

STARFLEET
THE INTERNATIONAL STAR TREK FAN ASSOCIATION INC.

COMMUNIQUE

ON THE EDGE OF FOREVER

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Fleet Admiral Sal Lizard served as Commander, STARFLEET from 2008-2010.

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The Guardian of Forever

In the Star Trek universe, analysis of the ruins on the Guardian's home world suggests it may be billions of years old but no one knows who built the Guardian. The Guardian is able to speak to anyone who asks it a question, though the meaning of its responses are not always clear.

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Below Deck Notables

Members who do the little things that make a big difference.



Porbjörg Elfa Hauksdóttir • USS Thor's Hammer

Elfa has been in STARFLEET for two years serving aboard the USS Thor's Hammer in Region 9 in Iceland, and is presently serving as the Financial Officer and the Acting Counselor, Elfa's area of interest in STARFLEET is in the Science and Medical departments.

In her free time she remodels and fixes up older vehicles. Her main interests are handcrafts and airbrushing. She also makes jewelry and things from materials such as wood, paper, stones, sea shells, pearls, all kinds of wires. She makes things like cloths, pictures also bookbinding.

Her favorite Star Trek character is Spock, and has been for the last 30 years, ever since she got to know Star Trek.



Paul Woolard • USS Genesis

Paul is one of our longest-serving and hardest-working members. A member of Starfleet since September 2008, Paul, along with many of the USS Genesis' current crew, was originally a member of the USS Southern Cross in Region 11. Paul is also a proud Marine.

In his other life, Paul is also an extremely hard-working man. He works for one of our electrical utility companies in South Australia and spends much time traveling away from home for his job.

Paul enjoys Star Trek – The Original Series and has met some of the actors when one of our local fan clubs has helped host conventions. Paul is also very interested in videoing and has been one of the cameramen at many of our functions and another costuming group of which some of us are members.



Catherine McKean • USS Vanguard

Midshipman Catherine McKean (or Cat) wanted to join a Star Trek fan club so she joined STARFLEET in Jan 2010 with her dad. She is a Life Sciences Tech / Medic in her STARFLEET persona. She has wanted to be a pediatrician most of her young life. Cat occasionally plays Star Trek Online as a Vulcan science officer or Caitian tactical officer. Her Vulcan character is often interwoven into her school writing assignments. Cat attends gifted education in science, math and reading. Some of her more noteworthy projects involved Rh factor testing of human blood (synthetic) and designing/building a solar fan. In addition to her academics, Cat leads her school in collecting Bixtops for Education. Plus she participates in ballet and numerous sports. Cat also performs with the violin and piano. Her favorite Star Trek episodes are *The Trouble with Tribbles* and *Trials and Tribble-ations*. She hopes to interact with other Star Trek fans at the IC 2013 in Dallas.

Letter From The Editor

Welcome to the Communiqué that time forgot!

We're continuing to work diligently to catch up the CQ and get things back on schedule. I wanted to take a moment and publicly thank our intrepid leader, Dave. Dave has pitched in with writing, editing, and following me around with a Klingon pain stick to help get us back on track. He has been a great help, and we probably wouldn't be catching up as quickly as we are now without him.

Thank you, Dave!

One of the hardest things about being this far behind schedule is knowing exactly what to place in each issue. In the end, we made a decision to try to keep the content in the issues relevant to their scheduled publication date -- that way, in a year or two, people will know where to look for things. I apologize for any confusion that causes now, but hopefully it will all make sense in the long run.

Important Note: We will be publishing minutes and notes from International Conference on the CQ Online Site (<http://cq.sfi.org>) - there were some important things passed by the Admiralty Board that shouldn't wait for issue # 172.

As always, we are looking for assistance with copy editing. If you would like to volunteer, please drop me an e-mail at comms@sfi.org -- we'd love to hear from you!

Thank you all for your continuing patience, and enjoy reading!

VADM Michael Dugas
Chief of Communications

Correction

In Issue 169, the article on page 5 "As I See It, Star Trek Lessons and Daily Life" was actually written and submitted by Captain Arie Beaudin, USS Luddington.

We Need Your Articles!

The Communiqué depends on your articles and information. While we need articles of all types, this page features a section that needs your help: Below Decks.

Below Decks is an opportunity to profile members that may not otherwise be known to most of the members of STARFLEET. Please submit your small profiles (usually no more than a few sentences) and a photo to our submission address: cq@sfi.org

Subspace Communications

News from around the fleet.

USS Navras: “A Good Day to Dine”

Cody Glenn
USS Navras

On April 28, nine members of the Navras attended the joint event “A Good Day to Dine” with members of the Klingon Assault Group, at Cooper’s OldTime BBQ Pit at the Fort Worth Stockyards. Klingons, Vulcans, Andorians, and Cardassians shared in some truly exquisite food and some great company, all while posing for pictures with the local restaurant patrons.

But that wasn’t all! Members Chris Prewitt, Cameron Wilkinson, Anna Duch, Aaron Coventry, Maria Hitner, Vince Silmon, Amber Snethen, Jeremy

Mayes, Kurt Whittenberger, Stephanie Naboshek, Michael Tolleson, Samantha Tolleson, and Adam Dugger of the USS Navras hosted a table at this year’s Dallas Comic Con on May 19-20 on the third floor of the Irving Convention Center, and right across the hallway from the room that Sir Patrick Stewart was signing autographs in! As a rare treat, members of the USS Navras were given “guard duty” and surrounded/escorted Mr. Stewart through the convention center in full uniform as he proceeded to/from his Q&A session.



Cadet Eve Glenn



ILT Vincent Silmon



COL Michael Tolleson



(left to right) ENS Brooke Pier, LT Megan Martin



LTJG Chris Prewitt

USS Joan of Ark and USS Bexar Paintball Competition

MAJ Alvina Bryant
USS Bexar

On April 21, 2012 the Members of the STARFLEET Marine Corps of the USS Bexar and the USS Joan of Arc meet with members of the paintball team "Federation Guard" (made up of crew members of the USS Bexar) for a friendly competition at the Tactical Paintball in Harwood, TX. We played several mock battle scenarios for most of the day and at the end, unfortunately, there was no clear winner(although the Federation Guard did claimed victory). The next time we will meet it will not be on a field of battle but for a picnic on the grounds of Lackland AFB in San Antonio, TX.



The Chaplain Corps in Region 4

LTJG Stephen Griswold
USS Peace Keeper

The Chaplain Services as a whole has been continuing to grow and increase its outreach in STARFLEET. In Region 4 it has been no different. As Chaplains we are here for the support of our fellow members, weather that support come through times of trials or celebration.



Chap. (LTJG) Stephen Griswold
Region 4 Chaplain Liaison
Photo Taken by
ENS Maria Griswold

It was in that spirit of service that my wife (ENS Maria Griswold) and I traveled recently from our home in Region 4 (central California) to Region 2, more specifically to Central Florida where my wife was born and raised. While we were there we were warmly greeted by Chap. (BDR) Bryan Jones STARFLEET Deputy Chief Chaplain, Chap. (CDR) Anne Zecca Assistant Deputy Chaplain, and Chap. (CPT) Philip Bower Region 2 Chaplain Liaison.

During our time there we were privileged to pay honor to loved ones of STARFLEET member's family and friends who were laid to rest at the Florida National Cemetery. I felt truly privileged to be able to travel across the country and meet other members and perform a service for others on this level.

This is only one of many examples of how the Chaplain Services is here for you in STARFLEET and that no distance is too great or mission too small. It is through our continued growth that days just like this one become more and more possible. It was for moments like this that my wife and I joined STARFLEET and the Chaplain Services! It was an experience that we will remember forever.

THE NEEDS OF THE MANY...



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USS Heimdal Celebrates 28 Years

Linda Smith
USS Heimdal

On Saturday, April 7, 2012 the USS Heimdal celebrated 28 years as a STARFLEET chapter with a huge anniversary party.

Based in Madison Heights, VA, the Heimdal began as the Shuttle Asgard from the mothership USS Jamestown in 1984. During her 28 years as a STARFLEET chapter she has launched 13 shuttles of her own, and she and the chapters she has given birth to have produced three Region 1 Regional Coordinators, a number of R1 Vice-Regional Coordinators, many R1 RDCs, and have won numerous regional and international awards, including sharing STARFLEET's Chapter of the Year in 2009.

The Heimdal has supported and continues to support 11 local charities, has obtained her 501(c)(3) IRS designation, and has sent five local students to Space Camp in Huntsville, AL. Funds are raised through a public Annual Charity Auction that brings in \$2,000 to \$3,000 per year. The Heimdal has become a credible influence within her community while continuing to maintain a roster between 35 to 45 active members who keep coming back to enjoy the diverse meetings and the family feeling of the chapter.

The anniversary party was held in the banquet room of a local restaurant with 32 people attending, including a new STARFLEET member who had been corresponding with the Heimdal since picking up a flyer at the Mysticon Science Fiction Convention in February. He signed aboard the Heimdal at the party.

The party included a delicious dinner, a fantastic film presentation of Heimdal fun and history by Karen Delano and Willy Smith, and live entertainment. The party theme was "Magic Carpet Ride" and the live entertainment was a really cool magician, Bob Wallin who WOWED everyone and picked members from the audience to do interactive magic with him. Too cool!

Following the entertainment there were drawings for door prizes and a STARFLEET membership, which was won as a renewal by Heimdal member Tammy White. The other six door prizes were ordered especially for the party from STARFLEET's Quartermaster.

Everyone received a party program, which had a picture of Spock on the cover dressed as a genie, wearing a turban and riding a flying carpet. Everyone also received a gift bag that included fun stuff like glow in the dark vampire teeth, lip whistles, party poppers, glow sticks, candy, and other party favors. The Stephenwolf song, "Magic Carpet Ride" was played while the magician prepared to perform.

It was a wonderful, fun-filled evening and just so good to share that kind of evening with people who care about each other.

WOW... the Heimdal is almost 30! The adventure continues...



← Restaurant waiter hamming it up with Linda & the microphone. Photo by Beth Hopkins

CO Linda Smith warning crowd NOT to set off their Fart Bombs in the restaurant. Photo by Willy Smith →



← Willy Smith hamming it up with glow sticks from gift bag. Photo by Beth Hopkins



Heimdal members enjoying dinner. Left to right: Chief Engineer Peter Hopkins, Travis Dean, Cheryl Nelson, Lars Nelson, Logan Dean. Photo by Willy Smith ↓



Magician Bob Wallin getting help with a magic presentation from Heimdal members Bonnie & Carl Davis. Photo by Willy Smith →



← Member Lars Nelson wins door prize. Photo by Willy Smith



Member Chris Thompson helping magician Bob Wallin. Photo by Willy Smith →



← Member Jennifer Whitten assists the magician. Photo by Beth Hopkins Smith



Shatner's World – A Review (or \$#! My Shat Said)

And let's face it: William Shatner has certainly lived an interesting, even an amazing life.

When 81 years old you reach, look this good you will not!

William Shatner didn't actually say that during his one-man performance of *Shatner's World – We Just Live In It*, which began running on Broadway in February of this year before beginning a 15-city tour across the United States. That nationwide tour kicked off on March 10 for a one-night-only performance in Los Angeles at the Pantages Theatre in Hollywood, barely a 15-minute commute for Mr. Shatner from his home in Studio City on the northern slopes of the Hollywood Hills. I made certain to buy a ticket, which I fortunately purchased for 50% off (\$49 instead of \$98). I'm glad I went, but I'm also glad I didn't pay full price!

Although William Shatner didn't start out with that slightly altered Yoda quote which began this article, he did walk out on stage to the theme from *Star Trek*, joking that he wasn't going to actually "beam in." But he quickly dealt with the frequent "interchangeability" that the general public often has between *Star Trek* and that "other" famous star franchise when he showed a clip from his appearance at the opening of the American Film Institute's tribute to George Lucas when the gathered *Star Wars* fans and celebrities gaped at Shatner with a shocked "What's HE doing

here?" look. The clip was hysterical, and our Pantages audience laughed heartily at Shatner's clever entrance "crashing" the *Star Wars* festivities. At that early point in Shatner's nearly 2-hour performance, I prepared myself for a hilarious night.

Unfortunately, I wound up mildly disappointed.

The George Lucas tribute video clip was one of many short films Shatner showed throughout his performance that evening, along with the now-infamous George Takei f-bomb during Comedy Central's roast of Shatner, clips of Denny Crane from *Boston Legal*, a sequence from *The Undiscovered Country* showing Christopher Plummer as Chang getting blown up while reciting Shakespeare, Kirk's death scene from *Star Trek Generations*, and even Shatner's on-camera "epiphany" about *Star Trek* and his accepting his legacy as Captain Kirk while interviewing Patrick Stewart for Shatner's *The Captains* documentary.

But beyond that, there was frustratingly little discussed about *Star Trek* beyond the occasional reference here and there and a brief description of how Shatner was shown the first *Star Trek* pilot with Jeffrey Hunter (when Shatner was asked to step into the lead actor role for the second pilot). His initial thoughts upon viewing the pilot: "It's filled with aliens and heroes

and girls with green paint and tiny bikinis – everything I'm interested in!"

But beyond that, *Star Trek* lore was a rarity in this performance. Granted, it wasn't a convention appearance where the audience was filled with Trekkies, and one wouldn't expect an autobiographical account of a 60-plus year acting career to focus on a brief three-year TV gig and six and a half movies. On the other

hand, I was surprised that Shatner didn't mention Leonard Nimoy even once (nor, for that matter, did he mention Deforest Kelley or any of the other TOS alumni other than George Takei and his f-bomb.)

Instead, what we got was a journey through the highlights of Shatner's life, from his childhood growing up in Montreal, Quebec and his misspent college years at McGill University studying accounting and commerce, to his first acting gigs, his big theatrical breakout when he had to go on as the lead in *Henry V* in place of the great Christopher Plummer at the Stratford Shakespeare Festival (to rave reviews), and onto the rest of his career and life. During the performance, we learned that his renowned and unique Shatner-esque dramatic delivery came as a result of people walking out of the theater during a disastrous theatrical run of *The World of Suzie Wong* on Broadway. By punching his words and delivering dialog quickly with the occasional long pause for breath, Shatner kept the audience in their seats and shortened the play by about 15 minutes! We also heard stories of how Shatner grew to love horses, and were captivated by a touching and heartbreaking tale of one of his favorite horses and ultimately having

barely remember. Another story had Shatner driving a rabbi and his wife from Vancouver to Chicago and trying to race sunset on a Friday evening to deliver the orthodox Jew to temple before the start of the Sabbath (when the rabbi would no longer be permitted by Judaic law to travel in a motorized vehicle). And then there was Shatner's recollection of the passing of his father (which happened during the filming of the episode "The Devil in the Dark", although Shatner didn't mention that detail in his performance). While Shatner's recounting of the experience of losing his father became somewhat emotional and deep, he ultimately lightened it at the end with a final joke that, while funny, seemed to undo any profound place he could have otherwise taken the audience. If you're curious what was so funny about a funeral, Shatner spoke about choosing his father's coffin at the mortuary. Caskets ranged from a plain pine box to a silver-embossed, lead-lined one, guaranteed to keep out water for a year and a half. "My father's going to be dead for eternity," he said to the funeral director. "What's a year and a half?" But the story didn't end there. That was just the set-up to a punch line that I'm certain I've heard before (possibly from an old Vaudeville

During the performance, we learned that his renowned and unique Shatner-esque dramatic delivery came as a result of people walking out of the theater during a disastrous theatrical run of *The World of Suzie Wong* on Broadway.

to put it to sleep. Ah, if only there were more poignant moments like that in this performance.

But alas, no. Instead we got treated to anecdotes about his meeting with Koko, the sign language speaking gorilla and the fact that Shatner's kidney stone sold for \$25,000 on eBay to help the Habitat for Humanity charity. There was a brief story about Rescue 911 that I

routine). At the funeral, Shatner sat by his sister Joy. "Our father would be proud," he told her. "I got a good deal on the coffin."

"Why?" she replied, "Was it used?" Ba-dum-bum!

On the whole, I found the performance mostly entertaining. Some jokes hit while others fell flat. The stories were pretty interesting, as I would expect from this larger-than-



RADM Jon Lane
USS Angeles
Region 4



life thespian. Shatner even sang at the end (if “sang” is the proper term for how he treats music). He ended on a philosophical note about living life to its fullest that endeavored to give the night’s performance some ultimate gravitas. I’m not sure he completely succeeded, but then again, it’s hard to end an autobiography while the teller is still very much alive and kicking with quite a lot yet to do.

And let’s face it: William Shatner has certainly lived an interesting, even an amazing life. But as much as I enjoyed the two hours, I felt as though I were watching a bit of a fluff piece. While Shatner poked fun at himself in places and spoke briefly about some of his struggles, there was frustratingly little that felt truly personal and introspective. And for a hundred bucks (the orchestra seats were well over four hundred!), I really expected a bit more for my money than “A Friendly Evening with William Shatner” that could have happened in a bar lounge or over dinner at his house. This was a major performance that had been on Broadway and was now being presented in one of L.A.’s most famous theaters. Could Shatner have pushed himself just a little farther and gone just a bit deeper?

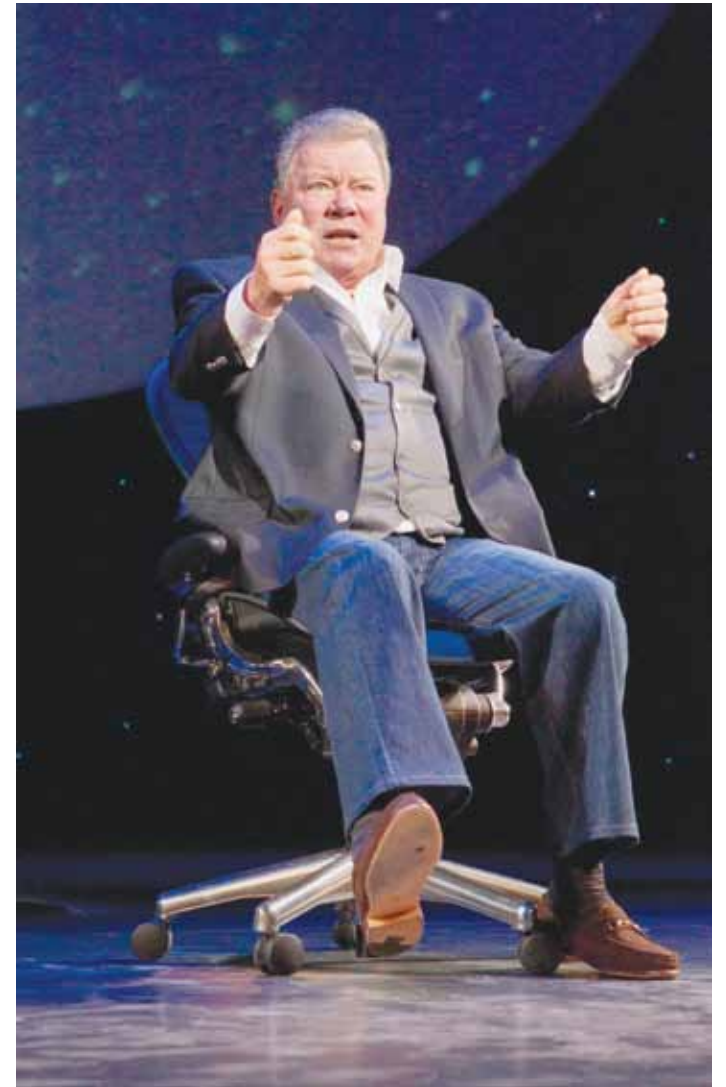
How, you ask? Well, I would have liked to delve into his feelings during the most challenging years of his life. After Star Trek’s cancellation in 1969, Shatner got divorced and had to live out of a trailer on Long Island, New York for a few years. A true “has been” at the age of 40, Shatner had been typecast as Captain Kirk and could barely find bit-part guest starring roles on shows like *Marcus Welby, M.D.* and *Barnaby Jones*. His royalties from Star Trek had dried up by 1971, and he was all but broke. What did that feel like? For most of us in the audience, we can’t imagine that kind of fall from a career on track for greatness to seeming hopelessness. How did he feel when T.J. Hooker resuscitated his career, then *Rescue 911*, and finally *Priceline.com*...along with the resurrection of Star Trek in the 1980s and 1990s? Instead, Shatner told the audience a brief story of a kid who lived in the same trailer park knocking on his door one morning and asking if his trailer was a spaceship. That quick story was all we got of Shatner’s struggle in the early 1970s.

And perhaps it’s unfair of me to hold this next item against Mr. Shatner, but he really glossed over the death of his third wife, Nerene, from

a drowning in their swimming pool in 1999. Her depression and substance abuse couldn’t have been easy on her husband, whose career was finally on a path back to the top when she died. What did all of that do to Shatner? Again, maybe I’m asking too much to expect him to go there – even for a \$100-\$400 ticket (which is why I’m glad I paid half-price).

So yes, in retrospect, perhaps I might have set my expectations too high, and I’ll certainly acknowledge that there was still quite a lot in Shatner’s World to be impressed by. William Shatner is beginning his ninth decade of life and is still going strong (stronger than me, and I’m only 45!). The staying power of his career is uncanny and, dare I say it, legendary in Hollywood. There is only one William Shatner, and there only ever will be one. As he says himself, “I’ve been killed 19 times, and yet I am still standing here in front of you ready to go another 80 years.”

So yes, when 81-years-old I reach, look that good I can only hope to! I applaud William Shatner for staying so active on stage and in his life during these golden years. And they really are truly golden for the man, decorated with Emmys and Golden Globes and worldwide rec-



ognition of an acting style that is truly unique and, while ceaselessly imitated (the sincerest form of flattery), never truly captured and bottled by anyone other than the man himself.

So I thank William Shatner for entertaining me for two hours and sharing a glimpse into a life that I can only imagine. While it wasn’t an A-plus theatrical experience for me personally, it was still a strong B, and that’s nothing to sneeze at. And who knows, at the rate he’s going, I wouldn’t be surprised to see a Shatner’s World 2 at some point within the next 80 years!



Restaurant at the End of the Universe or ...Another Intergalactic Food Festival

Where else could you order a nice fresh B.L.T. (Bantha, Lettuce, and Tomato) sandwich (which tastes just like Turkey)? Maman Picard's Chocolate Bouchon (decadent cork-shaped morsels loaded with rich chocolate and butter, the word "Bouchon" actually means "Wine cork" in an obscure Earth language known as French) or some Terra Nova Casserole?

The annual Intergalactic Food Festival hosted by the USS Challenger in March – that is where those interstellar treats and much more could be found.

Members of the Challenger crew joined crewmembers of the USS Adamant, the USS Avenger and the USS Sovereign along with guests from the public that day to sample numerous treats. More than 20 people feasted at the Seaside Heights Community Center in Seaside Heights, NJ where you could also sample "Gold Pressed Latinum" Krispie treats, and we even had some tiny green soldiers encased in orange Jell-O trying to escape..."The Blob".

Aldebaron Shellmouth Casserole with Plomeek Sauce was another favorite. It is a hybrid recipe drawing from Terran, Aldebaron and Vulcan cuisines. Its actual ingredients featured imitation crab meat (to represent the shell mouth), vodka sauce (to represent the Plomeek), wagon-wheel pasta, peas, a diced onion, paprika, four cloves of minced garlic, oregano, black pepper, and finely shredded sharp cheese.

Risan Delight bore a strong similarity to the traditional Terran banana cream pie and was another crowd pleaser. Those were just a few of the galactic dishes and desserts that filled a very large table during the event.

Several non-perishable food items (of a more mundane variety) was collected for Project Replicator our program to aid a food pantry in Ocean County, NJ.

Some of our guests came in

some creative attire and I dug out my modified sweater monster maroon (I was pleasantly surprised it still fit although a tiny bit snug) while fellow Challenger Patrick Barnes wore the robes of a Jedi Knight for the day.

Fun was had by all as we recalled interesting moments of conventions, R7 conferences and ICs gone by plus we had a lively discussion on upcoming films like John Carter that we plan to see.

The Intergalactic Food Festival always marks a celebration of the end of winter (mild as it was) an open meeting for the public to make them aware of Star Trek/Sci-Fi fandom in the area (and the fact we love to eat) and it makes for one nice gathering of friends and fans old and new.

While the Challenger hosts the event, those who came and brought their food/beverage and spirit to the occasion, helped make it a great experience.

There was no lack of food and though we've hosted this event for close to 20 years now, it is always interesting to see how creative people can get in mixing and matching actual food to the names of galactic treats we've seen in Star Trek and other Sci-Fi sagas as well as the creation of new alien oddities.

It proves you don't have to be a master chef to enjoy this event but creativity is a must and if you are in STARFLEET there is plenty of that to go around.

The Intergalactic Food Festival always marks a celebration of the end of winter an open meeting for the public to make them aware of Star Trek/Sci-Fi fandom in the area and it makes for one nice gathering of friends and fans old and new.



ADM Bob Vosseller
USS Challenger
Region 7

The Immortalization of the Flying Dutchman



A new ship, the USS Confusor, is exploring Sector 1077, the same sector in which the Enterprise B was presumed destroyed 80 years earlier. When they reach a new planet, the crew discovers several ghosts on the surface. In orbit, they not only discover the Enterprise B, but the old Excelsior-class ship attacks them.

"Captain's Log, Stardate 5177.8

"USS Enterprise on its way to Sector 1077, a new addition to the territory of the Federation. It has only been explored by a probe launched 1 year ago and it has shown a plethora of new M-Class planets to colonize. Starfleet has ordered us to explore the region and report back any results."

Captain Alexander Stryker finished his recording and looked out the window in the officer's lounge seeing the streaks from the stars flying by at warp 5. He knew that this mission was one that most Starfleet captains, especially Kirk, loved and always wanted. Of course that doesn't always happen; however, he and the Enterprise B lucked out. Ever since he reported though that Excelsior class ship, after Harriman's removal, he was always trying to be worthy of the mantle that this command entailed. This mission, he thought, would be the best place to start.

Harriman was not prepared for the mission ahead and should not have left space dock in the first place, he thought. The admiral who pushed Harriman ended up retiring while Harriman ended up being a desk jockey at Starfleet Command.

The intercom whistled, interrupting Stryker's thoughts.

"Captain to the bridge."

He put aside his thoughts walked over to the intercom. "Stryker here." "Captain, we are picking up a large object off our starboard bow closing in," Science Officer Srean stated.

"What do you make of it?"

"From my initial scans it appears to be an automated ship, possibly a probe. The design, however, does not match any of the information on our database."

"I will be right up," Stryker replied.

Strolling out of the Officer's Lounge he started to think about what this could be. Something like the Nomad Probe, V'Ger, maybe even a new weapon from the Romulans? Whatever it was, he thought, this ship and her crew would be able to handle it. After all this is the Enterprise, right?

"Captain on the bridge," First Officer Geroni bellowed as the port turbolift doors opened to reveal Stryker.

"Report, Lieutenant."

"The object is continuing on course towards us at warp 2," Lieutenant Hackler replied.

"Hm. Are you sure that the automated probes we sent out did not show any signs of intelligent life?" Stryker asked.

"Positive," Geroni stated.

"Sir, the device has dropped out of warp and is holding a distance of 1,000 kilometers away from our bow," Science Officer Mikro yelled.

"Start a full scan of the device--"

Mid-sentence, Stryker collapsed onto the deck. Geroni ran over to the Stryker and yelled into the intercom, "Medical, emergency, the Captain collapsed." Geroni turned to tactical. "What is happening, Lieutenant?"

Lieutenant Allean looked up and stated, "Unknown, sir. The beam emitted did not seem to impact any of our systems."

Dr. Henry Thomson came off the turbolift and went over to where the captain was laying. Taking out his medical tricorder he started to scan him.

"An unknown shock to his mind. Something was trying to access his memories."

"Which memories, Doctor, and why?" Geroni asked.

Suddenly there was a flash of white light on the bridge. It seemed to cause the lights and controls to fail. When the light cleared, to everyone's amazement Captain James T. Kirk appeared in front of them as he was when on the day he died.

Looking at the bridge crew, Kirk told the crew, "It's time."

Then the entire bridge crew started to feel an enormous pain in their heads. Geroni screamed "Computer code one alpha zero, ship being hijacked." Then he collapsed onto the floor.

"Captain's Log, Stardate 78567.8.

"The Confusor is on her way to sector 1077 to continue the exploration started by the Enterprise B 80 years ago. This sector was in quarantine due to the mysterious disappearance of Captain Stryker's vessel. However, a recent mission in which the Starship Farragut undertook for this sector showed that there was no foreseeable danger."

Ending his log, Captain George Thomas was a little creeped out. If the Enterprise B vanished in that sector with all hands, who's to say that it couldn't happen to his ship? The Farragut could have been lucky and not met whatever caused the Enterprise B's destruction.

The doors to the conference room opened, and Thomas turned in his chair to see Tanya Hollen, Helmsman, walk in, followed by Andrew McGue, Chief Engineer, both who were talking about the efficiencies of the warp drive in reference to the ship's maneuverability. Tina Sinclair, Chief of Security, followed with an annoyed look on her face. And finally First Officer and Science Officer Tuono entered talking with Dr. James

Thalen, Chief Medical Officer.

"I am just saying that our stories are so full of ghosts that everyone is afraid of them," Thalen stated.

"It seems illogical since there is no such thing as a ghost," Tuono replied.

Thomas knew that Vulcans can get on ones nerves, especially when they are talking about logic.

"Gentleman and Ladies, let's get down to business. As you know, the Confusor has been assigned to survey sector 1077 for colonization and possibly determine the reason for the Enterprise B's disappearance.

Thomas turned to Savron, who was standing next to the screen, which showed a map of the sector.

"80 years ago the Federation received permission from the Hanorian Alliance to survey and colonize sector 1077. They assured us that there were no intelligent life forms and the probes sent out before the Enterprise seemed to prove that fact."

Savron paused to change the screen to a picture of the Enterprise B.

"However, after 2 days of surveying the sector, Starfleet lost contact with the Enterprise and sent ships to investigate. From what the log buoy, that was deployed, indicated, the ship was a victim of some sort of virus that attacked the brains of the crew. This disease caused them to become unconscious and, purposively, the ship to be destroyed."

The image on the view screen was changed to a map of the region, with a quarantine symbol surrounding sector 1077.

"Starfleet decided to place quarantine on sector 1077 until it could be proved that it was an isolated incident."

"After the Dominion War, Starfleet sent the Starship Farragut out to determine if the virus was still there and deadly. They returned without incident and command decided to lift the quarantine and allow

Daniel Nye
Region 15

Flying Dutchman Continued

colonization.”

Thomas turned his head back to the rest of the senior officers, “This mission may not be an easy one, especially if we find the Enterprise out there drifting. However, I believe that, with the right precautions, we will be able to walk away from this one in one piece. Therefore, I want all departments at full readiness by 0800 tomorrow. Dismissed.”

As the senior officers left the conference lounge, Thomas began to

device would be useful, especially in cases in which the mission required them to not be seen by the local life forms. This mission was as much a shakedown for the Confusor as much as an exploration mission. If it succeeded the Confusor would be able to go on longer away missions, which was the greatest dream that most Captains had.

“Standard orbit achieved,” Hollen stated, rousing Thomas from his thoughts. Got to stop doing that, Stryker thought. It will not help this ship or her crew on a deep space

What caught his eye, though, was an odd reading from the navigational deflector. The field was slightly unbalanced, which could only have been caused by a severe power fluctuation hitting the generators. The fluctuation would have been such that it could not be repaired, yet still effective enough to operate. Only one Excelsior-class Starship experienced that sort of damage.

think about what Thalen and Tuono were saying. The Enterprise B was already called the Flying Dutchman before his grandfather Alexander Stryker took command of the ship. He only hoped that that Excelsior Class Ship would not live up to that nickname.

—
The Confusor was approaching the forth planet in a star system designated Epsilon 2487. The planet seemed to look like Earth with its blue oceans with its green and brown land masses.

Thomas gazed at the planet for a minute wondering if the Excelsior Class Enterprise ever reached this planet.

“Standard orbit, Mr.Hollen.”

“Aye, sir,” Hollen responded.

Thomas was at heart an explorer. Therefore any chance to chart a new sector he would take it and run. The Starship Confusor is a new deep-space exploration craft developed as part of a joint program between the remnants of the Romulan Empire and the Federation. The goal of the program was to create a ship that can be used in deep space for a long period of time. The journey that the Starship Voyager took years ago convinced both the Romulan Imperial Fleet and Starfleet that a cloaking device similar to former Admiral Eric Pressman’s

mission.

Thomas turned to the science station and gave the order to commence standard scans of the surface.

“Planet appears to be class M, 67 percent water with abundant plant and animal life. No intelligent life, oxygen-nitrogen atmosphere similar to Earth,” Tuono reported from his station.

“Any space vessel wreckage in the area?” Thomas asked.

“No, sir,” Tuono replied. “In fact, the preliminary scans suggest that this planet has no history of anything, other than small animals on its surface.”

Odd, Thomas thought. A planet with no evidence of any intelligent life on it. Almost all M-Class planets had some form of intelligent life on it. “Assemble an away team to the planet surface in full radioactive gear, just in case,” Thomas ordered Tuono. “Be sure to take careful readings of the atmosphere. I do not want anyone dying on this mission.”

“Aye, sir. Dr. Thalen, Mr. Sinclair to Transporter Room 2 in full radioactive gear in 15 minutes.” Tuono got out of his chair and ducked into the turbolift.

Good luck, Thomas thought.

—
“These stupid radioactive suits are the most inconvenient item

that we have to wear,” Thalen complained. “These suits are very fragile. One rip and...”

“Oh stop it, Thalen, for Heclas sake!” Sinclair said. “You say this every time we beam down to an unknown planet’s surface. It keeps you alive and that’s all that matters.”

“Easy for you to say, but I am the one who has to examine you if you get shot.”

“Thalen, Sinclair,” Tuono called as he came in. “Are you ready?”

“Yes,” Thalen replied.

“Yeah, let’s get this over with quick. I need to run another drill with my team,” Sinclair replied as she stepped onto the transporter pad.

Tuono nodded to the ensign behind the transporter console and activated the transporter.

On the surface, Tuono took out the tricorder and began to scan the atmosphere. The readings indicated that it was safe. However, not taking any chances, he removed a piece of organic matter from one of the pockets on his suit and placed it on the ground. The matter stayed the same for several minutes.

Hitting his wrist communicator, Tuono spoke into it. “Tuono to Confusor, the atmosphere appears to be safe for us and we are moving onto the next step.”

Sinclair was watching Tuono making the communication to the ship and rolled her eyes at the sound of that. This was going to be one of Tuono’s famous monotonous away missions where they do it all by the book without missing a single step. Tuono was going for the plant samples while Thalen would test the water.

A few minutes later Sinclair saw a Vulcan male walking towards her. Finally, she thought, he’s going back. However, something told her to look closer. When she did, she noticed that the Vulcan was sporting a Starfleet Uniform from the early 24th century. Tuono would not wear anything like that. Hearing a splash, she turned her head to see where it came from. Looking back, the Vulcan was gone. Shaking her head, she started to head towards the others at the pond. Not getting enough sleep Tina, Sinclair thought.

Thalen, moved away from the rest of the team to take water samples from a nearby lake. Stopping at the

pond he removed a sample container and began to fill it. As he was filling it, he saw a human male standing across from the pond. He had the cranberry Starfleet uniform on and was taking tricorder readings using a unit from the early 24th century.

He dropped the water container into the water making a loud splash. After picking it up, Thalen looked across from the pond and saw that the human was gone. He heard some footsteps and saw Tuono walking towards him with Sinclair behind him.

“Are you alright, Dr. Thalen?” Tuono asked.

“I think so. I was filling up the container with water when I saw a human male, wearing an old Starfleet uniform taking tricorder readings on the other end of the pond.”

“Are you sure it was not your imagination, Doctor?”

“I saw something odd too,” Sinclair chimed in. “Mine was a Vulcan male walking towards me. I thought it was you, Tuono, when I noticed the same type of uniform.”

“Away team to Confusor.” The communicator spoke.

“Tuono here,” he replied.

“There is a ship that has dropped out of warp, heading towards our position.” Thomas stated.

“Can you identify her?” Sinclair asked.

“It seems to be an Excelsior class ship,” Thomas said. “And we can’t get a hold of her. I would like to have you guys back aboard as soon as possible.”

“We seem to be done with our survey on the surface for now. Perhaps it would be best given what they have seen,” Tuono said.

“What did they see, Tuono? Never mind. Tell me once you are through with decontamination,” Thomas said.

“Aye, sir,” Tuono stated.

As the three Confusor crewmen were beamed up, the Vulcan that Sinclair saw was looking at the trio and pulled out his communicator.

“Savon to Enterprise,” the Vulcan said to the communicator. “They just beamed up.”

—
Thomas was staring at the view screen puzzled. In orbit, next to the Confusor was an Excelsior-class Starship. The ship made no attempts to hail them or request assistance. In essence, she was a sitting duck not

moving at all.

When the turbolift doors opened, Tuono looked at the view screen trying to see what ship she was.

"Try to hail them again, Mr. Youdr," Thomas said. Then he turned to face Tuono.

"Tuono, that ship has not sent any hails, nor have they responded to ours. I am not sure if her communication systems are damaged. Even the subspace registry marker isn't working. Can you determine what she is?" "I believe so, sir," Tuono replied. He sat down at the science station and began to scan the vessel, looking for any signs that would give away her name. Scans of the computer, propulsion, and navigational deflector indicated that she had technology from the early 24th century. What caught his eye, though, was an odd reading from the navigational deflector. The field was slightly unbalanced, which could only have been caused by a severe power fluctuation hitting the generators. The fluctuation would have been such that it could not be repaired, yet still effective enough to operate. Only one Excelsior-class Starship experienced that sort of damage.

"Sir, I believe that we are looking at the Enterprise B," Tuono announced.

"What?" Thomas replied.

"The scans show that the ships technology is from the same time that the Enterprise B disappeared and her navigational deflector has the same exact imbalance that the Enterprise had."

Thomas stared back at the ship in amazement.

Tuono added, "The ship does not appear to be damaged, however, there are no signs of life onboard."

"Remote control?" McGue asked from the engineering station.

"Possibly, however there are no indications of any transmissions going to and from the ship."

"Are her life support systems functioning?" Thomas asked

"Yes, sir."

"McGuie, take Sinclair and beam aboard that ship. Determine if she really is the Enterprise B and if she is, determined what happened to her."

"Sinclair, meet me in transporter room 1 with the rad suit on. We are paying a visit to the Enterprise B."

"All right," Sinclair replied.

The transporter beam released them on the bridge of the Enterprise. The overhead lights on the ship were off. However, the stations were still in operational order. McGue sat down at the science station to begin a series of diagnostics, while Sinclair had her phaser out, prepared for any sort of surprises.

"The ship seems to check out," McGue said as he finished the diagnostic. "The computer on board this craft indicates that she is the Enterprise B."

"Are you sure that this isn't some other ship disguised to be the Enterprise B?" Sinclair asked.

"I don't think so. See, each ship has a special code built into the main computer system, which cannot be altered as far as I know. This ship's code is the Enterprise B. Not to mention the fact that this ship's technology is from the time in which that ship disappeared.

Sinclair turned and saw a man sitting in the captain's chair, looking at her. This man, like the Vulcan on the planet surface, was wearing the old Starfleet uniform from the same time the Enterprise B seemed to be from.

"McGuie, look at the captain's chair."

Looking at the chair and seeing nothing he asked, "What am I looking for?"

"You can't see it, McGue?" Sinclair asked angrily. She turned back to the chair and saw that it was unoccupied.

McGuie turned back to his work. "I am going to download the ship's logs. Maybe they can tell us what this is all about."

McGuie took several minutes to try to download the logs. During that time Sinclair saw two more people appear, this time at the helm and navigation console.

"The logs seemed to be completely erased," McGue stated. Looking at Sinclair, he noticed that she was as pale as a ghost and seemed to be slowly shaking.

McGuie hit his wrist communicator. "McGuie to Confusor, Sinclair is shaking like a leaf and has turned a Borg-like color."

"Thalen's doing the same thing," Thomas replied over the communicator. "Get her back aboard this ship and into decontamination fast. Are

you finished with the logs?"

"Yes, sir."

"Then see you back aboard," Thomas stated.

In sickbay, Thomas was looking at the two patients in the contamination ward. Both Thalen and Sinclair were getting worse. Not only were they shaking, but they were speaking in different voices. All of which were in English.

Turning to Dr. Watt he asked, "What did you find out?"

"All I can determine is that there is some energy disturbance that is bombarding their brains. It's as if something or someone is trying to get into their minds. For what, I do not know."

After several minutes of listening to the voices coming from his crewmen, Thomas noticed that some of those voices were familiar to him. "I wonder. Computer, access the personnel files on the Enterprise B, specifically the voice prints and compare them to the voices that Thalen and Sinclair are speaking in."

It took the computer five minutes to respond. When it did, he was a little surprised. "All voices correspond to the crew of the Enterprise B specifically, Captain Stryker, First Officer Gerono, and Chief Medical Officer Thomson."

"Can you determine what they are saying?" Thomas asked.

The computer replied, "It is an order to destroy the Enterprise B before it destroys this ship."

What on earth are they talking about, Thomas thought. There doesn't seem to be any danger. In fact, there are no ships other than the Confusor and the Enterprise B. Nor are there any other intelligent life forms near this planet.

Suddenly, the ship listed starboard and Thomas fell onto the deck.

—

Thomas rushed out of the turbolift onto the bridge. "Report."

"The ship started to fire on our propulsion system with a combination of phasers and photon torpedoes. It managed to hit the port nacelle, taking the warp drive offline," Hollen replied.

"McGuie!" Thomas yelled into the intercom.

"It's not bad, thank the Great Bird of the Galaxy," McGue replied. "We'll have warp drive in 2 minutes."

Flying Dutchman Continued

"Make it sooner," Thomas stated angrily. The worst part about the cloaking device on the Confusor was that it was tied to the warp drive. The person who designed that flaw into this ship did not see this coming at all.

"Hollen, evasive pattern echo. Tuono, can you access her command console with the prefix code?"

"Tried it five times Captain, the code must have been altered."

The Confusor shook violently. That last shot must have rattled the Confusors superstructure.

"Sir." Acting security officer Dufrene spoke. "Shields are down to 30 percent."

"Impossible!" Hollen yelled. "That old ship shouldn't be able to do this much damage."

"Defensive pattern Kirk Alpha, Hollen and Dufrene," Thomas ordered.

A torpedo hit from the Enterprise caused sparks to fly from the master systems monitor while the engineering station caught on fire.

Thomas was trying to comprehend why his ship was being taken down by an old Excelsior-class Starship. It should not even be possible.

Time for a more aggressive strategy, Thomas thought and turned to Dufrene. "Open fire on that ship. Try to disable her with the phasers."

The Confusor's phasers hit the Enterprise's shields and were absorbed. "Their shields are holding at ninety percent."

"Photon and quantum torpedoes, targeted at the Engineering hull of that ship," Thomas ordered.

The torpedoes hit the Enterprise's shields on the starboard bow.

"Enterprise's shields at 87%!" Dufrene yelled.

That should have disabled their shields, Thomas thought. How can that ship, an old Federation Starship that has not been upgraded at all, be able to rattle the stuffing out of my ship?

"Warp engines online," McGue stated

"About time. Engage the cloaking device," Thomas ordered.

—

The ship's lights dimmed as the cloaking device engaged. Meanwhile, the Enterprise B ceased firing

Flying Dutchman Continued

and was trying to determine where they were using scanners.

"Looks like their targeting scanners can't pick up the ship through her cloaking field," Tuono said.

Finally, Thomas thought. Peace and quiet for a change. "Damage report."

"Damage on decks 4, 5, and 9," Dufrene replied. "Hull breaches being sealed. Dorsal scanners inoperative, Shields are down to 40% and are fluctuating."

"Hollen, move us away from that nightmare," Thomas ordered "Full impulse until we are out of range, then jump to warp 7."

"Heading captain?"

"To Starbase 45 to warn Starfleet about this threat," Thomas said.

The Confusor was heading along at full impulse power, being able to pass through objects in the way, thanks to the cloaking device. Thomas thought.

"Sir, collision alert," Hollen shouted. Thomas saw, on the view screen, the Enterprise B.

"Evasive starboard," Thomas yelled. The Confusor narrowly avoided the Excelsior Class Ship.

"How did that ship get there without us knowing it?" Thomas asked Tuono.

"That's because that ship is under the control of the Yonitsey," Sinclair said, stepping out of the turbolift.

"What are you doing up Sinclair, and how did you get out of sickbay?" "I'm afraid that I am not Sinclair, I am Captain Alexander Stryker formerly commander of the Enterprise B," Sinclair replied.

"Enterprise B is in front of us again, sir," Hollen said.

"Stop the ship," Sinclair/Stryker ordered.

"Why should I listen to you?" Thomas asked.

"Because it is a waste of fuel and time," Sinclair replied. "Thanks to your people being on the planet surface, the Yonitsey have been able to use them as a homing beacon."

"Why, then did they stop firing on us after we engaged the cloak?"

"That was my crew interfering, hoping, you would have hidden yourselves," Sinclair/Stryker replied.

"You see, they are Xenophobes

with the ability to go into one's mind and drive it into chaos."

Thomas got out of his chair and stood in front of Sinclair/Stryker.

"Full stop," Thomas ordered. "I think it's time that you give us an explanation. In the conference lounge."

Once all senior staff was assembled Sinclair/Stryker was able to manipulate the controls of the view screen on the wall to show a picture of the solar system the Confusor was currently in.

"The Enterprise B was going to explore this very system, when it came in contact with this object." The screen changed to show a large probe. "This probe was able to go so far into my mind that it shut down to protect itself. Apparently, the probe took my memories of Captain James T. Kirk and projected it on the ship to disguise itself. The crew themselves succumbed to the probes mental attack as well After a few days, I woke up to find that half of the crew were dead, with the other half trying to keep the ship together while going mad themselves."

Sinclair/Stryker looked down. "Eventually, all of the crew succumbed to the madness, but not before I set the ship on automatic with orders to destroy it if it was captured. However, when we died, instead of an afterlife, we remained prisoners on the Enterprise. The Yonitsey were able to trick the computer, using our

we would be able to warn you off. However, they already knew you were here and decided that it was too much of a risk to allow you access to us."

Thomas looked at Sinclair/Stryker skeptically. She/he raised an eyebrow and said. "I understand your skepticism; however it should be known that unless you trust me and the remainder of my crew, that your ship and your crew will be joining us on the other side of life."

"Very well then, Stryker." Thomas replied. "How do we get out of here?"

Sinclair/Stryker looked at the view screen and a star chart appeared. "The only way out is through this trail." A line appeared on the map indicating the course.

"I call this area the corridor. It is a section where the Yonitsey cannot access or scan."

The view screen was then shut off and Sinclair/Stryker turned to the senior officers of the Confusor.

"My crew will provide a sufficient distraction in which you can make a run for it. However, you must be quick about it. Any hesitation on your part Thomas will doom you and your crew to the existence that my crew is in now," Sinclair stated.

"How long until you are ready?" Thomas asked.

"We will be ready in three hours."

replied.

Thomas noticed that he/she seemed to be depressed and decided to find out why.

"What's wrong?"

Sinclair/Stryker looked down at his/ her feet "I had such high hopes for myself and this crew. After all, I inherited the most prestigious command in the history of Starfleet. Kirk and his crew seemed to be immortal. Every challenge that they faced seemed to result in them coming out on top. Yet, when Harriman took command, Kirk was killed and of course it gets to be my turn and I end up losing my ship and my crew to a group of Xenophobes."

Thomas walked over to Sinclair. "You know, Kirk didn't actually die in your deflector control room."

"What?"

"He was transported into something called the Nexus, in which he was rescued by another Enterprise Captain," Thomas stated.

"He's still alive?" Sinclair/Stryker asked.

"Unfortunately, he died saving a primitive planet from being destroyed by a man trying to get into the Nexus. However, he died saving a society from extinction."

Thomas put a hand on Sinclair/Stryker's shoulder "I am sure Kirk would be proud of you, helping me and my ship escape this fate."

"Thank you, grandson" Sinclair/

Eventually, all of the crew succumbed to the madness, but not before I set the ship on automatic with orders to destroy it if it was captured. However, when we died, instead of an afterlife, we remained prisoners on the Enterprise. The Yonitsey were able to trick the computer, using our spirits, if you will, to identify us as if we were alive and were able to gain control of the ship.

spirits, if you will, to identify us as if we were alive and were able to gain control of the ship."

McGue asked "But why did they want the Enterprise B anyway and why did they not intercept the Farragut when she was surveying?"

"Because they were fighting us for control of the ship at the time," Sinclair replied. "In the end, they moved us onto the planet surface that Sinclair and Thalen were exploring."

Sinclair/Stryker stopped and looked at the senior officers. "We hoped that, by taking temporary control of your two crewmembers

"Very well." Thomas then hit the ship intercom

"Attention all hands; we are going to attempt an escape out of this sector in 3 hours. I want all departments ready to go. We cannot screw up or else we will be condemned to the same life our comrades on the Enterprise B are in."

Sinclair/Stryker was looking out the window of the conference room when Thomas walked in.

"One more hour to go," Thomas said.

"Yes it is," Sinclair/Stryker

Stryker replied.

"Are you ready Thomas?" Sinclair/Stryker asked.

"Yes."

"So you know, we will be leaving this body and you will never hear from us again,"

Thomas said. "I understand. Good luck and godspeed."

Sinclair/Stryker said, "You, too," and collapsed on the bridge floor.

Onboard the Enterprise, Stryker appeared and walked onto the bridge and saw the Captain Kirk sitting at the command chair. Stryker knew, how-

ever, that this was the leader of the Yonitsety.

"I knew we should have destroyed the Confusor when they first reached orbit," Kirk stated.

"It does not matter," said a crewman at tactical. "Soon we will have that vessel defeated and her crew will be ours."

"My crew and I will never allow you to take another one of our vessels. We will fight you to the last," Stryker yelled.

"Really?" Kirk said. Several Yonitsety, disguised as Starfleet Crewman surrounded Stryker with weapons out that would completely obliterate him.

Just then, phaser fire came out of nowhere and hit all of the Yonitsety which made them collapse onto the floor.

"Course plotted in and ready to go sir," Hollen said.

"Patience, Hollen," Thomas said. "Stryker said we would know when it is time to go." Let's hope that Stryker is winning.

All over the Enterprise, the spirits of the Starfleet Crew were fighting the Yonitsety. Stryker's men were able to drive them off the bridge and engineering. However, Stryker knew that there were more Yonitsety on the way.

"Gerono," Stryker said to the tall first officer. "It's time."

"Aye, sir," Gerono bellowed.

He moved over to the engineering console and started to set the antimatter containment fields on overload. All of the Starfleet crew knew once the ship was destroyed, it would disorient the Yonitsety long enough for the Confusor to enter the corridor. More Yonitsety appeared in front of the First Officer and Captain of the Enterprise B and immediately opened fire. As they were both beginning to vaporize, they saw that the antimatter containment levels rose beyond the point of return. Silently thanking his crew for their service, Captain Alexander Stryker vaporized into nothingness.

"Sir, the antimatter containment levels on the Enterprise B are rising towards dangerous levels," Tuono said from the science station.

"That's our cue," Thomas said. "Hollen, take us to the corridor, maximum warp."

"Aye, sir," Hollen replied.

The Confusor jumped to warp

9.5, leaving the Enterprise B to her fate.

"Rear view, Mr. Tuono," Thomas ordered.

Through that view Thomas and the bridge crew saw the explosion from the release of the Antimatter from its containment.

"Sir," Hollen said. "We are approaching the corridor."

The corridor was a series of nebulas that reached beyond sector 1077.

"Slow us to impulse and take us in," Thomas said. "Tuono will we survive the nebulas?"

"Yes, sir," Tuono replied, "The nebulas are all class Riven Nebulas. The only problem will be that the cloaking device will not function." "Not like we need it anymore," Thomas said.

—
"Captain's Log Stardate 78569.7

"The Confusor made it out of the nebulas and are on our way to Starbase 45 for repairs as well as to report our absence. Apparently, the Yonitsety did not allow us to be able to be seen by Starfleet Command. I recommended a Permanent Quarantine on sector 1077 to protect other vessels from having the same fate as the Enterprise B. I am happy to report that Lieutenant Sinclair and Dr. Thalen have returned to duty with a clean bill of health."

"I do not understand something," Thalen said. "Why choose Sinclair and myself instead of Tuono? Surely a Vulcan would have been a more acceptable host than one of us."

"Who knows?" Thomas said. "People do strange things when their time is up. Perhaps they felt that you and Sinclair were the best ones for the job."

Thalen thought about it for a moment and asked, "What good was I when I was unconscious the whole time?"

"Stryker told me privately that they were using your knowledge to help get his crew together long enough to hit the Yonitsety. Thomas replied. If it wasn't for you, we'd all be like Stryker is now."

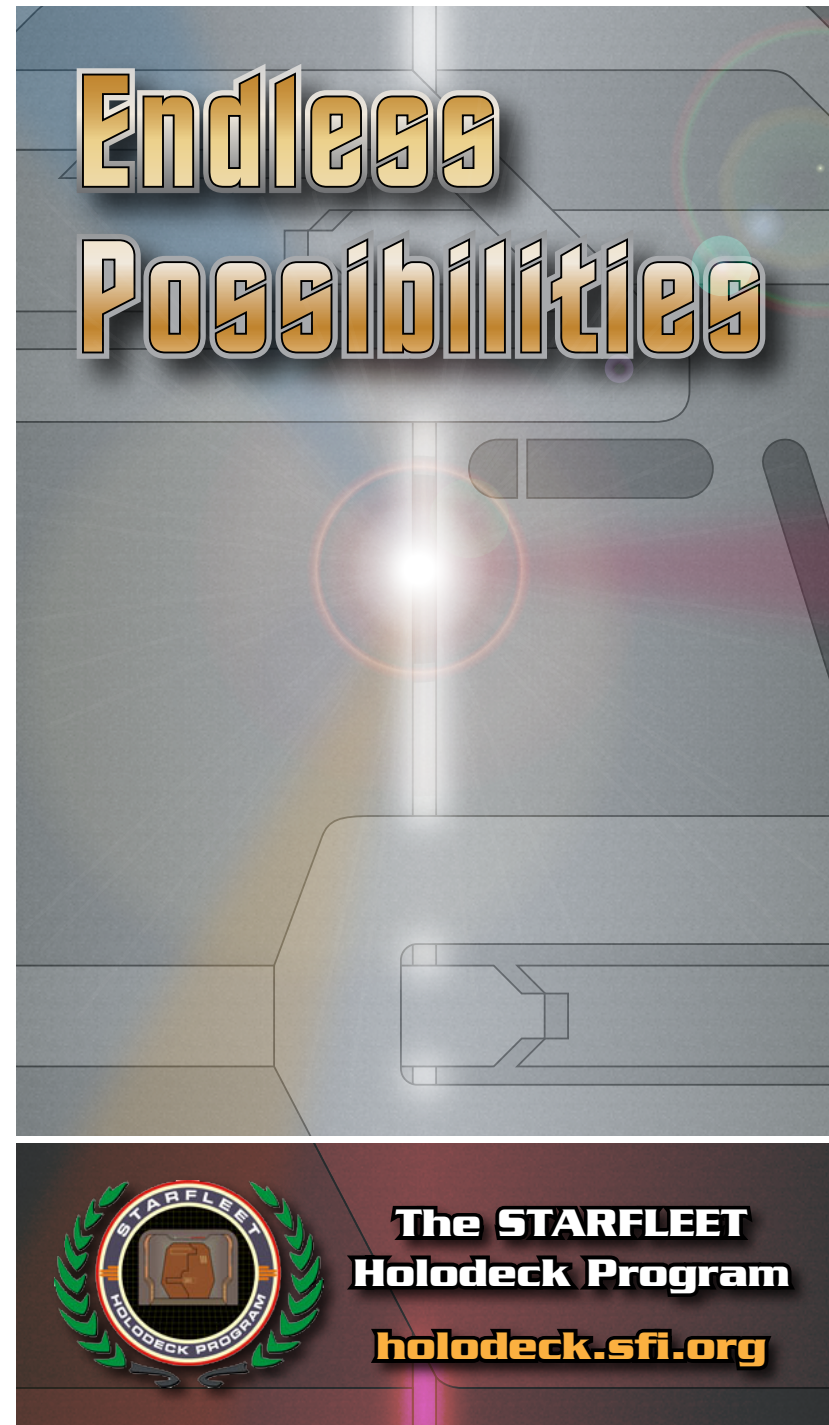
Sinclair entered in the officer's lounge and asked Thomas, "Do you think the Federation will ever meet the Yonitsety face to face?"

Thomas said, "I hope not, they seem to be more dangerous than the

Borg are." Thomas turned his head to look out the window.

Thalen and Sinclair knew that their captain wanted to be left alone. "We'll be on the bridge," Sinclair stated.

With the doors closing behind Sinclair and Thalen, Thomas thought about the mission in his mind and the only thing he could think of was that Alexander Stryker and his crew fought with honor and courage. Captain James T. Kirk would have been proud of the Enterprise B and her crew.





USS Niagara Celebrates 10 Years As Starfleet Chapter

“Space, the Final Frontier. These are the voyages of the Starship Niagara. Its continuing mission ... To explore strange, new science fiction conventions; to seek out new and worthy charities in need; to boldly go forth spreading the word about Star Trek and STARFLEET International ... ”

The USS Niagara celebrated its 10th anniversary as a STARFLEET chapter with a special anniversary dinner held March 24. Twenty-two people attended this special event, including FADM Dave Blaser, Commander, STARFLEET; FCPT Debbie Blaser, Commanding Officer, USS Hadfield; and special emissaries from the Klingon Empire Ryu and Xyaniss.

The night's festivities started off with a buffet-style meal, consisting of chicken, roast beef, chef's salad, buttered potatoes, baked beans and a specially-created 10th Anniversary Cake, complete with a hand-made USS Niagara decoration!

After dinner, a drawing was held for several prizes, including a Star Trek lithograph, a set of Star Trek uniform patterns, 2 laptop cases, and a Star Trek book – all donated by the Niagara's crew. Winners included Chris Cuccia, Darlene Topp, Xyaniss our Klingon emissary, Andrew Topp and Joanne Schoenthaler.

“It has been my honor to be able to lead the Niagara for the past 10 years, and I look forward to many more years together as a vital and hardworking ship with the chance to continue the work we have been

blessed enough to have had the chance to do the last 10 years. It is only with the fine group of people that make up the Niagara that the things we do can be done. This crew has a sense of service and charity which allows us to assist others in the community,” said VADM Glen Diebold, Commanding Officer, USS Niagara, of the last 10 years.

Admiral Diebold went on to say that the USS Niagara has received some fine comments and has been recognized by not only Region 7, but also the STARFLEET: The International Star Trek Fan Association, Inc., as well. “These last 10 years have seen members of the crew advance to fleet assigned ranks of Captain, Fleet Captain, Rear Admiral and Vice Admiral. And no one can find fault with the good work the entire crew

participates in,” he stated.

From humble beginnings as a group of five friends who gathered together because they loved Star Trek, the ship has charted a steady course of progress from its creation as a shuttle chapter of SFI and doing its initial Shake Down Cruise, to the ship of today which has a complement of 28 members, both enlisted and commissioned, as well as four ambassadors – who are from as far away as Australia.

According to Admiral Diebold, “the ship began as a group of five friends – all corrections officers – who wanted to get involved in more than just attending a convention once in a while. After attending a Toronto Trek one year, the group saw all the fun the other fan groups were having and picked up information on Starfleet

from one of the tables.” Admiral Diebold noted that things started out a little shaky after the group officially joined Starfleet, because they could not find a local ship that was interested in helping them out. “We were able to secure the help of GEN Mark Anbinder and the USS Accord to become our mother ship and we were on our way,” commented Admiral Diebold.

“It soon became evident to the group that we had friends who were also interested in Star Trek and Science Fiction, and the ship's crew rapidly grew to 13 before its official commissioning on March 21, 2003,” Admiral Diebold continued.

When asked about the actual history of the ship's name — Niagara — and how it was chosen, Admiral Diebold stated that in choosing a name for the ship, he wanted it to be something more than just the usual Sci-Fi-themed name and started looking into the area's local history. “The US Brig Niagara was going to make



The 10th Anniversary Cake. The cake is a three-layer cake, with each layer being one of the ship's colors, separated by a chocolate mousse filling. The replica of the USS Niagara on top is actually made from a Rice Krispy treat and hand-formed, then covered in fondant. The cake took the pastry chef about 10 hours to actually create.

The dinner ware was all decked out in the Ship's colors.



LCDR Jeffrey Triz
USS Niagara
Region 7

a trip to the area that summer and it drew my attention — a ship with a history in real life. After checking online, I found that the Niagara had more incarnations than just the one sailing ship and even had a history in the Star Trek universe,” he said. When he presented the name idea to the group, it was unanimously approved and the Starship Niagara was born.

When looking back over the last 10 years, Admiral Diebold said that “it’s very hard to believe that it has really been 10 years. Rarely (at least for me) do you find a group of people who are drawn together the way we have been. I believe one of our primary guides over these past 10 years has been that all are welcome, as long as they treat people the way they themselves want to be treated. We don’t seek out anybody special — we open our arms to all who wish to be a friend.

“When you think about it that’s a lot like what the Ideals of the Federation are. It’s those ideals that we have chosen to watch and emulate. We are ready to be a friend to anyone who wishes, but we are also ready to help when and where ever needed and to defend what is right.”

Admiral Diebold, looking now to the Niagara’s next Five Year Mission, said “My hope for the next five years is to continue doing the good things we already do, while continuing to

open our arms to new people. Some people, who start off at first thinking “Oh they’re just Trekkies” soon find out that there’s a whole lot more to us than just Star Trek and become interested because of the charity work we do. Just because we enjoy Sci-Fi, doesn’t stop us from living and working in real life. I pray that each and every member will continue to be the great example of what is good in people that they have been so far.”

On the issue of the Niagara’s charity work and how the ship got started donating to charity, Admiral Diebold stated that it was not long after the ship’s commissioning that the crew began its fund raising program. “The original intention of the fund raising program was to help defray the costs of things like tables at sci-fi conventions. The fundraising soon spread to helping out others in the area by making donations to needy charities. The first charity recommendation made by the crew was to aid the orphans at Father Baker’s Orphanage (now known as Our Lady of Victory Home of Charity),” said the admiral.

Admiral Diebold commented that when the ship’s crew decided to publish a monthly newsletter, the idea was put forth by RADM Thomas Pawelczak, to use the name the “Peacekeeper”, because the founding group was all peace officers. After

that, it has been on a steady uphill roll ever since. The admiral stated that he served as the editor for the first two years, followed by Karen Stevenson in the ship’s third year. The current editor has had the privilege of serving since the ship’s fourth year.

“We have been extremely blessed to make friends in high places in Starfleet Command and have been honored to have either the Commander of STARFLEET International or the Vice Commander of STARFLEET International attend all but one of our commissioning anniversaries,” said the Niagara’s CO. “This is something very few ships in the fleet can say, especially since we are so far from the core groups of our regional fleet.

“I think the Niagara has made an outstanding reputation for itself in Starfleet and in Starfleet Academy, as well as making a difference in our local community, if only in a small way. As we start our eleventh year lest not sit on our accomplishments but look forward to what we have to yet to accomplish,” concluded the Admiral.



Rear Admiral Glen Diebold, Commanding Officer, USS Niagara, begins the evening’s activities with a short welcome speech.



Dinner attendees mingle and talk after the downing their fill of the catered goodies! Dinner featured chicken, roast beef, buttered potatoes, chef’s salad, baked beans and the cake! Twenty two people attended the event, including FADM Dave Blaser, Commander, STARFLEET and two emissaries from the Klingon Empire – Ryu and Xyaniss.



Wild Cat Con

The USS Susquehannock crew was lucky to be invited to the Wild Cat Con held at the Pennsylvania College of Technology in Williams Port. The people putting on the con graciously gave us a recruiting table and free admission.



By Commander Doris Hutley

The USS Susquehannock crew was lucky to be invited to the Wild Cat Con held at the Pennsylvania College of Technology in Williams Port. The people putting on the con graciously gave us a recruiting table and free admission. But I think our favorite reason for going was that we had the opportunity to meet Walter Koenig.

We arrived bright and early on Saturday and set up our table. One of our crew members, John Radle, brought several of his Star Trek Phasers, Communicators, etc. for use at our table. People seemed to enjoy the various Star Trek pieces of equipment. It gave us the opportunity to tell them about our chapter.

Walter Koenig had recently written a comic book. He and the illustrator of the comic book did a comic book talk (no Trek questions allowed) earlier in the day. It actually was quite interesting to hear the thought process behind the project and to see some of the illustrations. My husband actually ended up picking up a

Captain America illustration done by the same illustrator later in the day. Our contact at Wild Cat Con, John Shableski, was nice enough to arrange a photo op with our crew and Walter. John had wanted us to dress in Star Trek uniform for a later event. We also presented Walter with an honorary membership to the USS Susquehannock. He also allowed us to get our stuff signed first so we could go back to our table.

Originally we were going to escort Walter to his second talk later in the day (the reason for the uniforms). However, Walter hadn't been feeling well that day so he had gone on in and sat down. We still did the procession with us, the Star Wars group and the Cosplayers. Walter showed a short film he did before the talk. People could ask all questions in this session. It was actually quite interesting.

This actually was a great event in a smaller area. We really enjoyed ourselves! I am including write-ups from two of our other members.

By Lt. Carl Deitrich

Finding time to take off work, myself, Andy ("Kala" the Klingon) and his son, Chris, left for Williamsport from York, PA on Thursday evening so the ship would have representation during the first day of the Con. The first Extra-terrestrial encounter was along the road as the trio got a chance to pose at (and I even rode) a giant Sea dragon outside a restaurant where we ate! Arriving at Williamsport and finding the motel, we decided to tour the Penn College Campus where the first ever Wildcat ComicCon was being held. Talking to "Ed," a professor at the college who was finishing up for the evening, we got directions for opening ceremony the next day and checked out some of the local night life before heading in for the evening.

In the theater the following morning we arrived in our uniforms and everyone was especially impressed with Chris as "Krude Da," The Original Series Klingon. Followed by on-stage appearances by a Star Wars group in full costume, the Penn College "Wildcat" Mascot and

even a girl dressed as the Tardis from the Dr. Who Franchise as a blue Police Phone Box, we were pleased that Ed. (the professor from the previous evening) joined in for the ceremonies. The campus librarian discussed the importance of including graphic novels in a classroom curriculum and how the first Wildcat ComiCon celebrated comics in education.

One of the nicest surprises of the weekend occurred immediately after the ceremonies as Channel 16 interviewed us regarding our feelings at being a part of the first Wildcat Con- we had brief appearances on the news that evening, even showing a Con guest leaving with a hand-made Tribble that we sold for charity at our booth! More important, however, was the trip across the street to the elementary school where the children wore their hand-made personalized Super Hero capes and were eager to see the cranial ridges that Kala sported and Krude Da's awesome outfit. It was quite an experience for them to see the Star Trek Characters on one area of the sidewalk and the Star Wars characters on the other!

The rest of the day was also rewarding for the early away-mission crew. We got lots of attention and have never had our pictures taken so often! At our STARFLEET stand in the dealers' room we sold Tribbles and other Star Trek merchandise for the American Cancer Society and had a great time introducing Con goers to STARFLEET. We met many local comic book creators, including Jarrod Dodson who created "TerrorKlowns," a horror comic about mutant clowns taking over Williamsport, PA! We, of course, also had a great time with the obligatory battles between ourselves and the Star Wars stand, LOL!! Also, one of the school groups who we had seen earlier visited us and went back to class with a free Tribble!! Being a teacher I attended two seminars regarding the use of comics in the classroom accompa-

CMD Doris Hutley
LT Carl Deitrich
CPO John Radle
USS Susquehannock
Region 7

nied by Kala and Krude Da at the second one. We also attended the first ever Wildcat ComiCon parade and were joined by other motley characters – even being attacked by zombies at the end! We then attended a dance hosted by a band called ZombieTrain which tells the story of a zombie holocaust as observed by a railroad conductor who relates the account of his survival in words and music.



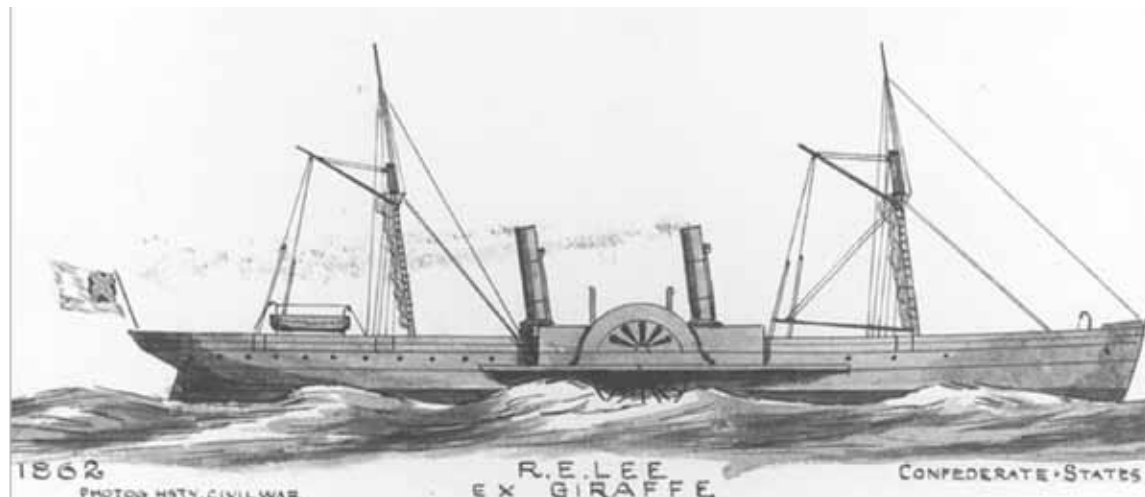
By Chief Petty Officer John Radle
 First off, the Con was not bad except for all the walking we had to do. But I would go back.
 The Shuttle Fenris was loaded and pre-launch checklists were done. We were given clearance to leave DS-3 to meet up with the Command staff of the Susquehannock who were meeting me in the Shuttle Breisie at Rally point Alpha at Starbase Wildcat. I arrived at Starbase Wildcat at 0700 and was met by the Command staff at 0715, we checked in and set up our table, which consisted of Star Trek Memorabilia and etc. We had our group all doing different thing but came together do our mission objective. The con was great but since it was the 1st Wildcat Con there is room for improvement for next year. I had a great time especially having my photo taken with Walter Koenig.





History of Ships Named Robert E. Lee

A history from 1862 to 2273.



CSS Blockade Runner

Robert E. Lee was originally the merchant ship Giraffe, a schooner-rigged, iron-hulled, oscillating-engine paddle-steamer with two stacks, built on the River Clyde in Scotland during the autumn of 1862 as a fast Glasgow-Belfast packet. Alexander Collie & Co. of Manchester acquired her for their blockade-running fleet, but was persuaded by renowned blockade-runner Lieutenant John Wilkinson, CSN, to sell her to the Confederate States Navy for the same £32,000 just paid.

Her first voyage was into Old Inlet, Wilmington, North Carolina in January 1863 with valuable munitions and 26 Scottish lithographers, eagerly awaited by the Confederate Government bureau of engraving and printing. On January 26, Union intelligence maintained she "could be captured easily" at anchor in Osabaw Sound, but this was not to be for another 10 months. Running out again, Robert E. Lee started to establish a nearly legendary reputation for blockade running by leaving astern blockader USS Iroquois.

Lieutenant Richard H. Gayle, CSN, assumed command in May 1863, relieving Lieutenant John Wilkinson; but Wilkinson was conning the ship again out of the Cape Fear River from Smithville, North Carolina on October 7, 1863, as recounted by Lieutenant Robert D.

Minor, CSN, in a letter to Admiral Franklin Buchanan dated February 2, 1864, detailing the first venture to capture USS Michigan and liberate 2,000 Confederate prisoners at Johnson's Island, Sandusky, Ohio. Robert E. Lee transported Wilkinson, Minor, Lieutenant Benjamin P. Loyall and 19 other naval officers to Halifax, Nova Scotia with \$35,000 in gold and a cotton cargo "subsequently sold at Halifax for \$76,000 (gold) by the War Department — in all some \$111,000 in gold, as the sinews of the expedition."

Thus Wilkinson was in Canada and Gayle commanding when Robert E. Lee's luck ran out on November 9, 1863, after 21 voyages in 10 months carrying out over 7,000 bales of cotton, returning with munitions invaluable to the Confederacy. She left Bermuda five hours after her consort, CSS Cornubia, only to be run down a few hours after her by the same blockader, USS James Adger. The two runners were conceded to be easily "the most noted that ply between Bermuda and Wilmington."



Steam Paddleboat

The Robert E. Lee, nicknamed the "Monarch of the Mississippi," was a steamboat built in New Albany, Indiana in 1866. The hull was designed by DeWitt Hill, and the riverboat cost more than \$200,000 to build. It was named for Robert E. Lee, General-in-Chief of the Confederate States of America, and the steamboat gained its greatest fame for racing and beating the then-current speed record holder, the Natchez, in an 1870 steamboat race.

At 3:30 am on September 30, 1882, the Lee caught fire thirty miles north of New Orleans, at Point Pleasant, killing 21 people. It had left Vicksburg, Mississippi heading for New Orleans, on its first voyage since being repainted. The fire started in the pantry and spread, destroying nearly everything on board, including the ship's books, mail, and 500 bales of cotton. Some crew members believed the fire to be accidental, while others suggested that it might have been deliberately set. When the fire was discovered, the boat headed to shore at the Yucatan Plantation in Louisiana. The captain was W.S. Cannon (son of Capt. John Cannon, who owned the steamboat), and the pilot, John Stout, was credited with saving many lives. The survivors were rescued by the J. M. White, and taken back to Vicksburg.



American Steam Passenger Ship

During WWII, at 22.30 hours on 30 Jul, 1942, the Robert E. Lee (Master William C. Heath) was hit by one torpedo from U-166, steaming at 16 knots about 25 miles southeast of the entrance to the Mississippi River. Lookouts had spotted the torpedo wake about 200 yards away before it struck just aft of the engine room. The explosion destroyed the #3 hold, vented through the B and C decks and wrecked the engines, the radio compartment and the steering gear. The vessel had been bound for Tampa, but no pilot was available so she was diverted to New Orleans under escort by the American submarine chaser USS PC-566, which now began dropping depth charges at a sonar contact, sinking the U-boat.

The badly damaged Robert E. Lee first listed to port then to starboard and finally sank by the stern about 15 minutes after the torpedo hit. One officer, nine crewmen and 15 passengers were lost. The survivors of the eight officers, 122 crewmen, six armed guards (the ship was armed with one 3in gun) and 268

passengers on board abandoned ship in six lifeboats, eight rafts and five floats and were soon picked up by USS PC-566, USS SC-519 and the tug Underwriter and landed in Venice, Louisiana.

The passengers aboard the Robert E. Lee were mostly survivors of previously torpedoed ships on their way to the USA. Among the rescued were all 28 men from the Andrea Brøvig and 44 men from the Stanvac Palembang, while one man from the latter died in the sinking.



USS Robert E. Lee - SSBN 601

USS Robert E. Lee (SSBN-601), a George Washington class fleet ballistic missile submarine, was the only ship of the United States Navy to be named for Robert E. Lee (1807–1870), the commanding general of the Confederate forces during the American Civil War.

Her keel was laid down on 25 August 1958 by the Newport News Shipbuilding & Dry Dock Company of Newport News, Virginia. She was launched on 18 December 1959 sponsored by Mrs. Hanson E. Ely II; and commissioned on 16 September 1960 with Commander Reuben F. Woodal commanding the Blue Crew and Commander Joseph Williams, Jr. commanding the Gold Crew.

The third nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine to join the fleet, and the first nuclear-powered ship built in the southern United States, Robert E. Lee operated in and out of Newport News, Virginia, until 2 December 1960, when she got underway for the Narragansett Bay Operating Area for torpedo firing tests. Following the successful firing of five torpedoes on 6 December 1960, Robert E. Lee departed for Cape Kennedy, Florida, arriving on 12 December 1960. She then loaded Polaris test missiles and on 22 December 1960 conducted her first missile launch.

The Polaris flew "hot and true."

She conducted practice torpedo firing during the first week of August and departed Holy Loch on 9 August 1961 on her first deterrent patrol. During the next two years she completed nine more deterrent patrols.

On 10 October, with the Undersecretary of the Navy on board as an observer, Robert E. Lee successfully fired a Polaris A-3 test missile. She returned to Charleston to commence a predeployment upkeep period at the Cooper River site in South Carolina.

On 4 December 1966, she departed Charleston on her 17th deterrent patrol, which terminated at Holy Loch on 30 January 1967.

Robert E. Lee remained attached to Submarine Squadron 14 throughout 1969 and 1970. Continuing to operate out of Holy Loch, she completed her 33rd deterrent patrol on 1 January 1971. For the first seven months of 1972, Robert E. Lee was engaged in post-overhaul trials and exercises on the United States West Coast. In mid-August 1972, Robert E. Lee transited the Panama Canal and arrived in Charleston, South Carolina, on 14 September 1972. She continued normal operations, this time on the U.S. East Coast, throughout 1972 and for the first seven months of 1973. Transiting the Panama Canal early in August 1973, she arrived in San Diego, California, on 17 August 1973 and then moved on to Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, arriving on 5 September 1973. After a month in Hawaii, she sailed for Apra, Guam, and continued operations in that area into 1977, accomplishing several deterrent patrols in the Pacific. In early 1977, Robert E. Lee dry-docked for her third and final overhaul at Mare Island Naval Shipyard for nuclear reactor core refueling, equipment, and weapons upgrades. Sea Trials commenced in August 1978 and she

went into operational status December, 1978.

Robert E. Lee was decommissioned on 1 December 1983, and stricken from the Naval Vessel Register on 30 April 1986. Her hulk was stored at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard until it entered the Nuclear Powered Ship and Submarine Recycling Program. On 30 September 1991, it ceased to exist.



U.E.S. Robert E. Lee

The Robert E. Lee was a transport vessel launched in 2069 for colonization of Terra Nova, an inhabitable planet which was located some twenty light years from Earth. It was planned and built only six years after Cochrane's Phoenix without help from the Vulcans and could attain a maximum speed of warp 1.3. The vessel was designed to be disassembled on arrival to provide materials to build the new colony but thus removed any prospect of return. The Robert E. Lee also lost contact with the colonists in about 2082 and it was not until 2151 that Enterprise NX-01 was instructed to investigate. It transpired that much of the planet had been irradiated by an asteroid collision and the human survivors had been forced to seek sanctuary in subterranean tunnels. Their descendants relocated to an uncontaminated region of Terra Nova after the Enterprise NX-1 found the Conestoga transport vessel on the planet in 2080 and relocated its population to the same region.



S.S. Robert E. Lee

The SS Robert E. Lee was an Emmette-type starship in use before the NX-class of starships. The Emmette flew above the Lunar colonies sometime before 2151. This ship was in use sometime between the late-21st century, when the first Luna colonies were founded and the mid-22nd century, when Enterprise was launched. 21 November, 2152

Starfleet's 155th Combat Squadron, on recreational leave, is caught in a surprise attack at the site of the unfinished Outer Sector Defense Outpost 4. A major sensor failure at the outpost permits a squadron of pirate cruisers to sneak up and catch the squadron unprepared for combat. Though the pirates left the incomplete base untouched, they destroyed 11 of the squadrons' 12 starships, including the Robert E. Lee. Enemy losses are believed to be very light. 1 January, 2153

New Year's Day celebrations throughout civilized space are interrupted with news of the destruction of Outer Sector Defense Outpost 4. The USS Carronade, a Cavalry Class Destroyer, survives to report about the sneak attack. The senior officers of Carronade describe enemy vessels as having giant, winged creatures painted on them that performed suicide runs with fusion explosive missiles. Intercepted subspace transmissions from the battle are translated, finally giving the enemy a name---the Romulans! The United Federation of Planets also obtains its first accurate bearing on Romulan held space.



U.S.S. Robert E. Lee NCC-1807

The USS Robert E. Lee, a Benning Class Frigate, is commissioned in 2252. During the period of Romulan expansion, she will be deployed extensively as a task group leader on various strategic assignments outside Federation space. Orion sabotage will result in significant damage to prevent her being upgraded. Less than one year later, after being repaired, she will disappear with all hands, including George Samuel Kirk,

Drake Reed, and Kael Sanderson (a former Romulan Field Primus named T'Kael Zanedor K'Layel), after having surgery and now known as the Father of Federation Law. It is believed that formerly disgraced Commander Ryak was responsible.




U.S.S. Robert E. Lee NCC-1915

1 April, 2273, USS Reliant (NCC 1864), USS Vigilant (NCC 1865), USS Grant (NCC 1914), and USS Robert E. Lee (NCC 1915) Surya Class Frigates are dry-docked at Starfleet Division, Baltic Yards, Leningrad, Earth, for conversion to Avenger Specifications. These new, heavily armed vessels equipped with four megaphaser cannons, four photon torpedo banks, and 12 standard phaser banks will form the basis of the Knox frigates to be constructed in the future. With a complement of 360 and a warp capacity of 11, a total of 67 ships


of this class will be built. Smaller and slower than the Belknap Strike Cruiser, the Avenger Class possesses increased maneuverability and fire-power, added to the enormous hangar facilities allowing it to carry a squadron of Killer Bee attack craft. They are ideally suited for patrolling various small neutral zones in the U.F.P. Treaty Zone, such as the K'zin Patriarchy and the Orion System. She is currently assigned to the Klingon Neutral Zone.

DATA HAS ONE... WHAT ABOUT YOU?



**PETS
BELONG
IN FLEET.**

**JOIN
PETFLEET
TODAY!**



PETFLEET.SFI.ORG

And now I have a handle on why our Feddies have gone Klingon; it's all about the look.

STARFLEET AND KLINGON EMPIRE PLAY NICE



On January 28, 2012 the Imperial Klingon Vessel Vo'leth ("Sword of Doom") was officially launched with not too much pomp, but rather interesting circumstances. The new Commander and First Officer are also Starfleet officers! In fact, the USS Angeles now shares five of its members with the Klingon Assault Group of the Empire: Lt. J.G. Karen Hoagland, Lt. J.G. Renee Wike, Lt. Cdr. Christopher Mulrooney, Crewman Shaunn Lawrence and Capt. Dave Mason.

I admit to being concerned when I decided to attend the launch party. Klingons scare me. Why would my crew mates share allegiance with blood wine swilling warriors? I needed to learn more, so before the official launch I asked Commander Heh'Kar tai Ruell, aka Karen Hoagland, a few questions.

Why did you decide to form a Klingon club?

I had been considering a Klingon uniform for a while. Then we ran into the KAG group of North Hollywood on our away mission to Frank and Son Collectibles. Their commander gave me their card. Renee and I ended up going to one of their meetings, had a good time and thought it would be fun to participate. Then I realized I almost had enough crew for a small ship with just Starbase Karen [nickname for Karen's house and house-

mates]. Shaunn knew some more Klingons and our crew grew.

What activities are planned for your Klingon members? Should we be worried?

We will be going to conventions, hosting parties, monthly meetings; not all that different from STARFLEET. KAG is not as structured as STARFLEET, though.

I have a few ideas. One of which is to go to Madame Tussauds in Hollywood in Klingon attire. They have a bridge there with wax figures of Picard and Kirk you can stand next to and touch. LOL! I would love to get photos of Klingons accosting the captains and sitting in the command chair on the bridge!

Oh, we plan to "play" with you Feddies. I would also like to host an Undiscovered Country costume party. Everyone would come as either

Klingon, Romulan, Federation, etc. This would be an IKV Vo'leth event the Angeles would be invited to. Starbase Karen would become the Camp Khitomer Peace Conference.

You may want to be a little concerned. Yellow alert! We have a Romulan Ambassador on board as well as extended family members of the House of Duras in our crew. Who knows what could happen?

(I thought I had better get back on safe ground.) Where do you get your Klingon names?

We each chose our own names. Personally, I made mine up based on my name, family initials, etc. Others picked actual names. For example, we have an Ambassador Kamarag.

Does Snickerdoodle have a Klingon name?

I have decided on a name for my targ; Khe'lepto. (So the fluffy little

dog is a reptilian targ? I'm hardly going to argue.)

The launch meeting in Woodland Hills was attended by the Vo'leth crew, KAG Fleet Commander John "Kris" Halvorson of the IKV Dark Sun and several Dark Sun warriors. There was an official presentation of a KAG banner by the commanding officers present. I was shocked to see it was a tattered Starfleet banner that had obviously been taken in battle and converted. The traditions of the Klingon culture are going to take some getting used to!

I asked the new Commander and her First Officer Renee Wike about their Klingon finery. Their iridescent metallic sashes are only the beginning of the elaborate costumes planned. The Vo'leth is fortunate to have the talents of Shaunn Lawrence available, since he is creating costumes and accessories central to the Vo'leth's identity. Karen already has a jacket embellished with a large and colorful Bird of Prey. And later that evening I saw impressive designs by another member, Greg Dienhart, for Klingon gowns.

And now I have a handle on why our Feddies have gone Klingon; it's all about the look. They are going to look spectacular and make their presence known! I look forward to seeing it.

After dinner we spent the rest of the evening at Starbase Karen playing a cutthroat game of Klingon Monopoly. I eventually had to fold, but as the visiting Federation guest it was best to play it cool. I still had an unsettling image of that banner on my mind!

But the USS Angeles will have a chance to "play nice" with the IKV Vo'leth soon. In April both ships will attend opening day of the Renaissance Pleasure Faire in Irwindale. If the jousting knights hear unusual cheers of qpla' amid the huzzahs, so much the better. It should be glorious.



**L-R, USS Angeles members Ltjg Renee Wike, Ltjg Karen Hoagland.
Taken by Gloria Rodriguez**



**L-R, USS Angeles members LtCmdr Christopher Mulrooney & Ltjg Karen Hoagland, with KAG founder John Halvorson.
Taken by Gloria Rodriguez**



**CAPT Gloria Rodriguez
USS Angeles
Region 4**

Executive Committee Reports

News and updates from the head honchos.



FADM Dave Blaser
USS Hadfield
Region 13

Commander,
STARFLEET

Report From The Commander, STARFLEET

Right about now, there isn't much that I wouldn't give to be in a fully stocked sickbay being treated by Doctor Crusher--or the HoloDoc, or Doctor Bashir, or even Doctor McCoy--for the head cold that I've got right now.

But I wouldn't want to be treated by Doctor Phlox. Knowing my luck, he'd probably use Denobulan tree slugs to help clear out my sinus passages. The thought of all those little slimy critters wiggling around in my head doesn't seem particularly appealing.

I mean, here we are in the twenty-first century, we can split the atom, we can build huge particle accelerators to annihilate matter in search of the Higgs boson, we've started to build and launch spacecraft that are exploring our solar system and are soon to start expanding our knowledge about the galaxy around our little island in the middle of the ocean, but we still don't have a cure for the common cold yet.

We've got plenty of medicines that can help us to reduce the symptoms, or at least mask them enough so that we feel normal enough to take care of our day-to-day lives. But what

I wouldn't give for one of Doctor McCoy's fix-all pills, or Doctor Crusher's hyposprays.

I guess I'll have to wait a few years for that, and, suffer through a few more head colds, complete with the sniffles. It'd still be nice, though.

So, what's happening in STARFLEET at the present time?

By the time you're reading this, the summits for Regions 1 and 15 will both have taken place. Both R1 and R15 were booked for the same weekend, and while I'd love to be at both, I like to try and get around to as many of the regional summits as possible, so this year I'll be heading for New Hampshire.

Region 1 summits are a lot of fun. I really enjoyed myself last year--12 years since I'd first been at one of their summits--and I'm positive that they're going to put on a great event again.

This May, over what is the Victoria Day weekend for me in Canada, I'll be having my first visit to Region 15 in an official capacity. I've been to Region 15 before, and to New Hampshire specifically back when Debbie and I went down to meet Melodie, our latest four-legged furry

friend whom some of you have met at IC2010 and IC2011, but this will be the first time I get to meet with many of the members there in an official capacity and get a chance to see how R15 works internally.

It's also a chance for us in STARFLEET to see how some of the new things were trying with the Quartermaster will work. We're trying to get Quartermaster items out to regional events to give more members a chance to see what we've got and hopefully give more folks a chance to get some great STARFLEET-branded items.

Overall, I'm anticipating that it'll be a great time. Our regions really know how to have fun, and they do it while getting their business squared away!

We're still fighting the back-log on the Communiqué, and trying to get a good handle on how to move the CQ forward into the future. We've got a few ideas, but it's a challenging thing to put this newsletter together. It's a really big job, one that can be very thankless and that, unfortunately, seems to only really get out on-time when we have people producing it who aren't also working

a full-time day job.

STARFLEET Academy is always a hopping place to be--you folks certainly enjoy your Academy courses, and with the way that our members go through courses, it's a good thing that it's always growing and new courses are constantly being developed!

CompOps continues to work on getting our new database in order. We had a number of problems with our previous contractor, and we had to select a new one. This new contractor comes to us with good references and with a bit of a personal interest--he's a Star Trek fan as well, and has even expressed an interest in joining STARFLEET, so I think that this just might be the one that will get us past the stage of talking about getting our database upgraded and will actually help us to get it done!

So, as I head back to get myself another facial tissue and take a couple more cold pills wishing for the ministrations of Doctor McCoy or Doctor Crusher, I'll wish you all the best and will look forward to seeing many of you at upcoming summits, the International Conference, and writing to you again in CQ171!



MGN Bran Stimpson
USS Tiburon
Region 17

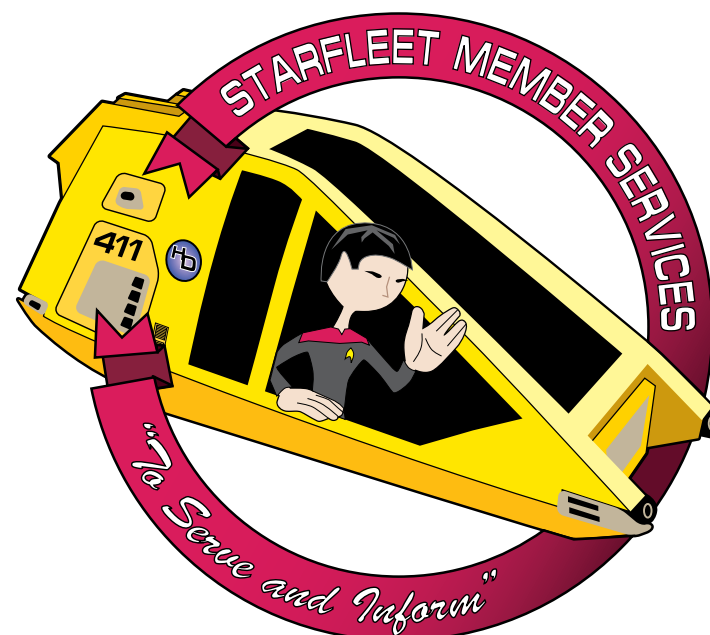
Vice Commander,
STARFLEET

The Second Fiddle

Welcome to another issue of the CQ. I wanted to take a little time and discuss some of the avenues available to you, the members of STARFLEET, to get assistance with your membership. Under my office is the Member Services Department, this department is specifically setup to assist you with just about anything you might need. Ranging from password resets, address changes, email corrections and chapter transfers (request must come from the member or family primary).

You can contact the helpdesk in three ways. The best and recommended method is to use Member Services Helpdesk at helpdesk.sfi.org. By submitting a ticket there is record in the system that can be tracked and recalled if necessary. Also, you are given a ticket number

which you are able to use to track your ticket. The other two methods are via email (hd-admin@sfi.org) or via phone (using the STARFLEET toll free number). Remember when using any of the methods that it may take a little time for the Helpdesk to reply and get your ticket resolved. On average tickets are handled within 24 hours after the submission.



Hello From the Vault

As usual things are busy in the finance center of our organization. The summit season is in full swing and the International Conference/Muster is coming up fast. This means lots of work for lots of people. Hope everyone is prepared for their event and the Big One in August. Now is the time to make your reservations so that you will be assured of the best event possible. The folks hosting these events can make sure that everything goes well when they know how many people to plan for in advance. So if you are looking to attend one of the many STARFLEET events this summer, letting them know early will make it better for everyone.

Some of the Summits and the IC will feature the STARFLEET Quartermaster merchandise and the SFMC quartermaster merchandise this year. Although we have generally had STARFLEET and SFMC quartermaster stuff available at the IC/IM and at any summit where the actual quartermasters would be in attendance this season we have worked out an arrangement with some regions to have merchandise even though the quartermaster will not be present. This was true for the Region 2/3 Joint summit in Louisiana earlier this season, and arrangements have been made with Region 15 and Region 5 to have merchandise available to the attendees. I hope you will give us feedback on this idea and let us know how well it works out.

I know there have been some unusual problems with the SFMC quartermaster website recently but we hope to have them worked out and an accurate inventory available later today. Sorry for the inconvenience to all who have experienced it. I would also like to say thanks to those of you who brought the problems to my attention.

It's budget time again for those who are a working part of the machine known as STARFLEET, The International Star Trek Fan Association, Inc. If you belong to one of the departments that attempts to spend organizational funds, please get your requests for the upcoming year in as soon as possible. We need to finalize the budget before the IC so that the board of directors can vote on it. If your request is not included at that

time, consider it void for the upcoming year.

APRIL FINANCES

The STARFLEET Main checking account opened the month of April with a balance of \$25,252.07

There were credits in the amount of \$4,708.88

There were debits in the amount of \$2,120.53

Closing balance for April 30th was \$27,840.42

The IC Even account opened the month of April with a balance of \$1,279.96

There were credits in the amount of \$189.00

There were debits in the amount of \$80.08

Closing balance for April 30th was \$1,388.88

The IC Odd account opened the month of April with a balance of \$1,504.10

There were credits in the amount of \$0

There were debits in the amount of \$0

Closing Balance for April 30th was \$1,504.10

The SFMC checking account opened the month of April with a balance of \$5,261.87

There were credits in the amount of \$4.50

There were debits in the amount of \$542.00

Closing balance for April 30th was \$4,724.37

The STARFLEET Scholarship Savings account opened the month of April with a balance of \$24,400.69

There were credits in the amount of \$1.60 (interest)

There were debits in the amount of \$0

Closing balance for April 30th was \$24,402.29

The SFMC Scholarship Savings Account opened the month of April with a balance of \$2,726.31

There were credits in the amount of \$0.18 (interest)

There were debits in the amount of \$0

Closing balance for April 30th was \$2,726.49

MAY FINANCES

The STARFLEET Main checking account opened the month of May with a balance of \$27,840.42

There were credits in the amount of \$5,489.33

There were debits in the amount of \$1,371.20

Closing balance for May was \$31,958.55

The IC Even account opened the month of May with a balance of \$1,388.88

There were credits in the amount of \$149.00

There were debits in the amount of \$34.70

Closing balance for May was \$1,503.18

The IC Odd account opened the month of May with a balance of \$1,504.10

There were credits in the amount of \$0

There were debits in the amount of \$0

Closing Balance for May was \$1,504.10

The SFMC checking account opened the month of May with a balance of \$4,724.37

There were credits in the amount of \$1,194.49

There were debits in the amount of \$1,256.70

Closing balance for April 30th was \$4,662.16

The STARFLEET Scholarship Savings account opened the month of May with a balance of \$24,402.29

There were credits in the amount of \$1.65 (interest)

There were debits in the amount of \$0

Closing balance for May was \$24,403.94

The SFMC Scholarship Savings Account opened the month of May with a balance of \$2,726.49

There were credits in the amount of \$0.18 (interest)

There were debits in the amount of \$0

Closing balance for May was \$2,726.67

If anyone has any information in regards to good CD rates, please contact me at cfo@sfi.org - the STARFLEET Scholarship Savings account figure includes the CDs that came to term and were cashed this past year due to an extreme drop in interest rates. These funds were set aside years ago as an investment for future scholarship awards, but we'd like to re-invest them into another CD with decent interest rates.

STARFLEET currently has one remaining CD with a balance of \$1,111.23 and is up for renewal on 8/15/2012 the current interest rate is a mere 0.35%. Again, we'd like to re-invest this into a new CD at a better interest rate.



GEN Linda Olson
USS Relentless
Region 2

Chief Financial
Officer
STARFLEET



STARFLEET Academy News

Riddle Me This

**Four legs in front, two behind.
Its steely armor scratched and
dented by rocks and sticks.
Still it toils as it helps feed
the hungry.**

Look for the answer in the next issue!

Last Issue's riddle: *Everyone offers this thing. But few will take it when it is offered by someone else.*

ANSWER: Advice

PROMOTIONS

Congratulations to the following on a well-deserved promotion:

TJ Allen to Captain
Karen Carothers to Commodore
James (Jamie) Delantonas to Rear Admiral
Ken Purdie to Captain
Cher Schleigh to Commodore

From the Desk of the Coordinator of Academics: ADM Carol Thompson

There was a massive movement to create a new Institute, which was effective May 1st for the Institute of Life Science Studies as well as creating the Institute of History and Government. There has been a huge interest in these two topics by a good portion of our members.

Several changes in moving colleges to appropriate Institutes and the addition and movement of colleges to directors current and new are forthcoming.

From the Desk of the Assistant Boothby Awards Director: CAPT Scott Schaller

We are currently working on our choices for the Squad Awards that will be presented at the 2012 IC. These Awards are for the Best of the Best of 2011 in the Adult colleges (Red Squad), Cadet Colleges (Blue Squad), Family participation of colleges (Gold Squad) and the SFA Staff/Faculty of the Year.

APRIL BOOTHBY AWARDS

Bronze 50

04/17/2012 Caruso, Michael
04/15/2012 Freeman, Kirk
04/08/2012 Willcocks, Janice

Silver 100

04/06/2012 Smith, Angie

Gold 150

04/19/2012 Radle, John

Diamond 250

04/17/2012 Smith, Marie

Platinum 450

04/24/2012 Beaulieu, E. Jerry

Latinum Star 1200

04/01/2012 Hewitt, Richard

Dilithium Star 1300

04/04/2012 Newman, Franklin
04/01/2012 Hollifield, Gary Tiny

Titanium Star 1350

04/16/2012 Newman, Franklin
04/12/2012 Stubblefield, Erik
04/11/2012 Hollifield, Gary Tiny

Zirconium Star 1400

04/27/2012 Newman, Franklin
04/19/2012 Diebold, Glendon
04/03/2012 Johannson, Eric

Pearl Star 1750

04/01/2012 French, Larry

Alpha Centauri Star 2150

04/15/2012 Thompson, Carol

Altair Star 2200

04/23/2012 Thompson, Carol

Bhavael Star 2400

04/15/2012 Killough, Wayne

MAY BOOTHBY AWARDS

Bronze 50

05/20/2012 Poston, Max
05/12/2012 Greist, Amie

05/02/2012 Marchant, Roon

05/02/2012 Gambles, Liz

Latinum 200

05/14/2012 Hamilton, Steve
05/04/2012 Satonick, Stephen
05/02/2012 Jones, Bryan

Diamond 250

05/19/2012 Conner, Jerome

Dilithium 300

05/02/2012 Baxter, Patricia

Platinum 450

05/01/2012 Waidlich, Judy

Topaz 650

Amethyst 700
05/24/2012 Wenclewicz, Adam
05/07/2012 Paul, Barbara

Bronze Star 1050

05/04/2012 Miller, Marlene

Truman Temple 1100

05/17/2012 Miller, Marlene

Platinum Star 1450

05/27/2012 Diebold, Glendon
05/06/2012 Newman, Franklin

Trilithium Star 1500

05/28/2012 Newman, Franklin

Topaz Star 1650

05/02/2012 Wheeler, George Ann

Amethyst Star 1700

05/28/2012 Wheeler, George Ann

Pearl Star 1750

05/01/2012 Fisher, Josephine

Opal Star 1800

05/21/2012 Fisher, Josephine
05/17/2012 French, Larry

Amargosa Star 2250

05/08/2012 Thompson, Carol

Antares Star 2300

05/17/2012 Thompson, Carol

Barradas Star 2450

05/19/2012 Killough, Wayne



ADM Peg Pellerin
USS Constitution
Region I5

Commandant,
STARFLEET
Academy

From the Desk of the SFA Newsletter Editor: FCPT Cher Schleigh

The Monitor features quarterly lists of the Academy graduates, as well as changes in faculty and Colleges.

You can view the newsletter in one of two ways. Go to our website: www.academy.sfi.org and click on "about us" or use the mirror site

<http://www.pfrpg.org/sfa/news.htm>
The index page allows you access to past, as well as current, issues of the newsletter.

Institute of Leadership Studies (IOLS)
Dean | Admiral Wayne Killough
Email | robynhuntermgs03@gmail.com

Officer's Training School
Officer's Command College
Flag Officer's School
STARFLEET Officer's Leadership College
Academy Degree Program

Institute of Foreign Affairs (IOFA)
Dean | Commodore Jayden Tyronian
Email | jayden_tyronian@thunderdownunder.org

College of Down Under
College of Foreign Language Knowledge
College of United Kingdom

Institute of Alien Studies (IOAS)
Dean | Admiral Peg Pellerin
Email | mrspeapod@myfarpoint.net

Andorian Orientation College
Bajoran Orientation College
Caitian Orientation College
Cardassian Orientation College
College of Borg Technology
Ferengi Orientation College
The Gorn Academy
Klingon Warrior Academy
Orion Orientation College
Romulan Orientation College
Vulcan Orientation College
College of Xeno Studies

Institute of The Arts (IOTA)
Dean | Fleet Captain Wayne Smith
Email | academy@exemail.com.au

College of Classic Detective Mysteries
College of Communications
College of Economics
College of English
College of Genealogy
College of Humour
College of Law
College of Mythological Studies
College of Unusual Knowledge

Institute of Fantasy, Horror, & the Supernatural (IOFHS)
Dean | Lieutenant Colonel Erik Stubblefield
Email | erik.stubblefield@gmail.com

College of Buffy and Angel
College of Charmed
College of The Fantasy Realm

College of Macabre
College of Superheroes
College of Vampires and Werewolves

Institute of History and Government (IOHG)
Dean | Admiral Robert Westfall
Email | rwestfall99@kc.rr.com

College of History
College of Military History
College of U.S. Presidents

Institute of Intelligence and Espionage (IOIE)
Dean | Admiral Carol Thompson
Email | betazoid@mosquitonet.com

College of Bond, James Bond
College of Cryptography
College of Intelligence in Movies
College of Intelligence Operations
College of Intelligence in Sci-Fi
College of Intelligence in TV
College of Military Intelligence

Institute of Law Enforcement and Evidence (IOLEE)
Dean | Rear Admiral Glen Diebold
Email | ussniagara@roadrunner.com

College of Emergency Technology
College of Evidence
College of Fire Fighting and Rescue Technology
College of Law Enforcement
College of Law Enforcement Assets
College of Law Enforcement History
College of Law Enforcement Resources
College of Worldwide Law Enforcement Agencies

Institute of Life Science Studies (IOLSS)
Dean | Admiral Carol Thompson
Email | betazoid@mosquitonet.com

College of Animal Knowledge
College of Abnormal Psychology
College of Food Knowledge
College of Medical Knowledge
College of Medicine
College of Psychological Perspectives
College of Vertebrate Biology

Institute of Military Studies (IOMS)
Dean | Vice Admiral Will Burhans
Email | smiley35633@comcast.net

College of Military Knowledge

College of Military Movies
College of Security
College of Security in Trek
College of Starship Operations
College of Strategy & Tactics
College of Survival Studies
Vessel Readiness Certification Program

Institute of Science and Technology (IOST)
Dean | Admiral Sharon Clark
Email | sac@wolfnet.com

College of Archaeology and Anthropology
Chaplain Services College of Spirituality
College of Chemistry
College of Computer History
College of Engineering
College of Geographical Science
College of Mathematics
College of Physics
College of Spaceflight History
STARFLEET Officers Radio School
Vulcan Academy of Sciences

Institute of Science Fiction Cinema (IOSFC)
Dean | Marine General Larry French Sr.
Email | kmoghjih@gmail.com

College of Alien Contact
College of Artificial Intelligence
College of Sci-Fi Science
College of Space Travel
College of Time Travel
College of Star Wars

Institute of Science Fiction Television (IOSFTV)
Dean | Commodore George Wheeler
Email | ppgannie@mystarship.com

College of Alien Nation
College of Babylon 5
College of Battlestar Galactica
College of Doctor Who
College of Farscape
College of Sarah Jane Adventures
College of Sci-Fi Television
College of Stargate

Institute of Special Operations (IOSO)
Dean | Captain Donald Dobrin
Email | dstypalace@hughes.net

College of Special Operations in Movies
College of Special Operations Resources
College of Special Operations Training
College of Special Operations Units

Institute of Star Trek Studies (IOSTS)
Dean | Commodore Judy Waidlich
Email | waidlich@rci.rutgers.edu

College of Federation Studies
College of Parallel Studies
College of Star Trek Actors
College of Star Trek Literature
College of Temporal Physics
College of Treknology

Institute of Cadet Studies (IOCS)
Dean | Vice Admiral Richard Hewitt
Email | caphewitt@yahoo.com

Note | The Cadet Studies courses are specifically designed for the youth members of STARFLEET or those members due to some handicap are unable to complete the standard course.

Cadet Star Award | When a Cadet completes all courses in a college with grades of Honors and/or Distinction, he/she will receive a special certificate along with an Honor Star that he/she can pin to their uniform, bag, or whatever one wants in order to show how he/she did. The Cadet can earn as many pins as there are colleges.

Colleges | The following Colleges are located in this Institute

Cadet Cardassian Orientation College
Cadet College of Borg Technology
Cadet College of Federation Studies
Cadet College of Law
Cadet College of Mathematics
Cadet College of Science Fiction Studies
Cadet College of Security
Cadet College of Space History
Cadet College of Spooky Friends
Cadet College of Super Heroes
Cadet College of Xeno Studies
Cadet Preparatory College
Cadet Romulan Orientation College
Cadet Vulcan Academy of Science
Cadet Vulcan Orientation College

STARFLEET Marine Corps Reports

News and updates from the Marines.



State of the SFMC

Greetings to all marines

This last period has again been one of good activity for most of the Corps seemingly at all levels. Various brigades have been either conducting or planning Annual Musters and in my own office I have been responding to a wide and vibrant range of queries and suggestions posed that have come from all over the Corps. Please keep this coming as I value your input and ideas.

In my last report I touched on the 'ogre' of apathy, and in the ensuing weeks I have had positive, personal contact with enough marines to give me good evidence marines that we are certainly very alive; well; and definitely screaming and kicking. This is really great for us all, most especially for us on the GS, as this gives encouragement and stimulus to ensure we are moving on and ahead as an organization. Long may this continue!

SFMC DEVICES

Over the last several months, we have been working through the issues associated with replacement /renewal of the various devices we use. This has seen us investigate many differing channels associated with overall design and material concepts with practicality of cost, wear, finish etc. including working with some talented marines who have offered either design concepts, or their skills in resin casting.

As a consequence to this, I can advise that we have completed our first series of objectives which will shortly see availability of some new, metal pins exclusively from the SFMC

Quartermaster.

This does not mean that we would not continue to investigate the use of resin as a material (and in many cases, this will be the only practical way we can proceed) but it has to be pretty universally agreed that metal gives us a much more 'permanent' finish and style.

First of the new pins will be the IN-20 (silver) pin which has been slightly re-designed and at time of writing, just ordered. Once these have been receipted into stock, announcements to purchase from SFMC QM will be made. This design will be shortly followed by a few others which will also be announced accordingly.

Be advised that any changed existing device design will be grandfathered in which ensures that any 'old' design will remain perfectly acceptable for wear.

BERET FLASH

Concurrent with some new device designs, has been the development of an SFMC beret flash. This flash will be added to SFMC dress code for those marines wishing to add something to their humble beret other than just the use of an SFMC collar pin.

These flashes will remain as an "optional only" addition to uniform and will not replace any existing policy applicable to neither berets, nor will there be any enforced requirement to wear.

Flashes have yet to be ordered by QM and again, once stock has been received, these will be available for purchase.

Full detailing on the flash, including the optional 'extra' element of adding Brigade designates, will be advised in due course. At this same time, the color and style of the flash will be presented.

MARINE FORCES MANUAL (MFM)

As a quick update on the revised MFM - this project is now held up slightly as wait for some finalized new artwork on uniform designs and resolve some finalizing to SFMC awards. Once this work has been completed, the manual will be immediately published. It is anticipated that this will now be before end of next month, under presumption that our volunteer artist can complete the work he is doing in that time!

SFMC NCOs

Sitting in my 'Dant's chair, I cannot help but be mightily impressed from what I see, hear and read of our dedicated and enthusiastic NCO's out there. And believe me - thankfully - there are quite a few of them! What organization can survive without the dedication of a few good men and women - and the energy being currently expressed by our "career NCOs" certainly deserves our attention in this regard.

It is noted that there is a solid commitment to the encouragement and support of all their fellow marines by either specific incentive programs being developed; enhanced and purposeful communication lines being established; and a range of other initiatives that are being explored that are all geared to enhancing the aspect that not every marine needs to be an officer. Now isn't that just so true!

Where would we be without our NonComs putting us straight and really, doing all that 'hard work' that many of us with the egg on the brims don't want to look at? I salute all of our enlisted personnel and most especially those who have taken the pride, motivation, enthusiasm and passion to make the very best out of their rank by looking to put that extra bit of polish and shine to whatever it is that they do.

Excellent examples of fine marines!

ANNUAL AWARDS

I am sure that by now, notices are being posted highlighting the various Annual Awards programs - be that from Brigade or Corps awards. I simply wish to be another to remind every marine that it is up to you to make sure the people whom you regard to be worthy, are recognized for their efforts. Put that award nomination in - because if you don't, it is highly likely that no-one else will.

And on that subject - can I take this time to remind you all of the need to ensure that any award nomination you put forward is supported by as

much corroborative information as you can provide.

And the more significantly ranked the award, then the more this is absolutely true.

For those awards issued by myself or the General Staff, be assured that we certainly WANT to be able to pass due recognition where it is deserved but that we cannot make any issuance decision if we do not have the necessary support material. The more we can get, the simpler our task. Please make sure that your nominations are processed in the 'best' manner you can and that they are forwarded under the governing principles and policies as outlined in our various documentations.

A REMINDER ON DRESS CODES

The STARFLEET Marine Corps has a wide variety of uniforms authorized in the MFM, suitable for any Trek era, as well as designs whose primary value is that they are relatively inexpensive and consist of components widely available through a variety of commercial sources.

Remember that at no time is any uniform required, but if a STARFLEET Marine Corps uniform is worn, it should be one of the designs authorized in the MFM and the uniform should be worn "correctly".

The MFM contains a caution that bears repeating often: Uniforms should not be worn to functions where the majority of attendees would not recognize it as some type of fan uniform. The Mess White and Class C uniforms are not readily recognizable as a non-military uniform. Marines should avoid wearing the uniform in any context where it may appear paramilitary or intimidating to the public.

BGN Bruce O'Brien
USS Southern Cross
Region II

Commandant SFMC

State of the NCO Corps

Greetings Marines!

Once again I am coming to you from in the booth in the back in the corner in the dark of my local NCO club, where no matter what season it is, we can be fairly sure that somewhere, somehow, Prigal is fouling something up, and new members bribing the bartender for a wee taste of my Private Reserve Stock behind the bar are always disappointed when they find out what it really is. (Feel free to speculate.)

As you may know, beginning in March of 2011, I have been tracking the percentage of enlisted members in a sizable sample of 5 brigades. As of March 2012, the total percentage of enlisted Marines in the sample has grown from 26.95 to 31.82 percent, an overall increase of roughly five percentage points. As a caution, this may simply reflect the growth in the SFMC over the past year, since the overall sample also increased by roughly 5 percent in that time. Still, the data continues to support a working estimate of one Marine in four holding an enlisted rank. I will publish my complete findings to date in CQ 171.

Also in the month of March, I encouraged all members of the SFMC to join in a special campaign called March for the Disabled, and find a way somehow to help those who suffer from physical, mental, or emotional disabilities, or raise awareness of their needs. This campaign hit very close to home for many of our members who are disabled in some way themselves, or who have someone close to them suffering from a disability. I put my money where my mouth is on this one, and in spite of my remote location and my own disability, managed to put in a few hours last month.

I will be going over the next batch of BDE reports, and hope to get you some more information on what your fellow Marines did down the line, but, for the record, I am now declaring this campaign a rousing success in terms of meetings its goals based on one email I received on March 31.2012.

In that email, I learned that a very small unit (one Marine) in a very small BDE (less than 20 members) had spent time helping a someone

with disabilities with some simple chores around the place that were difficult for that disabled person to do., and made a difference in their life. In fact, that person is seriously considering joining STARFLEET as a member of that Marine's chapter. In the grand scheme of things, that may not seem like all that much, but when I proposed this campaign to the Dant, my goal was very simple: if just one person out there had their life improved by this project, any effort I put into it would have been time well spent

Remember, community service need not be some large scale effort. At its simplest, it is all about one person helping another. No matter how small the community you live in, there is ample opportunity for Marines to make a difference. No effort is too small. Even a few hours here and there will help. Think outside the box, and encourage and help your fellow Marines to do the same.

To that end, I would like to extend my thanks to LTC John Balzen of the 440th MSG for sharing the story of his efforts with me. Bravo Zulu (Well Done), SIR!

As always, remember that the SFMC General Staff is here to serve you. 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. And, remember that some of us tend to read and follow the SFMC group on Facebook, so feel free to comment and share with your fellow Marines there.

Speaking of Facebook, thanks to the efforts of some hard working Marines, there is now a private Facebook group for senior NCOs (E-7 and above). If you qualify, contact SGM Mark Polanis (or me) on Facebook to be added to the group. This past month (March 2012), a question arose as to whether we would be taking in SFMC Warrant Officers as well. The MFM is very clear that WOs are enlisted personnel, but the question remained as to whether they were classed as senior NCOs. Although I am the senior (in more ways than one) member of that group, I didn't want it to be simply my call, and so I called for a vote of the current members. I am happy to announce that,

by an overwhelming majority, the senior NCOs present decided that WOs belonged with them, and that as far as they were concerned, WOs are senior NCOs.

To me, this was an excellent example of the NCO Chain of Support (CoS) in action to help make a decision. But when I thought about it more, I am not so sure that "Chain" really describes the system used by SFMC NCOs. Rather than a linear relationship, the CoS consists of the individual NCO linked to several other NCOs, forming a solid and unified whole, in that respect, it is more like a suit of chainmail armor than a simple chain. Like that armor, the whole is much stronger than any individual link, but every link is important to keep the whole thing from unraveling. Please, do what you can to establish and maintain contact with other SFMC NCOs.

Now, it's time for Top's History Lesson. When Marines hit the range, there is often a lot of friendly competition going on as to who can make the best shot in terms of speed, accuracy, and degree of difficulty. But ask any knowledgeable Marine out there what shot they haven't got a prayer of matching, and odds are they will point to one famous round fired by a legendary Marine NCO: GSGT Carlos Hathcock.

You could write a book about the man the enemy called "Long Trang" (White Feather) after the trademark he kept tucked in the band of his boonie hat, and many people have. (And I urge you to find them and read them) He set a record for a long distance combat shot that stood until 2002 (2.286 yards), and at one time the enemy placed a staggering bounty on him of \$30,000, which led to many Marines in his area donning their own white feathers to confuse the whole platoon of snipers sent after him. But, let us focus on what is sometimes simply known as The Shot.

Hathcock and his spotter were stalking an enemy sniper when he saw a flash of light- a reflection off the enemy's scope - and fired at it. The round went straight down the scope and killed the enemy sniper by going right through his eye. The only way that would have happened is if

he had been aiming at Hathcock. It was, in Hathcock's own words, "a one in a million shot", Both men could have easily killed each other, but Hathcock's split second decision and ability to quickly line up and fire one shot that was, due to a combination of luck and his own incredible marksmanship, right on target left him standing, and left future Marines with a legend.

Over the years, many people (notably the program Mythbusters) have attempted to duplicate that famous shot, using carefully aligned period rifles and scopes clamped securely to bench rests. After many failures, they finally succeeded in doing what Hatchcock did in seconds that day near Hill 55 under combat conditions, which makes The Shot all the more remarkable.

It must be noted that Hathcock earned a Silver Star not by virtue of his unquestioned abilities in combat, but rather from his selfless act of rescuing several fellow Marines from a burning vehicle that had struck an enemy mine despite being badly burned himself in the explosion.

The way I see it, "Service before Self", "Excellence in everything we do", and "Gunny Hathcock" are words that belong together.

Semper Fi!

SFMC



MSGT Jerome A.
"Hawk" Stoddard
USS Thermopylae
Region 5

Sergeant Major
SFMC



BDR Michael Timko
USS Vortex
Region I

CO INFOCOM SFMC



MMSGT
John "Kiwi" Kane
USS Hornet
Region I

CO FORCECOM
SFMC

INFOCOM Report

Greetings Marines,

With spring in full gear and Easter now behind us, it's time to get back to work here at the Datawarfare Center. Sadly, the long eared varmint that visits us every spring loves to hide his colored oval shaped objects in what he thinks are the funniest places. The Infocom staff does not share his jovial nature when we reach into file drawers and we smash an egg instead of retrieving the stapler or a memo pad.

Let's talk about what going on shall we.

Pingdom:

The Pingdom report for February reported 0 outages for an impressive 100% uptime. The average response time was 351 ms. These results are better than last month. Way to redeem yourselves Dreamhost.

For the month of March, we had 3 periods where the sites were down which gave us an average up time of 99.59%. The response was almost doubled to 610 ms which is not good.

Attention on Deck Extra:

A new issue is in the works. We

need to make some updates, but it should be out soon.

Now Hiring:

Infocom is seeking a CGI/PHP Programmer role. We need a member with this knowledge to update the code for the Ribbon Rack Builder and Guidon Builder. If you can help in this area, then please send an email to michaelj.timko@gmail.com.

Communication Achievement Award:

The COINFOCOM awards the Communications Achievement

Award. Have you done or do you know somebody who has done something worthy of this award? Submissions can be made for designing a website or newsletter, writing a story or song, composing music, making a video. The sky is really the limit. Some might say my work wasn't good enough or significant enough. To that, I say, you won't know until it gets submitted.

Well, that's all I got for this month.

FORCECOM Report

Greetings Marines from the Office of the Commander Forces Command, for this report I have decided to refresh people's memories of the rules of the SFMC Reading challenge as I have had several emails asking me about it

A common question is when does it start and when does it end?

Well it starts the reporting period after the International Muster at IC and ends the reporting period before the IM at the IC.

So in English the current challenge started in the August 2011 Brigade Reports and it will end with the June 2012 Brigade report

Without further ado, the SFMC Reading Challenge.

The STARFLEET Marine Corps Reading Challenge is a friendly contest conducted by FORCECOM of the STARFLEET Marine Corps to encourage reading at all ages. Members of the SFMC read as many books as they can in a certain set period of time and compete in categories such as most pages read by a single marine (Adult/Cadet), Marine Strike Group (Adult/Cadet), and Brigade (Adult/Cadet). To participate all a marine has to do is read books and report them to their MSG OIC for inclusion in their by-monthly reports. This information is then passed up the chain of command to COFORCECOM. For more details including eligibility and submission requirements please see the section below.

The Details

Who runs this contest? FORCECOM of the STARFLEET Marine Corps runs this contest with the con-

sent of the STARFLEET Marine Corps General Staff.

Contest period: COFORCECOM determines the start and end dates for the contest. Normally the contest runs from STARFLEET International Conference to STARFLEET International Conference. However this can change. Any changes in the contest period must be published at least six (6) months in advance in the Attention on Deck! Extra, Attention on Deck!, and the Corps email list. Please note that this contest may be discontinued at any time by COFORCECOM or the SFMC Commandant.

Contest Eligibility: Any and all marines of all ages in good standing in STARFLEET: The International Star Trek Fan Association Inc. and STARFLEET Marine Corps may participate. Cadets (as outlined in the SFMC Cadet Manual) may participate in this challenge; however they compete against other Cadets and not adults. All submissions must be made through the chain-of-command; direct submissions to FORCECOM will automatically be discarded. To be considered an eligible submission all the following information must appear on a Brigade's report to FORCECOM for each marine:

Marine's full name

Marine's SCC number

Marine's age (for Cadets)

Title of Book

Author of Book

Page count

ISBN number or publishers information

Failure to include all the above information will result in that sub-

mission being discarded. COFORCECOM is not responsible for any lost or incomplete submissions.

Contest Eligible Material: Books in the genres of fiction, non-fiction, mystery, sci-fi, thriller, romance, etc., are eligible and can be either in printed or electronic form (Kindle, Nook, PDF, etc...). Books and materials such as newspapers, magazines, comic books, cook books, and other such books are not eligible. Audio Books can only be used if the participant has a physical impairment or condition (blindness, dyslexia, etc...) which prevents them from reading a printed book. Marines using audio books must include the same information as a printed book. Page counts for audio books are determined by using the page count from the latest printed edition of the audio book in question.

Contest Winners:

Adult and Cadet Winners are chosen in categories for; Most pages read by a single marine; Winners are determined by adding up all of an individual's reported number of pages read. Most pages read by a Marine Strike Group (MSG): Winners are determined by taking the total number of reported pages read by a MSG and dividing that number by the total number of marines on that MSG's roster on the contest end date. This averaged number is then compared to other MSG's numbers and the winner is the MSG with the highest average number of pages read.

Most pages read by a Brigade (BDE): Winners are determined by taking the total number of reported

pages read by a BDE and dividing that number by the total number of marines on that BDE's roster that participated in the contest. This averaged number is then compared to other BDE's numbers and the winner is the BDE with the highest average number of pages read.

Note: There is no category for Battalions since many Brigades choose not to use them.

Contest Awards and Prizes: Any contest awards and prizes awarded to winners are determined by the STARFLEET Marine Corps General Staff.

Current Prizes:

Individuals: It has been decided that since it is a Challenge that the Individual winner of the SFMC Reading Challenge will win a SFMC Challenge coin.

MSGs and BDEs: For the Unit and the Brigade Level Winners they will receive a Reading Challenge streamer.

I would encourage all Marines out there to participate in the Reading Challenge. Something suggested to me once that it could be used to by a unit to challenge another unit, or you could have a battalion in one Brigade challenge another battalion in that brigade. Just remember it is all for fun and reading improves your mind and your general fund of knowledge.

If you ever have any questions about starting a marine unit or about marine awards or unit reporting or the reading challenge please email me.

Yours in service to the corps

The SFMC Aerospace Branch

The Aerospace Branch provides the SFMC with vital capabilities, including close air support of Marines on the ground using aircraft; orbital patrol, convoy escort, and starship attack using spacecraft; tactical and strategic airlift; medical evacuation; electronic warfare; and space-to-surface transport (including special operations missions). There are more than a dozen types of aerospace craft currently in service. Some are primarily designed to operate in planetary atmospheres and others are primarily designed to operate in space. The picture to the right shows a flight of F/A-55 Le-Matya Strike Craft on a deep-space mission. Many aerospace units are based on ships, some are based on stations, and the rest are assigned to planetary aerospace facilities.

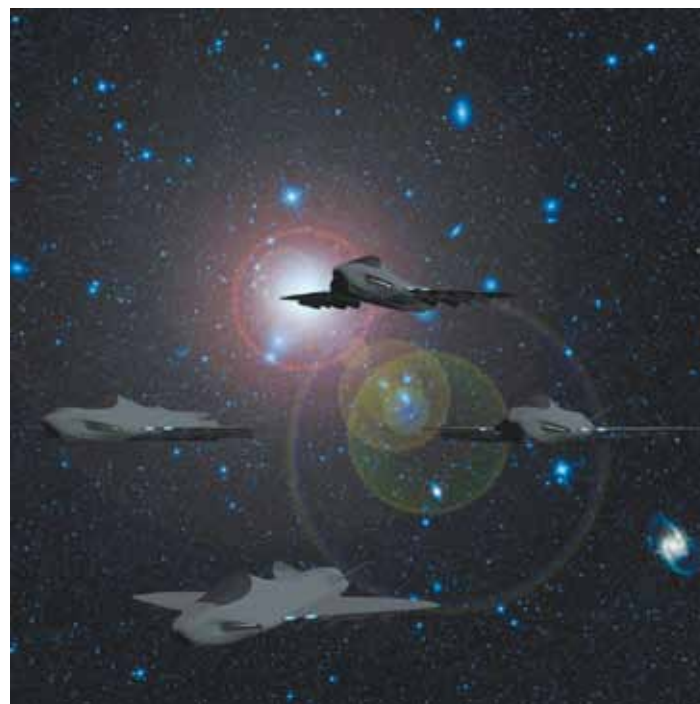
There are currently 24 SFMC units in the Aerospace Branch. Most consist of a single squadron flying a single type of craft. For example, members of the 333rd Marine Strike Group aboard the USS Regulator fly a squadron of F/A-55 Le-Matya Strike Craft (<http://web.me.com/tank.clark/NCC73337/Marines.html>).

Aerospace units serving aboard

carriers tend to be larger. The 787th Marine Strike Group aboard the USS Matrix is a Marine Air Group of three squadrons, with a total of twenty-four F/A-55 Le-Matya Strike Craft, eight F-82 Phantasm Superiority Craft, eight A-18 Firebolt Close Air Support Craft, and two E-39 Explorer Electronic Warfare Craft (http://www.ussmatrix.org/787/787_MAG.html).

In 2011, the Aerospace School issued almost ten percent of the grades in the SFMCA and was the second most popular SFMCA school (after Professional Development). The Aerospace School currently offers seven courses: AE-10 (Aerospace Basic Course), AE-11 (Marine Occupational Specialty Familiarization), AE-12 (History and Traditions), AE-20 (Aerospace Advanced Course), AE-25 (Aerospace Atmospheric Pilot Training), AE-27 (Flight Engineering School), and AE-30 (Aerospace Independent Study Course). Graduates of AE-25 or AE-30 are entitled to have an official SFMC call sign. About 120 Marines have earned call signs, which are posted on the SFMC website at http://www.sfi-sfmc.org/portal/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=215&Itemid=467.

The Aerospace Branch Manual was updated in 2010 and is scheduled for a major revision in 2012. The new version includes a greatly enhanced section on aerospace combat maneuvering that will be the subject of an upcoming aerospace course (tentatively numbered AE-26).



SFMC



CAPT Eric Schulman
USS Matrix
Region 7

Aerospace Branch
Director, SFMCA





STARFLEET International Conference 2013

It is an honor and a privilege to personally invite you to the STARFLEET International Conference 2013, to be held at the beautiful and luxurious MCM Elegante Hotel in the heart of Dallas, Texas on August 1-4, 2013. We have a lot of surprises in store for those in attendance, in addition to all of the wonderful things you've come to expect from an International Conference!

The theme for this IC is "The Year of the Phoenix", as 2012 is supposed to be the year the world comes to an end. From the ashes, the phoenix will arise, reborn. As Gene Roddenberry was often referred to as the Great Bird of the Galaxy (which was also referred to in the Star Trek: New Frontier books by Peter David) and the Phoenix was the name of Zefram Cochrane's ship in Star Trek: First Contact, we felt it would be a fitting theme for this 2013's International Conference.

Information will be added to the website as it becomes available, and we strongly encourage you to keep checking with us as 2013 approaches — we'll be posting some very exciting information between now and then.

In the meantime, if you are planning on attending IC2013, we suggest that you take this opportunity to lock in the early registration rates by printing your information on the downloadable registration form and returning it to us with your full payment to the address provided below:

IC 2013 STARFLEET
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