hotels will ask you to sign a contract committing you, and them, to certain terms. If you can read over a sample contract early in the process, it can help to eliminate nasty surprises later, when you think everything's been settled. I would be happy to look over your hotel's contract and let you know if anything seems suspect, or seems worth asking about.

Remember not to make any commitments to the hotel until your event has been selected for an IC or regional summit or conference! Even then, don't make any commitments that you're not sure you can meet.

Among other things, don't commit to reaching a certain level of food and beverage ("F&B") sales unless you're 100% certain you can. It's pretty safe to commit to \$1,000 worth of F&B, but \$5,000 may be a stretch, and you wouldn't want to have to make up the difference out of your own pocket. The same is true for guestroom sales; don't commit to room nights that you're not certain you'll cover — or budget as though you won't.

## Get it in Writing!

The single most important suggestion I can offer is that you get every detail of what the hotel tells you in writing. Having a few key points (such as room rate and banquet costs) on paper, but having all the other promises verbally, means you have no proof if the people you're working with change their tune, or leave. The latter happens more often than you might think, especially since most of the arrangements we're making with the hotels are for events a year or two away.

When we were planning the Region 7 Conference in Ithaca, our hotel contact left the company right before our bid deadline, and before we had everything finalized and in a letter of intent. But since I was able to walk in with his notes on paper, showing what he'd promised us, it was easy to convince his manager to live up to his promises.

—  
Gen. Anbinder has now attended ten ICs in a row, and a couple dozen regional summits or conferences. He's helped with four ICs and a half dozen regional events, and has watched in dismay as conference planners wrestle with hotel requirements or costs they didn't anticipate.

All that's missing is you!

Watkins Glen Weekend

28-30 Sept. 2007 - Ithaca & Watkins Glen, NY

[www.ussaccord.org](http://www.ussaccord.org)



# Christie's STAR TREK Auction: Part of TREK History

By: Fleet Captain Jim Pulliese - USS Ascension & Fleet Captain Mary Ann G. Pugliese - USS Adamant - Region 7



In mid-2006 we heard that Christie's was coordinating the auction of many, many Star Trek items. The Okudas told us that Paramount could no longer continue to pay for storage on several warehouses full of costumes, props, sets etc. They convinced Paramount to let the fans have the items instead of trashing them. Paramount agreed and now the various auction items are in the hands of fans and collectors around the world.

On a personal level, this experience has made a tremendous impact on our lives. We were not expecting to be as involved in this event as we actually were. We could not have foreseen the impact on our lives it has made. We feel truly blessed to have been part of the whole experience and we thank everyone that helped to make it happen.

Episode One: The Christie's Exhibit at the Creation Las Vegas convention (Aug 06)

On August 17-20th, we attended Creation's 40th Anniversary of Star Trek convention at the Las Vegas Hilton Hotel in Las Vegas. In the dealer's room, Christie's had a booth with a sampling of items from the collection. They had a couple of Christie's staffers at the booth available to answer any questions on the Christie's auction. There were also a couple of the catalogues on display for anyone to page through to see the details of all the items in the auction.

On display in the booth were costumes from the Trek movies, Kirk's "Go climb a rock" shirt, Picard's flute, the Romulan Warbird filming model, Enterprise E dedication plaque and more. We were allowed to take pictures and we did touch a few of the items.

We visited the Christie's booth often during the convention and we met John, from Blind Vision, who was conducting interviews of fans, dealers, actors and anyone affected by the Star Trek auction. The interviews would be compiled into a documentary of this historic auction and aired on television a few months later. John and his film crew interviewed us right in the booth, asking us questions about us, our interest in the auction and Trek. We talked about our interest in Trek and we plugged Starfleet as much as possible.

## Episode Two: The Christie's Exhibit at the Rockefeller Plaza Concourse (Sep/Oct 06)

We went to Manhattan for the "viewing" of the Christie's Star Trek auction items on Saturday, Sept 30th. We were not planning on attending the auction itself since we didn't think we could possibly afford anything in the collection. For us the viewing was our last chance to see these items before they were sold off to private collectors and probably never seen again. Definitely a once in a lifetime event!

Our friend Cheri Rosen joined us for the viewing and we met other Fleeter friends there. As soon as we arrived in Manhattan, we found ourselves in the concourse on the lower level of the Rockefeller Plaza to view the Star Trek items on display there. We decided to spend time in the concourse before heading to the main exhibit.

There were three display areas, all roped off and

under the watchful eye of the Plaza Security people and friendly Christie's staff members. Just like the exhibit in Las Vegas, we were allowed to take as many pictures as we wanted but the ropes around the display area prevented us from being able to touch anything.

The first display area contained alien furniture, consoles and other props from Enterprise, Nemesis and Voyager. There were Klingon tables & chairs, and Klingon & Romulan consoles as seen in the Enterprise series. From Nemesis there were several stools, chairs and a throne from the Romulan senate and Reman costumes. There were a few Vulcan props from the Enterprise & Voyager series. In the middle was a Xindi-in-a-tube display affectionately referred to as the "pin cushion man."

The second display area contained our favorite stuff...MODELS!!! We took as many pictures as we could from behind the ropes but it was not enough for us. We wanted up close, detailed photos and so we enlisted the help of a lovely young lady from the Christie's staff. She was gracious enough to take some close up pictures for us of various models and their spectacular paint scheme. We wanted to take the models home with us but Rockefeller Security was present in numbers. I think they would notice if Jim tucked the Lakota in his jacket and tried to walk away with it. I think.

The third display area contained lots of consoles, uniforms and props from the USS Enterprise E (Nemesis) and TNG. We were able to take some nice close up pictures of the console displays. The overall design of some of the consoles seemed very simple and probably easy to duplicate (especially if you're Sovereign's Sonny Wright). Some of them were not in the best of shape however, with visible signs of wear & tear. There were also Starfleet uniforms on display from Nemesis and the TNG series and a couple of sickbay beds that were recycled from ST: TMP for use in TNG and finally Nemesis. There was also a display cabinet with various Starfleet & alien weapons. Also included was a personal computer from Voyager.

We felt like we were part of the Trek universe, surrounded by the consoles, props and uniforms. The shops of the Concourse seemed to disappear from the background and we felt like we were in the 24<sup>th</sup> century. After a few hours we left the Course to see the rest of the exhibit waiting for us at Christie's auction house.

## Episode Three: The Main Exhibit at Christie's Auction House in NYC (Oct 06)

As soon as we walked up to the main entrance of Christie's Auction House, we felt at home. There were Trek fans and Christie's staff in various Trek uniforms outside the front doors. Even the doorman was wearing a Trek uniform, and each morning he would greet us enthusiastically! We registered just inside the front door, a painless process. They had freebies for us, black rubber wristbands and audio cassettes of Trek music. Very nice!

We walked into the first room, uniforms and costumes, and within a few seconds we were recognized. "Hey Vegas!" John (from Blind Vision) the interviewer we met at the Christie's booth in Las Vegas was there with his camera crew. He remembered us from Vegas and immediately set us up for another interview, a follow-up to the Vegas interview.

After the interview we learned that CBS Paramount would not allow anyone to take pictures

inside Christie's. We were very bummed and we expressed our disappointment in a very vocal but polite manner. However Starfleet Officers are very resourceful people, so we did find ways to take a few pictures. Cheri Rosen also used her camera phone to snap a few low res pictures.

The first exhibit room was filled with uniforms, costumes and various outfits from all the Star Trek series and movies. Most of the outfits were hung by hangers on racks. Some were displayed on mannequins. You were allowed to touch them and even remove the hanger from the rack to inspect it closer. You were not allowed to remove them from the hanger or try them on, obviously. There were Borg outfits, Klingon uniforms, Star Trek TMP pajama-type uniforms, the Molly O'Brien collection and lots more.

Deanna Troi's Wedding dress and Janeway's Queen Arachnia dress were prominently displayed. While Troi's dress wasn't in the best condition, Janeway's Arachnia dress was spectacular with all its colors and elaborate bead work. Even the peacock feathers from the shoulders were in pristine condition. It's a shame that the dress is only seen in black & white in the episode, because it had some wonderful colors.

The next exhibit area was in the main stairwell area. Prominently displayed in the middle of the flanking staircases was the large model of the Enterprise A. Jim almost cried at the prospect of being so close to it and not able to take pictures. However after some amount of begging and pleading, one of the staffers caved and allowed us to take a few pictures at the end of the day as we left the viewing.

Surrounding the huge model and staircase were furniture items from various series and some miscellaneous auction items in glass display cabinets. The furniture consisted of tables and chairs from Ten Forward and mess halls from the various series. Some Enterprise bridge chairs, Vulcan wooden tables and cabinet. The TNG wall pieces and the TNG Holodeck door were also within reach and we touched them!

Captain Archer's couch was on display in this area. For some unknown reason Cheri just "needed" to know if the drawer under the seat was real/functional or just "look-a-nice." At one point she had Michael Okuda on his knees in front of the couch pulling on the drawer to determine if it was real or not. Aye...Cheri!

The next two rooms, count them, two, were full of filming models. Yippie! Jim camped out in these two rooms during the weekend when he wasn't talking with Michael Okuda. The huge Deep Space 9 model was in the middle of the first room, it was big enough to use as a large dining room table. The other models in these rooms included: Voyager, Enterprise C/Yamaguchi, Enterprise E, 3-sided Borg Cube, Shuttlepod cockpit, SpaceDock, Reliant/Saratoga, Enterprise D, Workbee and train, Dry dock, Klingon Bird of Prey with a huge wing span and more. There was a good deal of damage on these poor old models. We felt bad for them.

Reluctantly we left the model rooms and stepped thru the TNG Holodeck doors into a room of props, weapons and all sorts of other items.

Off to the side was a small room with a few items in display cases and famous furniture. There was Janeway's Ready Room desk and chair. Jim sat in Janeway's chair but quickly got up before Security was able to spot him. He did manage some quality time with Picard's Captain's Chair and Ready Room Desk.

Cheri was able to snap a picture of Jim in the chair while I distracted security. A few of Kirk's movie outfits were also in this room, in addition to the reproduction Mona Lisa painting from DaVinci's workshop in Voyager.

We also had a big scare in this room on Sunday when we heard a loud crash! Everyone in the room froze instantly and scanned their immediately area. After determining that we were not the cause we spotted the source. The model of Capt Archer's toy spaceship had broken and one engine had fallen to the floor. The guy that was examining the model earlier was scolded by Christie's security. We all gave a sigh of relief and finally able to breath again.

One large room on the other side of the Holodeck doors had tons of stuff. There were some large set pieces from the Klingon bridge as seen in the Enterprise series, Vulcan table & benches, Enterprise consoles (we touched the buttons on these, they didn't work), TNG walls, DS9 Ops table, signs from the promenade, and various weapons. Very cool!

Janeway's Captain's Chair was situated in a very open area, so we didn't try to have seat time. Behind the chair was the DS9 promenade directory sign, aka the Rosetta Stone. It had the name of many fictitious businesses written in six Trek languages: Bajoran, Ferengi, Klingon, Vulcan, Cardassian and English. Our favorite was Spacely's Sprockets.

Also in this room was the huge reproduction TOS bridge that was created for the Enterprise episode "In a Mirror Darkly". It was completely roped off and guarded by several security people. But since we made friends with Denise and Michael Okuda over the course of this weekend, they cut us big break.

At first Michael took my digital camera and began taking photos of the reproduction bridge. Then Denise unhooked the ropes and let us "sneak" onto the bridge to look, touch and marvel. Security couldn't say anything to them since they were the boss of the auction. By the time we left the room that day Michael had taken several pictures of us on the bridge, both individual pictures and group pictures. We were on cloud nine!

After enjoying two days with the exhibit and the Okudas, we did not want to leave. We just could not leave that much Trek History and simply go home. We tried to sign up for the auction but learned that there was a long waiting list to get into the auction. The online bidding was also full. The only options open to us at this late stage of the game was absentee bids or phone bids. Believing this was the only way to get a piece of this exhibit we signed up for both. Little did we know that "The Great River" was about to provide for us, very handsomely!

## Episode Four: The Auction (Oct 06)

Tuesday evening after the viewing, I receive a phone call from Cheri Rosen. She put herself on the auction waiting list but never thought she would be called. Her super schmoozing skills were obviously underestimated since she managed to get called. However she could not take the time off of work, so she talked Christie's into letting Jim and I attend instead. All hail Queen Schmoozie!

We had 24 hours to tell our employers that we would not be into work the rest of the week, pack our bags, find a hotel room near NYC, grab all our financial info and drive to NYC. We were exhausted by the time we arrive in the NYC area around 3am on Thursday, but we didn't care. We were back on cloud nine again!

*Continued on page 19.*



Since we had never attended an auction of this caliber (Creation con auctions aren't in this league) we did not know what to expect. Gil the doorman greeted us each morning and encouraged us each day to bid and win. The Christie's staff was extremely nice, friendly and very helpful.

We arrived in the ballroom and unknowingly took a seat behind Michael & Denise Okuda. Hey remember us?! At the front of the room were a few auction items. We learned that the rest were packed up and sent off to warehouse in Queens. On display in the auction room were the filming models of the Enterprise A and Enterprise D (and they were huge)! There were a few other items and costumes but we spent our time taking pictures of the models and breathing on them...and we touched them too.

We had a "wish list" of all the auction items we were planning to bid on. Cathy, the first auctioneer used the Klingon claw-shaped gavel from ST6 to open the auction. She was very fast and the bidding went high at warp speed. The room was filled and there were lots of cameras filming the entire event. Every so often we would be shocked at the winning bids for some of the simplest things. Even the Okudas would look back at us all with an expression of disbelief.

After the first hour, we knew that our "wish list" was now mostly unobtainable. It was time for plan B, B as in "better-pray-for-some-luck." Thursday was not our day to win anything. Now Friday we were warmed up, and with paddle in hand, we placed bids on several items. We missed out on a lot of them but we did win one filming model from Deep Space 9, the 3ft long lighted model of the Karemma starship from the 4<sup>th</sup> season episode "Starship Down"!

We could not believe it was true. Jim kept asking me over and over again "Are you sure we won? Are you sure she called out our paddle #? Did she get my paddle #...?" I kept assuring him it was all true, while doubting the reality of the situation myself.

Saturday was the day for the heavy hitters. After watching the Enterprise D sell for over \$500,000 we hoped that the Enterprise A would go for more. It did not and we were very disappointed. It was a sour note to end the auction with. The Lakota/Enterprise B model that Jim feel in love with also went for an obscene amount of money. But that's okay since we had won a piece of Star Trek history and we were not going home empty handed.

After winning the model, John (from Blind Vision) was there again with his camera crew to interview us yet again. This would be our 3<sup>rd</sup> interview. He wanted to show continuity from the first interview at Las Vegas in August.

We stayed at Christie's until well after the auction had ended getting some quality time with the Enterprise A & D models and saying goodbye to our new friends. We had become friends with the people around us, cheering for them when they won a bid and consoling them when they lost.

Eventually Security kicked us all out of the building. We stood outside on the sidewalk again not wanting to go home, not wanting to let it all end. We walked the streets of Manhattan for a few minutes absorbing it all. We returned home Saturday evening in a daze and numb. "It can't be over" we thought "...it can't be."

**Episode Five: The Karemma model (Oct 06)**

The week after the auction it was time to pay for our prize and claim it. We wired the payment for the Karemma model, plus a hefty auction fee plus tax etc to Christie's. That Friday we drove to Queens to pick up the model. Having it shipped would have cost too much. Now driving into and out of Queens on a Friday afternoon was not a lot of fun, but when we finally got the crate home we were happy puppies!

The guy at the warehouse had told us that most of the auction items were being shipped overseas. The reproduction bridge was going to Kuwait. We counted ourselves lucky that we were able to get the Karemma.

The crate that the model came in had some wear to it and lots of markings. We were told it was the original crate the model was packaged in at Paramount. The name of the ship was spelled wrong on the crate, and they had a few Polaroids of the model taped to the sides of the crate.

We took the model out of the crate, drooled a little, took a few pictures and then put it back in the crate. The model had some weight to it. It was made of styrene plastic and resin with an aluminum armature inside to give it strength & rigidity for the motion control rig. It was wired for lights and included a schematic of wiring and power requirement of the model. The model can be mounted from the bottom or top for filming. We hope to take it to conventions with us after we obtain a secure display case for it and some insurance; after all, it's a one-of-a-kind.

**Episode Six: The follow-up Interview (Dec 06)**

In December the Christie's auction was still a vivid and pleasant memory to us. We were surprised to receive a phone call from John from Blind Vision. He was traveling to the Philadelphia area and he wanted to do a final follow-up interview with us. Specifically he wanted to film us with the model on display in our home. Well...

Anyone that knows us knows that we are not closet Trekkies. Our entire home is decorated in all things Trek. There are even a few models, created by us, hanging from the ceiling. We didn't know how John would react to our décor. We did not want something like Denise Crosby's "Trekkies".

John arrived on a rainy Friday night. As soon as he walked thru the door he smiled and took it all in stride. He thought our décor was great since it obviously demonstrated our love of Trek. We had the Karemma on display above our entertainment center in the middle of the living. It was immediately visible when you walk into the room.

John commented that most of the other people he had interviewed that had won items at the auction had the item tucked away in a back room. The rest of their room would look "normal" and then in a tiny corner of a secondary room would be the auction item. He was please to see that we had the Karemma prominently displayed in a place of honor in our living room

After a three hour visit, John was able to record about 90 minutes of footage at our home. He filmed us with the model, showing photos of our Trek-themed wedding (we were married on 9-8-96, of course), working in our model-building room and he also filmed the models and other Trek items on display in our home. A few times we flubbed our lines and we broke into laughter, ruining his shots, but I think in the end he got the footage he wanted. From the 90 minutes he was only going to use one minute of footage for the documentary so it will be interesting to see what scenes make it the final cut.

The entire documentary about Star Trek's 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and the Christie's auction is slated to appear on the History Channel in February. The actual air date keeps changing so check the internet and your local listings for exact date and time.

We feel blessed to have been part of such a wonderful experience. The entire journey took only about 5 months but it was the highlight of the entire year for us. Last year was also our 10<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. For a couple who started off their journey together in Trek it seems like this experience was the best anniversary gift we could have received.



LEFT - Fcapt Jim Pugliese (USS Ascension) w/ Romulan Warbird  
ABOVE - Group Picture: Loretta Painter, Cheri Rosen (Adamant), Jim Pugliese (Ascension), Mary Ann Pugliese (Adamant), <name unknown>  
TOP RIGHT - Large Enterprise A filming model  
BOTTOM RIGHT - Large Enterprise D filming model



Continued on page 20.





Romulan Warbird filming model



Vaughn MacDonald, Cheri Rosen (Adamant), Jim Pugliese (Ascension), Pam MacDonald, Mary Ann Pugliese (Adamant), and friend Jane.



USS Lakota/Enterprise B model



USS Lakota/Enterprise B model



USS Lakota/Enterprise B model



USS Lakota/Enterprise B model





Enterprise E consle from Nemesis



The reproduction TOS bridge from Enterprise episode "in the mirror darkly"  
(photo taken by Michael Okuda)



Jim in front of large Enterprise A filming model



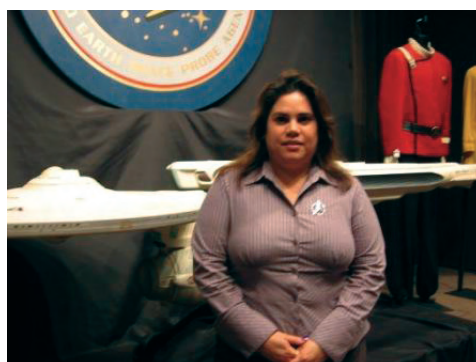
very nice & accomodating Christie's staffer



Klingon gavel



Cheri Rosen (Adamant), Michael Okuda, Denise Okuda, Bridget Naylor (Adamant), Richard Williams (Ascension), Jim Pugliese (Ascension), Mary Ann Pugliese (Adamant) - taken in front of the reproduction TOS bridge from Enterprise episode "in the mirror darkly"



Mary Ann in front of large Enterprise A filming model



Large Enterprise A filming model





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Intelligence in the Movies - SIM102*



## ACADEMY

### MISSION STATEMENT

*The Academy is the education/entertainment branch of STARFLEET: The International Star Trek Fan Association, Inc. We offer a wide variety of courses ranging from testing trivial knowledge of the Star Trek universe to expanding general knowledge about the world around us. Courses designed to help build practical skills can be found here as well. The Academy's curriculum has been designed to be offered exclusively to the members of STARFLEET, and is free of charge for any course taken that is available through email or as part of the Online Academy. (Students wishing to have course materials/graduation certificates sent via post are asked to pay a minimal fee to cover printing/shipping expenses)*

*STARFLEET Academy is constantly working to provide new subjects and areas of study for your enlightenment and entertainment. While the courses we offer are not recognized as a formal education by any established institute of higher learning, they are a fun way to pass the time, and to learn something new every day."*

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# Words from the Fleet Admiral

By: Fleet Admiral Les Rickard - SS William D Leahy - Commander, STARFLEET

## Greetings STARFLEET

As noted in the last issue of the CQ, I am soon beginning my active duty service with the US Navy. By the time you read this I will have already left home for pre-deployment training here in the US. That will last a short time and I will then leave for my final duty station overseas. As you already know I plan to continue to serve as your Commander, STARFLEET while serving on active duty. I will have access to the internet as well as voice and mail service once I am at my final duty station. This along with a dedicated VCS, supportive EC and AB and you the member I will be able to fulfill both my obligations – STARFLEET and the US Navy. Without further ado some announcements from the Office of the Commander, STARFLEET.

## NEW VICE COMMANDER STARFLEET

Recently I asked Mark Anbinder to step up and take over as VCS. Mark accepted the challenge, knowing what it would entail and that I would relying on him to help me run STARFLEET for the remainder of the term. Mark will be my physical eyes and ears in the US while I am serving overseas. Mark will have full authority to act in my stead should I be unable to carry out a function due to my distance from the “action”. Making this change was not an easy one and it didn’t come without much thought and contemplation on my part. In the end I want to thank Mark for agreeing to stand with me to finish out what has become and most unusual three year term.

One way we are ensuring that STARFLEET is best served is changing the CS and VCS structure to that of a working group where Mark and I work in tandem to take care of the business of STARFLEET. STARFLEET Headquarters will now be the CS and VCS combined with a single mailing address, that of Mark Anbinder’s in Ithaca New York. This way all coorespondence important to STARFLEET will be seen. Mark will then scan any physical mail email me an attachment so that I can review it and make any needed decisions. From this point forward STARFLEET Headquarters and the Office of both the CS and VCS will be:

STARFLEET: The International Star Trek Fan Association, Inc

106 Park Lane  
Ithaca, NY 14850

## 2007 ELECTION COORDINATOR

It is once again election year in STARFLEET. With that there is a need for an Election Coordinator to be put into place to run the election and associated activities. Normally this would fall to the Chief of Communications, however Dixie Halber has advised me that she would be serving as a potential slate member on an election team therefore is disqualified from assuming those duties. Therefore the job falls to one of the EC members farther down the chain of command to do. After asking the EC about this Jerry Tien has stepped up and agreed to assume the duties of Election Coordinator for this year. I have every faith that Jerry will carry out his duties professionally and with honor. Good luck to him and as well as any potential election teams out there.

## E-COMMERCE

As you know from the announcements from CompOps Chief Susan Ueffing, STARFLEET’s Database is moving from its previous hosting company to a new one that is providing us with more features and better service. The move will be completed in mid February with the new database coming online then - but that’s not the best part. Along with the database move comes a new feature that has been promised for some time – Ecommerce. This has been something of a myth for nearly four years and after IC I realized it had been yet another year we had talked about it but not gotten it completed. I tasked Team CompOps to get it done and rolled out as quickly as possible – and they have told me that it is done. When the database comes back online it will have E-Commerce online with it. This will help our MP and CFO in ensuring that credit card payment is either authorized or not at the point of purchase. I won’t go into any real details and

steal their thunder, I’ll let CompOps handle that. But I wanted to offer many thanks and kudos to Susan, Mike, Danny, Robin, Larry and the rest of Team CompOps for getting the database move completed and E-Commerce online.

## TOUGH CALLS SOMETIMES HAVE TO BE MADE

I think it is important for me to support the calls my EC and staff makes as long as its right and follows the regs. Most recently new Operations Chief Jonathan Simmons made some decisions regarding chapters that have been and continued to be under strength. When he brought to me his plan for placing chapters on standby, drydock or decommission status I told him that as long as he followed the regs as written fairly across the board to carry out his duties to the best of his ability. Admiral Simmons did just that and drew some fire for it from some areas. My response to that is to say this. While I would love to keep all the chapters in fleet that we can, we have rules and they should be followed. If we allow them to be broken and let them go unchecked its unfair to the chapters who work hard to maintain their chapter status. So, as I said to him I am saying here. Admiral Simmons has my full support in carrying out the duties as he has done so since becoming Operations Chief. He has done it fairly across the board and been consistant. I don’t think anyone can ask for anything more than that.

## SOME GOOD NEWS

I am proud and happy to announce that Heather and I are expecting a baby in early October. We found out a short time ago that she was pregnant. I will be away during her pregnancy. But, because of the risky nature of her delivery from a medical standpoint, I will be able to come home for my two week leave for the birth unless something drastic happens. I will then return to duty until early next year before getting home to the new little one and the rest of my family. I would like to thank everyone who have sent her and I well wishes and congratulations. We are very happy and cant wait for the new addition to arrive.

## ONCE MORE UNTO THE BREACH

Finally, in closing, let me say a couple of things.

First, some thank you’s. A big thank you to the EC, staff and everyone that works hard to make STARFLEET run. Without all of you we wouldn’t be here having fun and enjoying Star Trek. Second, thanks to my wife Heather, stepdaughter Riley and son Zachary for sharing me with Fleet, allowing me to do the work I do. Without them I would not be able to carry out my duties, now and when I am deployed.

Second, preparing for this deployment has been a very stressful and difficult thing. It had me questioning a lot of different issues, not the least of which was STARFLEET and my involmnet. In the end I came to the conclusion that I made a commitment to serve STARFLEET as Commander, STARFLEET. I could not step away before the end of the term without at least giving it my best. In the end I feel that I will be able to carry out my duties until December 31st 2007 at midnight. I will be able to do this with everyone’s help from VCS Mark Anbinder all the way down to the newest member. You will also be helping me. You will be giving me the gift of having something to work on and work for while I am not carrying out my duties as a deployed Sailor in the US Navy. You all will help keep my spirits lifted and my resolve solid.

That is all so until next time...

Onward!  
FADM Edwin L. Rickard, Jr.  
Commander, STARFLEET

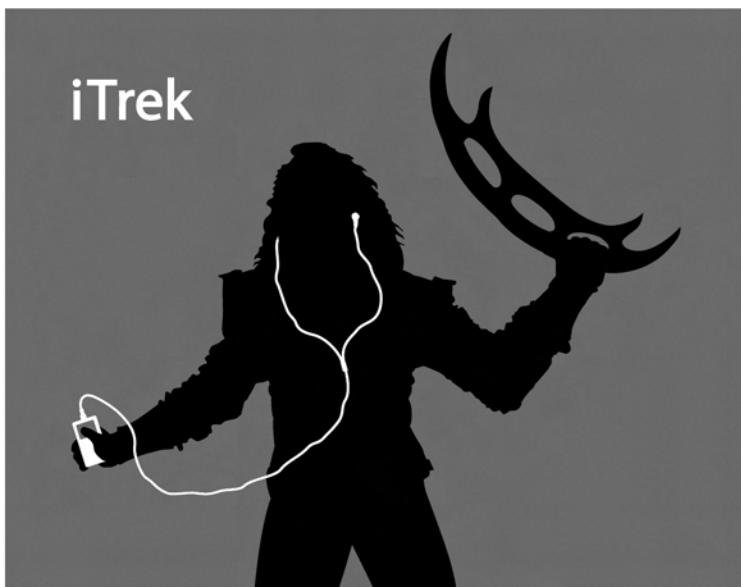




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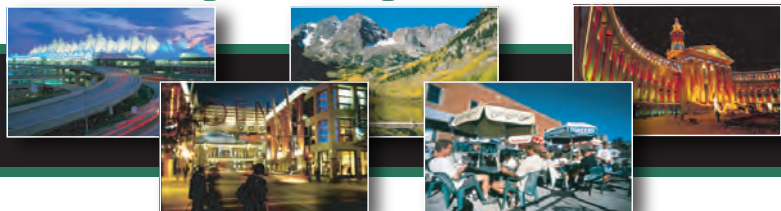
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## STARFLEET Quartermaster's Report

By: Vice Admiral Pete Mohny - USS Hephaestus - Quartermaster, STARFLEET

Greetings from the STARFLEET Quartermaster!

The last two months have been very busy, with new items coming in, some items selling out, and sales being very good! The QM now has shot glasses in a clear, gold-rimmed mini hurricane style, and also has Challenge Coins for the 2006 Les Rickard administration. However, the duffel bags are all gone, and the fleece blankets and backpacks are almost sold out. Total income for December and January was about \$1400, which will allow more new items to be purchased in upcoming months.

Speaking of new items, voting continues on the QM page for what new items you would like to see. Be sure to go to the QM page, click on the VOTING link, and send an email with your favorite item (there is an email link for each item). There is also a voting page just for coins, where you can pick your favorite retired Commander STARFLEET, your favorite Region, or your choice of STARFLEET Marines or STARFLEET Academy (one only). Whichever one has the most votes by summer will be produced next, in time for the IC if all goes as planned. All votes will be retained after the next coin is produced, so if your choice doesn't win out this time, it may next time.

The QM now is working with the STARFLEET Marines, and the QM has a SFMC web page showing some items already for sale, and with links to possible future SFMC items to be sold by the QM.

If you'd like to see some SFMC merchandise (in addition to that offered on the SFMC page), go to the QM Marine page and click on one of the email links to send your vote, or if you'd like to see something not already listed, just email QM with your idea, and it will be added to the page as an option.

Prices will be simplified as of March 1 on some items, including all polo shirts and all denim shirts. Size will no longer determine price, so if you're a bit fluffier than the average, you'll pay the same price as our more regulation sized folks! Check out the order form for the new prices.

Speaking of new prices, the STARFLEET coffee mugs and STARFLEET insulated mugs will be reduced in price from \$5 to \$2 starting March 1. These items have been in stock a long time, and it's time to move them out the door so other items can be bought. Enough have been sold so that the QM will still break even or make a slight profit overall on these two purchases, but because they've moved so slowly, don't expect to see them in stock again any time soon. So, if you want a ceramic or plastic mug, get them while they're in stock!

The QM will be at the R2 summit on March 9-11, with the entire inventory of items - probably the only time in 2007 that this will happen. Other regional summits will all feature pre-buys only, and the IC will be supplied with enough stock to cover the amount of



Attention Region 11 residents

Coo-ee! Looking for a chapter that can best satisfy your needs through correspondence? Want to join a ship but the location is just too distant? Don't want to attend face-to-face meetings? Then check out the newest ship on the block - the USS Southern Cross. We aim to satisfy the needs of those sci fi fans who

maybe think there is only the one option in Australasia - well now there are two! Come to our website and have a look at what we have to offer ([www.uss-southerncross.com](http://www.uss-southerncross.com)) - we can promise you a very warm and friendly welcome from the best bunch of ex Cons and earthquake survivors possible! Go on - you know you want to! Have a looksee.....



sales typically made in previous years. This will keep from having to have a lot of items mailed to and from the IC, which is a waste of money.

Have you run a STARFLEET event like a summit or IC and had dated items left over at the end? Got some Trek collectibles that you'd like to unload but just don't have the time? Would you like your cool sci-fi stuff to go to a good cause, but don't have the contacts to get a decent price? The STARFLEET Quartermaster is here for you! Send your items to the QM, and we'll put them up on this 'Bargains and Closeouts' page. For one year after we receive them, you will get half the money from all sales, to do with as you wish. After that, all income from sales goes to STARFLEET. So far, we've gotten items from IC 2003, IC 2004, and STARFLEET Headquarters team 2001.

The QM carries certificates both for gift certificate use (in any amount from \$5 on up), and official style promotion certificates for any rank up to Commander. Have you always wanted a promotion certificate that looked like the one your commanding officer got? Would you like your chapter promotions to be done in the same style as the Flag Rank promotions, but with your chapter information and signatures? Now you can! With the help of the Promotions Director, Mike Mallotte, the QM now offers custom made promotion certificates for any rank up to commander. Simply email [quartermaster@sfi.org](mailto:quartermaster@sfi.org) or send a note with your written order, listing the name, new rank, promoting

authority (such as 'the commanding officer of the USS Beagle' or 'the Executive Committee of the USS Nautilus'), and the names, ranks and positions of the two signing officers (or only one if that's your preference), and a promotion certificate will be printed in bold color on heavy card stock and mailed to you! Each certificate is \$2.00, with postage for up to 5 certificates for \$2.00 (add \$2.00 more for postage for each additional group of up to 5 certificates, or fraction thereof).

Our next new item will be STARFLEET patches, which will be available in late March or early April. I've been comparing suppliers, and it's moved more slowly than I would have liked, but I am ensuring we get the best price from a dependable supplier, since this company will provide all our embroidered items. This will mean that QM won't have to pay for embroidery setup charges more than once, which can easily run into \$100 or more.

# Second Round

By: General Mark H. Anbinder - USS Accord - Vice Commander, STARFLEET



"Haven't we Been Here Before?"

Just over two years ago, at the expiration of the two-year term of the Malotte-Anbinder administration, I swore in FADM Mandi Livingston as the new Commander, STARFLEET, handed over the office of Vice Commander to Sunnie Planthold, and after almost five years on the Executive Committee, retired.

Or so I thought.

While I've certainly remained active in the organization in the intervening time, I wasn't expecting to find myself back on the Executive Committee. But, after a few days, the job felt like a well-worn pair of shoes. They fit — but they've got those cracks and holes that let the water and mud seep in if you're not careful!

In any event, my thanks to Neal and Dixie and the rest of the hard-working *Communiqué* crew for the chance to submit a slightly tardy column for this issue of the newsletter. This column will be on the short side, but you'll be hearing from me again on a regular basis.

How'd we get here?

Writing this article has been bringing back memories of how I first got involved in STARFLEET's leadership, back in the late '90s. I saw an opportunity to help the organization start taking online membership submissions, and offered my services to Computer Operations and its chief at the time, Jesse Smith.

That weekend in Lubbock, Texas back in the summer of 1998 marked the beginning of five and a half years of active service on STARFLEET's staff that culminated with my *first* two years as VCS. I was pleased to run on Mike Malotte's ticket, and I think we got some useful things done.

## Around the Office

Some of the faces I see as I look around the Office of the Vice Commander, STARFLEET are familiar ones. Some are folks I appointed during my tenure, or have worked with in other capacities in the past. I look forward to working with every one of them! Take a look in the directory at the back of this issue, or on the STARFLEET web site at [www.sfi.org](http://www.sfi.org), to see who some of the fine folks on my crew are.

My grateful thanks in particular to Michael Klufas, who's been working with my predecessor, Sal Lizard, as his Chief of Staff, and who has graciously agreed to stay on in that role. I've known Michael

for many years, since we first worked together in the Communications Department aboard USS *Avenger*. (Thinking about my tenure as *Avenger's* Chief Communications Officer makes the '98 IC seem positively recent!) It's already been a pleasure to work with him again, and I'm looking forward to a productive year.

It's thanks in no small measure to Michael's efforts, I'm sure, as well as to Sal's, that the Office of the VCS is in such good shape. I've spoken to both of them on the phone since Les appointed me VCS at the end of January, along with the requisite flurry of e-mail, and I'm thankful that they've both been so helpful during this transitional period.

One immediate staffing change I'll note here is the departure of Robin Van Cleave as Youth/Cadet Services Director in the Office of the VCS. She's been planning to step down since early December, and I'd like to thank Robin for her tireless effort on behalf of STARFLEET's youth. From my earlier time in this office, I know that her work for our organization's kids predates any official title or planning role.

I'm glad to be able to report that Robin is willing to stay on in an advisory role as we determine what happens next. Like the concerned parents I've heard from this month, I know Robin is dedicated

to making STARFLEET a positive, engaging, and safe, experience for our younger members. She's already shared quite a bit of material with me, and I'll be grateful for her help as we continue planning. I'm not ready to solicit applications for this post yet, since I'm not sure what form Youth and Cadet Services will take in the future. Do stay tuned, and let me know if this is an area where you feel you can be of service.

## Getting in Touch

There's lots of contact info in the *CQ* directory, but the best way to get in touch with me is e-mail! Just drop me a note at [vcs@sfi.org](mailto:vcs@sfi.org) and I'll get back to you as soon as possible. Please try again if you don't hear back from me within a few days, as the torrent of spam inherent to e-mail in the 21st century means, once in a while, missing a valid message.

You can also reach my Chief of Staff, Michael Klufas, at [vcs-cos@sfi.org](mailto:vcs-cos@sfi.org), if you have any questions about our crew or any of the things we do.

## In Closing...

I'm grateful to FADM Rickard for his confidence in me, since I realize to a large degree, he's trusting me to keep an eye on the Fleet while he's off serving in another Fleet. Best of luck to Les for a smooth tour of duty!

# Ops Report

By: Admiral Johnathan Simmons - USS Stormbringer - Chief of Operations, STARFLEET



Greetings Fleeters!

Your Operations Department is hard at work helping chapters and creating many new things for our chapters to use in their quest for FUN! This report is chock full of good news and fun things so by all means... *keep reading!*

## Chapter Status...

We've seen good response to chapters that are understrength and I am proud to report that the USS Tikopai and USS Oberon from Region 4 have been returned to Deployed Status. Thank you to Melissa Lauritzen for all your hard work getting the Oberon back up! Also, both the USS Alpha Centauri and the USS Thor in Region 7 have been returned to Deployed status. Other chapters are working hard to get back to the minimum requirements and I thank them all for their diligence.

## New Commissionings...

Wow! We've had a phenomenal number of new commissionings since the last issue. Please join

me in welcoming the following newly commissioned chapters into the ranks of STARFLEET...

- **USS Tiger** – R1 – Captain Brad Danner, Commanding
- **USS Blue Sun** – R2 – Captain Grady Glover, Commanding
- **Andromeda Station** – R2 – Captain Alvin Dozier, Commanding
- **USS Silver Moon** – R4 – Captain Jeff Salamon, Commanding
- **USS Thermopylae** – R5 – Captain Cathey Fuller, Commanding
- **USS Daniel Soule** – R5 – Captain Dana Marshall, Commanding
- **USS Wildhorse** – R5 – Fleet Captain David Kania, Commanding
- **USS Riverside** – R6 – Captain John Schulte, Commanding
- **USS Britannic** – R7 – Captain Wayne Augustson, Commanding
- **USS Chicago** – R12 – Captain Jay Hurd, Commanding
- **USS Silverwolf** – R20 – Captain Darren Anderson, Commanding

## January 2007 Reporting...

We've had great response from the Fleet on reporting. The reporting for January 2007 is 88% on time. Way to go chapters!

## More on Reporting...

If you file your MSR via email and do not use the database, please remember that in order for your MSR to be counted properly, it must also be sent to [ops@sfi.org](mailto:ops@sfi.org). This is the most basic requirement of MSR reporting. Some chapters only report to their RCs and we do mark those as late and FTR (Failure to Report). Not only does overlooking that requirement lower your region's reporting record, your chapter can be placed on Stand-By Status if you are consistently late or fail to report. Look for an article on MSR reporting by Steven Bowers in this issue of the CQ.

## Correy Ops...

Admiral Michelle Fanelli in charge of Correspondence Operations reports that of 42 Chapters, 36 reported in. Out of 7 correspondence shuttles or chapters in shakedown cruise, 6 reported in. There are currently 49 correspondence groups in STARFLEET.

## Retention and Recruiting...

Mike Vermoesen and I are working on revamping the R&R Department with even more tools for our chapters to use. We'd like to set up a list of Regional Recruiters for a roundtable discussion and a STARFLEET Recruitment Team. If you are a regional recruiter (or would like to be one) email me at [ops@sfi.org](mailto:ops@sfi.org).

## Help Wanted: Director of Chapter Support Service...

OPS needs someone with a lot of motivation and "outside the box thinking" to head up the Chapter Support Services department. If you are interested, please send me a STARFLEET resume to [ops@sfi.org](mailto:ops@sfi.org)

## Song Competition reminder...

Be sure to send your song entries to [gumbysan@gmail.com](mailto:gumbysan@gmail.com) for inclusion in this year's competition. Enter as often as you like... Winners will be judged by popular vote of the membership on the [sfi.org](http://sfi.org) website. You will need to register on the website in order to hear the songs and vote for your favorite. Winners will be announced at the upcoming 2007 STARFLEET International Conference in Denver. Winners need not be present to win. If you have any questions, email me at [ops@sfi.org](mailto:ops@sfi.org).

That's it for this issue... see you next time with more updates and information from STARFLEET Operations!

-Gumby



# COMMUNIQUE





# What is a MSR and why do I have to file one?

## By: Commodore Steven P. Bowers - ISS Lexington - Vice Chief Operations/MSR Coordinator, STARFLEET

'A question. Since your sun burned hot in space I have been searching for a question.'

To some, being a chapter in STARFLEET can be a large undertaking. Trying to recruit members. Trying to keep existing members. To others, it can be as easy as pie. Whatever category you as a chapter CO fall into, one thing is very clear. Every chapter in STARFLEET must submit a monthly status report – MSR. The MSR shows, not only STARFLEET Command but also the rest of the chapters, how active and how much fun your chapter is. The information you put into your MSR is then published in the CQ for all to see. The goal of this article is to give you, the CO, information regarding your MSR, how it should be filed, and how you can turn a task that some forget into a tool to help your chapter. So let's begin with some basic questions.

What is MSR reporting? A MSR is a Monthly Status Report. Each chapter and chapter-in-training is required to file a MSR. (This article covers full chapters. Chapters-in-Training should contact ShoC to information regarding the filing of their MSR.) There are several ways a MSR can be filed:

1. Entering the info directly into the SFI Database. While some may find the DB confusing, OPS recommends this method. MSRs entered into the DB can be tracked and investigated if issues arise. All CO's (or their representatives) should have access to enter a MSR into the SFI DB. If you do not, please

contact Comp Ops at [compops@sfi.org](mailto:compops@sfi.org). (NOTE – This is the easiest way to file your MSR. A notification of filing is generated by the DB to show you that you have indeed filed.)

2. Email the MSR form (which can be found at [WWW.SFI.ORG](http://WWW.SFI.ORG)) to your Regional Coordinator and to the MSR Reporting Dept. Even though you email your MSR to your RC, it is still your responsibility to make sure that OPS receives it so that it can be entered into the DB.
3. Snail mail the MSR form to your Regional Coordinator and to the Chief of STARFLEET Operations. While we fully understand that not everyone is connected to the internet, if you are going to snail mail your MSR, make sure you mail it in enough time to make it to OPS so that it can be entered correctly. A MSR received late is marked late. You should mail your MSR to:

STARFLEET Operations  
7024 E. Maplewood Place  
Centennial, CO 80111-4510

What can be in a MSR? This is a question that many chapters have asked. The answer is simple. To be blunt, you can put just about anything in a MSR. What the MSR is for is to show the rest of STARFLEET exactly what your chapter has been doing. Did you volunteer somewhere? Did you attend a sci-fi convention? Did you go bowling or go to the movies? Did you have a recruiting drive at a local library? Do you go to paintball with a fellow

chapter and destroy their command staff? Showing how active your chapter is can be a powerful recruiting tool. Just remember, that even if you did nothing that month, every chapter MUST report. It is one of the requirements for being a chapter. STARFLEET Operations can classify chapters that do not report for three consecutive months as Stand-By. Don't let this happen to you.

Who can file a MSR? Normally the CO of a chapter would file the MSR. As most CO's know, the life of a CO, in Fleet, and in real life can be very busy. Why not pass the responsibility around the chapter? Most chapters have a point system for promotion. Why not let the Ensigns or LTJGs file the report to gain some points? It will free some time up for you and it will teach them some of the workings of Fleet.

When can a MSR be filed? Ah, the 64,000 bars of gold pressed latinum question. I am sure that every chapter out there has had an issue with this one. Here is what the books say: A MSR is filed between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> of the month for the prior month. MSRs filed after the 5<sup>th</sup> of the month are considered late. If you do not file by the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month, your chapter is marked as Failed To File. To illustrate it, here is a chart for 2007:

Jan 1<sup>st</sup> to Jan 10<sup>th</sup> 2007 – File report for Dec 2006  
Feb 1<sup>st</sup> to Feb 10<sup>th</sup> 2007 – File report for Jan 2007  
Mar 1<sup>st</sup> to Mar 10<sup>th</sup> 2007 – File report for Feb 2007  
Apr 1<sup>st</sup> to Apr 10<sup>th</sup> 2007 – File report for Mar 2007  
May 1<sup>st</sup> to May 10<sup>th</sup> 2007 – File report for Apr 2007

June 1<sup>st</sup> to June 10<sup>th</sup> 2007 – File report for May 2007  
July 1<sup>st</sup> to July 10<sup>th</sup> 2007 – File report for June 2007  
Aug 1<sup>st</sup> to Aug 10<sup>th</sup> 2007 – File report for July 2007  
Sept 1<sup>st</sup> to Sept 10<sup>th</sup> 2007 – File report for Aug 2007  
Oct 1<sup>st</sup> to Oct 10<sup>th</sup> 2007 – File report for Sept 2007  
Nov 1<sup>st</sup> to Nov 10<sup>th</sup> 2007 – File Report for Oct 2007  
Dec 1<sup>st</sup> to Dec 10<sup>th</sup> 2007 – File report for Nov 2007  
Jan 1<sup>st</sup> to Jan 10<sup>th</sup> 2008 – File report for Dec 2007

Confused? Don't be. Besides, you won't be the first chapter that has been confused by this. You must remember, however, that it is very important that you file the proper report during the dates indicated. That is how your chapter will get proper credit for it. If you file your MSR at any other time other than between the 1<sup>st</sup> and the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month, it is possible that you will not get credit for the proper month. I would suggest that if you fail to file in the DB before the 10<sup>th</sup>, that you contact me. I can be reached at [lexington2o@gmail.com](mailto:lexington2o@gmail.com). I will make sure you get proper credit. Remember, it is VERY IMPORTANT that every chapter files. Even if you did nothing that month, you must still file a report. If you have any questions on the MSR reporting structure, you can find information in the current START manual.

The SFI Database is our tool. It was created to assist chapters and to help Fleet know who we are, where we are, and what we are doing. If you use it properly it can be a great asset to your chapter, to your Region and to Fleet.



## By: Commodore Dixie Halber - USS Flying Fox - Chief of Communications, STARFLEET

Hello STARFLEET!

I hope everyone has been having a good winter (for those of you in the Southern Hemisphere, I hope you're staying cool this summer).

I want to take a few minutes to talk about CQ submission dates and publication dates. There's always a lot of confusion about it and people wind up disappointed to find out that their submission didn't appear when really it's scheduled for the next CQ rather than the one in their hands.

CQ submission dates are the 25<sup>th</sup> of every odd month. So that's the following:

January 25<sup>th</sup>, March 25<sup>th</sup>, May 25<sup>th</sup>, July 25<sup>th</sup>, September 25<sup>th</sup>, November 25<sup>th</sup>

We try to publish the CQ by the middle of the month that follows the deadline. So CQs are printed and shipped:

February, April, June, August, October, December

Now there are times that it's a little different. We usually push the July deadline so that we can include IC material. This past December, things got really caught up in the holidays so production got behind. This issue should find you in late February however and that catches us back up.

Chances are really good that if you send in an article, then a CQ appears in your box shortly thereafter, your item will be in the next CQ. If you ever have any questions about it, don't hesitate to e-mail me at [comm@sfi.org](mailto:comm@sfi.org) and ask.

In a similar vein, we try very hard to use every submission that is sent in, but sometimes it just isn't possible. Sometimes photos can not be used, sometimes the subject matter doesn't fit with the rest of the issue. We do hold on to submissions to see if we can use them at a later time. Again if you have any questions do feel free to ask.

Well that wraps me up for this issue, see you again in the next issue.

## InCOMMing



## From the Halls of STARFLEET Academy

### By: Rear Admiral Wayne Lee Kilough, Jr. - USS Royal Sovereign - Commandant, STARFLEET Academy

Greetings! It's time for another issue of the 'Communique'. I hope this issue brings good tidings during the Holiday Season. Once again, we have had several events occur within the Academy, so I will just get right down to them.

Administration: The Course Development Team is working on overtime processing new requests. We are very pleased with the growth the Academy is seeing, and the proposed growth that we are currently working on. Remember, if you have an idea for a new College, or for a new exam for an existing College, please contact our Director of Course Development, Greg Franklin, at [FANSFA@aol.com](mailto:FANSFA@aol.com).

Chris Esquibel, Interim Director of Electronic Services, has had to resign from this position, due to real-life constraints. He has, however, agreed to stay on as my Chief of Staff. Due to this, we are looking for a permanent Director of Electronic Services, whose primary responsibility will be the Academy Website. We are needing to fill this position immediately. If you are interested in this position, please contact my office for more information. Deadline for applications is 3/31/2007.

Institute of Alien Studies: Shawn Gregory has resigned as the Director of the College of Borg Technology. We at the Academy wish the best for Shawn with his future endeavors. We would like to welcome Wayne Smith as the new Director. He can be reached at [waynesmith@exemail.com.au](mailto:waynesmith@exemail.com.au).

Tracy Andrews-Isquith has resigned as the Director of the College of XenoAnthropology. We at the Academy wish the best for Trey with her future endeavors. We would like to welcome Nick Hamze as the new Director. He can be reached at [nickhamze@mac.com](mailto:nickhamze@mac.com).

The College of Alien History and Culture has been permanently closed, and all exams are being merged into other Colleges (primarily the College of XenoAnthropology). For more information, please contact either Dean Carol Thompson ([betazoid@mosquiconet.com](mailto:betazoid@mosquiconet.com)) or College of XenoAnthropology Director Nick Hamze ([nickhamze@mac.com](mailto:nickhamze@mac.com)).

Institute of the Arts: Both the new College of Economics (formerly the College of Trade and

Commerce) and the College of Genealogy are in full-swing, and are a big success!!!

Institute of Cadet Studies: With Shawn Gregory resigning and Wayne Smith being appointed as the Director of the College of Borg Technology, that also affects the Cadet College of Borg Technology. Please contact Wayne Smith for more information.

*Continued on page 28.*

Institute of Foreign Affairs: The College of Down Under is in the final stages of Course Development, and should be going live in the very near future.

Institute of Intelligence and Espionage: We are pleased to announce that the School of Terrorism Operations (under the College of Intelligence Operations) is now open. Also, the School of Intelligence Gathering has added three new courses and the School of Espionage has added two new courses (both within the College of Intelligence Operations). Director Glen Diebold has done a fantastic job in creating these new exams for the membership to learn from and enjoy. For more information, please feel free to contact him at [Ussniagara@adelphia.net](mailto:Ussniagara@adelphia.net). Carol Thompson, Director of the College of Intelligence in Media, has a new exam to add to her curriculum: Where Eagles Dare. Carol can be reached at [betazoid@mosquitonet.com](mailto:betazoid@mosquitonet.com) for more information.

Institute of Leadership Studies: Flag Officer's School is now back online under the Directorship

of Scott Anderson, Sr. Please feel free to contact him at [sfa.fos@gmail.com](mailto:sfa.fos@gmail.com) for more information. The STARFLEET Officer's Leadership College has a new addition to its exams: 112-SFMC. Please contact me for more information.

Institute of Military Studies: Due to the College of Alien History and Culture closing down, Willis Burhans has taken over as the new Director of the College of Starship Operations. For more information, please feel free to contact him at [smiley35633@comcast.net](mailto:smiley35633@comcast.net).

Institute of Science and Technology: The College of Archaeology and Anthropology, under the Directorship of Barbara Paul, is in the final stages of Course Development, and should be going live very soon. For more information, please contact Barbara at [fuzzywolfpaws@bellsouth.net](mailto:fuzzywolfpaws@bellsouth.net).

Institute of Science Fiction Studies: Grady Glover has resigned as the Director of the College of Sci-Fi

Cinema. We at the Academy wish Grady the best of luck in his future endeavors. We would like to welcome George Ann Wheeler as the new Director. She can be reached at [anniewheelr@aol.com](mailto:anniewheelr@aol.com).

As always, please feel free to contact me if you have any questions, concerns, ideas, and/or suggestions for STARFLEET Academy! My e-mail address is [academy@sfi.org](mailto:academy@sfi.org), or [robbynhunter@mchsi.com](mailto:robbynhunter@mchsi.com).

In Service,  
Wayne  
Rear Admiral Wayne Lee Killough, Jr.  
Commandant, STARFLEET Academy

### Boothby Awards

#### Amethyst

Truman D. Temple

#### Platinum

Thomas Pawelczak

#### Zirconium

Wayne Lee Killough, Jr., Dean Andre Rogers

#### Dilithium

Sean A. Meyer

#### Diamond

Sean A. Meyer, George Ann Wheeler

#### Latinum

Larry Dale French, Sr., Sean Niemeyer,  
John Roberts, Carol Thompson

#### Gold

Teri Lotta, Wayne Smith, Carol Thompson

#### Silver

Gary M. Ensey, Jr., Christopher Esquibel,  
Joseph Fuller, Richard W. Hewitt, Amy L'Abbe,  
Betty Ann Leverence, Bruce O'Brien, Wayne Smith,  
Eugenia Stopya, Therese Watts,  
Carolyn M. A. Zimdahl

#### Bronze

Gary Amor, Barbara Buffington, Arron Joseph Ehly,  
Jared K. Fielder, Nick Hamze, Darlene Harper,  
Richard W. Hewitt, Eric Johannson, Wesley Kincaid,  
Christopher O'Banion, Bruce O'Brien,  
Barbara M. Paul, Rob Schoon, Sr.,  
Jeff Alan Schnoor, Gregory S. Staylor

## Shakedown Operations Command

### By: Rear Admiral Jerry Tien - USS Eagle - Chief of Shakedown Operations, STARFLEET



We have been very busy at Shakedown Operations Command last couple of months. That's because a large number of training chapters finished up their shakedown program recently:

Andromeda Station (R2)  
USS Blue Sun (R2)  
USS Britannic (R7)  
USS Chicago (R12)  
USS Daniel Soule (R5)  
USS Riverside (R6)  
USS Silver Moon (R4)  
USS Thermopylae (R5)  
USS Tiger (R1)  
USS Wild Horse (R5)

Some of these chapters are increasing our coverage in existing regions, while others will help us reactivate dormant regions once they commission. As a matter of fact, we should be seeing two regions becoming active when you read this (R8, R11).

Speaking of commissioning, all training chapters have to face a traditional challenge - building / maintaining the required crew strength. I have some suggestions in this area. First, CO's should keep a close eye on the chapter rosters. This has been made much easier thanks to the advent of the STARFLEET Database. Be sure you have sufficient active members for the targeted commission date to avoid delays. In fact, don't stop at the minimum required crew strength - try to recruit as much as you can. This way, even if some of the crew members transfer or do not renew in time, you will still have sufficient strength for commissioning. If you need any assistance with recruiting, don't hesitate to seek out recruiting help around fleet - from your local regional staff to fleet ShOC. Another suggestion is to work with, not against, neighboring chapters. Chances are you have different focuses, and you can set up a mutually beneficial referral program where new members are directed to the chapter that best fit their needs. This way each chapter gets to keep the members onboard longer, avoiding the negative churning phenomenon.

There are other things that can help maintain your crew strength. Develop more club activities. Encourage your crew to attend more regional and Fleetwide events. We have folks who maintain lists of organized fandom events, as well as individuals who lead special interest groups (e.g. gaming, writing, ... etc.) I highly recommend the CO's to leverage the wide range of activities going on in Fleet. This means keeping an eye open for Fleet resource listings. Of course, many new chapters need a directory to these resources. This is one area we hope to improve, not just for training chapters, but to help out commissioned chapters as well. If you have any leads on new resources (or wish to offer new services to fleet members), please let me know so I can add them to our directory.

In terms of other services, you should be seeing a number of new technical publications soon. We are constantly working on new publications to make it more fun to develop your chapters. Be sure to contact the Department of Technical Services ([dts@sfi.org](mailto:dts@sfi.org)) or Advanced Starship Design Bureau ([asdb@sfi.org](mailto:asdb@sfi.org)) if you have any questions or comments regarding these articles.

Finally, with the soon to be completed STARFLEET Database migration, we are going to resume the work on the Online Vessel Registration Request feature to help chapters process this more quickly and efficiently. When complete, this will eliminate the need to mail the VRR forms - another way we hope to make your fleet experience more pleasant. Actually, this is one area fleet can use your help. I urge all PHP programmers in fleet to contact the database team ([database@sfi.org](mailto:database@sfi.org)) to help this program development. The more help we get, the sooner we can implement this new service.

That's about it for this issue. I know various regions are starting up their regional summit / conferences already. Hope you can attend these and enjoy the STARFLEET Experience!

## CompOps Report

### By: Brigadier General Susan Ueffing - Chief of Computer Operations



Greetings from Computer Operations!

Happy New year from all the staff of CompOps, and we hope you had a great Christmas season (or Hanukkah or Kwanza). As we start 2007 we've made it our New Year's Resolution to provide the membership with even better support than we did in 2006.

I would like to thank all the applicants who had sent in resumes for the Vice Chief of Computer Operations position but after careful consideration I would like to announce that Vice Admiral Mike Dugas has been appointed to the position. Mike has been a member of STARFLEET for over 14 years, Served as R13 Regional Coordinator for 4 years and has worked in CompOps as a Database Administrator as well as various other areas for over 10 years. Mike brings a wealth of Computer related and management experience and I look forward to working with him over the coming months.

You also may notice a slight delay in any memberships during the month of January. Our Membership

Processing teams took a much deserved break during Christmas and so with any break there was a period of catching up to do. By the time you read this Membership Processing will be back up to what their normal timeframe has been.

Please remember that although we do have a pretty fast turnaround time it can take from six to eight weeks for a membership to be processed and the kit to arrive. For Renewals, we still recommend that you renew at least 30 days before your expiration date to make sure that you don't expire; it does take time to process renewals even when they are online. As always, any questions or concerns about membership issues can be directed to either [membership@sfi.org](mailto:membership@sfi.org) or myself at [compops@sfi.org](mailto:compops@sfi.org).

Also don't forget our new website at <http://www.sfi.org>. Our events calendar is ready to be filled with your chapter or STARFLEET function. The new discussion forums are ready to be used as a great form of communication. If you want to keep up with Star Trek events as they happen check out the news section. You can even submit content if you wish by contacting the webmaster at [webmaster@sfi.org](mailto:webmaster@sfi.org).

And as always, if you need to contact me I'm always available by email at [CompOps@sfi.org](mailto:CompOps@sfi.org)  
Until Next Time

Susan Ueffing  
Chief of Computer Operations - STARFLEET





## By: Admiral Pat Spillers - USS Victory - Chief Financial Officer, STARFLEET

# The Big Money

Report of Income and Expense from CFO Department for 2006

.96	Certificates
.47	Giveaways
.59	Supplies
\$7.81	Total

This last year we kept detailed reports monthly on how many primary membership were processed both new and renewal plus the total members of each category. In 2006 we processed 500 new primary memberships that covered 684 members and renewed 1510 primary memberships that covered 2878 renewal members. That is a total of 2010 primary membership covering 3562 members.

When we look at the Income and Expense Report for 2006, we see that a total of \$38,628.25 was received from Membership Dues for an average of \$19.22 per primary membership (PPM).

Now let's look at all the things that the member gets for their dues. We spent \$44,799.13 or an average of \$22.29 PPM in 2006. Some of the key parts of this breakdown to:

Membership Package Breakdown is:

\$ 2.25	Printing
3.22	Postage
.32	Postage equipment rental

In 2005, this figure was \$6.77 PPM. The main difference was an increase to the US Postal rate the beginning of 2006; cost to print the certificates was also increase in 2006 but has gone back down for 2007; added giveaway item but the cost above was for both 2006 and new 2007 item paid in 2006.

The other main item you get is the CQ Bi-Monthly Newsletter:

\$8.23 CQ cost

This cost went up in 2006 from the \$4.90 in 2005. Again, part of the reason was the increase in US Postal rates; used FedEx to get CQs for our International members to the International shipping house faster; and we printed more CQ in 2006 than 2005.

Quartermaster office, we show income of \$6,255.37 in 2006 with expense of \$19,857.62 or \$9.88 PPM. The majority of this expense was for inventory in the amount of \$18,103.32. Part of this was for IC 04 & IC 05 QM items that both Associate Advertising and

Starfleet did not realize had not been paid. However, after checking records back to 2003, it was found that these QM items had not been paid for so \$7,410.57 was for previous items purchased.

Other Expenses per Primary Memberships:

88.88	Cost to process Credit Cards or PayPal payments
1.93	New or Replacement Equipment
0.50	IC Awards and flags – We now have all state & Countries
0.25	Deposit for IC 06 Hotel
1.12	Office Supplies & shipping
\$20.72	Total expenses per membership package

Adding in expenses for Quartermaster department to above this brings us up a total of \$30.68 spent PPM.

The Expense on the Scholarship funds was \$3,157.06 or \$1.57 PPM for 6 scholarships plus some office supplies. Therefore STARFLEET spent an average pre primary membership of \$32.17 expense.

If we include interest from savings plus new CD (certificates of deposits) for the scholarships to work

towards all the scholarships being self-funded, as well as special Starfleet Scholarship fund drives and donations from Memberships, etc. in the amount of \$2,073.44 or \$1.03 PPM.

Adding in Starfleet Quartermaster income, for a grand total of \$49,446.83 which is an average of \$24.60 PPM income.

In Service to Fleet:

Admiral Pat Spillers [AdmPat@satx.rr.com](mailto:AdmPat@satx.rr.com)  
USS Victory SCC# 23541  
Starfleet CFO [CFO@sfi.org](mailto:CFO@sfi.org)  
2145 Cherry Blossom  
Schertz, TX 78154

210-659-9359 Home  
210-275-7176 Cell

### SFI Income Statement

Prepared by Pat Spillers Year of 2006

Income		
Membership Processing		\$38,628.25
Cash at Conferences	\$201.00	
Checks or Money Orders	\$7,079.50	
Credit Cards	\$26,865.75	
Paypal	\$5,194.00	
Return & Missing Checks	\$0.00	
Adjustment for Scholarship Fund	(\$712.00)	
Starfleet Quartermaster Sales		\$6,255.37
Cash	\$1,924.60	
Checks or Money Orders	\$2,170.20	
Credit Cards	\$1,675.00	
PayPal Payments	\$485.57	
VRR Income		\$160.00
Refund from IC06 Hotel Deposit of \$2333.33		\$2,265.36
Refund from DHL for over charge on shipping packages		\$64.41
Scholarship Funds		\$2,073.44
From Membership Processing	\$712.00	
Interest on Savings	\$751.23	
Course Fees and Vouchers from PayPal	\$327.21	
Special Funds Chanllenges	\$283.00	
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>\$49,446.83</b>
Expense		
Bank Fees		\$5.87
CQ Expenses	Printing & Postage	\$16,550.07
Processing Fees	Credit Card & PayPal fees	\$1,902.42
Equipment Purchases		\$3,890.50
CS Laptop	\$1,704.50	
MP Disk maker	\$2,186.00	
Insurance Bond		\$506.99
International Conference 2006	Awards, Flags & Deposit for next IC	\$1,495.69
Return Check	Membership Processing	\$25.00
Scholarship Funds	6 Awards of \$500 plus Supplies	\$3,157.06
Supplies		\$36,720.03
CS Office Expense	HQ Shirts, QB on-line monthly fee, etc.	\$585.23
CFO Department	Office supplies ink, legal paper, etc	\$184.50
Promotion Supplies	inkc, supplies & postage	\$366.02
IG Office		\$0.00
Membership Processing	Printing, postage, give aways, etc.	\$15,703.35
Ops	postage	\$23.31
Quartermaster		\$19,857.62
	Merchandise Purchase	\$18,103.32
	Postage	\$558.34
	Petty Cash	\$361.75
	Fund	
	Office & Shipping Supplies	\$136.94
	Special Shipping to IC & New QM	\$697.27
Web Hosting		\$403.12
Total Expenses		\$64,656.75

### SFMC Income Statement

Prepared by Pat Spillers Year of 2006

Beginning Balance		
Bank balance		\$1,433.36
Income		
Quartermaster Sales		\$2,042.94
Cash & Checks	\$1,177.24	
PayPal payments	\$865.70	
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>\$2,042.94</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>\$3,476.30</b>
Expense		
PayPal Fees		\$36.02
QM Supplies		\$2,447.29
Petty Cash Postage		\$20.00
Web Hosting		85.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b>\$2,588.31</b>
Ending Balance		\$887.99



# ATTENTION ON DECK

## SFMC

THE OFFICIAL NEWS AND INFORMATION RESOURCE OF THE STARFLEET MARINE CORPS.

<http://www.sfi-sfmc.org>

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## STATE of the STARFLEET MARINE CORPS

By: Major General John Roberts - USS Anasazi - Commandant, STARFLEET Marine Corps



Greetings Marines!

### Bank Account Information

We started the month of November with a balance of \$1,519.11. We had no deposits and a withdrawal in the amount of \$790.79 to cover the polo shirts we ordered before IC to restock the QM supplies. This left the SFMC account with a balance of \$728.32 at the end of November.

We started January 2006 with a balance of \$1,433.36 and have had deposits (through the end of November) in the amount of \$1,891.39 and withdrawals for merchandise and other expenses (through the end of November) in the amount of \$2,596.43. This left us, at the end of November with the above reported balance of \$728.32.

We started the month of December with a balance of \$728.32. We had deposits of \$166.55 and withdrawals in the amount of \$6.88 to cover PayPal fees. This left the SFMC account with a balance of \$887.99 at the end of December.

### Joint Service Award

In an effort to foster more cooperation and interaction with other fan organizations, the SFMC General Staff has modified the wording of the criteria for the Joint Service Award to allow its award for participation in events with other science fiction fan groups, not only those which are Star Trek oriented. The new criteria are as follows:

This award is given to marines for participation in events with other Science Fiction oriented fan organizations, to include other Star Trek-related fan organizations other than SFI. The other Science Fiction fan organization must be one that is recognized as an active science fiction fan group at either the regional or national level for your area. This may be cooperative or competitive, and must be done while obviously participating as a STARFLEET Marine. Participation as a marine can be shown by wearing a SFMC uniform, a unit cap or shirt, or by obviously being associated with others who are wearing an SFMC uniform. Marines who are also members of the same fan organization are not eligible. This award combines and replaces the Organian Service, Wolf 359, Bajoran Campaign, Andorian Campaign, Klingon Service and Romulan Service ribbons.

All other information (frequency, issuing authority, etc..) remains the same. This change is effective immediately and will be made to the website and MFM at the earliest opportunities (the MFM change will be reflected in the next revision)

### International Muster 2007

Have you registered yet?

Denver. The first ever SFMC Mess Night (Friday night), friends, fun and SFMC Programming Track during Saturday Afternoon. If you are interested and want more information, please visit the IC 2007 website at [www.ic2007.org](http://www.ic2007.org). If you have ideas for program you want to see at IC/IM, contact the IC staff or the SFMC General Staff and we'll see what we can do to help make it happen if possible. I hope to see many of you there in Denver, it promises to be a fun weekend.

Now is the time to register for IC and the Mess Night Banquet (as well as the other meals being hosted at this year's International Conference. Go to [www.ic2007.org](http://www.ic2007.org) for more information and to register online.

REMEMBER: Even if you have already registered for the IC, you can still go to the website and add the Mess night Banquet or any other meal/merchandise you want to purchase and pay for it online. It's never too late to "buy early and buy often."

### SFMC HISTORIAN

Do you have an interest in history? Do you like to write fiction? Then the SFMC wants you! We are looking for an SFMC Historian. This person would be charged with creating the SFMC History, based upon the information in the MFM and other SFMC publications and then "filling in the gaps." You would report to the Commandant of the SFMC and have almost unlimited creative control (it must still be approved and fit in the already established histories). You would also need to work closely with the STARFLEET Historian to make sure there were no contradictions in the histories.

Minimum Qualifications for this post are:

1. Be a member in good standing of STARFLEET and be, at least, a member of the SFMC Reserve
2. Have passed OTS and PD-10 (OCC and PD-20 are preferred);
3. Have regular and reliable email access;
4. Have the ability to write clearly and creatively within accepted guidelines.

Still interested? Then here is the application procedure:

Write a fictional history for the SFMC Mess night Manual (will be uploaded to the SFMC website in the next few days) detailing the history of the SFMC Mess Night in the same basic manner as the modern day military histories contained in Appendix A of the current draft are written. The history you create must cover the period of time from 2100 to 2261 and should include anecdotes and stories such as those contained in the earlier histories of the modern day military.

### Commandant's Campaign Award

Please remember the Commandant's Campaign this year. To qualify you must participate (simply donating money will not qualify) in one of the following activities (or your nation's equivalent program):

Collecting Toys for Tots or raising money/participating in events designed to raise money for Special Olympics.

You must also make sure your unit OIC reports your involvement and what you did in his bi-monthly report to COFORCECOM, if the activity is not reported, you cannot be awarded the Commandant's Campaign award for this year.

### What do YOU want from the SFMC?

We have announced several changes and plans for the SFMC over the last several months. Generally, these have been well received. However, the members of the General Staff have received very little feedback about what you, the members, would like to see from the SFMC General Staff.

If you have ideas you think we should take a look at, please let us know. You can reach the members of the General Staff as follows:

SFMC Commandant: [dant@sfi-sfmc.org](mailto:dant@sfi-sfmc.org)  
SFMC Deputy Commandant: [depdant@sfi-sfmc.org](mailto:depdant@sfi-sfmc.org)  
Sergeant Major, SFMC: [sgm-sfmc@sfi-sfmc.org](mailto:sgm-sfmc@sfi-sfmc.org)  
Commanding Officer, Forces Command: [forcecom@sfi-sfmc.org](mailto:forcecom@sfi-sfmc.org)  
Commanding Officer Training and Doctrine Command: [tracom@sfi-sfmc.org](mailto:tracom@sfi-sfmc.org)  
Commanding Officer, Information Command: [infocom@sfi-sfmc.org](mailto:infocom@sfi-sfmc.org)

Remember, we are here to serve you and your needs. We can't do that without your input. Help us make the SFMC even better.

Until my next report, I remain in Service to the Corps.



## SFMC ABOUT

### Who We Are

The STARFLEET Marine Corps is a component of STARFLEET, the International Star Trek Fan Association Inc. The SFMC is an office under the Vice Commander, STARFLEET and as such reports to Vice Commander, STARFLEET.

Fictionally, the SFMC is part of the Ground Forces that are rarely seen in the episodes but are assumed to be a part of the Naval Fleet of the United Federation of Planets.

We e members of STARFLEET. The Corps does not have different requirements for membership, except that a STARFLEET Marine must be a member in good standing in STARFLEET. Although it does have a different name for each rank within the promotional system, and a different organizational structure than the Naval portion of STARFLEET, STARFLEET Marines are regular, dues paying members.

Some STARFLEET members are Marine Reserve. These are members who are active in the naval portion of the Fleet AND with the Ground Forces area as well. Occasionally you may find a STARFLEET Marine who is or was active military, but this is not a requirement to be in the Corps.





## By: Major General Linda Olson - USS Relentless - Commander, Forces Command



I trust that all of you enjoyed your holidays, which ever ones you celebrate. We were blessed with a visit from my son, Jonathan, who is now in the care of his Uncle Sam. Jon will finish his Special Electronics Equipment Repair training around the end of February. Until that time he is stationed in Georgia at Fort Gordon. This is only a few hours from his sister in Atlanta and a 10 hour round trip from here. As you may have guessed I spent a great deal of my holiday on the road, going up to get him, taking him to visit Dee and Jake, and then taking him back to the base. But it was worth it to get to see him. I ask you all to remember him in your prayers as we are still in the dark as to where he will be going after he finishes this training. On the bright side, he has the highest score in his class so far.

I realize that the holidays are a very busy time for us all, and the weather has been difficult in parts of the country for the past few weeks. I hope all our SFI family and friends are safe and warm. Here in Florida, we haven't had much of a winter, but I know some of you have had more than your share.

I would like to remind all of you that the Region 2 Summit/Muster is coming up in March. It will be the first weekend and will be in Columbus, Ga. I would love to see all of my Marine and SFI friends and family at the event. Until then, here are the most recent figures for the Corps.

Brigades Reporting  
1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 11, 12, 15, 17, 20

Brigades not reporting  
2nd, 10th, 13th, 14th

Units listed as not reporting  
14, 321, 501, 787, 888, 809, 216, 226, 328, 786,  
724, 351, 832, 203, 218, 242, 263, 269, 276

Strength			
1st	27 active	17 reserve	44 total
3rd	57 active	31 reserve	88 total
4th	34 active	8 reserve	42 total
5th	19 active	24 reserve	43 total
6th	5 active	11 reserve	16 total
7th	49 active	71 reserve	120 total
9th	10 active		10 total
11th	4 active	11 reserve	15 total
12th	36 active	59 reserve	95 total
14th	1 active		1 total
15th	14 active	20 reserve	34 total
17th	21 active	38 reserve	59 total
20th	11 active	9 reserve	20 total

Total 587 Marines reported this period.

### Recruits

Cami Dutton, Alan Diccico, Mike Eader, Bobby Robbins, Jenna Robbins, Will Devine, Claire Halber, Gary Amor, Julie Amor, Kieran Bock, Andrew Currie, Alic Donnon, David Dsyla, Sarah Emmerton, Stephen Martin, Matthew Tuting, Barbara Davis, Jason NeBon, Guy Blandford, Debi Knight.

### Discharges

Matt Brinkley, L A Galvez, Erzulie Clarke, Shelia Parriet, John Parriet, Suzie Buck, Dpma;d Kpmes. Carossa Wolloa,s, Richard Kinne, Chris Carothers, Johnny Ikner, Sanford Berenberg, karen Berenberg, Samantha Goldbach, Justin Cole

### Awards Issued Community Service

Truman Temple, Cyndi Temple, Robert Temple, Roy Henderson, Carolyn Henderson

### Legion of Arms

Joseph Fuller

### Embassy Duty

Joseph Fuller

### Joint Service

Robin Begin, Jean Eklund, Lee Eklund, Joseph Fuller, Rose Mattison, Vicky-Jean Shepard

### Great Barrier

Robin Begin, Jean Eklund, Lee Eklund, Joseph Fuller

### Good Conduct

Ricardo Bruckman, John Kane, Antonio Lopes, Stephen Dallas

### Brigade Achievement

Jean Eklund, Lee Eklund

### STARFLEET Cross

Mike Smith, Joe Podesta, Angel Avery, Larry Neigut

### Meritorious Unit Citation

724th MSG

### SFMC Achievement

Angel Avery, Larry Neigut

### International Service

Mike Smith, Joe Podesta, Angel Avery, Larry Neigut

### Leaders Commendation

Joe Podesta, Angel Avery, John Kirwin, Christine Anderson

### Comet

Larry Neigut, Garrick Halverson



## By: Major General Joost Ueffing - USS Relentless - Commander, Forces Command



Greetings from your neighborhood COTRACOM. We have been busy over the past three months (October to December 2006), with 226 tests issued and 191 tests graded with an average turnaround time of 24 hours. And we hope that this will go even higher in 2007.

### Publications

Nothing new to report

### Staffing:

I want to formally welcome our new DCOTRACOM, Sean Niemeyer, to our TRACOM family. Sean is also the publications office for the SFMC and brings a great attitude, healthy work ethic, and a love of the corps to the position. He has already worked on several projects for TRACOM including our manual revision process. Sean can be reached at ops@ussasimov.org.

Staffing is always fluid, especially with the amount of staff that we have here at TRACOM. In that light, we had three directors submit their resignations due

to changes in their personal lives and such. I want to thank Wade Olson (PD/LD) and Rey Cordero (IN) for their service to TRACOM. Expect decisions on filling these positions soon.

### Course Development / Support:

We continue to look at adding branches and courses to our inventory. Look for another Xeno branch in the near future, as well as new courses from our Medical and Infantry branches.

It's that time of year again when TRACOM will be starting our manual revision cycle. This cycle isn't going to be as heavy since we did a major revision last year, so this revision will mostly be correcting spelling or grammar, adding additional segments to the manuals due to additional tests being added to a branch, etc.

The official revision period for our testing material for all branches ended on the 15th of this month. During the revision period it became evident that the actual scope of work that needs to be completed far exceeds

the time that was allotted. Therefore I've decided that the testing material revisions will continue through this year's manual revision cycle. Since most of the tests rely on the manuals it only makes sense to update the tests as the manuals are updated.

### Projects In The Works:

In development, TRACOM is in the process of looking to place our courses online. We hope that by doing this we can reduce wait times for grading, reducing the possibility of cheating, and further enhance the TRACOM experience. We have begun looking at our requirements and various software packages that could meet our needs to propose to the GS and EC should we need funding. If you think you have an idea or software we should be looking at then please feel free to e-mail me at [tracom@sfi-sfmc.org](mailto:tracom@sfi-sfmc.org).

### Comments

I do want to mention an issue regarding the automated response system regarding students requesting courses. Some people are not receiving

their automated course request confirmations and after looking into this appears that certain ISPs and e-mail providers are tagging the automated responses as spam. So if you request a test and do not receive the confirmation then more than likely it is in your spam/junk folder. The best suggestion we have at the moment is to add [webmaster@sfi.org](mailto:webmaster@sfi.org) and [webmaster@sfi-sfmc.org](mailto:webmaster@sfi-sfmc.org) to their whitelist/ address book so the e-mails won't be tagged. I will say there is no guarantee this will work but under the circumstances it's the only thing that can be done. If any student doesn't receive their confirmation, give it a week and then contact the director directly. If you don't get a response from the director within a couple of days, use the form to re-request the course and let [tracom@sfi.org](mailto:tracom@sfi.org) know.

As always, my door is always open at [tracom@sfi-sfmc.org](mailto:tracom@sfi-sfmc.org). Feel free to drop a line if you have a suggestion or comment you wish to make.

Besides taking part in local chapter, Regional and Fleet-wide activities, STARFLEET Marines occasionally hold their own separate activities. These can be anything from paint ball or laser tag to fund-raising events like Toys for Tots or blood drives.

The SFMC has its own Academy as well. Since much of the fictional aspects of the Corps revolve around the ground-based military, the courses offered are based around the various Branches of Duty within the SFMC. Examples of these are Infantry, Special Ops, Armor and even MECHA (similar to the Battletech & MechWarrior game system). Some courses are based on Leadership skills, designed to help a Strike Group Leader improve his ability to lead his group within the chapters structure.



# SFMC ABOUT

## What We Do



# The Perils of a Special Operations Heavy Marine Corps in STARFLEET

By: Commodore Michael J. McGowan - USS Bortas - Region 12

(Authors Note: This paper makes little or no attempt at suggesting a solution to the fictional problems to be encountered by the STARFLEET Marine Corps, but rather in the “real world” operational difficulties to be encountered by the Starfleet Marine Corps, should one exist. The Author is well aware that, as of the latest list published by FORCECOM indicates that 13.7% of all STARFLEET Marine Corps MSGs are designated as Special Operations\*. All reasonable people will probably agree that the allure of the Special Operations designation will attract larger percentages of units that are allowed to determine their own Branch designation than would otherwise be expected in actual circumstances.) (Additional Note: Where possible, references to specifics have been updated to reflect the 2005-6 manuals.)

Having served as a starship's Commanding Officer\*\*, I can say without reservation, that every starship commander would like to have, as the Marine Detachment assigned to his vessel, the versatility and raw capability of a Special Operations Marine Strike Group. Short of an all-out full scale war erupting on the surface of a planet, and in some circumstances, inclusive of such an event, there is no mission encountered by Starfleet that would require armed forces on the ground that could not be capably handled by a properly trained and equipped Special Operations Teams or combination of Teams.

There comes a time, however, when even the vaunted starship Captain must concede to the whims of practical reality. That usually takes place sometime immediately before his ship first departs on her maiden voyage. Even to attempt to provide a significant minority of starships, let alone all of them, with one or more SpecOps Teams as their MarDets, is not only in practice impossible, but belies one of the basic immutable tenets of a Starfleet Captain's training; Accomplish your mission objectives with the resources at your disposal.

Having noted this, we must look at why such practices, if desirable, are as completely impractical as the standard means of deployment for the Starfleet Marine Corps.

## Limitations of Special Operations Marine Forces

Understanding of the limitations of the SpecOps Branch must begin by looking at the type of marine that Special Operations Teams rely upon for their very survival. The SpecOps Marine is a special breed, were this not the case, everyone would be one.

Special Operations requires a marine that will not only accept and follow orders, but one who can adapt those orders to the situation at hand. Special Operations missions have a habit of changing in the middle. Regardless of the depth of study and preparation that a Team makes prior to deployment, the one constant in the universe is that nothing,

especially in a hostile situation, remains constant. Intelligence estimates provided by our esteemed colleagues in the Intelligence Services are usually, to varying degrees, wrong. Unfortunately, these intelligence estimates are the backbone of the orders received by SpecOps teams as they head into the field. Therefore, adaptability is a major key to a SpecOps Marine's survival. Special Operations also requires a Marine who is a specialist in a given area of responsibility. Given an average size of 8-16 Marines to a team†, this makes the ideal situation for a SpecOps team one in which success denotes a great victory on a small scale. Such operations, while important to the success of a large scale military venture will not, in themselves cause the success of the military venture as a whole.

Such specialization also requires that each marine in a given SpecOps team have available to him an extremely wide range of equipment and supplies in order to assure that he can perform the duties of his specialty in almost any situation. This causes the storage and billet requirements of a Special Operations Marine Strike Groups to rival those of the equipment heavy Mecha and Combat Engineer Branch Strike Groups. Maintenance requirements of a Special Operations Strike Group are probably only surpassed by those of an Aerospace Strike Group.

This is not an exhaustive list, by any means, but it points out the main limitations of a Special Operations Marine Strike Group.

## Requirements of a Marine Corps at War

The Starfleet Marine Corps is charged with six specific responsibilities (MFM page 3). The scope of our examination is concerned only with responsibility three; “To be able to expand from peacetime components to meet the needs of war in accordance with mobilization plans of the United Federation of Planets and it's members”. This would, ideally, be in support and cooperation with existing conventional planetary forces of Federation member worlds. Due to the very nature of the Federation and its unwillingness to legislate any standards of military uniformity upon its members, the “conventional planetary forces” might be large and well trained or, more likely, close to or completely nonexistent. Therefore, it is incumbent upon the Starfleet Marine Corps to have forces available to conduct any and all planetary combat operations that the United Federation of Planets might require. This is, needless to say, one each Grade-A Marine Issue Herculean task.

This task brings into existence the requirement of SFMC forces trained and equipped with capabilities in Aerospace, Armor, Combat Engineer, Infantry, Maritime, Mecha, Medical, and Support to provide the manpower and muscle that Special Operations lacks. Each has training and equipment capabilities that are absolutely necessary to the successful conduct of a large scale military venture that

SpecOps lacks. Listing the capabilities of each of these unit types is not in the purview of this article as it is addressed in far more detail in each Branch's Operational Manual.

The point appropriate to make here is that the question is one of scale. Infantry units, for example, are charged with taking or defending parcels of land that meet the strategic objectives of the campaign. A Special Operations Team in wartime is normally tasked with taking (or destroying, or reconnoitering, or whatever depending on the type of Team) a single tactical objective or strategic asset that will either aid the success of the friendly combat unit or hinder an enemy unit in its response to friendly action.

## Logistical Nightmares Involved in Alternative Deployment Schemes

The logical counter to the previous arguments could be made something like; “Why then, can we not subdivide SpecOps MSGs into individual teams, deploy those teams, in peacetime, to as many ships as we can, then in case of war redeploy the other types of units among the fleet?” This question, though at first blush reasonable sounding, would not, could not have been asked by anyone directly involved in the Marine Corps or Starfleet. Several insurmountable problems present themselves when considering such a scheme. We will examine those individually.

First, dividing SpecOps MSGs into individual teams puts those teams at a severe training disadvantage. Since the dawn of Special Operations forces, such forces are deployed very rarely. The need for such forces, though vital when it comes up, is rare in the extreme. The skills required for Special Operations work must be constantly honed to a fine edge or they rapidly deteriorate. The phenomenon was realized in the mid to late twentieth century when the term “pulling the pin” was coined. In order to combat this deterioration of skills during periods of inactivity, a constant training regimen must be maintained. A Special Operations team, in order to have their training schedule remain meaningful, must be able to train as a whole and with an adversary of similar training and capability. This would require that two teams be deployed together in order to maintain this training regimen. This cuts in half the number of ships that might have SpecOps teams assigned to them.

Second, such a deployment would strain the space and maintenance capabilities of smaller starships. As has been previously established, Special Operations teams represent an enormous investment of a starship's resources in areas of equipment storage and maintenance, billet, training space, etc. As stated above, the need for such a team, while vital when it arises, is rare. Few are the starships that can make these resource investments for a system that is so rarely of use in the conduct of its mission.

Third, wars have the disturbing habit of taking someone, on one side of the conflict or the other, by surprise. While the Federation rarely declares hostilities by surprise deployment of forces, the ability to do so greatly increases the flexibility and effectiveness of the diplomats and politicians who determine where we go and who we fight. Any strategic surprise that a military venture might otherwise have had would be lost as ships of the fleet return to base to have their SpecOps teams replaced by units more suited to conduct of large scale combat operations. Moving those assets to the front on transports would similarly jeopardize operational security as the majority of heavy transports are of civil ownership. Attempting to move forces of such size utilizing military pre-positioning assets would not only overstrain their capabilities, but would also alert a potential enemy to the movements.

Should Starfleet be on the wrong end of a surprise outbreak of hostilities, the Admiralty would have the dubious task of choosing between cycling the starships that would be normally defending the Federation's borders back to bases or leaving them equipped with Marine Detachments that are ill equipped and ill trained to conduct large scale combat operations. Neither is a pleasant alternative to choose. Of course, this choice might be lessened by having the bulk of SFMC heavy units forward deployed on frontier worlds. Our neighbors, however, might interpret such a buildup of forces as an “Unfriendly Act” which is the deadliest of terms in DiploSpeak.

Once again, this list is not exhaustive, but rather the larger points that immediately come to mind when considering such problems.

## Conclusion

In conclusion, Special Operations units, though a valuable asset in both war and relative peace, are by their very nature, special. Units of SpecOps designation should be no more than 1% of the Marine Corps forces deployed. The remainder of the Corps must be comprised of more standardized maneuver units that can be deployed in large scale combat operations. Anything else is suicide of the men and women of the Corps, Starfleet, and the Federation itself.

## Notes:

\* Since this paper was written in early 1999, these numbers have changed. According to the SFI Database (as of 09/20/06), the 46 Special Operations MSG comprise 34.6% of the SFMC.

\*\* USS Ursus, Springfield, Illinois, 1996-2003

† SpecOps Manual 2006, pg 17.







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. A worldwide listing can be viewed online at: <http://dactylmanor.org/fanboy>

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: Phillip Thorne, Larry French, Katrina Johnson, Paul Smith, Cole Houston, Allison Lonsdale, Ben Daw, Larry White, Margaret Grunwell, Lynn Maudlin, Loyd Cryer, Lisa Adams, Angelia Heroux, Richard L. Trulson, Gary Ehrlich, Rebecca Herber, Inge Heyer, Kyle Puttkammer, Mark Marmor, and Laura Inglis

## Alabama

May 25-27 Rocket City FurMeet, Huntsville, Alabama; Info: 2603 Landsdale Dr., Huntsville, AL 35810 <http://narf.wereanimal.net/> koakako@hotmail.com

## Arizona

Apr 5-8 AniZona 3, Phoenix, Arizona; Info: PO Box 67641, Phoenix, AZ 85082 <http://www.anizona.org/> registration@anizona.org

May 11-13 LepreCon 33, Phoenix, Arizona; Info: PO Box 26665, Tempe, AZ 85285 Ph: 480-945-6890 <http://www.leprecon.org/> lep33@leprecon.org Guests: Jael, Karen Traviss

## California

Feb 16-18 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: Colin Baker, Nicola Bryant, Terry Molloy, Maggie Stables, Tom MacRae, Paul Cornell, Rob Shearman, Jason Haigh-Ellery, Gary Russell, Bob May, Steve Roberts, Keith Topping, Caroline Symcox, Darin Henry, Scott Alan Woodard, Arne Starr, Arnold T. Blumberg, Jill Sherwin, Eric Hoffman

Feb 16-17 Hollywood Collectors Show, Burbank, California; Info: PO Box 5040, Spring Hill, Florida 34611 Ph: 352-683-5110 <http://www.hollywoodcollectorsshow.com/> hcs@atlantic.net Guests: Hallie Todd, Barbara Niven, Roger Craig, Kyle Chavarria, Janet Ann Gallow, Charlie Herbert, Anne Lockhart, Denny Laine, Spencer Davis, Roger Davis, Ben Murphy, Joy Lane, Patsy Barry, Hugh Chapman, Laura June Kenny, Paul Picerni, Abel Fernandez, Nicholas Georgiade, Bruce Gordon, Caryn Richman, Dean Butler, William Schallert

Mar 2-4 WonderCon, San Francisco, California; Info: PO Box 128458, San Diego, CA 92112-8458 Ph: 619-491-2475 <http://www.comic-con.org/> cci-info@comic-con.org Guests: Tony Harris, Phil Jimenez, Patrick McDonnell, Linda Medley, Brian K. Vaughan

Mar 2-4 ConDor XIV, San Diego, California; Info: PO Box 15771, San Diego, CA 92175-5771 Ph: 858-278-2228 <http://www.condorcon.org/> registration@CondorCon.org Guests: Jeff Berkwitz, David Brin, Sean Bryant, Dr. Christine Carmichael, Amy Sterling Casil, Bret Culpepper, Genevieve Dazzo, John DeChancie, Dawn Devine, Sue Dawe, Sheila Finch, Lorna Freeman, Susan Gleason, Cody Goodfellow, Jeannie Graham, Wendy Greene, Greg Gross, Howard Hendrix, Rilla Heslin, Nancy Holder, Judy Lazar, Maria Lima, Todd McCaffrey, Lynn Maudlin, Craig Miller, Tiffany Moon, Ronald B. Moore, Vera Nazarian, Atanielle Noel, Matt Pallamary, David Parish-Whittaker, Janet Parish-Whittaker, Jonathan Vos Post, Stephen Potts, Karen Rodgers, David Ross, David Rankin, Tucker Smallwood, Rod Stansfield, William Stoddard, Kaytee Sumida, Jefferson Swycaffer, T.N.Todaro, Michael Underwood, Dr. Vernor Vinge, Chandra Visser, Chris Weber, Karen Willson, Gerry Williams

Mar 9-11 Creation, Burbank, California; Info: 217 S. Kenwood Street, Glendale, CA 91202 Ph: 818-409-0960 <http://www.creationent.com/> creatickets@creationent.com

Apr 13-15 Creation, Burbank, California; Info: 217 S. Kenwood Street, Glendale, CA 91202 Ph: 818-409-0960 <http://www.creationent.com/> creatickets@creationent.com

Apr 27-28 Hollywood Collectors Show, Burbank, California; Info: PO Box 5040, Spring Hill, Florida 34611 Ph: 352-683-5110 <http://www.hollywoodcollectorsshow.com/> hcs@atlantic.net

May 4-5 CaliFur, Costa Mesa, California; Info: PO Box 1958, Garden Grove, CA, 92842-1958 Ph: 714-516-8143 <http://www.califur.com/> info@califur.com

May 18-20 Creation, Burbank, California; Info: 217 S. Kenwood Street, Glendale, CA 91202 Ph: 818-409-0960 <http://www.creationent.com/> creatickets@creationent.com

May 24-28 Star Wars Celebration IV, Los Angeles, California; Info: 120 Lakeside Ave, #100, Seattle, WA 98122 Ph: 206-957-3976 <http://www.starwarscelebration.com/> events@gencon.com

## Colorado

Feb 15-18 Genghis Con XXVIII, Denver, Colorado; Info: PO Box 472664, Aurora, CO 80047-2664 Ph: 303-690-6054 <http://www.denvergamer.com/genghis/> dgagames@aol.com

## District of Columbia

Feb 16-18 Katsucon 13, Washington, District of Columbia; Info: PO Box 7064, Silver Spring, MD 20907 <http://www.katsucon.com/> prereg@katsucon.com

## Florida

Feb 16-18 MegaCon, Orlando, Florida; Info: PO Box 1097, Safety Harbor, FL 34695 Ph: 727-796-5725 <http://www.megaconvention.com/> info@megaconvention.com

Mar 14-18 IAFA-28, Fort Lauderdale, Florida; Info: ICFA Registrar, Post Office Box 50517, Eugene, OR 97405 <http://www.iafa.org/> Guests: Geoff Ryman, Marina Warner, Melissa Scott, Brian Aldiss

## Georgia

Feb 16-18 Furry Weekend Atlanta, Atlanta, Georgia; Info: 1361 Fairbanks St., Atlanta, GA 30310 <http://www.furryweekend.com/> furryweekend@furryweekend.com

## Idaho

Mar 16-18 Anime Oasis, Boise, Idaho; Info: 420 9th Ave North, Nampa, ID 83687 <http://www.animeoasis.org/> creamyjeremy@animeoasis.org

## Illinois

Feb 8-11 Capricon 27, Arlington Heights, Illinois; Info: PO Box 60085, Chicago, IL 60660 <http://www.capricon.org/> info@capricon.org Guests: Lois McMaster Bujold, Erin McKee, Cat Faber

Feb 9-11 Winter War 34, Champaign, Illinois; Info: PO Box 1012, St. Joseph, IL 61873 Ph: 217-778-3016 <http://winterwar.prairienet.org/> winterwar@prairienet.org Guests: Board games, Miniatures, Role-playing, and Dealers

Mar 2 Creation, Chicago, Illinois; Info: 217 S. Kenwood Street, Glendale, CA 91202 Ph: 818-409-0960 <http://www.creationent.com/> creatickets@creationent.com

## Iowa

Feb 23-25 Gamicon Pi, Iowa City, Iowa; Info: 308 East Burlington PMB #201, Iowa City, IA 52240 Ph: 319-753-2908 <http://www.mindbridge.org/> gamicon/gamicon@mindbridge.org

## Maryland

Feb 16-18 Farpoint, Hunt Valley, Maryland; Info: 11708 Troy Court, Waldorf, MD 20601 Ph: 410-579-1257 <http://www.farpointcon.com/> trekcontact@comcast.net Guests: Summer Glau, Alice Krige, Keith DeCandido, Terri Osborne, Luna-C

May 3-6 Game Days, Timonium, Maryland; Info: 9 Augusta Wood Court, Reisterstown MD 21136 Ph: 410-833-4395 <http://gamesday.gamesclubofmd.org/> gcom@gamesclubofmd.net

May 25-28 Balticon 41, Baltimore, Maryland; Info: PO Box 686, Baltimore MD 21203-0686 Ph: 410-563-2737 <http://www.balticon.org/> balticoninfo@balticon.org Guests: Larry Niven, Jerry Pournelle, Joe Bergeron

## Massachusetts

Feb 16-18 Boskone 44, Boston, Massachusetts; Info: PO Box 809, Framingham, MA 01701-0809 <http://www.nesfa.org/boskone/> b43info@boskone.org Guests: David Gerrold, Gary A. Lippincott, Lee Gold, Barry Gold

Feb 22-25 Total Confusion, Mansfield, Massachusetts; Info: PO Box 70585, Worcester, MA 01607 Ph: 603-644-0437 <http://www.totalcon.com/> truthfromchaos@totalcon.com

Mar 2-4 Intercon G, Chelmsford, Massachusetts; Info: 4 Curtis Street #2, Waltham, MA 02453 <http://intercon-g.org/> info@intercon-g.org

Apr 20-22 Anime Boston, Boston, Massachusetts; Info: PO Box 1843, New York, NY 10150 <http://www.animeboston.com/>

## Michigan

Mar 22-25 AmberCon, Detroit, Michigan; Info: PO Box 7294, Ann Arbor, MI 48107-7294 <http://www.ambercon.com/> conchair@ambercon.com

May 18-20 Motor City Comic Con, Novi, Michigan; Info: 33228 West 12 Mile Road PMB#286, Farmington Hills, MI 48334 Ph: 248-426-8059 <http://www.motorcitycomiccon.com/> info@motorcitycomiccon.com

May 25-28 MediaWest\*Con 27, Lansing, Michigan; Info: 200 E. Thomas St., Lansing MI 48906-4047 <http://members.aol.com/MdiaWstCon/mwc.htm> mediawestcon@aol.com

## Minnesota

Feb 2-4 Supercon XIV, Rochester, Minnesota; Info: PO Box 6123, Minnehaha Station, Minneapolis, MN 55406 <http://www.supercon.info/> chebutykin@visi.com

Feb 16-18 Con of the North, St. Paul, Minnesota; Info: PO Box 20092, Bloomington, MN 55420 <http://www.conofthenorth.com/> info@conofthenorth.org

Mar 2-4 Marscon, Bloomington, Minnesota; Info: PO Box 21213, Egan MN 55121 Ph: 651-339-0397 <http://marscon.org/> info07@marscon.org Guests: Don S. Davis, Gary Jones, Todd Lockwood, Eric Larson, Eleanor Arnason

Continued on page 34.

Apr 6-8 Minicon 42, Minneapolis, Minnesota; Info: PO Box 8297, Lake Street Station Minneapolis, MN 55408 <http://www.mnstf.org/minicon/> request@minicon.mnstf.org Guests: Charles de Lint, Charles Vess

### **Missouri**

Feb 16-18 Visioncon, Springfield, Missouri; Info: PO Box 1415, Springfield, MO 65801-1415 Ph: 417-886-7219 [http://www.visioncon.net/](http://www.visioncon.net/junior@visioncon.net) junior@visioncon.net Guests: Gary Bedell, Diana Botsford, Mary Capps, Mike Cole, Fredd Gorham, Hollie Linn, Sean Parrack, Hank Reinhardt, Toni Weisskopf Reinhardt, Bradley H Sinor, Susan P Sinor, Mike Strain, Mike Worley

Mar 30-Apr 2 CostumeCon 25, St Louis, Missouri; Info: 7835 Milan, St. Louis, MO 63130 <http://www.costume-con.com/slcg@email.com>

Apr 20-22 ShowMeCon, St. Louis, Missouri; Info: PO Box 410115, Creve Coeur, MO 63141-9998 <http://www.showmecon.com/registration@showmecon.com> Guests: Barri L. Bumgarner, Mike Cole, Tom Meserole, Larry Mische

Apr 20-22 Anime St. Louis, St Louis, Missouri; Info: 7333 Hardscrapple Dr. Apt. B, St. Louis, MO 63123 Ph: 937-605-1602 [http://animestl.tripod.com/](http://animestl.tripod.com/magicalmooglego@yahoo.com) magicalmooglego@yahoo.com Guests: Vic Mignogna

May 25-27 Conquest, Kansas City, Missouri; Info: PO Box 36212, Kansas City MO 64171-6212 <http://www.kacsfss.org/conquest/conquest.htm> conquest38@gmail.com Guests: Phyllis Eisenstein, Teddy Harvia, Teresa Nielsen Hayden, Deb Geisler

### **Montana**

May 25-28 MisCon 21, Missoula, Montana; Info: PO Box 7721, Missoula MT. 59807 Ph: 406-544-7083 <http://www.miscon.org/> Guests: Jay Lake, Myles Pinkney, James Ernest, Chuck Bordell, Patty Briggs, C. J. Cherryh, John Dalmás, Jane Fancher, Diana Pharaoh Francis, James Glass, Robin Walker, Parris ja Young

### **Nebraska**

Apr 13-15 Willycon IX, Wayne, Nebraska; Info: WillyCon Registration, Student Center, Rm. 103, Attn: Ron Vick, 1111 Main Street, Wayne, ND 68787 [http://wildcat.wsc.edu/clubs/sfclub/text\\_site/willycon/](http://wildcat.wsc.edu/clubs/sfclub/text_site/willycon/scifict@wsc.edu) scifict@wsc.edu Guests: Paul Lawrence, James Alan Gardner, John Garner, Denise Garner, Terry Hickman

### **New Jersey**

Feb 16-18 Monster-Mania Con, Cherry Hill, New Jersey; Info: 816 N. Delsea Drive, Doubletree Center #133, Glassboro, NJ 08028 <http://www.monstermania.net/> monstermania@hotmail.com Guests: Tobin Bell, Leigh Whannell,

Shawnee Smith, Fred Dekker, Duncan Regehr, Andre Gower, Ashley Bank, Ryan Lambert, Tom Woodruff Jr, Emily Perkins, Caroline Munro, Ben Chapman, Vincent DiFate

Mar 30-31 Philly Non-Sport Card Show, Mount Laurel, New Jersey; Info: 10220 Calera Road, Philadelphia, PA 19114 Ph: 215-637-5744 <http://www.reightershow.com/frank@reightershow.com>

### **New York**

Mar 23-25 I-Con 26, Stony Brook, New York; Info: PO Box 550, Stony Brook, NY 11790-0550 Ph: 631-632-6045 [http://www.iconsf.org/](http://www.iconsf.org/info@iconsf.org) info@iconsf.org

### **North Carolina**

Mar 9-11 Stellarcon 31, High Point, North Carolina; Info: Box I-1, Elliott University Center, UNCG, Greensboro, NC 27412 [http://www.stellarcon.org/](http://www.stellarcon.org/info@stellarcon.org) info@stellarcon.org Guests: Jim Butcher, Ron McClung, Greg Stafford, Davey Beauchamp, Keith Brinegar, Marilyn Byerly, Dan Johnson, Paula Jordan, Kelly Lockhart, Steve Long, Lee Martindale, James Maxey, Jen McCollom, Karen McCollough, Diana McQueen, Greg Porter, Mike Pederson, John Ringo, James Roberts, Allen Wold, Laura Underwood

### **Ohio**

Mar 30-Apr 1 Cinema Wasteland, Strongsville, Ohio; Info: PO Box 81551, Cleveland, OH 44181 Ph: 440-891-1920 [http://www.cinemawasteland.com/](http://www.cinemawasteland.com/zombies@cinemawasteland.com) zombies@cinemawasteland.com

May 18-20 Mophicon, Columbus, Ohio; Info: 2045 Heathcliff Dr. #1A., Columbus, OH, 43209 <http://www.morphicon.org/> Guests: Steve Plunkett, Summer Jackson, Kitt Foxx

### **Pennsylvania**

Mar 16-18 Cold Wars, Lancaster, Pennsylvania; Info: 10730 Burr Oak Way, Burke, VA 22015 Ph: 703-503-9833 [http://www.coldwars.org/](http://www.coldwars.org/coldwarwalt@linuxmail.org) coldwarwalt@linuxmail.org

Apr 27-29 Pittsburgh Comicon, Monroeville, Pennsylvania; Info: 1002 Graham Ave., Windber, PA 15963 Ph: 814-467-4116 [http://www.pittsburghcomicon.com/](http://www.pittsburghcomicon.com/pcomicon@nb.net) pcomicon@nb.net Benefits: Make A Wish

May 13-15 Tekkoshcon, Monroeville, Pennsylvania; Info: PO Box 81514, Pittsburgh, PA 15217 [http://www.tekkoshcon.com/](http://www.tekkoshcon.com/info@tekkoshcon.com) info@tekkoshcon.com Guests: Greggo, Greg Ayres, Kyle Hebert, Caitlin Glass, Tiffany Grant, Matt Greenfield, Robert DeJesus, Emily DeJesus, Michael Gluck, Caffeine Angel Studios

### **Rhode Island**

Feb 16-18 TempleCon, Providence, Rhode Island; Info: 167 Columbus Ave., Pawtucket, RI 02860 [http://www.templecon.org/](http://www.templecon.org/information@templecon.org) information@templecon.org Guests: Lars Grant West

### **South Carolina**

Apr 13-15 RoundCon, Columbia, South Carolina;

Info: 724 Burmaster Dr., Columbia, SC 29229 Ph: 803-736-6092 [http://www.roundcon.com/](http://www.roundcon.com/sean@roundcon.com) sean@roundcon.com Benefits: Make-A-Wish

### **Tennessee**

Apr 17-15 Middle Tennessee Anime Convention, Nashville, Tennessee; Info: PO Box 290423, Nashville, TN 37229-0423 <http://mtac.animenashville.org/> Guests: Lisa Furukawa

### **Texas**

Feb 9-11 OwlCon, Houston, Texas; Info: c/o Rice University, Fast Warp MS 526, PO Box 1892, Houston, TX 77251-1892 [http://www.owlcon.com/](http://www.owlcon.com/registration@owlcon.com) registration@owlcon.com

Feb 9-11 Corflu, Austin, Texas; Info: 3 Portia Place, Motherwell, ML1 1EL, UK [http://www.corflu.org/](http://www.corflu.org/ian@soren.demon.co.uk) ian@soren.demon.co.uk

Mar 22-25 AggieCon 38, College Station, Texas; Info: c/o Cepheid Variable (958460), PO Box 5688, College Station TX 77844 Ph: 979-268-3068 [http://aggiecon.tamu.edu/](http://aggiecon.tamu.edu/lurkz@shadowswolf.com) lurkz@shadowswolf.com Guests: James O'Barr, Todd McCaffrey, Scott A. Cupp, Mark Finn

### **Utah**

Feb 15-17 Life, the Universe and Everything, Provo, Utah; Info: LTUE, 3146 JKHB (English Department), Provo, UT 84602 <http://ltue.byu.edu/> Guests: Julie E. Czerneda, Gloria Skurzynski, Howard Tayler, Stacy Whitman, Ed Skurzynski, Michael R. Collings, Dr. Norman Peercy, Robert J. Defendi, James Dashner, Dan Willis, K.L. Morgan, Brandon Sanderson, Eric Swedin, Nancy Fulda, Ron Hammond, M. Brook West, Julia H. West, Kathleen Dalton-Woodbury, Jake Black, Lee Allred, David Glenn Anderson, Pat Castelli, Aleta Gregg, Charlene C. Harmon, Ruth Hanson, Rosemarie Howard, Helge Moulding

### **Vermont**

Apr 17 Lore Con, Burlington, Vermont; Info: PO Box 5342, Essex Jct, VT 05452 [http://www.lorecon.com/](http://www.lorecon.com/litfrog@adelphia.net) litfrog@adelphia.net

### **Virginia**

Feb 23-25 SheVaCon 15, Roanoke, Virginia; Info: PO Box 416, Verona, VA 24482-0416 <http://shevacon.org/> Registration@shevacon.org

Mar 30-Apr 1 Technicon 24, Blacksburg, Virginia; Info: PO Box 256, Blacksburg, VA 24063-0256 [http://www.technicon.org/](http://www.technicon.org/info@technicon.org) info@technicon.org Guests: John Ringo, David B. Mattingly

Apr 20-22 Ravencon, Richmond, Virginia; Info: 9623 Hollyburgh Terrace, Charlotte, NC 28215 <http://ravencon.com/> Guests: Robert J. Sawyer, Steve Stiles, Jan Howard Finder

### **Washington**

Feb 1-4 Left Coast Crime 17, Seattle, Washington; Info: LCC 2007, P.O. Box 30805, Seattle, WA 98113-0805 <http://www.leftcoastcrime2007.com/> info@LCC2007.com

Guests: Dennis Lynds, Gayle Lynds, Diane Kovacs, Kara Robinson, Gary Phillips

Feb 16-19 ConQuest NW, Bellevue, Washington; Info: 2510F Las Posas Rd., Camarillo, CA 93010 Ph: 805-218-9590 <http://www.ConquestNW.com>

Apr 5-8 Norewescon 30, Seattle, Washington; Info: PO Box 68547, Seattle, WA 98168-0547 Ph: 206-270-7850 <http://www.norwescon.org/> Guests: Kim Stanley Robinson, Luis Royo, Donna Shirley

Apr 6-8 Sakura Con, Seattle, Washington; Info: 3702 South Fife St, Suite K-2, PMB 78, Tacoma, WA 98409 <http://sakuracon.org/>

### **Wisconsin**

Apr 13-15 OddCon, Madison, Wisconsin; Info: PO Box 7114, Madison, WI 53707-7114 Ph: 608-240-1005 [http://www.oddcon.org/](http://www.oddcon.org/oddcon7@oddcon.org) oddcon7@oddcon.org

Apr 20-22 NoBrandCon, Eau Claire, Wisconsin; Info: c/o The Anime Appreciation Society, Student Organizations Complex – UWEC, 132 Davies Center, Eau Claire, WI 54701 [http://www.nobrandcon.com/](http://www.nobrandcon.com/questions@nobrandcon.com) questions@nobrandcon.com

May 25-28 WisCon 31, Madison, Wisconsin; Info: PO Box 1624, Madison, WI 53701 Ph: 608-233-8850 [http://www.wiscon.info/](http://www.wiscon.info/concom31@wiscon.info) concom31@wiscon.info Guests: Kelly Link, Laurie J. Marks

### **Australia**

#### **New South Wales**

Mar 24 Friends of Science Fiction, Sydney, New South Wales; Info: PO Box 106, Caringbah, NSW, Australia, 1495 Ph: +61 02 9523 8385 <http://www.fsf.net.au> Guests: John Barrowman

### **Victoria**

Apr 6-9 Conquest, Melbourne, Victoria; Info: PO Box 5318, Mordialloc VIC. AUST. 3195 [http://www.conquest.asn.au/](http://www.conquest.asn.au/enquiries@conquest.asn.au) enquiries@conquest.asn.au

### **Canada**

#### **British Columbia**

Mar 23-25 Creation, Vancouver, British Columbia; Info: 217 S. Kenwood Street, Glendale, CA 91202 Ph: 818-409-0960 [http://www.creationent.com/](http://www.creationent.com/creatickets@creationent.com) creatickets@creationent.com

### **Manitoba**

May 18-20 Keycon, Winnipeg, Manitoba; Info: PO Box 3178, Winnipeg, MB R3C 4E6, CANADA <http://www.keycon.org/> website@keycon.org Guests: Kevin J. Anderson, Rebecca Moesta, L.A. Williams

### **Ontario**

Feb 2-4 Pandemonium 24, Toronto, Ontario; Info: PO Box 202, Pickering, ON L1V 2R4

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<http://www.realmsquest.org/pandemonium/pandemoniumcon@rogers.com>

Mar 2-4 Ad Astra, Toronto, Ontario; Info: PO Box 7276, Station A, Toronto, ON Canada M5W 1X9 Ph: 866-563-5426 <http://www.ad-astra.org/info@ad-astra.org>

Mar 23-25 Filk Ontario 17, Mississauga, Ontario; Info: 98-145 Rice Avenue, Hamilton, ON, L9C 6R3, Canada <http://www.filkontario.ca/> info@filkontario.ca Guests: n'Early Music Consort

Mar 29-Apr 1 World Horror Convention 2007, Toronto, Ontario; Info: Suite 125, 365 Roncesvalles Avenue, Toronto, ON M6R 2M8, CANADA <http://www.whc2007.org/> amanda@whc2007.org Guests: Michael Marshall Smith, Nancy Kilpatrick, John Picacio, Don Hutchison, Peter Crowther, Sèphera Girón

### **Ireland**

Mar 10-11 Phoenix Convention, Dublin, ; Info: c/o Yellow Brick Road, 8 Bachelors Walk, Dublin 1, Ireland <http://www.slovobooks.com/phoenix/phoenixconvention@yahoo.co.uk> Guests: Kim Newman, Ariel, Michael Carroll, Paul Cornell, Diane Duane, George Green, Paul Kearney, Conor Kostick, Oisín McGann, Juliet E McKenna, Ken MacLeod, Deborah J. Miller, Leah Moore, Peter Morwood, C E Murphy,

John Reppion, John W Sexton, Colin Smythe, Charles Stros

### **New Zealand**

Apr 14-15 Armageddon: Pop Culture Expo, Christchurch, ; Info: PO Box 13419 Onehunga, Auckland, New Zealand Ph: +64 9 625 8054 <http://www.pulpexpo.com/> info@pulpexpo.com Guests: Steve Blum, Kevin Weisman, Vic Mignogna, Arthur Suydam, Darren Dunstan, Mira Furlan, Rachel Luttrell, Joe Straczynski

Apr 21-22 Armageddon: Pop Culture Expo, Wellington, ; Info: PO Box 13419 Onehunga, Auckland, New Zealand Ph: +64 9 625 8054 <http://www.pulpexpo.com/> info@pulpexpo.com Guests: Steve Blum, Kevin Weisman, Vic Mignogna, Arthur Suydam, Darren Dunstan, Mira Furlan, Rachel Luttrell, Joe Straczynski

### **United Kingdom England**

Feb 2-4 D'Zenove Convention (19th UK Annual Filk Convention), Lincolnshire, England; Info: 34 Star Road, Isleworth, Middlesex TW7 4HB <http://www.contabile.org.uk/> publicity@contabile.org.uk Guests: Mike Richards, Lady Mondegreen

Feb 9-11 SFBall, Bournemouth, England; Info: Flat 3, "Blighwood", 57 Surrey Road, Poole, Dorset, BH12 1HF Ph: +44(0)70 9281 2101

<http://www.sfball.com/> Benefits: Macmillan Cancer unit in Christchurch hospital

Feb 23-25 Redemption, Hinckley, England; Info: c/o Judith Proctor, Waveney, 28 Diprose Rd, Corfe Mullen, Wimborne, Dorset BH21 3QY <http://www.conventions.org.uk/redemption/redemptioninfo@whitecrow.demon.co.uk> Benefits: Asthma UK, The Woodland Trust

Mar 17 Invasion, Barking, England; Info: Unit 37a 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: Jason Haigh-Ellery, Gary Russell

Mar 31-Apr 1 Memorabilia, Birmingham, England; Info: Unit 3, Jephson Court, Tancred Close, Leamington Spa, Warwickshire, CV31 3RZ, ENGLAND Ph: +44 0870 2248615 <http://www.memorabilia.co.uk/> lee.guest@memorabilia.co.uk

Apr 6-9 Eastercon, Liverpool, England; Info: 81 Western Road, London E13 9JE <http://www.eastercon.org/> Guests: Judith Clute, Peter Dickinson, Robin McKinley, Sharyn November

May 4-7 Collectormania 11, 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: Michael Shanks, Avery Brooks, Goldie

May 12-14 Comic Expo, Bristol, England; Info: 230 Gloucester Road, Horfield, Bristol, BS7 8ZN, United Kingdom Ph: +44(0) 117 924 4655 <http://www.comicexpo.net/> comicexpo@fsmail.net Guests: Kurt Busiek, Brian K. Vaughan, Jeph Loeb, Jean-Pierre Dionnet

May 18-20 Starfury - Breakout, London, England; Info: 148a Queensway, Bayswater, Lodon W2 6LY Ph: +44 07930 319 119 <http://www.starfury.co.uk/> SeanHarry@aol.com Guests: Robert Knepper

### **Scotland**

Mar 16-18 Starfury - Serenity 4, Glasgow, Scotland; Info: 148a Queensway, Bayswater, Lodon W2 6LY Ph: +44 07930 319 119 <http://www.starfury.co.uk/> SeanHarry@aol.com Guests: Ron Glass, Jonathan Woodward, Christina Hendricks

### **Wales**

Mar 23-25 Portmeiricon, Portmeirion, Wales; Info: BOX 66, Ipswich, IP2 9TZ, UK <http://www.portmeiricon.com/>

## **Annual Campaign Report**

**By: Admiral Sherry Anne Newell, USS Morning Star; Admiral Helen M. Pawlowski, Troubador Station; Admiral Marlene J. Miller, USS Renegade**

Dear fellow "Fleeters":

You will note that various holiday celebrations are recognized in the following reports. Originally, observances of ships' enjoyment of "Fun, Friendship, Fellowship" (or F3) was the intention of this section. More and more ships are sharing meetings, parties and efforts to enhance 'Fleet get-togethers; this is the idea we are trying to get across. Starfleet is a great organization, but more than that, many of us have discovered that it is also a great family consisting of folks who like the same fun and share the same ideals.

Share your ideas for fellowship with us: we're listening...

This Annual Campaign Report has been compiled from November and December MSRs filed through the Starfleet database.

### **Region 1:**

ISS DELIVERANCE participated in the Toys for Tots campaign; British liaison participated in a recruitment drive at Christmas Trek in Liverpool. SS BENNU had a movie night with the TRISTAR. SS WILLIAM D. LEAHY supports Operation: Eagle. USS APPOMATTOX aided a local food pantry and adopted two teenagers and two senior citizens for Christmas; delivered 196 pounds of animal food and 100 pounds of litter to a local Humane Society. USS ARMAGEDDON had a Thanksgiving dinner, a gaming night, and baked Christmas cookies. USS ASGARD had a holiday and New Year's party. USS ATHENA had a Galaxy Dinner, a holiday gathering and had a joint ATHENA/Star Trek meet-up. USS BONAVENTURE held their annual Christmas Party.

USS CHARLSTON: is still in the early stages of their shakedown cruise as a Luna-Class vessel; Picked up a new charity activity—supporting the MUSC NICU (Neonatal Intensive Care Unit) with donations of handmade baby things (caps, booties, blankets, etc): "Let Us Help" and are helping the local chapter of RSVP – Retired and Senior Volunteer Program. Also took part in the R1 RC election. On a sad note, the CHARLESTON had a death in the family. USS COLUMBUS had a UN Festival, a mystery dinner, donated to Toys for Tots and held a Ferengi gift exchange. USS DRAGON'S FURY held a Halloween party and Thanksgiving dinner. USS EXCALIBUR welcomed a new member from New York. Away team members teamed with USS OHIO to man phones for the annual Christmas pledge drive at the PBS station at Kent State University. Contributions for the segment totaled over \$3,000.00. The Starfleet Shuttle of the Year Award was given to the command staff during the PBS pledge drive. USS GALLIFREY had various Role Playing Games; the crew continues volunteer work at various community services including Christmas community work; and celebrated Thanksgiving together. USS GLORY celebrated a cadet's 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday, went to the Pittsburgh Toy Show and joined the USS INFERNO in running their table. Sue Sereno, author & president of GHOSTEC was the guest speaker at the USS HEIMDAL's meeting which was advertised in a local newspaper and brought in members of the community. Sue gave a presentation and the crew participated in a question & answer session afterwards. Chapter's float entry for the Amherst Christmas Parade is near completion. Almost \$1,000 has been paid so far towards sponsorship of the chapter's Christmas charities. Half the money from ticket sales will go

to the chapter's Space Camp Fund. The HEIMDAL is selling their cookbook, "Taste Trek" and so far has brought in \$1020.00. USS HORNET had meetings and a "lunch out"; USS JAMESTOWN conducted an away team to celebrate the IKV Bat'Leth Anniversary Dinner, held meetings, nominated the Region 1 RC, assisted a member's company move computers to their new office, had an Evil Santa present exchange, had movie nights, visited the Virginia Air and Space Center and mailed a box of coupons to their overseas base in Schweinitz, Germany. USS JURASSIC continues recycling plastic and glass bottles as well as pop and beer cans, members are reading books for the SFMC project, several members went on patrol with COPS (Citizens on Patrol) to hand out candy on Halloween night, had movie nights and is working on quilt blocks for the R1 quilt block project. Five Christmas aprons were made for the Christmas Bazaar which raised money for Hospice. Members are taking Starfleet Academy courses, making baby dolls, baby blankets, baby shawls and beanie/bootie sets for the Cincinnati Children's Hospital. They've also donated a new crib blanket and a baby blanket for the Pregnancy Crisis Center. Ongoing projects include Box Tops for Education and collecting Campbell's soup labels. USS LAGRANGE sold Xmas Marks the Spot tree for \$400 and made their premiere appearance in the Akron Christmas Parade. USS LIBERATOR gathered Toys for Tots. USS MAELSTROM voted to change to a Constitution Class Heavy Cruiser to reflect more on their adopting Classic Trek Uniforms. USS MAAT had meetings and social nights. USS MAELSTROM had chapter meetings. USS NIGHT STALKER has members attending Starfleet Academy, has started an e-Book Library for the crew and is

participating in a recruitment drive. USS NORTH CAROLINA held meetings and voted in the R1 RC election. USS PATHFINDER submitted nomination and voted in R1 RC election. USS PROVIDENCE had monthly meetings, delivered groceries to their Adopt-A-Family for Thanksgiving, delivered gifts for Christmas, and celebrated 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary. USS RENEGADE held meetings, had a member entered in the R1 RC election, participated in the local Ham Radio Operator's annual Santa Net by letting children speak to Santa via radio. Donated 55 toys and other gifts to a local gun club's children's Christmas party; sent monetary donations to the Second Harvest Food Bank, Animal Charity and American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals; donated to a local church, bought a bird feeder from the local chapter of the paralyzed Veterans of America, and continue to collect Campbell's labels, coupons for the OCP and cancelled stamps for the Starfleet Stampede; sent two more goodie boxes to soldiers overseas. USS REPRISAL held their 10<sup>th</sup> annual awards banquet and change-of-command ceremony. USS RONALD E. McNAIR celebrated their 12<sup>th</sup> anniversary, had an away mission to the Columbia, SC Veteran's Day parade and Governor's carol-lighting. They continue collecting coupons for OCP, pop tops for Ronald McDonald House and Bxotops for Education; brought gifts to the veterans for

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Christmas; crocheted and painted 64 Christmas ornaments and made Christmas cards for veterans; and welcomed two new members. USS RUTLEDGE continues volunteer efforts supporting US Armed Forces overseas, they've aided two friends from the USS DOMINATOR who are very ill and facing difficult times. USS STAR LEAGUE had crew meetings, dinner and a movie; gift wrapped at Borders to raise money to represent Starfleet at DragonCon 2007. USS STAR RUNNER had meetings, game & movie night and a Thanksgiving get-together. They sent packages to the Troops; Prepared and handed out goody bags to the Boys Home of the South. USS STARWARD FURY had a "Fury Feast" and meeting; held a Chapter of the Year Yule Party and New Year's Eve party. USS TYCHO had meetings and set up a Science Fiction – Science Fact showcase at the local library; organized a Veteran's Day memorial program presented by students at a local school; held an annual Christmas party; and attended Lights Before Christmas at the Toledo Zoo. USS WASP is working on their website and researched the Star Trek Online game. USS YEAGER held Rising Star West convention; raised over \$300 which was delivered to the Bluefield Union Mission in the form of 21 hams and a cartful of toys.

#### **Region 2:**

ISS MacARTHUR continues recruiting, conducts weekly online meetings, and is enjoying online gaming. SHUTTLE ANDROMEDA went to VulKon, attended a fundraiser at the Museum of Science & Industry and had a New Year's Eve party. SS DARK SILENCE STATION members attended weekly SciFi get-togethers, had a movie outing, held their annual Christmas party and have been having weekly SciFi show get-togethers with the BLUE SUN. USS BLACKSTAR held meetings, helped staff the SuperCon Convention in Ft. Lauderdale, held a Holiday Part and dedicated the new BLACKSTAR SHUTTLE (passenger van). USS BLUE SUN recruited a new member, had a Christmas party and get-togethers to watch movies and play Munchkin with members of the SS DARK SILENCE STATION, and is awaiting commissioning. USS CONTINUUM had command staff and general meetings, went to a Renn Fair, had an anniversary/Christmas party and had a bowling outing. USS DARK PHOENIX attended USS CONTINUUM Christmas party, attended USS JUBILEE, USS GALATEA, USS ODYSSEY and USS HAISE meetings. They continue constructing Bat'Leth with members of the USS JUBILEE. USS DaVINCI had Halloween and Thanksgiving parties. USS DRAKENFIRE may become a correspondence chapter. USS GASPARILLA attended a USS STAR QUEST meeting, had a Star Trek episode night, and had a Thanksgiving party & gaming night. They also traveled to Orlando in uniform to assist independent club USS Haven in hosting activity tables in support of Central Florida's Toys for Tots campaign, and attended USS PAEGAN's Christmas party. USS GUARDIAN founding member Dan Hill passed on to whatever lies ahead. USS HAISE had meetings, collected Toys for Tots, had a Christmas party, welcomed new members and had a movie outing. USS HEPHAESTUS had a Thanksgiving feast and Christmas party with 25 people in attendance. USS JUBILEE held meetings, ran a recruiting drive and attended Babel Fest – some in uniform, conducted an auction and raised \$94.50, and along with

members of the USS DARK PHOENIX and USS HAISE, attended the Christmas/Anniversary party held by USS CONTINUUM. USS MYRDDIN had a Thanksgiving dinner and a Christmas party at Mom's house. USS NEW HOPE held meetings, attended USS HEPHAESTUS Texas Hold'em tournament, had several outings, had a visitor from the USS JUBILEE, participated in the SFMC reading contest and discussed ways of better communications with those not able to attend meetings. USS ODYSSEY had monthly meetings and was joined at BableCon by members of the HAISE, OKATOMA, DRK PHOENIX and JUBILEE. USS OKATOMA visited 5 chapters in Region 2 and will present bat leth's at the R2 Summit. USS PAEGAN had monthly meetings, hosted the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Very Trekkie Christmas party which was attended by 29 people from 5 different ships, played games and held a toy drive for Toys for Tots. USS RELENTLESS had monthly meetings. USS REPUBLIC participated in "SciFi Charity Putt-Putt Challenge" which is a charity benefit for a local food bank and hosted by KAG. Members held an away mission to Fernbank Planetarium, had a Christmas party and screened a newly remastered Star Trek episode. Members attended Galactic ConQuest III and set up a fan table which was shared with TrekTrak; prepared three gift baskets containing Star Trek related books, magazines and video tapes valued over \$70 as new member recruitment incentives. USS TIBERIUS attended VulKon, had general meetings and a Christmas party. USS TRIDENT had meetings, a movie outing and a Christmas party. Members dined as they watched a slide show of photos over the 12 years of the chapter, presented "12 Days of Trek" Christmas song and played a Christmas trivia game. USS WERNHER von BRAUN held one of their largest monthly meetings with several founding members in attendance. Members received chapter awards and viewed their Christmas tree in the main lobby at the Huntsville Madison County Public Library. The hi-tech, fiber optic tree was covered with Hallmark Star Trek and space ornaments along with several made by their crew members. The tree was located near SciFi reading material and served as free publicity for the club.

#### **Region 03:**

SS FREEDOM III attended a Region 3 event and game day. SS MAVERICK contributed books and volunteered at a local library used book sale which raised thousands of dollars. Members cooked and served dinner for the Ronald McDonald House. Some members attended dinner and movie nights and had the first annual After Thanksgiving Leftover Extravaganza and held the annual Christmas party with a Ferengi gift exchange. USS ARK ANGEL held a game day, celebrated a member's birthday and had a Christmas party. USS AURORA VULCANUS presented the Member of the year award posthumously to Ellie Claassen, mailed \$1,473.72 in coupons to their base in Japan, enjoyed a meet-up with the PANTHER CITY at the Texas Renaissance Festival, and attended R3 Game Day which was organized by crews from the ARK ANGEL and RHYANNA. Members also supported local charities such as the Salvation Army's Kettle and Toys for Tots. The crew welcomed a new member. USS GUNSLINGER donated food to a rescue mission, had meetings, collected and distributed Toys for Tots, and donated canned food to a rescue mission for Christmas. USS JOAN of ARC held meetings and, wearing uniforms, visited the observatory on the Texas A&M campus, where they conducted a mini recruiting drive, and had a Christmas party. USS LONE STAR held meetings and attended R3's Game Day, presented several hundred "Beanie Baby" type small animals to local Marine family organization to

include in their holiday packages for overseas troops, donated \$60.00 to help with shipping costs, held a game night, visited the local corn field maze, visited the USS TEJAS to help celebrate their anniversary at their holiday party participated in "Be a Santa to a Senior" program delivering gift packages to shut-ins around the city ensuring they aren't forgotten at the holiday season. Members were part of the distribution days with Toys for Tots and the crew cooked a Green Chili Casserole for the Ronald McDonald House and held a New Year's Eve party. USS REGULATOR had a movie outing and New Year's Eve party. USS RENAISSANCE attended the Louisiana Renaissance Festival and rendezvoused with the new shakedown ship from Baton Rouge. USS RYANNA held monthly meetings. USS SPIRITWOLF attended R3 Game Day and attended the Sci-Fi combined Christmas party. USS THUNDERWOLF attended Alamo Heights Christmas Parade to support the USS BEXAR, held meetings, attended R3 Game Day, participated in the Elf Louise Project, and delivered toys to disadvantaged families dressed as Santa. USS TRINITY RIVER had a Christmas party with a Ferengi gift exchange, donated Toys for Tots, attended R3 Game Day, and had a movie night. USS VICTORY held chapter meetings and a Christmas party.

#### **Region 04:**

ISS PEGASUS launched shuttle SILVER MOON, collected close to 400,000 pop tops, had a movie outing and participated in the Toys for Tots program. SHUTTLE BATTLEBORN collected Toys for Tots. SHUTTLE SILVER MOON held Thanksgiving Dinner. SS CASCADE STATION hosted gift exchange with USS ONIZUKA. USS ANGELES held meetings, assembled care packages for troops in the Middle East, attended Farscape and LosCon 33 conventions, had a marathon viewing of Star trek Animateds on DVD and had a holiday party. USS ANGELFIRE held a charity poker tournament and has been invited to attend the final shoot for the series Hidden Frontier, a Trek based fan film. USS CUNTURION marched in 29<sup>th</sup> annual YMCA Christmas parade, and collected soda tabs for Ronald McDonald House. USS DRAGONS CUB donated food to food drives, had a clothing and misc drive for Hope House, donated books to a local hospital, and gave a friend a cooking class on how to cook turkey. USS EAGLE had a holiday party and gift exchange, held a computer training session, and participated in Toys for Tots. USS NORTHERN LIGHTS held a holiday pot luck and movie night. USS OBERON is actively recruiting. USS ONIZUK had a baking day for Cookie Run and delivered 9 trays of homemade cookies to the Firemen in Chico, CA. USS STORMBRINGER attended a New Years Eve party and went to the screening of Battlestar Galactica where a Q&A session was held with the show's writers. USS WILLIAM O DARBY continues joint work with local Star Trek clubs and had a Christmas party.

#### **Region 5:**

SHUTTLE ESCAPE POD had poker nights and movie nights and reviewed a new book. Members tracked the famous Leonid Meteor shower and observed passes of the International Space Station. SHUTTLE THERMOPYLAE along with members of the IKV T'Mar crew, participated in annual Macy's Safe Kids Halloween Candy Giveaway, held a food drive where they collected 25 pounds of food for the local food bank and filled a box of toys for Toys for Tots. USS CRUSADER held a bake sale to raise funds for Wishing Star family and spent the money on gifts and a grocery gift certificate for the family of 3. Held a Thanksgiving dinner party, a Christmas party and New Year's Eve gathering where they watched

videos, listened to music, watched television and ate a great deal. USS DESTINY had meetings and delivered 434 pounds of food for the local food bank, they also helped sort the food boxes, and contributed to Toys for Tots. USS RUBICON held meetings, and collected coupons for the Overseas Coupon Project. At the end of October, \$150,536.20 in coupons were collected and sent to three military bases overseas, they also had a Christmas party.

#### **Region 6:**

SHUTTLE RIVERSIDE members participate in chat routines which is an excellent recruiting tool. The Riverside Vulcan Studies group was formed on the message board. Coupons are being collected for the Overseas Coupon Project: to date \$2,177.60 has been collected, members are attending Starfleet Academy and are taking part in the Marine Corps Reading Project. The chapter has applied for full chapter status. USS CZAR'AK is working on new recruiting ideas to draw more people. USS IMPERIUM had a premiere party and dinner or Casino Royal movie, held a forest outing, Halloween Haunted House and volunteered for Public TV pledge drive. USS THUNDERCHILD had a Christmas party and gift exchange.

#### **Region 7:**

ISS LEXINGTON members attended a hockey match, continues supporting the deployed Naval Aviation Squadron with "goodies from home". The chapter received transfers from ISS PHILADELPHIA and ISS KERBEROS after destruction of both ships by Alliance forces. SHUTTLE BRITANNIC members attended Creation Con, had chapter meetings, donated to the OCP bringing the total donations to \$4,000, joined the USS RELENTLESS for dinner to help celebrate their 11<sup>th</sup> anniversary. SHUTTLE MAWSON presented SciFi Exhibition as part of National Science Week in South Australia, member MC'd the Official Star Trek 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Convention and recruited at the event. USS ACCORD held monthly meetings, game days, updated the database, distributed newsletters to members and had a cookie exchange. USS ADAMANT attended Stargate Convention, had several movie outings, attended USS ASCENSION meeting, trekked out to see the "Lights on the Parkway" and took an away team to the "Christmas Barns". USS ALBANY members attended Big Flea Market, NYS Museum (Chocolate Exhibit), held bowling outings and are collecting coupons for the Overseas Coupon Project. Year to date total is \$20,347.80. They also went caroling in the caves which is an annual event at Howe Caverns. USS ASCENSION members attended Stargate convention, Creation's Captain's convention, attended ADAMANT meeting, watched movies and teamed up with the crew of the ADAMANT to visit "Christmas Barns in Bethlehem". USS AVENGER wallpapered Rutgers, had a cookie exchange, attended CHALLENGER New Year's Eve party and SOVEREIGN's party, attended a fiction workshop and Rutgers Geology Open House. USS DeBRAAK members teamed up to contribute \$890.00 in coupons for the Overseas Coupon Project and the troops at the Naval Air Station in Rota, Spain, played Battlefield and donated \$150 to their local food bank. USS EDINBURGH collected food for the Maryland Food Bank and Toys for Tots. USS FLYING FOX members gathered for a casual dinner, one member is writing and beta testing exams for Starfleet Academy, and members are wrapping gifts and helping the Humane Society. USS INFERNO had dinner and a meeting and attended the Pittsburgh Toy Store, and had a Christmas party. Members are

*Continued on page 37.*



being encouraged to complete Officer Training School and other Starfleet Academy courses. USS JAGUAR members are working in CompOps, Communications and publications and have enjoyed various holiday vacations and parties. USS JUSTICE members are working on a "World of Warcraft" Guild, attended Creation and Big Apple conventions, are collecting money for the Battered Women's Shelter, took part in gift wrapping at Borders where \$150 was raised for the New Jersey Battered Women's Shelter. USS MATRIX is rewriting the ship's Operations Manual and chapter courses. USS NIAGARA held a Christmas party in which the "cost" of admission was a bag of candy for the children of the local orphanage. A gift exchange was also held with a year's membership in Starfleet awarded as a special prize. USS OSIRIS has movie nights. USS SOVEREIGN members attended the Stargate Con, Starfleet's 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Con, had a New Year's Eve party and went to see "Charles Dickens". USS STARLORD has gaming nights and had a New Year's Eve party. USS TOP GUN had a Christmas party.

#### **Region 9:**

USS EUROPE members are recruiting and playing daily trivia. Many people from Second Life have joined SFI. USS VANGUARD members are enjoying on-line gaming, attended Dutch Star Convention and a Star Trek 2E CCG constructed tournament.

#### **Region 10:**

USS BONDAR continues their weekly meat raffles. They have donated 816 boxes of stuffing mix and 1750 candy canes which were delivered to Loaves and Fishes Food Bank for needy residents, the crew continues collecting pop cans and donating to charities. USS SOL watched New Voyages, BSG and Doctor Who.

#### **Region 12:**

SHUTTLE DANIEL SOULE members are working on reaching chapter status, has hosted a display of uniforms, props and Trek collectibles at their hosting meeting at the library. The display has been reported by the Library staff to be the biggest hit in their history and that many have come just to see it. USS BLACK HAWK is recruiting by advertising on the R12 website. USS BORTAS members ran the Operations department for the ChamBanaCon 36, took part in bell ringing and gift wrapping. USS CHICAGO submitted paperwork for commissioning. USS DISCOVERY had a Thanksgiving dinner and attended a movie. USS DRAGONSTRIKE celebrated the holidays with a Christmas party and visited a crewmember's Grandmother who was in the hospital. Items for a flea market fundraiser were collected and sold with \$50 being raised for club activities. USS HEXUM continues recycling and collecting stamps for the Stampede, held a movie outing and dinner afterwards, collected more canned goods for their food bank donation, caravanned to "Our Lady of the Snows", and held a New Year's Eve party. USS

HORIZON had movie nights and went to dinner after. 2006 donations stand at: \$120,971.72 for the Overseas Coupon Project; \$4515 for the Stampede; 976 for aluminum can recycling; \$10,049 for other recycling and \$199.30 in cash donations. Many hours of community service have been accomplished. USS JEANNETTE MADDOX members are setting up new chapter bylaws, volunteered to man the Salvation Army Angel Tree which is a crew favorite, and did a book wrapping fund raiser. USS MARKO RAMIUS had a Christmas party with Dirty Santa. USS MORNING STAR members continue clipping and mailing coupons for their adopted base in Sicily (\$900). They collect Campbells labels for an Oklahoma School for the Blind, collected pull tabs for the Ronald McDonald House, collected Betty Crocker UPCs and recycled aluminum for Food for the Poor. Members also volunteered at Walk-In Feeding, donated canned goods to the Girl Scout Thanksgiving food drive, volunteered many hours and collected money for the local Humane Society Garage Sale, which helped earn \$1,000 in sales and \$2,000 in donations. Held a monthly meeting with a Marine OIC and a Christmas get-together where photos were taken to share with those who could not attend. Members also donated Christmas candy for treats, rang bells for the Salvation Army, and purchased 3 oxygen masks for the city animal shelter. USS PHOENIX created Christmas baskets for distribution. USS ROYAL SOVEREIGN members held monthly gaming nights and helped serve Thanksgiving dinners for the Salvation Army. They're also sending holiday packages to troops in Iraq. USS SUNFLOWER is saving coupons for the OCP and assisted another club selling Christmas trees. USS THUNDERBIRD celebrated a birthday with a party. TROUBADOUR STATION continues knitting watch caps and scarves for distribution by local homeless shelters. USS UMIK had a movie night.

#### **Region 13:**

USS BANTING had a chili and beer evening along with their general meeting, celebrated 7<sup>th</sup> anniversary, had a Christmas party and attended Guelph's Sparkles in the Park. USS EMPRESS donated food and money to the local food bank, took in 10 kids from the Ennis Center and had a Christmas meeting with EMPRESS gifts. USS SINCLAIR is working on plans for the 2007 R13 Summit. USS WHITE STAR celebrated their 9<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with a dinner.

#### **Region 14:**

USS MAGELLAN is Mothership for a new shuttle. USS SOUTHERN CROSS attended their inaugural online meeting, is publishing a member handbook, continues recruiting and working on charity work in Auckland, New Zealand with Starship Children's Hospital and fund raising assistance for the Manukau Volunteer Coast Guard where the chapter raised \$140.

#### **Region 15:**

SS IAN FLEMING members attended the United Fan Con Convention, celebrated Thanksgiving with friends, attended the "Usually Normal" concert and attended the Region 15 Christmas party. USS ANUBIS members attended the United Fan Convention. USS ARES attended United Fan Con, had a movie outing and caught a play. Members are showing off their shiny new T-shirts and attended the Region 15 Holiday party. USS CUMBERLAND activated the 900<sup>th</sup> "Lancers", an SFMC unit, attended United Fan Con, recruited and worked security. USS GALAXY had an away mission to UPC where they recruited new members. USS HOOD attended United Fan Con. USS KASIMAR held meetings at the Salvation Army and worked on SFI membership packets. They helped Toys for Tots gather toys at 7 locations, manned the Angel Tree and rang bells for the Salvation Army. The Regional Newsletter was completed and distributed. Coupons continue being collected with a total of \$28,582.44 as of October. Members attended a "Trekspetacular" with Jonathan Frakes with a Q&A afterwards, held a Christmas party and Yankee Swap gift exchange and helped with the Salvation Army Bell Ringing and Angel Tree Station. A git was bought for a boy and girl. USS NELSON members attended the United Fan Convention, collected \$274,000.00 in OCP coupons for their adopted base in Ikego Japan, produced NELSON logo ornaments, and donated Toys for Tots. USS O BANNON crew pulled together to help a crew member whose home's foundation collapsed because of excess rain. Members attended United Fan Con and Megastar Boston Con. A new member was welcomed, the crew held a movie outing, enjoyed an "us against the mall" shopping spree, attended the Region 15 Christmas party and donated 88 winter jackets in the Coats for Kids project. 500 pounds of food were donated to the York County Shelter and Food Bank of Alfred, dropped off 250 pounds of food, several bales of wood shavings and cleaning supplies at the Kennebunk Animal Welfare Society; had a Christmas party and a Cut Throat Yankee Swap.

#### **Region 17:**

USS ALIOTH members enjoy role playing games, held a dinner, wore costumes to a meeting at a new location had a Christmas party and white elephant gift exchange. USS ANASAZI held regular meeting, completed Toys for Tots drives along with their Marine Strike group where they collected about \$3,500 in toys for needy kids, and had a Christmas party. USS MIR held their annual holiday dinner and Christmas party. USS MOONTYPE continues working on their newsletter and staying in phone and/or e-mail contact with new members. USS OMEGA GLORY members take part in game days, and continue participating in Tae Kwon Do activities, GURPS gaming days, Bicycle Aurora Meetings. They celebrated Thanksgiving together, and held a hike at Gem Lake. Members participated in Caving weekends, a Star Trek Meet-up, Parade of Lights and

held a movie outing. Members attended the meetings of the Colorado Grotto and the Front Range Grotto, participated in vertical training, attended the Marble Mountain Expedition and the Lime Creek Expedition and attended the NSS 2011 convention bid meeting. Members took a tour group through Manitou Cave in Williams Canyon, and completed Operation Tornado Alley. The Exercise, held July 22, was attended by 114 people, making it the largest exercise to date in Colorado. Articles featuring the exercise appeared in the Denver Post, the Rocky Mountain News and on KACT Channel 8. Members have also been asked to take part in a pilot project of forming an "off the shelf" team for emergency response in the local 10 county area. Members provided communications support for the MS-150, attended the ARES-22 and ARES-24 Face-to-Face meetings, and participated in Green Space, Clean Space: Continuing park clean-up along our adopted trail. As a part of the IC 2007 planning team the OMEGA GLORY has selected National Jewish as their convention charity. For the ninth consecutive year National Jewish has been named the best respiratory hospital in the nation; they also had a Christmas party, game day and New Year's Party. USS PIONEER had a poker and laser quest meeting. They also took part in a book/media discussion and group outing. Attended Mile Hi Con, had a Butterfly Pavillion outing as well as a Brewery Tour and Wings Over the Rockies outing. The PIONEER celebrated their 11<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a party. USS TIBURON had a Christmas party and exchanged Secret Santa gifts, held command staff and general meetings, tactical Tuesdays, game nights, watched the Dr Who Christmas Special, and holds Sci-Fi Fridays. Members continue to work on the IC '07 committee, attend the local Star Trek Meet-Up dinners and hang out with various chapters in the area. USS TOMAHAWK had a Christmas party and the 898<sup>th</sup> MSG participated in the annual Toys for Tots drive along with members of the USS ANASAZI.

#### **Region 20:**

ISS SARATOGA members celebrated their "British-ness" with a movie outing to see the latest Bond movie, Casino Royale; had monthly meetings, went in the Town Center to watch the Christmas Lights Switch-On; played in the park and counted down the minutes until the light switch on and fireworks; gathered for hot dogs and to watch Trekkies 2 and celebrated the SARATOGA's 1<sup>st</sup> birthday. Members ordered uniforms; published the fifth issue of Reflections and are working on a library of favorite books which were read as part of the Starfleet Marine Corps Reading Challenge. In keeping with the season, Christmas cards were written and posted, presents were bought, wrapped and delivered. Members attended the 5k charity Santa Fun run for Leukemia care with some runners wearing Santa suits. ISS SHADOWPHAX members had a senior staff meeting; and took photos for a surprise project they're working on. USS SILVERWOLF recruited a new member; members are taking Academy courses, and are awaiting commissioning.



<http://www.ussjustice.org/tales7thfleet.htm>



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# 13th Annual Intergalactic Food Festival

By: Admiral Bob Vosseller - USS Challenger - Region 7



Who said 13 was an unlucky number? The 13th Annual Intergalactic Food Festival hosted by the USS Challenger was as tasty an event as ever with over 20 people boldly heading to the buffet line for such treats as Transporter Pattern Buffers (A scrambled Red Shirt in Every bite) Betazed Cabbage Rings, Borg Nanite Cubes, Bones' Boneless Bourbon Chicken, Catian Sunburst Cake, Trill cupcakes, Klingon Krispies and Matter Antimater Pudding. There was also some Tulaberry Wine to wash it down with.

Members of the USS Avenger, USS Dragon Star, USS Sovereign and the proposed USS Sentinel came together to break bread and share a little Redness (the noodle dish that Admiral Alex Rosenzweig brought) for a winter feast.

We caught up on everything from the latest Region gossip to upcoming films and TV series. Not a word spoken about Super Bowl 41 was heard because no one planned to watch it.

The event also served to collect an abundance of canned food and non perishables for Project Replicator, the Challenger's project for the Seaside Heights food pantry.

Avenger XO Commodore Todd Brugmans wore his monster maroon and Admiral Rosenzweig, who had a meatloaf named after him, wore his black military attire. As for Challenger CMO Flt. Capt. David Singleton and I well, two thirds of the Stone Trek Trio debuted our stone age Trek classic uniforms made by Avenger Security Chief Patrick Barnes. Patrick couldn't make the event but the uniforms he made were inspired by the website [www.Stonetrek.com](http://www.Stonetrek.com) and served to be this year's theme for the third annual R7 NJ Sector Polar Bear plunge. The Avenger and Challenger have sent reps to the plunge for years and before that, to the Maryland Polar Bear plunge. This year, we were going in style and in uniform. Patrick even made a Grand Poo Bah hat for Admiral Vossellerrock...err...Admiral Vosseller.

As for Alex's meatloaf, well Challenger Capt. Brian Hager has been bringing his meatloaf to the food festival for years but this year, in honor of an incident the Avenger shared at a diner following their meeting, where Alex's order of meatloaf never arrived, we felt we'd name it and decloak it just for him.

While Challenger hosted the event, everyone present made it happen with a variety of incredible and creative food dishes and beverages. We had a great turnout and people are already thinking of what they'll make next year.

TOP LEFT – Ens Bill stands guard over the buffet line  
MIDDLE LEFT – Janek Kazimer displays a bottle of Tulaberry Wine.  
BOTTOM LEFT – Alex Rosenzweig lines up for a slice of his namesake meatloaf.  
TOP RIGHT – Two-thirds of the Stone Trek trio show off their new uniforms  
BOTTOM RIGHT – Admiral Vossellerrock eyes the beverage choices

