STARFLEET
THE INTERNATIONAL STAR TREK FAN ASSOCIATION INC.

COMMUNIQUÉ

Remembering Helen Pawlowski

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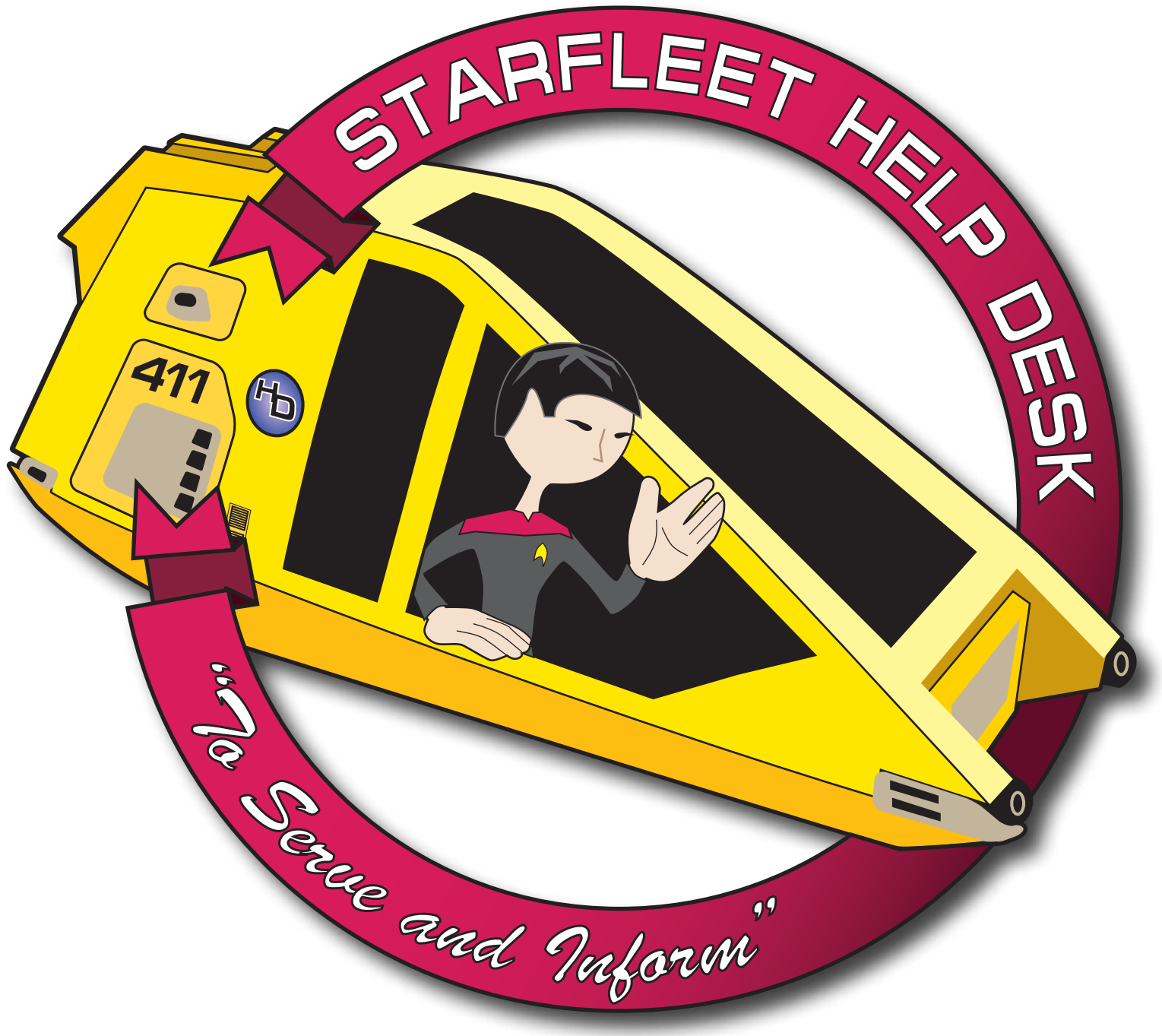

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STARFLEET COMMUNIQUÉ

THE INTERNATIONAL STAR TREK FAN ASSOCIATION INC.

Remembering Helen Pawlowski

STARFLEET Remembers Helen, beloved member, friend and grandmother.

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STARFLEET
THE INTERNATIONAL STAR TREK FAN ASSOCIATION INC.

Cover Photo by Jon Lane

Below Deck Notables

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

Árni Jón Baldursson • USS Thor's Hammer

Árni has been a member of STARFLEET for almost 20 years, and is presently serving as the Chief Engineer aboard the USS Thor's Hammer. She has seen many changes in STARFLEET, and her fellow crewmembers have seen many changes in Árni, as she is in the process of undergoing gender reassignment surgery to become her true self. At last, a great feat of Engineering and Medical Science in our own time!

Her hobbies include playing online computer games such as Star Trek Online and World of Warcraft, constructing and painting models and miniatures, and restoring classic cars.

Her favorite race and characters in Star Trek are the Borg.

We all wish Árni all the best and support her in the true spirit of Star Trek and STARFLEET.

Clemma Ruble • USS Oklahoma

Our Chief Medical Officer, LTjg Clemma Ruble, has been a member of STARFLEET and the USS Oklahoma since February 13, 2010. Her attendance at the Oklahoma's monthly meetings is excellent. Clemma is a very active member of the group and she helps on the ship wherever and whenever she is needed.

Clemma lives in Vinita, Oklahoma, where she participates in and volunteers at her local Church, She loves reading Star Trek books. Clemma's favorite series is the original Star Trek and her favorite character is Spock. Clemma is a very diligent member of the Oklahoma.

De Miner • USS Antares

De Miner has been a valuable asset to the crew of the USS Antares during her 3 years as part of the chapter. In this time, she has started one of the first Adopt-A-Highway programs. De was also selected as Officer of the Year for 2010 in Region 5. Her devotion to community service, the ideals of Star Trek, and the Antares is in the highest traditions of STARFLEET.

De's favourite Star Trek movie is Star Trek: First Contact. She also appeared in an episode of the original 'The Twilight Zone' series, 'Sleepover in a Quiet Town', as the giggly girl at the end of the episode.

Letter From The Editor

Our quest to get the Communiqué caught up continues.

This is the third CQ that we're pushing out in as many weeks. We've got a couple left, so expect things here in the Letter from the Editor to get pretty crazy.

We're still looking for someone to head up the print CQ. It isn't a glorious or fun position, but it could be rewarding - especially once we get things caught up, and onto our new quarterly schedule next year. If you think you might be crazy enough, and don't mind hard work with tight deadlines, drop me a line at comms@sfi.org.

Speaking of next year, here is our planned publication schedule:

- CQ 174 - 1st Quarter, 2013. Deadline: February 1st, 2013. Publication: February 28th, 2013. Suggested Articles/Theme: 2012 Year in Review
- CQ 175 - 2nd Quarter, 2013. Deadline: May 1st, 2013. Publication: May 31st, 2013. Suggested Articles/Theme: Star Trek Into Darkness reviews
- CQ 176 - 3rd Quarter, 2013. Deadline: August 1st, 2013. Publication: August 31st, 2013. Suggested Articles/Theme: International Conference 2013
- CQ 177 - 4th Quarter, 2013. Deadline: November 1st, 2013. Publication: November 30th, 2013. Suggested Articles/Theme: 2013 Year in Review, Holidays.

Also, there will be a special issue of the CQ printed, for the upcoming Commander, STARFLEET election. The deadline and publication date for that special issue have yet to be determined.

Thanks for sticking with us. Enjoy the issue!

VADM Michael Dugas
Chief of Communications

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

USS Wind Spirit at the Orem Summerfest

Keira Strong
USS Wind Spirit

The away team from the USS Wind Spirit is happy to report that they didn't get blown away at the Orem Summerfest in Orem, UT which took place 8-9 June 2012.

The weather was lovely, the temperature was perfect, it was just the wind that took its toll.

On Friday the team gathered to watch Center Stage dance team which includes member Alyssa Clawson and friend of the ship, Mark McOmber.

The festival also had a car show, lots of food vendors, booths to shop from, and park rides for those that dared. Orem hosted a parade on Saturday with a pre-parade that included bicycles ridden by children of all ages.

Included in the bike parade were Mark McOmber and Keira Russell-Strong riding a tandem bike with Charlie in a basket on the front.

Subspace Communications

News from around the fleet.

Photographs by Keira Strong
Tim Russ, Stephanie Christensen, Matt and Jeff.

Philadelphia Comic Con 2012 Report

CAPT David Sladky
USS Storm

For years I have seen video and pictures of the famous Comic Con and for one reason or another never got to go to one. This year with the help of my crew I was able to attend my first one and I can tell you it is the experience of a lifetime.

If you have never been to one it is a must for the sights and sounds, it was awesome and I hope to attend it again next year as well.

Movies, science Fiction, Horror, Fantasy just about every medium you can think of was highlighted as well as costumes there were dead on and some that just made you scratch your head and wonder what they were thinking.

The high point was getting to see the five captains in person, Kirk, Archer, Janeway, Sisco Picard were in great form and very friendly in the question and answer round where lucky fans got to talk to their favorite stars. Sir Patrick Stewart even jumped off of the stage to give a fan a hug, getting a loud round of applause from the crowd.

Next time I will make sure to get there early to enjoy more of the festivities and maybe get a photo with one of my favorite stars!

The USS Storm and the 726th Marine Strike Group both had tables set up and we got many people asking about STARFLEET, many of our business cards were handed out and with luck we get a few new members to enjoy our Star Trek club.

A wonderful time, and most enjoyable.

USS Navras at A-Kon 23 and the Roll2Play Grand Opening

Cody Glenn
USS Navras

A-Kon is the largest anime convention in the Southern part of the United States, and the longest running anime convention in North America, and this year the USS Navras were there in full uniform to help celebrate the cultural exchange! With sixteen members in attendance, including Aaron Coventry, Cody Glenn, Heather Glenn, Danny Glenn, Eve Glenn, Brooke Pier, Andrew Carlton, Cameron Wilkinson, Charles Brooks, Crane Billingsley, Katherine Tolleson, Megan Martin, Michael Tolleson, Richard Sanchez-Hodges, Samantha Madiera, and Scott Cornatzer, the Dallas Sheraton spent the weekend of June 1st under guard from members of STARFLEET!

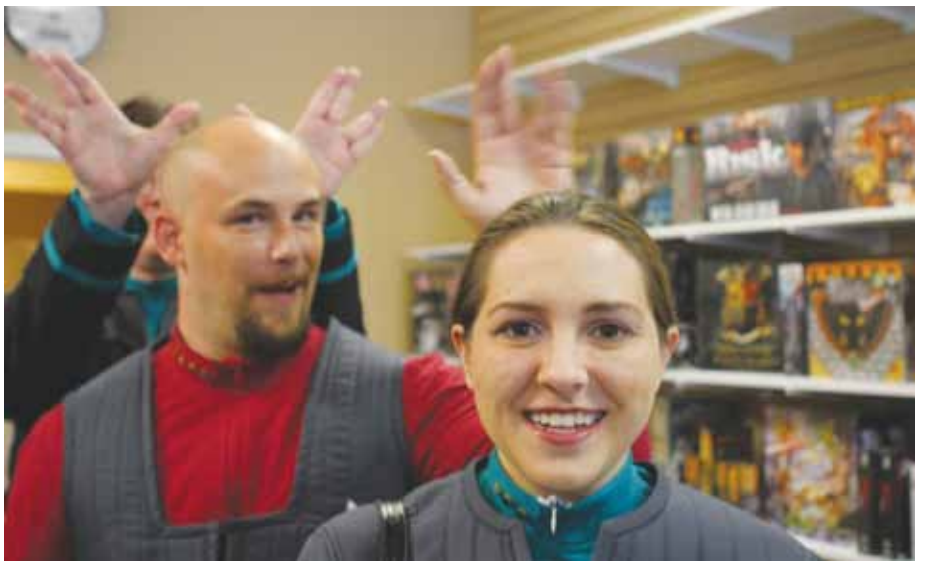
Several members participated in a complete photo shoot, for pictures that we will be using in future advertising/recruiting materials that the USS Navras will be distributing.

We were also invited as special guests to make an appearance at the Grand Opening of the first Roll2Play.com brick and mortar storefront, in Coppell, Texas, on the 14th. We held a friendly competition against the 501st Legion to raise money for the Boys and Girls Club and Cook's Medical Center. Naturally, the Navras won!

LT Crane Billingsley

(left to right) CAPT Cody Glenn, COL Michael Tolleson

(left to right) LT Heather Glenn, CAPT Cody Glenn, COL Michael Tolleson, LT Megan Martin



(left to right) LT Adam Dugger, CAPT Cody Glenn, CMDR Anna Duch

(left to right, back to front) Chris Prewitt, Michael Cross, Adam Dugger, Michael Tolleson, Aaron Coventry, Cody Glenn, Robyn Winans, Heather Glenn, Anna Duch, Eve Glenn, Danny Glenn

Chaplain's Chat

In Klingon religion, the original gods who created the first Klingons were slain by their own creations, because they were "more trouble than they were worth".

I have recently received several requests of interest about the religions of the Star Trek Universe. I hope then to delve into the nature of these unique alien cultures in my next few articles. This issue, I have chosen to tell you about the Klingons, who, even in their fearless warrior heritage, do have religious history in their blood. Information contained herein is also available in more detail thru www.memoryalpha.org.

In Klingon religion, the original gods who created the first Klingons were slain by their own creations, because they were "more trouble than they were worth". (DS9: "Homefront") A version of this creation myth is told during the traditional Klingon wedding ceremony. (DS9: "You are Cordially Invited")

"With fire and steel did the gods forge the Klingon heart. So fiercely did it beat, so loud was the sound, that the gods cried out, 'On this day we have brought forth the strongest heart in all the heavens. None can stand before it without trembling at its strength.' But then the Klingon heart weakened, its steady rhythm faltered and the gods said, 'Why do you weaken so? We have made you the strongest in all of creation.'

And the heart said... 'I am alone.'

And the gods knew that they had erred. So they went back to their forge and brought forth another heart.

But the second heart beat stronger than the first, and the first was jealous of its power. Fortunately, the second heart was tempered by wisdom.

'If we join together, no force can stop us.'

And when the two hearts began to beat together, they filled the heavens with a terrible sound. For the first time, the gods knew fear. They tried to flee, but it was too late. The Klingon hearts destroyed the gods who created them and turned the heavens to ashes. To this very day, no one can oppose the beating of two Klingon hearts."

One otherworldly creature that remained was Fek'lhr (veqlargh), the guardian of Gre'thor (ghe'tor). The first Klingon, Kortar, was condemned to ferry dishonored warriors to Gre'thor on the Barge of the Dead for the offense of killing the gods (by whom is never made clear). (VOY: "Barge of the Dead")

The Barge of the Dead is a mythological Klingon ship which ferries the dishonored souls of the dead to Gre'thor, captained by Kortar (also known as "Kotar"), the first Klingon. When Kortar became more powerful than the gods who created him, he destroyed them, and, as punishment, he was condemned to ferry the souls of the dishonored.

Along the Barge's path, the kos'karii try to lure the dead off the Barge, like the sirens of ancient Greek mythology. (VOY: "Barge of the Dead")

Sto-vo-kor (or Sto'Vo'Kor) is, in Klingon mythology, the afterlife for the honored dead, where all true warriors go after they die to fight an eternal battle against great enemies. The halls of Sto-vo-kor were said to be guarded by Kahless the Unforgettable. The dishonored dead, by contrast, are ferried on the Barge of the Dead to Gre'thor.

According to the ancient tradition of ak'voh, whenever a warrior dies in battle, others stay with the body to keep away predators, allowing the spirit to leave the body and go to Sto-Vo-Kor. (DS9: "The Ship")

Klingons can enter Sto-vo-kor by dying in battle or while performing a heroic deed. In addition, they may enter Sto-Vo-kor by allowing themselves to be killed by another Klingon. (DS9: "Children of Time, Covenant")

Alternatively, in the event of a warrior dying as the result of a surprise attack or some other demise that lacks true honor, the relatives of the deceased can also perform such a deed in the name of the fallen to ensure their arrival in the halls, showing that the deceased has lived a life capable of inspiring others to great feats of courage.

In 2151, after discovering that a group of Xyrillians had been hiding in his ship's wake and disrupting a number of systems, Captain Vorok declared that he was "more than willing to hasten their journey to Sto-vo-kor." (ENT: "Unexpected")

On Gaia in 2373, Brota believed that he would not take his place among the honored dead in Sto-vo-kor once the USS Defiant had departed, and the timeline he had been born into was erased. He considered it would have been a death 'unworthy' of entry into the afterlife. (DS9: "Children of Time")

In 2375, Worf destroyed the Monac Shipyards in the name of Jadzia Dax in order to gain her entry into Sto-vo-kor. (DS9: "Image in the Sand", "Shadows & Symbols") Later that year, Kor wished Worf well and that they would see each other again in Sto-vo-kor after Kor believed he would die fighting the Dominion aboard the IKS Ning'tao. He also told Worf (after knocking him unconscious) that he would find Jadzia there and remind her of Worf's love. (DS9: "One More Under The Breach")

The Klingon after-life of Sto-vo-kor was first mentioned in Star Trek: The Next Generation. The back story regarding how Kahless awaits all Klingons there was slowly developed and carried over to the later series of Deep Space Nine and Voyager.

Prior to its on-screen mention, the Klingon afterlife was a subject of many Pocket Books novels, although in these non-canon works, the afterlife was known as the "Black Fleet", to which honorable Klingons would serve in after death. The more successful a warrior the Klingon was in life, the greater their rank would be in the Black Fleet.

Sto-vo-Kor itself has never been seen in a live action production (only described verbally), although its counterpart Gre'thor, the Klingon equivalent to "Hell", was seen in the episode "Barge of the Dead". The novel *Kahless* depicts Sto-vo-kor as a stone castle to which Klingon warriors return each night after glorious battles (with each other) to feast and drink, similar to Valhalla.

Well then, I hope this has given our readers some insight into one of the religious aspects of the Star Trek Universe. Until next issue, be blessed always & Warp Speed Ahead!

RADM Russell Ruhland
USS DaVinci
Region 2
Chief Chaplain

BDR Bryan Jones
USS Tiberius
Region 2
Deputy Chaplain

Roddenberry had pitched his show as "Wagon Train to the Stars," expounding on the dearth of Westerns currently enjoying wild success on television. These shows drew on a diverse literary tradition.

The Cultural and Commercial Origins of Star Trek

The people who turned their television sets to NBC at 8:30 pm on Thursday, September 8, 1966, were greeted with a show that flummoxed the critics, the censors, and even the network that was airing it. But the younger generation, coming of age in a time of cultural revolution, took this genre-defining television show to heart.

While it conveyed messages that some of the old guard were unprepared for, it did not come to fruition in a cultural vacuum. Star Trek was the aesthetic product of a long literary tradition, other film and television, and of 1960s social politics—all re-appropriated to send Captain Kirk and his crew where no man had gone before.

Star Trek's distant ancestors arose with the adventure novel. Jonathan Swift's Captain Gulliver traversed a decidedly fantasy world, populated with giants, homonculi, and immortals. Political satire was the most important component of these tales, as the fantasy served as a direct metaphor for contemporaneous political events. Science fiction took an important early turn with Jules Verne's 20,000 Leagues Under the Sea, which cemented the role of naval parlance within science fiction. Indeed, later writers took direct inspiration from the iconography of the Nautilus, placing similar tales of adventure in outer space.

These literary trends were galvanized with the golden age of science fiction. Amongst these were colorful action-adventure stories of interstellar conflict, often directed at children. They were further distilled in 1941, when Wilson Tucker proposed "space opera" as the appropriate term for the "hacky, grinding, stinking, outworn, spaceship yarn." Although the term was originally pejorative, it is now frequently used with nostalgic affection, applying to large scale space adventure stories.

During the 1940s some of the naive charm of literary space opera was lost as standards of writing rose. Plots became more complicated, and the trend shifted towards a more vivid and lush romanticism. Most notable were the works of A.E. van Vogt, a master of intricate, metaphysical space opera. His tales were populated with the monsters, time paradoxes, and quasi-messianic supermen which would later inform Star Trek. Yet van Vogt was hardly the sole influence from this period thatTrek would later draw from. The canon of Robert Heinlein contrasted militaristic themes and a free-sex attitude. And by the time Isaac Asimov wrote his Foundation series using the theme of the "Galactic Empire," the impression of vast scale so important to space opera was no longer the sole prerogative of straightforward adventure stories; it could now be used in a more serious context.

As science fiction literature was experiencing its renaissance, it found an explosion of creativity in the medium of film. At the apogee of this trend was Forbidden Planet, which served as the text that most directly influenced Star Trek. In this adaptation of Shakespeare's The Tempest, a regimented, military space vessel filled with male crewmen visits a planet; they encounter an unstable scientist; the captain romances his daughter; and in the end the narrative communicates an existential lesson. The plot, mixing the tawdry and the potent, is very sophisticated for its time—astonishingly so for a film ostensibly designed for a juvenile audience.

Television's contribution to the genre of science fiction was largely postponed until the beginning of the 1960s. What the small screen did offer were serials that parroted Flash Gordon and Buck Rogers. From Captain Video to Space Patrol, these kiddie serials were lacking in storytelling and character development. To be sure, the spirit of these entries in the genre continued with the collected works of Irwin Allen; yet they were eclipsed by a more mature piece of television programming.

American science fiction television changed forever in 1959. The Twilight Zone, the half-hour CBS series hosted by Rod Serling (with his trademark cigarette, thin black tie, and rasping voice) was perhaps the most famous anthology series to ever grace television. Though most of the episodes were pure fantasy, a number of them were science fiction, including the pilot episode "Where is Everybody?" Soon after, ABC premiered The Outer Limits, their hour-long answer to the speculative fiction anthology format. Though leaning more towards the monster-movie end of the science fiction spectrum, the series was often innovative in both style and subject matter; indeed, many of its writers were literary science fiction professionals and expanded the conventions of the genre.

These circumstances led Desilu and NBC to investigate the possibility of a new series. The space opera serial was a proven television format, albeit for a younger audience; and the speculative fiction anthology had proven to be moderately successful at rival networks. Therefore writer Gene Roddenberry's pitch for Star Trek operated as a nexus between two successful genres: the iconography and conventions of the kiddie space shows, and the format of the anthology programs. The spaceship would travel to a new planet each week and find a different array of challenges.

Roddenberry had pitched his show as "Wagon Train to the Stars," expounding on the dearth of Westerns currently enjoying wild success on television. These shows drew on a diverse literary tradition. The ideology they espoused had found perfect expression in Fredrick Jackson Turner's frontier thesis, which optimistically viewed society as an organism evolving inexorably from "simple" to "complex." While this characterization is ultimately an inadequate representation of profound transformations, several of the important films of the Western genre—notably Howard Hawks' Red River and George Stevens' Shane—propagated an erroneous perception of land on the frontier and its "evolving" use, namely in their presentation of it as an unspoiled wilderness.

This American folklore was concurrently being redeployed in American politics, this time to serve a moderately liberal agenda. In 1960, John F. Kennedy stated that "We stand on the edge of a new frontier—the frontier of unfulfilled hopes and dreams, a frontier of unknown opportunities and beliefs in peril. Beyond that frontier are uncharted areas of science and space, unsolved problems of peace and war, unconquered problems of ignorance and prejudice, unanswered questions of poverty and surplus." In the minds of its creators, Star Trek would represent the natural fulfillment of Kennedy's promises centuries hence; what would be termed "the final frontier."

Of course, NBC and Desilu remained for-profit corporations more interested in pleasing stockholders and advertisers than communicating any overtly political message. Yet Kennedy's message was not a radical proposal; the "new frontier" represented a moderate strain of American political thought. And with the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, progressive trends of inclusivity were codified in American law and began to work their way into the cultural mainstream. Therefore there was enough advertiser interest in a series that would cater to a broad audience, with special appeal to a youth demographic. And if the political talk remained coded and within the larger pluralist center, all the better.

LTJG Jesse MacKinnon
USS Loma Prieta
Region 4

Reliquary: The Letters

3rd place winner in the 2011 STARFLEET Short Story Contest

Once, he had a most startling dream. She was trying to tell him something, but he could not hear her…until there came a time when he began to listen….

From a place and time far away, he felt a tug on his sleeve.

—

Earth
San Francisco
Friday, February 23, 2345…
1530 Hours

At the Federation Council Complex, the morning had been a constant stream of reviews and consultations in preparation for upcoming treaty negotiations between two minor planets vying for a place within the safety of the Federation. These days, the tensions between the Klingons and the Romulans made strange bedfellows. Systems that had remained staunchly against any association with what was considered Federation arrogance and interference were nowadays lining up to hitch their rigs to the Federation wagon train. The small systems in the sectors sandwiched between both Imperial domains occupied much of the time and energies of the council.

It was amidst the bureaucratic entanglements of the embassy office to which Spock was assigned that Admiral Leonard McCoy inserted himself. When Spock was given a message from the doctor to meet him for a drink, he immediately began to steel himself and briefly entertained the thought of begging off. He had been looking forward to a visit with his oldest living friend but had not intended that it be midpoint in a particularly long and tedious day. The situation between them being what it was, he decided not to shun the invitation.

McCoy was waiting for him at a table well to the back of the bar. For a Human of 118, the doctor was in remarkably good condition. His habit of sinking deeper into that Georgia accent with each passing year was what made him seem ancient. The doctor excelled at being curmudgeonly, an admiral's rank affording him the excuse to be more so, and he had visited it upon the Vulcan at every opportunity and with particular relish for the past twenty years.

Giving full attention to the amber-colored drink on the table, McCoy looked up from the still-full glass only after Spock settled himself in the chair on the other side of the table.

"Spock. How's the red tape these days?"

"The status remains unchanged." Spock studied McCoy's face and understood the meeting was unlikely to be just a 'Hi! How are ya?' call.

"I'm sorry to call you away from your diplomatic duties, Spock… but when I found out you planned on making a night of it at the office… and I have to leave on this damnable inspection tour in the morning…"

"No need to explain, Doctor." The waiter passed by and, noticing the new arrival at the table, asked for his drink order. "Altair water, please."

When the waiter left, Spock entwined the fingers of both hands and placed them ceremoniously on the table, waiting for McCoy.

The doctor peered at him without moving his head from its bent position over the drink glass. He took a sip and said, "I, um, have something that belongs to you."

With great deliberation, McCoy pulled a box from under his chair. Its surface was coated plainly with ruddy enamel and trimmed in brass. He placed it on the table and pushed it gingerly toward his old friend, as if not wanting to let it go. Atop the box, and bound to it with a hank of azure ribbon, was a small card that read, "For Spock."

—

Tuesday, February 27, 2345...
2330 Hours

Nearly five days passed before Spock took the box back to his apartment. It had sat on the credenza behind his desk long enough to become an object of curiosity to anyone who frequented the office. The definitely Earthly, deco-art thing stood out among the spartan Vulcan relics.

Alone in the darkened apartment, as an ancient melody he had selected softly filled the air around him, Spock watched through the window as the rain nearly obscured the view of San Francisco. He could see only the lights from other windows that seemed to flicker between the drops.

Taking the pin from the box's antique latch, he lifted the lid, releasing a distinct odor of age from inside the trinket box, where he found a variety of envelopes neatly stacked. While the music wound its way inside him, he turned over the envelope on top to find a broken seal of wax, which had been embossed with a familiar symbol. Unfolding the pages within, he heard his mother's voice in the delicately hand-scribed words:

April 9, 2272

Dear Lauren,

I apologize for the time between our meeting and this letter. The life of an ambassador's wife is not always a tranquil one, especially when we are on Earth. It is a wonder I managed the trip to New Orleans with my cousin Sara at all. However, that is not an excuse.

That I have been remiss in thanking you for your hospitality during our visit is unforgivable. But now, the arrival of the rose bushes makes me even more remorseful that I have not responded to your kindness. I have begun this letter many times. With each attempt I struggled with what to say and how to say it. I have finally decided just to say what is in my heart and hope it is enough…

When Sara and I planned our outing to your beautiful city, I had no intention of intruding upon your life. I 'am' writing a journal on derivations of the French language and thought it both logical and prudent when Sara suggested we make a trip to New Orleans to study the origins of Creole French. Oh, I know I could do that with the voluminous research compiled over several centuries. But nothing substantive has been added in the last hundred years or so; and I wanted to get a sense of how the language is viewed in the 23rd century… and Sara, like the force of nature she is, had made arrangements before I could form second thoughts.

The plan was to spend three days talking to residents in the area whose family lineage dated back to the time when Creole French would have still been in use. On very short notice, a linguistics professor from Tulane assisted us in choosing the families we would visit and interview.

So we set off for New Orleans, with my husband's blessing. At the time, he and his staff were embroiled in diplomatic negotiations and not inclined to protest when Sara came to steal me away.

When I saw Ducheaux House on the list, I did not know who resided there until the day of our visit. I suppose I should have known.

I am grateful for your kindness and understanding. Your daughter is obviously a reflection of her mother's grace and dignity.

I am so sorry that I was the one who enlightened you about her emotional ties to my son. It was unintentional, for I assumed you knew. Poor Sara, she was taken quite by surprise, a thing not easily accomplished. But then, I should have remembered how carefully guarded Christine is on the subject. I fear the awareness of others causes her distress, but she cannot shield it from me - I know both the joys and the burdens. When I saw her a few months ago at an official function, I knew her feelings for Spock had not diminished. If I could offer

Kandy Ray
USS Corsair
Region 3

her solace, I would. I don't think anyone can.

We do not know what prompted Spock to decide that the mastery of Kolinahr was the answer for him. I begged him not to go. His father was against it. I think Christine feels some responsibility. I don't pretend to know all that transpired between them during the time they served together on the Enterprise. Most of the mission is classified and the crew, being a very tight-knit family, would not share with outsiders. So, be patient with her.

It has been more than a year since he left; and I fear that when I see my son again, he will be drastically, and forever, changed. I believe Christine fears this as well. But she is true to what I saw in her that first time we met - strong, resilient, capable, and determined. She will survive, my dear. I think she will be the stronger for it.

Sarek and I return to Vulcan within the week. I always enjoy my time on Earth but miss my home and will be happy to return to my garden. The rose bushes you sent will be a beautiful addition to it. I will be happy to report to you on their progress. Although I am quite illogically proud of my own garden amid the arid landscape of Vulcan, it is dwarfed by the beauty adorning the grounds of your home. Along with the fascinating collection of Creole language volumes in your library, the peace and tranquility of your garden walk is something I will remember for a very long time.
I hope to be able to visit again, if the opportunity arises, the next time we travel to Earth.

With that, I thank you again and bid you 'adieu.'

Little would have astounded the Vulcan in Spock more than the very personal nature of his mother's words to a stranger after an accidental meeting.

The letter was signed, 'With the hope of continued friendship, Amanda Grayson.'

—

McCoy had followed his presentation of the trinket box with a short tale of how he came to be in possession of it. "The Corp of Engineers has been working on Galadriel III..."

Spock studied the workmanship. The lid was inlaid with pink mother of pearl, faux jade, and abalone in an architectural design distinctive to early 20th century Earth. He had seen a similar box in the display window where he had purchased the rudimentary makings of a mnemonic memory circuit, around the corner from the 21st Street Mission, in 1930's New York City.

"I am aware of the activity on Galadriel III."

"I know that, Spock," McCoy grumbled. "What you don't know and what I'm trying to tell you is - while they were working on what was left of the medical compound, they found Christine's footlocker under the rubble of what used to be her quarters."

On the surface, the relationship between McCoy and Spock would have appeared to be the same as always to the casual observer. But McCoy's genuine agitation and the edge in his voice was evidence that things had not been right between them for a long time.

When McCoy was satisfied he had shut the Vulcan up, he continued. "She would have known she only had a short time… her affairs were in order, the locker was addressed to me… she didn't have time to take it with her when the relief team bugged out..."

There had been no logical reason for McCoy to elaborate on the seven days that followed the relief team's hasty retreat from Galadriel III… Christine's collapse into a coma and her death a few days later. But elaborate he did, and for the next five minutes.

Hoping to have elicited even a small measure of personal investiture from Spock, McCoy had left the bar sullenly, disappointed, and wondering why he had expected anything more. Gone was the Spock he knew, replaced by a Vulcan he wasn't certain he wanted to know. Believing he had no one to blame but himself, McCoy was not sure what else he could do.

—

The following two letters were tucked inside the pages of a small cloth-bound book; its binder tattered at the spine and corners, the pages barely held together with glue that had not been manufactured on Earth for three centuries.

April 11, 2272

Dearest Amanda,

You need not have been concerned about your visit, or the delay in writing the letter I received today. Please do not chide yourself for telling me how Christine feels about your son. I was taken by surprise, as you say Sara was; but I have had time for reflection. I can't say that I understand it but, at least, now I know what Christine is 'not' saying. I suppose she didn't think I would have a proper frame of reference. Looking back, she may have been right. In the future I will know which subjects are the ones composed of eggshells.

Although I am not sure how in so short a time you were able to understand my daughter better than I did, you are right about her. When she went out into the blackness of space looking for Roger Korby, I cursed him. When she stayed on the Enterprise, I cursed the ship. I cursed the ship as I had cursed Roger because I thought they changed her, derailed her from the life she should have had.

On the surface, the relationship between McCoy and Spock would have appeared to be the same as always to the casual observer. But McCoy's genuine agitation and the edge in his voice was evidence that things had not been right between them for a long time.

I realize now that Christine simply grew up into a strong independent woman while I wasn't there. My husband has been trying to tell me that for a while now; and he was right. If he knew, he might never let me live it down.

The little volume of Creole proverbs accompanying this letter is a gift for you. If you remember, I had wanted to show it to you when you were here. I finally located it sandwiched between two larger books and wedged into the back of the bookcase. I must remember to dust there more often. You will find page 10 marked. When we were discussing the proverbs, I told you most of them don't make sense, but I think you will find this one does.

You will know why when you read it. If the proverb is true, and I believe it is, your son must be someone very special, as I have finally realized Roger was special. It is probably a good thing that parents do not choose their children's mates. I fear we would bollox the job.

I hope, with all my heart, your son returns to you. But you will have to forgive me if I hope that he does not return to my daughter's life.

Thank you for sharing with me. You will never know how much it has helped me become close to my daughter again. For that, I will be forever grateful. I too wish we could meet again.

Your new friend,

Lauren Ducheaux-Chapel

P.S. I would very much like to read the journal when it is complete. If there is anything else I can add, please don't hesitate to let me know. I will be happy to contribute what I can.

The proverb marked in the small book would have made little sense to the Spock of decades past. He had learned much in what was still the first third of his life – lost much and gained more in the losing.

How he did long to hear Amanda's voice again and tell her what he had learned.

November 18, 2272

My Dear Lauren,

"Di moin qui vous laimein, ma di cous qui vous ye." Tell me whom you love, and I will tell you who you are.

Merci. Vous avez plus de compréhension que vous le savez, cher ami. Maintenant c'est moi qui serai éternellement reconnaissant.

The rose bushes are thriving. I have enclosed a chip with images of my garden, and the view from the veranda at sunset; so very different from Earth, it still quite serene and beautiful.

You will also find in this package the first chapter of my journal. I have not completed the portion on the Creole language as yet, but will send that as soon as it is finished. I would be grateful for your opinion.

I am truly happy you have been able to come to terms with your daughter's choices. Heaven knows, I

am still trying to come to terms with my son's.

I will be traveling with Sarek to a conference in two weeks; then we will be on Earth for a month. It will be Christmastime. I would love to see the foyer of Ducheaux House adorned the way you described it but our schedule is grueling and I will not be able to get away.

I thought if you were going to be in San Francisco we might lunch, somewhere away from the official scene. And yes, you are forgiven. I understand your wish to shield Christine. No matter their age or independent lives, we are still their mothers. I wish it was as simple as wishing. If it were, we would neither of us wonder about what might have been.

Amanda

He remembered the roses – intense color and a light, memorable scent. In answer to his query about the new addition to her garden, his mother had replied, "Experimental - from a lovely garden I once visited on Earth."

The roses bloomed in the garden still, tended by the third wife of Sarek.

Four days elapsed before Spock was able to justify the appropriate amount of time to sit again in his chair by the window. The rain had stopped midday on Thursday, but the damp cold remained. Spock barely tolerated the cold but welcomed the rain.

—

The next few days would be crucial in the affairs of the Federation Council. In spite of his ability to go days without sleep, his duties required him to be at peak performance. However, he would make time for one more letter before retiring. Setting aside the book of Creole proverbs, he opened the next envelope.

November 25, 2272

Amanda,

The first chapter of the journal is wonderful, very rich in the flavor of the French language. Your comparison to the romance languages of Rigelian and Midosian antiquity is one I had not considered. Bravo! I found myself wanting to learn more about the two languages that are so similar to French in many ways. Even in this, the 23rd century, I am astounded by the similarities in our cultures and those found on other worlds. I begin to understand the allure of galactic travel.

I think Christine misses that and the Enterprise. I don't know if it's the excitement, the camaraderie, or just being on a starship. Patterson and I went to space dock to watch the ship come in almost two years ago now. The scars on her hull, the blast marks from God only knows what. I don't think I want to know the details. I know Christine received commendations and, as much as I'm ashamed to say it, I'm afraid to ask how she earned them.

But she is a doctor now, settled in her residency. We have no idea what her plans are beyond that. We hope she does and that they include staying Earthbound for some time.

My teaching duties are calling me, so I will end this letter with a thank you for the first chapter of your journal. Teaching music and taking care of this wonderful old anachronism of a house doesn't make for a tranquil life either. But I would not trade my life for that of anyone else.

I look forward to lunch,

Lauren

—

Sunday, March 4, 2345...
0325 Hours

Four days elapsed before Spock was able to justify the appropriate amount of time to sit again in his chair by the window. The rain had stopped midday on Thursday, but the damp cold remained. Spock barely tolerated the cold but welcomed the rain.

The box sat on the table next to the chair, just as he had left it. He read the correspondence in succession, just as they had been arranged in the chest.

Over the years, Amanda wrote of her travels through the galaxy and of Vulcan philosophy. Lauren wrote of her family history and provided insight for Amanda's journal. Always, the letters made reference to a mutual interest in horticulture and on rare occasions, made mention of their children. Mixed here and there through the years, short notes enhanced the colors of the portrait of three women, who, on the surface, seemed to have a fragile commonality, but who met regularly for luncheon or coffee, whenever Amanda was on Earth.

Sara's notes, fascinating Bohemian that she was, were rife with intrigue, cryptic notes with times and places on Earth – small villages, out-of-the-way garden cafes.

Lauren's note to Amanda upon hearing of Spock's death read simply, 'I grieve with thee,' and upon his rebirth, 'I rejoice with thee.'

There were no notes or letters in the trinket box that corresponded with the date of Sara's death, leaving Spock to wonder about how the two remaining friends honored the one who was gone, something with which Spock was personally familiar.

Having formed a bond that transcended distance, culture, and logic over the remainder of a lifetime, his mother had another full, rich life, outside the sphere of being the wife of a Vulcan, outside of being his mother.

—

One envelope was left in the red box.

His mind knew exactly how long he'd been sitting there, but he resisted the urge to calculate it precisely. Dawn would come soon enough, and he did not want to mark the time before the spell would be broken and he would, yielding to logic and reality, return to the world beyond his memories.

Spock had hoped the last letter would have been from Amanda. But Christine, whose wisdom and insight he had come to respect and appreciate, had left this one, out of chronological sequence, for him to read last – one letter from her mother to his.

December 9, 2293

Amanda,

Much has happened since I saw you only two days ago, when we shared the sadness of Jim Kirk's death. He was so prominent in both our children's lives - so important to them. The memorial was a fitting tribute to a life devoted to space exploration, to his crew, and to his ship. I would not have understood it half so well had it not been for Christine's service and my friendship with you.

But I digress. First, I have to tell you that I have finally met Spock.

I can only imagine the shocked expression that must have been on my face when I opened the kitchen door and found your son standing on my back porch, my daughter at his side as if it was the most natural thing in the world. He looked so completely Vulcan out of uniform. I suppose that may have unnerved me more than finding him there. True to his nature, Patterson took it all in stride and filled the vacuum left by my initial reaction - one of the many reasons I married him.

Spock was formal, and all that I expected of a son of Sarek in his manner, in the preciseness and diplomacy of his words. Just as I attempted to deliver the Vulcan greeting, as you taught me, he extended his hand. As I took it, Amanda, I looked into his eyes and saw, not the son of Sarek, but my dearest friend looking back at me.

Lauren

—

Thursday, April 27, 2345...
1410 Hours

When Spock met with McCoy, after his return from the inspection tour nearly two months later, it was he who showed up at the doctor's door.

"Spock..?" McCoy's surprise at this unheralded visit was unmistakably etched in every wrinkle on his face, but he recovered enough to say, "Come in."

"Thank you, Leonard."

McCoy went rigid, reeling from the further shock at the Vulcan's use of his given name for only the third or fourth time in nearly eighty years. "How about a drink, and I don't mean Altair water. I brought back a case of Capellan liqueur…was just about to pour myself a snifter. It has to breathe, like brandy."

"I will have a small glass, thank you."

The Vulcan was full of surprises tonight. The doctor managed a broad grin until he noticed the object cradled under his Vulcan friend's arm. The grin disintegrated into a question mark.

Pouring the thick liquid into two glasses, McCoy's mood changed into the solemnity he read on Spock's face. For all his protestations about not understanding the pointy-eared hobgoblin, he understood Spock's facial expressions as clearly as he understood his own - sometimes better.

"So, Spock, what brings you here in the middle of a workday?" His eyes remained transfixed on the box as Spock pulled it from under his arm and presented it to him.

"I have something that belongs to you."

"Spock, I can't take this… she left it for you."

Without additional comment, Spock pushed the thing at McCoy.

Opening the box, McCoy stared at the object inside, seconds elapsing before he spoke. "I gave this to her..." He cradled the ancient artifact, a sculptured representation of a caduceus, in his hand, rubbing his thumb across its distressed surface. "It was the subject of some fierce debates…" His smile was one of fond remembrance.

"I know."

"Yes… of course you do… this was what was in the box?"

"Yes." Spock resisted making a point of McCoy's predilection for stating the obvious.

"Then she clearly meant it for you." With a measurable reluctance, he offered the artifact to Spock.

His hand raised to reject the offering, Spock softened his tone. "I have removed that which was left for me. What remains was meant for you."

"Why… why didn't she just leave it in the foot locker with my name on it?" he pondered, the question posed to himself as much as to the sober Vulcan standing in front of him.

"I know only that she wished it to be returned to you."

Turning away from his old sparring partner, McCoy walked to the window. Fixing his attention not on the view of the city but on the object he held in his hand, he reflected, "You think I'm angry with you for letting her go."

There was no response from Spock.

McCoy forged on, not wanting to let the opportunity to make amends pass again. "I was never angry with you… I've been angry with them, all of them - Jim for disappearing without a trace and not even a body to cry over, at Pavel for dying on my table… at Christine for being able to leave you to go traipsing off to Galadriel III even though she knew her time was running out…"

Spock was suddenly next to him at the window. Outside, it was raining again, the raindrops on the transalum panes making soft thumping sounds.

"A common Human ailment, Spock. Anger at the ones who left… left us to carry on alone. But more than anger at them... I've been mad at myself for not being able to save them." He wrapped his fingers around the caduceus and clutched it tightly in his fist.

"You had no means of saving them. Their lives… and their deaths were out of your control."

"I know. I know. But knowing and believing are two different animals… it's something I've never been able to shake. And, maybe I have been angry at you, all these years. You loved them all in your own Vulcan way… but you've found a way to go on without them."

"It is not the Vulcan way to mourn the dead unless the life was wa…"

"Damnit, Spock! Forget the Vulcan way! What about your way? I've always been afraid to ask…because I can't even imagine she would have agreed…" McCoy looked into Spock's eyes, as if trying to locate his soul. "She is in there… somewhere… isn't she? You couldn't get to Jim or Pavel, but you were with her when she… when her body died."

His stare demanded a response, but the Vulcan's silence was answer enough and provided the doctor a tenuous solace.

Staying just long enough to finish the drink McCoy had poured for him, Spock announced his intent to leave and turned to exit the apartment.

Before he reached the door, McCoy called out after him, "Thank you, Spock, for bringing this to me. It means a lot." Spock's simple nod in the affirmative was accompanied by an invitation to dinner on Tuesday.

"Sure, Spock, I'd like that."

And not to let the perfect opportunity go by to settle back into a familiar, but not recently used repertoire, he added, "But don't think that when I am on my deathbed, you can visit me. I've been inside your head, Spock, and it's not the place I intend to spend eternity."

With only the slightest hint of a clandestine smile, Spock replied, "Doctor, that chilling thought never entered my mind."

—

In another time and place….
Sector 3, Alpha Quadrant

Spock the Elder stood on a rocky hillside overlooking the construction of a new Vulcan home world, when he felt a second tug on his sleeve. Looking up at him was the beaming bright smile of a Human child that had set him remembering.

When she tugged on his sleeve a third time, Spock the Elder gently asked, "Angelique, class has been dismissed; should you not be on your way home? Your parents will be concerned."

Angelique flashed him another innocent smile and, with a conspiratorial look, said, "Sir, we want to know more about Miri and the other children. What happened to them after the Enterprise left the planet?"

Looking over at the group of Vulcan children, of varying ages, he noted their unsuccessful attempts to appear disinterested. Taking the child's hand, and heading down the hillside with the group of Vulcan boys and girls following closely behind, Spock the Elder told Angelique the rest of the story.

—

Once, he had a most startling dream. They were trying to tell him something but he could not hear them… until there came a time when he began to listen.

He was listening still.

His hand raised to reject the offering, Spock softened his tone. "I have removed that which was left for me. What remains was meant for you."

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"Unification: Part 2, Star Trek: The Next Generation"

Admiral Helen Pawlowski

Helen and I had never met before and I had never seen a picture of her. Well, when I met her, I saw a women who was short in statue, but her outgoing and friendly personality was that of a giant.

STARFLEET has recently lost one of its most admired and lovable Admirals. Helen was and continues to be an inspiration to many. Her love of life and her love of Star Trek exemplify the vision that Gene Roddenberry created.

Helen Pawlowski joined STARFLEET in 1992 and was very active in the organization. I met Helen when she was the Dean of STARFLEET Academy, during the turbulent McGinnis administration. I had the idea for the College of Strategy & Tactics, and I was pitching it to Helen and Bjo Trimble. Well, at the time, Helen's son was here in North Carolina and she was visiting him. At that time I was stationed with the 82nd Airborne Division at Ft Bragg. Helen asked me to meet her halfway, so that we could meet face to face, and I could hand her a hardcopy of my concept for the proposed college.

Helen and I decided to meet at a parking lot at a Food Lion. I was not sure what to expect. Helen and I had never met before and I had never seen a picture of her. Well, when I met her, I saw a women who was short in statue, but her outgoing and friendly personality was that of a giant. She cracked a joke before we even finished our introductions. It was during this time our bond began. We discussed many things, including our large families and our Polish heritage. We did eventually go over the college concept. We kept in contact as the College proposal moved forward and then, when I became the director, I kept in touch with her on a monthly basis.

My next meeting with Helen was in the winter of 1996, when I was asked to go to the residence of then-FADM McGinnis to meet with him and RADM Miller. It was then I met with Helen again and, as at the previous time we met, she was full of life and jokes. She told me how much she loved Classic Trek. At the time, I was a Next Gen fan with Classic Trek close behind. We talked about episodes and characters, and then we talked about our chapters.

Our third meeting was at IC 1996 in Oklahoma City. Helen always liked to talk about that IC. The first thing she loved about it was that STARFLEET Academy had many of the Academy courses available for members to take, right there on the spot, and most would be scored and certificates awarded on site. The Academy also held a small graduation ceremony for those who completed OTS and OCC during the IC.

The next thing was the dinner on Saturday night. You see, there were pirates, and she played the part. But for me that was more difficult. I was the strict military-minded sort, in my twenties, etc. I really did not usually relax like that, but Helen had convinced me to get a costume and try to play the part, and so I did. But what she did not tell me was that, during the banquet, a contest for costume and skit was to take place. That was way out of my norm, but Helen insisted and she had help from my chapter Executive Officer and Chief of Staff. Well, for me to do this, I had to loosen up so the two of them handed me a beer (as they knew I was not a drinker and only one beer would do it). Well, we had a blast and she never let me forget it! One thing I regret is that I have no pictures of us from that IC!

For a time, when I had backed away from participation after the 1996 Fleet elections, I lost contact with Helen for a few years. We talked once or twice, trying to get me active again. But those few times, Helen was there for me as support during some life changes. But thanks to my military career, we lost contact again.

It was in 2000 when Helen again asked me to come back in an active mode and I eventually did.

Once again, with my deployment to Iraq in 2003, the chapter faded away and I lost contact with Helen. But once again, Helen was there when I got back and helped me through another life changing event, and also asked me to join her chapter as the Operations Officer. I agreed, and again Helen and I talked regularly until my next deployment.

We lost contact once more, and this was about the time Helen had had her setbacks with her health. I was home on leave when I had found out about them, and Helen told me she did not to worry myself while I was deployed. Well, I thanked her for that thought, but I told her that I was fine and any more issues I wanted to know about as soon as possible. You see, Helen to me was one of my best friends. I had other friends, but I was picky and very selective when it came to best friends, and Helen was just that. I could trust her with what I said, she respected my ways and yet she would still tell me when I was right or wrong.

It was between the two deployments that Helen asked me to be the Executive Officer of her chapter. Chapter membership was low and she needed someone who had OTS and OCC completed. I told her I would, but that my involvement would be very limited, due to another deployment. Well, that deployment took place and, while deployed, my membership lapsed until I came home on leave. I contacted Helen and she let me know. I took care of that before I had to return to the deployment and, after my return, I was appointed as Executive Officer. With more time on my hands, Helen and I talked on a weekly basis. She explained her vision and goals for the chapter, and now the SS TROUBADOUR is one of the largest chapters.

Helen cared about others, even those she never met or those with whom she did not get along. She had many friends across FLEET, stretching around the world. One of those friends, and I know this for a fact, was more than a friend. She was more like a daughter to Helen, and that is Marlene Miller. Their relationship was not started off as close friends but, with life changes, it brought the two together in such a way that it can only be explained as a mother and daughter relationship. I cannot say how many times Helen would tell me not to call at 7 pm on any given day. It was during this time that Helen and Marlene would talk, and Helen would always tell me about the wonderful time she had with those calls and through this relationship. I can say that it helped Marlene and me to become better friends, and it is all because of one person, Helen Pawlowski.

The following is from the history of the SS TROUBADOUR STATION:

SS Troubadour Station, located in Region 12, started her roots with then-Captain Helen Pawlowski and a group of writers and artists who had sent out invitations to meet their group. They were willing to permit Captain Pawlowski to sit in on their meeting.

After learning their general routine, Captain Pawlowski wrote a short script about the effects of budget cuts on Picard's' Enterprise. The group had so much fun with it that they asked Captain Pawlowski how they could become involved in the Star Trek fan world, too. The solution? Launch their own shuttle. The result? The SS TROUBADOUR STATION.

At first, Captain Pawlowski tried to contact Bob Hope to see if they might use his name for the chapter, but she received no reply. So Captain Pawlowski cast about for a name that would show that they were formed to "Entertain the troops" -like Hope- but with a less constricted format. The motto at the time was "The Stars R Us", and their stories and drawings focused almost exclusively on Star Trek.

RADM Paul Dyl
SS Troubadour Station
Region I

The group weighed their options, and they settled on launching their Shuttle from a chapter in Region 12, called the USS MORNING STAR NCC-4126, an Olympic-Class Hospital Transport under the command, at the time of Fleet Captain Sherry Anne Newell. The group approached the USS MORNING STAR crew and requested to shuttle off of them. Thus, on May 16, 1995, the Shuttle Troubadour was officially launched. On February 16, 1998, the Shuttle Troubadour was officially commissioned as the SS TROUBADOUR STATION SFR-1201, an Abbe Class Space Station.

As the years passed, the crew began to break up, some because military service had transferred them, some left to join other chapters, and some just decided to leave. Some of the original members have risen through the ranks on their new ships and are still productive members.

In order for the SS TROUBADOUR STATION to retain its status as a viable chapter, now-Admiral Helen Pawlowski and the remaining crewmembers decided to become a correspondence chapter, open to any otherwise-unaffiliated STARFLEET members. As a correy chapter, the SS TROUBADOUR STATION was thus able to survive.

The SS TOUBADOUR STATION has launched one Shuttle from her bays, the Shuttle Hekla, later commissioned as the USS HEKLA, located in Region 9, which includes the country of Iceland. Years later, the chapter decommissioned. The original CO, Fleet Captain Thomas Sigmundson then started the USS THOR'S HAMMER NCC-74914 and his brother, Gudjon, is currently serving as the Region 9 Coordinator.

In March 2010, then-Commodore Paul Dyl, who had served as the First Officer for a short period time previously, was now home from his military deployment. He resumed the position of First Officer and began a revitalization program of the chapter. Commodore Dyl began a recruitment drive and within 3 months, had recruited family, friends and anyone he could find that might be interested in Star Trek, bring the chapter from a crew of 12 to a crew of 64. Commodore Dyl also revamped the chapter, creating new logos for the chapter and departments, a new chapter t-shirt, new chapter handbook and the renewed publication of the chapter newsletter.

On July 29, 2012, our dearest Commanding Officer, Admiral Helen Pawlowski passed away at the age of 90. She served as the chapter's Commanding Officer from May 16, 1995 through July 29, 2012. Admiral Pawlowski's love of life was inspirational and her legacy will live on for many years to come.

The chapter continues to live the dream that Gene Roddenberry created and the inspiration and example that ADM Pawlowski set.

Helen Pawlowski was born February 26, 1922 and passed on July 29, 2012 at the young age of 90 years. She joined STARFLEET in September 1991 and commanded the Shuttle Troubadour Station/SS TROUBADOUR STATION from May 16, 1995 until her passing. Helen was STARFLEET's oldest serving Commanding Officer. She started off being a volunteer at the SFHQ as a clerk, helping run mail and some filing work. She served STARFLEET Academy as Interim Commandant, Vice Commandant, director of the Flag Officer School and of the Counselor Course. She also served and worked with STARFLEET in many other activities and capacities. Region 12 made her an Honorary Vice-Regional Coordinator and, under her leadership, the SS TROUBADOUR STATION was chosen as R12 Correspondence Chapter of the year for 2011. But through all this, Helen's two greatest loves were the Academy and her chapter. Her family and friends will miss her, but her perspective on life and love of Star Trek will be in inspiration for all and will be remembered for all time.

Photo by Paul Dyl

Memories of Helen

She took to the scooter like a duck to water and drove all around the IC hotel, and to each event! Lord help you if you got in her way!! We teased her that she TERRORIZED everyone!!

There are so many memories and stories about Helen. Just to tell even a small part of them would fill volumes! I'm sure you have your own memories… these are some of mine.

Helen once told me the story of how she first learned about STARFLEET. Through the years, she would quietly show up at several conventions and other Star Trek gatherings local to St. Louis, as well as places farther away. Normally she would just sit close by and take in all the flavor of those who seemed to know exactly what was going on. She was impressed by how 'sharp' everyone looked dressed in their uniforms, which we refer to as "monster maroons". Eventually, one of the spiffily-dressed gentlemen came over to Helen and asked her if she would like to join them. WOULD she!! She jumped at the chance and quickly became one of their crew.

By this time, Helen was already a dyed-in-the-wool Star Trek fan, absorbing every episode on TV, and every movie which hit the big screen. She tells of putting her family on "hold" whenever an Original Series Star Trek episode would come on television, plopping a bowl of cereal or other VERY simple meal in front of the kids, with a caution not to "bother Mom until the show was over." Heaven help ANYone who would dare to phone her, or come to the door to visit, when an episode was on!

Helen always referred to STARFLEET as her Family. She had such a love for the organization... and STARFLEET has an unfaltering love for her, that I doubt that will ever go away.

I first became acquainted with Helen after she joined STARFLEET and became involved with STARFLEET Academy in the early 1990s. Helen developed several courses, including the Flag Officer's School, School of Unusual Knowledge, and the Counselor's College, which included mini-courses on Grief, Jealousy, Listening, Stress, Diplomacy, Anger and Alzheimer's.

I was teaching the Vulcan Academy of Science back then. We corresponded back in those early days via snail mail and, because long distance was so expensive, once in a while via Alexander Graham Bell. Bjo Trimble was STARFLEET Academy Commandant, yet at the same time, she was running her own very lucrative business outside STARFLEET. Bjo kept up with her Academy duties, but eventually they took more time than she could spare... so she had her "seconds", Helen as Vice Commandant and Sherry Newell as Dean of the Academy, help her out. Helen and Sherry kept the Academy running smoothly until the change of command.

Even though Helen and I had never met face-to-face during that time, we grew to become close friends. When my Mom passed on to the next level of existence in January of 2005, Helen asked me to phone her every night. She didn't want me to be alone. Unless one of us had to be away from her phone, we talked for at least an hour every night since then.

When the Region One Summit was held in Akron, Ohio in 2006, Helen decided to fly on over to Ohio to attend with me. This was the first time, in over 15 years of knowing each other, that Helen and I met face-to-face.

Even though I had been in STARFLEET since the mid-1970s, most people had never seen me, either in person or via photographs. "Everyone" knew Helen and what she looked like, because she had attended a zillion STARFLEET ICs, get-togethers or local STARFLEET Summits, and had had her picture in quite a few Communiqués. She even drove up to British Columbia by herself, to meet up with a STARFLEET group in Nanaimo.

But back to the Akron story. Ruth Lane (Ruth Green at the time) was the chair of the 2006 Region 01 Summit. She decided that, since no one knew what I looked like, to have a contest based on "Who is the Real Marlene?" Helen went along with it, to the point that we cooked up a story to pretend that Helen was my Mother, and I wore an ID badge pretending to be her daughter, "Terry Pawlowski". People at the Summit had to guess who, among the attendees, was "Marlene". About a dozen badges were made up and given out to other people, including Willy Smith. During General Session, Ruth called for Marlene to stand up, and everyone wearing one of the badges arose! We had a fun time and even had Helen locked up in jail with Sunnie Planthold!

Helen was always ready to attend an IC at the drop of a hat. Memory's a little fuzzy, but I believe the IC in Greensboro (2009) was the first IC where Helen had a little red, rented scooter. OH, MY! She took to the scooter like a duck to water and drove all around the IC hotel, and to each event! Lord help you if you got in her way!! We teased her that she TERRORIZED everyone!!

And how can we forget Helen's "MARRIAGE" to Sigmund at IC 2008?? Talk about bringing Iceland and the United States closer together!!!

Helen was an asset to the Troubadour Station because she upheld the ideals of talented people. She wrote several stories, one of which she sent to Anna Lind, Gudjon Sigmundson's daughter, in Iceland. She also wrote a story about Maggie Mugglethorp and a STARFLEET play whose name I can't recall right now.

Several years ago, she wrote a STARFLEET Anthem, which was framed and presented to her at IC 2010 in Oklahoma. It was played and sung at IC 2012, in her memory. And who can forget her "12 Days Before Trek-Mus"? That song, and several others, adorned her Christmas Cards each year. In 2005, she developed an idea to honor us older Star Trek fans with her Pterodactyls of Trek. It was supposed to become a part of STARFLEET for us older, original Star Trek fans. Helen even had an idea for a badge… a green pterodactyl using a walker! Todd Brugmans drew a fantastic logo for the group.Recently, she was working on the STARFLEET Drinking Song, but I don't think she had a chance to finish it before she had to leave us.

When Helen turned 90 in February of this year, her daughter, Donna, decided to have a surprise party for her at the Assisted Living Facility where she lived. Donna asked STARFLEET personnel to send Birthday cards to Helen, in care of Donna so Helen wouldn't see them. I don't know how many cards were delivered, but I can bet there were quite a few. STARFLEET loves Helen, too!

One night, close to Helen's birthday, when she and I were talking, I asked if she got any birthday cards. She seemed a little bit down... and responded, "Yeah, I got one from you." She thought she had been forgotten. She had NO CLUE how many cards Donna was gathering from her 'Fleet family for her. When party time came, Donna and some of the family went to Helen's place to "have supper" with her in the cafeteria. It was then that the surprise birthday party raised the roof! Helen's friends and family let out a yell of "SURPRISE!" When she saw the slew of birthday cards all for her.... she was totally surprised! It was then that she realized no one forgot her.... we all just kinda side-skirted a bit!!!

When next we talked on the phone.... Helen said"You're sneaky!!!" Yep.

But those were the days. And still are, even though Helen has passed from this plane of existence. She's still with us and will continue to be with us until eternity and beyond. At IC 2012, the STARFLEET Lifetime Membership Award was renamed the Helen Pawlowski Memorial Lifetime Achievement Award. With her love of STARFLEET, this is so VERY fitting, and quite an honor to STARFLEET's First Lady.

There are many, many stories and anecdotes we can tell about our love affair with Helen. I'm sure you have many of your own.

I miss you, Helen but I know you're somewhere "out there" with Sugar, and De, and Majel, and Gene and Jimmy and my Mom, paving the way for the rest of us.

As I was recently reminded... she's not gone, as long as we remember her.

Marlene Miller
USS Renegade
Region I

But Helen Pawlowski was old only in numerical age. In her mind, heart, and soul, she was forever young. May the rest of us be so lucky!

Jon Lane Remembers Helen

I can honestly say that Admiral Helen Pawlowski was one of my favorite people in all of STARFLEET. When I first met her, I was 40 years old, and she was more than twice my age. And yet, I felt as though this lady on a scooter had ten times my energy and enthusiasm for life. And I bet she did!

Over the next half decade, I saw Helen a few times at ICs, including during the seemingly-endless ECAB meetings, when she would serve as a proxy for an absent RC. I spent wonderful quality time talking with her and watching this STARFLEET dynamo soak up everything good and magical about this club.

Helen refused to use the Internet or e-mail, but she loved writing letters the old-fashioned way: by hand. (No ink-jet printing for this Grand Dame of Fleet!) I received submissions to CQ from her that I had to type up myself... but happily did so. When *you're* in your ninth or even tenth decade of life, will YOU still be submitting to CQ???

When my wife and I adopted our son, Jayden, two years ago, I would send Helen photos of STARFLEET's youngest cadet. In our letters to her, we'd call Helen "Gran'Admiral" and report to her as if she were a high-ranking Academy director (which she was!). Marlene said that Helen loved receiving these photos and cards/letters, and my last one was mailed out last Monday. At the post office, I wondered if I should send it Priority mail to get it there faster. But First Class would arrive Friday or Saturday, according to the postal clerk. And I figured, "Hey, it's Helen. She's not going anywhere for a while," and I chose the less expensive delivery option.

I now regret that decision, and I'm saddened that we couldn't share this one final Cadet Academy report and photos with our Gran'Admiral. I'd wanted to introduce Jayden to Helen one day, but alas, all I'll be able to do is tell him stories about one of the best members STARFLEET ever had, and how I'll miss her, her scooter, her flag of Iceland, her Viking helmet, her amazing Trek costumes, and most of all, her mischievous smile and a sense of humor that you'd never expect to hear from such a "mature" person.

But Helen Pawlowski was old only in numerical age. In her mind, heart, and soul, she was forever young. May the rest of us be so lucky!

Rest in peace, Gran'Admiral Helen. You will be remembered, and you will be sincerely missed.

Photo by Paul Dyl

RADM Jon Lane
USS Angeles
Region 4

Executive Committee Reports

News and updates from the head honchos.

Report From The Commander, STARFLEET

FADM Dave Blaser
USS Hadfield
Region 13

Commander,
STARFLEET

As I start to write this article, I'm in the midst of getting ready to hold a membership drive event for STARFLEET and for my local chapter here in Toronto, Canada, at a convention called Polaris. My local chapter and I are hoping that we can expand STARFLEET a bit in Canada and maybe give us a better chance at having more Fleet members that we can interact and have some fun with.

As we're planning this event, I keep asking myself about what I think sets STARFLEET apart from other fan clubs, what makes us different, and what we offer to people that would entice them to join STARFLEET.

The first things that I think about are the tangible things – the membership perks that our members get which can save them money on things. The discounts from the hotels like Motel 6 and Red Roof Inn – in travelling around to different STARFLEET events, summits, or even to just go and visit with friends or on vacation, the hotel discounts have saved me more than what I've paid in my membership dues for the year.

I think about the discount that we have with Cosplaysky.com, where I've ordered a costume that I'm hoping will arrive in time for me to wear at the convention and at the International Conference, again enough to have paid for my membership this year.

Next I start thinking about the Academy. Comparatively to other fan clubs, we have a huge Academy, with over 3,000 courses in 60 colleges, all free to members of STARFLEET. That's huge, and it's something that most other Star Trek fan clubs can't come close to touching. What's more is that our Academy is very broad ranging – some of the courses are about Star Trek itself, but they also broaden out into other science fiction, fantasy, even real world science and technology topics that can entice you into wanting to learn more, which might just encourage people to doing their own independence research and education, or even to take a course at their local school or community college.

As I keep thinking, I come to our clubs within the club. We have the STARFLEET Marine Corps and all of the things that the Corps offers, from the Commandant's Campaign, the Reading Challenge, the SFMC Academy, and all of the things that we can learn from the Corps, for those who have an interest in the more military side of things. We have STARFLEET's Special Operations Group, a branch of STARFLEET that is a bit looser in order and organization than the SFMC, still more regimented than the rest of STARFLEET, but having a lot of fun in their own way. If there's one thing our members know how to do, they know how to have fun.

But the biggest thing that I think attracts people to STARFLEET is the chance to interact with and have fun with other Star Trek fans, and it's the biggest thing that sets us apart from at least the Official Fan Club – we get together, we meet and make new friends, we interact and we have fun!

How is that different than the Official Fan Club? Well, for one thing, the Official Fan Club is more like a magazine subscription than anything else. You could walk down the street, pass right by someone else who is also a member of the Official Fan Club, and you'd never know it. But something like that is much less likely to happen with STARFLEET because of how we're structured into chapters and regions, and because of how we actually get together and do things. That's a huge difference over the Official Fan Club, and even some of the smaller Star Trek fan clubs.

Yes, many of our chapters get together on a semi-regular basis, much like the smaller fan clubs do, for chapter meetings, movie and game nights, for dinners and for different celebratory parties, but we also see multiple chapters come together for some activities like game days, weekend retreats and summits.

And then there's our International Conference. People come from far and wide, sometimes from different parts of the world, to get together, have a big party, to meet new people, and to just plain old have fun together.

I think I know what I'm going to tell people at Polaris about STARFLEET in July, and maybe they'll agree that it could be a lot of fun and give us a try.

Talk to you in the next edition!

The Second Fiddle

Membership Packet Changes

I hope that so far your 2012 summer is proving to be a good time! This time of year my chapter kicks into high gear with outdoor activities like hiking and picnics and I hope everyone else is having a great summer as well.

There is a change that you will see coming in your membership packet starting at the 2012 International Conference! We have come to the end of the bumper stickers and have decided on what the next item we will send you for your membership. In the past there have been magnets, window decals, bumper stickers and other things. This year the Executive Committee has decided that as a thank you gift for joining or renewing your STARFLEET membership between the 2012 IC and 2013 IC you will receive a microfiber cleaning cloth with an imprinted STARFLEET logo! One cloth will be included in every membership packet. So keep an eye out for this new gift coming to you after the 2012 International Conference.

What do you use these cloths for, you might ask? Well darn near anything! Since the fabric is safe for virtually any surface, you can use one for a variety of cleaning tasks. Anything from kitchens to cars and of course eye glasses can be cleaned using one of these cloths. In general, you will use them dry for dusting, light cleaning or polishing. Use one damp/wet (just a little water needed) for more thorough cleaning on mirrors, windows, counters, stove tops etc. These cloths will remove dust, dirt, stains, spots, grease, fingerprints, odor causing bacteria, germs, fine particles and much more! There is an endless amount of uses for these cloths, and they do all of the cleaning, so no additional sprays or chemicals are needed to achieve professional levels of clean.

The STARFLEET HOLODECK

Once upon time there was the Fleet Division Chiefs (FDC), then there was the Fleet Resource Center (FRC), then the STAR TREK Applied Research program (STAR) and now the STARFLEET HOLODECK! What is the purpose of this program, you ask? Well, the HOLODECK Program is an outlet for members of STARFLEET to come and introduce an interest, activity or program that will benefit all STARFLEET members. Currently the HOLODECK has six wonderful areas for the members of STARFLEET to enjoy. They are:

- **Chaplains Services** - is designed as an outreach to the spiritual and moral needs of Fleet members in order to express an avenue of love and hope to those who may require assistance in those areas, and will be made available at the discretion of the Chaplain Services team in order to provide said assistance throughout all regions.
- **Emergency Preparedness** - strives to bring you information on how to prepare and train for the next emergency. There are links to important information to the Red Cross and other organizations around the world to keep you informed, prepared, and ready.
- **Ship's Counselors** - to gather and share experience and information among their profession; to listen to the true thoughts and feelings of their shipmates and support them through difficult times; to learn, both from the academic resources provided, as well as the less tangible resource of the experiences of others.
- **Special Operations** - provides each member with a one-on-one experience, by allowing a member to BRING a military flavor to Trek, via one of five career tracks within SFSO. Members can either be rangers, SEALs, recon specialists, intelligence officers, or support services officers.
- **STARFLEET Medical** - oversees medical operations and assistance to Regional Medical Officers in offering medical information and resources to the members of Fleet. They assist members of Fleet by helping to give information and lead a healthy life style.
- **STARFLEET Science** - to serve as an informational and communications resource for the Science Regional Division Chiefs, Regional Coordinators, and ship Chief Science Officers throughout STARFLEET. In so doing, the goal is to enhance interest in real science within STARFLEET's membership and to promote science education wherever possible, as well as to better enjoy the portrayal of science within the Star Trek universe.

If you are interested in getting more information or becoming involved with any of these areas, please feel free to check out holodeck.sfi.org to get information on contacting them.

Do you and some of your Fleet friends have an activity, hobby or special interest that you think other members of STARFLEET from around the world might be interested in? Are you not sure how to get others from across Fleet involved? Well we have that answer for you, the STARFLEET Holodeck! Yes, the Holodeck team is here to help you take that activity, hobby or special interest and bring it to all of STARFLEET. You can contact the holodeck team at holodeckco@sfi.org and Anthony Dowling will be more than happy to help you.

I hope to be able to see many of you in this summer's International Conference in Memphis, TN in August. I am sure that Warren and his team are putting together a wonderful event that we will all enjoy.

MGN Bran Stimpson
USS Tiburon
Region 17

Vice Commander,
STARFLEET

STARFLEET Academy News

Between April through June we had 4,500 courses taken, which amounts to approximately 1,500 per month. Why so many? Well, read on:

I keep repeating the same thing that is the fact that STARFLEET Academy is constantly growing. While I was going through past CQ's, I went to CQ 30 back in 1988. STARFLEET Academy didn't have Institutes, yet, and consisted of only six colleges…..Officer's Training School, Post Graduate School, Vulcan Academy of Science, Medicine, Security and Computer.

At last year's IC, we were boasting that as of July 2011, the Academy had 13 Institutes, 96 Colleges and approximately 2124 courses including 2 programs.

Well as of June 30, 2012, the Academy sixteen Institutes, (with one more on the table) 117 Colleges with about 10 in development, and 3,023 courses live in Academy!

How's that for proof of our ever growing Academy.

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

A new Institute was created, effective May 1st : the Institute of Life Science Studies, with myself as Dean. I have relinquished the Deanship of the IOIE to my assistant, Franklin Newman III, with Tom Pawelczak as Assistant Dean and TJ Allen as Second officer, should Tom back down. The Institute was opened with three existing Colleges: the two psychology courses and medicine.

Also created was the Institute of History and Government with Robert Westfall as Dean.

Changes in faculty in May were:

- Greg Staylor resigned all academy duties except the FAC.
- Wayne Killough took over as Support Coordinator.
- Wayne Killough was appointed as the 4th member of the CDC.
- Brian Pickett took over Greg's two Security courses in the IOMS.
- Robert Westfall became the Dean of the new Institute of History and Government (IOHG).
- Franklin Newman III became the new Dean of the IOIE.
- Carol Thompson created and became Dean of the Institute of Life Science Studies (IOLSS).

From the desk of the Coordinator of Support Services: ADM Wayne Killough, Jr.

When Greg Staylor had to resign this position due to an increase in his real life work load, I was asked if I would be interested in taking on this position. It wasn't difficult for me to say yes. I've been busy streamlining the services department which consists of Arts & Graphics, Awards, Documentation, Electronic Services and Fully Automated Courses.

Arts & Graphics Department is vacant but I hope that it will fill soon Awards Department is directed by FCAPT Scott Schaller.

Documentation Department is directed by COMM Cher Schleigh.

Electronic Services Department is directed by COMM Jayden Tyronian.

FAC directed by ADM Greg Staylor.

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

The certificates for Squad and SFA Staff Awards are currently being made. Those individuals who will be at IC will receive their certificates, there. All others will receive theirs via email. CQ 172 will have a full listing of all who received Squad and SFA Staff Awards.

JUNE BOOTHBY AWARDS

Bronze 50
06/26/2012 Billings, Rodney
06/25/2012 Lynch, David
06/16/2012 Wabindato, Joshua
06/14/2012 McCauley, Zachary
06/11/2012 Allen, Rebecca
06/07/2012 Allen, Derek

Silver 100
06/27/2012 Tunis, Edward
06/03/2012 Caruso, Michael

Gold 150
06/07/2012 Swindell, Victor

Latinum 200
06/01/2012 Radle, John

Diamond 250
06/01/2012 Tyronian, Jayden

Platinum 450
06/12/2012 Wandall, Ed

Pearl 750
06/01/2012 Paul, Barbara
06/01/2012 Schleigh, Cher

Opal 800
06/08/2012 Schleigh, Cher

Diamond Star 1250
06/04/2012 Hewitt, Richard

Dilithium Star 1300
06/20/2012 Hewitt, Richard

Zirconium Star 1400
06/22/2012 Hollifield, Gary Tiny

Platinum Star 1450
06/13/2012 Johannson, Eric

Trolithium Star 1500
06/12/2012 Diebold, Glendon

Amber Star 1550
06/06/2012 Newman, Franklin

Garnet Star 1600
06/17/2012 Newman, Franklin

Topaz Star 1650
06/30/2012 Newman, Franklin

Sapphire Star 1850
06/30/2012 Fisher, Josephine
06/19/2012 French, Larry

Arcturus Star 2350
06/17/2012 Thompson, Carol

Bellatrix Star 2500
06/20/2012 Killough, Wayne

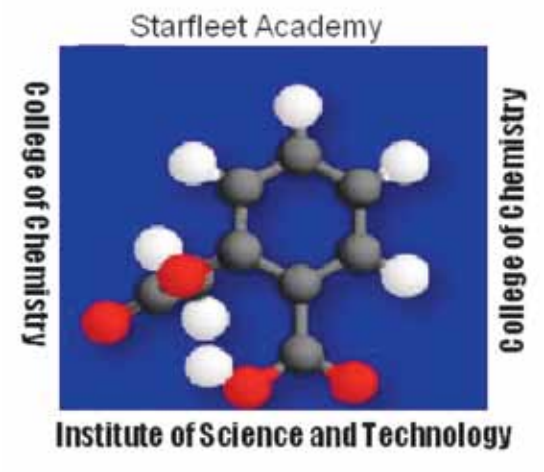
ADM Peg Pellerin
USS Constitution
Region 15

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



COLLEGE OF CHEMISTRY

Vice Admiral Glen Diebold, Director
ussniagara@roadrunner.com
19 Mafalda Drive
Cheektowaga, NY 14215-2017

The College of Chemistry will test your knowledge of Chemistry from the periodic table through Analytical, biochemistry, organic, inorganic, thermochemistry, and theoretical to nuclear and quantum chemistry. These courses will test your understanding of the chemical world around you.

This is an informative college where you just might learn something along the way.

COLLEGE OF GEOGRAPHICAL SCIENCE

Vice Admiral Glen Diebold, Director
ussniagara@roadrunner.com
10 Mafalda Drive
Cheektowaga, NY 14215-2017

The College of Geographical (COGS) will test your knowledge of Earth's geography as you find the facts on things from each continent as well as the bottom of the sea.

This is a fun yet informative college where you just might learn something along the way. Courses are normally derived from Wikipedia of Encyclopedia Britannica.

COLLEGE OF PHYSICS

Vice Admiral Glen Diebold, Director
ussniagara@roadrunner.com
10 Mafalda Drive
Cheektowaga, NY 14215-2017

The College of Physics will test your knowledge of Physics from applied physics through the laws of Newton and theories of Einstein. This is an informative College where you just might learn something along the way.

Riddle Me This

Has a tongue,
But never talks.
Has no legs,
But sometimes walks.

Look for the answer in the next issue!

Last Issue's riddle: *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.*

ANSWER: *A Plow*

SFA Course Catalogue

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 | Major 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 Ann 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 Cadets complete all courses in a college with grades of Honors and/or Distinction, they will each receive a special certificate along with an Honor Star that they can pin to their uniform, bag, or whatever they want, in order to show how they did. A 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

Hello From the Vault

I hope everyone is enjoying the summer months and were able to attend STARFLEET's International Conference. At first, it didn't look like Wade and I were going to be able to make it, due to our work schedules. But at the last minute we decided to try it. So after work on Friday night, we hit the road and made it to Birmingham, Alabama where we finally called it a night and grabbed a few hours of sleep, before heading on to Olive Branch, Mississippi. We soon discovered that, between Birmingham and Mississippi, there are very few places where we could find breakfast. So, starving, we crossed the remaining miles of Alabama and entered Mississippi.

We arrived at the hotel and found the registration desk. Mary Kane was surprised to see us and quickly got us registered for the day (since we had to head for home early Sunday morning). After that we headed to the Opening Ceremonies and made our way to the back of the room. Several people spotted us and came over to say hi, but then Dave saw us and high-tailed it up the stairs to give us a hug and let us know how happy he was that we made it.

Tammy then insisted that I take a seat at the head table, which I really felt she should have retained, as she had done all the work in the ECAB meeting the day before, but I was not going to argue with her. So we were there for the announcement of the awards and the scholarship winners.

After that we had several people come up and ask us to attend meetings, or take time to discuss things with them. Of course, just being there for the day meant we didn't get to do everything we wanted to do and I apologize to those of you that I was not able to spend time with. I hope next year will be better for us, schedule wise.

We did have lunch with a large group of Fleeters at Carrabba's (which lasted way too long and I missed the Muster). So sorry, guys, I really wanted to be there. But we did make the Meet the Brass meeting, even if the pics make it look like I slept through it. I really was awake!!

After that, it was time for the evening festivities. Wade and I were able to attend the auction, Elvis Impersonator and all. We also made it to the after hours party in the CS's room. Here, Tammy was tending bar and doing a great job. Wade inducted several people into the Order of the Tequila Cross, a special club that was the brainchild of former SFMC Commandant John Roberts. If you were not there and haven't heard of the Order, just check back at future events to see if you qualify to become a member.

Around 2 in the morning, we had to call it a night and get a bit of sleep so that we could make the drive back to Florida and be able to work on Monday morning. We had fun, even though it was a quick trip and I would like to thank everyone who made it so much fun. A really big Thank You to Tammy Willcox and Pat Spillers for handling the affairs of the CFO's office in my place. Without these ladies, it would be a much more difficult job.

Now the numbers.

June Finances

STARFLEET Main Checking Account	
Opening	$31,958.55
Credits	$6,007.17
Debits	$3,224.10
Closing	**$34,741.62**

IC Even Account	
Opening	$1,503.18
Credits	$5,500.00
Debits	$70.72
Closing	**$6,932.46**

IC Odd Account	
Opening	$1,504.10
Credits	$0
Debits	$0
Closing	**$1,504.10**

SFMC Checking Account	
Opening	$4,662.16
Credits	$1,161.23
Debits	$876.51
Closing	**$4,946.88**

STARFLEET Scholarship Savings Account	
Opening	$24,403.94
Credits	$1,453.47
Debits	$21,985.21
Closing	**$3,872.20**

SFMC Scholarship Savings Account	
Opening	$2,726.67
Credits	$0.18 (interest)
Debits	$0
Closing	**$2,726.85**

Scholarship CD	
Opening	$21,985.21

9 month risk free CD earning .30% matures 3/2013

July Finances

STARFLEET Main Checking Account	
Opening	$34,741.62
Credits	$4,492.63
Debits	$10,122.27
Closing	**$29,111.98**

IC Even Account	
Opening	$6,932.46
Credits	$2,394.90
Debits	$131.75
Closing	**$9,195.61**

IC Odd Account	
Opening	$1,504.10
Credits	$0
Debits	$0
Closing	**$1,504.10**

SFMC Checking Account	
Opening	$4,946.88
Credits	$558.06
Debits	$401.70
Closing	**$5,103.24**

STARFLEET Scholarship Savings Account	
Opening	$3,872.20
Credits	$.26(interest)
Debits	$0
Closing	**$3,872.46**

SFMC Scholarship Savings Account	
Opening	$2,726.85
Credits	$0.18 (interest)
Debits	$0
Closing	**$2,727.03**

Scholarship CD	
Opening	$1,111.86

Renewal on 8/15/2013. (Interest Rate: 0.35%.)

GEN Linda Olson
USS Relentless
Region 2

Chief Financial Officer
STARFLEET

STARFLEET Marine Corps Reports

News and updates from the Marines.

State of the SFMC

Greetings to all Marines

At the time of writing this, many of our Marines will be suffering through sweltering heat or fighting off the seasonal storms that seem to affect the U.S. at this time of the year.

It is hoped that all our Marines and their families have come through this period safely - if not at the least, a little comfortably. Where's an SFMC Engineer when you need one to fix that AC??

Summer heat waves and storms aside, we continue to hurtle towards IC/IM. For those who are fortunate enough to attend, we all hope that you have a most pleasurable experience in Tennessee. I am certain that the Marines in attendance will yet again pass evidence of the camaraderie, fun and fellowship that comes with being a member of the Corps. One can only hope that the fellowship does not get spilled onto the carpet or good furniture too much.

ANNUAL AWARDS

We have received another solid batch of nominations for the Honor Awards, and this year has been the same as likely every other, with the GS having to make careful deliberation of some extremely worthy nominations. It has been said before that one of the toughest jobs in the GS is having to select the winners of the Honor awards when faced with so many worthy choices. This year it is certainly no different, and I would like to thank those Marines who put forward some very well crafted and professionally presented nominations to us. A well documented nomination for any award is worth its weight in gold, as it really assists us in reviewing the facts.

And on the note of the Annual Awards, I wish to remind all Marines that it is really up to each and every one of you to ensure that any Marine worthy of being nominated for ANY SFMC award is, in fact, being presented. If you don't do it, others may not and as a consequence, a well-deserving marine may not be recognized for his or her actions and/or activities.

IC/IM ATTENDANCE

As per my last State of... report, I can confirm attendance at IC/IM of the following GS officers -COForceCom, MGSGT John Kane; COFinCom, LGN Patrick McAndrew; Acting COTraCom, MGN Gary Hollifield Jr. These marines will be available to hopefully answer any questions and queries and will be involved in all SFMC events, supporting the IC Organizing committee wherever possible. [At the last minute, MGN Hollifield was unable to attend but still contributed an SFMC birthday cake to the festivities. -Editor MAK]

As "Mission Chief", COForceCom will lead the GS ground team in ensuring that all GS involvement and participation runs smoothly.

Mess dinner attendance appears to be well subscribed and the evening will also provide the platform to commence our 30th year celebrations.

I wish all IC/IM attendees the very best in enjoying what will be likely be a great weekend.

SFMC QM STORE

The QM has been busy replenishing stocks of a range of items. All the new metal branch devices thus far developed have been received and are selling strongly. The new devices are proving very popular and are selling well - as has the new beret flash. Ribbon stocks are continually being replenished and we intend to provide a more complete ribbon range over a short period of time, making it easier for Marines to purchase as many items as possible from the one outlet - the SFMC QM. The QM web-store has been worked on by the team at InfoCom and there are plans to make adjustment and change there as well, that is geared to improve the service presented.

GS OBJECTIVES

The GS has been reviewing the success, failures, or any necessary directional changes of the 2012 Objectives listed and published after the last IC/IM. This document has been updated and will be published after the IC/IM, with key elements presented at the IM. This next year will undoubtedly be rife with lots of incentive and application by the GS in an effort to inject further motivation and enthusiastic programs into the Corps, as we endeavour to get Marines to lift their heads and take note of what is going on around them in this organization. Naturally, we would welcome any suggestions that Marines would wish to forward to us that would help create development of new ideas and activities that can be geared to help drive the Corps forward - so if you have some idea that you think the Corps would benefit from, feel free to drop us a line.

SFMC 30th ANNIVERSARY YEAR

In November of this year, the SFMC will have reached the milestone of 30 years since its inception. For any fan club or organization, that is a very long time and, as has been said before, serves to acknowledge the stability and well-founded base from which we operate and exist. To have gone so far, and to continue to be so strong in membership support, speaks highly of the base structure of the Corps and of the good work and effort applied by many Marines over the last three decades. But to go another 30 years, the SFMC needs every Marine to participate or to be involved in even the smallest way. Let's make sure we all can do that for the SFMC members of the future.

And on note of the Anniversary, we have also added another element to help celebrate that will hopefully be in stock within the next couple of weeks prior to IC.

This will be the SFMC Lapel Pin - a cast enamel pin that is designed to be worn on clothing, giving evidence of your membership to the Corps. (Note - this is NOT an item to be worn on SFMC uniform). While this pin is released in support of our Anniversary celebrations, it is not a specifically designed Anniversary pin - thus it can be purchased and proudly worn for any time or occasion to the future. The quality of this item will be of the same very high standard of the new metal devices we have recently added. Look for announcement of release from the SFMC QM.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

In light of the fact that there has been some focus in this post about the need of injection of motivational support to the Corps, the above question carries a resonance that needs to echo around the corridors of where you live and work. So often asked by previous 'Dants and GS members, the question carries much more than a simple phrase that can be quickly forgotten. Coupled with that other age-old adage, "What do you want from the Corps?" - it simply and clearly asks of our Marines for their thoughts and inputs to make the Corps an even better organization than we are already. We need to feed and grow, and we can only do this with ideas, suggestions, input and genuine critiquing of what we do, have done or could do better. It is difficult to continually be looking for new incentives that are not simply recycled elements of any old or existing ideas, and thus YOUR input will always be most welcomed. Don't be shy; don't hesitate; send off that idea to us today. There is nothing like a 'stupid idea' around here, I promise you!

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".

BGN Bruce O'Brien
USS Southern Cross
Region II

Commandant SFMC

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

Enlisted members in the SFMC MAR 2012

Executive Summary:

Analysis of data collected over one full year from a large sample of the STARFLEET Marine Corps suggests that approximately 25 percent of the SFMC are likely to hold enlisted ranks and an average SFMC Brigade is likely to contain 20-30 percent enlisted members.

Background:

In March of 2011, the SGM/SFMC began a large term project to collect and analyze data on the actual percentages of enlisted members in the STARFLEET Marine Corps. Anecdotal data at the time suggested that this would be between 10-15 percent of the membership, but nobody had ever actually gathered any real data on the subject

Scope and Methods

5 Brigades of varying sizes and in different geographical locations were chosen to serve as the sample. These were the 1st, 5th, 11th, 13th, and 17th BDEs. This diverse sample comprises approximately 40 percent of the total SFMC membership at any given time.

Sampling was done by using the bi-monthly reports sent by each BDE OIC to FORCECOM. The SFI database could not be queried to accurately obtain data on BDE rosters, because there is no requirement for a member of the SFMC to be listed as either an Active Marine or SFMC Reserve in the database. Data points were taken at 4 month intervals, partly because of the labor intensive nature of the data collection process and partly because trends could be identified without having data from every reporting period, due to the long term nature of the study.

For the purposes of this study, enlisted members are defined as those who have a rank listed in the report that is not O-1 or higher. In addition, younger members showing the rank of Midshipman were not considered to be enlisted since this is traditionally an officer's rank. Those members who had no listed rank at all in the BDE report were not counted as enlisted members, but they were counted towards the total membership of the BDE. The totals do include cadet enlisted ranks and Warrant Officers, as these are specifically listed in the MFM as enlisted grades.

Overall results

The numbers below are the percent of enlisted members in the total sample at each data point:

FEB 2011	26.95
JUN 2011	28.04
OCT 2011	31.06
FEB 2012	31.82
AVERAGE	29.47

However, with the first data point, it became readily apparent that the 5th BDE was possibly an outlier, having a significantly higher percentage of enlisted members than any of the other 4 BDEs in the sample. Since the 5th was also the second largest BDE in the sample, the data was also analyzed excluding the 5th BDE data to check and see if the 5th was biasing the results. This still left the sample at approximately 30% of the entire SFMC. That data is listed below:

FEB 2011	24.75
JUN 2011	24.12
OCT 2011	28.57
FEB 2012	29.85
AVERAGE	26.82

While there is a drop in the percentage of enlisted members in the sample if the 5th is excluded, the results are still well above the 10 to 15 percent that anecdotal data suggested would be found. In either case, the data points, over time, show an upward trend of roughly 5 percentage points. However, the relatively small increase from OCT 2011 to FEB 2012 suggests that the percentage of enlisted members in the sample may be reaching its limit for now.

It must be noted that STARFLEET in genera,l and the SFMC in particular, has been experiencing a period of growth from FEB 2011 to FEB 2012. This may partially explain the increase in enlisted members in the sample. (Most STARFLEET members start out with an enlisted rank). In fact, the total number of Marines in the sample also grew by approximately 5 percent over that time period.

Average enlisted member percentage in a Brigade

At the individual BDE level, over the current data set, the average percentage of enlisted members per BDE was 27.78, and if the 5th BDE is excluded as above, 25.39. Standard deviation over the current sample was 6.36 percentage points (4.30 excluding the 5th BDE)

There is obviously a great deal of variation across individual BDEs. A strong caution must be made that the small size of the 13th BDE (an average of 16 members over the current time frame) means that a change as small as a single enlisted member can result in a very wide swing in the percentage for the BDE as a whole. This in fact occurred at the FEB 2012 data point, where one enlisted member taking a commission dropped the BDE percentage from 25 to 17 percent.

Broadly speaking, using one standard deviation, and the worst case scenario of the lower average percentage of 25.4 percent excluding the 5th BDE, and the higher standard deviation of 6.4 percent including the 5th to arrive at a conservative estimate, a BDE that has between 19.0 and 31.8 percent of its members in the enlisted ranks would be typical with between 12.6 and 37.2 percent marking the normal limits. Any BDE with less than 12.6 or more than 37.2 percent enlisted members over time would be unusual.

Conclusions

There is always a risk with using a sample of any population to make predictions regarding the entire population. The sample in this case represents a large enough percentage of the SFMC, and a diverse enough cross section, that some reasonable conclusions can be drawn, pending an actual census of enlisted members as reported across all SFMC Brigades. Such a complete census is impractical at this time, due to the labor intensive method of collecting data and the inconsistent nature of reporting at the BDE level.

However, based on the sample, an estimate that 25 percent of the SFMC holds an enlisted rank should be reasonable for purposes of future planning.

At the individual BDE level, things are much less clear, due to the high amount of variation between SFMC Brigades, Generally speaking, we could reasonably expect a typical SFMC BDE to have a percentage of enlisted members between (roughly) 20 to 30 percent, with anything below 15 or above 35 percent being exceptional.

Over the course of the study to date, the highest percentage of enlisted members in the sample was consistently found in the 1st and 5th BDEs. This probably reflects an active NCO Corps in those BDEs. Many prominent SFMC enlisted members are currently in those BDEs, such as COFORCECOM, SGM TRACOM, SGM/SFMC, as well as most of the recent winners of the Star of Honor. Additionally, the leadership of these BDEs has a history of actively supporting and encouraging Marines who choose to remain in the enlisted ranks. In short, it is probably a combination of several factors working together, rather than any conscious policy or enlisted recruiting efforts on the part of the BDEs in question.

A low percentage (less than 15 percent) of enlisted members may indicate a need for recruiting in general. (Again, most STARFLEET members start out with an enlisted rank.) Or it may indicate a need for the enlisted members in that BDE to take more visible and active roles. As

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

Sergeant Major
SFMC

Enlisted members Continued

noted above, a small BDE can have its percentage of enlisted members significantly affected by one member. So, a smaller percentage of enlisted members in a BDE with fewer members than other SFMC units is not as great a cause for concern as it might be for a larger BDE. A low percentage of enlisted members in a larger BDE should not be taken as a conscious policy of discouraging members who wish to remain enlisted.

It is important to note that, since the SFMC itself has NO direct control over individual members' ranks, BDE OICs must work with the RC and various chapter COs of their region if they wish to address the number of enlisted Marines in their BDE. The office of the SGM will gladly assist any and all efforts upon request.

Future plans

Although a full year's worth of data points is useful information, the data sample will continue to be tracked for trending purposes.

At the next data point, an additional analysis will be run on the number of senior NCOS (E-7 to E-9 and WOs) to see if there is any correlation with the enlisted percentages in a BDE, and that data will be tracked going forward.

At some point, an attempt will be made to do a complete census of the SFMC to determine how well the sample predicts the actual number of enlisted members in the Corps. Since such a census will be very labor intensive, it will probably not occur until later in the year.

INFOCOM Report

BDR Michael Timko
USS Vortex
Region I

CO INFOCOM SFMC

Greetings all,

Please excuse the tardiness of this office. I have been writing this report the past week now, but with the recent passing of my mother-in-law, and SFMC member, Donna Leavitt, it has been hard to finish it. But I knew I had to. Right now, I am on a leave of absence from the GS and my DCO, Joe Brouhard is sitting in the center seat as Acting COINFOCOM. I plan to return, so Joe, don't get too comfortable in "my" office.

With May behind us and June coming to a close, it's time to start thinking about the IC and beyond. Where do we see INFOCOM and where is it going. Is it going anywhere?

One reality is that we did not accomplish as much as I wanted to this year. During my first year in office, I wanted to have a new WordPress site started and in testing. We had to keep pushing that project off, due to multiple site breakdowns between the main SFMC site and the SFMCA site.

On a brighter note, INFOCOM, in coordination with the G3 office, is in the process of updating the manuals. We have the MFM in progress and the Policy Manual on deck.

Other up-ticks include keeping ZenCart updated with new items, as the GS has approved them, and my DCO gave the SFMCA site a new and better form handler for the requesting of courses

For next year, I would like to see...

1) Getting the WordPress site back on schedule

2) Getting more of the SFMC manuals updated

3) Updating and changing out the SFMC reporting system. (This one was on the list for the db update, but we shall see).

Let's now talk about other stuff that's going on:

PINGDOM:

The Pingdom report for May reported 2 outages. February is still our best month, with no outages. The two outages gave us an uptime of 99.87%. This is 0.10% below last month. We still are still striving for 100% uptime every month, but it's a challenge.

ATTENTION ON DECK: EXTRA (AODE)

Tom has told me he is putting the finishing touches on the next issue. I am just waiting for it to hit the INFOCOM DropBox account, so that I can turn it into a pdf.

NOW HIRING:

INFOCOM is seeking someone to take on the 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 infocom@sfi-sfmc.org

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 and more. The sky is really the limit. Some might say, "My work isn't good enough or significant enough." To that I say, you won't know until it gets submitted.

Even though this award has a nominator and nominee section on the awards form, this award can be a self-nomination. Who better to know what you did, than you yourself. If you feel you have accomplished something that might be worthy of notice, don't hesitate to nominate yourself.

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

Semper Fi.

What is Leadership Development and Why Does the STARFLEET Marine Need It?

Leadership development refers to any activity that enhances the quality of leadership within an individual or organization. These activities have ranged from MBA style programs offered at university business schools to action-learning high-ropes courses and executive retreats. Traditionally, leadership development has focused on developing the leadership abilities and attitudes of individuals.

Just as people are not all born with the ability, or desire, to play soccer like Zinedine Zidane or sing like Luciano Pavarotti, people are not all born with the ability to lead. Different personal traits and characteristics can help or hinder a person's leadership effectiveness, requiring formalized programs for developing leadership competencies. Yet everyone can develop their leadership effectiveness. Achieving such development takes focus, practice and persistence, and is more akin to learning a musical instrument than reading a book.

Classroom-style training and associated reading is effective in helping leaders to know more about what is involved in leading well. However, knowing what to do and doing what you know are two very different outcomes; management expert Henry Mintzberg is one person who has highlighted this dilemma. It is estimated that as little as 15% of learning from traditional classroom style training results in sustained behavioral change within the workplace.

The success of leadership development efforts has been linked to three variables:

- Individual learner characteristics
- The quality and nature of the leadership development program
- Genuine support for behavioral change from the leader's supervisor

Military officer training academies, such as the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst, go to great lengths to accept only candidates who show the highest potential to lead well. Personal characteristics that are associated with successful leadership development include: leader motivation to learn, a high achievement drive, and personality traits such as openness to experience, an internal focus of control, and self-monitoring. Development is also more likely to occur when the design of the development program:

1. Integrates a range of developmental experiences over a set period of time (e.g. 6–12 months). These experiences may include 360 degree feedback, experiential classroom style programs, business school style coursework, executive coaching, reflective journaling, mentoring, and others.

2. Involves goal setting, following an assessment of key developmental needs and then evaluating the achievement of goals after a given time period.

Among key concepts in leadership development, one may find:

1. Experiential learning: positioning the individual in the focus of the learning process, going through the four stages of experiential learning, as formulated by David A. Kolb: concrete experience, observation and reflection. forming abstract concepts, and testing in new situations.

2. Self efficacy: The right training and coaching should bring about 'self efficacy' in the trainee, as Albert Bandura formulated: A person's belief in his capabilities to produce effects.

3. Visioning: Developing the ability to formulate a clear image of the aspired future of an organization unit.

A good personal leadership development program should enable you to develop a plan that helps you gain essential leadership skills required for roles across a wide spectrum, from a youth environment to the corporate world. These characteristics include:

- Taking responsibility
- Gaining focus
- Developing life purpose
- Starting action immediately
- Developing effective and achievable goals and dreams.

More recently, organizations have come to understand that leadership can also be developed by strengthening the connection between, and alignment of, the efforts of individual leaders and the systems through which they influence organizational operations. This has led to a differentiation between leader development and leadership development. Leader development focuses on the development of the leader, such as the personal attributes desired in a leader, desired ways of behaving, ways of thinking or feeling. In contrast, leadership development focuses on the development of leadership as a process. This will include the interpersonal relationships, social influence process, and the team dynamics between the leader and his/her team at the dyad level, the contextual factors surrounding the team, such as the perception of the organizational climate, and the social network linkages between the team and other groups in the organization.

Leadership development can build on the development of individuals (including followers) to become leaders. In addition, it also needs to focus on the interpersonal linkages between the individuals in the team. In the belief that the most important resource that an organization possesses is the people who comprise the organization, many organizations address the development of these resources (even including the leadership).

In contrast, the concept of "employeeship" recognizes that what it takes to be a good leader is not too dissimilar to what it takes to be a good employee. Therefore, bringing the notional leader together with the team to explore these similarities,rather than focusing on the differences, brings positive results. This approach has been particularly successful in Sweden, where the power distance between manager and team is small.

The term "Collaborative Leadership" describes an emerging body of theory and management practice which is focused on the leadership skills and attributes needed to deliver results across organizational boundaries. In her 1994 Harvard Business Review article, "Collaborative Advantage", Rosabeth Moss Kanter talks about leaders who recognize that there are critical business relationships "that cannot be controlled by formal systems but require (a) dense web of interpersonal connections…". And in a book published in that same year, Chrislip and Larson looked at the attributes of great civic leaders in communities across the US, finding some similar attributes. "Collaboration needs a different kind of leadership; it needs leaders who can safeguard the process, facilitate interaction and patiently deal with high levels of frustration."

Hank Rubin, author and President of the Institute of Collaborative Leadership, has written, "A collaboration is a purposeful relationship in which all parties strategically choose to cooperate in order to accomplish a shared outcome." In his book, "Collaborative Leadership: Developing Effective Partnerships for Communities and Schools", Rubin asks, "Who is a collaborative leader?" and answers, "You are a collaborative leader once you have accepted responsibility for building - or helping to ensure the success of - a heterogeneous team to accomplish a shared purpose . Your tools are the purposeful exercise of your behavior, communication, and organizational resources in order to affect the perspective, beliefs, and behaviors of another person (generally a collaborative partner) to influence that person's relationship with you and your collaborative enterprise and the structure and climate of an environment that supports the collaborative relationship."

David Archer and Alex Cameron, in their book, "Collaborative Leadership: How to succeed in an Interconnected World", identify the basic task of the collaborative leader as the delivery of results across boundaries between different organizations. They say, "Getting value from difference is at the heart of the collaborative leader's task… they have to learn to share control, and to trust a partner to deliver, even though that partner may operate very differently from themselves."

There have been a number of research projects and reviews of key lessons for collaborative leaders but they all come down to some similar themes. Madeleine Carter, writing for the Center for Effective Public Policy, as part of research project funded by the United States Department of Justice and State Justice Institute, de-

MGEN Gary Hollifield, Jr.
USS BortaS
Region 12

CO TRACOM SFMC

fines five qualities of a collaborative leader:

1. Willingness to take risks
2. Eager listeners
3. Passion for the cause
4. Optimistic about the future
5. Able to share knowledge, power and credit

In a similar way, Archer and Cameron list ten key lessons for a successful collaborative leader:

1. Find the personal motive for collaborating
2. Find ways of simplifying complex situations for your people
3. Prepare for how you are going to handle conflict well in advance
4. Recognize that there are some people or organizations you just can't partner with
5. Have the courage to act for the long term
6. Actively manage the tension between focusing on delivery and on building relationships
7. Invest in strong personal relationships at all levels
8. Inject energy, passion and drive into your leadership style
9. Have the confidence to share the credit generously
10. Continually develop your interpersonal skills, in particular: empathy, patience, tenacity, holding difficult conversations, and coalition building.

Rod Newing, writing in a Financial Times supplement special report, says, "If a collaboration is to be effective, each party must recognize and respect the different culture of the other." And traditional development paths don't prepare leaders well for this. "Traditional management development is based on giving potential managers a team of people and a set of resources to control - and success is rewarded with more people and more resources to control. By contrast, collaboration requires managers to achieve success through people and resources outside their control and for this, they have had no preparation".

Next time we will review Situational Leadership Theory. See ya in 60!

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726th MSG Report - June 2012

LTC Ken Kadin
USS Storm

Greetings Marines!

On Stardate 062012.10, the 726th unit was ordered to the Marmorian planetary system, to Mamora Prime. There they would hook up with the intelligence units of the Marmorian self-defense forces.

Messages had been intercepted by the Marmorian high command, originating from the Romulan Empire. These messages seemed to indicate that the Romulan Empire is set to take over the Marmorian system.

Therefore, the 726th, the USS Storm as well as the 797th Aviation detachment from the USS Robert E. Lee, was deployed to assist in the defense of the Marmora system, per the request of the Marmora high Command.

On Stardate 062012.15, the main body of the 726th with combat training, along with the Storm, left for Mamora Prime. While en route, they were joined by the Robert E. Lee and the 797th.

Upon arrival, we set up outposts at all strategic locations of the planetary system. Joining us at these out posts were teams of medical personal from the USS Storm.

SGM Mike Sladky was wounded in a recon mission that saw him get an amazing 120 confirmed kills. He was shot in the foot and is being taken care of my CMO, Hess

Together with the Marmorian forces, we intend to be a deterrent or, if need be, to destroy the enemy forces as they are detected. Arrrh! Semper Fi!

Tactical map

FORCECOM Report

Greetings, Marines!

Well, we are just over a month away from the 2012 International Conference and International Muster. If you are going to be attending, I hope your travel plans are progressing nicely and I look forward to seeing you there.

At the beginning of this month [June], we lost a valued member of the Corps, Brigadier Joseph Gallagher of the 128th MSG in the 1st Brigade. I knew Joe not only through STARFLEET but as a friend outside of the organization. Last year, Joe, our friend Sandy and I all went to Kentucky Down Under in Horse Cave, KY. We had a great day together. One of the events at Kentucky Down Under was a vegemite-eating contest. Joe decided that he was going enter the challenge and they both decided that I needed to enter it as well. In the end, it was a draw between Joe and me.

I will miss his friendship, and we had planned on meeting up again this October, taking our wives to Kentucky Down Under and then, on the Sunday, going to visit The Hermitage in Nashville, TN as well. Enjoy discovering the Undiscovered Country, my friend, and I will look forward to chatting with you about your discoveries when we next catch up.

In the last 2 months we have had 5 new units join the Corps. They are as follows:

110th MSG, aboard the USS Peleliu, joining the 1st Brigade

131st MSG, aboard the Station Robert de Bruce, joining the 1st Brigade

177th MSG, aboard the USS Roger Young, joining the 1st Brigade

510th MSG, aboard the USS Riviera, joining the 5th Brigade

598th MEU, joining the 5th Brigade

The SFMC Strength currently stands at:
TOTAL ACTIVE MEMBERS : 557
TOTAL RESERVE MEMBERS : 556
TOTAL UNITS : 155

The Largest Unit in the Corps, as of the last Brigade Report, is the 888th Tiger Sharks, in the 17th Brigade.

The Brigade with the largest number of Units is the 1st Brigade, with 24 units.

The Corps has 26 units that have between 10 and 20 members, and it has 5 units that have over 20 members.

Another part of the Corps that you might not know anything about is the SFMC Wilderness Challenge. What is the SFMC Wilderness Challenge, you ask?

The Wilderness Challenge is a yearly event, meant to encourage physical activity. Its purpose is to challenge the participants by pitting them against Nature, and physical or mental difficulties. It should be physically or mentally challenging in format, but should also be based on good clean fun.

The overall event includes all the individual Wilderness Challenges put on by the Brigades within the Corps. Each may be different, but they all must represent the true nature of why the event was started. It must be physically challenging and promote fellowship. Wilderness Challenges can be planned around any number of physical activities, including sports, but they are not intended to be win or lose contests. Anyone who participates receives the same reward. The focus is not to pit member against member, but members against themselves and Nature.

The first three official Wilderness Challenges were hikes in the Great Smoky Mountains, but they can consist of training sessions, obstacle courses, treasure hunts, biking, swimming, hiking, skiing or any number and combination of physically challenging events.

If you want more information about the Wilderness Challenge, there is a manual full of information on how to apply to get one approved for your Brigade.

http://www.sfi-sfmc.org/portal/index.php?option=com_remository&Itemid=76&func=select&id=2&orderby=2&page=2

Until next time,

Stay safe out there!

MGSGT
John "Kiwi" Kane
USS Hornet
Region I

CO FORCECOM
SFMC

DCO FORCECOM Report

As You Were, Marines.

Several years ago, a small group of individuals from my ship and unit were standing around our SFI information display at a small local SF&F convention in the Western Washington area. It was a bitter-sweet get-together, as one of our number was preparing for her upcoming deployment to the Middle East and none of us really had a clue when we'd all be able to get together again.

During that impromptu gathering, I was given a gift by our unit's DOIC, LTC Angelina Christian. It was a gift from one female warrior about to head overseas to the sandbox to another who had already had 'her days in the sand'. A small thing if you count physical size, but it's become a cherished memento that I carry on my key chain to this day.

It was a dog tag; a 'motivational' item originally given to her by her 'Real Life' employer, the US Army. At the top of tag is stamped the words 'Army Values' and underneath it are seven simply lines of text.

Loyalty
Duty
Respect
Selfless Service
Honor
Integrity
Personal Courage

Seven simple virtues that sum up the goals of the professional, no matter their career.

As I looked at it then and as I hold it today, I still see reflected in those words the very same ideals that have made the SFMC the incredible family it has become for me.

I could wax poetic on each and every one of these. In fact, I've tried to for the last couple of days. But the harder I look at it, the more I find I don't really need to. All each and every member of the Corps needs to do is to turn and look at the man or woman standing alongside them. In that individual you will find these seven ideals looking right back at you.

These are the concepts that captured our attention and brought us into the Star Trek universe in the first place. They are the principles that brought us together as members of STARFLEET. And these are the ideals that brought us together in the Corps.

These are the values that have taken this organization from a dream in the hearts and minds of the first Star Fleet Marines, carried that dream through the ups and downs of the last thirty years and brought us to where we are today: over one thousand strong and growing stronger.

The above ideals are inherent in each and every one of us, individually and as a a member of the Corps. And we, and the communities we live in, are the better for us striving to achieve them.

I will steal from 'The Great Bard', because I feel he says it best.

"We few, we happy few, we band of brothers."

Sort of sums it up right there, doesn't it?

Happy anniversary, Marines! May we have many, many more.

Stand easy, Marines.

COL Jari James
USS Thermopylae
Region 5

DCO FORCECOM
SFMC

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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:

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