

#161

Oct/Nov 2010

STARFLEET

ONLINE

COMMUNIQUE

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



*And The
Winner Is...*

*STARFLEET Members
Select Our Next Commander*

*Did The New
Bylaws And Articles
Of Incorporation Pass?*

CQ Survey Results • STARFLEET: The Next Generation

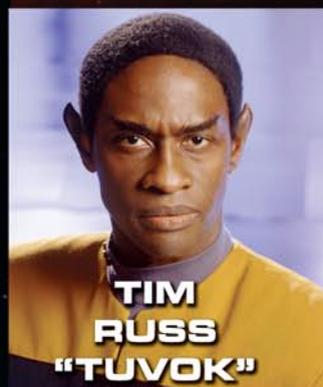
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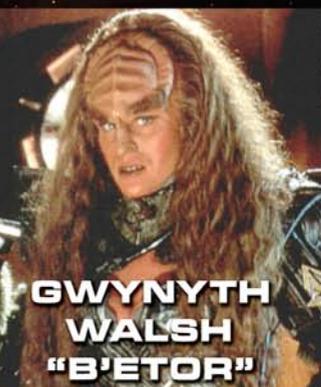
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STARFLEET *Communiqué*

Issue Number 161, Oct./Nov. 2010

A newsletter publication provided for members of
STARFLEET, The International *Star Trek* Fan Association, Inc.

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The submission deadline for CQ #162 will have passed by the time this issue gets into members' hands. The deadline for submissions for CQ #163 will be January 8, 2010.

STARFLEET 2010 ELECTION RESULTS

Here are the STARFLEET 2010 Election Totals:

Candidate Team	Total Votes	(Percentage)
Blaser/Stimpson	623	(51.3%)
Plant/Rosenzweig	581	(47.9%)
Abstain 9 (0.75%)	Unreadable 1 (.08%)	

Should the New Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws Be Adopted

By STARFLEET?	Total Votes	(Percentage)
Yes	891	(73.4%)
No	291	(24.0%)
Abstain 31 (2.5%)	Unreadable 1 (.08%)	

The next Commander and Vice Commander, STARFLEET:



Vice Admiral Dave Blaser



Major General Bran Stimpson

Report from the 2010 Election Coordinator

Once again, STARFLEET has successfully managed to hold an election with voting opportunities afforded to all active STARFLEET members. It's no easy task, let me assure you! And I would like to sincerely thank our Inspector General, Wade Hoover, for being incredibly focussed, proactive, meticulous, and most of all hard-working. I'd also like to thank the Election Packet assembly team in Kansas and the mailing team in Texas. With everyone working together, election packets were printed on time, mailed out on time, and any packets lost in the mail were quickly replaced by Wade. Awesome job, folks!

And I'd also like to congratulate both candidates and their teams on putting together impressive campaigns filled with cutting-edge ideas for improving our organization. I'd also like to thank both teams and their supporters for keeping things refreshingly civil during the

entire campaign. Our last few elections have been marred by controversy, accusations, and widespread bitterness. This election has had its momentary flare-ups and speed-bumps, but all-in-all, I think most members would agree that this was the *smoothest* and most *positive* election in recent STARFLEET history. So thank you, candidates, teams, and supporters.

And now for a little housekeeping. A total of 3,996 ballots were initially mailed out to all members on September 1, 2010. Not all Election Packets were received (for various reasons ranging from an incorrect address in our database to just falling into a black hole inside the post office). So Wade Hoover mailed out 45 replacement ballots.

In total, 1,214 ballots were received by our CPA firm, Turk & Giles in Joplin, Missouri. Of those received, 9 had votes for the Bylaws but no vote

for either candidate; 31 had a candidate vote but no vote on the Bylaws. The remaining one ballot listed as "unreadable" was an unfortunate mishap during delivery. Each ballot was stamped with a control code to verify that each member voted only once (you might have noticed it on your own ballot). One ballot arrived at the CPA office with the postcard partially torn. The missing area included the control code. With no readable control code, this card was reluctantly declared invalid by the Inspector General.

As you can see from the numbers above, while the new Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation passed with a strong majority, the margin of difference between the two candidates was one of the narrowest in STARFLEET history. So, what does this tell us?

First, it says that both candidates generated

strong support and had great ideas that resonated with the membership. As such, the winning team should seriously consider adopting some of the ideas from the "other side." After all, a good idea is a good idea. Perhaps some of Emmett Plant's team would be willing to help Dave Blaser's team implement a few of these good ideas.

Second, every vote really does count! Take a look: Team Blaser carved out a victory by only 42 votes, or about 3.5%. Remember that when the next election comes around in 2013.

In the meantime, please join me in welcoming the first-ever non-U.S. resident to hold the position of Commander, STARFLEET. Dave Blaser is a hard worker and will do his best for the organization. Whether you voted for Dave's team or Emmett's, the campaign is now over, and it's time for us to all come together in friendship and cooperation.

STARFLEET *Communiqué* Survey Results

Last but not least, 453 members took the time to fill out and send in the *Communiqué* survey form. Granted, this is only 11% of the total membership, but one could infer that, for those who didn't respond, their feelings on the subject of a printed versus electronic newsletter were not as strong as the 11%.

The results will be interpreted by the next and future administrations, but one thing is certainly clear: STARFLEET members want a printed CQ available. Whether they preferred to keep things the way they are currently (status quo) or wanted some kind of hybrid

membership option was split, but the one thing they did NOT want was an electronic-only membership with no printed CQ at all.

Also, when members discuss who has access to computers, at least from these survey results, it seems 7% of our responding membership has limited or no access...and an additional 6% had a computer that was a dinosaur. That said, I hereby leave the decision of what to do next to my successors. May they be wise.

Rear Admiral Jon Lane
STARFLEET 2010 Election Coordinator

- Should STARFLEET continue to offer its members a printed version of the *Communiqué* newsletter?
Yes - 371 No - 59 No Opinion - 23
- If a printed *Communiqué* were available for members, would you want to receive a printed copy in the mail?
Yes - 301 No - 121 No Opinion - 23
- Which option of the four below would you MOST prefer as a way of providing the *Communiqué* newsletter to the members of STARFLEET?

Hybrid (Two rate options)	Status Quo (No Change)	Donation (E-members pay the same as paper members)	Electronic Only (No print version)	No Opinion
158	131	122	37	5
- What kind of a computer do you have access to?
Top of the line - 132 Average - 251 Dinosaur - 28 Limited/None - 32
- For the computer you use most often, what is the connection speed to the Internet?
Top speed - 39 | DSL/Cable - 295 | Broadband - 32 | Dial-up/ISDN - 20 | Not Sure - 23 | No Computer - 31





NAME: SAL LIZARD
RANK: FLEET ADMIRAL
POSITION: COMMANDER, STARFLEET
SHIP: USS HOOD NCC-1707
REGION: 15, NEW HAMPSHIRE (USA)



Report from the Commander, STARFLEET

Outside of STARFLEET, I am in the business of creating "images." I have been for some time. When I first joined STARFLEET, I was involved in computer Bulletin Board Systems and used computer characters to create themes on the users' monitors. Later, I developed web sites for the Internet. I designed images and imagery that created specific impressions geared toward promoting the site or its product/service. Over the years, I've seen over and over again, how important a positive image is for success and how negative impressions hurt those efforts. More recently, I have, for the most part, gotten out of the marketing business for other pursuits and have, instead, worked on marketing myself as an actor, and now as a film producer. I've worked hard to create images and impressions that work toward my own success, and I've been fairly, well, successful! It was while working on my own success that I received an email from a Star Trek fan congratulating STARFLEET on its continued success.

STARFLEET has been and still is successful in that we are still going strong as an organization despite some of the "growing pains" and problems that now form part of our organizational history. This year, STARFLEET celebrated our 36th year of existence!

But the question of "success" got me to thinking about STARFLEET. Since my earliest days as a member, I've heard of the problems of STARFLEET. It seems like people have "always" complained of "the politics," "the STARFLEET Commander," or "the leadership" of STARFLEET. If it was on the local level, it was how a club was run, or the "pettiness" of the officers and crew, or the "cliques" within the chapter. There were times that I thought of leaving the club—it would have been easy enough to save my \$15.00 (yep, it hasn't gone up in all of these years!), but I came to see STARFLEET is a wonderful organization. I learned to look past the bad that is inherent to personal interactions between so many diverse peoples of differing social-economic situations. I'm sorry to say that I haven't been able to eliminate the bad impressions despite my best efforts. Actually, I have even contributed to some of them without trying.

Early on in my administration, certain members challenged me to find out why other clubs seem

to be growing while STARFLEET membership numbers were declining. When I checked with some of those organizations, I learned that a few of the things that some people believe do harm STARFLEET might be what members proudly embrace about STARFLEET and what makes our organization somewhat unique:

STARFLEET elects its leadership. One of the things that I've found in many clubs is that the upper-level leadership positions are fairly static. That is to say that they don't generally elect their president or board members. STARFLEET does elect its president and vice-president through a triennial popular membership election, and chooses its directors—who are still technically appointed—as the result of an election by the regional chapters. By not having elections, some organizations have told me that they avoid "the politics" that we have in STARFLEET.

STARFLEET members enjoy certain protections that may not be present in other clubs. More than one organization leader has told me something along the lines of "We kick out our troublemakers."

Most organizations require some level of organizational membership to be a member of an organizational chapter. In STARFLEET, we don't require that all members of a chapter also become members of STARFLEET. Many point out that there is no incentive to get members to join the parent organization as a result.

So while I believe that STARFLEET does have some intrinsic problems as an organization, I am proud to proclaim that STARFLEET has its strengths, too. But STARFLEET suffers from a less than favorable public image. Ask many Star Trek fans about their impression of STARFLEET and you'll still hear a great many—too many!—complain of the politics... whether justly or not. A number of those I've talked to as I travel about have told me that they thought STARFLEET was too political, but when I asked for an example, many stated something like, "That's what I've heard." Negative impressions are more powerful than positive ones.

STARFLEET needs to overcome its negative impressions in the Sci-Fi community if it really wants to see significant growth. Collectively,

we need to work on creating positive impressions *AND* sharing those impressions with others. And we need to make an effort to ensure that we don't contribute to the negative impressions. Our members are a good source of the negative impressions about STARFLEET. There's a marketing slogan that states, "A happy customer will tell two people, but an unhappy one will tell 10." I've stated before that, with the proliferation of the Internet, "An unhappy customer will tell the world!" And unfortunately, much of the negative information, whether currently relevant to STARFLEET or not, is still "out there" in cyberspace archives. And I'm not saying that STARFLEET members shouldn't speak out when they are upset or disgruntled. I just think that we need to also be mindful of the impact our "speech" can have on other and potential members, and on the "public at large," both in the present and in the future.

I still think that STARFLEET enjoys success. While members have departed in the past, sometimes "in droves," some of them have also decided that STARFLEET has changed and have returned. It's not unusual to see former members return. And recently, an organization that "splintered" from STARFLEET about 15 years ago has dissolved, and many of its members are now back or have recently become STARFLEET members for the first time. The organization that I speak of, the United Federation of Planets Internationale (UFPI), originally formed after STARFLEET membership split because of feelings of betrayal and loss of faith in STARFLEET's past leaders. And while the UFPI membership numbers have dwindled, STARFLEET still increased its membership and now has a few new chapters undergoing "Shakedown." And although the number of members gained is significantly smaller than the number lost in the split that formed UFPI, I am still very happy to welcome (and especially "welcome back") those members into STARFLEET. Personally, I see these members as one of STARFLEET's "prodigal children" returning home. It is a joyous event for me, as I was a member of UFPI and ready to leave STARFLEET also before I was offered an opportunity to serve on the EC and help "rebuild" after the split.

I would like to see more of the smaller

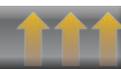
organizations decide that STARFLEET can offer their members something and act similarly...or at least know that their members who may decide to leave will find they want to continue their fandom and be attracted to STARFLEET. Hopefully, they might hear something that provides a favorable impression of us.

STARFLEET does do a lot of good. Some members have heard me speak of how my family's STARFLEET membership has positively affected my daughter as she grew up taking part in our chapter and fleet activities. Some know members of STARFLEET who have met their spouses through STARFLEET or have benefited from STARFLEET's Scholarship Program or taken Academy courses. Some members have been involved in community outreach programs that have aided their neighbors and strangers around the world. And some have experienced the outpouring of membership warmth and kindness as they've seen personal and/or family adversity, illness, or tragedy. It's not hard to find something good to say about STARFLEET—our Communiqué is loaded with good information about the positive activities of STARFLEET members and chapters. That is the real strength of using the CQ to recruit.

Ultimately, we the members are the Public Relations machine of STARFLEET. What we say and what we think of our organization determine the impressions that those around us receive. Please, take a moment to think about that when you are talking about STARFLEET at your recruiting and community efforts.

In closing, I know that many of our members are already out there speaking positively about STARFLEET without any effort because they love the organization so much that they see the good more than they see the bad. Our mouth speaks what our heart thinks. Talking positively about STARFLEET just happens with some of our members. Others may have to work a little harder at it. So, I can encourage you in any way: please, go out and sow some good impressions about STARFLEET.

Sal



Welcome Back, UFPI!

I want to welcome those former members of the United Federation of Planets Internationale who are now members of STARFLEET. The UFPI formed when a large number of STARFLEET members left to start their own organization as a result of mismanagement within our own organization about 15 years ago. Now, I do realize that most of the members that we gained are, in fact, new to STARFLEET, there were only 11 of the 58 former UFPI members who already had SCC numbers in our database, nevertheless, we welcome all equally and wish you the greatest success in STARFLEET.

UFPI's return to STARFLEET didn't occur overnight. Dave Blaser was contacted around the first of the year (January/February timeframe), when he was asked by the AB to find out how other organizations do voting and whether they already do electronic voting. One of the organizations that he contacted was UFPI.

Dave Blaser spoke with David Nottage on the phone and discussed how the UFPI did their voting, and then David Nottage broached the subject of reunification of UFPI with STARFLEET. While the VCS was supportive of the idea, he said that he needed to talk with me about it first. The two Daves and I agreed that it wouldn't happen right at that time, and the VCS made sure that David was aware that we were going to be in an election year. (Dave Blaser wasn't 100% sure that it was ethically correct to bring in a bunch of new members into STARFLEET insofar as it may look that a candidate might be trying to stack the deck with a bunch of new votes in the election).

Nottage, a current STARFLEET member in good standing, was aware of our election and assured the VCS that this would be happening much further down the road and would not be something that would influence the turnout of votes.

Once Dave Blaser got off the phone with David Nottage, he called me and informed me of their discussion. I thought it was great news but understood that it probably wouldn't happen for quite some time, perhaps not even this year. We didn't say anything to the EC at that time because we weren't sure that it was actually going to happen or what the timeframe would be.

In early August, a few days, maybe a week at most, before UFPI was going to be having their version of the International Conference, David Nottage called the VCS to speak about their previous discussion earlier in the year. David Nottage told Dave Blaser that he intended to move forward, and that the UFPI would pay for STARFLEET memberships for all of their active members.

The VCS called me and filled me in on what he

and David had spoken about.

The next EC call took place on the Sunday that UFPI had their IC, and that is when the EC was made aware of what was happening with the UFPI.

In hindsight, I should have also brought this matter to the AB, but at that point, because we were processing the UFPI memberships basically as new members or renewals for STARFLEET, not as a corporate merger, I had decided that it wasn't necessary to involve the AB. After all, there was nothing to approve or reject... as we simply had 58 people joining STARFLEET. By the time they all came over, UFPI would be no more.

Once we received the membership roster from UFPI, it was sent over to membership processing and they were processed through mostly the same procedure that we do for anyone else who joins or renews in STARFLEET, the only exception being that it was a bulk group of 58.

If I may get a little personal here, I'd like to express how important this event is for me. First,

I'll tell you that a few years back, I was contacted by a step-daughter from a previous marriage who I've since been re-united with...and this gave me such great joy. It was wonderful for me to know that I was remembered and appreciated by someone whom I hadn't had any contact with for over 22 years. My wife was a little concerned that I seemed to shower Erica with as much, and perhaps more, attention that I did my other step-daughter, Ashley (who had been in my life non-stop since she was four years old and was now a young woman). I told my wife that I felt that Erica was my "prodigal child," and I was happy to have her back in my life.

While it wasn't quite the same level of elation, I really do see the members coming to STARFLEET from the UFPI similarly. STARFLEET once enjoyed a much larger membership but has shrunk over the years as members have either left or, as in the case of the UFPI, splintered off to form their own organizations. The UFPI is the first of these to "come home," so to speak.

Do I expect other groups to do the same? Not really. But wouldn't it be nice? Wouldn't it be great to see members come together and share resources that grow with membership numbers? One thing that helps is that there is one less group out there competing for members. I ask you all to join me in welcoming those former members of the UFPI and, hopefully, a synergy will result and some other former members of that group will decide to join, too.

Sal



STARFLEET'S Newest Member: The First Minister of Scotland

Chief Engineer Montgomery "Scotty" Scott is no longer the only famous Scotsman in Starfleet. In October of 2010, Scottish First Minister Alex Salmond accepted a complimentary one-year Membership of Distinction from STARFLEET, the International *Star Trek* Fan Association, Inc.

The Right Honourable Mr. Salmond is a declared *Star Trek* fanatic, as was widely reported back in April 2010 by news media throughout the United Kingdom and Europe. Here is just one of many media reports of the First Minister's penchant for *Star Trek*:

<http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/uk/scotland/article7108898.ece>

About that time, a reporter from the newspaper **Scotland on Sunday** contacted STARFLEET's Chief of Communications to ask if our organization had any plans to offer Mr. Salmond an honorary membership. Hmmmm...

Not a bad idea! After all, Scotty is a beloved *Star Trek* character whose nationality is well-

known. And STARFLEET has other famous members, including astronaut Fred Haise and a few of the actors from the various *Trek* series. Why not the First Minister of Scotland?

The only snag was that STARFLEET's fan club guidelines specify that an honorary membership can only go to an existing STARFLEET member who has performed above and beyond the call of duty. Mr. Salmond was not yet a member, so he could not be awarded an honorary membership unless he joined first.

This dilemma was discussed by the Executive Committee and the Admiralty Board at our International Conference during the summer, and an elegant solution was agreed upon. Mr. Salmond would be offered a complimentary Membership of Distinction (our first ever) paid for by individual members and bestowed upon the First Minister with his approval.

An incorrect e-mail address delayed the process somewhat, but in October, the First

Minister's representative, Mr. Stuart Nicolson, sent the following response back to STARFLEET Headquarters: "Mr Salmond is delighted to boldly accept what no First Minister has accepted before. As a devotee of *Star Trek* since its earliest episodes, and a fan of Captain Kirk and Lieutenant Uhura in particular from the original series, he is happy to add his name to the ranks of STARFLEET members worldwide."

Mr. Salmond will be receiving a full membership, including certificate and ID card, Vessel Registry, and six issues of the *Communiqué*. He can take Academy courses if he so chooses or even join the Marines.

STARFLEET members around the world extend a warm and friendly welcome to First Minister Salmond as he joins our proud ranks. He is invited to link up with any chapter, or perhaps he will decide to start STARFLEET's first-ever Scottish chapter after he leaves office (he is a leader, after all).



Although the specific city of Scotty's birth was never revealed in any *Star Trek* episode or film, Mr. Salmond firmly believes it to be his native Linlithgow, and he is happy to know that he shares a birthplace with the starship *Enterprise*'s own Scotsman.





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

The Second Banana Report

Well, another summer has come and gone here in North America, and as we wrap up and start to get ready for the coming winter, I begin to look forward to going outside and playing in the snow with our dogs.

What in the world does that have to do with *Star Trek*? Well, I guess I have to admit that there probably isn't a lot that it does have to do with *Trek*... you don't see a whole heck of a lot of winter in the various series...a few glimpses of snow once in a while, whether it be in the form of TOS' "All Our Yesterdays" when Spock and McCoy ended up in the Sarpeidon ice age, in TNG when Wesley Crusher and a friend go for skiing lessons, in the Voyager episode "Timeless" where Voyager had crashed on an ice planet, or in *Generations* when Picard is celebrating Christmas with his make believe family.

A lot of people don't really like snow or winter time, and I can sometimes understand that, but we tend to have a lot of fun out in the snow with the dogs, especially since they love running around, diving into, and playing in the snow. It's fun to try and make a snow angel with a dog who won't leave you alone and keeps licking your face when you're lying on your back on the ground.

I'd like to think that Captain Archer or Captain Janeway would probably agree with me. Being dog lovers themselves, they'd probably enjoy playing outside in the snow with their dogs.

So, that's what I'm looking forward to now: winter, snow, and playing outside with the dogs in the snow.

In other matters, as many of you already know, members of UFPI have joined STARFLEET, and we're in the midst of getting them completely processed, membership packets sent out, and are starting to work on getting their chapters indoctrinated into STARFLEET.

Sal will be talking more about that in his article, but I wanted to extend my own heartfelt welcome to the members of UFPI returning to the STARFLEET family. Welcome home!

Moving on to business...

Bylaws Committee

The committee has completed as much work as can be done on the draft version of the Membership Handbook and has provided it to the Admiralty Board for their consideration. There are two sections which the committee has requested some specific assistance from the AB in determining the appropriate wording for the handbook. The AB is now reviewing the document, some with their chapters, and will be coming back with their concerns and recommendations on how to address those issues.

Annual Campaign

Our Guest Judge, D.C. Fontana, has come back to us with her ratings on the five finalists. Gary has been in touch with all of the winners of the Short Story Contest, and they have replied with their choices of prizes. Once we have addresses and selections for all of the winners, Gary will be in touch with the STARFLEET Quartermaster and request that he mail out their prizes at one time

and will be announcing the winners publicly to STARFLEET and send the stories over to Communications for printing in coming editions of the *Communiqué*.

Gary is always interested in hearing suggestions from the general membership about ideas, challenges, and events this office could help incorporate into every day operations so we can be one big, happy Fleet. You can contact Gary at campaign@sfi.org or you can call/text him at (870) 450-5154.

PetFleet

PetFleet is moving along well—James Cecil, who had been acting as Interim PetFleet Director, has been named as the official director of the PetFleet Department, and has added a couple of new web pages to the PetFleet web site. These pages are related to pet owners who have lost pets and wish to have PetFleet post about it in order to try and help. All missing/found pet reports are then reported to Home Again, an agency dedicated to reuniting pet owners with their pets.

Have a look at the PetFleet web site for more information at:

<http://petfleet.sfi.org>

AB Discussions

The AB Discussed STARFLEET's enlisted ranks during the month of August—enlisted ranks in STARFLEET are awarded by Chapter CO's or RC's (for unassigned members), and there was a suggestion and discussion to have the Senior NCO Ranks nominated and approved by the EC in the same manner that Flag

Officer Ranks are currently. After a discussion, the AB decided to not move forward with this suggestion.

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/>

Note: Some of the votes being noted below have not yet been announced by the Inspector General, STARFLEET, as such the results are only considered preliminary.

AB10-19: Motion to Suspend the Rules

Region 3 (Reed Bates) made the following motion:

"I move to suspend the rules of the Constitution, specifically, suspend Article 8, Section 6, the line which states: September 1st: The CPA hired to conduct the election must place all ballots and Election Publications in the mail by this date. Instead of the CPA placing the ballots in the mail, the IG and Election Coordinator will supervise the mailout from STARFLEET's Lubbock, Texas location, but still by the September 1 deadline."

Region 9 (Guðjón Sigmundsson) seconded the motion.

Result: Region 3 withdrew the motion during the discussion phase.

At the time of this writing, voting was still in Progress for AB10-20, which is a motion to accept the proposed CPA for STARFLEET's Annual Review.



0408-19-17



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

If you compare chapter development to planting crops, then fall is definitely the season for harvesting. That's how I feel about chapters becoming commissioned. In fact, we had a healthy number of chapters commission recently. In addition to the chapters I mentioned in last issue, *USS Jaresh-Inyo* (R12) just finished its Shakedown training program in September. Congratulations to BGEN Gary Hollifield and his crew. Besides *Jaresh-Inyo*, the following chapters are also putting on the finishing touches for commissioning:

USS Columbia (R1)
 RADM Jason Schreck
 Elizabethtown, KY
 LB206@aol.com

USS Issac (R20)
 CAPT Angie Smith
 Whitley Bay, UK
 miff51@hotmail.co.uk

USS Storm (R7)
 CAPT David Stadky
 Atlantic City, NJ
 gmf4000@aol.com

At fleet HQ, we are always striving to provide the best support for STARFLEET members in chapter development. We also believe in IDIC and reaching out to the rest of fandom. Thanks to the hard work of individuals like VADM Dave Blaser, I am very happy to report this effort has paid off. In addition to those aforementioned chapters finishing up our Shakedown Program, I would like to welcome back members from the following United Federation of Planets Internationale chapters:

USS Golden Gate
USS Hexum
SS Jamison Station
SS Nemesis Station

We will have more details regarding the reunification, as well as new listings in upcoming Vessel Registries for you. These groups will participate in the Shakedown Program as well to help them become reacquainted with the STARFLEET operations. Some of you might recall STARFLEET used to have a strong presence in the western United States. This should help us revitalize our membership base in that area. I want to encourage everyone to join our effort in this area—not just rejoining these chapters, but help us recruit and develop more chapters than we had before.

Many external factors can have significant impact on our organization. For example, worldwide communication continues to improve. This makes correspondence easier than ever. It has definitely fueled growth for correspondence chapters in recent years. As we see more and more correspondence chapters, I feel the strong need to have a

dedicated individual to look after this segment of our organization. Therefore, we are in the process of recruiting a new Director of Correspondence Chapter Operations. I want to thank everyone who applied for the position so far. The result will be announced shortly. Of course, we welcome volunteers and ideas at all levels. If you are interested in helping Correy Ops or have suggestions for improvement, be sure to contact us at ops@sfi.org.

In closing, I want to wish everyone a great holiday season. Don't forget the less fortunate folks in your community. There are many organizations that welcome your help. By donating some of your time and money, you can make a real difference. It can also be a great way to build up some name recognition, as well as an opportunity to bond with your fellow members. Be sure to send in pictures of your work so we can share them across fleet and inspire others as well.

0308-88-18



NAME: JOHN HALLIDAY
RANK: COMMODORE
OTHER ALIAS: COMMODORE SORAK
POSITION: CHIEF OF COMMUNICATIONS, STARFLEET
SHIP: USS ARK ANGEL NCC-1888
REGION: 3, TEXAS (USA)



CHIEF OF COMPUTER OPERATIONS, STARFLEET

Computer Operations Report

Greetings from CompOps.

End Coming Soon

The end of the term is coming up, and the election results are still nearly a month away as I write this! With things starting to wind down in CompOps, we're trying to prepare materials that will make the transition to the new administration easier. Hopefully, we'll have enough instructions on how our processes are handled to make things go smoothly.

Bugs are Getting Fixed!

A PHP developer, Andrey Kuznetsov, has volunteered to help with our system, and there has been a corresponding drop in the bug count. Since Andrey has started working on

things, we've had more bugs fixed than in the last 1.5 years! A big thanks needs to be given for his very much-appreciated service. Some things that have been fixed so far include:

- Anytime text is entered and includes a single quote in the text, an error was generated.
- The Fleet, Region, and SFMC Roster Reports have now been corrected so that pending members now show up normally. Inactive members also show up.
- Unassigned lists were showing the wrong information or not enough information (especially region 99).
- The Profile Change Request function in our Member Database has been fixed. Also, notifications of change requests are

now sent on to the Member Processing supervisor.

- TRACOM numbers were not adding up correctly to show the correct course count for members who have taken TRACOM classes.
- Peg Pellerin has reported that the Academy site is getting fixed, thanks to Andrey's assistance; he has been working with Jayden Tyronian (the Academy webmaster).

Current Work

I am currently building a new front end for the new C#-based system. The first piece I will be implementing is a new Master Page that will serve as a container for all other pages in order to give the site a more uniform look/

feel. I will then be incorporating a Login feature so that the Login features of the old site will not be required to allow access to the new system. I will attempt to ensure that someone logged into one system should be able to seamlessly travel back and forth between the two when necessary.

A new feature that should be done soon is the ability to upload award requests. This was requested by Lieutenant General Aaron Murphy.

In addition to creating the new Login, all the previously-built pages and their functions will soon be moved over to the new main page, and things should look a little more professional.





NAME: PEG PELLERIN
RANK: ADMIRAL
POSITION: COMMANDANT, STARFLEET ACADEMY
OTHER POSITIONS: DEAN OF THE INSTITUTE OF ALIEN STUDIES, DIRECTOR OF VULCAN ORIENTATION COLLEGE AND VESSEL READINESS PROGRAM, 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

Academy News

Greetings from the great Halls of Learning, STARFLEET Academy.

Some members of STARFLEET wonder how is STARFLEET Academy set up. Well, for starters, SFA's focus is always on the members of STARFLEET. Our main purpose for existing is for the members. Some people have asked why we have so many courses and some not dealing with Star Trek. The answer is simple. These colleges/courses are what members have requested. Many are created by members who have since become Directors; some even have gone up the ladder to become Deans of an entire Institute.

We, the staff at SFA, don't just deal with sending out exams, correcting them when they return, and entering the grades into the database. Many times we are asked questions that don't even deal with SFA but are associated with STARFLEET, such as, "How do I contact a chapter?" or "What department takes care of such and such?" These are only a couple of questions that come our way. We do what we can for the members. If we don't have the answer, we find out who would and will often become a mediator to assist the member until his/her question is sufficiently answered.

For those who don't know the breakdown of STARFLEET Academy, here is how we operate...

In the academic portion of the Academy, the Directors operate their Colleges; for some there are several courses (schools) within one College. The Dean supervises each Institute which houses the different Colleges. The Institutes are divided by the different genres of the Colleges. The Coordinator of Academic Services oversees all the Institutes and everything that resides within these Institutes. The Vice Commandant is a go-between as well as backup between the Commandant and everyone else in SFA. And then you have the Commandant, who oversees everyone and is the fifth in line in the Executive Committee. As you can imagine, this keeps the Commandant quite busy. The Commandant usually also has a College or two of his/her own and may possibly occupy a Dean position as well.

From the Desk of Coordinator of Academics: ADM Carol Thompson

Third Quarter graduate number (July 1 - Sept 30, 2010) was 3,201, or an average of 1,067 grads per month.

As I mention often, SFA keeps stretching. We have a College that has grown so big, it is going to have to be split into five (5) Colleges. Approvals are being processed for a new College (Law

Everyone currently has or is in the process of obtaining an assistant so that the College/Institute will not have to be shut down in the case of an occasional vacation or emergency absence (which we refer to as an AOL).

Within the support portion of the Academy, the Chief of Electronics oversees the SFA website, and at present, ours is working his tail off trying to get the website back to perfect working condition. It is taking time, but once he gets it working, he will also continue maintaining it, constantly adding the new Colleges/courses and Institutes that are added within the Academy. The Chief of the Awards department keeps the Boothby awards up-to-date on nearly a daily basis and is the one who handles the compilation of the yearly Squad Awards, as well as creating and distributing the certificates for said awards. We have a graphic department, as well, assisting those directors who wish assistance with their logos for their Colleges.

We have a quarterly newsletter, "Academy Monitor", which the newsletter editor starts working on practically immediately after one has been published. It is filled with all kinds of information about the Academy, as well as including all the graduates within the entire STARFLEET Academy. She does a fantastic job.

The entire support services department is overseen by our Coordinator of Support Services whose job it is to make sure that all support services are running smoothly, much like the Coordinator of Academic Services. Both of these individuals make the job of the Commandant less difficult.

So you see, STARFLEET Academy isn't just a paper pusher. It is a hard-working machine, making sure that members have a place to go to acquire information, knowledge and lots of fun.

PROMOTIONS: Congratulations to the following on well deserved promotions:

Gary (Tiny) Hollifield, Jr. promoted to Major General (Rear Admiral)

Enforcement College), and we have one new and two pending Directors.

Under "Featured Colleges", you'll see one that has been around for a while, Cardassian Orientation College, and one that is brand spanking new, College of Abnormal Psychology. Try your hand at one or both. Try them, you'll like them.

Academy Information

Some of our website is working but not all. To apply for courses, you'll need to go to the Directors directly. To find out what courses there are and whom to contact, go to the SFA website < <http://www.academy.sfi.org> > and click on

College Catalogue or click on the College Catalogue PDF or just type into your browser < <http://www.academy.sfi.org/doc/SFACollegeCatalogue.pdf> >. Remember, however, once you know what College/course you want to request, you must request by sending an email directly to the Director.

From the Desk of the Awards Director: BGN Scott Anderson, Sr.

August Boothby Awards

Greetings all.

The month of August saw a rebound in the level of activity for Boothby Awards with 27 awards issued. I would like to bring special attention to one student of the Academy who earned FOUR Boothby Awards for the month, something that has not happened before. Kelly Carter earned the 150 through the 300 levels and, in doing so, has unseated other members who have earned no more than three Boothby Awards in a month. Finally, the number of awards issued from this department is 948...that leaves us with only 52 to go before we reach that monumental 1000!

Omega Star - Latinum 1200
Carol Thompson

Omega Star - Silver 1100
Wayne Smith

Omega 1000
Larry Dale French, Sr.

Sapphire 850
Glendon Diebold
George Ann Wheeler

Opal 800
Jill Michelle Tipton

Garnet 600
Eric Schulman

Trilithium 500
Marlene J. Miller

Zirconium 400
Ros Haywood

Dilithium 300
Kelly Carter
Brian M. Pickett
Adam Walter Wenclewicz

Diamond 250
Kelly Carter

Latinum 200
Barbara Buffington
Kelly Carter
Grady Glover

Franklin M. Newman, III
Sharon Rowlette

Gold 150
Gary Amor
E. Jerry Beaulieu
Kelly Carter
Gary M. Ensey, Jr.
Teresa Remaly

Silver 100
George Pimentel

Bronze 50
Joshua Bailey
Rosa C. Jackson
Fred C. Parsons, III

From the desk of the Assistant Awards Director: CAPT Scott Schaller

September Boothby Awards

Omega Star - Bronze Star 1250
9/24/2010 Thompson, Carol

Omega Star - Latinum Star 1200
Omega Star - Gold Star 1150
Omega Star - Silver Star 1100
N/A

Omega - Star - Bronze Star 1050
9/8/2010 French, Larry
9/29/2010 Killough, Wayne

Omega - 1000
Emerald - 950
N/A

Ruby - 900
9/11/2010 Fisher, Josephine
9/24/2010 Diebold, Glendon

Sapphire - 850
9/24/2010 Pawelczak, Thomas

Opal - 800
Pearl - 750
Amethyst - 700
N/A

Topaz - 650
9/12/2010 Schulman, Eric

Garnet - 600
9/8/2010 Hewitte, Richard

Amber - 550
Trilithium - 500
N/A

Platinum - 450
N/A

Zirconium - 400
9/09/2010 Carter, Kelly

Titanium - 350
9/6/2010 Wenclewicz, Adam

Dilithium - 300
N/A

Diamond - 250
9/14/2010 Sharon, Rowlette
9/21/2010 Byers, Mykah

Latinum - 200
Gold - 150
N/A

Silver -100
9/24/2010 Despain, Jeremy
9/18/2010 Parson, Fred

Bronze - 50
9/17/2010 Litton, Travis
9/7/2010 Cook, Cynthia





CARDASSIAN ORIENTATION COLLEGE

CAPT Shawn Gregory, Director
sfa-cardassian@comcast.net
1306 High St, Apt 3
Boiling Springs, PA 17007-9698

This College breaks down the Cardassian culture into the following:

1. The Union and its People
2. Cardassian Military
3. Cardassian Government
4. Obsidian Order



COLLEGE OF ABNORMAL PSYCHOLOGY

FCPT Cher Schleigh, Director
cherschleigh@gmail.com
2830 E Venango St
Philadelphia, PA 19134-6109

The objective is to deepen the student's awareness and knowledge of human psychology in regard to how internal and external stimuli affect interactions between individuals.

Featured Colleges

5. Analyzing the Cardassians, and
6. Typing a two (2) page thesis paper about Cardassia, her people or specific situations one might run into with Cardassians.

The exams are not terribly hard, and I hope that once you read this, that you will at least give this College a try.

Course Tuition:

Available free by email or online. If by regular mail, one (1) loose First Class stamp per exam and a one-time charge of US \$3.00 for a printout of the COC manual.

The student will be afforded the opportunity to explore diverse areas of psychology and examine ways in which Psychologists recognize and treat psychological disorders.

Course Tuition:

- \$2.00, LSASE (Legal-size Self Addressed Stamped Envelope).
- Also available for free by email or online.

From the desk of the Chief of Electronic Services/SFA Webmaster: FCPT Jayden Tyronian

With changes to the PHP/MySQL on the host server, many members will have noticed that SFA's online course request function has been offline, and some other changes to our pages have occurred (many not noticeable and others are). There have been many amendments and fixes put in place on the SFA website to ensure we can provide the members with information on our courses and services, however, some matters are beyond our control/access level and have

resulted in the temporary "email the director" for a course method. The SFA Electronic Services department is currently looking into rectifying our online course request system so that the members and our regular students can once again request online a course(s) that interests them and to browse our website with its full functionality. We thank the members for their patience as we try to work through these matters and to work with COMPOPS as required.

Riddle me this...

Last issue's riddle:

After the final fire,
the winds will blow,
And these, which are already dead,
will cover the ones who have yet to die.

Answer: Ashes.

New Riddle:

All about the house,
With his Lady he dances.
Yet he always works,
And never romances.

Answer in next issue.

ADM Peg Pellerin, SFA Commandant

academy@sfi.org OR mrspeapod@myfairpoint.net

"Remember, you can't help someone climb a hill without getting closer to the top yourself."
Said to me by a friend.

STARFLEET Academy Welcomes Members of Former UFPI

STARFLEET Academy welcomes members of the former United Federation of Planets Internationalé (UFPI) into our ranks. Come and visit the Academy's website at < <http://academy.sfi.org> > and access the Academy's Course Catalog PDF in the left-hand column. We have courses ranging from Ancient Earth History to the Vulcan Academy of Science and everything in between! For those aspiring to become STARFLEET officers, you'll find the Officer's Training School, Officer's Command College, and Flag Officer's School, as well as a myriad of other courses. You can choose from 13 Institutes, 84 Colleges, approximately 1,475 courses, and 2 programs: the Academy Degree Program (ADP) and the Vessel Readiness Certificate Program (VRCP). By the time you read this article, we may have added one more Institute and more Colleges with more courses within them. We keep growing and growing for your membership enjoyment. Something is sure to spark your appetite! We also have an Institute of Cadet Studies for our members age 18 and under. There's definitely something for everyone. Come and see why STARFLEET Academy is known as the jewel in STARFLEET's crown!

ADM Marlene Miller
SFA Vice Commandant
academy-vice@sfi.org

0110-96-717



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 OPERATIONS, STARFLEET

Shakedown Operations Report

Greetings, STARFLEET.

I hope all of you are fine and doing well. With this report, the Election has come and gone. I was told by Communications that this is the next to last Communiqué for the Lizard/Blaser administration, so I will have more of what becomes my future in STARFLEET in the last edition. This will be a real short report.

Here is the list of launchings since the last Communiqué. I am happy to announce the following launched Chapter(s) in training...

Oh, wait... We have none. The launchings have come to a standstill. This is the first Communiqué that I haven't reported a launching. I do know that there will be some new chapters in the near future. We will be announcing chapters that came from UFPI since most of them will be rejoining STARFLEET.

Shakedown News

Again ShOC has been slow with no real news to report.

Let me pass this on:

Every journey begins with a first step. The journey to becoming a chapter of STARFLEET begins with the shakedown cruise.

Just as a newly-completed ship undergoes a shakedown to make sure that everything's running smoothly, new STARFLEET chapters-in-training have their own shakedown cruise, for the same purpose. The purpose of the shakedown cruise is to lay a solid foundation for your chapter. The ShOC manual is a guide to making the shakedown cruise a smooth one. Will the answer to every question be in the manual? No. The resulting book would be huge! Instead, Shakedown Operations exists, with dedicated people here to help you. When questions come up, contact a member of the ShOC staff. If he doesn't know the answer, he'll put you in touch with someone who does.





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. I hope everyone's doing well this fall season. Attached are the financial statements for the first two months of our current fiscal year, along with the year-to-date totals. The Balance Sheet shows our ending balance as of August 31, 2010. Since we have quite a large amount in our main bank account, we'll be moving some of those funds into another CD account to earn more interest.

As you can see, most of our income comes from Membership Dues, which should be no big surprise for anyone. Our three largest expenses to date are Starfleet IC Expenses, *Communiqué* Expenses, and the Election Expenses. Keep in mind, our Election Expense occurs every three years, so this is not typically an expense we incur every year. Although we have a Net Loss of \$(6,792)



as of August 31, 2010, I'm sure we'll be doing better in the next few months.

More detailed financial statements are available for viewing online for all members to see at the STARFLEET Finance home page. Please sign in using your SCC# and password to gain access to the members-only sections. Once there, you'll see a lot more financial info than what's presented here.

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 get back to you regarding your request as soon as possible.

The photos on this page were taken just before Halloween at the State Scare Factory in Belleville, NJ. I went with Jennifer Battershill from the *USS Challenger* and her husband, who took the photos. Looks like they were really anxious to join STARFLEET too!



STARFLEET International Statement of Financial Position August 31, 2010

ASSETS	Total
CURRENT ASSETS	
Bank Accounts	
CD General Fund A Risk Free	\$ 5,142
CD General Fund B	16,725
CD SF Scholarship Fund B	1,101
International Conference Odd	1,494
International Conference Even	2,871
Main Bank Account	15,500
Petty Cash SF QM	158
Petty Cash SFMC QM	35
SF Scholarship Fund A	7,552
SFMC Marines	2,642
SFMC Scholarship Fund	2,972
Spec Ops 6351	56
Total Bank Accounts & Petty Cash	\$ 56,050
Other Current Assets	
Deposits	-
Prepaid Other	-
Total Current Assets	56,050
Total Assets	\$ 56,050
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	
CURRENT LIABILITIES	
Accounts Payable	\$ -
Accrued expenses	-
Sales Tax Payable	710
Total current liabilities	\$ 710
Equity	
Opening Bal Equity	1,000
Unrestrict (retained earnings)	61,132
Net Income	(6,792)
Total Equity	55,339
Total Liabilities And Equity	\$ 56,050

STARFLEET International Statement of Activities July 2010 - June 2011

	Jul-10	Aug-10	Year To Date
Operating Revenues:			
Membership Dues	\$ 4,165	\$ 3,971	\$ 8,136
Scholarship Funds	10	745	756
Quartermaster Sales	758	1,489	2,247
STARFLEET Int'l Conference	1,641	1,531	3,172
Other Income	-	1,729	1,729
Total operating revenues	6,575	9,466	16,040
Operating expenses:			
Communique' Expenses	3,777	2,312	6,089
Membership Package	1,182	78	1,261
Quartermaster Supplies	347	1,260	1,607
STARFLEET IC Expenses	760	6,598	7,359
Scholarship Awards	52	-	52
Bank Charges & Fees	246	155	401
Election Expense	-	3,300	3,300
Equipment & Software	659	-	659
Accounting Fees	-	-	-
Legal Fees	-	-	-
Insurance Bond	-	-	-
Insurance Liability	2,050	-	2,050
Licenses & Permits	-	-	-
Supplies	-	55	55
Transition Expenses	-	-	-
General Office Expenses	2,956	3,510	6,465
Total operating expenses	9,074	13,758	22,833
(Loss) / Income	\$ (2,500)	\$ (4,293)	\$ (6,792)



periods where I became particularly persnickety and grouchy...enough to later apologize from my rudeness. Chances are during most of those instances, we'd just had another birth mother fall through...and each time that our hopes had lifted, they'd get dashed to the ground.

Of course, the worst moment came late last year when we actually found a birth mother, worked with her for months, and she changed her mind at the last minute. Some STARFLEET members were aware of this when it happened, although most didn't know.

Seven months after restarting the adoption process in January of 2009, we'd spoken to at least another two dozen birth mothers with no luck whatsoever. I was headed to North Carolina for last year's International Conference when Wendy called me to tell me about a new birth mother she'd just called. "I don't want to get your hopes up," she told me, "But I really like her...."

By the time I landed back in Los Angeles, this woman had made the decision to give us her baby. She had notified us of that fact by e-mail to Wendy, and Wendy told me by bringing the e-mail to the airport when she picked me up at LAX upon my return from the conference. Believe it or not, in all the false starts before this, we'd never actually gotten this far with any birth mother in over two years, and I broke down with emotion right there at the baggage claim.

Next, we flew the woman out to L.A. to meet us and our doctor and our lawyer. She was bright and smart and pretty. We joked that she was "too good to be true." And, as it turned out, she was.

After financially and emotionally supporting this woman for nearly 6 months, letting our hopes grow each day that she carried the beautiful baby boy whom we got to see on ultrasound during her visit to L.A., the woman suddenly stopped communicating with us as she had previously done. In contrast to the e-mail she sent wishing Wendy a happy birthday from her and the baby in September, she did not answer her phone or e-mails that we sent wishing her a Merry Christmas.

We had some sporadic e-mails, text messages, and calls with her in the torturous week following Christmas. She told our lawyer she still planned on going through with the adoption process, but her actions said otherwise. At one point, Wendy even left a message saying, "If you're thinking of changing your mind, we'll understand. But please just tell us. We need to prepare ourselves one way or the other."

Before she had started acting so unreliably, we had already purchased the ticket for the woman to fly out to L.A. to deliver the baby. Even as our brains told us that she was backing out of the process, we could not bring ourselves to cancel her ticket when she remained in sporadic contact and still had not come right out and said she had changed her mind. Wendy called the airline and learned that we could still cancel the ticket and recover a portion of the cost up until the plane finished boarding. About 10 minutes before the flight was supposed to take off, Wendy called the airline to see if the woman had miraculously somehow boarded the flight. Of course, she had not.

Two days later, our attorney received a short e-mail from her stating simply, "I have decided to keep my unborn baby." The news that we would not be parents after planning for everything for nearly five months was devastating to us. It was like we'd had a miscarriage. Our house had a fully furnished nursery with all sorts of stuffed animals, diaper changing

We planned to fly the birth mother and birth father out to Los Angeles the last week of September--a month before the due date. Things were all set: we'd found a hotel near the hospital for them to stay, there were doctor's appointments set up, and we even planned a little L.A. site seeing for them to enjoy in the weeks before the expected delivery.



IT'S LIKE HE JUST KNEW! JAYDEN STARTED DOING THE VULCAN SALUTE WITHIN EIGHT HOURS OF BEING BORN, BUT IT TOOK PAPA JON FIVE DAYS TO GET A NON-BLURRY PHOTO OF IT. I ABSOLUTELY *SWEAR* THIS WAS *NOT* POSED (IT'S NEARLY IMPOSSIBLE TO POSE A NEWBORN)! PHOTO BY JON LANE.

table, crib, car carrier, stroller, and all these baby clothes in the closet. Friends and family who had already started sending gifts had to be called and told the bad news. Indeed, for the next couple of months, Wendy kept the door to the nursery closed so that we wouldn't see all the baby things and be reminded that we were back to square one with the adoption.

After we took some time to try to heal, we essentially had to start over. There weren't other babies and birth moms waiting in the dugout. We were back to the "courtship" phase, waiting to be matched up with a birth mother who wasn't a freak or a flake, hoping that she would choose us, and then we had to go through the entire process again. In addition, our original adoption credentials had started to expire. We needed a new home study and more up-to-date medical exams and tax returns.

And for months and months, it was the same old song...flakey birth moms or even no birth moms for weeks and months at a time. At one point, I heard my wife sobbing one night and asked her what was wrong. With tears in her eyes, she said, "What if this is God's way of telling us we're not supposed to be parents?"

I couldn't believe that. I'd never met any woman in my life so ready to be a mommy as my wife Wendy. We just had to be patient, have faith, and trust in God and the Universe to give us the right baby at the right time....

In May, we were contacted by a woman who still had over five months left on her pregnancy. After Wendy had a conversation with her and we sent our booklet of family photos for her consideration, she told us she had picked us. Over and over again, she told us that she wanted to give this baby an opportunity for a great life and that she was not going to change her mind. We were so scared to invest more emotion and time and money in another woman, but we closed our eyes, crossed our fingers, and prayed as hard as we could. And this time, we told almost no one.

But fate had other plans for us. A week before the birth parents were supposed to fly to L.A., we got a call from the birth father: our birth mother was going into labor a month early! Don't ask me how, but Wendy and I somehow got ourselves from having barely gotten out of bed to being packed for a 2-week or longer trip 2,000 miles away, with E-tickets on America Airlines, a hotel booked near the hospital, rental car reservations, and our butts were in a taxi to Los Angeles Airport...all in less than three and a half hours! As Wendy's mother said when we called to tell her the news (after first saying "Oh my goodness!"): "Well.... welcome to parenthood!!!"

While we waited for the plane, Wendy scrambled to get our adoption attorney and social worker on the phone. Unfortunately, our L.A.-based adoption "team" could only handle the paperwork in California. We now needed to find both an agency and an attorney in the birth mother's state to handle things when we got there. And we couldn't delay! The baby would be born within hours, and we needed a new lawyer and social worker signed up before that happened.

As quickly as the hours flew as we scrambled to make all these arrangements, time still couldn't go fast enough for us. We were going to be parents soon...and we wanted to get to the birth parents and our soon-to-be baby! Unfortunately, American Airlines had other plans, as our flight had mechanical problems that kept us in the terminal for four hours! When we finally got booked onto a different flight

transferring through Dallas/Fort Worth Airport, we'd missed the last connection for the night...and we'd missed Jayden's birth.

So now we faced a choice: stay overnight in Dallas and take the first plane out in the morning...or drive 200 miles to Jayden's birth place starting at midnight. For us, there was no choice. We booked a rental car, grabbed some fast food, and drove like the dickens through Texas. Although Jayden had been born, he was still 5 weeks premature, and we needed to make sure he was all right. The hospital didn't even have a NICU facility, so if he needed intensive care, he'd have to be transferred. We needed to be there.

Luckily, Jayden was healthy, albeit early and small (but long!). He weighed 4 pounds, 15 ounces and was 18 inches long. He didn't need intensive care and was already feeding like the dickens when we got there at 3:30 a.m. The birth parents waited up all night to see us meet Jayden for the first time, and the room was filled with so much excitement and love when the nurse rolled Jayden's basinet into the birth mother's hospital room.

The moment Jayden was placed into my arms, I knew: this was my son. It was like lightning rushing through me, bonding me instantly to this strange, tiny, otherworldly being looking up at me. With tears in my eyes, all I could do (once I was able to stop gazing, mesmerized, at this precious little bundle) was look up at everyone else in the room and sob, "I love him...."

And I do love him...so, so much...and that love just seems to grow stronger every day. He's my son, he's Wendy's son, and there's no doubt in either of our minds that Jayden Lane is exactly where he was supposed to be all along.

So, STARFLEET, give a welcome to your newest member: Cadet Jayden Lane...ready for duty (and sometimes doody, too)!

Thanks for letting me share this with you.

SS BASSILONE



10-05-10

BUT WAIT! THERE'S EVEN MORE NEW BABIES!

STARFLEET'S youngest Cadet, **Anna Faith Rickard**, was born at 7:55am on October 5th, 2010 at High Point Regional Hospital in North Carolina to former CS Fleet Admiral Les Rickard and his wife Heather. Anna weighed 8 pounds, 13 ounces and was 21 inches long. Mom and Daughter are healthy with the exception of a fairly significant right club-foot on Anna. She will be undergoing some medical procedures to correct this. We wish the Rickard family all the best and limitless happiness. Photo supplied by Les Rickard.





NAME: KEIRA ELAINE RUSSELL-STRONG
RANK: VICE ADMIRAL
POSITION: REGION 17 COORDINATOR
SHIP: *USS ALIOTH* NCC-72383
REGION: 17, UTAH (USA)
ACHIEVEMENTS: FORMER CO *USS ALIOTH*

1714-83-723



Ending the Year on a High Point in Region 17 and on the *USS Alioth*



Winding down the year for the crew of the *USS Alioth*, VADM Keira Russell-Strong (that's me) stepped down from the position of CO and became the Regional Coordinator of Region 17.

So why do I look so happy? Because I have some VRCs to help me out: COMM Joe Hinson of Colorado and LGEN John Roberts of New Mexico.

The *USS Alioth* is now commanded by FCPT D. Justin Taylor; stepping up to XO is CAPT Nathan Shumway. Rounding out the command staff are Chief of Engineering CMDR Jeffery Beckstrom, Chief of Security COMM Janet Shepherd, Chief of Science CAPT Tiffany Knox, Acting Chief of Operations PO1 Alyssa Clawson, and Acting Chief of Medical Stephanie Knight-Christensen.

The crew is busy with an upcoming yard sale to raise money for Sub for Santa. *Alioth* members have also worked at the MS Walk, recycled cans, and packed hygiene kits. Items for the yearly "baby shower" were gathered and donated to the Community Action Services, and we collected food for the Food Bank in Provo, Utah. We are happiest in our service to others.



REGION 17 COORDINATOR VADM KEIRA RUSSELL-STRONG.
 PHOTO BY ALYSSA CLAWSON.

USS ALIOTH CREW MEMBERS (FROM LEFT TO RIGHT) REAR ADMIRAL LYNNETTE KNOX, COMMODORE JANET SHEPHERD, MASTER CHIEF PETTY OFFICER RICHARD KNOX, CAPTAIN NATHAN SHUMWAY, AND CAPTAIN TIFFANY KNOX. PHOTO BY KEIRA STRONG.



PO1 ALYSSA CLAWSON WITH MARINA SIRTIS IN DENVER, CO.
 PHOTO BY KEIRA STRONG.



VRC OF REGION 17 COMM JOE HINSON.
 PHOTO BY KEIRA STRONG.



CO OF THE *USS ALIOTH* FCPT D. JUSTIN TAYLOR.
 PHOTO BY ALYSSA CLAWSON.



VRC OF REGION 17 LGEN JOHN ROBERTS. PHOTO BY JON LANE.



CMDR JEFFERY BECKSTROM WITH STEPHANIE KNIGHT-CHRISTENSEN.
 PHOTO BY KEIRA STRONG.





NAME: DANIEL ADAMS
RANK: ENSIGN
POSITION: CHIEF SCIENCE OFFICER
SHIP: ISS RASSILON NX-11
REGION: 20, STEVENAGE (UK)



2015-11-00

Collectormania 16

Date: May 28-31 May 2010
Venue: MK Dons Stadium, Milton Keynes, United Kingdom

Collectormania is one of, if not the, biggest collectors' event in the UK.

Situated in Milton Keynes, it brings in fans from all corners of the country, and indeed the world. There is no door charge on the day, however individual fees are payable for photos with, and autographs from, each star.

And there are plenty of actors to meet. While this was my first Collectormania, I thought I knew what to expect—past events have reflected what was particularly hot at the time: 2002/03 saw a lot of interest in the cast from *The Lord of the Rings* and *Buffy, The Vampire Slayer*, for example. So, in all honesty, I was expecting a smattering of guests from current UK favourite *Doctor Who* and a whole lot of guests from *Twilight*, the current "favourite" US import over here right now.

So, I was mildly pleased then when I learned in January that Kate Mulgrew, J.G. Hertzler, and Robert O'Reilly were announced for the show. A week later, Jeffery Combs was announced, and I thought that would be it for representation from *Star Trek*.

I was wrong. The final guest list included all four guests mentioned above, as well as Tim

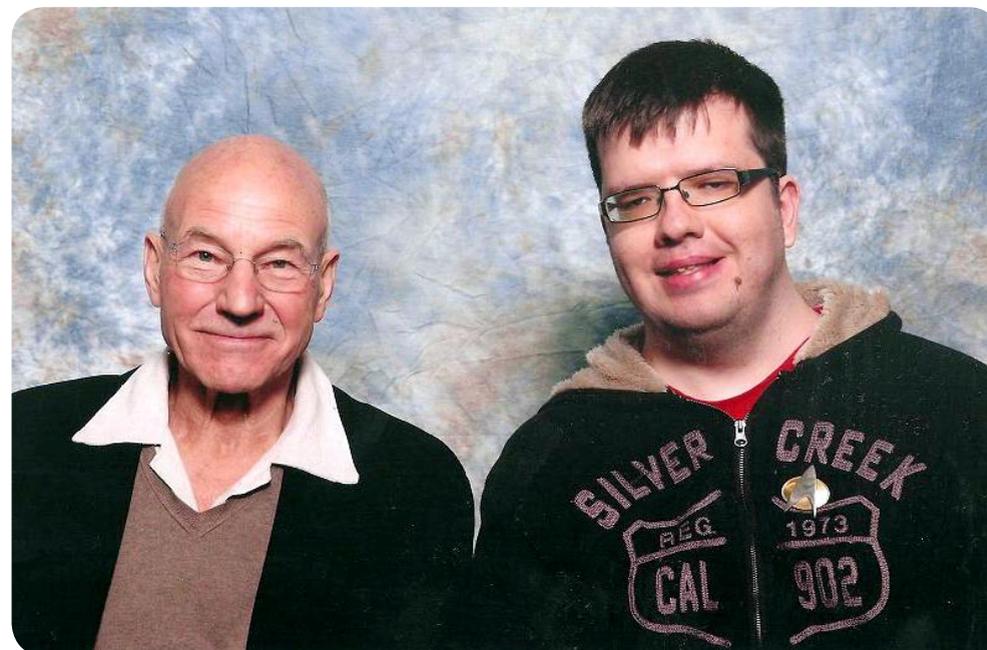
Russ, Robert Duncan McNeil, Michelle Forbes, Lance LeGault (played the captain of the Klingon sleeper ship in the TNG episode "The Emissary" but best known for his work on *The A-Team*) and Daniel Stewart (from the TNG episode "The Inner Light"). Oh, and Daniel brought his Dad with him.

Yes indeed, days before he would be knighted by the Queen, Patrick Stewart met thousands of his loyal fans in Milton Keynes. I paid an extra 25% to change my ticket to ensure I would get a photo with him. It would be a gamble. But would it pay off?

As well as *Star Trek* guests, the convention boasted guests from *Star Wars*, *Doctor Who*, and even a few British sporting legends.

Although a bit more expensive, not only were Hertzler and O'Reilly doing photo shoots, but they were doing so in full Klingon costume and makeup! I'm not sure about the origins of the makeup, but as I understand it, the costumes were worn by the actors on screen, purchased by fans at auction, and then "loaned" to the actors for events such as this, as well as ones in America.

Every actor and athlete who attended should be commended. The event was held at a football stadium (or soccer, depending on which side of the Atlantic you happen to be on). Now, while it was the Spring Bank Holiday, you would have



been forgiven for thinking it was autumnal, with the rain and cold. Despite this, the actors were able to sign for hours, while still being polite and having a smile and a "hello" at least for everyone.

While it was Hertzler and O'Reilly signing autographs on Saturday, on Sunday, Martok and Gowron were posing for pictures. They serenaded a Scottish fan with a vocal rendition of "Scotland the Brave", and they even sang my name. Here is where we come to my first quibble with this event: no talks. I've seen YouTube clips of the two chancellors performing a Klingon rap at US conventions, and it would have been nice to hear a Klingon perspective on British life!

Patrick Stewart's autograph and photo shoot sessions were quite brief affairs. Again, a talk would have been nice to hear him respond to questions, even if they weren't my own. The organisers had a system of virtual queuing: you queue up early in the day, are allocated a numbered ticket, and then can go and do something else until your number is called. I left things a little late on Saturday, and when I asked for a ticket at 13:00, they were already at number 1000. Even my photo shoot number for the other actors, whilst pre-booked, was number 130. So, I expected to come home disappointed in both respects. Fortunately, thanks to the patience of Mr Stewart, and the professional behaviour of the event crew, I was able to get both.

Aside from the guests, there were also my fellow fans. I met several of my "online" buddies—an idea quite alien to me 3 years ago—and costumed strangers who became friends. Although there wasn't a massive amount of costumed *Star Trek* fans, we were still represented among the plethora of Stormtroopers, Time Lords, Ghostbusters, and Colonial Marines.

The dealer rooms were true *Trek* heaven. A lot of *Star Trek* merchandise over here is quite rare outside of DVDs, books and paraphernalia associated with the new movies, so it was a delight for me to see what they had, even if I couldn't afford as much as I'd liked.

Speaking of bargains, I must recommend the STARFLEET padfolio—it is a very useful tool for conventions. At one point, it comfortably held my travel documents, my hotel key, and important stuff like signed photos, books and autograph tickets.

I enjoyed my weekend, and while there was room for improvement, I thought it was a fantastic event.

We Brits might have resurrected *Doctor Who*, but we still love our *Trek*, too!

(Photos supplied by Daniel Adams.)





NAME: JACK "TOWAWAY" EATON
RANK: REAR ADMIRAL
POSITION: REGION 2 REGIONAL COORDINATOR
OTHER POSITIONS: COMMANDING OFFICER
SHIP: USS TRIDENT NCC-74692
REGION: 2, FLORIDA (USA)



0216-92-746

It's a Wonderful STARFLEET...

With all of the politics, personality conflicts, Internet flame wars and such which tend to take our attention, it's nice to be reminded that, when it matters, the friendship of STARFLEET comes through for its members. This time, I was the recipient.

Every year, the crew of the *USS Trident* makes the trip from Florida to Cockeysville, Maryland for Shore Leave. Like many, to make it a more affordable trip, we cram as many people into a room as possible; I think our record is seven. This year, four of us were settled into the Marriott Hunts Valley Inn for another weekend of fandom and whatever other trouble we could find. This time, trouble found us.

Being the CO, I had made the reservations and was the one collecting the money to pay for the room. Two of my crewmates gave me their portion in cash, totaling \$250, which I secreted away, hidden inside a hat lining on a shelf in the closet. The next morning, we went to breakfast, and I returned to the room to get the money for the hotel bill.



If you've seen the movie "It's A Wonderful Life", you'll recall the scene where Uncle Billy realizes he doesn't have the \$5,000 from the Bailey Brothers Building and Loan to deposit in the bank. I had much the same look of panic and dread that Thomas Mitchell had. I tore apart every nook and cranny of the closet and almost every other inch of the room in a panicked frenzy.

One by one, my roommates returned, and I informed them that the money had apparently been stolen. We called the front desk, and a manager immediately showed up to start an internal investigation. As the adrenalin began to

settle in my system, I started to do a mental accounting of my money for the weekend and what was left in the bank account back home; basically, I was screwed. Each of my roommates was in much the same situation as we had all, given the economics of the times, had pretty much planned our vacation budget right down to the penny. I was willing to let my bank account go into the red for a week or so, if need be. But I decided to try another resource for times of trouble.... STARFLEET.

I ran down to the lobby to find my good friend, Mark Anbinder, and explained the situation to see what help he could muster in the Fleet. While I was talking with the manager and filling out paperwork, Mark was posting calls for help on as many Fleet-related list-serves as he could. He collected money in person and took donations through PayPal.

This call for help went out around 2:30PM. Throughout the afternoon Marc kept sending me text updates of monies raised. \$75...\$80...\$110...it kept rising. As the total kept rising, my blood pressure kept going lower. Within a few hours, the \$250 had been raised, but people kept sending in money. Mark finally put out a call to STOP sending in donations. When the final count was finished, \$570 had been collected.

The response had been almost immediate, and without any other consideration other than a fellow Fleet member was in trouble. At a time when there are feelings of division in Fleet, it was an illustration of what this organization is all about at its core: the relationships between people. Mine is but one of many stories about people breaking down and being stuck hundreds of miles from home, finding a place to stay and help getting back on the road. When natural disasters strike, it is often Fleet members who lend a hand. Calls go out on email lists all the time making sure all hands are accounted for after any type of devastating weather or disaster. Many times, these acts of kindness are done anonymously and for the

simple reason that the person in need is a fellow member of STARFLEET. This time, I was that person in need.

I was overwhelmed by the outpouring of support and friendship. The emotions I felt were a mixture of relief and gratification; the knowledge that someone had your back. The stolen money had been covered, and it was decided that the \$320 balance would be donated to the STARFLEET Scholarship Fund. Mark had asked me if I wanted to know who had donated. I told him that there was a certain amount of embarrassment that went along with this; it was my stupid move of hiding the money instead of immediately turning it in to the hotel, and I would rather be able to walk into a room of fellow Fleet members ignorant of the fact of who had helped someone out in their moment of stupidity.

I have had a few people either e-mail me or talk to me in person who wanted to touch base with me after it was all over and let me know they had donated. I wanted to take this opportunity to publicly thank them and EVERYONE who had so selflessly donated. Not to sound too much like a Hallmark card on steroids, but it is reassuring and heartwarming to know that, when the chips are down (or even stolen), that this organization can be counted on to help one of its own. I will forever be appreciative and grateful for the kindness and generosity shown to me by members of STARFLEET. Be assured, I will pay it forward and keep the tradition alive.

Towaway out...





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)



0717-60-18

STARFLEET: Search and Rescue or The Strange Tale of Operation Wood Nymph

As Shore Leave 32 wound to its inevitable close, Sunday evening promised to be quite typical, a relaxing time to kick back with friends and enjoy the calm of Sunday evening following the hustle and bustle of the convention.

But for three STARFLEET officers and two 'FLEET vets, it would become something very different. For them, it would become an opportunity to demonstrate just what we mean when we talk about the ideals of *Star Trek* and its fans, and to act in the best spirit of the phrase, "Let me help."

Emmett Plant, Tony Lopes, Janek Kazimer, Scott Akers, and I had finished a nice dinner at Jesse Wong's Kitchen, at the Hunt Valley Towne Centre (a shopping center right across Shawan Road from the Shore Leave convention hotel), and we were sitting out by a fountain, just enjoying the evening air and chattering about STARFLEET, *Star Trek*, sci-fi, and whatever else happened to occur to us. Suddenly, out of the dark came a young couple, a guy and a girl perhaps in their mid-20s. They walked up to us and asked, "Where's the nearest Wal-Mart?" Little did we know that this question would be the start of an adventure!

There once was a Wal-Mart on Shawan Road, where the Town Centre is located, but it had moved some years back, and the nearest Wal-Mart now is several kilometers up York Road from where we were sitting. While Emmett consulted his phone-based GPS app, we asked the young couple—whose names were Jeff and Allison—what they needed. Jeff needed a T-shirt. They explained that they'd been camping in a wooded area a few kilometers away. They'd wandered away from their campsite in the gathering dark, and couldn't find their way back. Consequently, most of their money, their drivers' licenses, and the keys to their rental car were missing with the tent. They had spent a few hours walking back out of

the woods and into town. We quickly decided that giving them a ride to the Wal-Mart would be a nice thing to do, especially since the GPS had quickly identified its location. Additionally, Emmett explained that his Highlander had an extra fold-up rear seat, so we could fit everyone.

And so, off we went. Jeff and Allison were very grateful. Little did they know that this was just the beginning! At first, we figured that Jeff could get his T-shirt and then we'd bring the two of them back to the hotel for a shower and a night's rest. However, when one is out with our group, things often go quite differently than imagined, and this particular night was no different. While we were walking around the Wal-Mart, Emmett gets an idea. Now, it should perhaps be noted that Emmett was suffering with a kidney stone this weekend, and consequently was on very powerful painkillers. Still, when he suggested that we actually go into the woods and help Jeff and Allison, no one else said no! In fact, we immediately proceeded to acquire a trio of flashlights. (Ironically, the three lights each had a color band on them, in yellow, blue, and red. If that wasn't a sign, we didn't know what would be!) To Jeff and Allison's shock, we told them of our offer. They were quite stunned, but happily accepted.

We piled back into the Highlander, and had them navigate us to where they'd gone into the woods. Their car was parked by a small church, right next to a cemetery. This quickly led to a series of horror movie jokes. (By the way, on the drive over, we had learned that Jeff, at least, was a science fiction fan, and Allison was a teacher, so we had realized that these were kindred spirits.) A brief discussion followed about who would actually hike into the woods, and it was soon decided that Emmett, Tony, and I would join Jeff and Allison, while Scott and Janek would remain behind with the Highlander as a base camp. With flashlights in hand to illuminate our way, we followed the couple down the small road

beyond the church, over a guide rail, and into the woods.

In daylight, the walk would probably have been quite enjoyable. At night, climbing over fallen trees, stepping through underbrush, and keeping balance on uneven terrain (and a roughly 30-degree downslope) required care and concentration. At about 85% of the way in, Tony's legs were really bothering him, so he stopped and established a waypoint, while Emmett and I went the rest of the way.

Finding the campsite actually proved surprisingly easy. Jeff and Allison had explained that they'd pitched their tent at the base of a tree, so as we walked through the woods, I scanned the trees with the flashlight. As we reached the area where Jeff and Allison said they'd made camp, I swept my flashlight to the right, lit up a tree, and swept the beam down to its base. There, reflecting the light, was Jeff and Allison's tent. Excitedly, the couple headed for the tent, and confirmed the presence of their belongings. They then decided that they would remain at their campsite. We gave them an address at which we could be contacted (Allison explained that she really wanted to send a thank you card), and also gave them STARFLEET's web address, suggesting that a great way to "pay us back" would be to join STARFLEET. We also gave them one of the flashlights we'd acquired, just in case either of them felt the need to wander out again before sun-up, and then prepared to make our way back.

Jeff and Allison again thanked us, and expressed their wonder and gratitude at the help they'd received. Emmett's reply was simple: "We're *Star Trek* fans."

"You say that so matter-of-factly," Allison said.

Emmett smiled. "It's what we do." And it is, just another example of *Star Trek* fans of

today living a credo said to have been written in the 2030's by a native of a planet of a star in Orion's belt, first described by characters from the 23rd Century, in an episode itself written over four decades ago. Life imitating art, and maybe one more tiny step toward a future vision that's inspired us.

Leaving behind our new friends, we started on our way back. At first, we followed the beam from Tony's flashlight as a beacon, and quickly rejoined him. Then things got harder. Unlike Jeff and Allison, we didn't know the woods. In the dark, finding our exact path in proved impossible. However, technology again intervened on our behalf. Emmett's phone played the role of the tricorder. While it couldn't find us a direct path through the woods, it could tell us where we were relative to the road, which allowed us to navigate. It was slow going, and we were all getting tired and sore. At one point, Emmett stopped, turned off his flashlight, and said, "I'm just taking a minute to enjoy nature." I quipped, "Can we enjoy it from the road?" Also, concerned by how long we were taking, Janek and Scott were sending texts, trying to reach us. Finally, we reached the road, and from there it was a quick walk back to the church and our vehicle.

Tired but satisfied, we returned to the hotel. While we'd been walking in the woods, Tony had posted a Facebook status update about our adventure, and we were amused by the comments already coming in. And even though we had no lack of jokes and quips regarding everything from horror films to wildlife to *Star Trek* landing parties, we also knew that we had helped people, even at some small risk to ourselves. The heroes we watch on TV and in the movies, and read about in books and comic books, might do it on a grander scale, at much greater risk, but for two young campers on a summer's night in Maryland, we made a difference, and it felt good. And we bet that Jeff and Allison won't ever watch *Star Trek* the same way again!





NAME: NANCY MILFORD
RANK: CAPTAIN
POSITION: COMMANDING OFFICER
SHIP: USS LAGRANGE NCC-3916-B
REGION: 1, OHIO (USA)



0118-16-39

Meanwhile, Back in Ohio...



USS LAGRANGE MEMBERS AND OTHER REVELERS AT THE FOURTH OF JULY.



GARY THE KLINGON GIVES ORDERS TO HIS LOCAL WARRIOR UNIT.



BOB SWIGER AND JULIE WASHINGTON ENJOY A ROMANTIC BOAT RIDE AT THE AUGUST PICNIC.



GARY THE KLINGON ESCORTS SOME LADIES OF REFINEMENT AT THE MEMORIAL DAY PARADE.





PHIL DEFIBAUGH (THE ROMULAN ON THE LEFT) FIGHTS OFF TED BRONKO OF THE *USS LAGRANGE*.



TESSA KNAPP (CENTER) GETS A SOAKING AT THE AUGUST PICNIC, FLANKED BY CATHY BRAINARD AND BRIAN SPIZZO.



LEFT TO RIGHT: GARY THE KLINGON, UNIDENTIFIED, AND PHIL DEFIBAUGH.



EVEN THE LOCAL POLICE OFFICERS WERE IN A TREKKISH MOOD ON MEMORIAL DAY.

Klingons and Romulans posed problems for Northeast Ohio and the *USS Lagrange*. However, shore leave and away missions were still carried out...with caution.

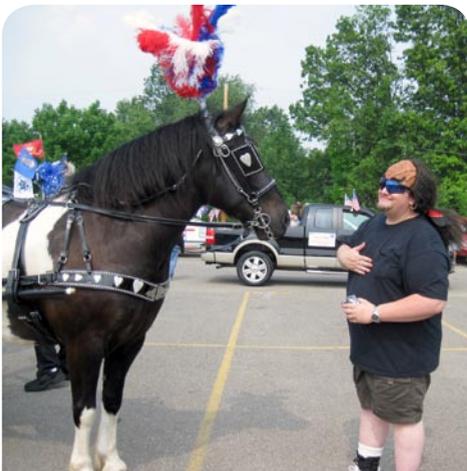
Throughout the summer in Northeast Ohio, Klingons and Romulans menaced innocent citizens. Despite the valiant attempts of the crew of *USS Lagrange*, no one was safe. Horses, Red Hat ladies, young women, police officers (some of whom knew the Vulcan salute), and even Civil War soldiers and Elizabethan actors (who arrived

through a time warp) came under their threat. An innocent young girl was nearly drowned during a boat ride, even though she was surrounded by the crew of *Lagrange*. At one point, the Klingons even commandeered our shuttlecraft during a severe atmospheric disturbance, probably caused by them!

In spite of the dangers, *USS Lagrange* did manage to bravely fight off the troublesome intruders and carry out several away missions and have a shore leave at the lake.

Later, we found out that the Klingons and a Romulan had other Earther names: Larry, Gary Krueger, and Phil Defibaugh. Ted Bronko did try to fight them off with the aid of Earth security forces and 16th century swordsmen. And because of his efforts, crew members Cathy Brainard, Tessa Knapp, Patrick Mills, Nancy Milford, Karlene Lewallen, Brian Spizzo and the lovebirds, Bob Swiger and Julie Washington, survived.

(All photos supplied by Nancy Milford.)



GARY KRUEGER TRIES TO BECOME ONE WITH THE HORSE AT THE MEMORIAL DAY PARADE.



THINGS WERE "CIVIL" AS THE CAVALRY ARRIVED JUST IN TIME TO SAVE THE *LAGRANGE* SHUTTLECRAFT AT THE MEMORIAL DAY PARADE.

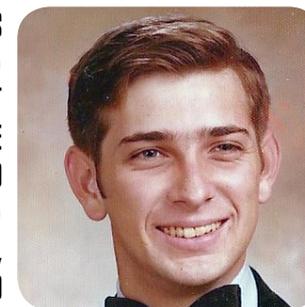




NAME: RUSSELL RUHLAND
RANK: COMMODORE
POSITION: CHIEF CHAPLAIN
SHIP: *USS DAVINCI* NCC-74671
REGION: 2, GEORGIA (USA)
ACHIEVEMENTS: CHAPTER OFFICER OF THE YEAR 2003; CHAPTER LEGION OF MERIT 2007



NAME: BRYAN JONES
RANK: COLONEL (SFMC)
POSITION: DEPUTY CHAPLAIN, STARFLEET
OTHER POSITIONS: LOGISTICS OFFICER, 2ND BDE
SHIP: *USS TIBERIUS* NCC-58210
REGION: 2, FLORIDA (USA)
ACHIEVEMENTS: MARINE PROFICIENCY AWARD, COMMANDANT'S CAMPAIGN AWARD



The Chaplain's Chat

Well then, it is my privilege to introduce Colonel (SFMC) Bryan Jones as my new STARFLEET Deputy Chaplain. Bryan is assigned to the *USS Tiberius* in Region 2 and has considerable experience within the chaplain arena. I am sure that Bryan's contributions to the program will have a positive influence on the continued efforts of STARFLEET Chaplain Services to meet the spiritual needs of the Fleet.

I have had a few inquiries from Fleet members with regard to publishing articles about religious denominational history. I have always found it interesting to read about different religious-based culture, both in the real world and in *Star Trek*. These cultures bring out the very essence of Infinite Diversity In Infinite Combinations (IDIC). After review, in future articles I will attempt to provide some input for you, the readers, in a general knowledge and information format.

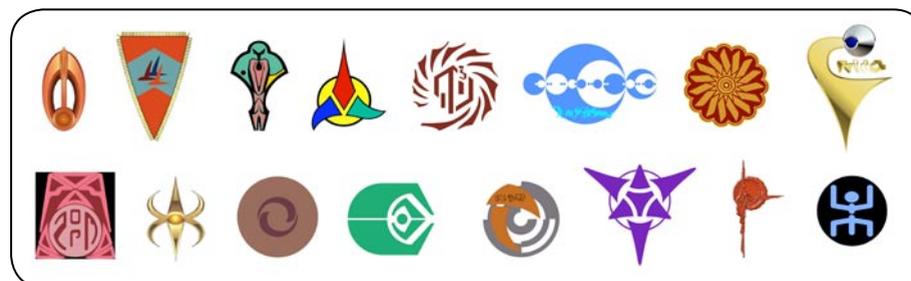
While browsing the net, I came across a forum statement from an individual which read: "A while ago, many who lived on the Earth thought that if they rowed their boat out far enough, they would eventually fall off an edge of sorts. Tell me, if you were to fly a spaceship out far enough, where would you end up? Does the universe have a boundary? If you think it does, what lies beyond that boundary? Something lies beyond whatever boundary we construct, which means there are no ultimate boundaries."

Another writer noted, "The common theory among physicists is that the universe is finite and unbounded (*no boundaries*). This can be explained by taking the Earth's surface as an example. We can measure the surface area of the Earth, so it is finite. Also, if you walk/swim in one direction along the surface forever, you will repeatedly pass right where you started, so it is unbounded. The universe is similar, except that it is a three-dimensional volume, 'wrapped' around a finite radius in a fourth dimension. If you travel in one direction, you will never

find an end, much like the Earth's surface, and if you could travel long enough in that direction fast enough, you would eventually pass your starting point."

The *Star Trek* site, ex-astris-scientia.org, explains the diversity of alien cultures in this fashion: "Alien cultures appear to lack the racial, linguistic, cultural, religious and social diversity as it can be expected even under an authoritative political system. Individual alien characters are said to be stereotypical representatives of their culture, with too few exceptions."

This is not an article about agriculture! The actual subject is the depiction of alien civilizations in *Star Trek*, which have been criticized as being generally monolithic entities. Critics of the franchise habitually bring forward the issue, especially if their



goal is to demonstrate that there must be a hidden political agenda behind *Star Trek*, one that promotes conformism or intolerance. It may not be feasible to find evidence that would ultimately disprove the assertion of *Star Trek* being one-sided in the portrayal of aliens, and it would go beyond the scope of this article to scrutinize each and every occurrence of a racial or cultural cliché or its avoidance. But the following considerations, made from a more general point of view, may shed some new light on the issue.

The problem

This investigation should put special emphasis on the most frequently featured alien species as the ones we probably know most about, with the obvious

exception of the Borg as an unparalleled case of extreme uniformity. Any other alien civilization appears to have gradually settled to a common language, a common religion or equivalent atheist philosophy, a common fashion, and a common way of life, and not necessarily always by force. Even if it seems like an insignificant observation, all Romulans have the same haircut and the architectural style on any alien planet is usually much more uniform than it was in any era of Earth's history. Seemingly every Klingon seeks to be a warrior, every Vulcan strives to pursue the study of logic, every Ferengi has no other goal than to accumulate wealth, with very few exceptions that are explicitly said to be very uncommon. Exceptions such as Rom as a male Ferengi who is not at all dominated by greed only seem to prove the rule.

Moreover, we have seen several alien cultures in which mere dissent or being different, not even active opposition, were considered a sufficient reason for ostracism or banishment. The "melders" got excluded from the Vulcan society of the 22nd century, and non-neuters among the J'naii were even subject to re-education in TNG: "The Outcast." We can only speculate what would happen to a Klingon who decided to oppose his people's apparent agenda of eternal war and conquest.

Statistical considerations

How statistically significant is the widespread impression that alien races present themselves as monolithic entities? We should take into account

that in any episode dealing with one certain alien species, we only see a few individuals out of millions or even billions of their kind. It may be true that the "ordinary" people on the streets (such as the Klingons in TNG: "Sins of the Father", the Romulans in TNG: "Unification" or the Cardassians in a couple of DS9 episodes) are a conformist bunch, and that the same actors, dressed as humans, would look a lot more diverse.

But aside from only occasional passers-by, most aliens that we perceive are either military personnel, civilian starship crews, or scientists. While these groups do not have to be the elite of their race, it is clear that they can hardly be representative of their fellow countrymen down on the respective homeworld. These "space aliens" can be expected to wear uniforms or other utility garments, but it also is not surprising if they share certain views and certain patterns of behavior.

On the other hand, this is still no reason why the general conduct of Klingon warriors, their interests and desires, should be all the same. There is not really anyone in the Klingon military like Worf, who is a Klingon with an individual lifestyle and who occasionally questions his people's practices and traditions. He remains an exception, probably also because, as a Starfleet officer, he is allowed, even encouraged to, go his own way at least in private matters. Could we imagine any other Klingon to build model ships? While there are countless episodes involving Klingons, rather few look at their culture from a Klingon perspective anyway. DS9: "Soldiers of the Empire," for instance, sheds a different light on the warriors aboard the Rotarran as a disillusioned bunch. Still, all of them engage in violence and get drunk just like Klingons on other occasions.

Usually only the capital or one particular place on an alien planet is in the focus of interest in an episode or story arc. So while the Klingon capital looks



like a polluted city from Earth's early industrial age, there may be pleasant places with half-way tidy residences on Qo'noS, too, just as well as recreation areas. Only because the starship crew normally would not visit such places that are irrelevant for their mission, it does not mean that they do not exist. And even if it is somewhat pleasant in certain regions of Qon'oS, there may be still many reasons to prefer Risa to go on vacation.

Each alien culture seems to have settled on just one language. But do we really know that for sure? The only alien language that was ever developed far enough to be identifiable as being consistently used was *tlhIngan Hol* ("Klingonese") by Marc Okrand. And most of the time we heard Klingon as a military command language or in political debates. It is well possible that even the Klingon Empire is multilingual, only that we have to go to provinces far away from the capital or to other planets to hear something other than *tlhIngan Hol*. The existence of the preliminary Klingon language that was conceived by James Doohan for *Star Trek: The Motion Picture* before Okrand's work, as well as the writers' and actors' frequent mistakes with grammar and pronunciation of the official language, may serve as evidence that not all Klingons share the same native language. Maybe this was even the reason why Uhura's awkward attempt to speak Klingon in *Star Trek: The Undiscovered Country* did not raise any suspicion.

All other alien languages of *Star Trek* show up so infrequently and incompletely that it would be a stretch to jump to the conclusion that the planets or cultures have just one language. And isn't it that every human seems to speak English all the time by the 24th century? If this is not so outside Starfleet because of the availability of universal translators, languages just have to be equally diverse in advanced alien cultures.

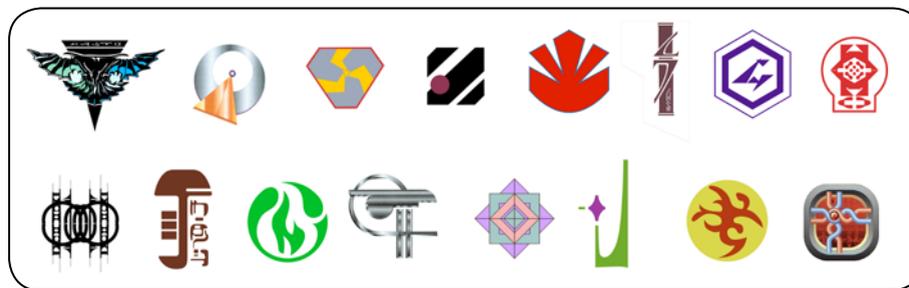
Historical and political comparison

One important point to consider is that most alien governments, including the Ferengi, Cardassian, Bajoran, Klingon and Romulan political systems, are rather more authoritative than democratic by present-day human standards. Most of them have clear tendencies of being oligarchic and prone to corruption. Such a system would naturally favor conformance over pluralism and may eventually wind up as a monoculture, even across multiple planets.

However, our own human history is full of examples of great empires that appear to us as monolithic today, although they most likely were not. The

Roman Empire, the Spanish colonial empire, the Soviet Union, they all certainly did have a certain degree of diversity. But as seen from outside and in retrospect, all Roman cities were built after the same basic pattern (much like Cardassian style is the same on every planet or station), the Spaniards who went to South America mostly did it because of the gold (much like the Ferengi), and Communist conformism ruled in the Soviet Union (much like in the Cardassian and Romulan Empires).

Notwithstanding its possible truth, it may be racist to label the Klingons as a "warrior race," as it attributes identical individual characteristics to a whole species. It may be factually flawed, as well, because realistically, not every Klingon can be a warrior, probably not even every second Klingon. In essence, it is the same as the casual statement that "The Soviets/Russians are Communists," as it was commonplace during the Cold War. Interestingly, while "the Soviets" never existed as an ethnographic entity, the people of the Soviet Union were commonly identified as such, thus complying with the wish



of the Communist potentates. Their goal was to get away with or at least obscure the multicultural nature of their country of Russians, Ukrainians, Jews, Muslims, etc. Alternatively, "Soviets" were often simply equated with Russians, leading to much the same result that the still existing diversity inside the Soviet empire was not recognized. (To many people, it came as a huge surprise when the single parts of the Soviet Union separated after the end of the Communist rule.) The same considerations may apply to the concept the Federation has of the Klingon Empire. And the apparent centralism with episodes repeatedly focusing on the Klingon capital (which ironically has remained nameless) would comply with the impression that there was no news and, hence, not much perceptible life in the Soviet Union outside Moscow, let alone in restricted areas.

More evidence can be found in the way that aliens look upon the United Federation of Planets. Humans are the most influential race of the Federation, especially since 90% of all Starfleet personnel are human. This readily

explains Azetbur's angry statement of the Federation being a "homo sapiens-only club" in *Star Trek: The Undiscovered Country*, although we know or think to know that there is actually more diversity. There is no reason why Azetbur's preconception should be all wrong while Kirk's stance on Klingons has to be true.

Ironically, while many episodes deal with political intrigues, in which the nature of an alien government system naturally ought to play a decisive role, we rarely learn more about any of them. And while the Federation, as the embodiment of Roddenberry's vision of a better future, apparently has everything that a democracy needs, the events in DS9's double feature "Homefront" and "Paradise Lost" and especially in *Star Trek: Insurrection* demonstrate that it is still susceptible to essentially the same mistakes as in authoritative regimes such as the Romulan Empire in DS9: "Inter Arma Enim Silent Leges" and *Star Trek: Nemesis*. Anyway, the bottom line is that *Star Trek* overall provides a surprisingly reasonable picture of interstellar politics, if we take into account that the perception

of the other side may be flawed, up to a degree where the adversaries are reduced to clichés.

Practical and narrative considerations

A considerable amount of work goes into the concept of each new alien civilization—even if it is just a "race-of-the-week"—or into any further development. The writer ideally comes up with a sketchy history and some cultural and social peculiarities, while the *Star Trek* Art Department strives to create a distinctive look and style of that species. Sometimes either the budget or the time was not sufficient, and the species ended up as a clone of humanity or of a prominent *Trek* race. While working out single characteristics is already hard enough, it would probably be a stretch to depict an alien planet-of-the-week as multicultural, not only because of time and budget constraints, but also as it may distract from the story. Even though there is generally no reason to dumb down a plot idea in order to make it more lucid, *Star Trek* needs consistent concepts to tell a story in just 45 minutes.

Like every type of fiction, it may benefit from metaphoric and, hence, somewhat exaggerated portrayals. This, in addition to the mere statistical consideration that the time to show diverse alien individuals and places is limited, is the ultimate reason why we do not see many alien worlds with cultural variety.

In the cases where one-time civilizations were explicitly shown as diverse, it was either a part of the plot that a planet was divided (such as in TNG: "Attached" or ENT: "Dear Doctor"), or it took place on a generic multicultural trade outpost (such as in VOY: "Tsunkatse" or "Survival Instinct").

Pertaining to the major alien races, however, it would be desirable if the writers did not frequently resort to cookie-cutter characters like "the greedy Ferengi," "the blood-thirsty Klingon," or "the sinister Cardassian" that allow little variation—and are a perfect ground for typecasting too. Some of the rather few Klingons who are not warriors, such as the scientist Kurak in TNG: "Suspicious," not to forget B'Elanna, exhibit violent tendencies or perform their jobs like they are in a battle. For the writers, working with such stereotypes and, hence, with expectations is certainly convenient, but at some point it may obstruct the further development of a single character or even a whole race. The undeniable profundity of the Klingons or the Vulcans as the most prominent cultures may be a predominantly statistical outcome of many hours of screen time, rather than of a concept to make them appear realistically diverse. Still, *Star Trek* usually excels whenever an alien race reappears, displaying a new facet of its culture.

Alas, even the budget for the more prominent races is limited, and this is why we always see them with the same props and costumes. However, it is also quite convenient from the position of storytelling that certain sets, weapons, other devices, garments, written language, as well as customs and other cultural aspects can be quickly identified as Klingon and do not need to be explained each time they appear. Also, while re-using the same props for always different races is a minor nuisance, it is very efficient and cost-saving if all aliens of one species wear the same kind of costumes and possess the same kind of devices.

One reason why most alien governments are corrupt and most alien law systems are unjust is immediately obvious. A perfectly working democratic system with almost unlimited personal freedom would not allow for the generic "political intrigue" plot, which is as popular in *Star Trek* as in most science fiction shows. If there is a seemingly perfect paradise in *Star Trek*, we can be sure that it will turn out to have



huge flaws, such as in TOS: “The Apple” or in TNG: “Justice.” Also, alien civilizations routinely serve as an antithesis to Earth and the Federation, which are deemed to remain a constant in an ever-changing and “savage” universe (with the previously-mentioned exceptions of DS9: “Homefront,” “Paradise Lost,” *Star Trek: Insurrection* and a few more installments that put the vision to a test).

Alien diversity through the ages

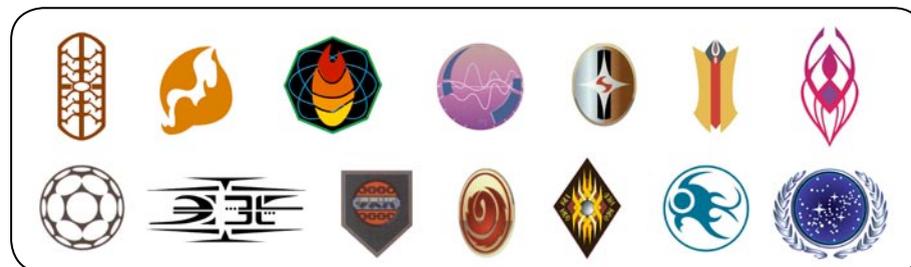
The schisms of the Morg/Eymorg (TOS: “Spock’s Brain”), Tyree’s mountain people and the villagers (TOS: “A Private Little War”), and the Kohms/Yangs (TOS: “The Omega Glory”) are not really suited to alleviate the general impression of alien monocultures. They are exaggerated examples of dissimilarity despite proximity made up primarily for the sake of the drama, not unlike the equally overused “evil Kirk double” plot vehicle of TOS. Ultimately in TOS: “Let That Be Your Last Battlefield” Bele and Lokai, who differ only in the switched colors of their faces, serve as a mere metaphor, rather than being a realistic depiction of diversity in an alien race. At any rate, overall TOS was not very prolific in developing aliens to more than occasional opponents, but it laid the foundations for the Romulans and the Klingons and showed at least Vulcan culture in detail.

In a similar fashion as in the aforementioned TOS episodes, TNG: “Attached” shows us an alien planet that is politically divided and on which both sides exhibit the same paranoia, insinuating that the people on either side are probably not all that different. TNG introduces the Ferengi who, in retrospect, almost turn out a failure if it were not for Quark and his family on DS9, each of whom repeatedly prove that racial preconceptions about Ferengi are wrong.

Most notably TNG and, to lesser extent, DS9 develop the aspects of Klingon culture that we know today, including the all-dominating warrior spirit. We have seen a number of Klingons in civilian professions though, such as Worf’s former nanny Kahlest (TNG: “Sins of the Father”), the scientists Kurak and Antaak (TNG: “Suspicious”) and ENT: “Divergence,” respectively), the lawyers Ch’Pok and Kolos (DS9: “Rules of Engagement” and ENT: “Judgment,” respectively) and the fat cook who runs the restaurant on Deep Space Nine (DS9: “Melora”). Among the alleged Klingon fatalities in “Rules of Engagement,” there were merchants, artists, and shopkeepers. Lawyer Kolos tells Archer that his mother was a biologist and his father was a teacher. Furthermore, we learn a bit about regional disparities on Qo’noS, like the existence of an “old

quarter” of the capital in TNG: “Sins of the Father,” insinuating that there is a better “new quarter.” The Mekro’vak region, home to Grillka’s family, has certain traditions that are alluded to in DS9: “Looking for *par’Mach* in All the Wrong Places.” There is the Ketha Province, General Martok’s apparently taunted home region, mentioned in DS9: “Once More Unto the Breach.” Finally, Jadzia, who knows the Klingons like hardly anyone else in Starfleet, says about them in DS9: “Soldiers of the Empire”: “The Klingons are as diverse a people as any. Some of them are strong, and some of them are weak.” Yet, in DS9: “A Time to Stand” Martok has to concede, “Klingons make great warriors, but terrible doctors.” Overall, the Klingons are so frequently and so prominently on screen that they naturally develop diversity even though the writers generally stick to the warrior theme.

The Bajoran people are depicted as so diverse in DS9 that it is not possible to list all evidence here. To start with, their caste system divided their society before the Cardassian invasion. And while the years of the occupation united the



Bajorans as refugees or partisans, the old internal conflicts quickly resurfaced after their victory. One example is the border dispute of the Paqu and the Navot in DS9: “The Storyteller.” There are various provinces that struggle for resources, as mentioned in DS9: “Shakaar.” Finally, while most aliens are “neutral” with regard to skin colors (although many Klingons are played by black actors, it is not possible to tell them apart with the mask applied), there are white and black Bajorans just as among humans (and Vulcans). Racially black Bajorans can be seen frequently, such as in DS9: “Duet,” “The Visitor,” “Crossfire,” “Favor the Bold,” “Resurrection,” “Wrongs Darker than Death or Night” and “It’s Only a Paper Moon.”

Voyager does not show any alien species as exhaustively as TNG did with the Klingons and DS9 with the Bajorans. The literally transitory nature of the series may be the reason why, unfortunately, most of its recurring races are essentially reduced to one usually horrid aspect: the Kazon as technology scavengers, the Vidiians as organ scavengers, the

Hirogen as predators who make even the Klingons look extraordinarily civilized and versatile. Only the Talaxians appear as a somewhat diverse (and likable) species in retrospect, although we see very few of them besides Neelix.

The depiction of regular races in *Star Trek: Enterprise* is disappointing for other reasons. The still most interesting fact is that, in ENT: “Broken Bow,” Archer tells Hoshi that the Klingons are “an empire of warriors with eighty poly-guttural dialects constructed on an adaptive syntax.” The Klingons in the series, however, are cookie-cutter characters as they have appeared in TNG and DS9 all the time, with the notable exception of the said Klingon lawyer Kolos. He ironically asks Archer whether he thought that all Klingons were warriors. The Xindi, on the other hand, as a society almost as incomprehensible as the Borg, do not really fit into the scope. Finally, *Voyager*, as well as *Enterprise*, carries on with the tradition of “divided planets” with the civilized Ledosians and the native people in VOY: “Natural Law” and with the Valakians and Menk in “Dear Doctor,” respectively.

Earth as a monoculture?

On a provocative thought, isn’t 24th century Earth as depicted in *Star Trek TNG* and its successors a monoculture just as well? It has frequently been labeled as my personal pet peeve that I criticize the predominance of everything American in Earth’s culture of the 24th century (such as in human names, for instance). However, regardless of the real-world justification (“It’s an American series after all”), could Earth’s future be actually like this? Maybe humanity’s process of growing together has already begun. The globalization of business, advertising, work, communication and travel will continue to blur cultural borders, and it will favor the “strongest” culture. But if we don’t believe in such a development or don’t want to resort to the fictional explanation (“Maybe it’s what Earth is like after two centuries of American world domination”), couldn’t Earth appear just as Americanized to aliens (in addition to the Federation being human-dominated) as alien cultures seem to be monolithic in our eyes?

In addition, humanity as portrayed in *Star Trek* has a predilection for classic art, literature, and music. Spock, Picard, Data, Janeway, or the Doctor, for instance, appear to be fond of Earth’s culture just up to the 19th century. Above all, the Shakespeare references in *Star Trek* are innumerable. Even though Shakespeare is arguably the greatest writer of English literature and will still be in the 24th century, there is hardly a place for anyone else. There are comparably few examples of a 23rd or 24th century equivalent of a popular culture, much less of something like a subculture.

Homosexuality apparently exists neither as a subculture nor as a generally accepted way of living. A number of crew members such as Tom Paris or Trip Tucker are very much interested in the TV programs, movies, music, and cars of the 20th century, and in VOY: “Real Life” we get an impression what a 24th century Klingon-flavored subculture on Earth could look like, when the Doctor’s holson brings his Klingon friends home. But overall, pop culture of any age seems to alienate many Starfleet officers, like the punk in the bus in “*Star Trek IV*” or Cochrane’s Steppenwolf music in “*First Contact*” (although I am sure Riker liked it). Once again, however, it is necessary to annotate that we customarily do not see “ordinary” human beings but officers and crewmen with a special education.

Yet, even if we leave aside the national and the classical humanist slant in *Star Trek*, we may make out a common goal among humans that is perhaps equivalent to the Klingon blood thirst and the Ferengi greediness. Not only the society of the Federation, but the human nature itself in *Star Trek* was deliberately laid out by Gene Roddenberry as being “better” than today, and this continued in the sequels, even though some installments cast a shadow on the perfect world that is Earth in the 24th century. But overall, *Star Trek* is governed by the motto, “We work to better ourselves and the rest of humanity,” as Picard explains to Lily in *Star Trek: First Contact*.

So there you have it. If anyone can create such cultural and combinational diversities such as within our own *Star Trek* universe, then certainly we as the real-worlders on Earth can do the same in a real-world fashion and make this planet a lot better place to live together on.

Send your questions to trekchristian@gmail.com. Always remember, names will never be published in order to protect the rights and morals of the asker.

Russell





NAME: CATHERINE MCKEAN
RANK: CADET 4TH CLASS
POSITION: LIFE SCIENCES ASSISTANT, MEDICAL DEPT.
SHIP: USS COLUMBIA NCC-2049
REGION: 1, KENTUCKY (USA)
ACHIEVEMENTS: ORDER OF SURAK, FIRST CLASS



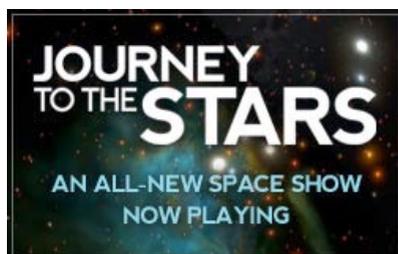
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Cadet Corner by Kitty

This summer, we took a big vacation visiting New York City, Washington D.C, and Houston, Texas. I had a blast and saw so many interesting things. I wanted to share some of the places that should be interesting to all STARFLEET Cadets.

First we spent a week in New York City. Of course, we saw the normal sites and cultural events, but one place that should be interesting to Cadets is the American Museum of Natural History and the Rose Center for Earth and Space.

The American Museum of Natural History covers many areas of science. Here's a CityPass video on YouTube that shows some of the exhibits:



http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bntYamv9ZeU&feature=player_embedded

They also have a special website for kids with lots of activities grouped by 'Ology' (Archeology, Paleontology, etc...):

<http://www.amnh.org/ology/>

The planetarium in the Rose Center for Earth and Space has

a nice show called Journey to the Stars hosted by Whoopi Goldberg (Guinan on ST-TNG):

<http://www.amnh.org/rose/spaceshow/journey/>

An interesting thing that I learned from the show was that stars are factories for the elements in nature. And here's a bonus video of the universe by the AMNH:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=17jymDn0W6U>

(Photos supplied by Catherine McKean.)



NAME: ANGIE SMITH
RANK: CAPTAIN
POSITION: COMMANDING OFFICER
SHIP: USS ISAAC NCC-71808
REGION: 20, WHITLEY BAY (UK)



2023-08-718

Boldly Cycling 60 Miles for Charity

Greetings.

I am Commander Angie Smith, CO of the *USS Isaac*...currently in region 9 but soon to launch in Region 20.

I joined STARFLEET in December 2009, and because STARFLEET does gently push us into acts of charity and volunteering, I thought: why not take part in the Great North Bike Ride 2010 in my STARFLEET uniform??!!

The event itself is organised annually to raise money for the Chris Lucas Trust, a charity dedicated to the care of children and young adults with cancer, and funding medical research < www.chrislucustrust.com >.

On August 29, 2010 at 9.00am, along with 2,301 other budding cyclists, I

set off on a 60-mile journey, starting at Seahouses in Northumberland, UK, following the coast and castles route through some pretty horrendous wind and rain, to finish at Tynemouth Priory in North Tyneside, UK. My time was a little over 5 hours, and I raised £65.00 for the charity through sponsorship and also raised awareness of STARFLEET. My uniform got a lot of attention, and I advised the curious of STARFLEET, the *USS Isaac* and our Region.

I hope that this short note will encourage other STARFLEET members to take part in charitable events. I am a commanding officer who likes to lead by example and hope to bring you news of further uniformed events in the future.

Live Long and Prosper.

COMMANDER SMITH AT THE FINISH LINE!
PHOTO SUPPLIED BY ANGIE SMITH.



A YEAR IN THE LIFE OF THE *USS STAR LEAGUE*



LOCATED ON THE BORDER OF SOUTH CAROLINA AND GEORGIA, THE *USS STAR LEAGUE* IS ONE OF REGION 1'S AND STARFLEET'S OLDEST AND PROUDEST CHAPTERS. AFTER NEARLY TWO DECADES, THE 32 MEMBERS OF THE *USS STAR LEAGUE* STILL MANAGE TO DO SO MANY INTERESTING THINGS AND HAVE A LOT OF FUN IN THE PROCESS. LET'S TAKE A PEEK AT A YEAR IN THE LIFE OF THIS LIVELY CHAPTER. ALL PHOTOS SUPPLIED BY JANA SANDARG, CINDY KRELL, AND CARNELL EUBANKS.



AUGUST, 2009 - ELIZABETH LANEY AND JANA SANDARG PERFORM AT THE TEN FORWARD KARAOKE NIGHT IN THE HOME OF MIKE AND TRISH NAVARRO IN NORTH AUGUSTA, SC.



MAY, 2009 - *STAR TREK* MOVIE PREMIERE AT THE REGAL CINEMA TWENTY IN AUGUSTA, GA. LEFT TO RIGHT: MIKE (MICKEY) HOLDEN AND JERRY HOLDEN.



MAY, 2009 - *STAR TREK* MOVIE PREMIERE AT THE REGAL CINEMA TWENTY IN AUGUSTA, GA. LEFT TO RIGHT: TAMMY SMITH, MARY HOLDEN, BARBARA LARISCY, MIKE (MICKEY) HOLDEN, JANA SANDARG, DENISE JAMES, AND WIL JAMES.



SEPTEMBER, 2009 - *STAR LEAGUE* CREW ARRIVES AT DRAGON*CON COURTESY OF DOCTOR WHO AND THE TARDIS. LEFT TO RIGHT: CARNELL EUBANKS, CAROLYN IRVIN, JANA SANDARG, CINDY KRELL, MARY HOLDEN, LILLIAN WAN, AND CARL IRVIN.



OCTOBER, 2009 - HALLOWEEN PARTY ON PLANET RISA (ACTUALLY THE HOME OF CARNELL AND PEGGY EUBANKS IN WARRENVILLE, SC). LEFT TO RIGHT: CARNELL EUBANKS, JANA SANDARG, MEGAN KRELL, BOB SANDARG, KATELYN SMITH, CINDY KRELL, MONY MORGAN, TAMMY SMITH, BARBARA LARISCY, PEGGY EUBANKS, AND LUCILLE SKIPPER.



A YEAR IN THE LIFE OF THE *USS STAR LEAGUE*



NOVEMBER, 2009 - OUT OF TOWN MEMBERS DENISE AND WIL JAMES AND THEIR DOGS TITAN AND MAX COME FOR A VISIT AT TERESA'S MEXICAN RESTAURANT.



NOVEMBER, 2009 - MONY MORGAN PREPARES A DELIVERY TO GOLDEN HARVEST FOOD BANK FOOD DRIVE IN AUGUSTA, GA.



DECEMBER, 2009 — *USS STAR LEAGUE* BOWLING NIGHT IN AUGUSTA, GEORGIA. LEFT TO RIGHT: (BACK ROW) TRISHA NAVARRO, TAMMY SMITH, MIKE NAVARRO, CINDY KRELL, AND MICHAEL MANN; (FRONT ROW) JANA SANDARG, BARBARA LARISCY, PEGGY EUBANKS, AND CARNELL EUBANKS.



JANUARY, 2010 — ELIZABETH LANEY AND ANN MARIE BOYD CONDUCT A CREW BRIEFING IN THE CAPTAIN'S READY ROOM IN AUGUSTA, GEORGIA.



APRIL, 2010 — HOLODECK MALFUNCTION MOVIE NIGHT HOSTED BY ELIZABETH LANEY AT THE REDCLIFFE PLANTATION ON BEECH ISLAND, SC. LEFT TO RIGHT: CARL IRVIN, LINDA MOORE, TAMMY SMITH, CINDY KRELL, ELIZABETH LANEY, JANA SANDARG, MEGAN KRELL, MONY MORGAN, AND SHELLY FORD.



MARCH, 2010 — *USS STAR LEAGUE*'S TREK TRACK. THIS WAS A WALK-YOUR-PET EVENT THAT INCLUDED A CAT/DOG FOOD DONATION TO AN ANIMAL RESCUE MISSION. LEFT TO RIGHT: CINDY KRELL, MONY MORGAN, TAMMY SMITH, MEGAN KRELL, PEGGY EUBANKS, CARNELL EUBANKS.



A YEAR IN THE LIFE OF THE *USS STAR LEAGUE*



APRIL, 2010 — FIRST FLIGHT! *STAR LEAGUE* CADETS MEGAN KRELL AND RUSLAN (IAN) BOYD (PICTURED ON RIGHT) GO UP IN A PLANE FOR THE FIRST TIME EVER WHILE COMMANDER CARNELL EUBANKS (PICTURED AT LEFT) SUPERVISES.



APRIL, 2010 - RUNABOUT CRASH SIMULATION IN A HOSTILE ENVIRONMENT (ACTUALLY, IT WAS A WILDLIFE NATURE OUTING IN PHINIZY SWAMP IN AUGUSTA, GEORGIA. LEFT TO RIGHT: BELLA WILLIAMS, MEGAN KRELL, JANA SANDARG, TAMMY SMITH, MICHAEL MANN, CINDY KRELL, AND MONY MORGAN.



MAY, 2010 — *USS STAR LEAGUE* AND *USS RONALD E. MCNAIR* AT THE REGION 1 SUMMIT. FRONT ROW (KNEELING, LEFT-TO-RIGHT): MEGAN KRELL AND STEPHEN STOTT (XO OF THE *USS RONALD E. MCNAIR*). BACK ROW (STANDING, LEFT-TO-RIGHT): DJ POWERS, CINDY KRELL, JANA SANDARG, PAM MICHAUD (CO OF THE *USS RONALD E. MCNAIR*), BARBARA LARISCY, MARY HOLDEN, CARL IRVIN, AND CAROLYN IRVIN.



MAY, 2010 — OUR DEAREST BLOOD. MEMBERS OF THE *USS STAR LEAGUE* REMEMBER CAPTAIN MICKEY HOLDEN AT THE REGION 1 SUMMIT.



MAY, 2010 — NEW CAPTAINS! JERRY HOLDEN AND MARY HOLDEN ARE BOTH PROMOTED TO CAPTAIN.



MAY, 2010 — NEW CAPTAIN AT THE REGION 1 SUMMIT. DJ POWERS IS PROMOTED TO CAPTAIN.



MAY, 2010 — LOTS OF BRASS. THREE NEW CAPTAINS JOIN THE UPPER RANKS. (SEATED, L-TO-R): CAPTAIN DJ POWERS AND FLEET CAPTAIN BARBARA LARISCY, (STANDING): CAPTAIN JERRY HOLDEN, ADMIRAL CINDY KRELL, CAPTAIN MARY HOLDEN, AND CAPTAIN JANA SANDARG.

MAY, 2010 - LAST FLIGHT OF THE SHUTTLE *ATLANTIS*. CARNELL AND PEGGY EUBANKS ATTEND SPACE SHUTTLE LAUNCH STS 132 IN TITUSVILLE, FLORIDA.



STARFLEET SHORT STORY CONTEST WINNER - 1ST PLACE



NAME: JONATHAN LANE
RANK: REAR ADMIRAL
POSITION: CHIEF OF COMMUNICATIONS, STARFLEET
SHIP: *USS ANGELES* NCC-71840
REGION: 4, CALIFORNIA (USA)
ACHIEVEMENTS: SFI AND R4 FLAG OFFICER OF THE YEAR 2009; FORMER XO, *USS AVENGER* NCC-1860; FORMER SPECIAL PROJECTS COORDINATOR, REGION 7; CO-CHAIRMAN OF THE 2005 REGION 4 CONFERENCE; 2009 STARFLEET FLAG OFFICER OF THE YEAR



“You’re dead, Jim.”

<CRASH!!!>

DAMMIT!

Hey!

Get me another one.

Not if you throw it against my bar again! C'mon, Doc, don't make me kick you out of here. You're one of my best customers.

Just get me another bourbon!

I think you've had enough for one night, Doc.

I'll decide when I've had enough, dammit! I can still FEEL. I still HURT. I haven't had enough until I stop hurting—understand? Now bring me another goddamn bottle!

Dr. McCoy, I believe the bartender is correct in his assessment. Perhaps you should consider allowing your liver an opportunity to recuperate.

Where the hell did you come from?

Vulcan.

I know that, you green-blooded hobgoblin! The pointed ears are always my first clue.

I meant, Doctor, that I just returned from visiting my home planet. I cut short my intended sabbatical when I heard of...the incident.

The “incident”???? Jim's dead, you cold, emotionless bastard! He was your best friend—probably the closest thing you ever had to a brother—and he's dead. DEAD! How can you not feel anything?

I...mourn his passing, Doctor.



Poppycock! Under all that logical Vulcan, statue-like pretense, you must feel something. You must HURT, Spock! Don't you hurt?

Not in the way humans do.

Bull! You're half-human, even if you never admit it. And that human half just lost its anchor to emotion. The only thing that kept you connected to your human heritage, that forced you to feel something...anything...is gone. Now you really have lost your soul.

Doctor, I believe that the alcohol has impaired your better judgment. Perhaps it would be best to discontinue this line of discussion.

Hit a nerve, did I? HA! That'll be the day! With Jim gone, you'll freeze up like Rura Penthe. He tried to show you how to be human, you know. Now he's dead, and I don't think you'll ever learn the lesson he was trying to teach you.

Doctor...

All right, all right. Secure from red alert, Spock. The sad truth is: I envy you. I wish I could just turn off my feelings like a damn light switch. Snap my fingers and—poof!—no more pain. James T. Kirk is dead. The universe

moves on. I move on. It would be so simple.

Purging emotion is not simple, Doctor McCoy. It never has been. And Jim's loss is, indeed... difficult...

Well, at least you're not a complete ice cube, then. Thank God for small miracles! So, when did you get back from Vulcan?

4.32 hours ago. After checking in with Starfleet Command, I beamed to the Enterprise to pay my respects to Captain Harriman.

The *Enterprise*? That's not the blasted *Enterprise*! It's the *Excelsior* with water-wings!

The recent modifications to the basic Excelsior design make the new sub-class even more well-equipped to—

Oh, spare me the engineering lecture! I'm a doctor, not a shipbuilder.

My apologies.

Speaking of engineers, did you have a chance to see Scotty yet?

He was not on board the Enterprise, and after returning to the surface, I immediately endeavored to find you. This is the seventh drinking establishment you've visited in the last 16 hours—

More like the ninth...

Indeed! Tracking you down was not a simple matter.

I wasn't exactly looking to advertise my whereabouts.

Of that, I am certain. Nevertheless, I felt it appropriate



STARFLEET SHORT STORY CONTEST WINNER - 1ST PLACE

to seek your presence. We were, after all, a triumvirate, of sorts.

Yeah, the Three Musketeers, that was us.

More precisely, I would conjecture: the id, ego, and super-ego...to put it in psychological terms.

Hmmm, that's an interesting way to see it, Spock. I'm assuming you'd be the super-ego: logical, rational, holding back the emotions. And in Freudian psychology, the id is all about feeling and acting on instinct rather than thinking it through. And then the ego listens to both sides and decides on the best course of action. Yeah, I guess that was you, me, and Jim... although he did have a damn strong id himself. Put a pretty girl in the room, and you could see his id just jump right out of his pants!

Doctor!

Oh, get a sense of humor, Spock! We need to remember the Captain for who he really was, not some paragon on a pedestal. Jim Kirk had his flaws, his weaknesses. He also had his strengths. He laughed, he cried, he got scared, he got angry. He FELT things. He was HUMAN with a capital "H".

He was an impressive man...a masterful starship commander...and a good friend.

I'll drink to that! Or I would...IF SOMEONE WOULD BRING ME ANOTHER GODDAMN BOUBON!

I suspect the bartender has developed a selective deafness when it comes to your specific attempts to acquire additional liquid refreshment, Doctor.

Screw him! Last time I'll ever come here. Y'HEAR THAT, YOU LAZY, GOOD-FOR-NOTHING—

Really, Doctor, I believe he has only your best interests at heart...or at least the best interests when it comes to your health.

Oh, yeah? Well, I'm the physician; he's the bartender! When the hell did we switch jobs? Man, it was a lot more fun getting drunk with Scotty.

Where is Captain Scott?

Who knows? I started drinking with him six or seven bars ago. Chekov, too. Did you know they were both on the *Enterprise* with Jim when it happened?

Yes, I read the full report while on the shuttle traveling back from Vulcan.

Of course you did. They both blame themselves, you know. Either of them could have gone down to

Engineering and done...whatever it was he did.

He adjusted the primary deflector dish to emit a resonance burst to simulate the discharge of an antimatter blast to disrupt the gravimetric field that was holding the Enterprise within the temporal distortion.

Um, yeah, that. Anyway, Scotty and Chekov both figured they could have done that, too. In fact, there were 600 people on that ship, and any of them could have done it. Why the hell did it have to be one of the most decorated officers in Starfleet history to sacrifice his life?



The crew compliment at the time was minimal, Doctor: only 233, including 47 refugees from the rescued El Aurian transport vessel and 8 civilian representatives of the news media, none of whom would have been familiar enough with Starfleet systems to have made the deflector adjustment. So in actuality, the pool of qualified personnel was only 178.

Still, why did it have to be JIM?!?!? Why couldn't Harriman have done it...or ordered someone else to do it?

Because Captain Kirk has always been the hero, Doctor.

That doesn't sound like a very Vulcan observation.

Nevertheless, it is the truth. You and I knew James Kirk

well enough to know that he would never allow another member of his crew to face peril if there were a way he could take on the risk himself.

But it wasn't Jim's crew, dammit, it was Harriman's!

I read in the Enterprise's logs that Captain Harriman did indeed intend to be the one to go to Engineering, and he even offered the command chair to Captain Kirk before heading for the turbolift.

But Jim would have none of that, of course...

Of course.

Goddamn boy scout!

Doctor, James Kirk was many things in his life, but I do not believe he was ever a boy scout.

You know what I mean!

Yes, yes I do.

Y'know, Scotty doesn't believe he's really dead. He said something about the distortion causing a temporal flux or some such. He said that Jim might have just winked out of the space/time continuum like he did when we got trapped by those Tholians while trying to rescue the *Defiant*.

That was a very different phenomenon, Doctor, with extremely dissimilar parameters.

Most notably that, with the Tholians, Jim was wearing a space suit.

That would be one parameter, yes.

Even so, Scotty says he expects that Jim will be back amongst the living in no time.

That is highly illogical.

Why? You did it.

Did what, Doctor?

Came back from the dead. In fact, most of us did. I did on that crazy planet where we had shore leave and anything we imagined appeared. As I recall, I got speared through the chest by some medieval knight. Chekov was dead in that Melkotian wild west simulation, although I suppose that was all in our imaginations. But heck, even Scotty came back from the dead once after that Nomad probe killed him. I examined Scotty thoroughly, and he was as dead as you can get. But somehow, Nomad brought him back to life. Maybe now it's Jim's turn.

While I would like nothing better than to accept the wishful theory of Captain Scott, I must point out that it is highly improbable that anyone could survive in the



STARFLEET SHORT STORY CONTEST WINNER - 1ST PLACE

vacuum of space unprotected. Even were this distortion to have somehow transported Jim elsewhere in space/ time, which is itself highly unlikely, the odds that such an anomaly could have reached him prior to suffering fatal decompression are approximately 13,476,544,671 to 1.

Y'know, Spock, I suspect that you don't ever really calculate those odds, and instead you just make them up!

I could review the computations with you if you would like, Doctor. It's actually based on rather elementary statistical theory—

Oh, never mind. The last thing I need is a computer algorithm killing my buzz...which you've already managed to do anyway.

That was not my intention.

I'll just bet it wasn't! Humpph, I remember once, a long time ago, I told Jim, "Space is disease and danger wrapped in darkness and silence." And that's how he died...in darkness and silence.

He did tell us once that he always knew he would die alone.

You can't be more alone than floating in space, your blood boiling in 13 seconds. At least he went quickly. In fact, with any luck, the blast that ripped a hole in the hull killed him instantly.

I would not consider any death to be "lucky," Doctor.

Then maybe I should have said "merciful" instead. I remember my own father deteriorated slowly, his organs letting go of life one small bit at a time until all he wanted was just to die. But his body wouldn't let him. Compared to that, even an agonizing death over the course of 13 seconds in the vacuum of space would seem lucky...I mean merciful.

The end result is the same, however.

It is for all of us, Spock. It is for all of us. I don't know if Sulu told you, but he's holding a gathering of the old crew at his home in Napa Valley tomorrow.

I was informed of it by his daughter when I visited the Enterprise.

Demora? My God, I haven't seen her since she was the size of an Arcturian meadow cat! That was twelve years ago when Sulu got command of the *Excelsior*. She's old enough to be in Starfleet now?

An Ensign, and Chief Helm Officer of the Enterprise.

Heavens, I feel old! But good for her! I can't imagine an *Enterprise* without a Sulu to steer her. So, will you be coming to the wake? I know Christine would love to

see you.

I am considering it.

Well, I hope you do decide to show up.

<A Vulcan eyebrow raises.>

It wouldn't seem right without you there, Spock. It wouldn't seem...whole. You, me, Scotty, Sulu, Chekov, Uhura, Chapel. Heck, I even heard that Rand, Riley, Kyle, and Lesley are planning to show up. Maybe even Saavik. It'll be like old times, a reunion, with only one person missing, one absent...frien—DAMMIT! I will not cry! Not in front of you!

Doctor, it is...it's...all right.

No it isn't, blast it! I should have died first! I'm older than he was! Heck, with the way I drink, I should have been dead years ago. Blasted medical advances keeping us



all alive too long. But not Jim! He had to go and die saving hundreds of people.

232 to be exact.

<Sniff.> Heh, heh. I think the Federation needs more Vulcan comedians, Spock. Have you ever thought of changing professions?

I have never considered a career in comedy, no.

Well, maybe you should, Spock. I'm serious.

That I should become a comedian?

No, but that you should try to develop a sense of humor.

I have an understanding of and appreciation for comedy, Doctor.

Not as much as you could, Spock. There's nothing logical about comedy. You don't "understand" it or "appreciate" it; you just experience it and embrace it. It's one of the things that I think Jim was trying to teach you all these years: don't take yourself too seriously, Spock.

All right, Doc, I'm closing the place up for the night. Do you want me to call you a hovercab?

That's all right, sir; I can escort Dr. McCoy home.

Suit yourself. But wrap it up, I want to lock the front door in two minutes.

Certainly. Thank you for your patience.

Patience? That's a laugh! I'm the one with patients! I'm the doctor. Get it?

I believe I do, Doctor McCoy. I just don't believe it was funny.

Well, if you'd get yourself a blasted sense of humor, you'd think it was hilarious!

Doctor, let me help you on with your coat.

I can manage, Spock. But I meant what I said. Jim Kirk tired to give you a gift all these years, and that gift was to not take yourself so seriously. It was the one lesson he wanted most to teach you about being human. If you want to honor his memory, Spock, you'll try to explore that side of you. Don't let yourself get caught in the same old routines. Change the rules a little. Every so often, be a maverick...be a cowboy.

Would you like me to take you home, doctor? I have a hovercar across the street.

No...but thank you, Spock. My apartment is only a few blocks from here, and I think I'd like to walk off the last of this buzz that I have.

Very well.

But, um, Spock...I did, I suppose, appreciate the company.

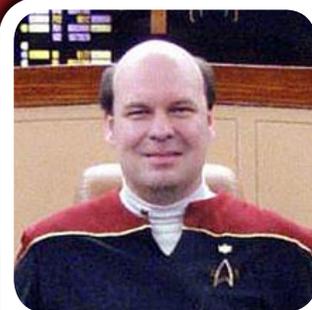
You're welcome, Doctor.

Let's not forget him, Spock. Ever. Let's remember every little detail about that crazy sonuvabitch...every blemish, every foible, every perfect little imperfection that made him the best damn starship captain—and the best friend—we could ever ask for. And don't turn your back on what he was trying to teach you, Spock. Be a cowboy every once in a while.

Doctor McCoy, I shall consider it...

End



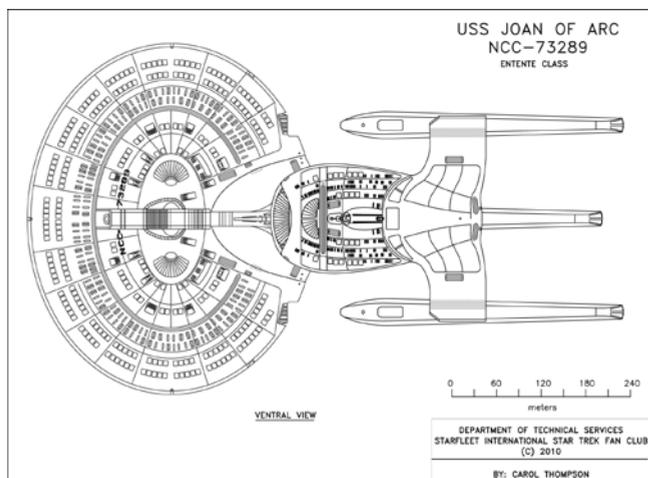
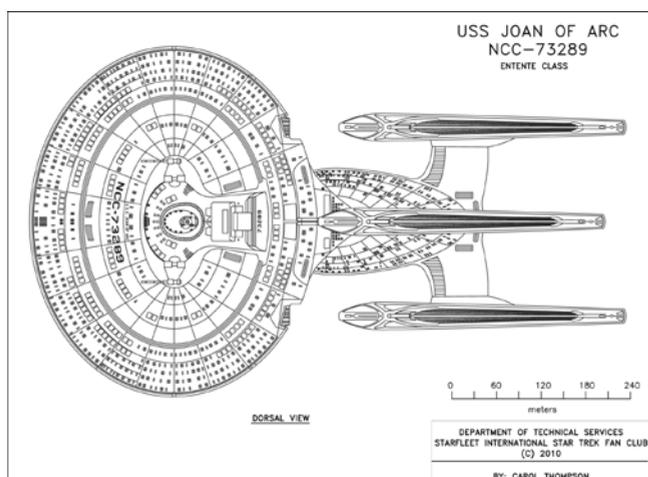


NAME: JAMES RICHARD VAN CLEAVE
RANK: REAR ADMIRAL
POSITION: COMMANDING OFFICER
OTHER POSITIONS: CHIEF ENGINEER
SHIP: USS JOAN OF ARC NCC-73289
REGION: 3, TEXAS (USA)

0330-89-732



USS Joan of Arc NCC-73289



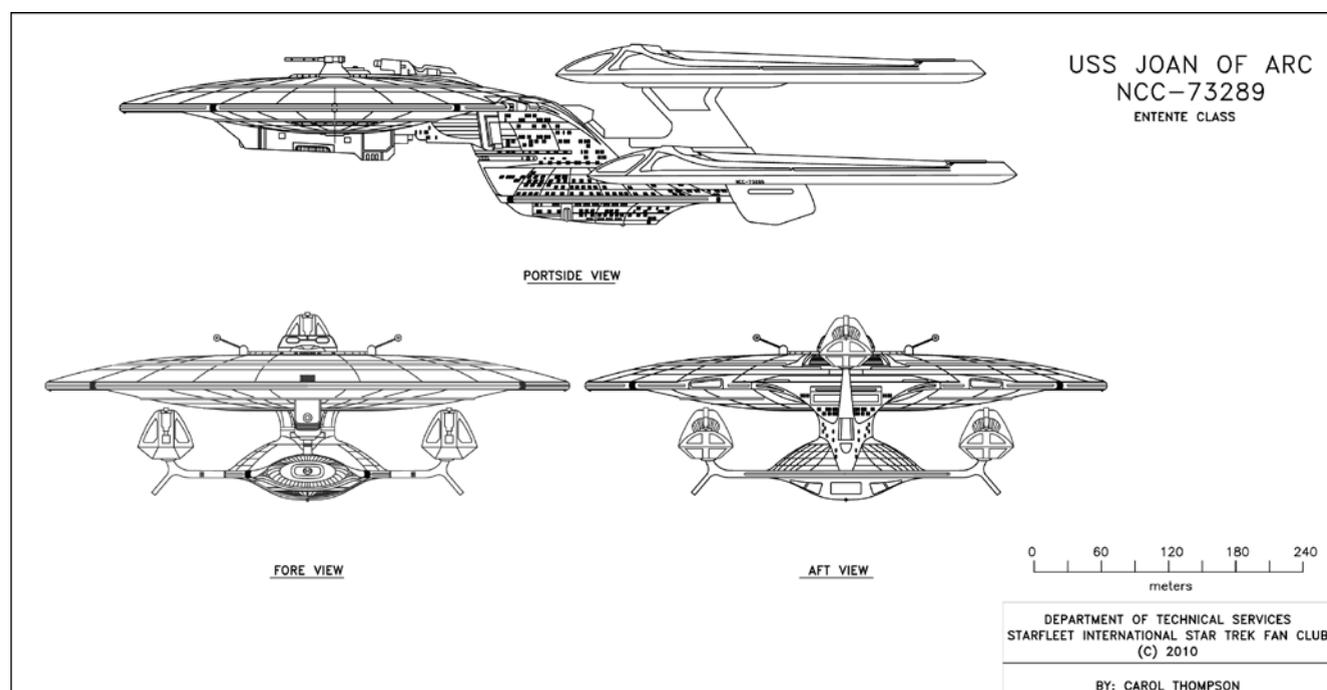
Entente-Class Dreadnought, Joan Of Arc Sub-Class

Displacement: 5,274,750 mt
Overall Length: 801 m
Overall Beam: 467 m
Overall Draft: 152 m
Propulsion: 3 LF-44 Mod 1 energized-energized antimatter warp drive units with Continual Warp Field Balance Generation (System Contractors: Leading Energies, Sydney, Earth / Cochrane Warp Dynamics, Alpha Centauri V)

Two FIG-5 subatomic unified energy impulse units (System Contractor: Kloratis Drives, Tellar)

QASR-2 particle beam maneuvering thrusters (System Contractor: Scarbak Propulsion Systems, Earth)

"Trentis IV" pulsed laser reaction control system (System Contractor: Oragaljek, Aksajak, Andor)



Velocity: Warp 7 Cruising Speed
 Warp 9.7 Maximum Cruising Speed
 Warp 9.9 Maximum Attainable Velocity

Duration: 5 years, standard

Complement: 90 Officers
 575 Crew
 1000 Passengers (Normal – Up to 5000 Maximum)
 500 Marine
 2165 Total

Embarked Craft: 2 Danube Class Runabout
 4 Type 6 Personnel Shuttle
 4 Type 7 Personnel Shuttle
 6 Type 9A Cargo Shuttle
 10 Type 10 Combat Drop Shuttle
 10 Type 16 Shuttlepod
 8 Peregrine Class Fighter
 10 Workbee
 1 S-3 Sentry SWACS Shuttle

Navigation: System Type: RAV / ISHAK Mod 3 Warp Celestial Guidance (System Contractor: Tlixis Ramab RRB, Coridan III)

Computers: System Type: M-16 Bio-Neural Gel Pack-Isolinear III with LCARS 2.5/E.V.E. Interface Software (System Contractor: Daystrom Computer Systems, Luna) AEGIS Mk 7 Mod 1 Fleet Fire Control System (CKE 71875) (System Contractor: RCA, New York, Earth)

Phasers: 12 Type Type X Collimated Phaser Array (System Contractor: HiBeam Energies, Earth)

Phasers: 2 Type XII Phaser Cannon (System Contractor: HiBeam Energies, Earth)

Phasers: 1 Type Type 13 Phaser Cannon (Spinal Phaser

Missiles: Lance) (System Contractor: HiBeam Energies, Earth)

Defense: 4 Mark 95 Quantum Torpedo Launcher (System Contractor: Loraxial, Andor)
 FSS Primary Force Field (System Contractor: Charlottes Shields, Earth)

Life Support: 2 Kaekus Amar Cloaking Generator* (System Contractor: Das'Trivil Mengat, Merat, Quonos)
 Type MM6 Modular Gravity Unit (System Contractor: Morris Magnatronics, Palyria, Mars)

AL4 Life Support System (System Contractor: A'Alakon Landiss, Divallax, Andor)

* Acquired in an "unofficial" tactical technologies exchange by Commodore Jim Van Cleave near beginning of Dominion War from the Klingons. Class of cloaking generator is used onboard the *Vor'cha* class attack cruiser. When combined, cross-linked and modified using research creatively acquired from Admiral Fanelli, the system was able to overcome Dominion detection techniques and was used in the *Joan Of Arc's* strike missions behind enemy lines.

Irreparable damage to system during a battle resulted in a field that could not cloak the ship but created a distortion field that could throw off enemy targeting systems by several degrees. System was left in place during her upgrade to current specifications. Research continues in hopes of duplicating the effect for use in other ships but without success thus far.



Development of the *USS Joan of Arc*

The *USS Joan Of Arc*, affectionately known as the “Lady J” by her crew, began as one of a handful of *Entente*-class dreadnoughts. This class was inspired by, and developed as, the result of experiences in a future timeline by Captain Jean-Luc Picard in late 2370 and his memories of an enhanced refit of the *Enterprise-D*. Command of the *USS Joan Of Arc* NCC-73289 was given to Commodore Jim Van Cleave after the loss of the previous *Ambassador*-class starship bearing the name at the Battle of Sector 001 against the Borg in 2373.

The launch of the *Joan Of Arc* and her sister ships came at an opportune time for the Federation, since the war with the Dominion and their allies had begun and Starfleet was taking heavy losses. The “Lady J” and her crew served with distinction and, in 2374, under orders from Admiral Michelle Fanelli, undertook a lengthy, covert mission to destroy shipping and targets of opportunity in Cardassian/Dominion space. In order to escape detection while in enemy space, Commodore Van Cleave called in favors from the Klingon warrior K’rIS tOK’, whom Jim had befriended in the past, to secure two Kaekus Amar (*Vor’cha*-class) cloaking generators. Working with a Starfleet Corps of Engineers (S.C.E.) team and using highly classified Federation cloaking research “accidentally” provided by Admiral Fanelli, the “Lady J” was rigged with a cloak that was undetectable by Dominion technology, although at an

enormous energy cost that only the power core for the *Joan Of Arc*’s main cannon could provide.

The mission was an outstanding success and for several months took the pressure off Starfleet and gave them time to regroup and push back against the Dominion and their Cardassian allies. However, the *Joan Of Arc* was almost destroyed when she tried to return home. Already battle-worn and in desperate need of dock time after the strain of her many battles, the *Joan Of Arc* was crossing back into friendly space when she picked up transmissions from a Federation task force that was in distress. Despite her weakened condition, the “Lady J” joined the battle. The enemy ships were destroyed and most of the task force was saved, but at the terrible price of damage so severe that, when she limped back into spacedock at Aldebaran, there was doubt she could be repaired.

A large portion of the damage was to the *Joan Of Arc*’s warp engines, which were heavily damaged from strain and battle and had given out near spacedock. Starfleet was regearing their facilities to produce smaller ships for

battle, halting construction on larger explorer ships like the *Galaxy*-class and making replacement engines scarce. Once again thinking outside the norm, Commodore Van Cleave, consulting once again with Captain Montgomery Scott and the S.C.E., proposed taking advantage of the *Galaxy*-class spaceframe’s modular nature and adapt nacelles from the *Sovereign*-class, which, like the *Galaxy*-class, had also had their construction halted.



Loving a good challenge, the refit process was begun. Along with the replacement nacelles, the “Lady J”’s power systems were upgraded, computer systems partially converted to neural gel packs, and improvements made to her main cannon, also referred to as the spinal phaser lance, which now boasted its own warp core for power. Sadly, the cloaking device, being rigged like the proverbial Christmas tree to begin with, could not be repaired fully. But oddly enough, when combined with the new systems, it produced a distortion field that, when activated, could throw off enemy targeting systems by several degrees. Due to the power drain, and as a side-effect of the distortion field, the main cannon cannot operate while the field is active. The *Joan Of Arc* was designated

as a sole ship of the *Jeanne d’Arc* sub-class of the *Entente*-class. She was returned to service and served admirably throughout the remainder of the Dominion War. However, with many technologies already moving away from the *Galaxy*-class technologies and design, no other vessels were planned using her new design.

After the war, when Jim Van Cleave accepted promotion to Rear Admiral, command was passed on to Fleet Captain Kryss Th’Dabie. The “Lady J” became a part of home fleet and a cadet training ship. Fleet Captain Robin Van Cleave took command in 2377 and was in command during the Borg invasion of 2381, when much of the Alpha quadrant was decimated by the apocalyptic, all-out assault of the Borg. The *Joan Of Arc* and several other large vessels were tasked by Federation President Bacco with escaping carrying as many planetary officials and refugees as possible if Earth fell. Thankfully, the Caeliar/Borg ascension rendered that desperate escape unnecessary. Currently still commanded by recently-promoted Commodore Robin Van Cleave, the *USS Joan Of Arc*, along with the surviving sixty percent of Starfleet, is assisting wherever they are able in rebuilding the Federation and their shattered allies in the Alpha quadrant, while preparing to defend against the threat of the newly formed “Typhon Pact.”

...and the adventure continues.

The Trek World of 2381: An Overview

Some of the *USS Joan Of Arc*’s back story and capabilities reference events that have transpired in recent “Next Gen” era novels, starting about eighteen months after the movie *Star Trek: Nemesis* and about 28 years before the destruction of Romulus as seen in the new *Star Trek* movie. With current movies heading off in a new direction, CBS has pretty much given open license to their novel writers, who have taken the *Star Trek* universe in bold, and sometimes terrifying, new directions. This brief timeline overview is intended to set the stage for other potential amateur storywriters and maybe even inspire some who haven’t read the books to do so.

SPOILER ALERT! : Effort has been made to include as few spoilers as possible and only include the barest details and “casualty reports,” but there are some spoilers!

Times are a best approximation based on the text of the various novels.

Mid-Late 2380:

- *Enterprise-E* discovers new Borg Super-Cube and Queen under construction
- Queen destroyed; Cube rendered inert.
- Super-Cube reactivated. Admiral Janeway and starships *Einstein* and *Thunderchild* lost.
- Super-Cube attacks Earth. Many starships damaged or destroyed in defense. Pluto destroyed. Super-Cube destroyed. Doomsday machine lost during effort.

February, 2381:

Frustrated by continued defeats at hands of humans and their allies, the Borg launch an all-out do-or-die assault on Alpha/Beta Quadrants using discovered conduits.

Week 1:

- Initial assault of 5 cubes. Korvat, Acamar, Barollia and Starbases 157, 343, 234, and 24 destroyed. All Cubes destroyed. Starships *Amargosa*, *Leonev*, *Gibraltar*, *Merrimac*, *Ulysses*, *Sparta* and others destroyed. Starship *Excalibur* crippled. Admiral Paris killed.
- Federation President orders state of emergency for Korvat, authorizes Starfleet to commandeer civilian

sources of antimatter for evacuation transports for 29,000 survivors.

Week 2:

- Three Outposts lost and *Epsilon* Outposts 10 and 11 destroyed near Azure Nebula near Federation/Klingon/Romulan tri-border.
- *Enterprise-E* and *USS Aventine* (under command of Captain Ezri Dax) attacked by Borg in Azure Nebula. Both vessels suffer heavy damage. Borg subspace passageway network discovered.

Week 3:

- Joint Task Force of Federation, Klingon, Romulan (both factions from current Romulan Civil War), Cardassian, Ferengi, and Breen ships gather in Azure Nebula to launch pre-emptive strike on the Borg using subspace network.
- Borg launch an all-out offensive of over 7,000 cubes through Azure Nebula conduits. *Enterprise* and *Aventine* survive with moderate damage. *Voyager* crippled. All other ships of task force destroyed <<Note: perhaps other ships crippled but not destroyed...possible prime writing opportunity here!...not for victory, but survival!>>
- *USS Titan* “appears” in Azure Nebula.
- Borg fleet spreads out into Federation, Klingon and Romulan space. Adelphous 4, Denvar 4, Japori 2, Gamma Hiromi 2, and H’Atoria destroyed.

Week 4:

- Klingon world Morska defended. *IKS veScharg’a* survives and is reassigned. *IKS Sturka* crippled.
- Klingon worlds Beta Thoridor and Khitomer destroyed. Rura Penthe, Mempa, and Beta Lakal heavily damaged.
- Fleet Admiral Jellico orders transphasic torpedo design shared with Federation, Klingon, and Imperial Romulan Fleets.
- Borg attack Nequentia Alpha, Xarantine, Jouret, Yridia, Hyralan and Celes. Lorellia, Regulus, and Deneva destroyed. Starships *Ajax*, *Musashi*, *Forrestal*, *Terpitz*, *Potemkin*, *Balliste Ranger*, *Constant* and *Arimathea* destroyed. Borg also destroy relief and refugee ships.
- Qo’nos attacked with heavy damage. First City and seven others destroyed. 77 million dead. Klingon Home Fleet destroyed with exception of crippled *IKS*

Sword of Kahless commanded by Chancellor Martok. Federation assistance in defense of Klingon worlds makes bond between them stronger than ever.

End of February/Beginning of March:

- Borg reach core Federation worlds:
- Vulcan attacked. Shi’kar destroyed. Defended by starships *Atlas* (Captain Morgan Bateson), *Exeter*, *Prometheus*, *Kearsarge* and a dozen others <<writing opportunity>>.
- Andor attacked. Capital and several other major cities destroyed.
- Heavy damage to Corridan and Beta Rigel. Starship *Namsen* destroyed.
- Ardana attacked with heavy damage, but defended. Romulan Warbird *Verithrax* destroyed in defense of Federation world inspires pro-Romulan sentiments.
- Aldebaran attacked, but defended. Talarian Third Fleet all but destroyed.
- Troyius escapes attack due to S.C.E. and starship *DaVinci*. Elaas attacked and refugees eventually moved to Troyius
- Borg advance halted due to brief civil war within ranks. Many Borg assault groups destroyed during this pause. Borg soon resume advance. Large group head for Earth.

March, 2381:

- Starfleet Command orders all remaining defenders to break off and disperse with refugee transports. Ordered to escape if possible. Borg approach Earth. Betazed, Trill, and Bajor expected to be attacked three days after Earth.
- Borg advance halts. All cubes change course and proceed at highest speed to Azure Nebula. All cubes are transported by race known as the Cueliar to the Nebula. Cueliar merge with the Borg and “ascend.” All Borg everywhere are gone.

Aftermath:

- Combined Federation, Klingon, and Romulan casualties in excess of 63 billion. Critical shortages of topaline (colony domes) and dilithium.
- 40% of Starfleet vessels destroyed. All Starfleet vessels pulled from exploration duty, with exception of *Luna*-class starships, to assist with rescue, relief, and peacekeeping efforts.
- *Aventine* and her seven sister *Vesta*-class vessels

still in service. 750 crew, new superfast slipstream drive, and state-of-the-art weaponry (can take on Borg cube). Used after conflict for relief and rescue efforts.

- A task force headed by *Voyager* is sent on long-range mission to confirm that the Cueliar and Borg are truly and permanently gone.
- Starship *Sugihara* assists Ardana. *Enterprise* and three ships assisting Pacifica.
- Capella: hostile to Federation but allow extra mining in exchange for mining equipment upgrades. Harvest world Gault strains to feed refugee populations.
- Cestus III, Zalda, Bolus, Alpha Centari, and Pacifica designated refugee worlds. Pacifica alone takes in over 80,000 refugees. Food riots break out on Alpha Centauri. Many Pacifica refugees eventually resettled on Inghram-B.
- Klingons move ruling council to Ty’Gokor. Klingon refugees resettle on Phebin III. Krios to be designated a resettlement world until captured by the Kinshaya.
- In light of weakened condition of the Federation, Klingons, and others, several hostile powers band together to form the “Typhon Pact.” It consists of the Gorn, the Romulan Star Empire, the Tzenkethi, the Breen, the Tholians, and the Kinshaya and poses a new and significant threat to the Federation and her allies.

Not a pretty picture certainly, but definitely a fertile playground for writers, both amateur and professional. Where was YOUR ship during all this? What are your ship and crew doing now? How will the split in the Romulan Empire and the new Typhon Pact affect things, and what part will you play in things to come? I hope you’ve been both intrigued and inspired by this glimpse into recent events in the *Trek* Universe. Many will nay-say because if it isn’t “on the screen” it isn’t “canon.” Well, with the books being all we’re likely to get for a good, long while, maybe we should start taking them more seriously. Read, imagine, write, enjoy and boldly go!!!

Source material for this timeline/overview was taken from facts established in the following novels: *Resistance*, *Before Dishonor*, *Destiny* (Books 1-3), *A Singular Destiny*, *Full Circle*, *Unworthy*, and *Losing The Peace*.



A BUSY SHIP: THE *USS REPUBLIC* NCC-1371



USS REPUBLIC MID-SUMMER BUSINESS MEETING ON JULY 31, 2010. MEMBERS AND FRIENDS GATHER AT THE CHINA ONE RESTAURANT IN SANDY SPRINGS, GEORGIA, TO DISCUSS AND RESOLVE SEVERAL IMPORTANT ISSUES AND ITEMS OF URGENT CHAPTER BUSINESS. SEATED: ENS ROBERT TEAGUE, ENS3 JOHN STUMP, DANA TYLER, ENS3 MARILYN TEAGUE, CAPT

MICHAEL COWART, ENS3 TODD DISSINGER, ENS KEN CRIBBS, ENS3 CHRIS SECKINGER, ENS1 ZANNETTA LAW, THERESA PARKER, CO CAPT ERIC L. WATTS, KEVIN PARKER. STANDING: ENS2 DANIEL WOLFGANG, ENS1 SUE LIN LANGE, ENS2 JOANNE TREW, ENS2 JULIANNE TREW, ENS EDDIE HINES, ENS2 JEFF TREW, ROBERT TUCKER, CHRIS JONES, ENS BARRY BYNUM, ENS1 MARK A. OZANICK, ENS2 WILL DOVER, LT. JG DAVE CHURVIS, ENS MATT DUNCAN.

USS REPUBLIC AT DRAGON*CON WORLD RECORD ATTEMPT ON SEPTEMBER 4, 2010. DRAGON*CON BROKE THE WORLD RECORD FOR THE LARGEST GATHERING OF *STAR TREK* COSTUMES WITH A TOTAL ATTENDANCE OF 571 COSTUMED FANS IN THE ATLANTA SHERATON GRAND BALLROOM FOR TEN



MINUTES. THE PREVIOUS RECORD WAS 543. MEMBERS OF THE *USS REPUBLIC* WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE EVENT GATHERED FOR A PHOTO AFTER THE NEW WORLD RECORD WAS SET. FRONT ROW: ENS1 SUE LIN LANGE, ENS2 TODD DISSINGER, CO CAPT ERIC L. WATTS, ENS KEN CRIBBS, XO CMDR BRIAN HOLLOWAY. BACK ROW: ENS CATHERINE BUSBEE, ENS3 JOHN STUMP, UNKNOWN KLINGON, CRMN2 JENILEE TREW, ENS2 JEFF TREW, ENS2 JULIANNE TREW, ENS1 ERIC LANGE, SANDY MANGES, ENS BARRY BYNUM, ENS2 JOANNE TREW, ENS3 CHARLIE SMITH, ENS3 BARBARA NIES, ENS EDDIE HINES, ENS2 WIL SIMS, ENS EVE GIDION, ENS BRAD CARRNE.



USS REPUBLIC SUMMER POOL PARTY ON AUGUST 15, 2010. MEMBERS AND FRIENDS GATHER FOR AN AFTERNOON OF FOOD, FUN AND FRIENDSHIP AT THE WATERS MILL CLUBHOUSE IN ALPHARETTA (GEORGIA), HOSTED BY ENS1 SUE LIN LANGE AND ENS1 DANIEL WOLFGANG. SEATED AND KNEELING: ENS1 DANIEL WOLFGANG, SHANNON DRAKE, ENS1 SUE LIN LANGE, CO CAPT ERIC L. WATTS, ENS ERIC

SOLOMON. STANDING AND SEATED: SHANNON DRAKE, USS ATLANTA CO ADM MIKE HENIGAN, RUTH BERNSTEIN, DANIEL BERNSTEIN, WILEY DELOACH, ENS3 MARILYN TEAGUE, ENS3 CHRIS WHITE, ENS ROBERT TEAGUE, MATTHEW GILLIAM, ENS ROB GILLIAM, FRANCES FUNNELL.



THE *USS REPUBLIC* AND FRIENDS AT THE DRAGON*CON PARADE ON SEPTEMBER 4, 2010. *STAR TREK* FANS MARCHING IN THE DRAGON*CON PARADE GATHER FOR A PHOTO PRIOR TO STEP-OFF. THE ENTIRE GROUP MARCHED BEHIND THE *USS REPUBLIC*'S PARADE BANNER. THE *REPUBLIC*'S PARTICIPATION IN THE PARADE WAS COORDINATED BY ENS2 JOANNE TREW. *USS REPUBLIC* MEMBERS INCLUDE ENS2 TODD DISSINGER (KNEELING IN FRONT), ENS2 JOANNE TREW (HOLDING TRIBBLE), ENS2 JEFF TREW (BACK ROW IN BIG MOUSTACHE), ENS EDDIE HINES (BEHIND ENSIGN JOANNE), AND CRMN2 JENILEE TREW AND ENS2 JULIANNE TREW (FAR RIGHT).



USS REPUBLIC "FOUR DAYS AT DRAGON*CON" VIEWING ON AUGUST 28, 2010. MEMBERS AND FRIENDS GATHER AT LT JG DAVE CHURVIS' AND ENS MATT DUNCAN'S HOME TO WATCH FOUR DAYS AT DRAGON*CON, THE NEW HOUR-LONG PBA DOCUMENTARY THAT FEATURED, AMONG OTHERS, CAPT ERIC L. WATTS. STANDING: ENS3 CHRIS SECKINGER, ENS2 JOANNE TREW, ENS2 JEFF TREW, FRITZ SULLENS, ENS EDDIE HINES, ENS1 ZANNETTA LAW, RICHARD TUCKER, LEE DIAMOND, LT. JG DAVE CHURVIS, JOSH ELEK. SEATED: CO CAPT ERIC L. WATTS.





0133-09-618



NAME: PAMELA MICHAUD
RANK: FLEET CAPTAIN
POSITION: COMMANDING OFFICER
OTHER POSITIONS: REGION 1 AWARDS DIRECTOR
SHIP: USS RONALD E MCNAIR NCC-61809
REGION: 1, SOUTH CAROLINA (USA)

Region One Awards

On April 30-May 2, 2010, Region One held its 2010 Summit in Pigeon Forge Tennessee. Region One Deputy Awards Director Willy Smith presented the 2009 Region One Annual Awards. Region One Awards Director Pam Michaud awarded the Region One Decade Awards (awards presented every ten years) as well as other Region One Awards. Various Chapters received the Hailing Frequencies Award for MSR reporting for 2009.

2009 Annual Awards Recipients

Chapter of the Year - *USS Heimdal*

Chapter of Excellence - *USS Ronald E. McNair*

Best Shakedown Cruise - *USS Ganymede*

Best Support Ship (Mothership) - *USS Heimdal*

Class of Excellence (CO of the year) - Linda Smith, *USS Heimdal*

Jonathan Archer Award (Rookie CO) - None submitted

R1 Medal Enlisted - Jason Kyer, *USS Ohio*

R1 Medal Officer - Janet Wagoner, *USS Ohio*

R1 Medal Flag Officer - Scott Anderson, *USS Revelation*

Cadet of the Year - Maxwell Michaud, *USS Ronald E. McNair*

Edith Keeler - Margaret Grunwell, *USS Appomattox*

RDC of Excellence - Jeff Davis, RDC Engineering

R1 staff member of the Year - Fleet Captain Michaud

Chapter Department of the Year - Sciences, *USS Ohio*

Sector of the year - IN/OH

Communications Excellence

Newsletter of the year (Best Overall) - "Stardate" by the *USS Jamestown*

Best Monthly - "The Challenger" by the *USS Ronald E. McNair*

Best Bi-Monthly - "The End of Time" by the *USS Revelation*

Best Quarterly - "All Ahead-Warp Factor One" by the *USS Bonaventure*

Best Handbook - "USS Jamestown Crew Manual"

Best Fanzine - None submitted

Best Chapter Website - *USS Asgard* <http://www.ussasgard.org>

Runner Up Website (not an award) - *USS Ronald E. McNair* <http://www.filkferret.com/McNair>

Non-Annual Awards (these awards are awarded at any time during the year):

Legion of Merit 20+ years SFI R1 member Commander Mark Bolick, *USS Maat* Vice Admiral Susan Bolick, *USS Maat* Captain Thomas Rawls, Jr., *USS Maat* Commodore Blair Willcox, *USS Maat*

Medal of Honor (for GREAT risk of life in an act of Heroism and Bravery): Captain Harold Spears - *USS Revelation* NCC-63551

March 21, 2010, Harold—without regard to his own personal safety—after witnessing a car crash between a Honda automobile and the NASCAR Hauler of driver Kyle Busch, stopped and rendered first aid to the victim of said crash, as well as removing the victim from the car (which was on fire) before it exploded, thereby putting his own life at risk as well.

Unit Commendation (all R1 chapters received this) For outstanding service and dedication to *Trek* fandom and principles of SFI R1 in 2009

USS Columbus NCC-72401 - sent cards to Walter Reed Hospital, worked on a toy drive, and collected 6 lbs of soda can pop tops for RMH and Box Tops for Education.

USS Star League - 129 lbs of food collected for Golden Harvest Food Bank.

USS Lagrange NCC-3916 - Made a Merry Potter-themed Christmas tree which was donated to and sold at auction for \$400.00 at Akron's Children's

Hospital.

USS Odin - Saving soda can pop tops for RMH and collecting toys for Toys for Tots.

USS Renegade - Collected food for Second Harvest food bank.

USS Jamestown - 143 food items and \$180.00 to Mayflower Marathon for food bank.

USS Revelation - Toys for Tots and Operation Christmas Child.

Sol III

Morgan Harper - *USS Columbus* - 5 years old. Helps with the collection of aluminum cans and plastic bottles for recycling.

Wyatt Cook - *USS Columbus* - Almost 3 years old. Helps with the collection of aluminum cans and plastic bottles for recycling.

USS Heimdal NCC-1793 - All chapter members donate used ink jet cartridges to go to Amherst Humane Society Shelter. Shelter receives \$2.00 per cartridge they turn in for recycling. That money goes towards the care of the animals in the shelter.

Meritorious Service Award (Citation to note avid participation and/or performance of duty, by young SFI R1 members up to age 18)

Cadet Crewman Heidi Schultz - *USS Odin*

PO2 Nathaniel Schultz - *USS Odin*

Lt Cmdr Jeremy Bergdorff - *USS Odin*

LTJG Amber Rowlette - *USS Odin*

Ensign Christopher Osborne - *USS Odin*

Cadet 3rd Class Jheryd Waldbrunn - *USS Odin*

Cadet 3rd Class Carlos Bruckman - *USS Odin*

Cadet 2nd Class Chloe Lopes - *USS Odin*

Cadet 1st Class Daniel Hack - *USS Odin*

Morgan Harper - *USS Columbus*

Wyatt Cook - *USS Columbus*

Let Me Help

Kathy Van Arsdale - *USS Endeavor* - Volunteering on a weekly basis at the Grove Christian Outreach Center's bread ministry.

John Sprouse - *USS Appomattox* - Volunteering at the Lynchburg Humane

Society

Joint Meritorious Service Award (For a SFI R1 unit that works jointly with an outside club on a project or activity)

USS Odin - For participation with the MFS Edgar Cayce of the Polar Bear Plunge supporting the Special Olympics in Portland Oregon.

Unit Distinguished Service Award

USS Odin - For distinguished service to the various communities the chapter's members reside in. Members collected can tabs for RMH Foundation, donated empty printer ink cartridges to the Pet Smart charities to help support animal shelters, participated in the Seattle AIDS Walk, collected and donated toys to the USMC's Toys for Tots program, collected and donated food for a local Indiana food bank, donated clothing to a North Dakota homeless shelter, and volunteered to ring the bell for the Salvation Army during the holidays.

Phoenix Award

Antonio Huizar-Remaly - *USS Peleliu* - For not letting Muscular Dystrophy hinder him from being an active and productive member of SFI Region One and the *USS Pelelieu*.

Region One Honorary

Josh Starling - For always helping out the *USS Ohio* and coming to their meetings.

R1 Decade Awards - The following chapters and personnel have been awarded Region One Decade awards...

Longest-Serving Chapter - Awarded to the longest-serving chapters in Region One. A plaque was presented to the *USS Jamestown*, *USS Alaric*, and *USS Lagrange* for 28 years.

Longest-Serving Member - A plaque was presented to Marlene Miller for 33 years.

Longest-Sitting Commanding Officer - Awarded to the longest serving Commanding Officer in the Region. A plaque was presented to Linda Smith for 26 years.

Center Seat Award - Given to the Region One Commanding Officers who have occupied the position of Commanding Officer consecutively for ten or more years.

Admiral Linda Smith - *USS Heimdal* NCC- 1793 - 26 years

Commodore Jerry Conner - *USS*

Yeager NCC-1893 - 23 years

Fleet Captain Joffre Fisher - *USS Kitty Hawk* NCC-1659 - 20 years

Major General Dennis Rayburn - *SS Nikola Tesla* - 17 Years

Admiral Carolyn Donner - *USS Jurassic* NCC-3500 - 16 years

Rear Admiral Ben Redding - *Bennu Station* - 15 years

Rear Admiral Warren Price - *USS Providence* NCC-71796 - 14 years

Legendary Chapters of First Fleet - This award recognizes those chapters that have served in the Region for fifteen or more years, and are being recognized as being Legends in the Region.

USS Alaric NCC-503 - 28 years

USS Jamestown NCC-1843 D - 28 years

USS Lagrange NCC-3916 - 28 years

USS Heimdal NCC-1793 - 26 years

USS Yeager NCC-61893 - 24 years

USS Hornet NCC-1714 D - 23 years

USS Maat NCC-1794 A - 23 years

USS Richmond NCC-2003 - 23 years

USS Chesapeake NCC-1887 - 22 years

USS Bonaventure NCC-102A - 22 years

USS Columbus NCC-72401 - 21 years

USS Renegade NCC- 2547 - 21 years

USS Kitty Hawk NCC-1659 - 20 years

USS Star League NCC-2101 - 19 years

USS Charleston NCC-80114 - 18 years

USS Arizona NCC- 71839 - 17 years

SS Nikola Tesla SS005 - 16 years

USS Jurassic NCC-3500 - 16 years

Bennu Station SFR 119 - 16 years

USS Ronald E. McNair NCC-61809 - 16 years

USS Tycho NCC-59325 - 16 years





NAME: MITCH DUNN
RANK: COLONEL
POSITION: COMMANDING OFFICER
OTHER POSITIONS: COMMANDING OFFICER, 533RD MARINE STRIKE GROUP (SO) "HAWK OWLS; R5 CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER;
5TH BRIGADE INFORMATION OFFICER
SHIP: USS PINGUIN NCC-53777
REGION: 5, WASHINGTON STATE (USA)



0534-77-537

The History of Toys for Tots

Bells ringing, chestnuts roasting on an open fire, children playing in the snow. But there are families that are not doing so well, and it's the children that do without come the holiday season. But every year, the United States Marines head up a program started by Major Bill Hendricks.

The concept came from the Major's wife, Diane, and in the fall of 1947, she crafted a homemade doll. She asked Bill to deliver the doll to an organization that would give it to a needy child for Christmas. When Bill found that there was no such agency in existence, Diane told Bill that he should start one.

The 1947 pilot project was so successful that the Marine Corps adopted Toys for Tots in 1948. That year, the Marine Corps Reserve Units across the nation conducted "Toys for Tots" campaigns in each community in which a Marine Reserve Center was located. They have done this every year since 1948.

Bill Hendricks was a Reservist on weekends, while in civilian life he was the Director of Public Relations for Warner Brothers Studios. This

allowed him to convince a vast array of celebrities to support the program. Also that year, Walt Disney designed the Toys for Tots logo, which is still being used today. He also designed the first poster used to promote the nationwide program.

In 1956, Nat "King" Cole, Peggy Lee, and Vic Damone recorded the Toys for Tots theme, which had been composed by Sammy Fain and Paul Webster. John Wayne, Bob Hope, Doris Day, Tim Allen, Kenny Rodgers, and Billy Ray Cyrus are

but a few of the long list of celebrities who have given their time and talent to promote Toys for Tots.

In 1996, the commander of the Marine Forces Reserve expanded the program to cover all fifty states. This is when he authorized selected Marine Corps League Detachments and local community organizations located in communities without a Marine Reserve Center to conduct toy collection and distribution campaigns in their

own communities as part of the Toys for Tots program.

Over the sixty-two years, the Toys for Tots program has distributed over 400,000,000 toys to more than 188,000,000 children and families. This year, there are even more in need, and whether you know a child in need or would simply like to help one or more, you can find them on the web at:

www.toysfortots.org

Within their site, you can donate money, time, or arrange collection and drop off of toys. There are many corporate sponsors, and the ways of donating vary from Paypal to eBay...you can even donate a vehicle to the program.

Just make sure your CO, OIC, and/or ToTs Coordinator are aware of your work and, if possible, this is where your ship's crew and marines can do that project that you've all been looking to do. It's short term and very rewarding.

Live long and smile.



Winter Gatherings



The days grow colder and the nights grow longer. The warm weather gear is put away, clean and dry. The wood is stacked, dried well from the sun, and the flue cleaned. Children play in giant piles of leaves. Clothes need darning, and some need to be made from scratch.

As we transcend into shorter days, we gather more for nighttime games, character sheets, and dice...upgrade our computers with RAM and the like...watch old movies with each other...and popcorn with caramel rolled into balls is eaten with joy.

There will be meals of splendor for many, but for some there will be very little. In times when people are without jobs, and money is hard to come by, people ask of you to give to the needy. Sometimes all you can do to help is give a little time, because you and your family are also needy. The difference between those asking for help, and those sucking it up and driving through it, is pride.

This is one of those few times that I will say it this way. Given a choice between helping strangers and helping your friends...help your friends if you can. It's not always easy to help friends, as many times they do not want to appear to be in

need. Winter is coming, now is the time to plan for the cold. What happens if you lose your job and or your car breaks down?

Sometimes it's just a matter of a computer loss and you can assist to get it online. Perhaps you are planning a trip to the canned food store to get as much as you can for as little as possible. It could be that you have planned some multi-family and friend gatherings in which you have potlucks.

There are examples of this throughout history, and through various organizations we've seen that this is a way to not only save money but to give you that good clan feeling you get when gathered together and sharing good company and good food.

I hear tell that this is to be a harsh winter, so what we do now will lay the path to how we smile come spring. Plan for the worst and plan for the fun. In the middle, we all love and laugh through the months to come. Gather for movies or prop-making or costuming. Gather for cookies, gather for homemade lasagna with a banquet of vegetable dishes and spiced tea.

So be good to each other.





NAME: LINDA SMITH
RANK: ADMIRAL
POSITION: COMMANDING OFFICER
SHIP: USS HEIMDAL NCC-1793
REGION: 1, VIRGINIA (USA)
ACHIEVEMENTS: FORMER REGION ONE COORDINATOR

0135-93-17



USS Heimdal Holds Successful Charity Auction

On August 21st, the *USS Heimdal* in Madison Heights, VA (Region One), held her Annual Charity Auction as a community-wide event. Sixty-six people attended and twenty *Heimdal* members physically worked the 4-hour auction. A grand total of \$2,654.00 was raised and will go towards support of the *Heimdal's* ten adopted charities, plus it will make it possible to send another local student to Space Camp in 2011.

The *Heimdal* crew works approximately 10 months



HEIMDAL MEMBERS TIM HAZLETT AND BONNIE DAVIS HOLD UP A POSTER FOR THE CROWD TO SEE AND BID ON AT THE AUCTION. PHOTO BY WILLY SMITH.

out of the year preparing for the Annual Charity Auctions, and this year marks its fifth year as a public event. Each of the five years, the chapter has raised a total in excess of \$1,500, which has made it possible to do away with fundraisers such as car washes, bake sales, and raffles and focus on the auction as the only fundraiser of the year.

The *Heimdal* rents a local hotel ballroom for the event. Beginning in January, *Heimdal* members canvas local businesses, merchants, and restaurants for donations, and those who can't actually canvas work behind the scenes writing letters to state-wide attractions for donations. This year, *Heimdal* members managed to bring in a total of 230 auction items, 102 of which were gift certificates. Door prize drawings were held every 30 minutes, and half way

CO LINDA SMITH WELCOMES AUCTION GUESTS AND INTRODUCES AUCTIONEER, HEIMDAL MEMBER CARL DAVIS. PHOTO BY WILLY SMITH.



through the auction, a drawing was held for a 50/50 raffle.

Heimdal Public Relations Officer, Martha Stimson, put advertisements in all the local and county newspapers prior to the auction. Communications Chief Glenda Blanks appeared on CO Linda Smith's cable television talk show "Lynchburg Live" advertising the auction and talking about the *Heimdal*. Linda Smith did a radio interview on a local radio talk show about the auction, and a local newspaper columnist wrote several paragraphs in his column about the *Heimdal* and the event. Advertising and word of mouth were key to the auction's success.

Each auction guest received a Guest Packet containing a list of auction items, information about the *Heimdal* and the charities the auction proceeds

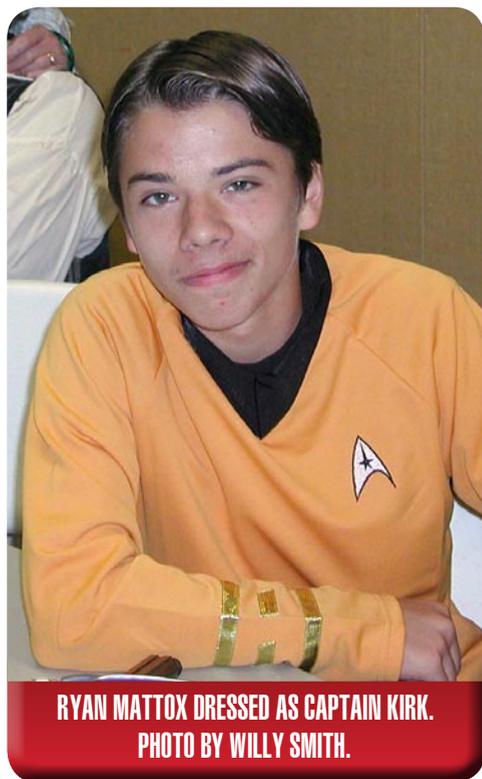
fund, a STARFLEET application, coupons from local merchants, an auction evaluation form, a bidding number, pen, and a couple pieces of hard candy. Copies of the STARFLEET Communiqué that the *Heimdal* won in STARFLEET's lottery were available to interested guests. Returned evaluation forms rated the *Heimdal* auction as a superior event, well run, and well organized.

After a few months of rest and time to enjoy the holidays, the *Heimdal* will begin working on her sixth Charity Auction to be held in August 2011.

USS Heimdal Sends Another Student to Space Camp

Amherst County High School student Ryan Mattox spent the last week of June 2010 at Space Camp in Huntsville, AL. Ryan was one of many Amherst County students to submit an essay "Why I Want to Go to Space Camp" to the *USS Heimdal's* Space Camp Committee in hopes of winning the six-day Space Camp scholarship offered by the club. Ryan was the eventual winner and had a WONDERFUL time on his *Heimdal*-sponsored trip.

Thanks to the success of the *USS Heimdal's* Annual Charity Auctions, the chapter has not only been able to increase the amount of money donated to the ten charities they sponsor on an on-going basis, they have also been able to send a local student to Space Camp both in 2009 and 2010.



RYAN MATTOX DRESSED AS CAPTAIN KIRK. PHOTO BY WILLY SMITH.

This year's successful auction may also make it possible to send another student in 2011.

The *Heimdal* sent her first two local students to Space Camp in 1999. Since then, the price for one student has doubled, making it equal to the price of the trips for the first two students sent in 1999. Until making the charity auctions a public event, the chapter was unable to consider sending more students because of the more than \$1000 Space Camp cost per student. With the success of the recent auctions, sending more students has become a reality for this Region One chapter based in Madison Heights, VA.

After reading an article in the STARFLEET *Communiqué* about the

Heimdal's Space Camp Program, Roy Henderson, CO of the *USS Centurion* in Region Four in California, contacted *Heimdal* CO Linda Smith and offered to pay for the \$80 flight suit that all Space Campers wear while at the camp. True to his word, Roy has not only paid for the flight suits for the most recent two students, but has kicked in a bit of spending money as well.

Believing in the tremendous educational opportunity found at Space Camp, and being a frequent Space Camper himself, Roy has donated items to the *Heimdal's* Annual Charity Auction the past two years with proceeds from the sale of those items designated for the chapter's Space Camp Program. This year, in addition to some fantastic auction items donated by Roy, he also included a T-shirt autographed by William Shatner, which brought in quite a healthy sum for the Space Camp Program.

At Space Camp, Ryan Mattox was a mission pilot in the mission simulations as part of a 12-member team. They simulated a real shuttle mission, complete with problems and equipment malfunctions, and learned a lot about teamwork and team building. Ryan

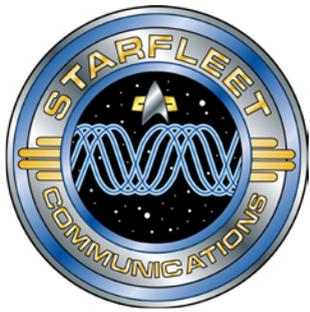
is also a Star Wars fan and couldn't have chosen a better time for his Space Camp trip. In addition to simulators and missions and astronauts, the traveling Star Wars exhibit was at the Huntsville facility when Ryan was there and added to the excitement of his trip. He had a wonderful time.

Due to the dedication of the *Heimdal's* many members—canvassing merchants, businesses, and restaurants for auction donations and putting together well-run community-wide annual auctions—the chapter's Space Camp Program has been in full swing for the past two years. This year's most recent successful auction may see the chapter sending yet another local student to Space Camp in 2011.



RYAN MATTOX IN HIS FLIGHT SUIT AT SPACE CAMP. PHOTOGRAPHER UNKNOWN.





0436-40-718



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RANK: REAR ADMIRAL
POSITION: CHIEF OF COMMUNICATIONS, STARFLEET
SHIP: *USS ANGELES* NCC-71840
REGION: 4, CALIFORNIA (USA)
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USS ANGELES NCC-71840

Summer of *Star Trek* Saturday Screenings

Living in Los Angeles is totally cool if you're a Trekker!

It's not simply that L.A. is the home to so many actors, producers, writers, and directors of *Star Trek*...although that's certainly part of it. But the thing about this tinsel town is that Hollywood people take their craft very seriously. They enjoy talking about their work on a professional level. And when it comes to *Star Trek* celebrities, this occasionally provides an opportunity to hear different kinds of behind-the-scenes stories than those that are repeatedly told over and over at conventions.

In Los Angeles, special "director's screenings" are frequently held for various movies (new and old) to allow a film's creator(s) to discuss their cinematic work either before or after the movie is screened for an audience. Sometimes it's just a speech or introduction to the film. Other times, there is a host who asks the filmmaker questions and moderates a live discussion. Often, they'll even take questions directly from the audience.

When this past summer started, the crew of the *USS Angeles* was super-excited to hear that none other than **Leonard Nimoy** would be appearing in person at a director's screening of *Star Trek IV: The Voyage Home* to be shown at the famous Mann Chinese Theater in Hollywood, an event hosted by *The Los Angeles Times*. The last time we'd had a director's screening of a *Trek* film in L.A., it was several years ago when Harve Bennett and Nicholas Meyer spoke after a showing of *Star Trek II*. It was awesome back then, and it would likely be just as awesome (if not more so) to have Leonard Nimoy himself. Sure, the tickets were \$26 each, but a regular movie admission in



JON LANE SPORTS HIS BRAND NEW STARFLEET T-SHIRT IN FRONT OF THE MANN CHINESE THEATRE IN HOLLYWOOD. PHOTO BY ELIZABETH CRITCH.



THE ONE AND ONLY LEONARD NIMOY DISCUSSES DIRECTING THE FILM *STAR TREK IV* PLUS LOTS OF OTHER COOL STUFF. PHOTO BY JON LANE.

L.A. is \$10 anyway...so you're pretty much spending sixteen bucks to see Nimoy for 45 minutes. You also get to see a 70mm print of *Star Trek IV* on a huge movie screen with an enthusiastic audience all around you!

And it was pretty darn awesome. Nimoy spoke about his career both in front of and behind the camera, his role of Spock in the JJ Abrams *Star Trek* movie, his role on Fox's *Fringe*, his photography, and he also shared a number of "inside stories" about *Star Trek* (one of which I'll transcribe for you all later in this issue of CQ).

Thoroughly satisfied with my \$26 expenditure, I pretty much expected that to be the end of *Star Trek* movie screenings in theaters around here for a while...after all, they don't happen all that often. Boy, was I wrong!

Just a week later, I was contacted by Jerry A. Blackburn of LEDJER Film & Theatre Services. One of his theaters, the Laemmle Royal



USS ANGELES MEMBERS ELIZABETH AND KELLY CRITCH SIT IN THE AUDIENCE BEFORE *STAR TREK IV* BEGINS AND LEONARD NIMOY STARTS HIS TALK AT THE CHINESE THEATRE. PHOTO BY JON LANE.

Theatre in Santa Monica, had decided to host a series of *Star Trek* screenings in June and July. The first six *Trek* films would be shown (70mm and 35mm prints), each on a consecutive Saturday at midnight, and each introduced by a *Star Trek* celebrity:

- Star Trek: The Motion Picture* – Arlene Martel (Lt. Marlena Moreau from "Mirror, Mirror")
- Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan* – Nicholas Meyer (Director)
- Star Trek III: The Search for Spock* – Ralph Winter (Associate Producer)
- Star Trek IV: The Voyage Home* – Nichelle Nichols (Commander Uhura)
- Star Trek V: The Final Frontier* – Walter Koenig (Commander Pavel Chekov)
- Star Trek VI: The Undiscovered Country* – George Takei (Captain Hikaru Sulu)

Not a bad line-up for six summer Saturdays, huh? Jerry wanted to know if I could help spread the word to local *Star Trek* fans and STARFLEET members about the screenings. I explained to him that there's an active STARFLEET chapter right here in Los Angeles, and we'd be happy to bring as many members as we could. Naturally, I asked if we might be able to recruit—either set up a table or at least drop off some fliers. Jerry enthusiastically offered us a table in the theater lobby and he even threw in free admission to any *Angeles* member who came in costume. (I went to *Trek II* through *VI* and saved myself fifty bucks in movie admission cost just by wearing a uniform each time!)

We set up a table with fliers for both STARFLEET and the *USS*





SATURDAY AT MIDNIGHT AND THE LINE TO SEE *STAR TREK II: THE WRATH OF KHAN* (WITH SPECIAL GUEST NICHOLAS MEYER) WAS ALREADY STRETCHING AROUND THE BLOCK! PHOTO BY JON LANE.

Angeles, samples of the *Angeles* newsletter "Angels Flight" and also of CQ (fortunately, the *Angeles* won the CQ lottery way back during issue #154 and had lots of extra copies left over), and we even brought along a couple of life-sized cardboard stand-ups of Kirk and Spock in monster maroons from *Trek V*.

As people came into the theater each week, we would hand out fliers and answer questions about the clubs. Usually at least a few people would want to get pictures of themselves either with us or with the stand-ups...or both! What was doubly-great was that most of the celebrity guests would also stop to take photos with us (which you can see on the next page).

At midnight, the guest for that evening would stand in front of the movie screen and talk about the film and/or *Star Trek* in general and their experiences with the franchise. The host each week was Anthony Pascale of TrekMovie.com, who did a great job of asking smart and compelling (as opposed to dumb and silly) questions and keeping the conversation flowing smoothly.

The first six films were such a staggering success that, by the time they got to *Trek V*, the Laemmle Royal Theatre decided to complete the series by showing the remaining five films (including JJ Abram's 2009 *Star Trek* movie). That meant even more recruiting opportunities, as the theater was happy to have

us back each week! The extended line-up included:

- Star Trek Generations* – Dennis McCarthy (Composer)
- Star Trek: First Contact* – Brannon Braga (Writer and lightning rod of controversy)
- Star Trek: Insurrection* – Michael Welch (Artim, and more recently Mike Newton in the "Twilight" movies)
- Star Trek: Nemesis* – Herman Zimmerman (Production Designer on TNG, DS9, VOY, and ENT)
- Star Trek* (2009) - Michael Giacchino (Composer)

I'll admit to skipping a few of those because of other commitments. But I did see Brannon Braga and Hermann Zimmerman, who were both interesting in their own unique ways.

In fact, all of the guests had wonderful stories to tell and some amazing insights that I hadn't heard before at conventions. There isn't room in CQ to transcribe everything they each said, but I can certainly share some highlights with you all. Just skip ahead past the photos on the following page for a sampling of their talks...



USS ANGELES SECOND OFFICER, COMMANDER GLORIA RODRIGUEZ, DID THE LION'S SHARE OF THE WORK IN COORDINATING WITH THE THEATER, ORGANIZING VOLUNTEERS, AND TRANSPORTING RECRUITMENT MATERIALS AND MEMBER APPLICATIONS FOR THE TABLE DISPLAYS WEEK AFTER WEEK. PHOTO BY JON LANE.

ANTHONY PASCALE (LEFT) FROM TREKMOVIE.COM WAS THE MODERATOR FOR MOST OF THE CELEBRITY APPEARANCES AT THE LAEMMLE ROYAL THEATRE IN SANTA MONICA. PHOTO BY JON LANE.



USS ANGELES MEMBERS MAN THE RECRUITMENT TABLE DURING WEEK TWO'S SCREENING. FROM LEFT: JON LANE, JANICE WILLCOCKS, CLIFFORD GARDNER, AND GLORIA RODRIGUEZ.



SUMMER OF *STAR TREK* SATURDAY CELEBRITY SCREENINGS



WEEK 3 - *ST:III* CELEBRITY SCREENING WITH RALPH WINTER (L-TO-R): JANICE WILLCOCKS, RENEE WIKE, GLORIA RODRIGUEZ, RALPH WINTER, AND JON LANE.



WEEK 4 - *ST:IV* CELEBRITY SCREENING WITH NICHELLE NICHOLS: JANICE WILLCOCKS, NICHELLE NICHOLS, JON LANE, AND GLORIA RODRIGUEZ.



WEEK 6 - *ST:VI* CELEBRITY SCREENING WITH GEORGE TAKEI POSING WITH JON LANE.



WEEK 5 - *ST:V* CELEBRITY SCREENING WITH WALTER KOENIG (L-TO-R): JON LANE, WALTER KOENIG, JANICE WILLCOCKS, CHRISTOPHER MULROONEY, KAREN HOAGLAND, AND GLORIA RODRIGUEZ.



WEEK 6 - *ST:VI* CELEBRITY SCREENING WITH GEORGE TAKEI: GLORIA RODRIGUEZ, JANICE WILLCOCKS, GEORGE TAKEI, JON LANE, KAREN HOAGLAND, AND RENEE WIKE.



ALL THE CELEBRITY SPEAKERS AUTOGRAPHED THE MOVIE POSTER. HERE'S GEORGE TAKEI SIGNING *ST:VI*.



WEEK 5 - *ST:V* CELEBRITY SCREENING WITH WALTER KOENIG POSING WITH KAREN HOAGLAND.



WEEK 10 - *ST:XI* CELEBRITY SCREENING WITH HERMAN ZIMMERMAN: RENEE WIKE, GLORIA RODRIGUEZ, HERMAN ZIMMERMAN, JANICE WILLCOCKS, AND JON LANE.

ALL PHOTOS ON THIS PAGE AND THE FOUR PAGES FOLLOWING ARE BY, OR SUPPLIED BY, JON LANE...EXCEPT FOR THE PHOTO OF KAREN HOAGLAND AND WALTER KOENIG, WHICH WAS SUPPLIED BY KAREN HOAGLAND.



SUMMER OF *STAR TREK* SATURDAY CELEBRITY SCREENINGS

Leonard Nimoy (Mr. Spock and Director of *Star Trek IV*) Talks About Eddie Murphy

Background: Many Star Trek fans are familiar with the rumor that Eddie Murphy was going to be in Star Trek IV: The Voyage Home (affectionately known as “the one with the whales”). So, was the rumor true? If yes, then what happened to stop the planned appearance? And what role would Eddie Murphy have had anyway? Nimoy addressed the Eddie Murphy rumor during his talk...

I met with Eddie Murphy because Jeff Katzenberg, who was Head of Production at the studio [Paramount], called me one day when we were preparing the story for *Star Trek IV*. It was very early in the story stages, and I'll tell you exactly what he said. He said, “I have an idea that's either the best idea in the world or the worst idea in the world... you're going to have to decide: Eddie Murphy wants to be in a *Star Trek* movie.”

Eddie was really hot, really hot. He'd just come off of a couple of big hits. So I said, “I'll go talk to him.”

Well, the legend was that when Paramount signed Eddie Murphy, and they had a million dollar check for him to deliver, they went to visit him on a *Saturday Night Live* production evening and went to his dressing room to give him this million dollar check and for him to sign his contract. And he made them wait while he finished watching a *Star Trek* episode! He was really into *Star Trek*, a serious *Star Trek* fan.

So I went to visit with him, and he said, “What did Jeff Katzenberg tell you?”

And I said, “He said that you would kill to be in a *Star Trek* movie.”

And he said, “That's exactly right!”

So I said, “Look, we love you; we think you're terrific. And you like us—that's wonderful, we're very pleased. But let's make sure that we do this thing right if we do it at all...because we don't want to hurt each other. And if it works, great. And if it doesn't work, let's just shake hands and say good-bye.”

And we kept working on it in the script and working on it and working on it, and it just wasn't working. It was like...it felt like an implant that just wouldn't take hold, and we let it go. And he did *The Golden Child* instead. And that's the way it went.

The host then asked, “Did you film it? Or did it change a couple of times?”

No. The story was we landed in San Francisco, as we did in the movie, and he was going to play a guy who did a radio talk show, and he believed in extraterrestrial people being here on Earth. And when he



saw us, he suspected there was something about us, and he kept trailing us to see if he could find out something about us to prove that we were...fish out of water, that there was something wrong, that there was something weird going on. But it kept being the same scene over and over again. We just couldn't find a way to develop that story for the film.

Note: the full interview can be found in 8 parts on YouTube, starting here:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vIUuEf5EP-o&feature=related>



Question: With Star Trek II, what was the studio like with you? Did you get pressured by Paramount to do anything specific?

The studio pretty much left me alone while I was shooting. The cast was pretty much all in place...even Montalban as the big star was already in place. Kirsti Alley...whom I discovered [*audience laughter*]...nothing to be ashamed of. Anyway, they left me alone; they were very happy with the cut that they saw at the end. They wanted a plot point changed—I can't exactly remember what it was—but it was something where Kirk finds out, or how he finds out, about his son. So we did a couple of re-shoots.

Nicholas Meyer (Director of *Star Trek II* and *Star Trek VI*) Talks About Last-Minute Changes to *Wrath of Khan*

Where it got really good—this was about five weeks before we opened—we screened the movie for Barry Diller, who was then the head of the studio, and it was in the administration screening room. And there was Barry Diller and Gary Nardino, who was the head of the television division, and Harve Bennett and me watching the movie. And the movie ended, and Barry Diller looks around. He goes, “I didn't know this movie was about the death of Spock! You can't kill Spock.”

I'm saying to myself, “We open in five weeks! How can you be the head of the studio, and you green lit the picture...???” But I didn't say that.

And then he said, “And I'll tell you something else! That scene between Kirk and his son...that doesn't work.”

And I said, “In your opinion...” [*Audience laughter.*]

And he says, “Look, I can say this to you politely or I can just let you have it. If that was MY father, I'd want to know where the f**k he'd been all my life!” [*More laughter.*]

I'm trying to keep my lunch in my stomach. It's the second movie

I've ever done, and I can hear the waves going out: this guys is trouble, don't work with him, I'll never be hired again anywhere...

And I said, “Here's where I come out: I shot the screenplay that we all agreed was going to be shot. You guys asked for some re-cuts, and I did them. You asked for some re-shoots, and I did them. And I've done all the re-shooting and all the re-cutting that I'm gonna do. And if you change a frame of this movie, I will be out with a sandwich board in front of the movie theater in Westwood, picketing this film. And if that's the kind of creative atmosphere that you think will lure other directors to this lot, well of course, that's your decision.

By this time, there's a vein popping out of his forehead. And he got up, and he said, “Well, if you feel so strongly, it's your f**king movie!” and he stomped out. And that was the end.

Note: the full interview can be found in two parts on YouTube, starting here:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e6mnhcud3pA&p=9EED62517561D9F8>



SUMMER OF *STAR TREK* SATURDAY CELEBRITY SCREENINGS



Ralph Winter (Associate Producer of *Star Trek II* through *Star Trek VI*) Talks About Keeping the Scripts Secret

Question: This era of filmmaking—the Star Trek films and Star Wars films—were kind of the beginning of the era where you had lots of fan interest and lots of concerns over secrecy on the set. I know this film had a lot of things—there were people who get killed, there was a certain ship that gets destroyed. Tell us: what did you do on the set to try to keep all these secrets, and then how is that different today with, like, the X-Men movies and other films that you work on these days?

Well, we actually pioneered some things, I think, on security. We talked with different government agencies about how they did stuff. And there were things like this special paper that you can't xerox, and that was just far too expensive and complicated.

But we actually had, with our movies, a unique thing that we could do. So not only did I make my assistants code the scripts or stamp them with a number so that every page had a number—so if your script was number 73, every page had a big red stamp on it with 73 on every page—but because we used stardates, four pages in, at the beginning of the movie, Bill or someone talks about a particular stardate—you wouldn't know this unless you compared your script with someone else's—but on page four of your script was the stardate. That stardate was unique to YOUR number. And that was kept in a log. So I could tell... even if you retyped the script, you'd retype the code back in it. So I could look at page four of any script and tell you whose script it was.

Now, the process worked great except that we had one notorious script that got lost. And it was Michael Eisner who left it on a plane! He was the head of the studio. So, y'know, when you sorta beat up the grips and the electricians to care for their script and the head of the studio leaves it on a plane...!

Note: the full interview can be found in two parts on YouTube, starting here:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=59Lw6POOHuk&feature=player_embedded

Nichelle Nichols (Commander Uhura) Talks About Getting Paid To Do Nothing

Background: Before taking questions, Nichelle (an elegant and charming lady and still looking beautiful) began her session by discussing Star Trek's place in science fiction history, and how it allowed so many sci-fi authors to create such amazing masterpieces. Then she got to Star Wars and how it returned the favor to Star Trek by motivating Paramount to bring it back a decade after its initial cancellation.

It [*Star Wars*] was magnificent, and Paramount (or whomever) who couldn't wait to cancel *Trek* and did after three years (of a five-year mission... we're stranded out there!) said, "Wait-a-minute! Wait-a-minute!" And here Lucas came along

with something wonderful—and not a copy but imagination, just imagine "if"...and predicated on scientific possibilities and a little imagination and fantasy thrown in—is what he did. But then they came back and said, "Whoa! Well, we've got something like that! Let's do movies!"

And actually, it started out... I had three contracts... or four. They were going to do a new series, you know, bring it back. Then they decided they weren't going to do a new series, they were going to do films every six months or three months, like six a year. So I signed that contract. And then they thought they would do a movie a year...big! I signed that

contract. And the wonderful thing about that was, when they decided not to do that, they had to pay us all.

So THAT was cool!

And when they finally decided to do a major motion picture with a five-time Oscar-winning director (whom I was a great fan of) Bob Wise, I said, "Do I have to report to work?" I just thought they were gonna pay me again while they decided what else they were going to do. I was really put out about it because I was really enjoying being paid lots of money for being told we weren't going to do it!



Note: the full interview can be found in four parts on YouTube, starting here:

<http://www.youtube.com/user/bdbdb#p/u/32/LretjLJ8MsU>



Walter Koenig (Commander Pavel Chekov) Talks About William Shatner's Directing Ability

Follow-up question: That brings up an interesting point. A couple of weeks ago, we had Ralph Winter here, and we were talking about all the movies. And he talked about how, when they were making Star Trek IV, he and Leonard and everyone kinda felt like it was working. He was saying that everything was falling together, and it was coming in under budget even. And then he said on five, on this one, the phrase he used is: "They were smokin' their own press releases." Did you get that sense between four and five of, when you were making it, that four was working and five wasn't working?

Well, I knew that four was working. When I read the script, I knew that four was going to be a terrific

film. It had everything you could want: not only was it a fast-moving story, all the characters were highlighted, we went back to our initial objective in the television series of making a social comment that was significant. It was very human, it was great action.

Star Trek V...I don't know what I thought exactly. I know what went wrong with *Star Trek V*. I don't know if...obviously I didn't have the foresight to know there would be problems. But *Star Trek V* suffered from a couple of things. NOT the director! I don't often speak glowingly of Mr. Shatner, but certainly it was not the consequence of the direction that the film didn't fall together, it fell apart. But

it did have to do with the script; it did have to do with the budget. I think they had initially budgeted more money for the story and with a more dynamic ending. And then they got into shooting—and not unlike *Star Trek I*—they found themselves painted into a corner. They didn't know how to resolve the story with the budget they had. So they ended up with a climax which really wasn't the climax. It did not have that coming together of all the elements in a dynamic sense of drama at the end of the story. As I said, it had more to do with the budget than the way the story was conceived initially.

Later question: One last question about the movies: how would you contrast the directing style of your

Absolutely not! It was what was left! Chose THIS movie???



SUMMER OF *STAR TREK* SATURDAY CELEBRITY SCREENINGS

other two co-stars, William Shatner and Leonard Nimoy, going from Star Trek IV to V...honestly?

I don't have any problem with honesty. Leonard directed by omission. That is to say, if he didn't say anything to you, you were doing well, you were doing fine. And I learned that very quickly. There was an occasion, in *Star Trek III*, when we all woke up. We were sleeping—where the hell were we sleeping?—outside of the tomb or something where Leonard comes back...somebody knows, right? Anyway, we woke up, and one of our cast members did a gesture, like this...

[Walter puts one fist over his mouth, yawns silently, and stretches his other arm upwards in a very elaborate "waking up" motion.]

I have never seen Leonard pissed off as when that happened. He yelled, "CUT!" He went over to that person and said, "Don't EVER do that again!" In the parlance, in the actor's parlance, it's called "indicating." It's not a true emotion, it's you're *indicating* emotion. So aside from that, I never really saw him get upset with anything.

He did get upset with me once. But it wasn't the acting in the film. This was in *Star Trek IV*...you may have heard this story. We were in the Bird-of-Prey, and it was a day like today, and it was hot, and we were in these very cramped quarters inside the Bird-of-Prey. And we get to the end of the day, and we just had one shot left, and we got that shot, and everybody was really excited. And I don't know what possessed

me—God knows—but we were using those seats that had real motors so that we would vibrate, y'know? So Leonard said, "Cut! That's a wrap!" and I said, "Leonard! Leonard! Oooo, I have a terrific idea!"

He says, "Quiet, everyone, quiet." I swear, it went through the ranks: "Quiet!" "Quiet!" "Quiet!" "Quiet!" Everybody stopped, and they all turned to me. I said, "Turn on the motor under my chair!" He yelled, "Turn it on!" and they turned it on and watched. And I sat there and I said...

[Water begins doing a Katherine Hepburn impersonation while vibrating himself...]

"I!"vvee aallwwaayyss lloovveedd SSppennnceerr TTrraacccyy!!"

He was really upset about that.

So he directed by omission, y'know, if he didn't say anything, you were cool. Bill was just the opposite. I never ever remember Bill getting upset with anybody, but if you said, "Aye, aye, sir..." in your scene, he said [in a mock Shatner impersonation], "Walt.....that.....was..... GOOD!"

The last day of the shoot—I was only on the film eight days—and I turned to George, who was sitting at the console, I said, "You know, George, today is my last day." He says [in a deep-voiced George Takei

impersonation], "Oh, well! We have to tell Bill!" And I said, "Don't tell Bill! Don't tell Bill!" He said [still in George Takei voice], "No. Oh, Bill? This is Walter's last day!" [Switching to Shatner voice], "Walt!" [Walter makes a huge hugging gesture of an over-the-top embrace from Shatner.] It was embarrassing.

I really anticipated having problems with Bill...because Bill is Bill, and because I'm a little paranoid. So I said to the others, before we started shooting, I said, "If he's gonna come down on us, any of us, I don't know what you're gonna do, but I'm gonna walk...I'm gonna walk off the set!" 'Cause I really anticipated it. You know, his first statement about making this film is he wanted to go back to the days of the series when there were three actors, a triumvirate. And then y'know, we were sort've moving furniture in the background. And that's pretty much what was implied and certainly what I inferred.

So I was anticipating. I was anticipating problems. And of course, that never turned out to be the case. He was extremely reinforcing... waaaaay out of proportion, but that's okay. Better that way than the other. So, yeah, the experience itself was a benevolent experience.

Note: the full interview can be found in 4 parts on YouTube, starting here:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=48HdoS_dKKY&feature=player_embedded

George Takei (Captain Hikaru Sulu) Talks About a Korean Actor (John Cho) Playing the Japanese Character of Sulu

for Sulu—he wanted to find a Japanese-American because I'm Japanese-American. And when he told me that, I realized that he was probably only four or five years old when *Star Trek* first came on. And so I had to share with him Gene Roddenberry's vision of what *Star Trek* was and who Sulu is.

As I said, the *Enterprise* was a metaphor for Starship Earth, and we were all to represent the diversity of this planet Earth. Uhura represented Africa. Scotty represented Europe. Captain Kirk represented North America. Eastern Europe was Chekov. And my character was to represent Asia...all of Asia. But Asian surnames are all nationally specific. Tenaka is Japanese. Wang is Chinese. Kim is Korean. And twentieth century Asia had a turbulent history of warfare and colonization and all sorts of strife. And he didn't want to introduce that element. He wanted to find some name that suggested all of Asia...pan-Asia. And he was staring at the map of the world that he had pasted on his wall in his office, and he saw in the southern part of the South China Sea, a sea called the Sulu Sea. And he thought, "Ah, the waters of a sea touch ALL shores." And that's how Sulu came to be named Sulu.

And so I told J.J. Abrams this story, and comforted by that, he went on to cast John Cho. And he made a very good choice, I think. I've known John for many, many years before from East West Players. But as a result of our chance to get to know each other even better, I discovered another part of John that I'm very impressed by. When

Proposition 8 came on the ballot, I certainly wanted to fight that. That was the bill to ban marriage equality in California because the California Supreme Court had ruled for marriage equality. And so we were organizing in the Asian-American community a press conference and a rally against Proposition 8. And we had Asian-American politicians, Congresswoman Judy Chu, Assembly people from the California Assembly, Ted Nguyen, and many dignitaries. And John Cho also agreed to speak against Proposition 8. He was a brand new father, he's happily married with a son, and yet he shares the important idea of equality for all...regardless of orientation.

So I was very proud of John when he joined us in that press conference and spoke, as an individual, but also as a young father. And he wanted—his child was a baby then—but he said, "When my son grows up, I want him to be able to have his choice." And he didn't want any ban imposed on him by harsh reactionaries. And I was very moved by his speech then. And I was even prouder to know that the part that I was privileged to play was being carried on by a man of that kind of integrity and that kind of vision and that kind of courage.

Note: the full interview can be found in four parts on YouTube, starting here:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FW_UkF9kLHU&feature=related



Question: You approve of John Cho. I believe that J.J. Abrams even called you to get the thumbs-up on John Cho because he was Korean instead of Japanese. When you...

Let me comment on that. You know, I found it interesting. I was asked to come in and have breakfast with J.J. Abrams, and I really made a discovery of how old we are because J.J. Abrams really didn't know Gene Roddenberry's philosophy of *Star Trek*. He told me that when he was casting *Star Trek* for all of the characters—and particularly



SUMMER OF *STAR TREK* SATURDAY CELEBRITY SCREENINGS



Herman Zimmerman (veteran Production Designer on *Star Trek* from 1987-2005) Talks About Frictions with *Star Trek: Nemesis* Director Stuart Baird

everything kind of guy. And I thought, "Oh, this is going to be fun."

And as soon as the cameras started rolling, he became impossible to work with. Nothing ever satisfied him, everybody was doing it wrong, and he had to somehow pull it together anyway because we were all such fools. He made the actors feel that way, and I think when you do that, you don't get the best work out of your cast. He had a terrible time finding the lead actor...

This has nothing to do with Stuart Baird, but at one point, before we went into production, when they were still casting around for somebody to play the alter-ego of Picard, I suggested Bono. And Rick Berman looked at me and said, "You want me to offer this part to the biggest rock star in the world???" And I said, "Yeah, I think he'd do it." And to this day, I think he would have. He resembles Patrick Stewart a lot more than Tom Hardy. And Tom Hardy, I know, he's a good actor. He's done much better work since he left. Nicer fellow you can't meet, but Stuart was always goading Tom one way or another, and Patrick resented it...and it was just a lot of friction on the set. And Patrick didn't like Stuart saying, "Don't say it this way, say it that way." And no good actor wants line readings, and Stuart wanted to give everybody line readings.

He also wanted to design the sets. He wanted to do the music. As an editor, he has more control over all those things, but he can only work with what the director has given him as an editor. And as a director, he somehow lost track of where his real responsibility lay. As a result, there was too much friction on the set.

We still made a decent movie. I wouldn't say it's the best movie, but he did want to make it darker, he did want to look into the Romulan soul and make this a real horror movie...a high-class horror movie, but that was really the direction he wanted to go. And it wasn't bad, but it wasn't fun.

My set decorator, John Dwyer, whom I worked with on several pictures—he had a long list of credits... way better than mine—and he couldn't take it. He quit about two-thirds of the way through shooting because he couldn't find any set dressings that Stuart Baird actually approved of. So we got a new set decorator, and he ended up using all the things that John had picked...because there wasn't anything wrong with John's set decorating, it was just that, for whatever reason, Stuart wanted to find fault with him.

And when you work with a person like that, you tend

to lose respect. And when you lose respect, especially from the cast, you don't get the best performances. It has nothing to do with my relationship to him; he finally approved the things that I wanted to do. He wanted to make a \$150 million movie, and the studio would only give him \$55 million to make it with. So he was still trying to muscle everybody around to give him that kind of quality, and you can't do it. Everything you see on the screen has a direct correlation to the budget. You can only do so much in so many days. If you need ten million dollars to build the sets and they only give you four, there's no way it's gonna look the same.

And the difference between a J.J. Abrams film and all of the other *Star Trek* films is that he didn't allow them to restrict him to what was spent. He spent the budget they wanted him to spend on the art department in the year before they actually started shooting. I wish I'd had that kind of money to work with, too!

Note: the full interview can be found in four parts on YouTube, starting here:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CtOHJILFZxc&feature=player_embedded

Question: In the past, you've said that Patrick Stewart's favorite set was the Enterprise-E, which you made for First Contact and used again in Insurrection. It was done differently in this film. The director wanted it to look different, to look darker. How was working with Stuart Baird versus working with Jonathan Frakes (Stuart Baird, the Director of Nemesis) and how he wanted to kind of change the look of the established "E" and some of the other looks of the show.

Stuart has a big ego, and he's a really good editor. And as a human being, in pre-production, before we actually started shooting, he was the most charming...willing to listen to any idea...loved



NAME: DAVID SLADKY
RANK: CAPTAIN
POSITION: COMMANDING OFFICER
SHIP: USS STORM NCC-1694
REGION: 7, NEW JERSEY (USA)

The History of the *USS Storm*

It is a long and varied history, spanning two decades and lots of time, energy, and fun. But for the most part, it can be counted on as a testament of the staying power of both *Star Trek* and being a *Star Trek* fan.

In 1991 at the Sands Hotel in Atlantic City, New Jersey, my first-ever *Star Trek* convention was held there called StarCon. It was a success, and it introduced me to the concept of a *Star Trek* fan. Up till that time, I had been isolated from them and really did not have any idea there where people out there who liked the same stuff I did. This was before the Internet and e-mail. Instant contact was a phone call if you were lucky.

With this new excitement, I got in contact with a group called the IFT (International Federation of Trekkers) and decided to start my very own

Star Trek club. The core group would be me, my brother Mike, Bill Shoemaker, Pablo Bermudas, and Craig Baird. After a vote, the crew decided on the name Storm after the character Storm in Marvel comics.

We were hard-pressed to be able to do much. With almost no money and very little in the way of getting uniforms or props, we relied on meeting and role-playing games to enjoy the *Star Trek* experience. It was shortly after that I discovered that the IFT had not even listed us as a chapter. A few letters and a few phone calls should have sorted the matter out, but months later we were still not listed as a chapter.

Seeing as we had been getting along by ourselves all this time, we decided we didn't need a big organization to pay dues to, so we went independent. This was a bold move that I would later regret, as not

having any support for your group put all of the pressure on me as the captain. After some power plays by the crew, I decided to step down as captain and move over to commodore, letting the crew pick a new captain and to help out as needed.

Without the forward momentum we had, things soon fell into disarray, and the *Storm* soon was more or less in drydock. From this point on, the ship and crew went through many changes and, time and again, I tried to find a group that would fit us: Starfleet Marines International, the Special Security Division, Starfleet Command, the Federation, the United Federation of Planets International, and maybe a few I have forgotten about over the years. Then in October of 2009, a friend I made when I was Chief of Operations in Starfleet Marines International, Larry Neigut, contacted me and asked

if I was interested about starting up a chapter of STARFLEET. After the implosion of the last club I was in, I was not looking to get back into the grind of working on a group and being its leader. To be honest, it's a real pain in the rear. But Larry was persuasive, and with a lot of help from him, we became a shakedown chapter attached to the *USS Challenger* and commissioned as a full STARFLEET chapter on October 30, 2010.

As we move on, I can only hope we make a powerful mark in the world and fandom as well as community service!

<http://starfleetmarines.com/USSStorm/smain.html>

USS STORM NCC-1694



0742-94-16





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



1743-01-620

Attention on Deck!

STATE of the SFMC

I hope this message finds you and your families all doing well and enjoying life in your areas of responsibility.

NEW QUARTERMASTER ITEM

This is a 3'x 5', single sided (printing on one side) red flag featuring the SFMC Globe and Anchor. This flag is made from 200D Knitted Polyester and has two grommets for display on flag poles. The SFMC Globe and Anchor is digitally printed on one side of the flag and will bleed through to the other side, which means that the image is reversed on the other side.

These flags look great but quantities are limited, so place your order now before they are gone!

SFMC SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Our scholarship account total stands at

approximately \$2,900.00. 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 get \$5,000.00 in the account by the end of 2010!

COMMANDANT'S CAMPAIGN AWARD

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

Collecting Toys for Tots:
 Raising money/participating in events designed to raise money for Special Olympics; and,
 Collecting/raising money and other donations for hurricane relief efforts.

You must also make sure your unit OIC

reports your involvement and what you did in his bi-monthly report to COFORCECOM. If the activity is not reported, you cannot be awarded the Commandant's Campaign award for last year.

What do YOU want from the SFMC?

Tell us! We can't help you enjoy your experience in the SFMC without knowing what you would like to see of what you would like to do. We want to make the SFMC a fun and enjoyable experience but we need your feedback to do it the right way.

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:

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SFMC Deputy Commandant:

depdant@sfi-sfmc.org

Sergeant Major, SFMC:

sgm-sfmc@sfi-sfmc.org

Commanding Officer, Forces Command:

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Commanding Officer Training and Doctrine

Command: tracom@sfi-sfmc.org

Commanding Officer, Information Command:

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Commanding Officer, Finance Command:

fincom@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.

Report from the CO INFOCOM

Begin transmission...

Once again deep from the confines of the SFMC Data Warfare center it's time for the INFOCOM report. The last couple of months here at INFOCOM have been a little busy with the preparation for IC 2010. Other than that, things have been kind of quiet.

Appointment of New Deputy Commanding Officer INFOCOM

I would like to announce that after a lengthy application period I have chosen a new Deputy Commanding Officer Information Command, Lieutenant Colonel William Hof.

Attention on Deck! Extra Turns One!

The official supplement to the Attention on Deck!, the Attention on Deck! Extra turned one this year and is already working on its second year of publication. I would like to congratulate the Attention on Deck! Extra staff for a job well done! The Attention on Deck! Extra is a supplement to the Attention on Deck! that is published monthly and contains all the latest information regarding what is going on in the Corps. The latest edition, as well as back issues, can be downloaded from the SFMC website.

SFMC Manuals

By the time that this article goes to print, the IC will have already have happened and a few new and updated manuals will have been released. Now because this year is an election year, I have decided to try and get as many manuals as possible published by the end of the year. This means that several manuals will be published sometime after IC. No exact publication dates will be set and they will be published as work is completed on them. Because of this, an updated SFMC Documents Compendium CD will not be available until after IC.

Staffing

Volunteers are always welcome. If you have experience in programming, Joomla, video editing, publications, graphics, etc..., please send your SFMC resume and a small portfolio of your work to infocom@sfi-sfmc.org. INFOCOM is also looking for the following positions;

PHP/Javascript/Flash

INFOCOM is once looking for a PHP/Javascript/Flash developer for various projects. Applicants must have knowledge of PHP, Javascript or Flash, and HTML.

Developer:

If interested please forward a copy of a STARFLEET and real world resume and if possible any examples of prior work to COINFOCOM.

General INFOCOM lackey: INFOCOM has a lot of projects going on at once and so needs a few people to help out here and there. If you have any web design, graphics, publishing, presentation, etc... experience and are willing to help out, please by all means contact and send me your STARFLEET and real world resume and if possible any examples of prior work. Also be sure to specify what area you would like to help out in (graphic, web design, publication, etc...). This is a great opportunity for someone who is looking to help out the SFMC on an international level and to get their foot in the door.

Awards

Add another ribbon to your fruit salad. Impress your friends! Get the Girl! *Please note results may vary.*

Do you or someone you know publish a newsletter or some other SFMC related literature or media (audio/visual)? Do you or someone you know design and create SFMC

related websites? If you do, then why not nominate that marine for the Communications Achievement Award? To nominate a marine for the award, just go here: <http://bit.ly/cEQhPV> (takes you directly to the award form). Please note that the site, newsletter, and/or video/audio must be related to the SFMC in some way.

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...

Major General Sean Niemeyer
Commanding Officer, INFOCOM
mail: infocom@sfi-sfmc.org;
twitter: [@sfmc_infocom](https://twitter.com/sfmc_infocom)
USS Asimov NCC-1647-A
Region 7, Pennsylvania (USA)

0743-47-16



Report from the Sergeant Major, SFMC

Greetings Marines!

Well, once again I'm coming to you from the booth in the back, in the corner, in the dark of the local NCO club, where that noise just outside the door is just the Air Defense installation taking care of the mosquitoes here, and the menu for the day for any NCO with MOS 467, 653, or 916 (meteorology types, just to save you looking it up) is crow, due to the weird weather we've been experiencing locally.

As I write this, IC/IM is looming, and I'd like to take this opportunity to congratulate this year's Star of Honor winner. I'll call this fine Marine out by name in my next report, but suffice it to say that reading all the nominations for the various Honor award winners sure makes me proud to be a Marine.

Special thanks go out to the folks who made the job even harder by writing such outstanding nominations for the candidates for the awards. I know I've said it before, but it's up to each and every one of us to make sure our fellow Marines get recognized, and it's always good to see folks going the extra mile and writing up such thorough recommendations.

Speaking of recognizing fellow Marines, as usual I'd like to take this time to give some shout outs to some of our enlisted members. This month, I got a link to a creative little video from MGSgt Matt Ezell of the 327th (SO) MSG using some videogame footage. Email me if you'd like the link. I personally think it's a few minutes well spent. Meanwhile, the 20th BDE has been reactivated, and over in the newly active R20, SGM Marie "M" Wilson is now the acting RC. It should come as no surprise to anyone who knows SGM Wilson that she turned down promotion, and is serving as RC as an E-9.

Remaining enlisted in the SFMC is a matter of personal choice, and it's good to see that choice being respected. If there's an enlisted Marine that you know of that has done something special that you think the whole Corps deserves to know about, please drop me a line so I can mention them here.

One of the responsibilities of SFMC NCOs is to lead the way in community service efforts. Just this past month, I received an email from a Marine who reminded me just why it is we work so hard in that area.

While part of coordinating communications for their state's Special Olympics event (over 250 hours put in by members of the brigade), a young participant spotted the SFMC comm. badge the Marine was wearing and told her how much he loved Star Trek. He asked where he could get one like hers, and she quickly removed it and presented it to the delighted youngster. In her words "you'd have thought I'd given him a million dollars," and she went on to tell me how much personal joy she took away from the event.

That's why we do community service ... for those moments when we realize how much what we're doing means to those we're helping. Here's hoping you have one of those personal stories to tell of your own. Please let me know.

In other news, there's a new course available over at the NCO Academy on NCO History and Traditions. I encourage you to give it a whirl.

Now it's time for Top's History Lesson. I'm often reminded that the US doesn't have a monopoly on Marines or outstanding NCOs, and I'd like to tell you about a member of the Royal Marine Corps that you should probably know about.

LCPL Thomas Peck Hunter, a 21 year old native of Aldershot, had recently been promoted to acting Corporal while serving as leader of a Bren gun section of 43 Commando. On April 2, 1945, as one of the leading elements of 43 Commando as they advanced toward their objective in Italy, Hunter and his fellow Royal Marines came under fire from German machine guns while crossing a wide stretch of open ground. Mortars joined the party, and the Marines were in serious trouble.

Acting CPL Hunter stood up, and charged across 200 yards of open ground, firing from the hip and changing magazines as he ran. He cleared three machine guns from houses, and six Germans surrendered to him, but at least six more machine gun nests were firing at the Marines.

From the citation:

"Again, offering himself as a target, he lay in full view of the enemy on a heap of rubble and fired at the concrete pillboxes on the other side. He again drew most of the fire, but by now the greater part of the Troop had made for the safety of the houses. During this period he shouted encouragement to the remainder, and called only for more Bren magazines with which he could engage the Spandaus. Firing with great accuracy up to the last, Corporal Hunter was finally hit in the head by a burst of Spandau fire and killed instantly.

There can be no doubt that Corporal Hunter offered himself as a target in order to save his Troop, and only the speed of his movement prevented him being hit earlier. The skill and accuracy with which he used his Bren gun is proved by the way he demoralised the enemy, and later did definitely silence many of the Spandaus firing on his Troop as they crossed open ground, so much so that under

his covering fire elements of the Troop made their final objective before he was killed.

Throughout the operation his magnificent courage, leadership, and cheerfulness had been an inspiration to his comrades."

On June 2, 1945, Thomas Peck Hunter became the only Royal Marine to be awarded the Victoria Cross in WW2. The posthumous award was given to his parents, and was later donated to the Royal Marines Museum. The Royal Marines treasure his memory and a number of buildings, memorials, and organizations are named after him. Among those is Hunter Company, of the Royal Marine Commando Training Center. Hunter Company is comprised of trainees who have been injured or otherwise physically unable to keep up for a time to maintain their edge while they heal up and can return to the normal training regimen.

As usual, I'll close with reminding you about the official NCO mailing list. It's open to all SFI members, Fleet or Marine, with an interest in enlisted affairs. If there's no discussion going on ... start one. <http://lists.sfi-sfmc.org/listinfo.cgi/nco-l-sfi-sfmc.org>

And, please feel free to contact the SFMC General Staff with any questions or concerns you have. The email addresses are ALL on the SFMC web page, and their doors are always open. Your questions and input are always welcome and needed.

Semper Fi!

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

IC/IM 2010 Awards

The following awards are in addition to those listed in the previous issue of the *Communiqué*:

Cadet Cross of Honor

Anya Walker

Cadet Star of Honor

Marlee Glenn (225th MSG, USS BortaS)

Leader's Commendation (Issued by COTRACOM)

William Hof (64832)

Meritorious Unit Citation (Issued by SFMC Commandant)

5th Brigade

7th Brigade

International Muster Award

Mark Anbinder

Mike Urvand

Sal Lizard
 Aaron Murphy
 Lea Morgan
 Patrick McAndrew
 Sam Black
 Jeffery Higdon
 Karen Higdon
 Christopher Higdon
 Brian Allen
 DJ Allen
 Eric Johannson
 John Kane

Kris Murphy
 Joost Ueffing
 Jenn Hoover
 John Roberts
 Barbara Baker
 Glen Diebold
 Jeremy Carsten
 J.D. Clancy
 Matt Moyer
 Mark Webb
 William Hof
 Krista Darbyshire





0545-03-747

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



Ask Prigal: A Monthly Question & Answer Session from the Enlisted Point of View

Dear Prigal

What is best in life?

Yours cordially

G. Khan and A. T. Hun

Dear Comedians,

I get it ... I'm some sort of barbarian. I've been called worse.

When you think about it, a Marine's job is pretty barbaric. Instead of laying whole planets to waste (General Order 24, anyone?) or wiping out a whole crew with one well aimed torpedo or interfering with the development of an entire culture (Prime Directive my ... foot!), we silly Marine barbarians actually go to where the enemy is, and shoot only the people shooting at us. Yep, pretty darn backwards and savage of us.

Of course, some of us barbarians are a little more tech-savvy than our fellow knuckle walking Neanderthals, and can trace messages like this back to their point of origin, say a certain Galaxy class ship.

So you ask me what is best in life?

Good is knowing that aboard the Galaxy class, the waste disposal system in the saucer section

(where Mssrs "Khan" and "Hun" have their quarters) has pumps that can be made to run in reverse on a specific computer command to help clear blockages or in the event of a medical containment and that command can be linked to the recognition system that opens one's personal quarters when one goes to the door.

Better is knowing an Engineering rating with a grudge against a couple of snotty junior officers that can help set the whole thing up.

Best is knowing that you'll never be sure if I'm kidding or not unless (or until) something actually happens.

Laugh it up, wiseguys!

Prigal

Dear Prigal,

The other day I heard a Marine joking (I hope he was joking) that if our Captain liked, he would solve a discipline problem aboard our ship by "just shooting the sorry so and so."

I was appalled! Why must you Marines be so violent?

Sign me

Can't we all just get along?

Dear Pacifist,

Why must we Marines be so violent? Because it's our job, and we're darn good at it.

Look, in general, Starfleet's job is exploration and advancing knowledge. You know, the whole "boldly going where no one has gone before" bit? But some of those new civilizations you're seeking out aren't very nice people, and turning the other cheek only gets you so far.

In spite of their high ideals, the various races that make up the Federation have recognized that sometimes you have to fight. That's why starships are armed, and why the Fleet has fought some pretty terrible actions throughout its existence. A starship is a darn powerful weapon, and can, if necessary, wipe out all life on a planet (see General Order 24).

But sometimes, you need to be a little more subtle, especially on a planet's surface. That's where us Marines come in. While a starship can blow a planetside target to rubble, Marines can go in and take it away from whoever has it. Strange as it may sound, Marines are a finesse weapon, and we make that violence that may become necessary PERSONAL. To borrow from the old Earth author Heinlein, the SFMC is "...as personal as a punch in the nose," and if we get orders to capture or kill every left handed redhead in an area, we'll do it or die trying...

So yeah, we're sometimes seen as violent. But it's a controlled violence, and like soldiers on every planet throughout history, we fight and die so people like you can keep your high ideals instead of working in the mines or even being fodder for some joker that isn't as nice as you are.

Be appalled all you want. It's your right. But never forget that right was purchased with the lives of brave beings who fought to let you keep on being appalled.

Man, I must have been hanging around Gunny too long. I'm beginning to sound like that grumpy old so-and-so.

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.)

USS LOGOS NCC-1687

NAME: JULIE PRESCOTT
RANK: CAPTAIN
POSITION: COMMANDING OFFICER
SHIP: *USS LOGOS* NCC-1687
REGION: 5, IDAHO (USA)

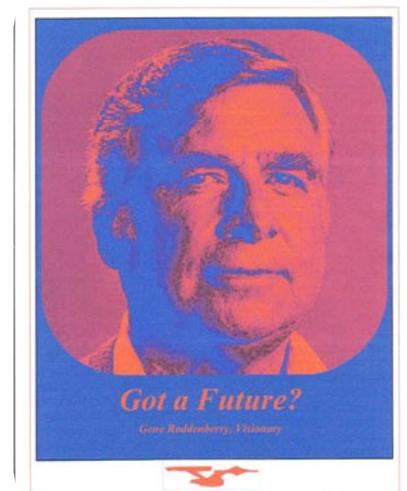
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Commissioning of the *USS Logos* in Boise, Idaho

On August 8, 2010, the *USS Logos* was commissioned as a STARFLEET chapter in Region 5. Our commissioning was held at the Library at Hillcrest, a branch of the Boise Public Library. In conjunction with our commissioning, we hosted a library program about how *Star Trek* has changed the world.

We also used our commissioning to kick off our "Got A Future?"

project. Its purpose is to educate and inspire people to make the future a place of wonder, equity, freedom, and hope. It is based on the vision of Gene Roddenberry, who has been quoted as saying, "In the 24th century there will be no hunger, no greed, and all the children will know how to read." We have a Facebook group that is open to everyone, and even Nichelle Nichols has joined.



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0247-04-20

Visit the STARFLEET Quartermaster at WWW.QM.SFI.ORG

The STARFLEET Quartermaster is pleased to bring you an assortment of our most popular items for the new year.



First, the STARFLEET padfolio. Embossed with the STARFLEET logo, these durable, black faux-leather padfolios have compartments for CDs and business cards, two large inner compartments for documents and other items, and zip-closed for carrying. This full-sized folio holds a standard 8.5" x 11" pad, and has slots for business cards, CDs, and additional storage on the inside cover for larger items.



Our latest item, the three-color STARFLEET hat! For years we've sold hats, but only in single colors - navy or black. These new style hats have arrived, and as you can see, they are really sharp! Please note that these hats have a velcro fastener in the back, so they are extremely adjustable. The left side of the picture shows the velcro fastener open.



The newest color in STARFLEET polos, our grey shirts come with a larger, more detailed STARFLEET logo. These shirts come with an unconditional manufacturer's 10-year guarantee. On these shirts, the STARFLEET logo has been enlarged by about 25%, which makes it clearer and more attractive. Here are some details from the manufacturer's website: "Solid, substantial and soft. Jersey is a very 'flat' stitch and gives maximum contact between the fiber and the skin. When that fiber is ringspun, combed 100% Pima cotton, you experience a whole new level of comfort. Pima is the softest, silkiest, and strongest cotton on the planet! We've used this luxurious cotton to create a polo specifically designed for office wear. The professional cut was engineered to help you make it through those long office hours and still look good at the end of the day. Features include a ribbed knit collar, contrast taped neck, and classic two-button placket. Once you experience the long-lasting pleasure of wearing a pima jersey polo, you'll never want to wear an ordinary, department store polo again!"

The Star Trek Online Collector's Cup set! A complete set of all four of the different *Star Trek Online* cups. These cups were produced by restaurant chain Del Taco in early 2010 as part of a promotion for *Star Trek Online*. These cups are no

longer available at Del Taco, and appear to be rare to non-existent on auction sites. The cup holds 32 ounces, stands about 8.5 inches tall, and is washable and re-useable. There is a game time code under a sticker, but it is expired. These cups were donated to STARFLEET by Atari and are being sold to benefit the STARFLEET Academy Scholarship fund.

Please go to < www.qm.sfi.org > to check out these and the dozens of other items we currently have for sale. You can place your order and pay online, or if you prefer, place your order and print your invoice, and pay through the mail via check or money order.



If you prefer not to use the website, you can write up your order and mail it to the Quartermaster, and we will create an invoice, including shipping and any applicable taxes, and mail your invoice back at no extra charge! Orders or inquiries may be mailed to:

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