

#151

Interview with author Keith DeCandido

STARFLEET

ONLINE

COMMUNIQUE

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF STARFLEET THE INTERNATIONAL STAR TREK FAN ASSOCIATION, INC.

COLLISION COURSE!



What will happen when Star Trek gets a reboot?



STARFLEET

Khan is gone...

...we mourn Montalban.





STARFLEET *Communiqué*

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The Death of Khan

By MGEN Dennis Rayburn, Vice-Chief of Communications

His was one of those unmistakable presences. When he entered a scene, you not only saw and heard him, you felt his passion and his spirit. When he performed a role, he became the character so well, it was impossible to tell where the character stopped and the man started. His accent was instantly recognizable. All of the above combined made him a true master of his craft. Women wanted him and men wanted to be him.

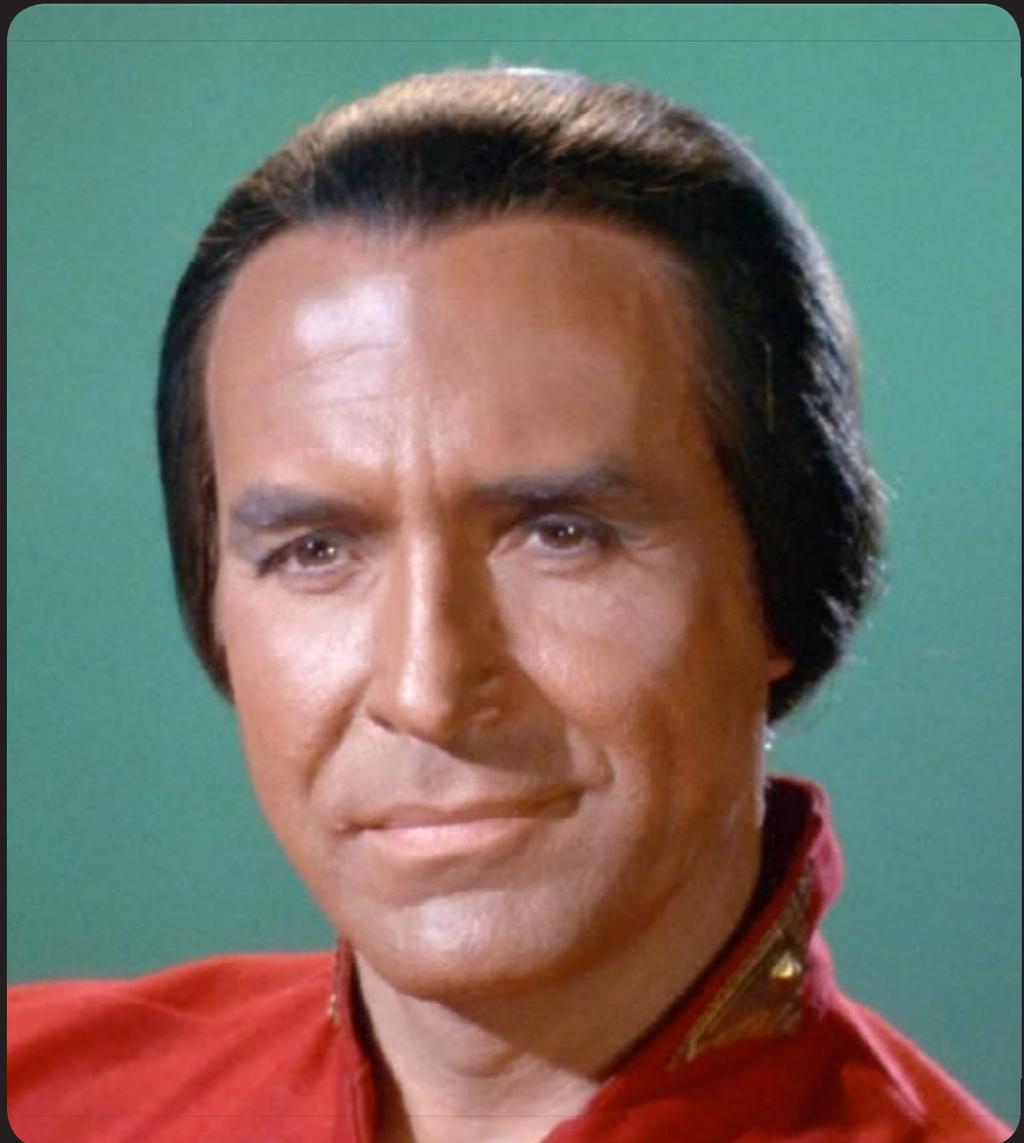
When death claimed Ricardo Montalban, it took one of the truly skilled craftsmen of his profession, and ended a career that included, according to IMDB.com, roles in 168 different movies and television series (not counting individual episodes, but the series themselves). His resume of characters stretched the entire spectrum, from the most beloved hero to the most evil villain you can imagine in movies and shows that ran the gambit of the variety of entertainment. You name the genre, he had a role in it.

Many actors are known for only one true signature part, but Ricardo Montalban will always be remembered for two. To the television viewer, he will forever be the mysterious Mr. Roarke on *Fantasy Island*. We never knew how Mr. Roarke did his magic and how he made his clients' fantasies come true, but he always did, and his clients always learned the lesson they needed to learn.

But *Star Trek* fans remember him as a totally different character, one that he portrayed only twice, and both appearances were memorable. It was a character that was the literal embodiment of a greed and lust for power, obsession, and vengeance. His was the only villain that made James T. Kirk blow his top. It was a role that Montalban enjoyed so much that he accepted only \$100,000 to play it the second time in *Star Trek II*. That role, of course, was the genetically-engineered conqueror Khan Noonien Singh.

Montalban was injured in 1951 when he was thrown from a horse while making the movie "Across the Wide Missouri" with Clark Gable. It was an injury that gave him trouble the rest of his days, confining him to a wheelchair near the end. But his gentle spirit still shone to his friends and colleagues until he joined his late wife of 63 years, Georgiana, in the final frontier.

I know we all send our thoughts and prayers to his children.



The Passing of Ricardo Montalban

By COMM Janice Willcocks (*USS Angeles* founder)

Truly sad news today. Ricardo Montalban was an amazing person and actor...a true gentleman. I was so lucky to have had the chance to see him in person at a Creation convention a few years ago. He was the most eloquent speaker, and brought a tear to the eyes of many in the audience. In my opinion, Montalban was the BEST speaker of all the *Star Trek* people I have seen at conventions, and that is saying a lot because he was certainly in exceptional company. He was that good. What an amazing, talented, and graceful person he was.

He was also underappreciated, I felt. We as *Trek* fans know that he was without a doubt among most of us, the BEST villain in *Star Trek*. Most people know him from *Fantasy Island*, which was only a small part of his career. He appeared in many movies throughout the decades, and was very active in a Hispanic group called *Nosotros*. They named a theater after him:

<http://www.nosotros.org/theatre.html>

What a loss to the universe. He will be greatly missed.



Nicholas Meyer Recalls Directing Montalban

By COMM Jon Lane, Chief of Communications

One of the best things about living in Los Angeles is going to special Director's Screenings of classic films where the creators themselves attend and then stay afterward to discuss their work and tell behind-the-scenes stories of what went on during filming. During the summer of 2002, I had the rare pleasure to see a beautifully remastered 35mm showing of "Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan" at Graumann's Egyptian Theatre as part of The American Cinematheque 3rd Annual Festival of Fantasy, Horror & Science-Fiction. To celebrate the release of the Director's version of Star Trek II on DVD, the screening was attended by Walter "Chekov" Koenig, George "Sulu" Takei, Writer/Executive Producer Harve Bennett, and Director Nicholas Meyer.

During the Q&A part of the evening, Nick Meyer was asked what it had been like working with Ricardo Montalban. Here's what Nick said...

"Ricardo Montalban is an amazing actor. He hasn't been given nearly enough good stuff to do. He would have made the most incredible King Lear." At this, the audience burst into a round of applause of agreement. "And I need to state for the record, because this question is asked more than any other: yes, that is his real chest." Again, the audience clapped.

"Keep in mind, he wasn't at any of the rehearsals because he was busy finishing up filming on the latest season of *Fantasy Island*. So the first day I saw him was on the set. Now Ricardo is a real movie star, and I was a little intimidated as a director, not knowing what I could say



or what might piss him off. I now know he's one of the nicest guys in the business, really classy. But that day, I didn't know what to expect.

"We had a speech in the script that was six pages long where Khan explains why he's so angry and filled with hatred for Kirk. It was a really elaborate scene with multiple camera angles and about 13 different marks for Ricardo to hit, and he hit every one of them perfectly. But his delivery was so hot and intense. He finished the scene and we were all shaking, it was so passionate. 'Um, all right, then...' I said, 'Er, let's start getting this scene lit. Ricardo, let's you and me talk.'

"As a director, you have to be careful, 'cause you can't always be certain how someone will react. We went into his dressing room, and I said to him, 'Lawrence Olivier once said, "An actor should never show the audience his 'highest' because then they'll know there's no place higher he can take them.'"

"Ahhhhhh, I see!" (Meyer was doing a very good Ricardo Montalban impersonation.) "I continued, 'When someone is crazy, what's really scary is when he isn't yelling but is very calm, and the audience is wondering, "Is he going to explode? What is he going to do next?"' 'Ahhhh, yesssss!' he said, with his eyes lighting up. 'A madmen is truly terrifying when you do NOT know he is mad. Yesssss!' I could tell we were starting to connect, so I continued with the line of thought: 'It's the uncertainty that's conveyed through the intense calmness that makes the character truly terrifying.'

"Ahhhh, yesssss!' and as we continued talking about how to play Khan, he started finishing my sentences. He was definitely



getting it. He's a really bright guy. Then, after we were talking for about ten minutes, he suddenly stopped, leaned back, looked at me closely, and nodded, 'So, I see...you are going to direct me!' And then he told me about all these other directors he'd worked with, some of whom would just say, 'Okay, here's the scene. Make it good.' So many directors are afraid to tell an actor what they want them to do. But Ricardo was a true professional and could play a scene any way a director wanted. All he needed was to know what way the director wanted him to do it. He truly appreciated getting the feedback.

"So from that point on Ricardo would really look to me for direction. He'd do a scene and then ask me if he should raise his eyebrow so much or something else like that. And often, I'd try to rein him in to keep the performance more subdued and less over the top. And I think it worked out really well."

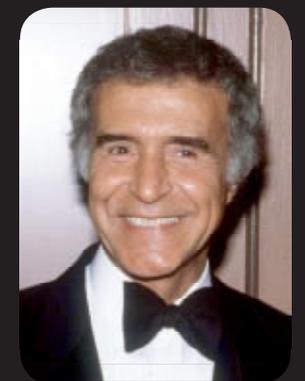
Memories of Khan at a Con

By Brian Nomi, *USS Angeles*

Ricardo Montalban was a great actor. Pop culture remembers him most for his *Fantasy Island* role, but it's amazing how revered he is by all of us Trekkers. I saw him speak at a Creation Con many years ago, when his health was not great. He had to remain seated throughout his speech, but a few things stand out.

First, he was graceful in acknowledging the fans, saying that our

warm welcome made him forget about the pain he was going through due to his medical condition. Second, he gave a great talk about how difficult it was for him to film some scenes in *Star Trek II*, because he was just talking with a camera on the set, and Shatner was not there to deliver lines on the other side. So when Montalban was saying something like, "Kirk, you remember me after all these years, I cannot help but be touched," he had to really ham it up because there was no Kirk against whom he was delivering his lines. He was very well-received by the fans at this con.





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REGION: 1, OHIO (USA)



COMMANDER, STARFLEET

Report from the Commander, STARFLEET

At the time of this writing, the Christmas season has come to a close, and I've just moved into a new apartment up in New Hampshire. In doing so, I am proudly transferring my flag to the *USS Hood*. I'm getting settled into a rhythm and am looking forward a new year and getting to visit with as many members as possible at the spectrum of events, from the IC to regional summits and conferences to chapter meetings. This is what I like most about the job—getting to meet and visit the greatest asset STARFLEET has ever had: you, the members.

The new *Star Trek* Movie will soon be out when this reaches your hands. The membership is abuzz with anticipation over how things will turn out. I hear opinions flying all over the board. "I love the new ship and the look and feel of the whole new image." "What did they do to my beloved *Star Trek*?!?!?" "Hello? Continuity?" That's what I love to hear: *Star Trek* fans actually talking 'trek.' I know I'm excited to see what JJ Abrams has put together for us to enjoy. And speaking of enjoying a new movie, this opens the door for prime time recruitment. Brandt Heatherington, STARFLEET's Public Relations Officer, has been hard at work. He's working on reaching out to Paramount on some sort of official recognition of our organization in our promotional efforts in conjunction with the movie's release. Additionally, Brandt's also reaching out to some of the national theater chains to see if our chapters can get corporate recognition in the local movie houses. Keep those eyes and ears open for

the fruits of Brandt's professional touch to ripen for STARFLEET to enjoy.

One other thing that Brandt's working on is getting STARFLEET a little press. He's working on a plan for promotional releases to go out to media sources, including one which will be focusing on our celebrating STARFLEET's 35th anniversary this year. In addition to this project, Brandt's working to create a promotional package for chapters to customize to use for their own promotional releases geared toward their local media. This will be available very soon (if not already by the time this reaches your hands). My thanks go out to Brandt for all his ideas and work in getting STARFLEET's name out there and making contacts for all of us to benefit from.

Another item I'm really proud of is the re-launch of the Personnel Office. Teresa Remaly has taken this ball and has sprinted across the field with it. She's taking resumes from any and all members who might be interested in volunteering to keep on file for all department heads to turn to when needing to fill open positions. Additionally, Teresa's maintaining STARFLEET's Job Board over at <http://personnel.sfi.org/> where all departments are posting currently open positions for the membership to stay apprised of on a consistent basis.

As this article is going to bed, I'm pleased to report that Wade Hoover has been confirmed by the AB as our

Inspector General for the next three years. Wade's done an outstanding job in the interim last fall, and I know he's going to be great for the membership in the performance of his duties. Also, at this time, the AB is still discussing who will be serve as the Judge Advocate General through 2011. Many of you likely see an announcement via e-mail on their selection before this issue gets in your hands.

Elsewhere in this issue, you'll find the first installment of the long-anticipated interview of me by Jon Lane on the legal expenses. Jon did a very thorough job with the interview and pulled lots of information from me in order to get to the bottom of what STARFLEET got for its money. I do apologize for this having taking so long. As you'll see from the interview, there was quite a lot to go over. The answers were neither short nor simple, and until Jon was able to sit me down for over five hours of phone time, I really wasn't certain how to explain the details of our legal expenditures to the STARFLEET membership. So thank you, Jon, for taking the lead on this much-needed piece of communication. I know it's been quite a time-consuming effort for you.

In closing, I'd like to just say we have some great plans coming together for programs across STARFLEET. By the time the next CQ hits your hands, everyone will be Monday morning quarterbacking the new movie, and we'll have our opinions. Variety is what makes us strong and what has kept us around for the past 35 years. Stay tuned for the next 35!



0605-60-16



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USS RIVERSIDE NCC-1660

Come to the 25th Annual TREKFEST!

The crew of the USS Riverside NCC 1660 of Region 6 invites STARFLEET to attend this year's 25th annual TREKFEST in Riverside Iowa. This year's theme is "The Voyage Home." Walter Koenig, Nichelle Nichols and George Takei will appear as special guest stars during the weekend.

In 1984, Steve Miller suggested the town declare itself the official birthplace of Captain James T. Kirk. Miller had read a book by Star Trek creator Gene Roddenberry, "The Making

of Star Trek," in which Roddenberry declared the captain had been born in Iowa. The city council wrote to Roddenberry asking for his permission to designate Riverside as the official birth site. He agreed, and the rest is history – or it will be in 2228 when Kirk is born behind a former barbershop now marked by a large stone and plaque.

Please come and visit "The Voyage Home" museum featuring Star Trek celebrity exhibits. Purchase TREKFEST collector

items for sale in the museum such as T-Shirts, hats, cups, etc. We even sell Kirk Dirt (dirt from the actual site of the future birthplace of Captain James T. Kirk).

Many of the ship's crew will be on hand to help with the events and helping the special guest stars during the weekend. Look for more information in the next issue of the Communiqué, or visit their web site at www.trekfest.com.





NAME: DAVE BLASER
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ACHIEVEMENTS: FORMER REGION 13 COORDINATOR



VICE COMMANDER, STARFLEET

Report from the Vice-Commander, STARFLEET

Where in the heck does the time go? It completely doesn't feel like anywhere near enough time has gone by since my last article, and here it is already time for the next!

In my last article, I told you a little bit about myself before I went into what's been going on within the VCS Department. This article will go a little bit further into that as I talk about something that has become my most recent favourite thing to do - flying.

As I said, I'm working on getting my pilot's license, something that can be a somewhat expensive endeavour, but one that is also pretty rewarding.

There's a lot of things that you have to learn, and I'm not just talking about how to fly the plane itself. Canada's requirements for a Private Pilot's License is that you take 40 hours of ground school before you can be a licensed pilot. Some of the things that you have to learn are basic airmanship, how to read maps and navigate using them, and what documents you have to carry in your plane. But my favourite topic from ground school has been meteorology - what the different kinds of weather there are out there, how clouds form, how much the temperature changes at different altitudes, how to read the weather maps that you can find online, and so much more.

There is just so much there that you can sink your teeth into.

But the truly fun part is the flying itself, being able to get into the plane, take off, fly somewhere, and to really understand what it is you're doing. My last lesson, as of this writing, was Range & Endurance (flying as far as you can on the least amount of fuel & keeping the aircraft in the air as long as possible, two very different subjects), and Slow Flight (flying the plane as slow as possible without having it essentially fall out of the sky.)

There truly is nothing quite like the feeling of going up in a small Cessna and flying into a headwind in a particular way that the plane literally hovers over a landmark at 3,500 feet.

So, enough about that. What's been going on with the VCS department, that's what you're reading this for.

As I mentioned in my last article, I'm still getting to know how things work in STARFLEET and within the EC as a whole, and the EC is still getting to know and understand how I do things which is, very likely, very different than what they're used to.

My evaluation of the department is continuing as time goes on. It's turning out to be a real challenge because of all the different things that go on within the VCS department. We are seeing some forward motion on some areas, which is good.

Like in the last edition, members of my team will be talking



more about the things that they're specifically doing and what's happening in their corners of the department, but here's a short synopsis of things that are happening:

The Annual Campaign - The Annual Campaign is continuing to move forward and make plans to have some fun things for you, our members, to take part in.

The semi-regular trivia nights are going to need to take a little bit of a back seat for a moment as we continue to prep for them. We're still planning them out and will be looking for someone who is 'Net Savvy to help us out in that regard. If you can help us out, please drop a line to Marlene Miller and ask what you can do to help.

Our Short Story Contest was announced in the previous edition of the Communiqué, if I recall correctly. We have secured the participation of a current Star Trek author, and plans are moving forward for making this a successful thing for STARFLEET, as well as to get some prizes for our budding authors!

The SFMC - Our STARFLEET Marines are continuing to have fun and engage our Marine members. There are going to be some new things available from the Marine Quartermaster very soon, which is very exciting for the Marines and myself. They're definitely keeping their merchandise fresh, exciting, different and new. Keep an eye open for the announcements of what's coming to the SFMC Quartermaster!

The Fleet Resource Program - The FRC has had some recent changes within the VCS Department, what with a

change in the Chaplains Corps as we welcome Gerry Purkey and Russell Ruhland co-heading the department. We also have some forward motion happening with the STARFLEET Special Operations group with some potential help coming from the SFMC to get up and running efficiently. We continue to be in need of FRC Directors, specifically for the Crafting and Costuming Corps, the Engineering Corps, and the "Echoes from Space" Troupe. If you'd like more details on what these FRC programs are, or to see how you can help in any part of the FRC, please get in touch with the FRC Director, Jeff Schnoor.

PetFleet - I believe that three newsletters have been made available on the PetFleet Yahoo Group, bringing them up-to-date with where they would like to be. I am going to be asking for a third-party review of the program, the information provided, if only to see how we're doing and to get the opinion of someone who has dealt with animal care to make sure that we're accomplishing what we'd like to for our members.

Constitutional Reform - We have begun with the creation of the small committee to address the possibilities of having members who live in Cuba. At the time that I'm writing this, I'm just one last member short on the committee, however I am contacting randomly selected members to ask for their participation on the committee.

As those of you who are online and read some of the various lists, this created a bit of a stir when the job for a Committee Coordinator was announced. Please be rest assured that we're not going to be pushing anything out to the members until this topic has been very appropriately explored and determined if it is appropriate for us to move forward with. We'll definitely be passing along more information as it becomes available, and I ask for your continued patience as we discuss our options and what possibilities there are for STARFLEET and our Cuban friends.

As I mentioned in the last edition, this is not an exhaustive list of the things that are happening or expected to be happening in the VCS department, because there is already a great deal happening that we need to deal with. I've also had to sub in for Sal on a couple of occasions where he's been away dealing with some really important family issues.

I'd like to remind everyone that we're now in STARFLEET's 35th year. Happy Birthday STARFLEET!

Take care, and I look forward to addressing you again in 60 days!





0107-00-5



NAME: DENNIS RAYBURN
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Meet the Judge of the STARFLEET Writers Contest

As you read in the last CQ, the STARFLEET Annual Campaign is sponsoring a contest for aspiring writers. To enter, you need to write a story that is less than 7,500 words, keep it PG rated or cleaner, and it has to have never been published in any electronic or printed media. Information on how and where to send your entries can be found at the end of this article.

Serving as the judge for this contest is noted *Star Trek* author Keith DeCandido, who has written many different novels, comics, and the like. I recently was able to interview him via email about what he is doing, and about his role in the contest. You will quickly see from his answers why he is a favorite at conventions.

Dennis: For the benefit of those who aren't familiar with you, can you tell us a bit about yourself?

Keith: I was born in a tiny fishing village in Cuba, where I was kidnapped by a roving pack of wild librarians and trained in their evil ways. A career in publishing was inevitable.

No, seriously, while I was raised by librarians, I was born in the Bronx. I've been working in publishing in some form or other since 1989, whether as an editor or writer, and I'm also a musician, podcaster, anthologist, and critic. I published my first article in 1989, my first short story in 1994, and my first novel in 1998.

Dennis: How long have you been a fan of *Star Trek*?

Keith: Since birth--or earlier, if my mother is to be believed. I grew up watching the reruns on WPIX Channel 11 in New York City, which were run at 6pm every weeknight.

Dennis: What part of the *Star Trek* universe appeals to you the most?

Keith: The casual hopefulness of it. It's easy to forget now from the distance of 40 years, but the idea of a future in which white people, black people, Asian people, and Russian people of both sexes worked together in harmony without anyone ever commenting on their race or sex was *incredibly* radical in 1966 when the news kept showing people who looked like Uhura tied into civil unrest, people who looked like Sulu being on the other side of the war in southeast Asia, and people who sounded like Chekov being our mortal



enemies. I love the fact that it poses an optimistic future, which is sometimes hard to envision when I look around the world.

Dennis: What other types of sci-fi writing do you do?

Keith: Most of what I do are media tie-ins, like the *Star Trek* novels. Other universes I've written in include *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*, *Command and Conquer*, *Doctor Who*, *Farscape*, *Gene Roddenberry's Andromeda*, *StarCraft*, *Supernatural*, *World of Warcraft*, etc.

Dennis: What is your newest book currently on sale? Can you tell us a bit about it?

Keith: My latest is a *Trek* novel called "A Singular Destiny". It's a follow-up to David Mack's epic "Destiny" trilogy, the first of several books that we authors have been jokingly referring to as "cleaning up Mack's mess." The others are series-specific--*Titan*, *TNG*, *Voyager*--but "ASD" is a more general look at how the galaxy as a whole is recovering from the devastating Borg invasion, done primarily through the eyes of a civilian professor/diplomat named Sonek Pran, appearing for the first time in this book.

Like some of my other novels, particularly "Articles of the Federation", this is a very atypical *Trek* book. None of the main crews from TV are present, though we will see some faces familiar from both television and other novels (including "Articles", as it happens). It's as close as we're likely to get to a Tom Clancy-style political thriller.

Dennis: What was your reaction when you were asked to be the judge for STARFLEET's writing contest?

Keith: "What the hell am I *thinking*?????"

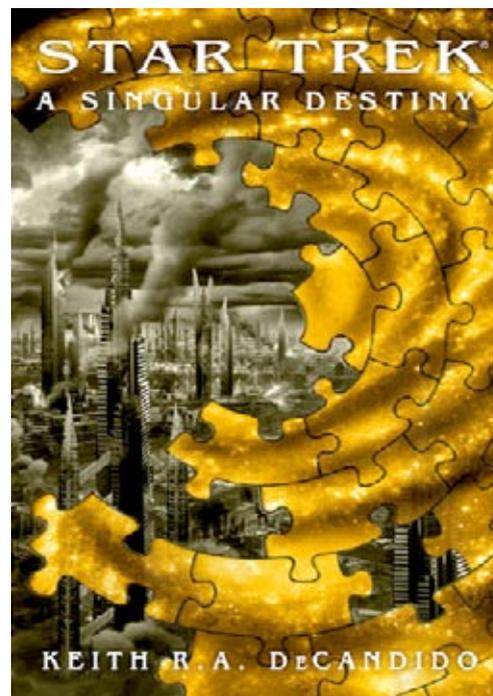
No, seriously, I'm looking forward to it.

Dennis: What do you look for when you read a story to judge it?

Keith: The story to not suck. That sounds facetious, but you'd be amazed how hard it is to have the story not suck. This is *work*, and far too often, aspiring writers just assume it'll come easy, that if they string a bunch of simple sentences together, they've written something worth reading.

Dennis: What is the next book of yours to be published? Can you tell us anything about it?

Keith: I've got a series of *Farscape* comic-book miniseries being published by BOOM! Studios,



which I'm scripting in collaboration with Rockne S. O'Bannon, who created the show. In addition, my *StarCraft: Ghost* novel "Spectres"--the sequel to my 2006 novel "Nova"--should be out in late 2009 or early 2010, and I'm also scripting a series of *StarCraft* manga volumes for TokyoPop called *Ghost Academy*.

In addition, I'm diving back into *Trek* comics in April with a Klingon story for the second *Star Trek: Alien Spotlight* series.

CONTEST RULES:

To enter, you need to write a short story using the characters from any incarnation of *Star Trek*. The story must be less than 7,500 words, and be an original story that has not been published in any electronic or printed media. The author must be a current member of STARFLEET, the International *Star Trek* Fan Association, Inc., and must supply their real name and SCC number. Pseudonyms are allowed, but the author's real name must be submitted with the entry. There is a limit of one entry per person. The story will remain the property of the writer, but by submitting it to this contest, the author grants STARFLEET license to print it in a future CQ, and use portions for future advertising and promotional purposes. The writer, by submitting a story, further agrees to submit a photo of themselves for publication in the CQ.

An important item to take note of: the story must be a story that would get a no more adult than a "PG" rating, as it will be printed in media that children can access and read. While violence can be part of the story, excessively gory violence will lessen the chances of the story moving on in the contest. (A good guide would be to keep the subject matter and content appropriate that it could run in the 8pm time slot on U.S. network television--just like *Star Trek* itself.)

All stories must be submitted by either regular mail or by email and must be received by Midnight, June 1, 2009. Entries may be sent by ground mail to Marlene Miller, 461 Harmony Lane, Campbell, Ohio 44405-1212 or by email to marlene@cboss.com. Any entries received after the deadline will not be considered. If you are sending the story by ground mail, be sure and keep a copy, as your story will not be returned.

After June 1, 2009, all entries will be reviewed by the Annual Campaign Short Story Contest Panel, who will be charged with selecting the top five stories. Those five finalists will be judged and ranked by noted author Keith R. A. DeCandido, the author of numerous books, including the *Star Trek* novel, "A Singular Destiny". The decisions of the panel and Mr. DeCandido are final.

So, it is in your hands, STARFLEET members. Those of you who do creative writing, let's see what you can come up with and which story is the best.

We'll have more news on the contest as it progresses.





NAME: JONATHAN LANE
RANK: COMMODORE
POSITION: CHIEF OF COMMUNICATIONS, STARFLEET
SHIP: USS ANGELES NCC-71840
REGION: 4, CALIFORNIA (USA)
ACHIEVEMENTS: FORMER XO, USS AVENGER NCC-1860; FORMER SPECIAL PROJECTS COORDINATOR, REGION 7; DESIGNER OF THE AWARD-WINNING USSANGELES.COM WEBSITE; CO-CHAIRMAN OF THE 2005 REGION 4 CONFERENCE



CHIEF OF COMMUNICATIONS, STARFLEET

Communications Report

We've Been Working on the Web Site

...all the live-long day!

So you might be asking, "What is the Chief of Communications doing talking about the www.sfi.org website? Isn't that Computer Operations?"

Well, just as the Reese's Peanut Butter Cups took two great tastes and brought them together, so too have CompOps and Communications come together in a much-needed joint project: a major redesign of the STARFLEET website.

The old site wasn't horrible or ugly or non-functional. But it was disorganized. And that's to be expected. Over the years this-and-that got added...this going here, that going there, something else that didn't seem to fit into an existing category either getting a new category or else being placed somewhere it shouldn't. Some files and links were placed in multiple locations, and when it came time to update something, one file or link might be changed and another forgotten about. After a few years of this, sfi.org was a mess.

The website didn't just need a facelift and pretty graphics. It needed to be knocked down, redesigned, and built back up from scratch. And that's where Communications and CompOps came together.

The User Experience – What Kind of User Are You?

Ever wonder what your Chief of Communications does for a living? I'm a Usability Specialist and Information Architect. What that means is that I plan out websites to provide information in a way that is easy to use and navigate through. Think of me as the architect making blueprints for the builders to follow. Others design pretty graphics and do the complex programming, but I come in first to figure out exactly what will be on the site and where.

Part of my job deals with figuring out who is going to use a website and how. In the case of sfi.org, I proceeded from the initial concept that there are three primary types of visitors with three different goals when they come to our website. The first type of user is the non-member: someone comes to the

site because they found our web address somewhere and they're curious about us. These people want to know what STARFLEET is, what we offer, what we do, and how much it costs to join. And most of all, they need a quick and easy (and visually obvious) way to sign up.

The second type of user is the new and/or casual member. Imagine that you've just joined STARFLEET (maybe you haven't even received your membership packet yet). What do you do next? Well, finding a chapter near you would be

1) **About Us** – This is the introduction to STARFLEET for the non-member who is intrigued: perks, costs, history, special programs like SFA, SFMC, DTS, and others...all with a convenient "Join Now" link on every page (we need members --no reason to be subtle).

2) **News** – Announcements, Open Positions, Awards, Promotions, and even *Star Trek*, Sci-Fi, and Science news.

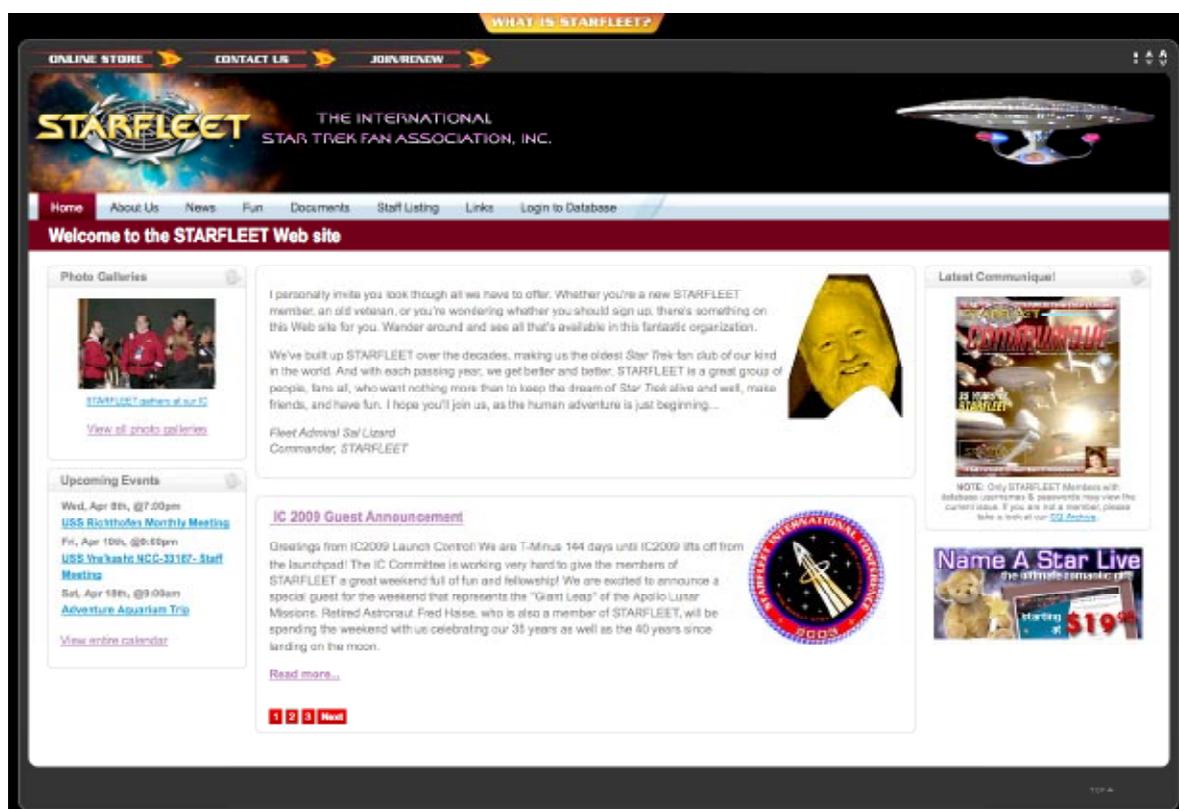
3) **Fun** – Photo Galleries (with links to individual Flickr accounts so members can share photos), Feature Articles, Calendar of Events, downloadable CQs, and info on our upcoming International Conference.

4) **Documents** – Everything from your membership materials to guides for launching your own chapter, Academy applications, Promotion and Awards forms... you name it, it's there. (And if it's not there, let me know and we'll add it.)

5) **Staff Listing** – Much better organized than the Staff Listing on the old website.

6) **Links** – Hyperlinks to other STARFLEET websites, to other interesting *Star Trek* websites, and also information on joining STARFLEET mailing lists.

7) **Login to Database** – This links to the password entry for current SFI member database. (That part of the site is going to



take a little longer to redesign, so you'll see the old version of the database for a while.)

And finally, there are the STARFLEET veterans and leaders who use the site for more managerial purposes. They need access to documents, updated staff lists, postings for open positions, etc. So just like the first two types of users, this third group needs their items in an easy-to-find location.

And the new site does all of this! Navigation is grouped into seven main sections:

take a little longer to redesign, so you'll see the old version of the database for a while.)

Other Cool Stuff

But wait, there's more! There's some really neat-o new stuff that hasn't existed before that I'm just dying to tell you about:

- **A chapter finder** – On our old site, you had to find a region, go to their website, and hope they had an up-to-date list of chapters near you. But now we have a way for members to search for a chapter by state (or country, if outside of the U.S.). Select "Texas" and get a list of every chapter in Texas. Select "New Jersey" and get a list of all chapters there. Select "Michigan" and, well, sorry, we've got no chapters there at the moment (want to start one?). We'll also have a world map



with links to each chapter. “But wait!” you say. “Not every chapter has a website to link to!” Perhaps not, but they will all have a Landing Page. Each chapter will have a general info page on the sfi.org website with chapter name, logo, CO, XO, address, e-mail (if available), and (if they have one) a link to their website. Look for your chapter’s landing page, and if any of the information is incorrect, contact me at comms@sfi.org. Also, if you don’t see your correct chapter logo, please e-mail me a clean jpeg copy at a size that’s at least 200 pixels x 200 pixels.

- **Donate to the STARFLEET Scholarship Program** – It used to be that you could only donate \$1 to a scholarship when you joined or renewed. But now we’ll have a dedicated donation page where you can donate however much you’d like to any scholarship...or to a general scholarship fund if you don’t care which scholarship gets your donation. The easiest way to donate will be directly via PayPal.

- **STARFLEET History** – For the first time ever on the main STARFLEET website, our full 35-year history. It’s not always pretty, but it’s who we are and where we came from.

- **Contact Us** – Our old Contact Us page simply listed postal addresses. Our new Contact Us page lists e-mails for specific kinds of inquiries: missing membership packet, trouble logging on, how to submit to CQ, where to go to volunteer, how to get a STARFLEET Press Kit, and more. Also, no more needing a password to send a help request to the Member Helpdesk!

- **Over 300 Starship Images** – When you go to the new site, you’ll notice there’s a starship in the upper right corner. Go to another page and you’ll see another starship image. And another... and another...and another. I went a little nuts and created nearly 300 stills from the various *Star Trek* series (call me obsessive, but it was kinda relaxing for me). Anyway, the site will almost always look different no matter how many times you visit (unless you go there 301 times...in which case, you’re more obsessive than I am!).

And Speaking of How it Looks

This was a team effort in every sense of the word. The sections and features described above did not come out of one mind, but from many. There was a massive amount of brainstorming between and among myself, CompOps Chief John Halliday, Helpdesk Administrator Bran Stimpson, and most of all, our Webmaster. And in the meantime, Joe Fuller is leading a team to improve the STARFLEET member database.

But while I did the Information Architecture, wrote a lot of the copy, gathered chapter logos, and created those 300 starship graphics, the majority of the real work was done by our Webmaster, who prefers to remain anonymous for the moment. Visual design for the website, graphical layout, and a great deal of coding was all painstakingly completed in a matter of

just a few short months. I’ve worked with web development firms who would have charged tens of thousands of dollars for that amount of work. We got it for free! And our Webmaster was always bright and enthusiastic, no matter how ridiculous my wireframes and site maps seemed to be. So thank you, thank you, thank you to our Webmaster! And if you like the site, feel free to send a pat on the back to webmaster@sfi.org.

And Now It’s Your Turn

The combined Comm/CompOps team has done a fair amount of Quality Assurance (QA) Testing throughout the site, but

Director of PR, Admiral Brandt Heatherington, works for me! And one of Brandt’s kick-off projects has been preparing STARFLEET’s first-ever National Press Release. This might sound real simple: put together a one-page announcement and send it out to news services. But it wasn’t quite that easy.

Imagine you were told to issue a national Press Release for STARFLEET...what would you do first? How would you write one? What should it look like? Where do you send it? How do you make people see it?

Well, fortunately, Brandt actually works in Public Relations. So the first thing he had to do was find us a decent Press Release and Promotion company, since they know how to

circulate press releases and what to do to get them seen by people. Of course, such services are seldom given away for free, so Brandt had to research several places and collect pricing options.

After some discussion, the Executive Committee approved two Press Releases for this year be issued through PRWeb, utilizing their second-tier “Social Media” package for \$140 per release.

We decided to issue two Press Releases so that we could use the first as a trial run, to see what works and what doesn’t. Then, timed to coincide with the release of the *Star Trek* movie this summer, we will issue our second release, hopefully learning the lessons from the first one.

Then we needed to figure out what to talk about in the Press Release. We can’t just say, “Hi, we’re STARFLEET.” Press Releases need to include news of some kind. Fortunately, we had just such an announcement. Celestis, the company that’s been launching deceased people’s ashes into space (including *Star Trek* notables James Doohan and, soon, both Gene and Majel Roddenberry) is partnering up with STARFLEET to offer our members special discounts on their services. Well, shoot, that’s certainly news!

So Brandt wrote up a Press Release. Of course, we couldn’t just write it up ourselves. Celestis’ people had to read it over, too, and add to it, and then approve our changes to their changes, which we needed to review and edit, and so on. It took a few weeks to get something that everyone agreed on. But finally, during the first week of March, the Press Release was sent out.

How did it do? Hard to tell yet. At the time of this writing (a week later), it’s only just begun to spread across the Internet. I’ve found it on about four different sites so far. But I’m told that will continue to increase. If you want to check for yourself (since this issue will get to you about a month after I write this), do an online search for “Starfleet” and “Celestis” and see what comes up.

And if you want to read the Press Release, just go to our brand new sfi.org website and look for it in the “News” section.

And with that, folks, I’m done for another two months. Enjoy the rest of CQ #151.

STARFLEET
The International Star Trek Fan Association, Inc.

Join/Renew | Contact Us | Online Store

About Us | News | Fun | Documents | Staff List | Links | Administration

1 The top Nav bar is global and appears on every page of the website. "Join/Renew" will go to the first page of our Join and Renew process flow (8.0). "Contact Us" goes to a special page (9.0) with our contact e-mail links and a link to the help desk. "Online Store" will go off the site to the QM website.

2 Brief text introduction to Starfleet and our Website. Copy to come (probably written by Commodore Jon). Brief text introduction to Starfleet and our Website. Copy to come (probably written by Commodore Jon).

3 Photo description entered by member who submitted photo (or if blank, then we'll use a generic description).

4 As much text as will fit from our latest announcement. Sometimes the announcement will fit, sometimes it'll be too short and leave a bit of blank space. When that happens, it's just unavoidable. And then sometimes we'll just run long when there's too much text to fit. When that happens, we fit in as much as we can and then end with ellipses and a... [Read More](#)

5 Non-members can download our current newsletter. Non-members have access to our previous issue. [Click to download](#)

6 Photo description entered by member who submitted photo (or if blank, then we'll use a generic description). [Click to see more](#)

7 We'll start the article by showing the first paragraph or two, as much as we can fit. We'll start the article by showing the first paragraph or two, as much as we can fit. We'll start the article by showing the first paragraph or two, as much as we can fit. [Click to see more](#)

8 Ad links to advertiser's site

Home Page (0.0)
Overview: Home Page appears when a user goes to www.sfi.org or when a user clicks on the Starfleet logo on the top left.

1 This first highlight box updates whenever a new photo is uploaded. There must be sufficient space to fit either a horizontal or a vertical photo. Button links to Fun->Photos (3.1).

2 We might want to make this a brief greeting from the Commander, Starfleet, but it must be brief and generic. If a probably a good idea to ghost write it and just sign Gal's name.

3 This second box updates whenever a new announcement is posted. Button links to News->Announcements (2.1).

4 This third box updates whenever a new CQ is uploaded. Comm Chief needs to supply cover (jpg) of each issue. The displayed cover should be of the previous CQ. Button links to Fun->Download Newsletter (3.2). The "current newsletter" hyperlink within the text links to the Admin log-in page (7.0).

5 This fourth box mimics the current Events List on our existing web site and behaves the same way (referencing the calendar and updating whenever an event's date passes.) Links spawn new browser windows, and the button goes to Fun->Calendar (3.4).

6 This fifth box has the first paragraph (or whatever fits) from our Features section. Button links to Fun->Features (3.2).

7 The last box starts out as a banner ad for our one sponsor, Space Services, and links to a new spawned window for their web site. In the future, this might be a rotating banner or else link to a sponsors' page. For now, we have only one sponsor to worry about.

Starfleet Website Wireframes | URL: www.sfi.org | Author: Jonathan Lane | Date: January 9, 2009 | Version 1

“YOU KNOW ENGINEERS--THEY JUST LOVE TO CHANGE THINGS!” BEFORE OUR WEBMASTER STARTED DESIGNING AND BUILDING THE NEW SFI.ORG WEBSITE, WE PRODUCED A SERIES OF WIREFRAME TEMPLATES FOR THE TEAM TO FOLLOW. THINK OF THESE AS THE BLUEPRINTS FOR THE NEW WEBSITE. HERE YOU SEE THE WIREFRAME FOR THE HOME PAGE OF THE NEW WEBSITE, WHICH IS SHOWN ON THE PREVIOUS PAGE OF THIS ARTICLE. WIREFRAME BY JON LANE.

I’m sure we’ll have missed something...probably many somethings. If you find a link that doesn’t work or that goes to the wrong page, if you discover the layout of a certain section is completely screwy, or even if you just find a typo, e-mail me at comms@sfi.org. You find it, we’ll fix it. Also, as I mentioned earlier, I spent a lot of time tracking down chapter logos and proper website links. But that was a gargantuan task and still frustratingly unfinished. If your chapter info is incorrect or incomplete, please send me whatever you can and we’ll be sure to fix it.

And hey, if you like the site, feel free to tell us that, too. I’ll pass along any and all e-mails to the team.

Almost Forgot: Our First Press Release

Back in February, the Public Relations Department was officially moved from the Office of the Commander, STARFLEET into the Communications Department. So now our STARFLEET

0410-19-17



NAME: JERRY TIEN
RANK: REAR ADMIRAL
POSITION: CHIEF OF OPERATIONS
OTHER POSITIONS: COMMANDING OFFICER
SHIP: USS EAGLE NCC-1719
REGION: 4, CALIFORNIA (USA)



CHIEF OF OPERATIONS, STARFLEET

Operations Report

Happy New Year, folks. I am very excited to be working in Operations. My first tasks include reviewing chapter status of the fleet, Operations staffing, and so on. I will be looking through all the departments under Operations to make sure we have sufficient resources to ensure a smooth-running fleet. My goal is to improve existing services and develop new ways to enhance your membership experience. Please send your suggestions and comments to:

Jerry Tien
 45018 Cougar Circle
 Fremont, CA 94539
 ops@sfi.org
 888-734-8735 x703
 425-928-5612 (fax)

As part of this effort, it is my pleasure to announce that Cindy Krell will be joining the Operations department in the position of Vice Chief of Operations. Cindy brings with her a

wide range of experience from regional to fleet levels. She can be reached at "ops-vice@sfi.org".

Next, I'd like to cover a bit of Operations' core business: the commission of new chapters. We had some recently commissioned chapters:
USS Odin (R1)
USS Starquest (R2)
USS Thor's Hammer (R9)

It's been a great pleasure working with them. I had a chance to meet some of these folks, such as the command staff from *Thor's Hammer*, who traveled from Iceland to IC 2008.

Any business needs to pay attention to recruiting and retention of customers. We can recruit on our own, as well as leveraging events hosted by other parties that can promote our interests. A good example is the upcoming *Star Trek* movie. I hope it will be a great success.

This can be the catalyst to revitalize *Trek* fandom we've been waiting for-- a shot in the arm, so to speak. I suggest all of our chapters seriously consider organized efforts to tap into this opportunity to recruit new members.

In the meantime, we can work together to recruit members for STARFLEET even as we wait for the arrival of the new movie. There are numerous resources at your disposal-- from regional to fleet level. If you are not sure whom to contact, please feel free to check with me at ops@sfi.org.

On the membership retention side, quite a few members mentioned that they didn't renew before their membership expired. Some of them were due to missing renewal notices from the fleet database. I am working with ComOps to make sure we send out the notices as planned. While we work on that issue, there are some things you can do to alleviate this:

1) Log in to SFI Database to view your own records. Under the "Member" menu on the left side, click "Membership Lookup" and you can look at your expiration date by SCC number or name.

2) Make sure your contact information is up to date. This can be verified via "Member" -> "Change Account Information" in the SFI Database. This is the e-mail account used for renewal reminders.

Of course, some folks may experience problems logging into the database from time to time. In those instances, please go to <http://helpdesk.sfi.org> and let us know.

That's all from me for now. I am looking forward to a great year for our organization. Hope to see you all at the International Conference in August.

0310-88-18



NAME: JOHN HALLIDAY
RANK: COMMODORE
OTHER ALIAS: COMMODORE SORAK
POSITION: CHIEF OF COMMUNICATIONS, STARFLEET
SHIP: USS ARK ANGEL NCC-1886
REGION: 3, TEXAS (USA)



CHIEF OF COMPUTER OPERATIONS, STARFLEET

Computer Operations Report

Greetings from CompOps,

We're starting the New Year with a great deal of activity in Computer Operations. I would like to be one of you readers as you read this article so I could then send a message back through a wormhole; that way I could tell you how it all turns out.

At this point, all I can really say is that, as you read this, you should be able to use the new, fully re-designed website! We used/are using/will use the Joomla

content management system that seems so popular on the web these days and, so far, the results seem rather fantastic. We have had several people give their input and the design looks quite good from all I have seen so far. If not for my Vulcan heritage and training, I would say that I envy you your ability to see the new site! There are some new banners being displayed proudly, the setup of the whole site is fundamentally different (and far more usable), and we have regular updates to news and events.

There was a problem with access to the current website for a couple of months before I came aboard as Chief of CompOps, but we soon sorted that out and the existing site is now working as expected for all members. I had heard some wild speculation that ranged from the problem being our current CMS (E107), to it being a problem with a recent upgrade to Road Runner/Time Warner, to each member needing a new kind of router to fix the issue. It turns out that the problem was a simple setting in the

CMS software that caused people to be permanently locked out when their bad password count reached 10! What a relief that is now fixed and everyone is now able to access the site once again.

We had another interesting experience when the sites' security certificate expired. This is a special license that we pay for annually that allows us to ensure that members who access the Member Database have an encrypted (very secure) connection so their personal



data is never let loose on the Internet. The problem is that the certificate was originally purchased on someone's personal account, and we were unable to reach that person to hand over the keys. Sal Lizard, the Commander, STARFLEET, filled out pages and pages of information and even photocopied his ID and faxed it all in so that the certifying authority would believe that we are who we say we are. It's all resolved now, thank goodness!

The most surprising thing we learned this month is that we are known as a SPAMMER to our web host, Dreamhost. Joe Fuller was working hard on tracking down why our automated e-mail system wasn't working--you know, the one that doesn't send reminder e-mails to members whose memberships are about to expire...the e-mail system that is supposed to forward MSR's on to the right people, as well as send password reset confirmations to the person requesting one? As it turns out, our automated reminder system had a bug in it, and instead of only selecting a sub-group

of people to mail to each night (those that were expiring soon), it was sending e-mail out to the entire membership (or trying to). This resulted in flags being set within the Dreamhost system, and our e-mail would simply not be allowed out. This has been going on for a very long time indeed, and we are still uncertain as to why Dreamhost did not previously inform us of the problem. Also, it seems that if you automatically send so much as ONE e-mail to any member of an organization, it is considered Unsolicited Bulk E-Mail or UBE. This is more commonly known as SPAM. We are working on implementing an 'opt-in' system in which members who are renewing will be offered the choice of receiving a friendly reminder. Without such a system of verification, Dreamhost will continue to limit our e-mailing capacity (only for automated functions) to 1 message per HOUR. Wow. We intend to have this new opt-in system in place ASAP.

We are currently working on a redesign

of the Member Database. Though the application actually works very well in most cases, there are some outstanding issues that are a bit of a bore. We'd also like to see a lot of new functionality that will assist us in providing more efficient services to the membership. One problem we continue to have has to do with membership renewals that reduce the number of members on a family membership--it doesn't work very well. Another problem that has to do with sending previous months' MSR's--the numbering and identification of the MSR's gets screwy and it has to be fixed by myself manually. The other problem we sometimes have is that passwords don't always reset correctly when people go in to reset them. We are going to be working on fixing those issues, to be sure. At the same time, we'll build a new system that has a far more powerful range of features... things like automation of document and request processing. The system will keep track of outstanding items and help get the right people involved with the tasks that need to be done.

We have added two new moderators to the sfi-l list: James J. Cecil and Gregg Kleiner. Wish them well as they help keep our Official List running smoothly.

I came into this job with the expectation that it would be a big mess of work that would possibly suck me down into oblivion (as into a singularity), and also that there would be a number of people hounding me as I went about the work of getting things in order. I am gratified to be able to report that, while the amount of work has indeed been very great, the staff of the EC and membership in general have been very helpful. This is especially true of the CS (Sal Lizard), VCS (Dave Blaser), Communications Chief (Jon Lane), my own Vice Chief of Computer Operations (Bob Chen), and several others. My own staff also deserve special mention as they have consistently and unquestioningly done their duty. Danny, Joe, Christina, Lisa, Martha, James, James, Matt and Jeffery -- thanks for all your hard work.

0111-71-796



NAME: WARREN PRICE
RANK: REAR ADMIRAL
POSITION: CHIEF SHAKEDOWN OPERATIONS, STARFLEET
OTHER POSITIONS: COMMANDING OFFICER
SHIP: USS PROVIDENCE NCC-71796
REGION: 1, TENNESSEE (USA)



CHIEF OF SHAKEDOWN OPERATIONS, STARFLEET

Shakedown Operations Report

Greetings Starfleet,

I am hoping all of you have been enjoying the year. I have so far.

I am happy to announce the following launched Chapters-in-Training. Well, I would be happy if we had some. It has been slow since the last *Communique*. I feel confident that it will pick up.

As the writing of this article, I have selected a new Vice Chief, as Jerry Tien has been taken from me and is now the new Chief of Operations. Congratulations, Jerry, and best of luck. My new Vice Chief is Admiral Alex Rosenzweig. Alex can be contacted at shoc-vice@sfi.org

Alex has FLEET involvement stretching back over the past 25 years. Counting a few months of service as a ShOC

Advisor under then-Vice Admiral Jennifer French, Alex had just under five years of direct experience in ShOC itself. Add to that almost nine years of service as a Regional Coordinator and service as a CO of a chapter which supported over a dozen chapters-in-training during his command (and more afterward!), and you will find very few 'FLEET members with as much experience working with developing chapters and overall organizational growth management.

Alex still has new ideas to bring to the table, and with the combination of creativity and experience which he can offer, he believes that he can continue to contribute to making STARFLEET better, and to give back to the organization which has given to him so much.

The position of ShOC Vice Chief will be combined with the Department of Technical Services.

Please remember that you have a source available to you if you want to start a new Chapter. It is called the START2007 Manual. It can be downloaded from STARFLEET's website in the documents section.

DTS

Work on the DTS site is ongoing. Mike Dugas has completed a draft of the graphical layout and is now into the coding component of the site. The work site location is here: <http://www.whitestar.org/dts>

Now, some one-on-one from me. This time of the year gets busy for me. I attend the Region One Summit, for which I am on

the Team Summit Planning Committee. The next event for me in June will be my one-and-only trip to a fan convention. I travel to Tulsa, Oklahoma every year to attend Trek Expo. There are several *Trek* actors and other Sfi-Fi actors as well. It is a three-day event. They have dinner with the stars on Saturday night and some type of entertainment after the dinner. I have been going for about ten years.

Well, that's it for me this time. Feel free to contact me, my door.... er, e-mail is always open.

Rear Admiral Warren Price
CO, USS Providence NCC-71796
Chief of Shakedown Operations
SFI R1
Mailing Address:
315 Highway 220
Cedar Grove, TN 38321
E-Mail shoc@sfi.org





NAME: PEG PELLERIN
RANK: ADMIRAL
POSITION: COMMANDANT, STARFLEET ACADEMY
OTHER POSITIONS: EXECUTIVE OFFICER
SHIP: *SS IAN FLEMING* SFR-1501
REGION: 15, MASSACHUSETTS (USA)
ACHIEVEMENTS: FORMER CO OF *USS EQUINOX*; FORMER OTS DIRECTOR; FORMER DEAN OF THE INSTITUTE OF LEADERSHIP



COMMANDANT, STARFLEET ACADEMY

Report from the Commandant, STARFLEET Academy

Greetings from the great Halls of Learning, STARFLEET Academy.

By the time you are reading this, one year of my tenure as the STARFLEET Academy Commandant will have elapsed. There have been several changes within the EC of this one-year-old administration, but I'm hanging in there and will continue to do so, thanks to my hard working and dedicated staff who have been patient while teaching me many things I didn't know and who continue to assist me along the way.

In a way, the Academy has also become a recruitment tool. Non-members will contact any one of us and ask how they can take our courses. We explain that one needs to be a member prior to being able to indulge in what the Academy has to offer. We direct them to the STARFLEET website and explain the process of joining. We even have a link on our SFA website for joining STARFLEET. Many times, we see these same people's names come across our desks again, as STARFLEET members.

From the desk of the Vice 'Dant: Adm. Marlene Miller

Talk about Recycling! Here I am, once again, in an administrative position of one of most favorites places in STARFLEET, the halls of STARFLEET Academy.

Due to the busy time of year at my real-life job, I didn't have much time to put something together for all you folks, but I do hope to have something more for the next issue.

Besides being the Academy's Vice 'Dant, I am also the Chairperson of the Annual Campaign, as well as the Director of OCC, which reminds me: Will those of you who have taken OCC please check their database listing to ensure they have been given credit for the course? If you haven't, please contact me at marlene1@zoominternet.net.

From the Academic Wing: Adm. Carol Thompson, Coordinator of Academic Services

December was a productive month. We reopened a number of Colleges, welcomed new directors and shuffled some staff to fill vacancies that had occurred over the past couple of months.

As the year draws to a close, and there is a lull in student activity due to the holidays, I am tying up some loose ends. With Support's help, we are updating documents and the SFA website, closing old projects, and finishing up projects that need finishing.

Most of these tasks are small and I am satisfied that the Academy will be shipshape for the new year.

As of December 28, 2008, we have 10 Institutes, 60 colleges, and 983 active exams! And there are enough on the table to go over 1,000 early in 2009!

From the Support Services Wing: Adm. Greg Staylor, Coordinator of Support Services

I am Admiral Greg Staylor and have recently been appointed by Commandant Pellerin as the Coordinator of Support Services, which is the Academy staff position overseeing the Academy Alumni Association Section, Awards Section, Accessibility Program, Away Team Program, FAC Program, Online Voucher Code Program, Scholarship Program, Web Site, Newsletter, and Arts & Graphics Department. As some of you may know, I have been in this position in the past and have worked with many different Commandants and Support Services teams. Over the last decade or so, the Academy has made many advances, resulting in increased services to the STARFLEET membership. Some of these advances include creating a dedicated Academy web site, which allowed members to learn more about the Academy, the courses offered, and

course requirements than we could print on paper applications; the addition of e-mailed courses, which saved weeks of waiting between postal delivery of courses, returned exams, and final diplomas; Online Voucher Codes, which allowed students to pay for courses without having to physically send checks; the elimination of course fees when courses are taken by e-mail; the establishment of web-based online courses, which allowed students to use the internet to take exams; and most recently, the creation of the Fully Automated Course (FAC) Program, which allows members to register, download manuals and materials, take the course exam and receive their diploma completely through an interactive online program.

Support Services' goal is to continue to add services and technology advancements that will benefit the STARFLEET members' abilities to access and enjoy all that the Academy has to offer. We have a great team working in the Academy's Support Services wing, and I am confident in the skills and abilities of each person working toward the Support Services' goals. In the next few months, we will be working on making more FAC Program courses available, updating many of the Academy documents and putting in place a maintenance program to keep them up-to-date, looking at ways to make the Academy more accessible to members with disabilities, and giving the Academy web site a minor visual change, but a major functional redesign to make it more user-friendly. If you have any suggestions, please contact me at support@acad.sfi.org. I am always interested in comments, suggestions, and constructive criticism.

From the Awards Section: Bdr. Scott A. "Amigaman" Anderson, Sr., SFMC

Below are the Boothby Award winners for October through December, 2008.

October 2008

Sapphire 850
Wayne Lee Killough, Jr.

Topaz 650
Wayne Smith

Trilithium 500
Carol Thompson

Platinum 40
Glendon Diebold

Zirconium 400
George Ann Wheeler

Titanium 350
Eric Johansson

Dilithium 300
Jill Michelle Tipton

Diamond 250
Donald Dobrin
Ros Haywood
Gregory S. Staylor
Carolyn M. A. Zimdahl

Latinum 200
Michael John Timko, III

Gold 150
Rebecca Louise Self

Silver 100
Jeremy Andrew Skelton

Bronze 50
Richard A. Jolitz
Joseph A. Sare, III
Sharon Rowlette

November 2008

Amber 550
Carol Thompson

Trilithium 500
Glendon Diebold

Titanium 350
Richard W. Hewitt

Dilithium 300
Donald Dobrin
Gregory S. Staylor



Latinum 200
Carolyn Donner

Silver 100
George Edwards

Bronze 50
Richard Andrew Boudreau
Linda Flythe
Scott Christopher Schaller
John Wilson

December 2008

Topaz 650
Erik Stubblefield

Garnet 600
Larry Dale French, Sr.

Amber 550
Scott A. Anderson, Sr.

Titanium 350
Jill Michelle Tipton

Dilithium 300
Gary Wayne Hollifield, Jr.,

Silver 100
Sharon Rowlette
Lee Vitasek

Bronze 50
Ricardo Garcia
Dennis Jones

College of Computer History: Admiral Sharon Ann Clark, Director

The College of Computer History has been available to students of STARFLEET Academy since it opened as the Computer Education Program December 1987. There are three levels: History – starting with the first Terran computers, Modern – *Star Trek*, and Artificial Life vs. Organic Intelligence – looking at the interaction between created and creator. Exams and projects are researched in encyclopedias, *Star Trek* reference books, *Star Trek* episodes and movies, computer books, and books on writing.

A Tour of the New and Improved Gorn Academy: Izod Ze Gorn (as told to Admiral Carolyn Donner, Director)

"Hi everyone!" <Izod waving his hand at the tour group as he approaches> "I'm Izod. I'll be conducting your tour today. I'm here to show you the new and improved Gorn Academy campus. Some of you I recognize from a previous tour many years ago when we opened the original campus in the Fall of 2001. That campus had only one building that served as everything: classrooms,

administration, offices, research... everything. This new campus is much larger and contains four buildings. That was why we moved to this new location down the road from the original campus."

"Okay, let's get started. You'll notice as you come onto the campus that the driveway and shuttleport lead up to the main building here." <Pointing to the building in the center of campus and leading the group in that direction.> "This is the administration building. In here you'll find the newly remodeled registrar's office. Every student passes through there to get their class schedule when they first arrive. Down the hall you'll find more offices for the administration, and upstairs you'll find the professors' offices. We have some of the finest professors from many of the Gorn worlds, as well as other Federation planets."

The tour group admires the bright new rooms and clean hallways.

"Now let's move to the next building. This is where our Level 100 courses are taught. Here you'll find a new classroom for each of the Level 100 courses. Beginning students start here. They can study Gorns in the original series (TOS), Gorns in the animated series (TAS), Gorns in the Next Generation series (TNG) ... well, you get the idea. There is one course for each of the Star Trek series, dealing with Gorns. These courses are all done by computer, so that's why every desk has a complete computer hooked up to the internet. Students can come here at their leisure and work on their courses. When they finish, they will immediately know if they have passed or failed the course, and if they pass they can print out their certificates."

Some murmuring continues from the group as they admire the open spaces and new computers. Izod moves them along so no one gets left behind.



"Moving to the next building, again you'll see new classrooms equipped with the latest computers for research and to take the Level 200 courses. This building is for upper-class students who want a deeper look into Gorn society. There is a course on Gorn Culture, Gorn History, and Gorn Biology. Again, the students can study at their leisure, researching and taking the courses on the computers. If they pass, they immediately know it and can print out their certificates."

Izod hears someone say, "It wasn't as nice as this when I was a student at the Gorn Academy last year." Others agree, but Izod keeps them moving to the next building so that they can finish the tour before the students arrive for their morning lessons.

"And now to the last building ... This one is for the senior-most students who will be taking Level 300 courses. In fact, a student has to take at least two level 100 and one level 200 courses before he/she can even begin one of the Level 300 courses. This building is equipped for advanced research. There are only two Level 300 courses to choose from. One involves writing a thesis. The thesis can be any story (fictional, of course) that tells about the student's (or the student's ship's) first encounter with a Gorn or Gorns. The other Level 300 course is a Project completed by the student. It can be almost anything ... a Gorn newspaper, sculpture of a Gorn or Gorn ship, a needlepoint subject that involves a Gorn or Gorns, a Gorn game ... imagination, research, and creativity is all that is needed."

"You can find out more about all the Gorn Academy courses on the STARFLEET Academy website."

"Thank you for taking the tour of the new and improved Gorn Academy campus. Are there any questions?"

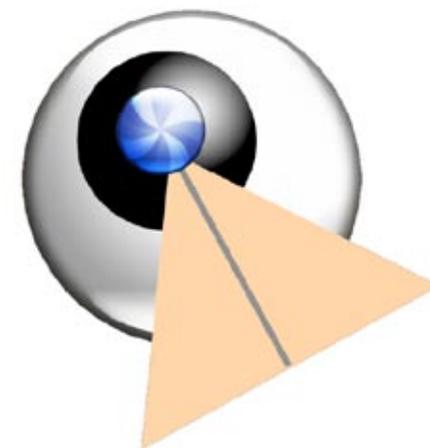
A man from the crowd asks, "When will the campus be open to students?"

Izod answers, "It's open right now. As you can see we finished our tour just in time, because students are arriving now for their classes."

Izod continues as they walk back toward the administration building, "Just go to the STARFLEET

Academy website at <http://academy.sfi.org/> and click on the 'College Catalog' button. Then scroll down to the 'Institute of Alien Studies' and click on 'The Gorn Academy'. From there you can see all the courses that are offered in the Gorn Academy. When you've chosen the one you want to take, just click on the 'FAC' and it will take you right to the course instructions and online test."

"Once you've followed these instructions, you'll be a full student of the Gorn Academy. Are there any more questions?" Izod looks around and finds that everyone has disappeared. Then he notices they all went to their computers to enroll in courses at the Gorn Academy. Shouldn't you do the same?"



Vulcan Academy of Sciences: Brigadier General Larry French, Sr., Director

The Vulcan Academy of Science is designed to answer questions, which you may have about a particular science which has piqued your interest enough to learn more about it. VAS offers degrees in 30 science-related areas and electives based on sub-sciences, plus Treknobabble, logic and trivia, from many of the sciences that exist in our world today. To add that bit of thrilling science fiction, Star Trek trivia that relates to the sciences for which VAS offers courses has been thrown in.

Well, that seems to be all from the halls of STARFLEET Academy.

"A goal is a dream with a deadline." (Not sure who wrote this, but I saw it on a sports poster at a Ruby Tuesday restaurant.)

Adm. Peg Pellerin
SFA Commandant
academy@sfi.org





NAME: SCOTT A. ANDERSON, SR. (TOD'MIT K'EHRE EPETAI-IW)

RANK: COLONEL

POSITION: DIRECTOR, STARFLEET ACADEMY AWARDS, STARFLEET ACADEMY

OTHER POSITIONS: DEPUTY COMMANDING OFFICER, TRAINING AND DOCTRINE COMMAND, SFMC; INFANTRY BRANCH DIRECTOR, STARFLEET MARINE CORPS ACADEMY; STARFLEET OFFICERS LEADERSHIP SCHOOL DIRECTOR, SFA

SHIP: USS DRAGONS FURY NCC-74304

REGION: 1, WEST VIRGINIA (USA)



0114-04-743

The 500th Boothby Award Recipient An Interview with Commodore Douglas Wayne Mayo

There are many things stand out in one's memory...the first day of school or the first time you drive a car. In the STARFLEET Academy Awards Department, we have reached one of those milestones: the 500th issuance of the Boothby Award. For those of you who have not been in the STARFLEET Academy, you must be asking yourself, "What is a Boothby Award?" So here is a brief description. The Boothby is an achievement award in the STARFLEET Academy for members who have completed at least 50 courses, and in increments of 50 thereafter, in either the STARFLEET Academy or in the STARFLEET Marine Corps Academy. To give you a brief history of the Boothby, this program started out quite a few years ago and, in late 2006, Truman Temple and myself were teamed up to work this department. The Boothby program at this point has no limits on how high you may go, although the highest number of courses completed in either of the Academies is currently 1,100... an achievement held by Truman Temple. We issue these awards as needed, and we have seen as few as 5 go out in a single month to as many as 23! Over 180 members of Fleet have received this award, and quite a few of those are multiple recipients, too. Truman had coined the phrase "Dirty Dozen" a couple years back, and it is the Top 12 Students in either of the Academies. Besides Truman and myself on that list, the other 10 include (in alphabetical order): Scott A. Akers, Larry Dale French Sr., Wayne Lee Killough Jr., Thomas Pawelczak, Dean Andre Rogers, Bill Rowlette, Sean Niemeyer, Wayne Smith, Erik Stubblefield, and Carol Thompson.

Each member on that list of the "Dirty Dozen" has taken more than 500 courses in either Academy. Several are Directors or former Directors, but all are excellent examples of what kind of fun can be had in the Academies. So without further ado, on to the interview with the 500th Boothby Award Recipient: Commodore Douglas Wayne Mayo of the USS *Nelson* in Region 15. Anyone who wants to congratulate him on this achievement may do so by emailing him at dwmamm@comcast.net.

SFA: Doug, you have just found out that you are the 500th person to earn a Boothby on any level in STARFLEET Academy, what do you think about this?

DWM: My first thought is "Wow, what an accomplishment and what an honor!" It certainly is a point of pride for me, even though I take some good-natured ribbing from members in my region that I have no life, because of the sheer volume of courses I've taken. The Academy is definitely a central part of why I continue to be a STARFLEET member.

SFA: You have taken over 400 exams between both of the Academies, what were your favorite Schools and/or Directors?

DWM: Being a *Trek* fan since 1968, I enjoyed all the courses at the Colleges of Federation Studies and of Treknology because, for me, those two colleges spoke to and affirmed the reasons why I love *Star Trek*: great characters and great stories. There are so many Directors I could mention here, as over the years that I've taken courses and got to know many of them. Each of the Directors I've dealt with have two things in common: they are both professional and personal in their dealings, and that in itself enhanced my Academy experience.

SFA: What course or courses did you find the most challenging throughout all of these?

DWM: Quite definitely without question I'd have to say the exams I took at the College of History were the most challenging and required the most detailed research. But being a fan of history made the searching easy and rewarding.

SFA: With over 400 courses, it is obvious that you have had some fun here. What courses would you rate as the most fun from what you have taken?

DWM: Hands down, I'd have to say the College of Sci-Fi has been the most fun bunch of courses lately, because it's really been great to watch a movie and then take an exam on it. Through this college, I've gotten to watch again those Sci-Fi great movies I grew up on.

SFA: What courses do you plan to take for the coming year?

DWM: I plan on taking more courses from the College of History, I particularly enjoyed the Pearl Harbor exam, being a fan of WWII, and hope there'll be more focused time period courses offered. I've taken a few courses offered at the SFMC Academy and plan on broadening from horizons there as well. I certainly will shoot to take more classes at the College of the Macabre as well

SFA: With all your experience taking courses, do you plan on writing any new courses?

DWM: I was in the process of developing with Truman Temple (before his passing) a course on the TV series *The Six Million Dollar Man*. I'm slowly but surely putting the finishing touches to that, then I'll submit it for approval. I just got the entire series of the Highlander, and I'd like to do a series of exams on that too, but we'll see if time allows for that one!

SFA: Besides the Boothby awards you have earned, what other Academy awards have you received?

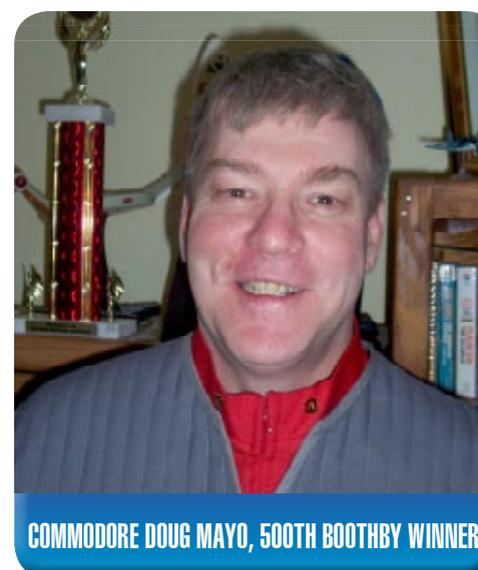
DWM: *Red Squad Member Awarded* 08/05/2006
ADP - Master of Federation Studies *Awarded* 09/25/2007
ADP - Doctorate of Federation Studies *Awarded* 09/06/2008
ADP - Doctorate of Science Fiction Studies *Awarded* 09/06/2008

SFA: Have you received any other awards in other areas of SFI, academic or other?

DWM: I've won some Regional awards. I've been Officer of the Year twice; Member of the Year once; and--surprise, surprise--Student of the Year 5 times.

SFA: With all of the awards from the Academy that you have received, what do you think of the Awards program here in the Academy?

DWM: I think the Boothby Awards are a great thing! My philosophy has always been that anytime one has an opportunity to give something back at little or no cost, they should do just that, and the Boothby Awards and the ADP degree program are fine examples of that. It costs so little to say to a member 'GREAT JOB!' Both of these have been great motivators for me. They also give me something to talk about as further incentives to attend the Academy to the members of my chapter (*USS Nelson*) and to my Region (15).



SFA: You just got a school of your own in the Academy. What school is it, how do you like being a Director now, and can we see more courses coming out soon?

DWM: I'm the Director of the College of *Star Wars*. How I became the Director is a bit of a sad tale, but here it is. When Truman Temple was still recovering from his illness, I was approached by Carol Thompson, who asked me if I'd consider becoming the temporary Director of the College of *Star Wars* while Truman was recovering. I told her I'd be glad to help out the Academy. Before I even got the courses and material, I received an email from Carol telling me of Truman's passing, and she offered me the permanent Directorship, to which I humbly accepted. The Academy is often referred to as the jewel of STARFLEET, and I'd have to agree with that 100%. Being a Director is a great job, it's fantastic to be able to give back to STARFLEET and to the Academy.

SFA: Finally, where do you see yourself in the next year here in the Academy?

DWM: Attaining the Boothby Award for 500 courses. Continuing on as Director at the College of *Star Wars*. Working on getting *The Six Million Dollar Man* courses Temple and I worked on up and running. I have a couple of ideas about building a reference library for Academy students I'd like to explore

A final note from the Desk of the STARFLEET Academy Awards Director: the Boothby Program is not all that this department does for the STARFLEET Academy. We also take care of the annual Squad Awards for the International Conference, we have created the certificates for the Advanced Degree Program, and we produce any other award or awards that are deemed necessary at the time for the Academy. So are you taking courses in the Academy or TRACOM? If not, then maybe you should jump in and see what all of the fuss is all about. You may be the 1,000th award winner or, at the minimum, get your "Geek" on and test your knowledge. Any way you look at it, you could have some fun and get some recognition in the process. So point your browser to <http://academy.sfi.org> or <http://sfmca.sfi-sfmc.org> and pick some courses that look interesting. And check back frequently as both Academies are ever growing. We look forward to having each of you aboard. Good luck and godspeed!





NAME: MICHAEL STEIN
RANK: COMMODORE
POSITION: CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER, STARFLEET
OTHER POSITIONS: EXECUTIVE OFFICER
SHIP: USS JUSTICE NCC-558
REGION: 7, NEW JERSEY (USA)



CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER, STARFLEET

Report from the Chief Financial Officer

Greetings.

Along with this report are the updated financial statements for the period ending December 31, 2008, which is the end of our 2nd fiscal quarter. Since my last report, we've received the final financial information for IC 2008 and therefore have redone the financial statements to reflect the financial data that was sent to us.

Also, since we've received this additional financial info, we've had to redo some line items on our Federal Form 990 as well. Once this is completed, it will be resubmitted to an outside CPA for review.

As noted on the Statement of Activities, our largest expenses year-to-date have been the STARFLEET IC Expenses followed by Quartermaster Supplies and *Communiqué* Expenses.

More detailed financial statements are available on-line for all members to view at the SFI Finance

home page. Please sign in using your SCC# and password to access the Members Only sections.

One interesting story that I've been asked to discuss in this article concerns the two IC 2006 charities that were sent \$125 each early last year. These two charities were the Philadelphia Reads and the Lehigh Humane Society. The check for the Philadelphia Reads was cashed and a "thank you" letter was later sent by them and subsequently published in the *Communiqué*.

The check for the Lehigh Humane Society, however, never cleared. I had been in contact with Angel Avery, the IC 2006 Charity Chairperson, to check with

Lehigh about this missing check since July, 2008. According to Angel, she never received a response from them as to this missing check. Angel has since learned that this shelter is a "kill shelter" (meaning rescued animals are eventually euthanized if they cannot be placed), which was unknown to her and

me at the time the donation was sent to them.

Since this check amount was approved by the EC early last year, and since the check was over six months old and now void, Angel recommended to me that we issue another check, this time to The Center for Animal Health & Welfare in Easton, PA for \$125. Since this is a "no kill" shelter, per Angel, I was in agreement to issue a check to this organization. I then reviewed this matter with the EC and received their approval as well, prior to issuing a check to this organization.

I just thought everyone would like to know some further details about what happened with the other IC 2006 Charity donation.

Joe Horton, our Fundraising Officer, has recently switched the fund raising company he was working with for SFI to Empties4Cash. This company provides a much greater payout of funds for used ink jet and laser toner cartridges

than Global Re-source did. As with Global Re-source, Empties4Cash provides free postage mailing labels, so that any items sent to them is at their expense. Please contact Joe directly at Irontrekchef@aol.com for further information and to get mailing labels sent to you.

The position of Tax Compliance Officer has still not been filled to date. If anyone would like to work on the EC level and has some Accounting or Finance background with some sales tax experience preferably, then please apply for this position. Please send your real life resume and STARFLEET resume, along with a cover letter explaining why you would like this position, to my attention at CFO@sfi.org.

Should anyone have any questions, concerns or comments, please feel free to send them to my attention at cfo@sfi.org. Either I or one of my staff will be happy to respond to your request as soon as possible.

STARFLEET International Statement of Financial Position December 31, 2008	
	Total
ASSETS	
CURRENT ASSETS	
Bank Accounts	
CD General Fund A Risk Free	\$ 5,022
CD General Fund B	18,335
CD SF Scholarship Fund B	1,067
IC 2008	2,504
IC 2009	2,037
International Conference Odd	50
International Conference Even	470
Main Bank Account	7,074
Petty Cash SF QM	130
Petty Cash SFMC QM	28
SF Scholarship Fund A	2,946
SFMC Marines	1,423
SFMC Scholarship Fund	1,494
Total Bank Accounts & Petty Cash	\$ 40,580
Other Current Assets Total Bank Accounts	-
Deposits	-
Prepaid Other	-
Total Current Assets	40,580
Total Assets	\$ 40,580
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	
CURRENT LIABILITIES	
Accounts Payable	\$ -
Accrued expenses	125
Total current liabilities	\$ 125
Equity	
Opening Bal Equity	1,000
Unrestrict (retained earnings)	39,698
Net Income	(243)
Total Equity	40,455
Total Liabilities And Equity	\$ 40,580

STARFLEET International Statement of Activities July 2008 - June 2009							
	Jul-08	Aug-08	Sep-08	Oct-08	Nov-08	Dec-08	Year To Date
Operating Revenues:							
Membership Dues	\$ 3,014	\$ 3,247	\$ 3,150	\$ 2,914	\$ 1,386	\$ 3,024	\$ 16,735
Scholarship Funds	139	385	273	195	680	1,046	2,717
Quartermaster Sales	2,846	235	50	981	262	472	4,846
Other Income	-	-	-	-	-	473	473
Total operating revenues	6,339	3,867	3,473	4,089	2,328	5,015	25,112
Operating expenses:							
Communiqué Expenses	-	1,935	177	493	1,238	733	4,576
Membership Package	74	192	521	286	537	1,070	2,679
Quartermaster Supplies	87	1,798	55	2,126	2,271	187	6,525
STARFLEET IC Expenses	6,998	-	-	-	(125)	598	7,472
Scholarship Awards	500	1,500	-	(16)	-	-	1,984
Bank Charges & Fees	232	204	156	99	79	134	903
Election Expense	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Equipment & Software	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Legal Fees	330	-	-	-	-	-	330
Insurance Bond	-	-	553	-	-	-	553
Licenses & Permits	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Supplies	-	-	-	88	146	100	333
Transition Expenses	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
General Office Expenses	562	204	708	186	225	234	2,119
Total operating expenses	8,221	5,630	1,461	3,076	4,146	2,822	25,355
(Loss) / Income	\$ (1,882)	\$ (1,763)	\$ 2,012	\$ 1,013	\$ (1,817)	\$ 2,194	\$ (243)





NAME: DAVE BLASER
RANK: VICE ADMIRAL
POSITION: VICE COMMANDER, STARFLEET
SHIP: BOUNTY STATION SFR-1301
REGION: 13, ONTARIO (CANADA)
ACHIEVEMENTS: FORMER REGION 13 COORDINATOR



VICE COMMANDER, STARFLEET

ECAB Report

January 15, 2009 - ECAB Report

The Executive Committee and the Admiralty Board continue to address various issues taking place in STARFLEET. Questions and concerns about these or any number of other things happening in STARFLEET should be brought up with your Regional Coordinator first, as always.

AB Discussions and Votes

There have been a few topics of discussion which have been brought up before the AB over the last couple of months, here's a brief summary of those topics:

SFI-L List FAQ and Rules

The AB continued to discuss the List FAQ and Rules that would govern STARFLEET's official discussion list, SFI-L.

While several suggestions had been made, no final decision from the AB has been adopted as to whether the rules proposed are appropriate and constitutional.

Nomination of a new JAG

A number of names were discussed for STARFLEET's JAG, a resource available to members who wish to consult someone in STARFLEET who has a good understanding of the STARFLEET membership handbook and Constitution in the event that a current member in good standing of STARFLEET finds themselves subject to an investigation or punitive ruling on the Regional and/or International Level. They may then call upon the Office of the Judge Advocate General, STARFLEET to aid them for the duration of the investigation or an appeal against a ruling taken. This assistance is given strictly upon request by the subject of the investigation/ruling.

A vote is currently underway to confirm the present candidate that is before the AB, Richard Jolitz. At the time of this writing, that vote, AB09-01, has not concluded.

EDITORIAL NOTE: Richard Jolitz has since been confirmed as the new JAG as of February, 2009.

Nomination of a new Internal Auditor candidate

As will be noted in this article very shortly, the confirmation of Liz Woolf as STARFLEET's Internal Auditor has failed.

The AB has not, at the time of this writing, nominated a new candidate for consideration.

Motions Voted Upon

The full text and record of all votes can be found on the STARFLEET Historian's AB Resolutions web page at:

<http://historian.sfi.org/AB/>

AB08-08: Confirmation of Liz Woolf as Internal Auditor

The STARFLEET Admiralty Board is tasked with appointing and confirming an Internal Auditor to review the financial books, and to report on their review.

Region 13 (Dave Blaser, the motion was made prior to confirmation as VCS) motioned to appoint Liz Woolf as STARFLEET's Internal Auditor, and it was seconded by Region 10 (Paul Reed)

Result: Failed: Aye: 6, Nay: 9, Abstain: 1

AB08-09: Confirmation of Wade Hoover as Inspector General

The STARFLEET Admiralty Board is tasked with confirming the nomination, by the Commander, STARFLEET, of the Inspector General, STARFLEET.

Region 8 (Owen Swart) motioned to accept the nomination and confirm Wade Hoover as Inspector General, and it was seconded by Region 9 (Dai Rhys-Jones)

Result: Passed: Aye: 15, Nay: 1, Abstain: 0

EC Discussions

As was noted in my last ECAB Report, the EC has been having conference calls weekly until they were rescheduled to be bi-weekly starting on November 23rd, 2008. Those calls have included topics such as:

- Promotions Director Status Update
- STARFLEET Public Relations and the upcoming movie premiere
- Surplus *Communiqués* - what to do with them
- Cuban membership options
- Santa Logo Polo Shirts

I won't get into the specifics of what was discussed regarding these topics, I'm sure that many of them will be addressed by the various departments in their own reports and articles.

EC Staffing Changes

The EC has had two significant staffing changes. The first was the release of Matt Moyer as Chief of Computer Operations and the appointment of John Halliday in that position. John has been making significant steps forward in CompOps to address our various technology issues with the website, database, and various other areas, and undoubtedly will be detailing that in his article here in the Communiqué.

The other significant staffing change was the release of Kimberly Donohoe as Chief of Operations and the appointment of Jerry Tien in that position. Jerry has brought operations up to speed and taken care of a number of chapter commissionings and decommissionings that needed to take place. Jerry has also been working in concert with CompOps and members of the VCS department to streamline the creation of the Vessel Registry.

The Executive Committee would like to thank both Matt and Kim for their service to STARFLEET and wish them all the best in their future endeavors.

One of the IC2006 Charity Donations

It was noted by the CFO's office that the check for one of the donations that STARFLEET had made to fulfill commitments to the IC2006 charities had not been cashed. After looking into the specific organization a little further, it was discovered that the check that was never cashed was going to an animal shelter that was a "kill shelter" where unadopted animals are euthanized after a period of unsuccessful adoption.

The EC was obviously greatly disappointed at this discovery, but pleased that the IC2006 charitable donation was not received and cashed. As the check was void due to being uncashed, the EC approved donating the charitable funds to a different other animal shelter which was confirmed to not be a "kill shelter".

Talk to you again in 60 days!





0817-14-742



NAME: OWEN SWART
 RANK: FLEET CAPTAIN
 POSITION: COMMANDING OFFICER
 OTHER POSITIONS: ACTING REGIONAL COORDINATOR
 SHIP: USS DAUNTLESS NCC-74214
 REGION: 8, SOUTH AFRICA
 ACHIEVEMENTS: HEY, HE JUST GOT MARRIED!

USS Dauntless CO and JAG Get Married in South Africa

In September, 2008, I was fortunate enough to marry my JAG Officer, Lieutenant Heidi Hertz. Not only that, but she was generous enough to allow me and my best man, Ensign Ewan Waterson, to wear our dress uniforms for the day. Second Lieutenant Paul Nott, another member of our

crew, performed a reading during the ceremony.

The ceremony was held at the chapel of Poortview Lodge in Roodeport, South Africa on the 20th of September, 2008. It was attended by 38 of our closest family and friends.

The reception took place at the Poortview Grotto (which looks an awful lot like a set from a TOS episode), where we made our entrance to the Throne Room music from the *Star Wars* soundtrack, and performed our first dance to *Come Away With Me* by Norah Jones.



STARFLEET Quartermaster - Stuff for Sale

The newest items in the STARFLEET Quartermaster inventory are LED Mouse Pads and STARFLEET Academy Challenge Coins.

STARFLEET Mouse Pads

The newest item available from the STARFLEET Quartermaster, these compact Mouse Pads not only light up with a brilliant blue LED light, they also have four USB 2.0 sockets. They connect to your computer with a double-retractable cable and are imprinted with STARFLEET across the top of the pad. These items are \$26 and measure 9" x 7". Postage is \$3 per pad.

The first-ever STARFLEET Academy Challenge Coins!

The second STARFLEET Challenge coins, these coins were made in a very limited run of 100. Coins cost \$10 each, with postage of \$3 for up to five coins. The special silver coins, of which only ten were made, are \$30 each.

Order Extra CQs to Help Recruit for STARFLEET and Your Chapter

The Quartermaster's newest item is *Communiqués*

for recruiting! Issues #149 and #150 can be ordered in any quantity for 80 cents per copy plus shipping costs. Examples of postage prices for common quantities include: 1 copy – \$1.51, 2 copies – \$2.36, 3-5 copies – \$4.95, 25 copies - \$10, 50 copies - \$15. Tax for certain states needs to be added prior

to postage being added to the total; see below for tax rates.

Taxes must be applied only for the following states, and are applied before adding postage. Alabama: 9%; Texas: 8.25%; New York: 8%; North Carolina: 6.75%; Florida: 7.5%.

Payment can be made via paypal to

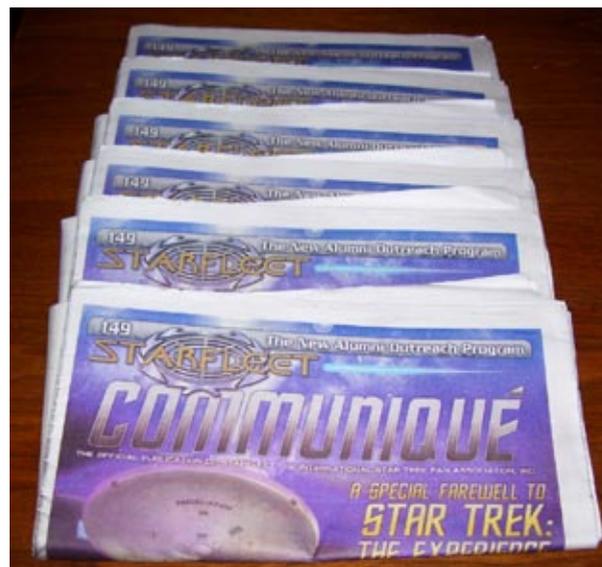
epayments@sfi.org

(please make a comment in the Notes section at paypal.com as to what you are buying), or via the mail with a check, money order, or cashier's check, made out to STARFLEET, and mailed to:

Pete Mohney
3152 Dolly Ridge Drive
Birmingham AL 35243

Please send any questions to Pete at qm@sfi.org.

For order forms, pictures of all the other items the QM carries, and other information, please see the web page at historian.sfi.org/qm.

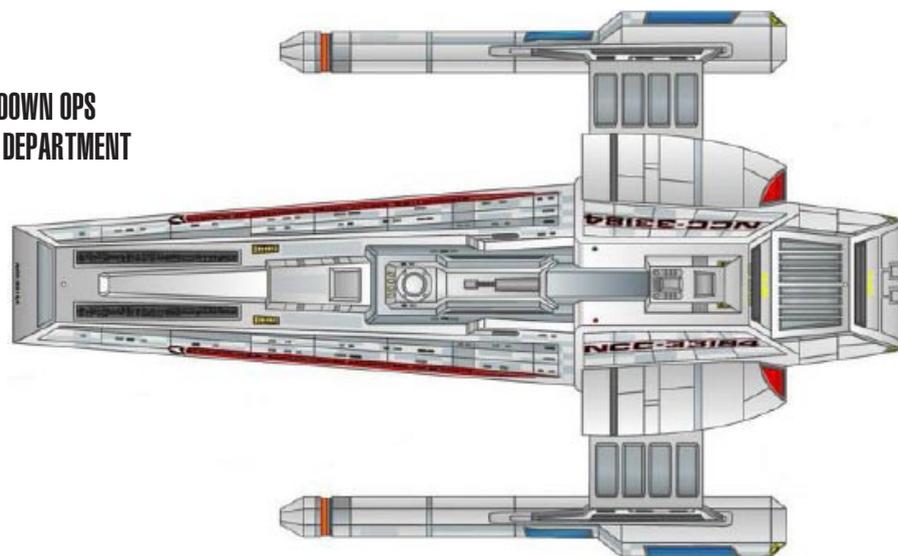


0718-60-18



NAME: ALEX ROSENZWEIG
RANK: ADMIRAL
POSITION: VICE CHIEF OF SHAKEDOWN OPS
OTHER POSITIONS: DIRECTOR OF DEPARTMENT OF TECHNICAL SERVICES
SHIP: USS AVENGER NCC-1860
REGION: 7, NEW JERSEY (USA)

DEPARTMENT OF TECHNICAL SERVICES, STARFLEET



Surak-Class Light Research Cruiser

Surak-Class adapted by Jack Bohn and Jason, from a Design by Rick Sternbach, art by Kris Triggwell

The *Surak*-class has appeared on several fan websites, but its origin was a drawing done by Rick Sternbach, while he worked on *Star Trek: The Next Generation*, as a concept for the Vulcan starship *T'Pol* in the episode "Unification". The class has also been mentioned, but not visualized, in the *Star Trek Encyclopedia*. This class was developed in the 2320s. Developed at Star Fleet's Starship Design Research Facility (SDRF) on Vulcan, the *Surak*-class has proven itself a more than competent medium science ship. Design aesthetics play little part, however, as logic has dictated the placement of every curve (read: angle) on the ship.

Little as yet has been established in terms of specifications for this ship. What is known is as follows:

PHYSICAL DIMENSIONS:

Length Overall: 205.7 meters
 Beam Overall: 141.7 meters
 Draft Overall: 69.2 meters

PROPULSION:

Number of Warp Engines: 2

Known vessels of the *Surak*-class include:

Surak
Vre'kasht
Zapata





NAME: GEORGE FLANIK
RANK: COMMANDER
POSITION: COMMANDING OFFICER
SHIP: USS GANYMEDE NCC-80107
REGION: 1, VIRGINIA (USA)
ACHIEVEMENTS: OTS WITH HONORS; 2007 DISTINGUISHED SERVICE COMMENDATION FROM USS HEIMDAL



0119-07-801

Ask "Deep Trek" - #003

The CO of the *USS Ganymede* reports monthly on the recollections of a deep background source who worked as a set construction master on the original *Star Trek* television series. He has given this source the name "Deep Trek", whose true identity is known only to him and to the CO of their support ship.

This month's question comes from Admiral Linda Smith:

"You said last month there were daily squabbles among the cast. Please tell us more about that."

Reply:

"If you have that movie about them coming back to [present-day] Earth for the whales on DVD [Star Trek IV], cut to the very end where they are on the water and watch them pushing one another into the water (or trying to), and you will see the underlying anger and competition between these people. Watch their faces closely. I think that you will find it enlightening. They are trying their dead level best to smile, but watch their faces.

And those are the scenes that made it into the movie. I would

love to see the film that was cut out and not used. Knowing them, there may have been some blood involved.

If you know what to look for, the scenes where they were all on the water that actually made it into the movie tell a lot about them if you watch them closely."

Visit this column next month for another TOS question answered in "Ask Deep Trek".

Please submit your questions for Deep Trek to CMDR George Flanik, *U.S.S. Ganymede*, at gflanik@riveroflife.com.



NAME: PRIGAL
RANK: PRIVATE
SHIP: USS THERMOPYLAE NCC-74703
REGION: 5, WASHINGTON (USA)
ACHIEVEMENTS: CLASSIFIED



0519-03-747

Ask Prigal: A Monthly Questions and Answer Session from the Enlisted Point of View

Dear Prigal,

I keep hearing about the Marine Reading Challenge, and I was wondering: do Marines really read, and what do you read, if anything?

Signed,
 Literacy Advocate

Dear Advocate,

Do Marines read? I'm assuming you're joking here. If not, well, let's just say you may be anonymous in this column, but it's fairly easy for a datawar specialist to track this message back to its origin, which I have done already.

But, to answer the first half of your question, reading is a favorite pastime of most Marines. It's quiet, and helps pass the time when we're not bailing some smart aleck's behind out of a mess they got themselves into.

I just finished an inspirational biography of one of my heroes, and

I heartily recommend "Scams and Con-Men of the Alpha Quadrant, volumes 3 and 4: Harcourt Fenton Mudd". I'm also trying to learn Caitian, as they brought along several copies of some of their ancient epics that are supposed to be a decent read, with lots of blood and drama, and sleek furry females.

Prigal

Dear Prigal,

I understand Gunny is actually going to take a couple of days leave soon, and was surprised to hear that he's not going to put you in the brig as a precaution while he's gone. Is Gunny going soft?

Stunned in the Stockade

Dear Stunned,

Gunny going soft? I double dare you to say that to his face. The reason I won't be in the brig while he's gone is he feels that being in

the brig gives me too much time to think up new ways to get in trouble. Instead, he's laid out a lot of work for me to do while he's gone, and made it clear what will happen if it's not all done by the time he returns.

Besides that, he's placed me under the direct command of the Caitians while he's gone, and it's generally not wise to start trouble with 2 meters of fangs, claws, and fur.

Prigal

Dear Prigal,

I understand you're quite the ladies man. Recently, I met a lovely Klingon engineer, and was wondering what the best way to approach her would be.

Desperately,
 Lovelorn Lieutenant

Dear Lovelorn,

I'd approach her cautiously, very cautiously, and have sickbay

standing by. Klingon women can be very lovely and exciting, but they tend to play rough and have a tendency to break their toys.

Personally, I prefer Vulcan women. Remember that their emotions are controlled, but they still exist, and if you manage to get them to loosen up a little, they make Risans look like some obscure ascetic religious order.

Prigal

Dear Prigal,

I understand that you've been spending a lot of time with the Caitians out there. What are they like?

Cat Lover

Dear Cat,

Well, they tend to be serious about duty, and are almost as obsessed with honor as Klingons. They're tough, capable of being very sneaky,

and are nasty opponents in a fight, which happens frequently as they tend to be a bit short tempered. Off duty, they're fond of having a good time, and especially love singing. We've introduced them to bagpipes, and one of their pilots is trying to learn to play them, much to Gunny's dismay.

Their men tend towards being blocky masses of fur and muscle, while still having very good reflexes, and the women are very graceful, and sometimes make me wish I had a bit more fur.

Frankly, I'm glad to have them here.

Prigal

Got a question only Prigal can answer? Send it to:

pvtprigalsfmc@hotmail.com.

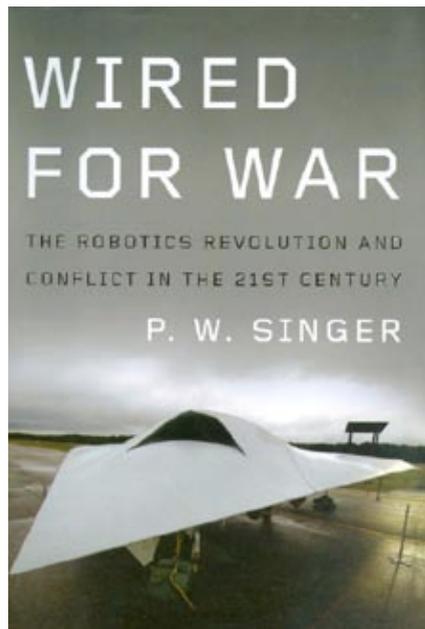
Note that neither this newsletter nor his superiors will be held responsible for any consequences from following PVT Prigal's advice. It's all on your head. (Gunny made me put that last bit in.)



NAME: KAITH RUSH
 RANK: MAJOR
 SHIP: *USS TIBERIUS* NCC-50210
 REGION: 2, FLORIDA (USA)



0220-10-502



“Wired for War” - A Review

A soldier races across a battlefield in a rescue during a firefight. He dodges fire between the insurgency and soldiers engaged in battle to lift the object of his rescue and scam back to the lines. He takes the victim back to the base. “We cannot do anything. But we can get you another,” the officer at base tells this soldier. The soldier shakes his head. “I don’t want another one. Fix my robot!”

This narrative reveals an aspect of the world of automated warfare in the book “Wired for War” by P. W. Singer, newly released by Penguin Books on January 21, 2009. Fans of science fiction and

gaming are already familiar with the use of robotic creations in multitudes of literature, visual and gaming media. Dr. Singer has a lengthy reputation, including being the youngest person to take the directorship of the Brookings Institute, a publicly and privately, non-military funded, think tank. Dr. Singer’s book, a formidable 400-plus pages, is an easy and very informative read for even the novice in the realm of automation.

Throughout the book, Dr. Singer discusses the inspiration from which many of the robot designs being utilized, and under development, are derived:

science fiction. Many of the officials and scientists that Dr. Singer interviews admit that the ideas grew out of stories they read. One author that several of the individuals being interviewed by Dr. Singer cited is Isaac Asimov, noting his story, “I Sing the Body Electric”, about the ultimate family robot, a recyclable grandmother.

For more information on Dr. Singer, his career, and his writings, check out the site <http://wiredforwar.pwsinger.com>. His books can be purchased at most bookstores, including www.amazon.com and www.barnesandnoble.com.

USS INDIANA NCC-79158



NAME: DEREK SAULS
 RANK: CAPTAIN
 POSITION: COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER
 SHIP: *USS INDIANA* NCC-79158
 REGION: 1, INDIANA (USA)



0120-58-791

Those Who Develop Technology

New *Communiqué* Articles Featuring Interviews with Researchers

I love living in this era. The technology of tomorrow, only hinted at in the science fiction movies and books of the past, is being developed **today**. While many of these technologies are still just a dream, inroads to what will be needed and how they will work is being researched today. It is only a matter of time.

While I do not possess an advanced degree, I seek out opportunities to speak with those who are doing the work of tomorrow. I travel to where they work, ask them to describe their efforts and then try to present the data to the general STARFLEET fandom through our organizational newsletter, STARFLEET *Communiqué*.

Will this stuff be interesting? I have a sense of humor. I will try to present the interview through the kaleidoscope of *Trek* fandom and represent us well as a long-time *Trek* fan who is an actual technician. The material may not appeal

as much to those who enjoy *Star Trek* for the spiritual and sociological (IDIC) aspect, but I’ll try to keep them in mind also.

Almost every day, there’s an article somewhere about *Star Trek* tech being developed or tested somewhere. The flip-open cell phone is old hat now. The tap-to-talk Vocera commbadge is in use in many hospitals and even on board a Naval vessel. We’ve heard of the advances in medical technology involving non-invasive diagnostic tools such as Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI), Computed Tomography (CT or CAT) scanning equipment, and Diffuse Optical Imaging. All we need is a cortical stimulator and a dermal regenerator.

In 2006 researchers announced results with experiments in “Quantum Teleportation” that had many newspapers making *Star Trek* comparisons. As far back as 1996, I read

something about a working predecessor to the tricorder that was a non-folding electronic multifunction sensing device with similar external features to the TNG model we all know so well. The company is out of business now, but the device looked great. I personally could use some “Retinox 5” (ST:TWOK), the miracle drug for eyesight improvement in older humans.

I have nothing but respect for the PhDs and theorists of today who will figure/are figuring this stuff out and whose work will eventually get us to the *Star Trek* level of technology. They (and engineers) will make the gizmos of tomorrow that will make space exploration not only possible, but safer. I’m lining up the first few interviews now and I hope to have the first published very soon. Look for it in the STARFLEET *Communiqué* in the near future.

Until then...Trek ON!





1221-04-750



NAME: JEFFERY HIGDON
 RANK: VICE ADMIRAL
 POSITION: DEPUTY FLEET HISTORIAN
 OTHER POSITIONS: COMMANDING OFFICER
 SHIP: *USS BLACK HAWK* NCC-75004
 REGION: 12, ILLINOIS (USA)
 ACHIEVEMENTS: DIRECTOR-EMERITUS, STARFLEET DIPLOMATIC CORPS; COMPOSITOR & EDITOR, STARFLEET HISTORY WEBSITE

A Brief History of STARFLEET: The International *Star Trek* Fan Association, Inc. (Part 1)

Has it been 10 years since we started writing the History of the fan club known as STARFLEET (STARFLEET History Website <http://sfhistory.wetpaint.com>)?

I remember that I approached then-STARFLEET Historian Scott Akers with the idea of writing the history, which I discovered was one of his goals within the Office of Fleet Historian. As a starting point, he sent me the narrative that Christopher Smith wrote (which was reprinted in CQ #150, last issue), and I used it along with other information gleaned, collecting documents and talking to various members of STARFLEET. Anything before 1995 was from written sources, and everything after included personal observations, as well. I initially presented it in a website format and discovered that it was presented (much to my delight), errors and all, in Issue 100 of the *Communiqué*.

Shortly after, Scott had Chris Wallace (who had access to much more of the information available), create a PDF version that was far superior to my initial work. With the permission of Scott and Chris, I used that version as the basis for a new, improved website, the Unofficial STARFLEET History. This narrative has been added to and modified over the years when new information was discovered and confirmed, and this is the version which you see here. It is that version that was awarded the STARFLEET Information Website of the Year back in 2001.

Starting with Part One, you will see a history of this association, which I consider to be Version 3.3. Version 1.0 is Christopher Smith's version; Version 2.0 is the original version that appeared in CQ100; Version 3.0 and beyond is the first version that included Chris Wallace's PDF Version that has since been modified and added to. It presents the history, bringing forth the good and bad times of our association. It was, and still is, the mission of the Office of the Fleet Historian, (now under the current Director, Wade Hoover), to bring an unbiased view of STARFLEET (warts and all) to you, its members. I thank Scott for the chance to work with him on this project, Chris for his help and his excellent narrative, and Wade for allowing me to update this as it is needed. Enjoy!

The roots of STARFLEET begin in 1973 when John Bradbury and a group of Texas Star Trek fans formed the

USS Enterprise. A dilemma came when other groups wanted their own chapters. The command staff of the Enterprise subsequently decided that allowing other vessels was the solution to their problem of widespread expansion of members.

On May 23, 1974, the first issue of the organization's newsletter (then called STARFLEET Communications)

organizational structure began to solidify as a large number of new Fleet Divisions developed.

It was also during this period that both STARFLEET's Command level newsletter (what became the Command Status Report) and the STARFLEET Academy were developed. While serving as the Command Assistance Coordinator, Admiral Brandt Heatherington produced a monthly publication for all Command level officers which evolved into the current Fleet Status Report.

Unfortunately Fleet Admiral Longshaw stepped down as the Commanding Admiral of STARFLEET due to a serious hospitalizing illnesses in her family. Admiral Heatherington became STARFLEET's first interim Commander, STARFLEET. A few short months later, Admiral John Wetsch became the 3rd Commander, STARFLEET.

The Wetsch administration improved further on the organizational structure of STARFLEET. The STARFLEET Officer's Handbook was greatly improved, and a previous backlog in distributing membership packets was addressed. Also in August, 1981, the IRS granted STARFLEET the official designation as a 'Non Profit Organization'.

It was during this period of time that a failure of communication between staff members, the membership, and Fleet Admiral Wetsch took place. Correspondences were not being responded to, and membership applications and renewals were not being filled. The 'problem' grew worse when the fabled 'Star Trek Welcommittee' blacklisted STARFLEET. The problems came to head as Admiral Heatherington was relieved of his position as Chief of Personnel and replaced with the Vice Chief of Personnel, Vice Admiral Eric Stillwell.

Stillwell then began a personal crusade to also further improve STARFLEET under a program called "Mandate for Change." Early in his Mandate, Admiral Stillwell praised Fleet Admiral Wetsch for his accomplishments, but it soon became a political power struggle between Admiral Stillwell and his views on what direction the organization should take, and Fleet Admiral Wetsch's vision of STARFLEET.

An important element in this power struggle was the STARFLEET *Communiqué*, which had become the Fleet's quarterly newsletter. In 1981, due to delays in publication of the *Communiqué*, Admiral Stillwell began publication

35 Years of



announced that "The USS Enterprise has been reorganized, effective Stardate 2538.0. It will henceforth be known as STARFLEET, due to directives determined during reorganization."

The first chapter of STARFLEET was commissioned as the USS Enterprise under the command of Captain Jay Wallace in Lufkin, Texas, which also became the location of STARFLEET Headquarters. Two more chapters were quickly commissioned - the USS Constellation in Memphis, TN, and the USS Constitution in Coppel, TX. By the end of 1975, there were 14 chapters across the country.

In the fall of 1977, Fleet Admiral Bradbury retired from active duty and was replaced by Fleet Admiral Adeline Longshaw. During the Longshaw Administration, STARFLEET's



of his own supplemental STARFLEET newsletter, which became the regular STARFLEET magazine. It was long believed that while Admiral Stillwell was serving as Vice Chief of Personnel, that he was also serving as the Chief of Communications under the pseudonym of 'VADM T. Wxyn'. However documents recently discovered revealed evidence that VADM T. Wxyn was in fact Vice Admiral Anthony Wynn, the Chief of Communications at the time in question. Both men shared the same address at the time.

A blow came to the Wetsch Administration with the resignation of Vice Chief of Staff, Admiral John Lunt. Then the power struggle ended in Admiral Stillwell's favor with the resignation of Fleet Admiral Wetsch in September, 1981. Thus, Eric Stillwell became the 4th Commander, STARFLEET.

Fleet Admiral Stillwell began by restructuring the command staff, beginning by having the name of the President of STARFLEET, up until that time called 'Chief of Staff', changed to the Commanding Admiral, which was later changed to Commander, STARFLEET. Also, the name of the organization, which had varied between Starfleet Command, Starfleet Headquarters, Starfleet Central or just plain Starfleet, was officially made STARFLEET. And after a few correspondences with the leadership of the Star Trek Welcommittee, Fleet Admiral Stillwell was able to have a 'new' STARFLEET officially recognized and removed from the blacklist.

In the summer of 1982, a major crisis developed. At one time, STARFLEET had its own product distribution office, where several items of a Star Trek nature were sold to members to raise sorely-needed funds. Paramount Pictures contacted STARFLEET concerning the possible violation of the copyrights and patents held by Paramount by selling unlicensed items and for using the calligraphic font in the name title of the organization. The situation was finally resolved after the legal department of Paramount discovered that STARFLEET was, indeed, a fan club and offered no unfair competition to Paramount and/or any of its licensees. Paramount's solution to their legal dilemma of being required by law to defend their copyrights was simply to ignore a group that was giving them hundreds of thousands of dollars of free publicity. They had no need to protect a copyright from a group they pretended did not exist. Since Paramount was then beginning to try to work with Fandom through their official fan club, they instead chose to support and enlist the aid of the many fans in STARFLEET.

Unfortunately, toward the end of the Stillwell Administration, the high cost of producing quality membership packets and an international newsletter, coupled with continual turnover of key fleet personnel, affected HQ efficiency, and many members and chapters began leaving STARFLEET. However, most damaging was a new organization, 'Trek International', that was started and run by several members of Fleet Admiral Stillwell's own Executive Committee, which tried to undermine STARFLEET through the recruitment of Fleet's own members and chapters. Thus, Fleet Admiral Stillwell subsequently resigned on January 2, 1984, and went on to become a Production Assistant within the Star Trek franchise.

Two candidates emerged from the subsequent election process for a new Commander, STARFLEET, Captain Fran Booth was the winner. Captain Booth became the Fleet Admiral and 5th Commander, STARFLEET, on March 27, 1984. She took command of a much-depleted STARFLEET. Over the previous two years, membership had dropped from nearly 4,000 to 1,000 and chapters had decreased from close to 200 to fewer than 30.

The Booth Administration began immediately to rebuild the Fleet, almost from scratch. Inexpensive membership materials were developed. Captain Steven Smith was appointed the new Chief of Communications and quickly brought the Communications Department back on-line. Within a month, information to STARFLEET members was back with the production of an informative but inexpensive Communiqué.

Admiral Brian Ackermann reopened STARFLEET Academy, which had been closed under Fleet Admiral Stillwell. Admiral Ackermann is credited with developing STARFLEET Academy into what it is known as today. The STARFLEET Shuttlecraft Program was developed to both recruit new members and chapters and to train their leaders in how to run successful chapters. But the toll of rebuilding the Fleet weighed heavily on Fleet Admiral Booth, and at the end of her two-year term she announced her intention not to run for reelection.

Again, two candidates emerged: Admiral Steven Smith and Vice Commander, STARFLEET, Admiral Mary Helm. Apparently, Admiral Helm chose mainly to run so that STARFLEET members would have a choice in whom to vote for. Even before the ballots were distributed, it became clear from the nominations received from the Admiralty Board and Starship Commanders who STARFLEET favored, for nearly 100% nominated Admiral Smith. Shortly thereafter, Admiral Helm threw her support behind Admiral Smith and, by concession, Steven Smith became the 6th Commander, STARFLEET, on December 28, 1986.

The Steve Smith Administration saw another explosion in the size and scope of STARFLEET. The Academy continued to grow, and the pocket-sized *Communiqué* went COLOR. However this led to many problems, according to the reports of the time. The costs of publishing the Communiqué became outrageously expensive, and other aspects of Fleet-based services began to slow down.

Because of this and other problems facing the organization, Region 1 Vice Regional Coordinator, Commodore Jeannette Maddox decided to run for Commander, STARFLEET. After a relatively mild campaign, Commodore Maddox succeeded and became the 7th Commander, STARFLEET, in January 1989.

Another point to the 1988 election is that Maddox was elected unopposed. Fleet Admiral Steve Smith, who was a candidate, withdrew from the election citing the promise of a new job. However, the job fell through, and Smith tried get back into the race. It was decided that once a candidate withdraws from the race for Commander, STARFLEET, he or she cannot enter the race again. This item was later incorporated in to the STARFLEET Constitution.

The Maddox Administration can be credited for bringing STARFLEET out of our parents' basements and into the mainstream of respectability. To stabilize the finances, STARFLEET went back to black and white Communiqués. Once STARFLEET could afford it, the organization went to a larger, colored magazine format to bring more information to the membership. The Scholarship program got off the ground, and almost every other month it seems another scholarship was added. During Fleet Admiral Maddox's first term as Commander, STARFLEET was once again was in the black, membership was growing, and the Shuttle Program (started under Fleet Admiral Steve Smith) was fine-tuned as a useful tool to expand the organization.

Another highlight was the authorization of the Starfleet Marine Corps as a recognized appending body of STARFLEET. In addition, both Shuttle Operations Command, and Computer Operations became Executive Committee level positions. All in all, Fleet Admiral Maddox went into the election for her second term riding high, and STARFLEET was right there with her.

Fleet Admiral Maddox's second term was just as successful as the first. She was able to convince Fleet to raise the dues from 10 to 15 dollars a year. And she also was able to begin the process to incorporate STARFLEET as a Not-For-Profit organization (this was different from the IRS designation in 1981). However, this in itself led to some controversy: the incorporation. This was done secretly and without membership input or consent.

STARFLEET Academy continued to provide new courses, more and more chapters came on line, and the Communiqué came out in a regular and timely manner every other month. The biggest accomplishment Fleet Admiral Maddox achieved, though, was continuity. Though Executive Committee members would come and go, the Maddox Administration endured. For four FULL years, Fleet Admiral Maddox served the fleet and was able to hand over the reigns of a sound STARFLEET.

The next election, however, was less than amiable. An assortment of controversies occurred when the nominee hand-chosen by Fleet Admiral Maddox, Vice Admiral Daniel McGinnis (the Region 12 Coordinator) began to receive some bad publicity about alleged mishandling of regional finances. While the charges were discounted, Admiral McGinnis lost the election. However the election returns were immediately challenged on the grounds the Election Coordinator, Fleet Admiral Maddox, may have been biased as she was on one of the opposing teams. However, since she was on one of the losing teams, this appeal was disallowed, and Admiral Rob Lerman became the 8th Fleet Admiral and Commander, STARFLEET, in January 1993.

At this point, the secret incorporation of STARFLEET was revealed, as well as the fact that while the Maddox Administration had danced through the government hoops to achieve Incorporation as a Not-For-Profit organization, she neglected to file the necessary tax returns. This opened up STARFLEET to massive tax penalties; penalties that Fleet Admiral Lerman and his legal advisor, Captain Gary Decker, spent the next two years battling...in order to keep STARFLEET from being pulled under by its very own attempt to reach out and help people. These tax penalties, along with others caused by the following McGinnis Administration, were only worked out with the IRS near the end of 1998.

The Lerman Administration, according to some members of STARFLEET, was not a particularly imposing two years for STARFLEET. Political infighting between the regions was on the upswing, and the Communiqué once again began to fall behind schedule as most of Headquarters' attention was focused on resolving the IRS issues dealing with the incorporation. STARFLEET Academy continued to grow, and Regional Summits became popular, allowing STARFLEET members even more reasons to get together and socialize.

In our next segment, things go from bad to horrendously worse under Dan McGinnis. Can Mike Smith rescue STARFLEET? Be here next issue as STARFLEET enters the 21st century.

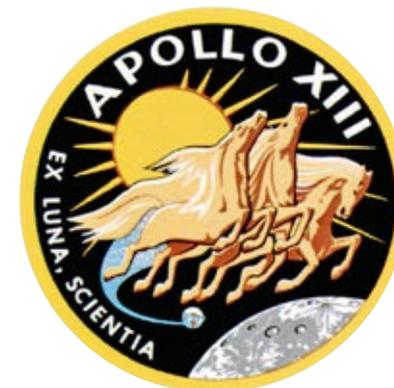




0123-02-1



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RANK: FLEET ADMIRAL
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SHIP: *USS BONAVENTURE* NCC-102-A
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ACHIEVEMENTS: FORMER COMMANDER, STARFLEET



2009 STARFLEET International Conference

REGISTER NOW FOR THE NEXT GREAT ADVENTURE
August 6th – 9th, 2009

STARFLEET's 2009 International Conference will be held August 6th through the 9th at the Airport Marriott in Greensboro, North Carolina. The IC will be here before you know it, which is why now is the time to register and make your plans to attend. The IC weekend promises to be a productive one in terms of conducting STARFLEET business, but it will also be a time for members of STARFLEET to come together and salute the three heroes that drew many of us into this fine organization in the first place. No, we're not talking about Captain Kirk, Mr. Spock, or Dr. McCoy. We mean the real heroes that inspired many of us to dream about what lies beyond the final frontier: Neil Alden Armstrong, Edwin Eugene 'Buzz' Aldrin, Jr. and Michael Collins.

Besides being the 35th anniversary of the founding of STARFLEET, this year also marks the 40th anniversary of the Apollo 11 moon landing, and the 2009 IC intends to celebrate both these milestones. Throughout the weekend, there will be a series of special events, including an anniversary party with a special cake and a Friday Night SFMC Marine Mess dinner, hosted by the STARFLEET Marine Corps. This year's charity will raise money to send a student to the NASA Space Camp in Alabama.

Meet a Man Who Has Been to the Moon and Back

We are excited to announce a special guest for the weekend that represents the "Giant Leap" of the Apollo Lunar Missions. Retired Astronaut Fred Haise, who is also a member of STARFLEET, will be spending the weekend with us celebrating our 35 years as well as the 40 years since landing on the moon. Fred will join us in our Friday evening Anniversary celebration. We are also working with Fred to plan a Saturday panel and autograph session. Fred will be our guest and speaker at the Saturday evening banquet.

Many remember Fred "Freddo" Haise, Jim Lovell, and Jack Swigert from the Apollo 13 lunar mission. That mission experienced a near life-threatening emergency on the way to the moon requiring them to abort a lunar landing and return to Earth. What is not commonly known is the connection to the Apollo 11 mission. The original Apollo 13 prime crew of Lovell, Haise, and Ken Mattingly served as the backup crew for the Apollo 11 mission.

Got Photos?

We are looking for pictures of fleet members and events from as far back as possible to put into a presentation during the weekend. If these pictures are standard film photographs and you cannot convert them, the IC will do so for you and

return them. If your pictures are in a digital format, you can send them via email to fleetmemories@gmail.com. We are hoping to find photographs from around the fleet from its beginnings right up to your most recent events of 2009. If you need to send the photos to us you can send them to:

Les Rickard
 942 Saint Ann Drive
 High Point, NC 27265

Special Auction

The IC is also planning a special auction for the weekend, on Saturday night after the banquet. We are working on some special items from the space program as well as movies and TV shows related to the space program. We will be previewing some of the special items on the web site once we have them. Be sure to come to the auction and look for that special thing that you want to take back with you. Proceeds from the auction will go toward our Space Camp charity.

Program Book Ads

The IC Program Book is being planned and ads will be sold to

chapters and events. The cost of the ads are:

¼ Page - \$10.00
 ½ Page - \$15.00
 Full Page - \$20.00

Ads should be sent to chair@ic2009.org by July 1, 2009. The theme of the event and the program book is retro NASA using mostly black and white. Custom ad work is available from our publications chair, but those ads must also be to me by July 1, 2009.

There will also be local vendors on hand, and panels where members can gather to discuss *Star Trek*, STARFLEET, and other related topics. The discussion panels are still being prepared, and the IC Staff is open to suggestions for panel topics. If anyone attending the IC has any ideas, by all means, feel free to contact the IC Staff with your suggestions. After all, this is *your* IC, and we want you to be a part of it and contribute to its success.

How to Register

To register for the 2009 International Conference, reserve your room at the Marriott, or just get updates, check out the official IC web site at:

www.ic2009.org

Our web site is the member's one-stop shop for IC09 information. As the IC draws closer, that is the place to go for questions about programming, events, and any guests that are attending the IC. It also gives you helpful links to the hotel, surrounding Greensboro area, and much more.

You can reserve your room at the Marriott online by clicking the Hotel Reservation link on the front page of the IC 2009 web site, or by calling the Marriott Reservations line at 1-800-228-9290 or the hotel at 1-336-852-6450. If you do, mention the IC's reservation code "stastaa" to get our special rate of \$95.00 a night plus tax.

Come visit with the Marines during Friday night's Marine Mess dinner. Attend panels on all things STARFLEET and *Star Trek* Saturday afternoon. Enjoy our anniversary banquet Saturday night, then dance with us into the wee hours, enjoying the friendship and fellowship of your fellow members. Take that "One Small Step..." and register for this year's IC and Anniversary Celebration. Then come and enjoy our hospitality as we make "One Giant Leap!" with a fun filled STARFLEET International Conference.

For more information about the IC, contact Les Rickard at: chair@ic2009.org



APOLLO 13 ASTRONAUT FRED HAISE WILL APPEAR AT IC 2009.
PHOTO COURTESY OF WIKIPEDIA.



PLAYMATES AND *TREK* - TOGETHER AGAIN IN APRIL

Playmates Toys, king of *Trek* toys in the 90s, is back in a big way with an extensive collection of toys and figures for the new *Star Trek* movie. This first wave from Playmates arrives April 19th and should be in all the big stores like Toys R Us, Target, and Wal-Mart, as well as online at the usual toy sites (like Entertainment Earth). CBS Consumer Products and Playmates have provided TrekMovie with the full set of details, as well as images of this first wave.

NOTE Regarding pricing, Playmates does not do 'suggested retail prices,' but has provided us with 'estimated prices' for the big stores.

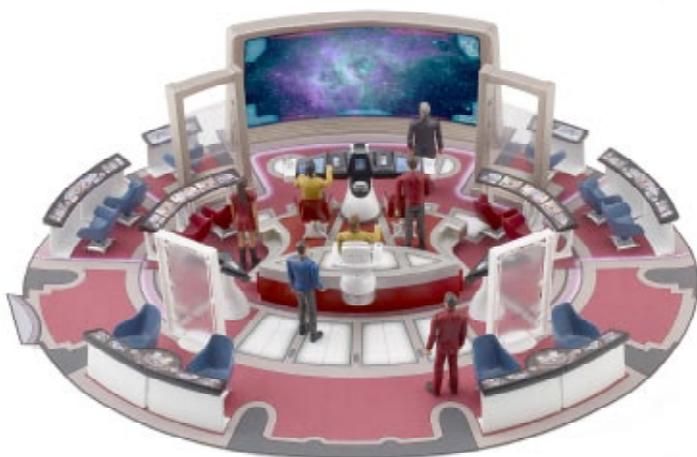


'Galaxy Collection' Action Figures (3 3/4") [\$7/each]

The big item for kids (and collectors) will be the 3.75" action figures. Playmates has a set of 10 planned for wave one. The 3.75" figures are highly detailed, fully-articulated, and come with removable utility belt, Phaser, and standing base. The set includes six figures in their 'Enterprise Outfit' (Kirk, Spock, Scotty, Uhura, Sulu, & Pike), McCoy and Chekov in 'Cadet Outfit,' plus 'Original Spock' (Nimoy), and Nero.

Fan and collector reaction at TrekMovie and toy collecting forums to the early images of this line have been extremely favorable. Playmates Toys new 3.75" action figures show how much toy making technology has improved during the previous decades.

Playsets



Each 3.75" figure comes with a specific Bridge or Transporter Room playset accessory that allows you build out the entire Bridge and

Transporter Room playset when you collect all the 3.75" figures. You combine those elements with the two 'core' playsets.

Star Trek Bridge Playset w/figure [\$25]

This authentic playset simulates the Bridge environment from the *Star Trek* movie. The core set comes with a 3.75" Kirk figure and includes the floorplan map, captain's chair, front console, view screen, and two side screens. Additional bridge pieces will come with 3.75" figures to build out the complete bridge playset.



Transporter Room Playset w/figure [\$30]

This interactive playset simulates the 'Transport feature' from the *Star Trek* movie. Any 3.75" *Star Trek* figure can be placed into Transport Cylinder and 'transported' to other locations. Transporter Playset includes authentic lights and sounds, a transport platform base, and a 3.75" Scotty figure. Additional Transporter pieces will come with 3.75" figures to build out the complete transporter playset.

Because of retailer shelf space concerns, playsets are less common than they were in the 1980s and before. That *Star Trek* is getting two playsets is a sign of the commitment and confidence Playmates Toys has in this line. The inclusion of Bridge and Transporter playset items with the figures are a fun idea both for collectors and a value-added surprise for those who enjoy opening their toys.



'Warp Collection' Action Figures (6") [\$9/each]

Playmates Toys also has a set of ten 6" figures. This line is a bit more life-like and the figures are fully articulated and come outfitted with soft, flexible PVC shirts. Accessories include standing base, removable utility belt, and a signature movie phaser and communicator. The set includes five figures in their 'Enterprise Outfit' (Kirk, Spock, Scotty, Sulu, & Pike), three figures in 'Cadet Outfit' (McCoy, Chekov & Uhura), plus 'Original Spock' (Nimoy), and Nero

A leaked prototype image of the Kirk 6" line was met with resistance from most fans, especially because of what is now the infamous "sweater" uniform. However, this new image shows a more detailed and reassuring set of action figures. This sized line is a kind of hybrid toy that could be used primarily for play or for display. The Playmates Toys items feature good, and in some instances excellent, likenesses of the characters (especially McCoy and Nero).



'Command Collection' Action Figures (12") [\$30/each]

The ultimate set for collectors, Playmates Toys' 12" figures are life-like and fully articulated. Clothing and uniforms for each figure is made of fabric with the utmost attention paid to style and detail. Each also comes with signature accessories. The four figures offered are Kirk, Spock, and McCoy (all in 'Enterprise Outfit'), plus Original Spock. There will also be an additional Nero, which is an exclusive for one of the big retailers (Playmates isn't saying, but we would guess Toys R Us).

The 12" line has different purposes than the 6" and 3.75" lines. 12-inch figures are often about displayability, while 3.75" are about playability. The larger size and utilization of cloth is especially a benefit for both costume and accessory detailing as is revealed in the picture. Having an exclusive item like Nero also adds to the fun of collecting.

Electronic Role Play Toys [\$15 each]

Are you ready to feel like a kid again? Get ready to play 'landing party' with three role-playing toys from Playmates, based on the actual props from the *Star Trek* movie. Each features lights and sounds.

Electronic Starfleet Phaser

The electronic Starfleet Phaser is constructed of vacuum-metalized ABS and makes authentic *Star Trek* movie sounds when activated. The gun barrel pivots horizontally to switch from Stun to Vaporize, with each setting having its own set of lights and sounds.

Electronic Tricorder

Lights-up and makes authentic *Star Trek* movie sounds when





buttons are pressed. Also features sound-off activation sounds and spring-loaded top and front door covers.

Electronic Starfleet Communicator

This roleplay item is based on the Starfleet Communicator used in the movie. The cover manually flips open to reveal the Starfleet Federation logo. Press the activation buttons to see authentic lights and hear character phrases from the movie.

While certainly meant for play, the Playmates Toys role playing items also have an appeal for collectors and fans of *Trek* tech. The tricorder, phaser, and communicator toys offer an alternative for those who do not wish to spend hundreds of dollars on prop replicas, yet who still want to own nicely detailed versions of this troika of *Trek* icons.

Enterprise Iconic Vehicle [\$30]

An authentic and detailed scaled model of the *USS Enterprise* ship as seen in the *Star Trek* movie. It features *USS Enterprise* sound effects and real Kirk and Spock dialogue from the *Star Trek* movie. The ship comes with a Delta Shield display base (with ball/socket attachment tip) that attaches to bottom of ship's lower hull, and allows user to pivot the ship 360 degrees.



Starship toys, and the amazing variety of the offerings, were one of the best things about the original 1990s Playmates Toys *Star Trek* line. What is nice is that Playmates Toys has remembered what was good about their original line, and added modern sensibilities and detailing. The Enterprise is thankfully a manageable size (sometimes a problem with *Star Wars* toys) and this is another example of Playmates Toys nicely blending the preferences of those who play and those who display.

Wave 2 and more coming later in 2009

If all of the above wasn't enough, Playmates Toys has more coming later in the year. Paul Fish, Playmates VP of marketing and product development, tells *TrekMovie* he hopes to have two more waves of toys by Christmas, with Wave 2 coming around September. Fish, who describes himself as a 'life-long *Trek* geek,' says that

Playmates is very excited to be back with *Star Trek* and hopes to stay with *Trek* into 2010 and maybe beyond.

Details are still being worked out on the second wave but he expects it to include a utility belt for the roleplay toys, the *Narada* (Nero's Romulan 'Jellyfish') ship toy, and more. They also will be doing more figures of additional characters and outfit variations (like Kirk in the black shirt). *TrekMovie* was the first to announce Playmates involvement in *Trek* a year ago and will continue to be the leading site for all news related to *Star Trek* toys and collectibles.

Personal thoughts about the line

Star Trek is a family affair at my house, as my wife Maria Jose and six-year-old son are fans. We have been very excited about the idea that *Star Trek* might be returning to mainstream popularity again and perhaps restore the faith of those who became disenchanted with the franchise while gaining a new generation of fans. The release of the Playmates Toys details and images have been the first very reassuring sign that this is going to happen. This looks to be a quality line, with a toy company committed to reaching different kinds of fans (younger and older, collectors and players, different genders, different economic concerns). There is something for everyone and these toys look like they will be fun to both collect and to share with family or friends. These items are toys in the best sense of the word.



And don't forget Mattel's Barbies

In addition to all of the above from Playmates Toys, Mattel is also releasing their own line of three collectible 12" *Star Trek* movie figures from their Barbie line.

This is not *Trek's* first foray into Barbie figures, but unlike the Barbie and Ken *Star Trek* dolls from the 90s, this new set of three figures is actually modeled after the actors playing the roles of Kirk (Chris Pine), Spock (Zachary Quinto), and Uhura (Zoe Saldana).

From the looks of the images these dolls are very detailed and have excellent likenesses, especially Pine. At the standard 12" Barbie size and priced at \$43.19 each, these figures will primarily appeal to *Star Trek* and Barbie collectors, but the quality of the figures may extend that to some more casual collectors and *Trek* fans.

The Barbie *Star Trek* figures should arrive April 20th in Wal-mart stores and Barbie collector dealers, as well as online at walmart.com, Barbiecollector.com, [Entertainment Earth](http://EntertainmentEarth.com), and elsewhere. They should also be sold in select international markets.

Pre-order Playmates Star Trek at Entertainment Earth

All of the above items can be reserved by pre-ordering at Entertainment Earth. As noted, Playmates has 'estimated' discounted prices for big retailers, but the big stores have yet to set their prices. The pre-order prices at Entertainment Earth are not discounted, but they do have a low-price guarantee. Reserving your items now can give you peace of mind that you will get what you want.

- * 3.75" figures set of 10 [\$62.89]
- * Enterprise Bridge Playset [\$37.39] (sized for 3.75" figures)
- * Transporter Room Playset [\$33.79] (sized for 3.75" figures)
- * 6" figures set of 10 [\$98.99]
- * 12" figures set of 4 [\$114.89]
- * Electronic Communicator [\$17.59]
- * Electronic Phaser [\$17.59]
- * Electronic Tricorder [\$17.59]
- * Star Trek Movie Enterprise Vehicle (w lights & sounds) [\$35.09]



The figures come with some very detailed accessories, giving us some of the best ideas of what the movie props will look like.

All in all these new Barbies are a great surprise and something we are very much looking forward to.

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0726-60-18



Some Thoughts on *STAR TREK* (2009)

[Warning! There may be some minor spoilers in this article!]

In just a few short months, for the first time in over six years, there'll be a new *Star Trek* movie in theaters. It's an exciting, heady time for fans, but also one that's different than ever before.

For the first time, the film will bring us an all-new cast, not simply one moving from the small screen to the large. It will also return to the beginning, in a way, telling a story of how the Original Series characters came together.

For me, I have never had such a roller-coaster ride of emotions regarding this film, running from anticipation to dread and back, several times. I mean, this is original *Star Trek* they're going back to. Y'know, the foundation of all the rest!

Let me frame my comments with a couple of axioms. First, I have no problem with recasting. (At one time I did, but I can thank James Cawley and the "New Voyages/Phase II" team for convincing me that that shouldn't be a worry.) I have no real problem with some visual re-imaginings, simply because it was inevitable and necessary. Obviously it wouldn't be possible to make a movie in 2008 or 2009 look exactly like a 1960s TV series and have it be taken seriously. So when the announcement came that the new film was going to be a sort of "origin story"--"*Star Trek Zero*", as one of the producers said--I was pretty darn excited. Oh, it wasn't my **first** choice. It was more like my third, behind an *Excelsior* or *Enterprise-B* project in the first slot (yeah, I know, unlikely at best) and the Jordan Kerner/Eric Jendresen project, "*Star Trek: the Beginning*", as number 2. (At least that one was really moving forward, until a leadership change at the studio scuttled it.) But compared to a lot of things, a TOS prequel, telling a story we'd never seen on film before (not to mention giving new fans a good jumping-on point), seemed like a pretty good idea! That everyone concerned with the film was assuring us that it would respect and honor all that had come before also gave me little reason to be worried.

Then the casting rumors--and eventually announcements--came, and I was still pretty excited. I think the casting has been just excellent. Oh, there are a few cast members whose work I'm not fully familiar with, but people who did know of them recommended them highly, and the ones whose work I did know, I liked. A lot. Casting? Thumbs way up! (Oh, and then they eventually told us that no less a *Trek* personage than Leonard Nimoy was going to be in the film, reprising his role as Spock one more time. Even better! This was gonna be great!)

Then the first storyline rumors started coming. And my initial high on the film crested and started coming down. Time travel. Again. Now, I am one of those folks who thinks that time travel, no matter how popular it may be, has gotten over-used in *Trek*. Three out of the first ten films have dealt with it. The "Enterprise" TV series postulated a "temporal cold war", which helped the show not at all. So

I was not a happy camper to hear that time travel was going to be involved.

The production started, and I kept hearing about all the cool stuff that J.J. Abrams was doing, and all the little fannish aspects that were coming into play. The first trailer came out, and the *Enterprise*--from what we could see of it--looked pretty good. A couple of hints of the production design began to leak, and it wasn't too bad, all things considered.

Still, things were sounding pretty cool, and my enthusiasm went back up over the summer and fall of '08, even after the disappointment of the film's release-date being pushed back to the summer.

More releases of info started coming out. The first uniform shots. Cool. Very true to TOS, but upgraded to look good on the big screen. Nice. The first bridge shot--meh. A few more later, and the bridge is looking like an Apple Store, still sort of reminiscent of the original bridge, but huge in comparison. I'm not thrilled with it, but whatever. Then the reveal of the ship. Not bad. Almost there. A few tweaks and it could have been great. As it is, it's fair-to-middlin'. Far better than it could have been, certainly.

SPOILER WARNING. *If you don't want to know anything, skip the next paragraph.*

Then more story bits come out, and we start getting detailed descriptions of four scenes from the film, and the bottom drops out for me. We're told that a time traveling Romulan goes back and changes history, and that Spock has to go back and fix things. But the new rumors suggest pretty strongly that the fix won't be perfect, that there will be rewrites to at least the backstory of certain characters, and possibly more, so that what *Star Trek* is, going forward, will be severed from what had come before. In short, no matter what sort of window-dressing they hang on it, a reboot.

I should note here: I hate reboots. HATE them. With the white-hot passion of a thousand suns hate them. (Not the kind where you restart your computer, of course, but the kind that happen in the entertainment industry where someone takes an existing property and changes it into something else, while still keeping the name.) Outside of the comic book universes, I have yet to see one that was worth the time spent on it (and I gave up on

serious comic book fandom as a kid, 'cause even then I could see that they couldn't maintain basic continuity, and I stopped caring about those worlds as a result). I also believe very strongly that if one is going to play in a fictional world, one has the responsibility to be true to that world. If one feels the need to rewrite the history of a fictional world, one shouldn't be playing in it. Period. And *Star Trek* is a **huge** fictional world.

So as the rumors rolled out last October and November, I was almost off the reservation, and trying to figure out how I was going to handle being in a theater opening weekend and promoting 'FLEET and my chapter in connection to a movie that I'd be perfectly happy to see fail miserably.

Since then, a bit more has come out, and we do see the danger of trying to connect the dots when there aren't yet enough dots to show the whole picture. We've been told by writer Roberto Orci that there's a significant final resolution that remains unrevealed (and, presumably, as part of the movie's climax, won't be revealed 'til May). We've also been told that the movie is not intended to be a complete reboot/reimagination, that the intent is still to bring things, story-wise, to the beginning of TOS. In one of my favorite quotes of November '08, J.J. Abrams said:

"I figure if you re-imagine something you should just imagine something else."

So maybe it's not as extreme as all that.

Mr. Orci, responding to a comment of mine on *TrekMovie.com*, himself suggested that things aren't quite as simple as the available information has implied, and there might be some aspects we don't yet know.

So I've moved back to being a bit more enthused again, and waiting for what comes next.

(As a side note, I also don't believe that all of *Star Trek* rides on this movie. With so many fan-films, books, and other media for *Trek*, this is still just one film, and love it, hate it, or somewhere in between, that shouldn't be forgotten.)

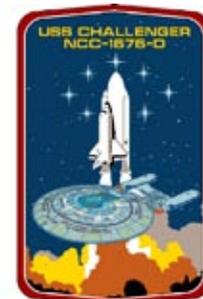
I suppose, in the end, much will depend on just how big an alteration we get. If they adopt what I refer to as the "Yesteryear" solution, i.e., there are a few relatively subtle changes, but otherwise it meshes, storytelling-wise, with the *Trek* world we know, that could work okay. If it's more radical (and there are still some [unconfirmed, mind you] rumors of some pretty radical stuff out there, like Nero destroying the planet Vulcan!), well, there's the likelihood that I may fund my trip to Shore Leave 31 on the money that otherwise would have gone to buying movie tickets.

I guess we'll see what happens. And after all, isn't the ride part of the fun?





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0727-76-16

We Still Need Heroes!

"You were dead. You were as dead as *Star Trek*," the Octopus said. The character was played by Samuel L. Jackson who is speaking to his nemesis The Spirit in the film of the same name.

Kind of an interesting remark that got my full attention when I saw *The Spirit*, back in late December. The well-known Will Eisner comic book hero was the last comic book hero to be translated into film in 2008.

Last year had an abundance of heroes on the big screen. Iron Man, The Hulk, Hancock, the return of Indiana Jones, Scully and Mulder from the X-Files, James Bond, Batman, the Punisher, and the aforementioned Spirit. Most got good reviews. That was a lot of heroes crammed into 12 months time!

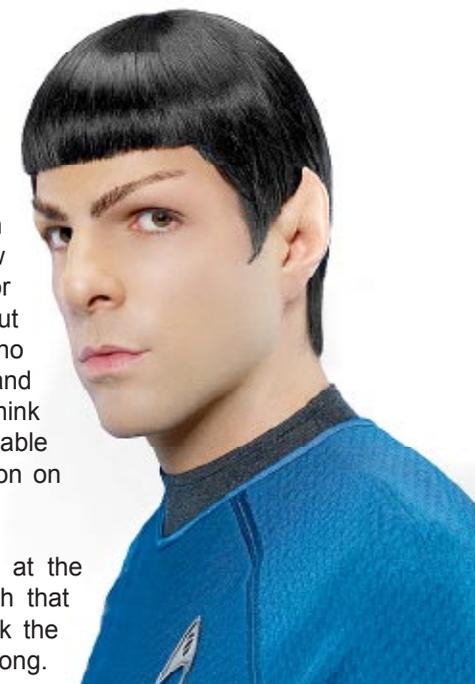
As for this year, beyond the May release of *Star Trek: The Movie* that will bring back Kirk, Spock, McCoy, Scotty, and the rest of the gang--albeit younger and in a flashback adventure--we'll see some familiar characters in the form of another Terminator installment, plus the much anticipated adaptation of the DC Comics award winning graphic novel *Watchmen*.

The previews look good, and both comic book shop owners and collectible store managers have told me they are rereading their old graphic novel copies of *Watchmen*. Other hero films are in production, such as Captain Marvel (better known as "Shazam!") from DC Comics. There are still rumors of a Wonder Woman film in the works, and we also have Ant-Man, Captain America, and Thor in development for 2010 or 2011 over at Marvel Studios. Happily, we will see

X-Men Origins: Wolverine this year.

If we ever needed a year with heroes, it was definitely 2008, and I don't see things changing much this year. The television show *Heroes* is doing well ratings-wise for NBC, and while *Smallville* will shut down this spring (with Clark Kent no doubt deciding to don a red cape and wear a big red "S" on his chest), I think Warner Brothers will line up a suitable replacement spin-off for next season on the CW.

This will be another exciting year at the movies. I think our hopes are high that *Star Trek* the movie will bring back the franchise and prove the Octopus wrong.



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TROUBADOUR STATION

1227-00-00

Reach Out!

Until I've seen it, I won't know if the new *Star Trek* movie compares to "The Wrath of Khan", "The Search for Spock", or "The Voyage Home". And until my own standards are met, I can pass no judgment. But until such time that I am able to see how the movie stacks up, I must settle for the thought that right now it's the only game in town and must be used to full advantage.

Not everyone has access to the SciFi channel on TV and can catch one incarnation or another of *Star Trek* at almost any time, so the cupboard has been pretty bare for many loyal fans. This movie will be a golden opportunity for recruitment drives wherever the movie is shown.

It's beating a dead horse, but I must stress: **ADVERTISE!!!**

Go to the movie as a group **IN UNIFORM!** Go early and mingle with the crowd! Generate some interest!

Some years back, the catchphrase was "Each one Teach one." Turn that one inside out to say "Each one Reach one." Make yourself available. Go get 'em!

Before I knew there were Trek fan clubs, I attended local conventions to breathe the same air as the stars I had admired on TV. I started seeing a small group, 6 or 7 people, dressed in "Monster Maroons" arriving at the cons...neat, trim, and eye-catching. I assumed

they were a part of the show. Imagine my surprise when one of them approached me and asked if I'd be interested in joining a *Star Trek* fan club. These people were part of the *USS Discovery*, a Region 12 ship based in St. Louis, Missouri.

By making their existence visible with their uniforms, and by approaching people at the convention, they gathered at least one new member into the organization, and I'll always praise the effort they made to recruit a new member.

Reach out! Touch someone! It works! Don't just sit at a table with flyers and posters--go up to people, press the flesh, make yourself available!





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0428-40-718

Nicholas Meyer and Michael Dorn Speak at Air Force Week Screening of *Star Trek VI*

On November 14, 2008, *USS Angeles* members converged on the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences in Hollywood, California. We were there to see a special screening of *Star Trek VI: The Undiscovered Country* being presented as a part of the Air Force Week Film Festival. Director Nicholas Meyer and Michael Dorn, who plays the hapless Klingon legal defender "Worf" were the special guests.

The Leonard H. Goldenson Theatre, where we saw the film, is where the Emmy Award nominations are announced. The outside walls have inset figures of television luminaries, and I was touched to see Jim Henson and the Muppets included. Among the bronze sculptures around the outside plaza was one of Katherine Hepburn, which our own Rear Admiral Jennifer Cole jokingly identified as "Kate Mulgrew" because of Kate's portrayal of Hepburn in a one-woman show. But the most noticeable décor elements were the huge Emmy statues. An Emmy in the plaza outdoors towers over 25 feet high. Two more inside the theater stand about 15 feet high on each side of the stage.



NICHOLAS MEYER AND MICHAEL DORN.
 PHOTO COURTESY OF THE AIR FORCE ENTERTAINMENT LIAISON OFFICE.

As we entered the lobby, we were greeted by music played by the Air National Guard Band. Free snacks and drinks were available, which was a surprise on top of the free admission. I'm always impressed with free stuff. Go Air Force!

What does *Star Trek* have to do with an Air Force celebration? Gene Roddenberry, a U.S. Army Air Corps pilot, was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal. DeForest Kelley was also in the U.S. Army Air

Corps. Both have stars on the Hollywood Walk of Fame, placing them among the "Airmen of Fame", whose photos and biographies were posted at the Air Force Expo during Air Force Week. If only they could have been there to talk about their experiences!

The ceremonies began with a presentation of an Air Force hero and a special "Hollywood Meets Air Force" video. Then Nicholas Meyer and Michael Dorn (who is himself a pilot) were introduced. The following are excerpts of the interview.

Host: Mr. Meyer, I know that the title [*Undiscovered Country*] was originally meant to be used in the second *Star Trek* movie, but it wasn't used...and then you came back to that title. What was it about the title that you really liked that allowed you to do that?

Meyer: It is true that the original title was *Star Trek II: The Undiscovered Country*. The undiscovered country is an excerpt from Hamlet's soliloquy "To be or not to be?" And since that movie dealt with the death of Spock, I thought it had a nice, poetic ring to it and was a good idea.

I was editing that film when my assistant came in and said, "You know, I think they changed the title of your movie." So I got on the phone and had a surreal conversation.

I said [to Frank Mancuso Sr., who was the chairman and CEO of Paramount Pictures from 1983 to 1991], "Mr. Mancuso, is it true you changed the title of my movie? May I know what the title is?"

He said, "*The Vengeance of Khan*."

"Don't you think it would have been a little politic of you to have run this by me, kind of check in?" There was a puzzled silence, three time zones away. I said, "George Lucas is making a movie called *Revenge of the Jedi*. You do a lot of business with him with *Indiana Jones*. Do you think he's going to be happy with *The Vengeance of Khan*?" Well, he said it wouldn't be a problem. But two weeks later, it was *The Wrath of Khan*, to which I was never reconciled.

When this [sixth] movie was made, I was sort of sick and tired of *The Last*, *The Final*, *The Ultimate*...I don't think anybody's listening anymore. So I throw them a curve ball, I want to call this *The Undiscovered Country*. By that time,



I was the 800-pound gorilla in the room, so I got to keep my title. (Applause.)

Host: Mr. Dorn, you've been in just about every series in the franchise. You've been in more episodes than any other actor. How have you kept focus on your character, kept it going time after time?

Meyer: Did you say "Time After Time?" (Laughter.)

Editor's note: Meyer directed *Time after Time*, a 1979 movie starring Malcolm McDowell, who played Dr. Soran in *Star Trek: Generations*, and David Warner, who played Chancellor Gorkon in *Star Trek VI*.



Dorn: It was fairly easy. The character started out to be a blank slate, basically. They just had a script with just the one word on it, "Worf", and that was it. I went to Gene and asked what to do with this. And he said, "Don't listen to what anybody says... you just make the character your own." And to say that to an actor, you know, the actor goes, "Hey, yeah, ok!" He took a chance.

The character changed every year. He was always a pleasure to play. I was one of the few actors who really didn't have to go up to the offices and toss hand grenades at these people, because they wrote really great stuff for me, every year. It was a wonderful experience.

I think the big thing was the cast worked. We had a great time. It was like going to college every day, with all the good and bad, too. They're great memories.

Host: Mr. Meyer, I noticed in the film the special effects took a back seat to the storyline. Did you try to minimize the special effects so they didn't take over?

Meyer: I think it's fair to say I'm more interested in people than anything else. I'm more interested in heroes than superheroes. I suspect the *Star Treks* with which I was involved are the most earthbound in sensibility. That's where I'm coming from.

I'm tired of movies that end in the word "man": Superman, Spiderman, Batman, Ironman, Garbage man. (Laughter.)



A GIANT REPLICA STATUE OF THE EMMY AWARD INSIDE THE LEONARD H. GOLDENSON THEATRE IN HOLLYWOOD, CALIFORNIA. PHOTO BY JENNIFER COLE.

And the nice thing about *Star Trek* is that *Star Trek* is really all about people. It doesn't matter that technically they're supposed to be from other worlds. At the end of the day, it's people, and that's what interests me.

Host: There are a lot of relationships, not just between the cast, but between the bad guys.

Meyer: It's tough to tell who the bad guys are, sometimes. Like with Mike. [referring to Dorn's character in *Undiscovered Country*].

Host: I understand that you have ridden with the Blue Angels and the Thunderbirds. What was your experience when you flew with the Thunderbirds?

Dorn: It was pretty amazing. In fact, because of *Star Trek* all these kind of childhood dreams have come true. We flew up to Sacramento, Travis [Air Force Base]. The guys there took very good care of me. It was an amazing flight. We took off to the coast and did all these maneuvers, solos, and then he asked, "What do you want to do now?"

And I say, "What about the Golden Gate?" So we flew down the coast and around the Golden Gate Bridge for, like, 15 minutes. It was one of those beautiful days in San Francisco. And then the guy, he was Major Major, I never forgot that name, he told me that they did a video. He said they would have to edit the noise out.

I said, "What are you talking about?" It turned out I was going, "ooh, ahhh, ooh, mmmm" and he said they couldn't have that. (Laughter.) The Blue Angels was a good ride, but this was spectacular. I was inverted most of the time in the Michael Dorn vertical roll.

But not only that, I had a chance to fly in the Opens, a dogfight. That was another incredible thing. We took off, four of us, and did a two-vs-two dogfight. I flew a B1 bomber, left seat.

Host: So you had contact with the Air Force, the military. How do you look at the military and the crew of the *Enterprise* in terms of similarities? The crew is military, but more of an exploratory-type military. What are the similarities that you saw?

Dorn: The similarity that I saw between the two was the idea of Picard as the captain of the ship, but he's not the dictator. You would do as he says, but he also looks for people to say what they feel. "What do you think? What do you think?" Of course he'd ask me and I'd only want to kill things. (Laughter) "Mr. Worf, what do you think about this?" "Kill them, sir."

And that's the kind of thing that they would tell me as I was interacting with the military. That's the way it is, and



LEFT TO RIGHT: CHRIS MULROONEY, ELIZABETH AND KELLY CRITCH, JANICE WILLCOCKS, AND LUIS VALENTINE POSE IN FRONT OF THE HISTORIC BOB'S BIG BOY. PHOTO BY JENNIFER COLE.

that's the way they would like it to become, more, is not a dictatorship but more like everybody pitches in as a team. Whereas on the original show, Kirk was The Guy, he made decisions. That was Gene's doing, also; the change. He was very much into all the military stuff.

Host: Mr. Meyer, in this film, what is your favorite scene, and why?

Meyer: I think my favorite scene is an exchange between Spock and Valeris, very early on in the movie. She's trying to tell him something and he can't hear it. She's sending a signal of considerable distress and confusion, and he's blind to it. I think it's well-played, well-written, well-directed. (Laughter)

Host: Do we have any questions from the audience?

Woman: Mr. Meyer, was there always a plan to have a *Next Generation* cast member in *Star Trek VI*?

Meyer: Not until I saw Worf, there wasn't. Then I thought, he could play his own grandfather; that would be cool. That was when I got the idea. Believe me, there was no plan.

Man: Mr. Meyer and Mr. Dorn, was there anything you wanted to do with the various characters in the scenes and interactions that you didn't get a chance to do? And not just in this movie, but in any *Star Trek*?

Meyer: I can't say I felt deprived of doing or working out things. Each movie I treated as an individual, although things carried over from one to another. But this movie was controversial. I don't know if you're aware of just how controversial. Gene Roddenberry was very, very distressed by this movie because it depicted bigotry, and the idea that the crew of the *Enterprise* would be racist was totally counter to his prophetic vision of a perfectible





MORE PHOTO OPS WITH BOB'S BIG BOY. LEFT TO RIGHT: CHRIS MULROONEY, GLORIA RODRIGUEZ, MARIA CASTANEDA, LUIS VALENTINE. PHOTO BY JENNIFER COLE.

humanity. And my problem is I haven't seen any evidence of that perfectible humanity.

Again, I'm always earthbound in that sense, so I said it might be nice if one day we all existed without prejudice. But we know that we exist with it now. As you know, just days ago we took a hell of a big step forward [referring to Obama's election]. But when we made this movie? No. We were still earnestly working out things. I don't think any other country has tried so hard to grapple with this as we have. But the Klingons became the "alien trash of the galaxy", as one of the Starfleet admirals referred to them. And interestingly enough, and quite deliberately, that admiral was an African American.

Editor's note: That Admiral was Cartwright, played by the late Brock Peters. He later played Sisko's father, Joesph, in *Star Trek: Deep Space 9* and had a starring role in the early civil rights movie, *To Kill A Mockingbird*.

Dorn: I don't have a thing I wish I could have done. As I said earlier, it was a constant surprise for me. In fact getting the job on Nick's movie was a surprise. I was sitting on the set of *Next Generation* and you and Herb Zimmerman were walking by. And he said, "Hey, Mike. This is Nick Meyer. And, by the way, they wrote a part for you in the movie." I went, "Oh, um, ok."

So it was a real surprise for me, but it was also a great honor because that was the last movie where all the original actors were there. There was a final scene, the original guys are sitting in their chairs and it just hit me all of a sudden. "There's Sulu, and Scotty! Oh."

So I've been fortunate that I've never had any development that I wanted that I didn't have a chance at.

Meyer: Well, he's played every conceivable thing they

episode. But there wasn't any "hit."

Originally I was brought on to be the director. My job turned into synthesizing the plots of all these into one script. As I was working, the themes of the movie began to emerge: friendship, old age, death, vengeance. These all became linked together.

Woman 2: Do you anticipate any involvement with the new movies that are coming out? And also, where would you like to see *Star Trek* go now?

Meyer: I would like to see it go where no man has gone... (Laughter.)

My connection with the new movie is that I was actually at J.J. Abram's barmitzvah. (Laughter.) It's true. And I bumped into him the other day, and he said, "You gave me a wonderful gift. You gave me the annotated Sherlock

could have written for him.

Man 2: I woke up this morning and *Star Trek II* was on. So of course I felt compelled to watch it...

Meyer: I completely understand. (Laughter)

Man 2: How did you hit upon "Space Seed" as the core of *Khan*?

Meyer: That was Harve Bennett [executive producer of "Wrath of Khan"], a marvelous fan. I was not a fan, not because I didn't like it but because I hadn't seen it. I was on another planet--you should pardon the expression--not watching. So it was all news to me. There were five different scripts for *Star Trek II*. They each dealt with something completely different. There was Kirk meets his son, there was the Genesis project, there was Khan, there was Spock dying; all those things were separate stories. "Space Seed" with Khan was one of the stories. They showed me that

Holmes, which my son is now eagerly devouring." So that's my connection; I don't anticipate any other connections. We'll have to see how it comes out.

Man 3: Mr. Meyer, the model work in *Star Trek II* is just phenomenal. In *Star Trek VI*, did you have a choice between using models and CGI? It made a big difference in how they looked on the screen, but nowadays, it's hard to detect. I'm really glad you used the models.

Meyer: CGI was just beginning. *Star Trek II* was the first movie to use CGI. The Genesis planet was the first time.

Man 3: But the ships were models.

Meyer: The ships were models, and, yes, I still prefer them. There's a level of realism. CGI will get there, I'm sure. But there's more texture, more dimensionality, if there's such a word, in the model work.

But maybe we ought to get on to the movie. (Applause.)

We might have come just to hear these guests. But we still had the movie to enjoy! Other members of the audience probably wondered why some of us *USS Angeles* members got a little noisy at odd points of the film. That was because several times we spotted Lt. (j.g.) Max Cervantes, longtime *Angeles* member, in his role as an *Enterprise* crewman. You'll be forever young on screen, Max. And as we headed for a historic Bob's Big Boy to round out our evening, we went from the future to the past without any sign of temporal displacement. We do that: we're STARFLEET.



USS ANGELES MEMBER MAX CERVANTES (LEFT) STANDS AS AN EXTRA NEXT TO MR. SCOTT (JAMES DOOHAN) IN "STAR TREK VI: THE UNDISCOVERED COUNTRY."





0431-40-718

USS ANGELES NCC-71840



NAME: JONATHAN LANE

RANK: COMMODORE

POSITION: CHIEF OF COMMUNICATIONS, STARFLEET

SHIP: USS ANGELES NCC-71840;

REGION: 4, CALIFORNIA (USA)

ACHIEVEMENTS: FORMER XO, USS AVENGER NCC-1860; FORMER SPECIAL PROJECTS COORDINATOR, REGION 7; DESIGNER OF THE AWARD-WINNING USSANGELES.COM WEBSITE; CO-CHAIRMAN OF THE 2005 REGION 4 CONFERENCE

Review - *Star Trek: Countdown* (The Comic Book Prequel)

"If the movie was 45 minutes longer, this is what those 45 minutes would be." These words were spoken during an interview back in December with Andy Schmidt, editor of IDW Publishing's new *Star Trek: Countdown* comic book miniseries. Schmidt went on to say, "Our story starts off before the film begins, introduces the central conflict of the film as well as many of the characters involved, and takes you through an action-packed story that ends just a moment before the film opens."

But is it worth reading? In case you're the impatient sort, I'll say that in my opinion, the answer is most definitely "Yes." But there's much more to say than just that.

Star Trek comic books have existed almost as far back as *Star Trek* itself, first emerging in 1967 when Gold Key Comics published stories that were illustrated by an artist who had never even seen the show! (He was given photo reference.) There was also a British *Star Trek* newspaper strip in the mid-to-late 1970s.

After *Star Trek's* re-emergence with the first motion picture in 1979, the *Star Trek* comic book license bounced from Marvel Comics (publishers of Spider-Man and the X-Men) to DC Comics (publishers of Superman and Batman), back to Marvel and then back to DC (with some stops at independent publishers along the way) over the next two decades.

Star Trek comics varied greatly in quality of writing and artwork, adherence to continuity, and subject matter. All *Star Trek* films and TV series (except for *Enterprise*) made it some way into comic book form. Many noted *Star Trek* novelists either started their careers with or expanded them into the *Trek* comics--including the prolific Peter David, Michael Jan Friedman, Howard Weinstein, Bob Greenberger, and several others.

After *Trek's* comic license expired in 2002, there was a four-year gap until IDW Publishing, based in San Diego, picked up the torch. The big difference between IDW and most of the previous publishers is that IDW concentrates almost solely on licensed media properties: *G.I. Joe*, *Transformers*, *Terminator*, *Angel* (as in *Buffy*), *Speed Racer*, *Doctor Who*, *CSI*, *Ghost Whisperer*, and many others. In short, IDW knows how to handle movie and



television franchises in comic book form, and their continued success is evidence of that strength.

For *Star Trek*, IDW has already published a plethora of interesting titles (some better than others, most quite good, but that's for another review). Among their more notable *Star Trek* projects were min-series focusing on the Klingons, the Mirror Universe, Year Four of the original 5-year mission, Gary Seven's adventures on Earth, Peter David's "New Frontier" spinoff from the *Trek* novels, *TNG*-era stories, and one-shots spotlighting different alien races such as the Andorians, Orions, Gorn, Vulcans, Romulans, and Borg.

And now IDW turns their attention to the first-ever official prequel to be published prior to the release of a *Star Trek* film: "Countdown"--written by Mike Johnson and Tim Jones from a story by Roberto Orci and Alex Kurtzman (who co-wrote the new *Star Trek* film). The artist is David Messina with colors provided by Messina with Giovana Niro and Paolo Maddaleni. Chris Mowry provides the lettering.

By the time you read this, the last of four issues will have hit comic book stands and bookstores. The issues were intended to be released one-per-month in the four months leading up to the movie release on May 8. But don't despair if you didn't pick up the four comic books when you had the chance (many stores sold out). Like the majority of comic book miniseries these days, the collected edition of all four issues together will be hitting bookstores shortly with a cover price of \$17.99 (and Amazon is already offering it for a 32% discount on pre-order).

Like any good story, what makes "Countdown" enjoyable and successful are the plot, writing style, and characterizations. But with a comic book, artwork also impacts the reading experience.

Let's start, however, with the writing, and specifically, the plot. Without giving too much away, the story takes place in the 24th century, where an aging Ambassador Spock has taken up residence on Romulus in an attempt to reunify the Romulan and Vulcan cultures. Spock discovers a threat to Romulus from a nearby star about to go supernova, but no members of the Romulan Senate believe the urgency of the threat. Spock's only ally is a brash, young Romulan mining captain named Nero, whom we will come to know in the movie as the villain dedicated to the destruction of James T. Kirk and the Federation. Watching Nero's evolution from hero to villain as the plot unfolds provides an insight into this character who will dominate much of the new movie.

The overall plot itself is nothing we haven't seen before: such-and-such anomaly threatens the galaxy and we have limited time to stop it. But it's the little details as the plot unfolds that make this a satisfying read. We get glimpses into Spock's life on Romulus, of the Romulan citizens' reactions to and opinions about him. We spend time on the *Enterprise-E* (and yes, that is Data on the cover) and also see Jean-Luc Picard. We go to Vulcan. And of course, as is critical to the upcoming movie, we discover how Nero learned of the importance of James T. Kirk to the survival and advancement of the United Federation of planets. (We also learn why Nero has all those facial tattoos.)

The writing style moves the story along quickly. There are few if any "irrelevant" scenes. Just about everything shown is an important piece of the final mosaic that is assembled. Comic books are primarily a medium for dialog, for characters interacting with each other through conversation and action. And in the case of writers Mike Johnson and Time Jones, there is neither too much dialog nor too little. The scenes flow quickly and are understandable. And many pages end on cliffhangers and tense moments that often make the turning of the page an exciting and urgent experience. Such can be the most fun aspect of comic books, as each new page presents a fresh surprise for the eyes and mind.





Characterization can be a tricky thing with *Star Trek*. In general, you ask yourself when reading any *Star Trek* story—comic book, novel, or even unfilmed script—if I close my eyes, can I hear such-and-such character saying this line? In general, throughout this comic, I felt the answer was “Yes.” Data sounded like Data, Picard like Picard. In a few places, though, Spock seemed a little off. One particular scene bothered me, although it was still amusing to read: Spock addresses the Romulan Senate with the opening line, “Friends, Romulans, Countrymen...we share the same ears.” The Senate laughs (I don’t know how many of them read Shakespeare’s *Julius Casear*), but it was hard for me to imagine Spock at any point in his career turning to stand-up comedy. Even so, however, Spock was generally well-written and seemed to advance his character by showing us glimpses of his twilight years. And without giving anything away, I will tip my hat to a brief conversation between Spock and Data about coming back from the dead. (I don’t consider this a spoiler, as Data appears on the cover.)

Of course, the most significant characterization—and the reason to read the comic book in the first place—would be the descent of Nero. Villains aren’t simply born evil. Something has to trigger that choice to destroy rather than create, to hate rather than to love. And I found the comic to do an excellent job of presenting that tragic journey. The reader can feel Nero’s pain and frustration, and understand his emerging hatred. It might not be the grandest characterization ever seen in the history of literature, but the authors do convince the readers to care about the character of Nero, see his perspective and motivations, and ultimately despair at his fall. In my opinion,

reading this comic will help expand the experience of watching the new film by adding to the richness of knowledge of who this villain is and how he emerged.

Often in comic book reviews, the drawings and coloring are reviewed separately. In this case, though, the two elements are so masterfully intertwined that I could not imagine this comic book having the same impact in black and white. Artist David Messina chooses a subdued color palette and black borders for a thoroughly dark and moody tone. Lights (when they appear) are stark and harsh, casting deep and consuming shadows. On most pages, only one or two colors dominate, being used sparingly in a changing tones. All in all, the coloring, for me, makes the artwork a success.

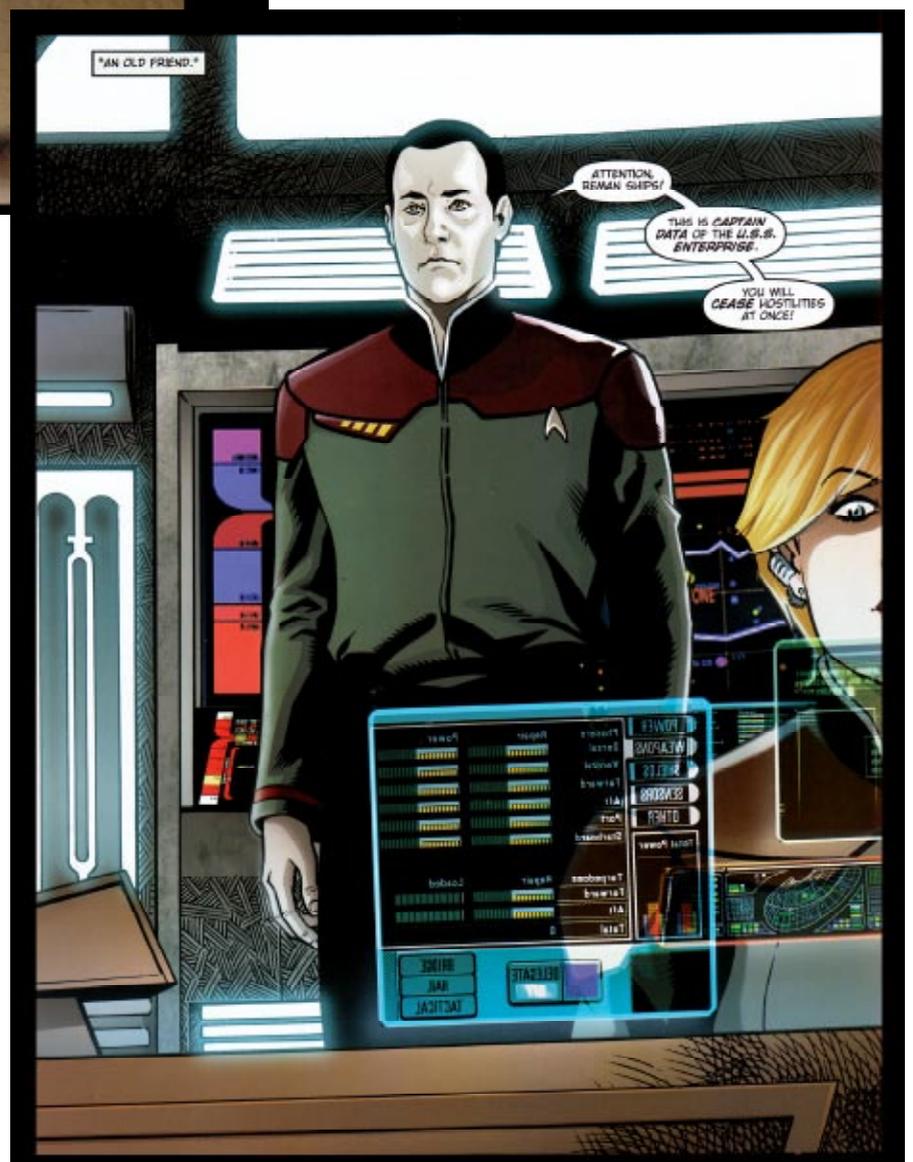
Of course, the other thing all *Star Trek* comic books are judged by is: do the characters and starships look correct? In general, yes, Messina gets them right. The *Enterprise-E* occasionally lacks

detail, but my personal taste is for technical precision, and often that is not required in this story. And the *Enterprise-E* isn’t drawn incorrectly; it simply doesn’t show every bolt and racing stripe. Also, while Spock, Picard, Data, Gerodi, Worf, *et. al.* look mostly correct, Messina’s faces tend to be a little flat and generic at times. However, at other times, he draws eyes and expressions that can bore holes into the reader’s very soul. However this inconsistency in artistic quality was only a minor concern while reading. Not every face or body pose must be Leonardo da Vinci-level in order for the artwork to be effective.

Panel layout varied considerably, resulting in most pages engaging and, often, surprising the reader when first seen. And I must mention that Messina takes a stab at redesigned 24th century Starfleet duty uniform that looks really awesome. Overall, the visuals were stunning, immersive, and a true pleasure to look at.

If you like comic books and graphic novels already, you’ll definitely enjoy reading this prequel as a quality visual and literary *Star Trek* experience. If you’re not a fan of comic books but you are a fan of *Star Trek*, I would still recommend “Countdown” as a way to expand and enrich your enjoyment of the movie (which will, I hope, actually be enjoyable). Because this comic book was created with input and guidance from the film’s writers themselves, it can very well be considered official canon. If so, then you owe it to yourself to get the “whole story.”

Enjoy the read.





0433-40-718

STARFLEET's Legal Expenses Explained

A long-overdue interview with Sal Lizard, conducted by Jon Lane (Part 1)



Last year, STARFLEET retained the services of a legal firm, Hurwit & Associates, to help us with a number of issues which Fleet Admiral Sal Lizard (the Commander, STARFLEET) and the Executive Committee at the time felt were important to address. Over the course of approximately six months, our law firm provided us with \$9,100 in legal services.

But what, precisely, did we spend our money on? What services did we receive, and why were those services necessary in the first place?

These questions and more were on the minds of many concerned individuals who felt that STARFLEET's paying membership deserved to know what their dues were buying. But for months, no details were forthcoming from Sal Lizard or the Executive Committee.

When I joined the EC last summer, I felt strongly that this information needed to be shared with the general membership. What I discovered is that nothing was being purposefully hidden, but rather, what our \$9,100 had bought us--information, consultation, review, letters, feedback, advice, and more--was so extensive and far-reaching, so complex and intricate, that Sal Lizard had no idea where to even start explaining it all. And to be honest, no one else was stepping up to volunteer to figure out how to get the myriad details to the membership either.

In walked Jon Lane, resigned to the philosophy that, if you want something done, you gotta do it yourself. This was going to be a huge project. I first got Mike Stein, STARFLEET CFO, to send me copies of all of our legal invoices from Hurwit & Associates. After analyzing those invoices, I then had to set up a series of recorded conference calls with Sal Lizard and Sal's Chief of Staff, Sam Black. Two calls and over five recorded hours later, I finally had the answers to what I believe are most of the questions the membership has been wanting to have explained.

I present here, and over the next couple of issues of CQ, a transcript of my conversation with Sal, his answers word-for-word. I issue the following advisories to all who will be reading this:

1) It's not always pretty. Some of the worst attitudes and behaviors that STARFLEET members can display are discussed in the text of this transcript. In general, I believe STARFLEET is better than this. Most members usually behave quite warmly to each other. But sometimes you can't avoid the darker side.

2) It's not all that interesting. To be thorough, I go item-by-item through all the invoices. I feel the membership has a right to know about everything. That said, this is going to be a very, VERY long set of articles stretching across several Communiqués.

3) This is not STARFLEET, not really. If you are a new member or a potential member, don't read this and be discouraged. (Better yet, just don't read it.) The best analogy I can use is, "This is how the sausage is made." No one really wants to see that...it's easier and better to just enjoy the tasty treat. There's a reason why only about two dozen or so individuals actually run the day-to-day operations of this club: its so the other three or four thousand can just enjoy the experience.

My hope is that members read this interview in the spirit it was conducted: with an open mind and a desire for transparency regarding the thought processes and actions of our elected Commander, STARFLEET.

- Commodore Jon Lane
Chief of Communications, STARFLEET

Sam Black: The day is Wednesday, January 7th 2009, this conference call contains Sal Lizard Commander, STARFLEET; Jon Lane, Chief of communications, STARFLEET; Sam Black, Chief of Staff to Commander, STARFLEET. This is concerning the interview for the upcoming article that Jon Lane will be producing of what we have gotten from the attorney.

OK Jon, I guess it's your ball now,

Jon Lane: All right. What made you, Sal, decide that STARFLEET needed to hire an attorney?

Sal Lizard: I would say that the thing that made me decide that STARFLEET needed an attorney was that I had been in STARFLEET for about 16 years, or had been at the time of the election, and one of the things that had happened was that I was around at the time the Constitution was re-written. I was around when Dan McGinnis took money from STARFLEET, and I understood the purpose of the Constitution, but I then saw that the governing documents of this organization were in conflict with the laws I knew existed...the fiduciary laws.

Jon: How did you know those laws existed?

Sal: Because I used to be a business owner, and I was incorporated, and as a business owner who was incorporated, I actually had to put my own personal needs aside for the good of the corporation, because that was my responsibility under law to the corporation. And STARFLEET was no different--it was incorporated, and while it was a not-for-profit, it still was a corporation, and these laws did exist.

Back when I had my business, ChazNet, I had five attorneys on retainer. I believe that especially as the world is becoming more litigious, you have to be very careful. And you know what, we all have a basic understanding of what is right and wrong, but you need an attorney to tell you when you're getting into trouble. I was convinced that STARFLEET's governing documents were in contradiction to each other, and that they were not being interpreted with respect to real world law. And I was not the only candidate planning on doing this: Wade Olson and Sandy Berenberg, had they won, they were planning on seeking an attorney to read over our governing documents and to tell them where we were in conflict also. So there were at least two teams that thought we should get an attorney to look over our documents.

Jon: And by looking over our documents, your goal was to ultimately...what?

Sal: Eliminate those areas of ambiguity and to make sure that they were in compliance with business practices and law.

Jon: And laws specifically of the state of North Carolina because that is where we are incorporated?

Sal: And specifically to not-for-profit corporations, yes.

Jon: Okay. Well let's move to question number two. And at this point, I should probably mention that our attorney of record is a law firm by the name of Hurwit & Associates, which is located in Newton, Massachusetts. And of course, we are incorporated in North Carolina. So, with all that information, I want to ask the musical question: How were the attorneys selected?

Sal: Okay, I actually put out the word through the EC that I was looking for an attorney...and that just not any attorney, but I needed to find an attorney that dealt with corporate, non-profit law...somebody specific to our type of corporation. STARFLEET actually had attorneys in the past who have been members who have offered to help. Chuck Freas is one of the co-drafters of the Constitution and the Handbook, and he was a practicing attorney...well, not a practicing attorney, he was clerking for a judge, if I remember correctly, in the federal system in Texas. But he had passed the bar, as I understand it, and was an attorney. We also have had other members that were family attorneys, and they all offered little bits of advice here and there, but each of them had said--well, the attorneys who were involved with STARFLEET when I took office had said, "You need to have an attorney who deals with corporate non-profit." Sam has an attorney in his chapter who deals with criminal law, and it would be inappropriate for her to advise us on corporate matters, because that is not her area of specialty.

So we had needed to find a law firm who specifically deals with non-profit corporations, and a few of them came up, and what happened was one of our members had some experience with Hurwit & Associates, and their prices were kind of in that ballpark which other attorneys had advised me was an appropriate amount to charge. When I contacted them and talked to them, and asked them about North Carolina law, they of course said, "Yes, we handle corporations all over the U.S. that are non-profit, and we can certainly reference North Carolina law for you." So that's when we selected them.

Jon: We've sort of already answered the next question already, which is: How do we know that we are paying a fair competitive rate for legal services?

Sal: I got that from basically talking to other attorneys and actually even a couple of paralegals who talked to some of the attorneys they worked for. I was told that what we were paying was pretty average and fair for the type of attorney we have.

Jon: And for the record, according to these invoices (I think STARFLEET members have a right to know what we are being billed out at), it looks like we are being billed out for an associate level attorney to help us at \$330 per hour, and for Mr. Hurwit to work for us at a partner level at \$400 an hour. I would mention myself, as I am married to an attorney who works at a law firm, those are fairly standard rates. You see associates billing out somewhere between \$300 and \$400 an hour, and partners billing out between \$400 and \$500. Some law firms are ridiculously more expensive than that, few law firms are actually



less expensive, but that does seem to be the price range that is acceptable in the industry.

So, now we are going to get into a slightly messier area of this because I'm now looking at a number of different invoices from the attorney, over the course of what looks like the first six months of this year [2008]. So I ask the following question (knowing it's going to open up a Pandora's box), but what are the items that have required us to seek legal counsel, and how much was spent on each item?

Sal: Well, in the beginning what happened was, when I first contacted Hurwit & Associates, and Tracey Bolotnick became our counsel, what I explained to her was that I needed someone basically to read our governing documents and offer an opinion of what was correct and what was incorrect about them. So she actually took the time to read our Constitution, our Articles of Incorporation, our Membership Handbook, the Inspector General's guide, the RC's guide, and I believe the CS Manual was also available. And she also read our promotions documents policy, and any other policy that was available to her, she read. Then during that process, which was time consumptive--and we had to pay usual billable hours--there were other items that came up, such as Scott Akers calling me in the middle of the night, telling me that he was going to have me arrested for violation of the Helms-Burton Act if I did not acquiesce to his demands. I didn't know what the Helms-Burton Act was, but suddenly here I am with a member of the organization--who has been a member for some time--calling me repeatedly on my cell phone, telling me he was going to have me arrested if I didn't re-instate him in the academy, and over this Cuban thing that I didn't know anything about. And he said it doesn't matter, I am going to jail, and it was going to cost STARFLEET \$10,000 minimum, which will bankrupt the organization, and it's going to be my fault.

Jon: Now what you've just done is to accuse Scott Akers of something to which I am sure Scott Akers would say, "Okay, show me a witness that this happened."

Sal: I can show him my telephone records where he called me repeatedly on one night--and it's basically my word against his--but I certainly called up Tracey Botonick and said, "Hey, I got a member that called me last night saying this stuff." And especially since Scott actually made a post somewhere that I was violating the Helms-Burton Act, while I may not be able to say absolutely that I had a witness that he called me and said that, I certainly have my phone records that show him calling. As a matter of fact, when I told him that I would that I would call the police and tell them that he was harassing me, he goes, "I'll tell them that you called me and were harassing me." And I said, "The interesting thing, Scott, is that I've got my phone records which show incoming calls from your phone number, but yet I never called your number." That is the last time he called me.

Jon: First of all, when was this? Can I get a date?

Sal: A date--I don't know--I would have to look. It was in January, shortly after taking office.

[NOTE FROM JON: At this point in the conversation, Sam Black went to look back through e-mail records, as Sal sent an e-mail to the AB right after Scott called him. By tracking down this e-mail, we could get the date this happened. Sal and I continued our discussion.]

Jon: What was it that made him specifically say that you, Sal, were violating the Helms-Burton Act?

Sal: That I was the president of the organization, and the organization had allowed Cuban members in though Canada--through Joost Ueffing's chapter--and that was a direct violation of the exact wording of the Helms-Burton Act. It even said that

not even though a third party country, such as Canada...I mean it was very specific to even mention that, as an example. And yet Joost had paid for the membership for four Cubans on a family membership, and that was a violation of the Helms-Burton Act, which Scott Akers discovered. But because I was the president and responsible for everything, he was going to have me arrested for violation, and he told me that unless I re-instated him into the academy, he was...

Jon: Reinstate him as what into the academy?

Sal: He was a beta tester at that point. What had happened was that Scott had released some exams online--the answers to two exams--so the Academy had relieved him. And he was angry, and he called me up and said that he was going to release 100 more exam answers and report me to the authorities for violation of the Helms-Burton Act. Which is why I wanted to know what the Helms-Burton Act was for one thing--and I immediately started calling the State Department. And there's a lot of records where suddenly me and several other people, including Gregg Trotter, were contacting the State Department over this, and I went straight to the AB and told them what had happened, so there is a record with the AB of me telling them about Scott doing this, and also there was the fact that he said that he was going to release these test answers. I asked the attorney what we could do in sending a C&D. And the C&D, Cease and Desist letter, basically said: "If you release the answers to more exams, then STARFLEET will come after you because they are part of STARFLEET's intellectual property, they belong to STARFLEET, and you are not authorized to do this."

Jon: How did the lawyer know or determine that the academy courses were part of STARFLEET's intellectual property if the courses were written by individuals?

Sal: Because at the bottom of each of the individual courses, answer sheets, etc. there is a Copyright STARFLEET statement. So they were the intellectual property--even though individuals had written them, they had written them for STARFLEET Academy, and tuned them over to STARFLEET.

Jon: Before we go on, I think we need to tell people who aren't familiar with Scott Akers who he is exactly.

Sal: He was the Academy Commandant. He was also a STARFLEET Historian at one point. In 2008, he was removed as a beta tester. In other words, when someone wrote up a course and the test, he would take the course, and then take the test, and make sure that everything was correctly done.

Jon: And why was he removed as a beta tester, do we know?

Sal: Yes, because he started posting answers to the questions on the Internet, and that was against their policy...which he was very much aware of.

Jon: Do we know why he started posting answers?

Sal: He got into a tiff, and I know he was calling some of the gals in the Academy "old bitty" and was harassing them, and they brought some complaints against him, and the next thing is, he released the answers. The complaints hadn't even reached me; they complained to the Commandant of the academy.

Jon: Now the new Commandant in this case, this is in early January after you took over, that is when Peg Pellerin became Commandant?

Sal: Right.

Jon: So essentially, what then happened was: he was asked to stop...apparently he didn't stop?

Sal: Right.

Jon: Was a charge ever filed against Scott, or was it basically just the higher level people in the Academy went to Peg and said, "We're not comfortable working with him," or "We don't like what he's been doing"?

Sal: Peg goes to him and tells him that she doesn't want him communicating with the women this way because it's harassing them, and he then posted the exams.

Jon: So his posting of the exam was a response, in what sounds like some kind of vitriol to Peg saying, "They don't want you communicating with them anymore." So that on one evening, or morning, whenever it was, he posted two full exams and their answer keys...to what list?

Sal: I think the STARFLEET-L.

Jon: STARFLEET-L, not the SFI-L?

Sal: No, the SFI-L didn't exist.

Jon: So basically to the STARFLEET-L, which was a public chat list for STARFLEET members. Then later on he called...how much later after that did he call you?

Sal: I didn't know about any of this stuff till he called me, so when he called me, it was in the evening time, about 10 or 11pm. I don't know whether it was the same day or two days later...I'm guessing it's within a couple days though. It might have been within hours.

Jon: He called you how many times about this particular thing?

Sal: He called me a total of 3 or 4 times.

Jon: 3 or 4 times, in a single evening?

Sal: Yes, whenever I hung up, he would call me right back.

Jon: So basically, he called you, you'd hang up, and he called you, you'd hang up. Why were you hanging up on a STARFLEET member?

Sal: Because at the time, when I said, "Hello", he goes: "Sal," I said, "Yes," and he goes, "This is Scott Akers." I said, "Hi, Scott, what's up?" and he goes, "Listen, I'm going to have you arrested and put in jail for violation of the Helms-Burton Act." And I go, "WHAT?" And he goes, "If you don't reinstate me to the Academy with a public apology, I'm going to call the Justice Department tomorrow and have you arrested and thrown in jail for the Helms-Burton Act." And I said, "What are you talking about?" and then he said, "Well, you let Cubans into STARFLEET." I said, "I just became the president of STARFLEET, I know nothing about this." He said, "It doesn't matter, you're the guy in charge, you're the guy going to jail." I said, "Scott, don't call me and threaten me on my own phone!" and I hung up on him.

And then he called me right back, and he goes, "So I guess you want to go to jail and ruin STARFLEET?" and I said, "Ruin STARFLEET?" He goes, "Yeah, because it would bankrupt them, because it's at least a \$10,000 fine!" And I said, "I don't even know what you're talking about, so I am not going to entertain your threats." And he goes, "So you want to ruin STARFLEET?" and I said, "It won't be me ruining STARFLEET. I'm innocent of any knowledge of what you're talking about, and until I find out, I don't want to discuss it further." And then I said, "Now, good night!" and hung up.

He called me back and said: "You had better quit hanging up," to me, and I said, "Scott, you're calling me and threatening to



have me arrested for something I don't have any idea about!" He had also mentioned about exposing those hundred answers, and I said, "You're threatening the Academy. I'm not going to give into your demands, and I am not going to pay the phone bill for you or anyone else to call me and threaten me. I'm sure I can call the phone company and tell them that you're harassing me." He goes, "Oh yeah, like somebody's going to come from Circleville, Ohio to arrest me in Washington!" And I said, "I believe there are federal laws since this is interstate," and he goes, "So what? I'll just tell them that you were calling and harassing me." And I said, "You know what, I believe I have the phone records that show you called me..." 3 or 4 times, I forget which it was, but on the last one I said, "I have the phone records that show you called me, and I dare for you to produce any phone records that show I called you." And then I hung up and he never called back. As a matter of fact, he said, "There is that..." and then I hung up, and he never called back. So the next day, I told the AB what had happened, and I also told the attorney.

Jon: What harm could come to STARFLEET by posting answers to academy courses?

Sal: Well, for one thing, the Academy is one of the reasons people join STARFLEET, and also it devalues the exams for people who took them and passed them without being able to just go online and download the answers and suddenly..."Now I've passed 100 Starfleet courses, where's my Boothby [Award]?" So that is what I saw what was protecting STARFLEET. It was also a case of, if no one in STARFLEET takes a stand to protect STARFLEET and its assets, then I feel we're shirking our responsibilities. And I saw the Academy as an asset of STARFLEET that a member was threatening to basically squander.

Jon: So you contacted them, the lawyers, to discuss the Scott issue, and their recommendation was to write a Cease and Desist letter?

Sal: Yep.

[NOTE FROM JON: At this point in the conversation, things started wandering into tangents and some speech-making by Sal. And while I want to be as complete as possible in this transcript, I feel that these non-relevant rambles can be skipped in the interests of conserving space. By the time I was able to refocus the conversation, Sam Black had found the e-mail that Sal wrote to the ECAB during his call with Scott Akers. I received approval from Sal to reprint that e-mail here.]

I realize the recent issues with Scott Akers have been controversial, to say the least, and I regret that some parts of this transcript will likely re-ignite the flames of controversy. But the purpose of this transcript was to record Sal's answers to my questions, and one of those questions was "What are the items that required us to seek legal counsel?" And Scott Akers, whether justified or not, was one of the reasons that Sal cited.

I do apologize to Scott Akers for the fact that, in transcribing Sal's interview, a one-sided argument against Scott is being presented in the CQ for the membership to read. I realize I'm opening up the CQ to further politicking--something I would normally stridently resist--but I am hereby inviting Scott Akers to respond in a future CQ to what I have printed here from my phone interview with Sal. I ask only that Scott, should he choose to respond, please phrase his response in a manner appropriate for a general readership that includes some younger members of STARFLEET.

We now return to the phone conversation, as Sam Black is about to read Sal's e-mail to the AB after his calls from Scott Akers...

Sam: From the AB archives. This is February 5th, 2008, it was 10:39 p.m. Eastern. "Hello All, I am currently answering my cellphone from a very angry and threatening Scott Akers who is demanding

that I require Peg Pellerin to re-instate him in the Academy or he will call the Department of Justice to have me arrested for violating the Helms-Burtan Act as reported in Communiqué #143.

"I have told Scott that I was not going to require Peg to re-instate him and that he needs to quit calling me. He has told me that he will call me all night, if he wants and there's nothing I can do to stop him. So far, he has called me 3 (if not 4) times.

"Scott told me that I will be bringing down the organization and going to jail by refusing to meet his demands. He said that he knows that he's blackmailing me and STARFLEET but that he was tired of being "pissed on" by this organization.

"I am not yielding to Scott Aker's demands. Scott has been baiting me and members of my administration with increasing bravado and I am not going to put up with his shenanigans. Recently, I asked Scott if I could help facilitate a transfer of the historian file to Wade Hoover (my only email to Scott since I took office) and Scott accused me of harassing him and blamed me and/or my staff for causing him to become lactose-intolerant.

"Since you are the interpreters of the Constitution, I'd like your thoughts in this matter, for the sake of propriety and expediency."

And there was a second e-mail sent by Sal at 10:45 p.m. that said: "Hi Again, I feel that I need to add that Scott Akers also has threatened to post all answers to all Academy exams online (as he has done with two already) if he isn't re-instated, immediately with a public apology from Peg. Peg also says that he has been 'very vocally abusive of the female staff'. This problem must be dealt with."

Jon: So at this point, looking at the time line, we now have this e-mail sent out on February 5, and it looks like from your e-mails with the attorney that you didn't really start chatting with the attorney significantly until the middle of February, about two weeks later.

Sal: The phone conversation didn't happen until February 27.

Jon: Okay, so according to the legal invoices, we have the law firm being contacted on the 6th. I am guessing, then, that it probably took us three weeks to pay the retainer. Is that correct?

Sal: Once we got it [the invoice for the retainer], then we had to get two EC members to sign off on it. That's our policy. And then what happened is we had to cut a check and send it to them.

Jon: So in the intervening three weeks, you simply just bit your fingernails. And then, on the 27th, that's when you had your initial conversations with the attorney. So you weren't actually in the process of discussing all of this other stuff with them. They weren't already looking over the STARFLEET documentation...

Sal: No, no. It looks like, based on her [the attorney's] e-mail to me that it was a couple of days later--afterwards--that she said, "Oh, by the way, you still haven't sent me over the other documentation."

Jon: So it seems like Scott was the catalyst for us finding the attorney as quickly as we did, but once we did that, the attorney took a very short amount of time to deal with Scott Akers--it looks like just one hour to draft the Cease and Desist letter.

Let me read through for the record what our initial March invoice was for the lawyer...itemized. We were not billed anything prior to the 3rd of March, so it seems that our first thing here, which is the draft of the Cease and Desist letter, which is one hour of billing, was done based on probably just finding out the issues that Sal had, but he wasn't charged for phone time. It looks like he was just charged that one hour for drafting that Cease and Desist

letter. So it looks like we spent \$330 on Scott Akers. Now let me go through and see if there's anything else on this initial invoice that looks like it has to do with Scott Akers.

Sal: Okay.

Jon: On the 6th of March, there is a telephone conference with Sal Lizard "Re: Liability Issues"--what are "liability issues"?

Sal: Oh, that was concerning the fact that...this was the fiduciary law. A lot of the AB members weren't aware that if, in fact, somebody does something where STARFLEET is found liable, we as directors and officers of the corporation--if we ignore that which we were liable for--we can be held personally liable and responsible also. In other words, and this all came about from the Scott Akers thing, so this was in relation to that, the AB was saying, "Well, we really can't do anything about it." And I wanted them to understand that, though this is just a fan club, there's real world consequences to inaction.

Jon: So what is the specific inaction you were worried about the ECAB doing? Taking no action against Scott?

Sal: No, this was just a general discussion about us not taking any action against members, and it happened to be with STARFLEET-L. Even though, for all practical purposes, it was an unofficial list of STARFLEET, it actually--our attorney pointed out--that by virtue of the fact that it was a list created by STARFLEET members for STARFLEET members, and it was actually run by a director of STARFLEET, and in the absence of not having an official list, then it makes the unofficial list the *de facto* list. Not unofficial, not official--it is simply a list of STARFLEET--and STARFLEET could be found liable. And so that was one of the things that prompted the creation of the official list. The other thing is that it actually says in our handbook that STARFLEET maintains the unofficial STARFLEET list.

Jon: Okay, let's not go to the lists right now, I want to concentrate just on these item-by-item things...

Sal: I just want you to understand, I was trying to use our attorney to help educate the AB.

Jon: I understand, but at this point, we are now on our second conversation with the attorney, so a lot of this stuff has not come out yet. You have, according to this, had a 20-minute phone conversation with her on the 6th to discuss liability issues. At that point, during just those 20 minutes, what was your purpose in calling her, and what did you find out?

Sal: My purpose in calling her was to explain to her the feeling of the AB and the arguments they had made about the unofficial list.

Jon: Okay, so basically you were talking about the unofficial list, and that the AB felt that STARFLEET had no liability because the list was unofficial. Okay, so that was that first call. So, the next item we have--and, oh yes, I just realized that, in fact, these are all billable at associate fees because I realize that they are actually all tagged with the lawyers that were present. I just noticed that it says "TJB", which I'm guessing is Tracey Bolotnick. So, on the 10th, you apparently talked to both Tracey and JMH, Jeffrey Hurwit, about two different things. And it looks like you have three-quarters of an hour to "Revise Cease and Desist Letter and Begin Research on Director Liability Memo."

Sal: I don't recall talking to him [Jeffrey Hurwit], but it does seem like she said, "Well, let me just go and check with my boss on this."

Jon: Yeah, actually, it looks like he's got you down for what looks like about 25 minutes of him reviewing and discussing



with Bolotnick...the Cease and Desist. It says, "Consideration of Member Issues/Discussion with Bolotnick," so this is probably just her checking with him for about 25 minutes and saying, "Okay, before I go on, is this all kosher?" So she's basically about to revise the Cease and Desist letter. You gave her some feedback then, I'm guessing, on it?

Sal: Right.

Jon: So she's gone ahead and revised the Cease and Desist letter, and she's also going to begin research on the Director Liability Memo. So the Director Liability Memo is a memo that's basically going to explain about the STARFLEET-L. Is that right?

Sal: Right.

Jon: So I'm just going to divide those directly in half--she's got three quarters of an hour, so I'm going to take her to three-eighths of an hour for the Cease and Desist, so it seems that she has now spent \$123.75 added to her previous \$330, so we have now spent \$453.75 on Mr. Akers...potentially a little bit of review from her boss as well, so let's bump it up to, let's say, an even \$500 or \$600 on Akers.

Okay, we are now up to the 13th of March. She is now working for an hour and a half for us: "Begin Draft of Liability Memo and Review of Organizational Documents." And she had a telephone conference call with Sal at that point. So now we're really starting to just dive into our paperwork. So March 17th: "Telephone conference with Sal Lizard regarding the Letter to Members, Revisions and Liability Memo." Do we know what "Letter to Members" was?

Sal: Yep. The one I sent out.

Sam: THE letter.

Jon: The letter. The "threats" letter. The one that made me go cringe, and made half of STARFLEET cringe.

Sal: Right. 'Cause before I sent it out, I let her review it.

Jon: Okay, so basically, that letter not only cost STARFLEET \$900, but that letter looks like it cost us an extra about \$300 or \$400 in review.

Sal: And honestly, the thing is that I have committed to paying back STARFLEET \$1,800. So at least I should offset that...

Jon: Well, the cost of printing and mailing that letter was how much?

Sal: 900 bucks.

Jon: Printing and mailing together was 900 bucks?

Sal: Yes.

Jon: So if you're basically paying back \$1,800 to STARFLEET, you're covering the \$900 and you're covering the legal review.

Okay, also on the 17th, she has once again gone and checked with her boss--which is not bad when you've just started with a new client--so on the 17th you have .65 hours for "Review of the Supplemental Liability Memo and Consideration of Risk and Harm" (basically what kind of risk and harm can happen to STARFLEET). So the partner is reviewing that.

On the 18th, she has now done the final revision of the Cease and Desist letter, she's finalizing the Liability Memo, and she's reviewing "Member E-mail Exchanges, etc."

Sal: This was in reference to Bill Hermann sending an e-mail to JC

[Cohen] and Liz [Woolf] and some other people telling them not to involve his religion, which someone said was "religious persecution." So I let her read that a-mail exchange between them.

Jon: Lovely. So "religious persecution" and Bill Hermann cost the membership another approximately \$600?

Sal: Let's put things in the proper perspective. It wasn't Bill Hermann. Bill Hermann actually sent this e-mail to Liz and these other folks, but some of the other folks then told me they were consulting with their attorneys, so they were talking about suing STARFLEET because Bill was a director and had signed his e-mail as a director of STARFLEET. So that's why I felt that she needed to be aware of what's going on. And so she read those exchanges.

Jon: So some members were threatening to sue STARFLEET. Do we know who those members were?

Sal: I can't say. But I do have all the e-mails.

Jon: Okay, but what we basically have is a situation that one of the Regional Coordinators had an e-mail exchange on STARFLEET-L?

Sal: No, he sent it to them privately.

Jon: Okay, so he sent something to certain members privately, signing his name as the Regional Coordinator, essentially indicating that he was an officer of the corporation, and that these members took offense to what he said to the point of feeling that it constituted religious persecution, and said to you that they were going to seek legal reparation?

Sal: Not all of them, but a couple of them did. A couple of them had indicated that they were talking to attorneys about a possible lawsuit, and they were going to involve STARFLEET.

Jon: So, since you already at this point seem to be talking almost daily with the lawyer, you figured, "Might as well..."

Sal: Well, it wasn't daily...

Jon: Well, during that week, you talked with them on the 13th, the 17th, the 18th, and the 20th. So...

Sal: There was a lot going on.

Jon: That was a pretty busy week. So anyway, that being said, we've got 2.25 hours on what looks like primarily going through the e-mail exchanges. I'm going to guess the final revision to the Cease and Desist Letter for Scott is probably minor in all of that... maybe we tack on an extra \$100 or so. I'm thinking Scott's going to tip out to \$600 or \$700 total...which, when all is said and done is not chicken feed, but on the other hand, if we spent \$9,000 or \$10,000 for the lawyer, it means that less than 10% was spent on Scott Akers, as opposed to all of this money going to "Sal's vendetta to kick people out of STARFLEET."

And it seems that, at this point, we've got another \$600, not on your "vendetta" to kick people out of STARFLEET, but because somebody is threatening to sue us, and at this point, you might as well talk to the lawyers about it.

Sal: Right, right.

Jon: Okay. So, we are now going to go to March 20th, which has a telephone conference with Sal Lizard "Re: Various Liability and Fiduciary Obligation Questions and Amendment to Organizational Documents - Respond to Question Re: Youth Policy"...and you apparently spent an hour on the phone with her.

Sal: Did you say "youth"?

Jon: "Youth." Yes.

Sal: One of the things that we'd done, back when Mandi [Livingston] was in charge, she created a Youth Policy--it was actually printed up by John Adcock--and it never was implemented. And a lot of people felt that--and said so--that as long as we don't have a Youth Policy, it negates our obligations, or it reduces our liability. But once we recognize the fact that STARFLEET is responsible for what happens to children at STARFLEET events, then we're assuming the responsibility, and we put ourselves in a legally liable spot.

I didn't believe that. I asked the attorney, and she said, regardless of whether we have a policy or not, we still would probably be found liable if anything happened to a child or children because we weren't paying attention or protecting them properly. So, she said that at least if we had a policy in place, we were showing that we were making a good faith effort.

So that's one of the things I wanted to find out: should we have a policy or not? Because some people in STARFLEET say we absolutely have to have it; some people in STARFLEET say we absolutely shouldn't have it. I'm trying to find out the right answer.

Jon: Okay...

Sal: The AB argued it back and forth. A lot of people would say--like Chris Wallace, who's a very good critical thinker and helped develop the policy--but he argued it one way, and yet, I think JC [Cohen] was one of the people that argued it the other way. And these are both very learned, very long-time members of STARFLEET, but it showed the division. I wanted a legal opinion on that, so I asked her. She read over our policy, and she gave me her opinion: she thought it was a great start.

Jon: So what you're basically saying is that the Admiralty Board had been debating it for a quite a long time, and then you went to the lawyer just to get a legal opinion on it.

Sal: Right.

Jon: And ultimately, what happened with this Youth Policy?

Sal: It still hasn't been implemented. The person who was working on it, who was the Director of our Youth Program, resigned...she ran into some health issues and she resigned. And the committee that was trying to implement it died.

Jon: So it's still out there if somebody wanted to pick it up?

Sal: It's still out there, yes. As a matter of fact, I ought to talk to Dave [Blaser] about getting that Youth RDC Program going again.

Jon: Well, go for it.

Sal: Sam, write that down, please.



Okay, folks, we're only just getting started here. (I told you this would be long!) We're only about one month into STARFLEET's legal saga. Granted, things weren't quite so densely packed in the later months after Sal received the first month's invoice, but I'd estimate we're about one-third of the way through the entire 5-hour long interview.

So in the interest of not sucking up too much of any one issue of the CQ with this heavily issue-filled interview--and because I can only transcribe this huge interview at impulse typing speed--I'm going to arbitrarily end Part 1 here. Next issue we'll return where we left off: March 20, 2009, about to discuss STARFLEET's Articles of Incorporation.





NAME: JOHN ROBERTS
RANK: MAJOR GENERAL
POSITION: COMMANDANT, SFMC
OTHER POSITIONS: COMMANDING OFFICER
SHIP: USS ANASAZI NCC-62001
REGION: 17, NEW MEXICO (USA)



1737-01-820

Attention on Deck!

STATE of the SFMC

Happy New Year Marines! The GS and I all hope you had a safe and happy holiday celebration and wish you all the best for 2009.

Bank Account Information

We started the month of November with a balance of \$1,044.30. We had deposits of \$228.74 and no withdrawals during November leaving the account balance at \$1,273.04.

We started the month of December with a balance of \$1,273.04. We had deposits of \$149.72 and no withdrawals during December leaving the account balance at \$1,422.76.

SFMC 25th Anniversary Coins

The coins are for sale in the SFMC QM Store. Cost is \$10 each; get them now while you can. After this order of 90 additional Silver is sold out, we will be re-ordering in Shiny Brass. They are very nice looking coins. Get yours while you can so we can re-order them in the "standard" bronze.

SFMC Scholarship Program

With the last of the donations transferred from PayPal to the account and interest our scholarship account total stands at \$1,572.93. If you would like to donate, please contact me and I can tell you how to go about doing so. Let's get busy with donations and see if we can double the amount in the account by the end of 2009!

SFMC Scholarship Streamers

The following units, having contributed at least \$100 to the SFMC scholarship fund, are hereby authorized to add the SFMC Scholarship streamer to their unit guidons:

424th MSG
 503rd MSG
 742nd MSG
 777th MSG
 898th MSG
 5th BDE
 7th BDE
 10th BDE
 17th BDE

SFMC Mess Night 2009

Hello from IC2009 Launch Control! I am happy to announce that the IC2009 Team

has added the popular SFMC Mess Dress to next years IC! The cost of the Mess Dress is \$35.00 and the menu sounds great with Apple Topped Pork Chops, Wild Rice, a delicious vegetable medley and ending with a great dessert to be announced. So, if you are interested in enjoying a great meal as well as mix and mingle with the Corps finest, drop by www.ic2009.org and register for the SFMC Mess Dress.

-- FADM Les Rickard Chair, 2009 STARFLEET International Conference August 6th-9th 2008 Greensboro NC chair@ic2009.org OR ic09chair@gmail.com "One Small Step...One Giant Leap."

I look forward to IC/IM 2009 in Greensboro, NC. Make your plans now and register online at www.ic2009.org.

What do YOU want from the SFMC?

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
 SFMC Deputy Commandant: depdant@sfi-sfmc.org

Sergeant Major, SFMC: sgm-sfmc@sfi-sfmc.org

Commanding Officer, Forces Command: forcecom@sfi-sfmc.org

Commanding Officer Training and Doctrine Command: tracom@sfi-sfmc.org

Commanding Officer, Information Command: 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

Major General John Roberts
Commandant, SFMC
Commanding Officer
USS Anasazi NCC-62001
Region 17, New Mexico (USA)

Report from the Sergeant Major

Greetings, Marines!

I'm happy to announce some news affecting the enlisted members of the SFMC who are Warrant Officers. Currently, the MFM states that WOs are considered "enlisted members" for purposes of annual awards and promotions. However, in the next revision of the MFM, the GS has agreed that the wording be changed to "considered non-commissioned officers for purposes of annual awards and promotions." In other words, Warrant Officers are specifically eligible for awards such as the Star of Valor and Star of Honor that specify "NCOs." This always seemed to be the intent, but that small change in wording clarifies it.

In other news, my sources over at TRACOM reliably inform me that last year, the NCO School saw a substantial increase in their

workload due to a lot more Marines requesting the NCO courses in 2008 as compared to 2007. All I can say is "OUTSTANDING, Marines!" Very well done, indeed.

I know sometimes it seems like I'm a cheerleader for TRACOM, but traditionally, seeing to the training and mission readiness of the Marines in their unit is part of an NCO's job. In my experience, for many Marines, the courses offered at the SFMCA are part of the fun as well. So you'll likely always see me generally encouraging participation in that aspect of the SFMC at every level of the Corps I am involved in, and specifically encouraging participation in the NCO School.

Another thing I like is to be able to shine a spotlight on the actions of some of the enlisted members of the Corps and their accomplishments. However, in order to do

that, I need your help. Please feel free to keep me informed as to what the enlisted members in your area are doing. While Marine tradition may credit the SGM SFMC with amazing, superhuman powers, the truth is I'm no more omniscient than the next guy.

Current projects I'm working on include a major joint effort with the NCO School on some new material and developing still more contacts in the enlisted ranks. I have another plan in the works that I'll be discussing on the SFMC NCO list and reporting on further in the future.

Speaking of the NCO list, the list is open to any enlisted member of SFI (Marine or Fleet) and any officer interested in enlisted affairs. You can sign up at <http://lists.sfi-sfmc.org/listinfo.cgi/nco-l-sfi-sfmc.org>

With the various Brigade musters starting to crop up on the calendar, I'd like to remind you all of two things:

1) Don't assume someone else is going to nominate that hardworking Marine or group

of Marines for an award that you think they deserve. And, when you're writing an award recommendation, don't just tell the issuing authority whether or not they qualify for it. Let them know why that nominee truly deserves the award in question. In other words, sell it!

2) And speaking of "sell", all I'm going to say is that, while I'll never be the one to call for a coin check at a muster or summit, I'm ready if someone else does. Are you? If not, perhaps a trip to the SFMC QM store is in order. It's always worth a look.

In closing, I'll remind you again that your opinions, ideas, and concerns are not only welcomed, but also needed by the SFMC General Staff. Please never hesitate to contact any member of the GS with any concerns or suggestions you have.

MMSGT Jerome A. "Hawk" Stoddard
Sergeant Major, STARFLEET Marines
sgm-sfmc@sfi-sfmc.org
NCOIC
USS Thermopylae NCC-74703
Region 5, Washington (USA)

0537-03-747



Report from the CO FORCECOM

FORCECOM Report January 1st, 2009

1st BDE Date and time submitted: 12.21.08 04:12:04 PST
BDR. Rey Cordero / Col. Tony Lopes
Nickname: The Fighting First Motto:

2 BDE - Date and time submitted: 12.14.08 18:01:34 PST
GEN Wade Olson / BGN Neil Yawn
Nickname: Wild Dueces Motto: We may be second but we're better than you!

3 BDE - Date and time submitted: 12.18.08 18:39:17 PST
Jeff Schnoor, Brigadier / John Johnston, Colonel
Nickname: Dogs of War Motto: Cry Havock

*4th BDE - *Information taken from unit reports, no report from BDE OIC* *Cyndi Temple

5th BDE - Date and time submitted: December 21, 2008 (Draft copy)
BGN Norman E. DeRoux / BDR Russell J. Garrison
Nickname: Birds of Prey Motto: Swift, Sure, Secure

*6th BDE -*Date and time submitted: 12.21.08 07:37:41 PST
Tom Webster Nickname: Ice Warriors Motto: In space all warriors are cold warriors

*7th BDE - *Date and time submitted: 12.21.08 19:33:49 PST
Joseph C Dorffner Jr / Mike Stein BGN
Nickname: "The Lucky Sevens"
Motto: We'd rather be good than lucky, fortunately we're both

*8th BDE - no report *Phillip Kern Jr OIC

*9th BDE - no report *Kimberly Hoffman OIC

*10th BDE - *Date and time submitted: 12.10.08 13:57:34 PST
BGN Norma Langlois / LGN Paul Reid
Nickname: The Smiling Cats
Motto: In The Service of Peaceful Coexistence

*11th BDE -*Date and time submitted: 12.11.08 12:51:00 PST
Bruce O'Brien / BDR Gary Amor
Nickname: The ANZACS Motto: Advance

*12th BDE - *Reporting Date: 12-21-08
BGEN Travis J. Littou / WO1 Jennifer Hoover
Brigade Motto: N/A

*13th BDE - no report, *Joseph Sare III OIC

14th BDE - no report, Joost Ueffing OIC

*15th BDE - *Date and time submitted: 12.21.08 13:43:08 PST
COL Thomas C. Guertin, SFMC / MGN Paul Fest, SFMC
Nickname: The Nameless Ones
Motto: Risk is our business

*17th BDE - *Date and time submitted: 12.23.08 10:19:10 PST
BGN Greg Fitzsimmons Nickname:
Motto: Order in Chaos

*18th BDE - Not Active

19th BDE - Not Active

20th BDE - No OIC at this time

Units reporting:

1st BDE
182 MSG INF USS Dragons Fury
Dragon Ryders We Ryde N Strike Hard

150 MSG CF USS Tang
113 MSG SO USS Columbus
Harper's Harriers Semper Liberum (Always Free)

166 MSG SO USS Liberator The Black Knights, Where ever When ever Consider it done

130 MEU The Bad Habits, Bad Habits Never Die

2nd BDE
78th MSG, MD, Khai Tam, Blue Blazers, show us where it hurts
602nd MSG, SO,
Andromedia, Reed's Rader's, First ones in Last ones out.

609th MSG, SO, Gasperilla, Black Bettys, dont give up the ship
631st MSG, CF, Tiberius, Fighting Ospreys, Wings of Steel

654th MSG, SO, Hephaestus, Steel Thunderbolts, Give'em the cold steel

674th MSG, AE, Relentless, Dragon Fury, There's no fury like that of a Dragon scorned.

677th MSG, CE, Spiritwalker, Spirit Builders, Building the Dreams of the Future

696th MSG, SO, USS Dark Phoenix, Holding the Line No one will pass not on our watch

3rd BDE
303rd Airwolves SS Freedom III COL Tommy Holman In; Airborne; Death From Above

307th MEU No Motto or Slogan as of yet decided LTC. Scott Lanham

308th Crimson Raiders USS Gunslinger 1LT tavana tal-tSepeS Maritime/Ops To the plank
314th Creeping Death USS Firebird
LTC Chris O'Banion: SO Ad manus dei

321st Pythons USS Aurora Vulcanus
MCAPT Jared Fielder SO The last hope of the lost

325th River Rats USS Trinity River
BDR Elizabeth Weber Combined Arms Semper Mollis (Always Prepared)

328th Liberty USS Tejas MCAPT Jeremy Skelton Support First to Serve

333rd Regulators USS Regulator
BDR Mark A West : Mecha Where Angles fear to tread is where we call Home

342nd Highland Rifles USS Ark
Angel WO1 Cory Matt: Bring me my broadsword and clear understanding.

345th Grim Reapers USS Azrael
LTCol David Bailey SO Ne Conjuge Nobiscum

347th Wolf Pack Omega ISS
Thunderwolf BGN Joy Flynt AE The strength and swiftness of the pack is the wolf, the strength and swiftness of the wolf is the pack. With integrity, honor and valor to all.

4th BDE
12th MSG Mecha assimilators USS R'uustai LTCol Krystal Rubenstein
Major Jon Mills; Carpe Momentum
21st MSG Support ISS Pegasus
Comm Brian Schreur One Eye Jacks; Were Watching

5th BDE -
501st MSG, USS Crusader; "Dum Vivimus, Vivamus" (Let us live while we live)

503rd MSG, USS Thermopylae; Infantry; The Spartans; "Retreat is not an option"

512th MSG, USS Jaguar; Spec Ops; Werecoats; "Postatum Obscuri Lateris Nescitis"

521st MSG, USS Destiny; Spec Ops; Blackjacks; "Only our results are seen"

555th MSG, USS Antares; Combined Forces; The Renegades; "Don't Mess with the Best!"

565th MSG, USS Rubicon; Spec Ops; Rubicon Raiders; "When it absolutely, positively needs to be destroyed overnight"

577th MSG, USS Aurora; Support; Aurora Firebirds; "Running on the wind towards destiny"

6th BDE -
822nd MSG, AE, Thunderchild, Badlands Ice Breakers

832nd MSG, SO, Fox River, Hearts Of Ice

849th MSG, AE, Saint George, Snow Ninjas

7th BDE -
717th MCU Special_Ops USS DeBraak

787th MSG Aerospace USS Matrix
White Knights "Ready To Launch"
41st MSG, CF, Malverne, An Fianna, Faugh A Ballagh

742th MSG, AE, Asimov, The Silent Service, Inflicum everbero, inflicum sepius (Hit 'em hard, hit 'em often)
791st MSG, SO, Sovereign, Dragon's Fury, Pending

10th BDE -
424th MSG AE/IN USS Majestic The Smiling Cats, In The Service of Peaceful Coexistence
11th BDE -

377th MSG, IN, The Thunder From Downunder, USS Southern Cross, The Blue Roo's "we're here to eat your lunch"

379th MEU, IN, The Southern Sabres, The Chicken Stranglers, Through the Stars we Strike
375th MEU, IN, The Warriors, The Kiwis, Kia Kaha (Stand Tall)

12th BDE
210th MEU, Infantry, Black Rogues, Veritas Vincit (Truth Conquers)
211th MSG, MD/Rescue, Hexum, The Good Guys, "Duck and Cover!"
222nd MSG, SO, Jeannette Maddox, The Madd Dogs, "Suvlu" taHvIS Yaphe" HoS

Neh" ("Brute Strength is not the most important asset in a fight")
225th MSG, CE, BortaS, DedEx, When it absolutely, positively has to be dead by 10am

0238-01-810



263rd MSG, SU, Black Hawk, The Hawk's Talons, "WE are the BOLD!"
 274th MSG, AE, Claymore, The Swordsworn, None yet
 15th BDE
 920th MSG, SO, USS Kasimar, Chamberlain's Commandos, Victory Through Unity
 987th MEU, SO, N/A, Untouchables, Dolor Temporarus, Gloria Aeterna, Cicatres Yiremibus Placent.
 95th MSG, SO, USS Ares, Sentinals, Still No Motto
 907th MSG, SU, SS Ian Fleming, Living Daylights, Orbis Non Sufficit
 911th MSG, AE, USS Galaxy, Fighting Protectors, Let's Roll
 980th MSG, SO, USS Nelson, Stormriders, Death Before Dishonor
 901st MSG, IN, USS Hood, Northern Lights, Don't run you'll only die tired.
 *17th BDE
 *850, MEU, AE, Buccaneers, Always Victorious
 851, MSG, SO, Devil's Tower, Devil dogs, Close encounters
 880, MEU, SO, fighting minotaurs, It takes two to make peace but it take one declare war.
 882, MSG, AE, Omega Glory, Glory's Chosen, Remember the fallen
 898, MSG, AE/SO, Anasazi, Flying medicine men, a phaser blast helps the medicine go down
 20th BDE
 381st MEU Armor; lonewolves; Upton, Geoff "lonewolf", 1st SGT May the howl of lonewolf echo thru the valley! Jackson, Sian "Shining moon" LCPL

Units NOT reporting:

Some of these units may be in danger of deactivation. If you are a member of one of them and wish to see the unit remain active, please contact the OIC of Unit, Battalion, or Brigade to let it be known. If you are aware that a unit is no longer active please contact Forcecom.

1st BDE - no list given

2nd BDE

640th MSG, SU, Star Seekers, Not of this world (temporarily combined with the 677th)
 643rd, MSG, AE, USS continuum, Dragon Wings
 645TH, MSG, AE, USS Robins, Thunderwolves, A storm is coming
 666th MSG, MD, USS Jubilee, Pandemic, We're like a plague silent and deadly

*3rd BDE - 314 th OIC USS Firebird LTC Christopher Obannion

4th BDE - No BDE report received. Units 12 and 21 reported, found no others

6th BDE - 801st MSG, 809th MSG

7th BDE -
 728 msg OIC Kyle Hunter, First Lieutenant
 724th, MSG, Mecha, USS Thor, Marines of Asgard, Fear the Hammer, OIC Major Douglas Creamer,
 777th, MSG Combined Forces, USS Edinburgh, Highland Dragoons, Committere Victoria OIC Marine Captain David Sladky , DOIC: Rosy Dorffner, COL,
 786th, MSG, Aerospace, USS Top Gun, Maverick Squad 27, We Feel the Need, the Need for Warp Speed, OIC 1LT Colin Fischer, , DOIC BDR Dean Rogers,
 725th MSG Special Operations USS Starlord, NCC 74225 Col Michelle T Podesta
 41st MSG
 788th MSG David Ferber

12th BDE -
 216th MSG, MD, Morning Star, The Green Angels DeVriendt, Chris, MCAPT,
 226th MSG, SO, Hellfire & Brimstone, The Virtual Fighters, "In reality, we don't exist" Hoover, Wade, LGN,
 242nd, MSG, IN, Celt, The Black Watch, "Scots, Wha'Hae!" Dunivan, Chris, FCAPT,
 276th MSG, IN, Marko Ramius, The Hard Rockin' Rough Riders, N/A Dal L. "Tiny" Glenn -BGEN Troy S. Cash;
 268th MSG, IN, Sunflower, The Dukes, Strike from Space; Johannson, Eric,

*17th BDE
 875th MCPT Alvarez , Matias G., CAPT Brooks , Everett
 876th CAPT Allen , Rebecca,
 888th BGN Stimpson , Bran, CAPT Sievers , Christina

Brigade strength active: reserve:
 These numbers taken from reports

1st BDE	24	11
2nd BDE	36	29
3rd BDE	42	26
4th BDE	5	1
5th BDE	27	39

6th BDE	6	9
7th BDE	38	42
10th BDE	4	3
11th BDE	14	21
12th BDE	32	42
15th BDE	16	13
17th BDE	26	54
20th BDE	2	
TOTAL REPORTED	272	290
total members reported	562	

Changes to roster:

Promotions
 Smith, Adam, COL,
 Jones, Dennis, 2LT
 Jones, Dennis, 2LT

Recruits

1st BDE - COL Christopher Bayonet,
 3rd BDE - Chris Turner
 5th BDE - C.P.Dalen, 2LTD
 6th BDE - Trent Schulte LT
 7th BDE - Jonathan Slavin, Matthew McKenna

Discharges

1st BDE - Barbara Davis, Aaron Gregory
 2nd BDE - Sheila Marie Benton, LTC,
 3rd BDE - Harvey Mattern MCpt, MCapt Don Williams and Cadet Sgt Alexis Williams Lapse in Membership
 Houser, Christopher, Parker, George , Polcyn, John , Wabindato, Matt, LtCol Norma Ybarra,
 5th BDE - Adam Smith, Anthony St. George with unit deactivation 0811.30; Dwayne C. Smith; Keith Beardsley MAJ Deceased 0809
 7th BDE MAJ Neigut, Michelle, 2ndLT Neigut, Pamela
 11th BDE - Alec Donnon LTJG, Michael Hayes
 15th BDE - LCPL Fasulo, Leslie, 2LT Scalabroni, Paul

Transfers Moved to 677th
 FCAPT Nancy OShields, CMDR Jan Sleigh, LTJG Wanda Austin, LT Shirley Burton, ENS Jean Cunnington, CMDR Ricky Dean, CDT Andrew DiFilipo, LT Dena DiFilipo, LT Robert DiFilipo, ENS Anthony Dukes, LT Benj Hollis, ENS Jean Jordan, ENS Kris Jordan, LT Douglas Sleigh, PO1 Dominic Sleigh, ENS Leanne Sleigh, CPO Daniel Sleigh, LTJG Janet Simmons,

Strike groups activated: none

Strike groups deactivated:

1st BDE -154th MSG have dispanded and merged with the 182nd MSG2nd BDE -640th (temporary)
 5th BDE -501 MSG, USS Crusader - Effective 0811.30

Changes in leadership:

1st BDE -
 8th BN OIC Christine Doane has stepped down
 182nd NEW OIC: 1LT Lesli Grage (As of 01 November 2008)
 113th BDR Kathlene Cook stepped down as DOIC of the unit to take the position of DOIC of the Battalion. BDR J. Eric Davis has been appointed as DOIC of the unit.
 150th MSG Col Mike Timko has transfered to the 150th MSG and is the new OIC

3rd BDE -
 308: Col mor'taH veStal-tSepeS to DOIC, 1LT tavana tal-tSepeS to OIC
 342: WO1 Matt from OIC, LT Wyatt to OIC
 3rd Batallion Changes:
 Major Jared K Fielder from DOIC to OIC 2BN
 Colonel Kenneth Norris from OIC to DOIC 2BN

5th BDE - 503 MSG Angelina Christian DOIC; 577 MSG C.P. Dalen appointed as MSG DOIC

7th BDE - 742nd MSG: DOIC: BGN Lauren Niemeyer was replaced with BDR Jonathan Slavin

Awards issued:

Academic Excellence Award
 Michael McGowan

Good Conduct Medal
 Shane Russell
 Robert Torres

SFA Boothby (Diamond)
 Carolyn Zimdahl

Brigade Service Commendation
 308th Kenneth Norris

Reporting Officer

Major General Linda Olson
CO Forces Command SFMC
Quartermaster, SFMC
DOIC of 674th MSG
USS Relentless NCC-81001
Region 2, Florida (USA)
Dragonladye@wildblue.net



Report from the CO TRACOM

The SFMCA – Not As Tough As You Think!

It is so often that when talking about the SFMC Academy, I am told, "But the courses are so hard/too military/too real..." or other words to that effect. I have been hearing that since I first joined the Corps and started doing my own series of studies at the SFMCA, and often from the mouths of some who have taken multitudes of courses at the STARFLEET Academy.

So it got me to thinking: is what they say correct? It is very easy for any militarily-interested student to easily find courses of study which will prove of attraction, but is it correct that an "ordinary" student would be able to easily find courses that will satisfy their particular quest for knowledge, fun, or sheer entertainment? And the answer is a resounding "Yes."

Naturally, we DO in fact have many courses that are focused on the military aspect of either *Star Trek* or of real-life situations. Our courses on Professional Development, Leadership, and Military

History, for example, are heavily geared around true-life study. Students are often amazed to find that study of Professional Development courses, as an example, can help them improve their own personal view on how others see them, just as studies at the School of Leadership can produce classic examples of how one should proceed through life when given any semblance of leadership responsibility in any form. But in essence, each of these Schools (as with any of our other Branches/Schools) have at the base of their curricula coursework which is geared to make the student think, learn, become aware, and hopefully, to have fun while doing so. It is easy to take courses that provide simple cut-and-paste answers--and these too have their place--but for many, the thrill of research, the effort of study, and of learning of the topic in questions all lead to a different form of satisfaction from this method of fandom.

And while it is true that our curricula focus more towards the military aspect of the topic (we are the STARFLEET Marine Corps, after all...), they are certainly not created in such a style that only an ex-

military person, or some really clever military student, could finish them. Our courses at the Xeno-Studies Schools, for example, bear a close resemblance to those same Colleges at the SFA--the difference being that our courses are focused towards the military aspects of the study of these races and species. The Medical Branch courses are completely immersed in real-life medicine, just as Maritime Operations will teach you all you need to know about ships at sea--and so on.

But the world of *Star Trek* is not far away, and in each of our Schools, you will find that our courses have been constructed so as to bring these "real-world" studies right into the fictional world of Kirk, Picard, Janeway and company. *Star Trek* themes have, in many cases, been converted to real-life studies, and the symbiosis of how the two mesh together can sometimes be evidenced when studying a particular course. And it is right there that we believe the real "learning" takes place. We all have an interest in *Star Trek* (duh...), but it is the exploration of the possibility of how the *Star Trek* world and our real-life world

would fit together that surely must be of interest to us as students. We could study the logic of Spock, the vagrancies of Kirk, the nuances of *Star Trek* episode scripts or of the props used, or any other factor from a hundred different episodes until our heads were spinning--but it is study of the possible, mixed with the probable, that may just offer you that "different alternative."

The SFMCA continues to add new Schools and new courses. We are constantly striving to find ways to educate, amuse, or entertain--but at the very heart of it all, we are a different option to that of our bigger sister (the SFA). And hopefully, our courses of study will be of interest to you simply because of that "difference." And you don't even have to be armed to study here.....

Colonel Bruce O'Brien
Commanding Officer
Training & Doctrine Command, SFMC
Region 11 Recruiting Officer
USS Southern Cross NCC-63550
Region 11, New Zealand

1140-50-835

0740-47-16

Report from the CO INFOCOM

Begin transmission...

Greetings Marines,

Once again, deep from the confines of the SFMC Data Warfare Center, it's time yet again for the INFOCOM report. Well, winter is finally here and is doing everything possible to remind us of this fact. The year 2008 just, well, sucked, and 2009 isn't looking any better at this moment. But I'm knocking on wood, got my four leaf clover, got my lucky horse shoe, my lucky rabbit's foot, and every other good luck charm hanging up in my office. I even went so far as applying feng shui in my office. Every little bit helps. INFOCOM will be busy in 2009 as we have many more projects in the pipeline and with one of our first projects, "Attention on Deck! Extra" finally coming to fruition, we will be able to start some of them up. It is my hope to have several of these ready for this year's IC in August.

As I mentioned, 2008 was a bad year, and 2009 doesn't look to be any better. We are living in a time when the global economic meltdown has touched nearly everyone on Earth in some way, shape, or form. This means that undoubtedly there are people out there that need help,

especially our brethren in the SFMC and FLEET. So if you know someone that could use a little help, please do what you can.

SFMC Manuals and Websites

In the coming months, several manuals will either be added or revised. Most of the revisions that are going to take place are due to proofreading that was performed. As usual, these new and revised manuals will be released at this year's International Conference.

The SFMC websites continue to work well, and I continue to fix any issues and problems that are found either by a marine or myself when visiting the pages. If you discover a problem or error please contact me so that I may correct it.

Staffing

With the start of "Attention on Deck! Extra", INFOCOM has taken on a couple of marines. I would like to welcome Michael Timko, J.D. Clancy, and Erik Roberts to the INFOCOM staff. They will be working exclusively on "Attention on Deck! Extra". Also with several new projects in the pipeline, there probably will be a few positions opening up in the next couple of months.

"Attention on Deck! Extra"

In the past several months, there has been a growing interest in the SFMC, and as a result, units are becoming more and more active, are writing about it, and are submitting their articles to the Attention On Deck! (AoD!)

However, because the SFMC has to work within the space constraints that are given to it by the CQ editorial staff, we are finding that the space that is allotted is not nearly enough to publish all of the articles that are coming through. As a result, many are either not being published or are being published in an issue for which they were not submitted for. Also, we are finding that because of the bimonthly nature of the CQ/AoD!, there are issues when dealing with time sensitive materials.

So in order to remedy this, INFOCOM has decided to create and publish the AoD! Extra, a supplement to the AoD!. This new monthly newsletter will only be available exclusively online in Adobe Acrobat (PDF) format and will not only feature the requisite reports, but also articles from various contributors from around the Corps and those articles that did not make it into the AoD!

The AoD! EXTRA is in no way meant to signal the end of our commitment to the AoD! in the CQ. It is meant to accompany and supplement the Attention on Deck!, which can be found in every issue of the CQ.

Future Projects

Now that I have a DCO, INFOCOM can now move forward on some projects and ideas that have been simmering. Look for announcements regarding those projects either here in the "Attention on Deck!" or on the Corps-I email list.

Need help with your group's website? If there is any Unit, Battalion, or Brigade that needs help in setting up a website or fixing one, please feel free to contact me and I'll be more than happy to see what I can do to help. Be sure to have an idea as to some of the site basics (what information is to be on the site, what you want the site to do for you, etc...) as it will help me help you.

End Transmission...

Brigadier General Sean Niemeyer
Commanding Officer, INFOCOM
infocom@sfi-sfmc.org
USS Asimov NCC-1647-A
Region 7, Pennsylvania (USA)





NAME: ALAN ROSE
RANK: CAPTAIN
POSITION: EXECUTIVE OFFICER
SHIP: USS ACCORD NCC-1842
REGION: 7, NEW YORK (USA)
ACHIEVEMENTS: AN UNBELIEVABLE COLLECTION OF SCIENCE FICTION MEMORABILIA



0741-42-18

Four Meals and a Hike

USS Accord Hosts 19th Annual Watkins Glen Weekend

Each year as the trees begin to display their fall colors in the Northeastern United States, the *USS Accord* hosts its annual Watkins Glen Weekend (or WGW). The gathering for the 19th annual event was somewhat smaller than usual, thanks in part to the large crowd who joined us in Ithaca for this year's International Conference in June. But WGW was still a great opportunity to catch up with long-time friends and to make new ones as we ate our way through a series of local restaurants and hiked through one of nature's marvels.



A DEVINE DAY FOR A HIKE. USS ACCORD COMMANDING OFFICER, WILL DEVINE, ENJOYS WATKINS GLEN. PHOTO BY ALEC FRAZIER.

Many of our out-of-town guests arrived in Ithaca in time for dinner on Friday night at the Glenwood Pines, home of the Pinesburger. We met others at the Ramada Inn bar after the meal and stayed up chatting much too late. Sadly, they weren't offering the *Star Trek*-themed drinks that they had concocted for the IC.

Saturday started bright and early with the forming of a convoy to head out to Watkins Glen. After a scenic 45-minute drive, we stashed our cars in the State Park and walked to the local Burger King for the traditional pre-hike calorie infusion.

The hike up and the gorge was breathtaking as always. This autumn had been fairly dry, so the waterfalls and streams were significantly lower than in some past years. However, the

weather pattern also made for a dryer, warmer hike than the past few. The fall foliage was out in force, adding a wide range of colors to the gorge's walls. Photos and words don't do the Watkins Glen State Park gorge justice; you really need to see it for yourself.

After a few years in which WGW managed to close the restaurants we picked for the Saturday Dinner (RIP Ralph's Ribs, Franco's, and especially Billy Bob Jack's), we actually managed to have it at the same location as the year before – the restaurant at the Ramada Inn. Although there were a few options to choose from, I went with the steak. That made three large beef meals in two days, but it was worth it! After dinner most of the group headed to Purity, Ithaca's local ice cream maker.

Sunday began much like Saturday had--an early gathering at the Ramada Inn. This time, though, we stayed in for an extended brunch. The Ramada puts out quite a spread. It seemed like the omelets and waffles were among the group's favorites. I'm getting hungry just thinking about it...

Brunch marked the end of the official activities for the weekend. Everyone gradually went their separate ways--some heading home, others to check out the Friends of the Library Book Sale or other local landmarks.



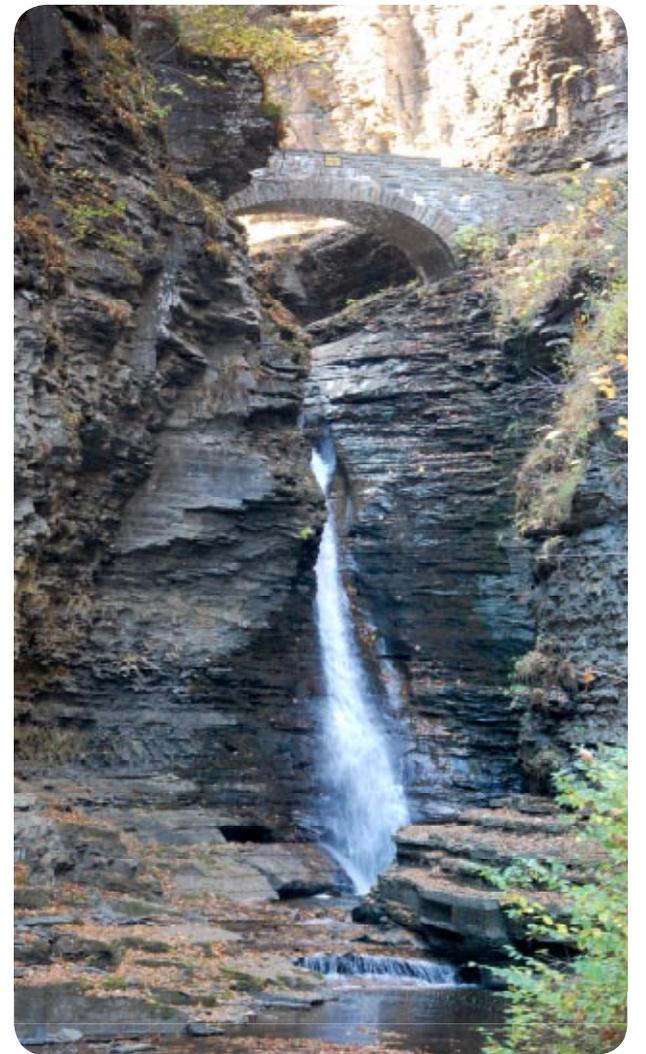
UNSURPASSED AUTUMN BEAUTY. PHOTO BY ALEC FRAZIER.

Next year marks the 20th anniversary of WGW, and we're hoping to make this the biggest and best one ever. Keep an eye out for announcements, and please consider joining us as we once again eat and hike our way through the Ithaca and Watkins Glen areas.



THE GANG'S ALL HERE FOR THE 19TH ANNUAL WATKINS GLEN WEEKEND. WILL YOU BE THERE FOR WGW 20? PHOTO BY MARK ANBINDER.





MORE WATKINS GLEN 2008 PHOTOS, ALL FROM MARK H. ANBINDER. TOP ROW: DAN ADINOLFI. MIDDLE ROW: RHONDA GREEN, STEVE DICKINSON, ANNA ADINOLFI. BOTTOM ROW: WILL DEVINE, BRAD ACKERMAN, MARIE AND JARED ADINOLFI, ALAN ROSE, AND STARFLEET VCS DAVE BLASER.





NAME: KIMBERLY LANDEN
RANK: CREWMAN
SHIP: USS POWHATAN NCC-1967-E
REGION: 1, VIRGINIA (USA)



0143-67-19

Space Camp

When remembering Deforest Kelly in the *Donna Reed* episode when he played Uncle Jeff in "Uncle Jeff Needs You", Uncle Jeff must enlist two campers to become camp counselors. However, he could not get his niece and nephew to become counselors at the camp, and ended up sending two needy children to camp instead.

To me, this was a very heroic act to take into



JEFF BRITTINGHAM & KIMBERLY LANDEN AT JANUARY MEETING.
PHOTOS SUPPLIED BY KIMBERLY LANDEN.

consideration. Our own CO, Roy Sesler, sent two needy children to Space Camp during the summer of 2008, and the children enjoyed the camp. In return, the needy children sent back a warm thank you. Now sending needy children to Space Camp--or any Camp during the long hot summers--is always truly rewarding.

Looking for ideas on how to donate to a Children's Camp of your choice in your spare time? One can locate a camp at Club.Live (keyword "Camp" under the GuideStar frame, which is a public charity located in Williamsburg, Virginia that holds the data base of the Camps). All you have to do is play online Java games such as Chictionary, Picture This, and Seekadoo...or sign up for a search engine. You will win penny tickets which can add up and be redeemed by June of 2009 to a camp of your choice.

Please visit

<http://searchandgive.com> or <http://club.live.com>

and sign up.

Thanks and God Bless.



THE FIRST MEETING OF THE THIS YEAR FOR THE USS POWHATAN NCC-1967-E WENT WELL. WE HAD A BIRTHDAY PARTY REUNION FOR ROSE ARMSTRONG AND REALLY ENJOYED THE CAKE AND GET TOGETHER. BIRTHDAY PRESENTS WERE PRESENTED TO ROSE ARMSTRONG, AND SOME MEMBERS EVEN RECEIVED A STAR TREK NOVEL AND OR A STAR TREK CALENDER. PHOTOS SUPPLIED BY KIMBERLY LANDEN.



NAME: JACKIE BUNDY
RANK: COMMANDER
POSITION: PROJECT "ANY SOLDIER" COORDINATOR
SHIP: USS ANGELES NCC-71840
REGION: 4, CALIFORNIA (USA)
ACHIEVEMENTS: FORMER XO OF THE USS ANGELES

0443-40-718

Paramount Reversal on Movie Novelization

CBS/Paramount has bowed to fans clamoring for a novelization of the new *Star Trek* movie and reversed its initial decision not to release one.

Alan Dean Foster confirmed on his website on February 10 that he was flown into Los Angeles recently for a viewing of the new movie and that he's got a month to write the novelization. According to Foster's website, the movie "...is, by the way, really, really good."

Initially Paramount decided to pass because, traditionally, a novelization is contracted out to an author with a 6 to 12 month lead and is written based on a copy of the script.

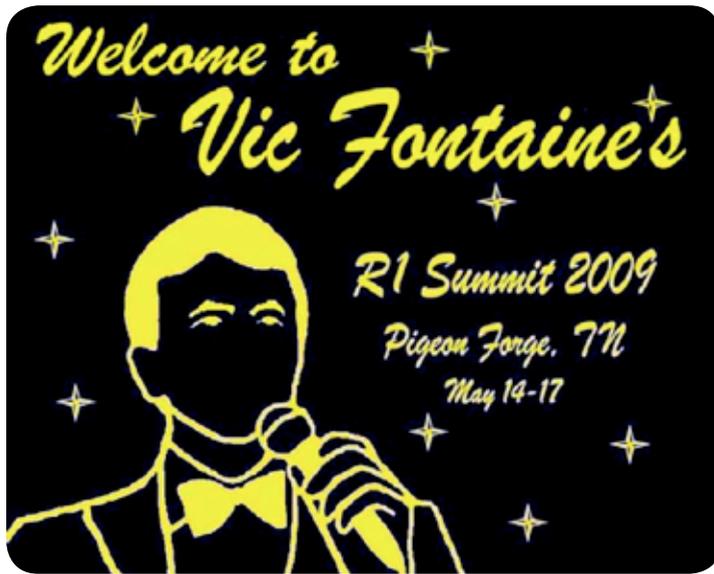
Abrams was not willing to release a copy of the script in time for a novelization to be fitted into Pocket Book's release schedule and promoted in their marketing catalogs to booksellers.

Ultimately, however, Paramount must have realized how much money they were going to be letting go by not releasing the book.

But with Alan Dean Foster signing on to write it and excitement growing for the new movie, Pocket and CBS/Paramount both stand to profit from a novelization, and a deal was struck.



REGION 1 SUMMIT 2009 - MAY 14-17 - PIGEON FORGE, TENNESSEE



It's time to register for the 2009 Region One Summit, and Team Summit wants to get the word out! The upcoming Summit takes place May 14-17, 2009. This year's summit theme is "Welcome to Vic Fontaine's", paying homage to one of the favorite re-occurring characters on *Deep Space Nine*, Vic Fontaine. Look for "Vic" episodes of DS9 playing throughout the weekend, as well as the sounds of Vic Fontaine during the dance. It's your chance to come in fellowship with the First Fleet, pallie!

Thursday night we are planning an away mission to the NASCAR Museum and other "first night" activities. Friday plans include the Opening Ceremonies, a "Death by Chocolate" party, and we are planning on going to one of the famous Gatlinburg Ghost walks for those who want a good scare!

Saturday will be chock full of activities early morning to very late Saturday night (or should we say very early Sunday). Besides General Sessions and the Captain's Call, we have several panels already lined up, including a Ghost Hunting panel with a real paranormal investigations team, a Klingon panel, a new panel for the hearing impaired, and we plan to add several more panels as we go along. We have the always-popular Rubber Duck Race scheduled. Also plan to come participate in the Great R1 Tug-O-War and Captain's Challenge. We have, back by popular demand, the Scavenger Hunt! This year we have some great prizes, too: 1st place will win an iPod shuffle; 2nd place a *Star Trek* Uno game; and 3rd will receive the *Strange New Worlds* books, volume III, IV, and V.

Saturday evening will begin with the delicious banquet and Charity Auction--please start thinking of items you can donate for this year's auction. We'll send out a call for your items later.

This year's dance will be themed "A Night on the Holodeck." Our costume contest theme this year will be "My favorite holodeck character." We are inviting you to dress the part to enjoy your favorite holodeck program! Use your imagination!

Team Summit is hard at work, improving your favorite events and adding new things to our schedule. You cats should be looking to have a real happenin' time in the Smokies this spring! See ya on the Holodeck!

Why not make a week of it?

The Great Smoky Mountains National Park turns 75 years old in 2009. If you've never been, you should come and see why the park is one of the most visited in the United States. Wildlife, from black bears to elk, from 27 species of salamanders to red wolves, bobcats, foxes and many other species inhabit the park and are commonly observed. If nature is not your thing, then Gatlinburg may be just for you. Hundreds of specialty shops, attractions and restaurants make up the town at the base of the Smoky Mountains. If shopping is your thing, then the Pigeon Forge/Sevierville area boasts several outlet malls. There's something for everyone right here in East Tennessee. Bring your family, enjoy the R1 Summit for the weekend, and spend the rest of the week enjoying the Smoky Mountains. Sounds like a perfect vacation!

2009 R1 Summit Prices:

Adult Registration - \$30 (Price valid thru May 1 - \$35 at the door)

Adult Banquet - \$28

Child (up to 11) Registration - \$15 (Price valid thru May 1 - \$18 at the door)

Child Banquet - \$20

Adult T-Shirt - \$12 - Sizes S to XL

Adult T-Shirt - \$15 - Sizes 2X, to 4X

MAINSTAY SUITES PIGEON FORGE, TENNESSEE. MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS TODAY!

To make your hotel reservation you MUST call the hotel property directly. Due to the way the hotel is graciously dealing with our event, the conference code may NOT be in the corporate reservations call center's computer system. So here is what you do to make a reservation:

- 1) Call the hotel directly at: 1-888-428-8350
- 2) Let them know you are with the "Region One Summit"

The hotel rates are \$99 per night + tax (as of May 5, 2008 it is 11.75%) for Friday and Saturday Night. For Sunday thru Thursday, the nightly rate is only \$89 per night + tax (currently 11.75%).

If you are planning on coming in early or leaving after the Summit, we are getting some credit for room nights out-side of Friday and Saturday night. So any night you stay at the hotel does indeed help us greatly.

Check out the website at:

www.mainstaypigeonforge.com/why_choose_mainstay.html,

...but PLEASE make reservations by phone only!

Region One Summit Contact Info:

<http://sites.beyondweb.com/r1-summit/>

Staff:

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Wade Larkin, Vice Chair, Chief of Security, Local Liaison - reprisalxo@charter.net

Sandy Berenberg, Chief of Staff

Warren Price, Programming Coordinator

Mary Kane, Registration Coordinator

Richard Heim, Gaming Coordinator

Marie Anderson, Publications, Advertising

Charlie Hess, Publicity

Ben Redding, R1 Duck Race

Susan Mahaffey, Scavenger Hunt

Karen Berenberg, "Guardian of Forever"





WWW.SFI.ORG

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

The International Star Trek
Fan Association, Inc.

North Carolina Charter #0289164, a Registered IRS 501(c)7 Organization

GENERAL INFORMATION

STARFLEET is the fan organization with something for everyone. Members the world over are united in appreciation of the adventure that is Star Trek. Hundreds of chapters throughout the world link members to local fandom activities, as well as the central organization. Annual membership begins with a membership package containing membership card (s), certificate (s), a handbook, and a listing of chapters. In addition, you will receive six issues of the Communiqué, our bi-monthly publication, which contains news and information on STARFLEET operations and chapter activities, convention information, and much more. Please allow 4-6 weeks for your membership packet to arrive. Contact membership@sfi.org or at the P.O. Box below if you have not heard anything after 8 weeks. We can only process memberships for one-year terms - please do not send funds for multiple year renewals. Lastly, we ask for your phone number in case there is a problem processing your membership. This information is not released outside of the HQ staff.

▶ To join, complete this form and mail with payment (US Funds payable to STARFLEET) or Credit Card information to:
STARFLEET Membership Processing - PO BOX 94288 Lubbock, TX 79493-4288 USA

MEMBER INFORMATION

NAME:	
MAILING ADDRESS:	
CITY:	STATE/PROV.: POST CODE:
COUNTRY:	TELEPHONE:
EMAIL:	
CHAPTER AFFILIATION:	DATE OF BIRTH:
PAYMENT INFORMATION NOTE: If your billing address differs from above, please provide the info on the back of the form.	
<input type="checkbox"/> CHECK/MONEY ORDER	<input type="text"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> CREDIT CARD	CARD NUMBER
MEMBERSHIP PACKET TYPE:	CVV/CVC CODE REQUIRED (Located on the back of the card)
<input type="checkbox"/> PAPER PACKET	EXPIRATION
<input type="checkbox"/> CD-ROM PACKET	
AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE	
DATE	

MEMBERSHIP RATES

MEMBERSHIP CLASSES	CIRCLE PACKAGE		
	USA	CA	INT'L
INDIVIDUAL	\$15	\$16	\$20
FAMILY OF 2	\$22	\$23	\$27
FAMILY OF 3	\$25	\$26	\$30
FAMILY OF 4	\$28	\$29	\$33
FAMILY OF 5	\$31	\$32	\$36
FAMILY OF 6	\$34	\$35	\$39

- NEW MEMBERSHIP
 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL
 SCC: _____
 CONTACT INFO CHANGED

NOTE: List additional members of your household in the family information area below. List the SCC# of the additional members if they are renewals.

ADDITIONAL HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS INFORMATION

Please list additional household members here. Please print.

	MEMBER NAME	SCC NUMBER	DATE OF BIRTH	CHAPTER	OFFICE USE
02					
03					
04					
05					
06					

PLEASE NOTE: Household memberships are limited to six members, and include only copy of each Communiqué issue per primary membership.

SCHOLARSHIP DONATION (optional)

STARFLEET, in cooperation with Star Trek personalities, supports educational efforts with contributions made by our members. If you would like to support this effort, please make a donation (minimum \$1 per box checked) to one (or more) of the following scholarship funds. Please note: Donations are not required and must be included with your membership fees. Information on each fund can be found in the Academy documents in your packet, or on our website. Scholarship donations are not currently tax deductible.

- LeVAR BURTON PATRICK STEWART MARINA SIRTIS ARMIN SHIMMERMAN
 JAMES DOOHAN DeFOREST KELLEY GEORGE TAKEI GENE RODDENBERRY
 LAW & ORDER SPACE EXPLORERS

Total Scholarship Donations Enclosed \$: _____

MEMBERSHIP PACKET NOTES

NOTE: All packets include a certificate and laminated ID card, your choice for packet type will determine how you will receive the handbook, and other documents included in the membership packet.

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

ONLINE JOINING / RENEWING

JOIN ONLINE: <http://join.sfi.org> RENEWING MEMBERS: <http://database.sfi.org>

VER.: 05/2008 - Check <http://www.sfi.org> for updated form.

STARFLEET *Communiqué* Submission Guidelines

1) WHAT WE'RE LOOKING FOR:

The STARFLEET *Communiqué*, the bi-monthly newsletter for our fan organization, welcomes printable submissions from any member of our club. Among the items most frequently submitted are:

- 1.1) Articles about chapter, regional, or fleet events,
- 1.2) Articles about some aspect of *Star Trek* or science fiction,
- 1.3) Articles about opportunities and/or resources for STARFLEET members and *Star Trek* fans in general,
- 1.4) Articles about important issues for our fan organization,
- 1.5) Photographs of chapter, regional, or fleet events--including members, activities, and items of interest,
- 1.6) Photographs of famous *Star Trek* and/or science fiction celebrities,
- 1.7) Drawings, cartoons, schematics, or other printable artwork,
- 1.8) Other fun *Star Trek* or sci-fi items--such as short stories, poems, or recipes.

Please limit any written submissions to 5,000 words or fewer, unless you have first requested permission from the Chief of Communications for a longer submission.

2) WHERE TO SEND IT:

- 2.1) All submissions to CQ should be e-mailed to:

cq@sfi.org

or postal mailed to:

Commodore Jon Lane
Chief of Communications, STARFLEET
3858 Lamarr Avenue
Culver City, CA 90232

- 2.2) Please note that any physical submission mailed will not be returned unless the sender includes a self-addressed, stamped envelope and a written request that the submission be mailed back.

- 2.3) Submission deadlines are usually printed in previous issues of the *Communiqué* and posted to the various STARFLEET chat lists. However, if you are ever curious when the next submission deadline will be, feel free to contact the Chief of Communications. Please note, the earlier a submission is received, the more likely it is to be included in the upcoming issue instead of having to wait until a later issue is published.

3) FORMAT OF SUBMISSIONS:

- 3.1) Please send all written articles in Microsoft Word .doc format. Make sure the document contains only text. Do NOT embed photos or other images inside of Word documents. Send images separately.
- 3.2) Images should be sent as jpeg files with no compression (or the highest quality jpeg setting). Photos and artwork should also be saved at the highest possible resolution. Photos that are less than 800 pixels wide or tall will usually look pretty bad when printed.
- 3.3) In certain cases, .pdf and .xls files can be sent as submissions, but please check with the Chief of Communications before sending a submission in either of these formats.
- 3.4) Please proof-read your written submissions carefully before sending them. Use a spell-checker, and if possible, read the submission out loud to make certain all of your sentences are clear and make sense. Submissions do not have to be completely free of typos, but the editorial team prefers to have to do minimal corrections of articles, if possible.

4) WHAT YOU NEED TO INCLUDE:

- 4.1) All photos that you submit should include a separate text file containing captions. Do NOT rely on file names for your captions; file names are usually changed and simplified during production and lost once photos are placed into page layouts.
- 4.2) Photo captions should include the names of all people pictured (if available) and preferably their chapter name, as well. Also, PLEASE include the name of the photographer, even if you are the photographer and are also submitting the photo.
- 4.3) For the author, please include as many of the following as you can:

Author's full name
 Author's rank and position in their chapter
 That chapter's name, NCC number, home state (or country, if not U.S.), and region
 That chapter's logo (if available)
 A head shot photo of the author (if available)
 A brief list of some of the author's best achievements while in STARFLEET

5) WHAT TO AVOID

- 5.1) The *Communiqué* is read by a wide and diverse audience around the world, including people of different ages, genders, religions, and political beliefs. Please write in a professional manner using language that would be appropriate for the widest possible audience.

- 5.2) Photos or artwork that might be of questionable taste run the risk of not being accepted for publication. The *Communiqué* editorial team errs on the side of caution in most decisions of what to publish. If you push the envelope, do not be surprised if your submission does not make it into the publication.

- 5.3) Try to avoid talk of politics (either inside or outside of STARFLEET), and talk of religion. Informal spiritual references are acceptable, but remember that IDIC allows for a wide diversity of beliefs, and we want to respect and be open-minded about all cultural perspectives.

- 5.4) No personal attacks against any individual, either inside or outside of the STARFLEET organization.

- 5.5) No blatant advertising. Because of our periodical mailing rate with the U.S. Post Office, any advertisements contained within our publication increase our postage costs. As such, any advertisement needs to first be approved by the Executive Committee.

6) AND FINALLY

- 6.1) Please submit ONLY YOUR OWN WORK. Or if you are submitting on behalf of another person, be certain he or she is credited as the author and has given permission for the submission and publication of his or her work. Do not violate another's copyright or plagiarize another's work.

- 6.2) Space in the *Communiqué* is limited. Not all articles will fit. Sometimes a submission will need to wait for one or more issues until there is space for it. Some submissions may not be used at all. The final decision of what gets published in the *Communiqué* and when is made by the Chief of Communications and his or her editorial team.

- 6.3) Please try to carefully proof-read any text submission. However, be aware that we reserve the right to make editorial changes to any submission to correct typos, clarify meaning, and in some rare cases, to shorten length. Every effort will be made to keep the integrity of the original submission, but understand that changes may likely be made before the final publication.

- 6.4) That said, we make mistakes, too. We apologize in advance if we misspell your name or the name of someone in one of your photos or articles. We strive to be perfect, but we don't always make it. The most important thing for all of us when it comes to the STARFLEET *Communiqué* and our overall organization is to enjoy *Star Trek* and have fun.

THANKS FOR READING ALL THIS.

**WE LOOK FORWARD TO
 RECEIVING YOUR SUBMISSION!**



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List revised 3/2009

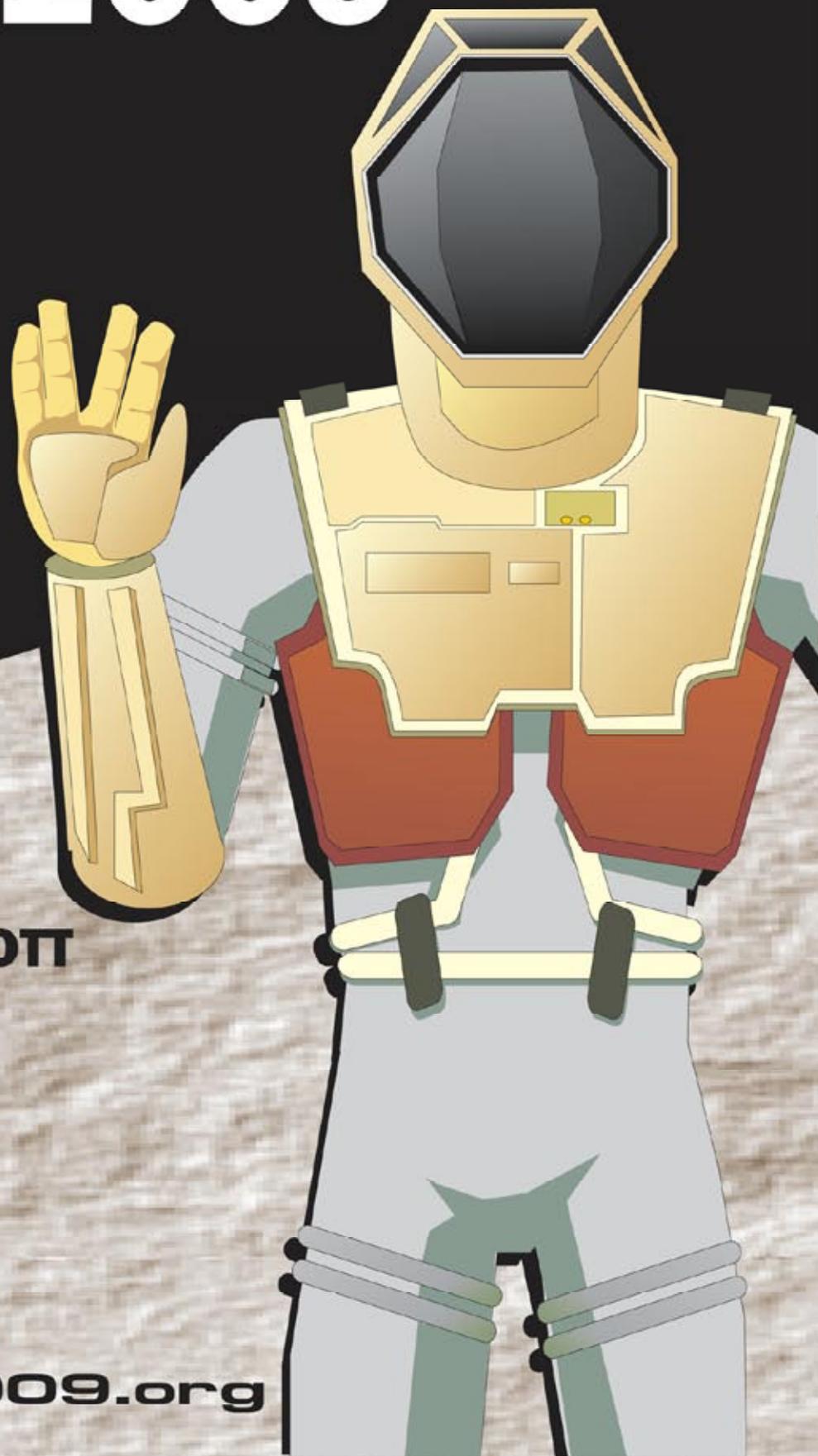




STARFLEET INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE 2009

"One Small Step, One Giant Leap..."

Join us as we celebrate the
40th anniversary of man's
visit to the moon, and 35
years of **STARFLEET: The
International Star Trek Fan
Association, Inc.**



GREENSBORO AIRPORT MARRIOTT
Greensboro, NC

AUGUST 6-9, 2009



www.ic2009.org