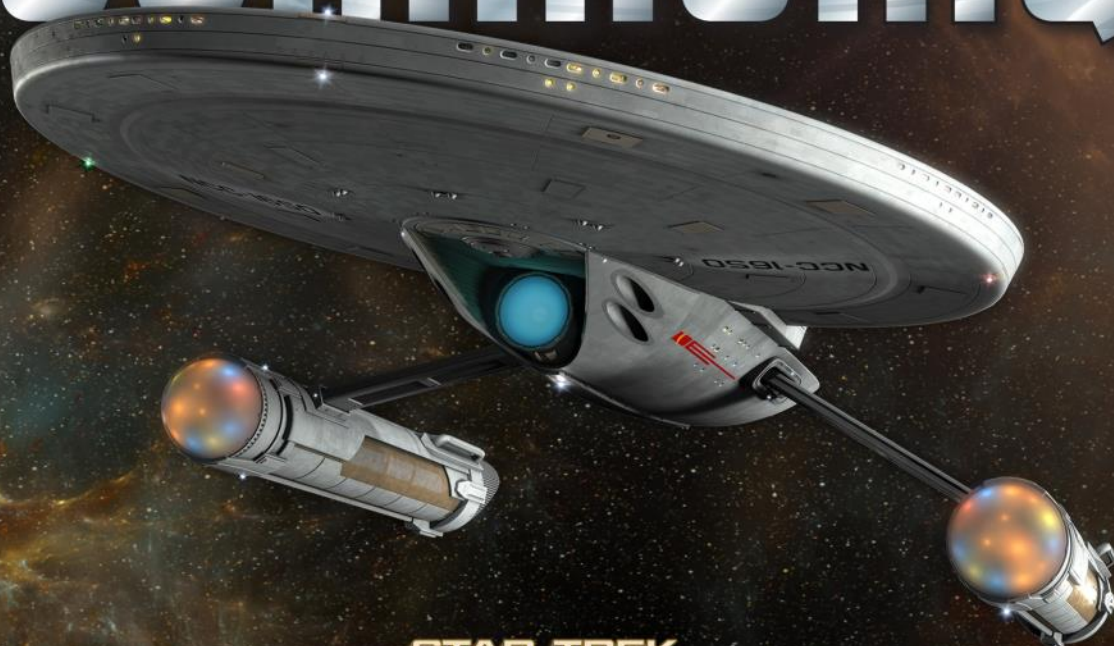


STARFLEET
THE INTERNATIONAL STAR TREK FAN ASSOCIATION INC.

COMMUNIQUE



STAR TREK

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PARTNERS UP WITH
STARFLEET!



CQ#179 • APRIL - JUNE 2014

STARFLEET Turns 40: Show you're HAPPY

2014 is STARFLEET's 40th anniversary, and we're excited to be celebrating with you! Come help us celebrate this milestone!

You're Invited to Be Part of Project: HAPPY

by Rear Admiral Jon Lane

If you haven't heard Pharrell Williams' Oscar-nominated song "Happy" from "Despicable Me 2" yet, you might be living on another planet. The music video for this chart-topping song features a series of 3-to-5-second clips of different people dancing, clapping, smiling, and just looking happy. One clip just cuts into the next, with folks on the street, inside schools and churches, over bridges, on the beach, and even in a bowling alley...just about anywhere they can dance. Such a simple idea for a music video has inspired countless versions posted by people from around the world—from Croatia to Singapore. There was even a version filmed in the ruin of the Tatooine filming location in Tunisia featuring fans dressed as various "Star Wars" characters. However, at the time of this writing, I can't find any *Star Trek* version of the "Happy" music video posted anywhere.

Let's fix that.

As part of our 40th Anniversary celebration, STARFLEET is going to make and post the first-ever *Star Trek* version of the "Happy" music video (or if not the first, then certainly the best).

It's a fun project that can literally feature every chapter, since the video clips will all be less than 5 seconds. And it's easy for any member or chapter to participate. Just get someone to film you and/or your crew in uniform and/or make-up and/or in some kind of Trek costume dancing or clapping. The dancing doesn't even have to be good! (Let's face it, we're Trekkies...no one's expecting much.)

Then just send in your video before September 30, and I'll edit together the footage we receive. The finished video will be put onto our website and YouTube. With luck, we'll go viral and get some decent

exposure to potential new members. But even if we don't become an Internet sensation, the music video will still be a great addition to feature on sfi.org and just a lot of fun to put together.

Guidelines for submissions are available at <http://happy.sfi.org>

I happily and enthusiastically encourage everyone to participate! It's not hard to do, and it can be a real blast for you and your chapter to be part of. The more video clips we get, the better the finished product will look. I'll try to post periodic work-in-progress versions of the edited video as more clips arrive.

If you have any questions, e-mail me at happy@sfi.org.



Anniversary Issue of the CQ

We'll be producing a special 40th Anniversary issue of the *Communiqué*, which means we need all of YOU to help us get lots of history to showcase.

Want to tell us about your chapter's history? Your region's? Want to research the history of a particular position or the mythical "30-mile rule"? (It's a guideline!) How about your personal history... why not tell us about the best day you ever had in STARFLEET? Member content is really going to drive this special issue, so I can't wait to see what everyone comes up with.

Of course a key component of this issue will be *lots of embarrassing photos*. Dig deep in your vaults and mortify your fellow 'Fleeters!

Submissions are due by September 30 to cq@sfi.org (please remember to include caption info on photos). You can also submit pictures to add them to our Flickr pool at <https://www.flickr.com/groups/starfleet/>. Tag pictures with "SFI 40" and we can all take a walk down memory lane together.

20140401-
20140830

Inside this issue:

STARFLEET Turns 40: Show you're HAPPY	2
Executive Committee Reports	
Report from the Commander, STARFLEET	4
Report from the Vice Commander, STARFLEET	5
Operations Report	6
Computer Operations Report	7
STARFLEET Academy News	
Commandant's Corner	8
Featured Director: David Hines	8
Boothby Awards: April, May, and June 2014	9
Riddle Me This	9
Report from the Chief Financial Officer	10
Communications Report	11
Boldly Going to the Head of the Buffet Line	12
STAR TREK: AXANAR EXCLUSIVES	
Star Trek: Axanar Partners Up With STARFLEET	14
Star Trek: Axanar: Casting the Future	18
An Interview with Alec Peters of Star Trek: Axanar	20
Special Axanar Exclusive: Ares-Class Schematics	23
An Interview with Richard Hatch of Star Trek: Axanar	24
Attention on Deck	
State of the STARFLEET Marine Corps	26
State of the NCO Corps	27
State of INFOCOM	27
SRO FORCECOM	28
USS Angeles Gathers for Khaaaaaannnn! Fest	29
USS Heimdal Celebrates 30 Years	30
USS Inferno Tenth Anniversary Party	31
Warping into the New Year with USS Star League	32
USS Inferno Spring Activities	33
STARFLEET Staff Listing	34

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20140401-
20140630



I know time flies when you are having fun...but it soars like a 747 when you are keeping busy! In March, I shot over to Vicksburg, Mississippi for the annual Region 2 Summit. The history of Vicksburg and the camaraderie of STARFLEET...who could want more? Jack, Lucy, and company were great. The crew of the USS *Haise* did an excellent job, and I loved the gift basket! I had a fantastic time...even when suffocating on chocolate pie to the face. (I am keeping my eye on you, MarkAdam!) I am just thankful that I chopped off my hair prior to that...it would have easily taken a gallon of shampoo.

In April, I took a trip up to Tulsa, Oklahoma to join my friends and family for the Region 12 Summit. The crew of the USS *Oklahoma* did a great job putting this event together. I met up with my Chief of Staff, Denine Sanders, as well as our IC Liaison Marian Murphy. They, along with Tyler Carr, tried to drive me crazy all weekend, but that would just be a short trip in reverse for me! It was great seeing some old friends and meeting new ones. Starbase Studios had their replica of the original Enterprise bridge at the event. Several members had photo ops on the set. We kicked off the Project: Happy video that weekend, so there is a great vid of some of us dancing on the bridge itself.

I would like to welcome Rear Admiral Hayden Segel of Region 1 to the Executive Committee as our Vice Commander, STARFLEET. We had several applicants for the position, and I was extremely happy to see members wanting to help do more for STARFLEET. Hayden hit the ground running and has been doing a very impressive job since. Joining Hayden on the EC is his Chief of Staff, Fleet Captain Robin Woodell-Vitasek of Region 4. I am definitely looking forward to working with them both and seeing what all they have in store for the VCS's Office!

We have Membership Processing caught up (more in Hayden's VCS article).

Report from the Commander, STARFLEET

FADM Wayne Lee Killough, Jr., *Retribution Station*, Region 3

We are almost there with getting the kinks knocked out to have the CQ caught up (more in Liz's COMMS article). We are reviewing documents to ensure they are updated. We are working on kicking off some events for member participation, both individually and as part of their chapters. We have a big announcement in this issue that will definitely increase our visibility and open some doors for our organization! We have another great PR opportunity later on this year with *Star Trek: The Magazine*. We are working to get more exposure for STARFLEET and all the great things our members do. Be proud of your accomplishments, as I am definitely proud of all of you and what all you have achieved!

Many members celebrated First Contact Day on April 5, a mere 49 years early. That is a day of hope, one that leads up to believe in the future and believe that things will improve as we progress as a society. That was just one special day that we have had the opportunity to share. Another occurred on May 6—40 years ago that day, the former club known as the USS *Enterprise* officially announced its reorganization as STARFLEET, the organization that we know and love today. We celebrate this anniversary as friends and as family. Like any family or group of friends, we may fight and argue, but we all want what is best for our organization. There is so much passion for STARFLEET among our membership that it excites and invigorates members! We are a successful organization. Can we be more successful? Absolutely...but that doesn't mean we are not successful now. Our membership, working together, is the cornerstone of our success. I look forward to sharing great anniversary moments with you this year, and look forward to working with you in achieving our goals and our dreams.

Historian

Michael has been researching back issues of the CQ to compile missing sections of the Historian's website. He is working on one section at a time, getting each one ready for review. If you would

like to assist in our efforts of documenting our organization's history, please reach out to Michael at historian@sfi.org.

Inspector General

Our Inspector General is continuing to stay busy with various Regional elections. Congratulations to Ruth Lane for winning the Region 1 election, Sam Black for winning the Region 3 election, Wayne Augustson for winning the Region 7 election, Bruce O'Brien for winning the Region 11 election, and Bran Stimpson for winning the Region 17 election. Region 9 election is currently in progress. Jeff will be initiating an election in Region 20 shortly, as Fleet Captain Alan O'Shea has resigned his post as Regional Coordinator. Those should be the last Regional elections until later on in the year.

International Conference Liaison

I would like to welcome Vice Admiral Marian Murphy as our IC Liaison. She brings with her a wealth of knowledge on hosting events (having hosted two International Conferences and a slew of Regional Summits and other events). She has already gotten to work with the IC Selection Committee, and they are diligently reviewing the bids for IC2016. I must say that they are going through the bids with a fine-toothed comb, ensuring that the best possible event for our membership is selected. On the subject of IC, don't forget that IC2014 is in the near future—August 8-10, 2014 in Rockford, Illinois. I am definitely looking forward to the trip and to seeing many members there! For more information on IC2014, check out <http://www.ic2014.com>. Start planning ahead to join us in Niagara Falls for IC2015. Dave and company are planning a great event for you. There will be several things to do in the surrounding area, so make sure you start your travel preparations now. Bookmark <http://www.ic2015.com> and stay updated on this great event!

Judge Advocate General

Mitch has assisted a couple of members who have contacted him with questions regarding procedures and

20140401-
20140630

Report from the Vice Commander, STARFLEET

Rear Admiral Hayden Segel, USS *Potomac*, Region I



Let me begin by saying what an honor it is to serve as your Vice Commander, STARFLEET. As one of only twenty others in the history of our organization to hold this position, I am both thrilled and humbled by the legacy I inherit and the tradition incumbent upon me to carry on. Before I continue though, I would like to thank our Commander, STARFLEET, FADM Wayne Killough, for putting his faith and trust in me with his nomination and to thank the members of the Admiralty Board for their vote of confirmation. A special thank you goes out to our Chief of Operations, ADM Robert Westfall, and the outgoing VCS Chief of Staff, COL Jeremy Carsten, for their valued assistance in providing me the continuity necessary for a smooth transition.

Upon taking office, I set to the task of selecting a Chief of Staff. I am happy to announce FCAPT Robin Woodell-Vitasek as my choice for the position. Robin is a motivated self-starter who immediately went to work scheduling meetings and providing much needed administrative support. Robin proved her worth right away as someone I simply could not do without.

During my first full month in office, I got acquainted with the other members of the Executive Committee along with the members of the VCS Staff; Marine Corps Commandant GEN Mike McGowan, Membership Processing Director BGEN Matt Inlges, Helpdesk Administrator CAPT Melissa

Hadley, Surgeon General MGEN Oliver Savander, Chaplains' Corps Director VADM Russell Ruhland, Director of Special Operations BDR TJ Allen, and our newest staff member, Petfleet Director COMM Lee Vitasek. Getting better acquainted with each of these volunteers has shown me how fortunate we are to have such dedicated individuals working for the betterment of 'Fleet. Thank you to you all.

Now I realize that to many, I have entered this arena as a relative unknown, so I would like to take this opportunity to share my background with you; to let you know where it is I come from and give you a better idea of where we are headed. My involvement in STARFLEET began in early 1992. I started in Region Three, then later in Region Eight before joining the USS Imperium in Region Six. In the late '90s and early 2000s, I was met with increasing professional demands to the point where I unfortunately had to put my involvement in STARFLEET aside, but with the hopes and intention of one day returning. I did so in 2008, initially as a member of Region Seven, then shortly after and to this day, Region One. My tenure in Region One began with the USS *Ronald E. McNair*, where I served as Chief Security Officer and Operations Officer. I also got very much involved with Region One's Regional Department Chief Program as Regional

Department Chief for both Security and Operations.

In 2011, I realized my goal of establishing a new STARFLEET chapter with the launch of the USS *Potomac* in Alexandria, VA. In the past three years, the *Potomac* has seen substantial growth and, in addition to its local members, now has correspondence members from across the country and around the world. Our most notable achievement to date was in July of 2013 when we planned, organized, and hosted an autograph signing session with actor Robert Picardo, of *Star Trek: Voyager*, at Union Station in Washington, DC. The project itself would not have been possible without the help of the USS *Susquehannock* in Region Seven. It just goes to show that no chapter is an island. Whatever we achieve is made only better with the interaction and cooperation among chapters, both within and outside of our own regions.

Now that I have shared a little of my history with you, I would like to let you know what you can expect from me as your Vice Commander, STARFLEET. I am seriously committed to my role as corporate secretary. That means ensuring compliance with statutory and regulatory requirements, efficiently and accurately documenting our corporate activities, and seeing to it that all decisions of the Admiralty Board are carried out. That, however, will not deter me from my responsibility to you, the members. I understand the needs of individual members are as unique and diverse as the members themselves, and my staff and I will do all we can to make sure those needs are met to the highest degree possible.

In closing, I want to thank each and every one of you for your support and commitment to this largest and most enduring organization of *Star Trek* fans we like to call STARFLEET. I look forward to sharing this experience with you all and all the great things we are certain to accomplish.

CS Report, continued

appropriate actions. He has also been working on a manual for the JAG's Office, similar to what we have for the IG's Office. I am definitely looking forward to seeing his rough draft soon.

Member Recognition Director

Linda has been busy as a bee handling promotion requests and award nominations. She is in the process of compiling the annual award nominations for the EC to review. If you have an event coming up and would like to promote members and/or present awards, please

make sure you submit your nominations and requests in early enough for them to be processed in time. If you have questions about the process, or would like further information, please contact Linda at recognition@sfi.org.

Thank you all for being a part of this great journey. It takes all of us to make STARFLEET a success. I am looking forward to continuing on this voyage with all of you, and hope that you will be as excited about our future as I am. See you on the flip-side!

20140401-
20140630



Fleet Strengths
(as of 30 April 2014)

Region	Members	Chapters
01	1,007	45
02	596	34
03	540	27
04	392	21
05	213	10
06	124	8
07	546	29
08	15	1
09	30	2
10	48	2
11	131	6
12	362	23
13	121	7
15	182	10
17	186	9
20	160	7
00 & 99	96	N/A
TOTAL	4,745	241

It's hard to believe that three months have gone by since the last time I did this!

Things in OPS have been running fairly smoothly. We've been reading and responding (as needed) to chapter MSRs and a variety of other queries sent our way. Numerous OPS-related documents have been, or are still in the process of being, updated, revised, etc. Those that have been completed are available on the SFI website or by e-mailing me at ops@sfi.org and requesting them.

Over the past few months we've also welcomed a new chapter into the Fleet,

Operations Report

ADM Robert Westfall, ISS *Katana*, Region 12

saw a couple of shakedown chapters commission. We have also lost two shakedown chapters, and one long-time commissioned chapter. After nearly 30 years as a chapter in SFI, the USS *Discovery* (R12) dimmed her lights for the final time. While her surviving crew transferred to other chapters, just not seeing the *Discovery's* name on the Vessel Registry is hard... it's like losing a friend who's lived next door for what seems like forever.

New Chapter Launches

- USS *Alaster* NX-2224 (R07)
24 April 2014

Chapter Commissionings

- USS *Artemis* NCC-75635 (R03)
15 March 2014
- USS *Venus* NCC-74704 (R02)
08 March 2014

Chapter Deactivations

- USS *DeSade* NX-57289 (R01)
02 April 2014
- USS *Mazama* NX-75022 (R05)
28 February 2014

Chapter DeCommissionings

- USS *Discovery* NCC-1308 (R12)
05 April 2014

I also want to take this time to discuss two important things that I think all members, and especially chapter COs and XO's, need to know and understand: Monthly Status Reports and Chapter Status Changes.

Monthly Status Report (MSR):

MSRs are the reports that STARFLEET requires each and every chapter to file on monthly basis. MSRs are due by the 5th of the month following the month covered by the report - for example, the MSR covering the month of June is due by the 5th of July. If an MSR is received between the 6th and 10th of the month following the month covered it is considered LATE. Any MSR received after the 10th, or not submitted at all, is considered a FAILURE TO REPORT. Chapters which do not submit the required MSR on a monthly basis can have their status changed (discussed below).

There is no rule that requires MSRs to be "chock-full o' details" (though we

do like to know what your chapter is doing and any problems you might be having that SFI HQ may be able to assist with). A CO or XO simply needs to go to the SFI DB, select the MSR Report option under the Chapter Button, choose the "Submit to Departments" option and hit "Submit." It's that simple. If you find yourself unable to access the DB to send your MSR, e-mail and snail mail are also options that can be utilized.

For the past year, SFI has had approximately 85% of its chapters submit MSRs. We can do better. While I would love to see that number up to 100%, I know it is unrealistic to expect that right away. So I am challenging all chapter COs and RCs to help me get that number up to 90% by the August 2014 reporting cycle (5 September). I know that together we can do it!

Chapter Status Changes:

A chapter of STARFLEET is typically assigned one of three Chapter Statuses once it is launched: DEPLOYED, STAND-BY, or DRY-DOCKED. Each status is discussed in detail in Section 05:04 of the Membership Handbook. What I want to clear up is what seems to be a bit of a misconception as to what a change in a chapter's status mean. First off, only the STARFLEET Chief of Operations, Vice-Chief of Operations, and Chief of Shakedown Operations are authorized to change a chapter's status.

A chapter's status is changed when there is an on-going issue with the chapter—such as below-minimum membership, repeated failure to file MSRs, and lack of qualified CO and/or XO. When one of these issues has been on-going for several months, then the chapter is sent a notice informing them of the problem(s) and the change in their status. The chapter's RC is also copied on the notice so that they are not only aware of the change in the chapter's status, but can assist in solving the indicated problems.

Changing the status of a chapter is not a punishment nor a signal that SFI no longer wants the chapter to a part of the organization – as seems to have been the perception by some. It is meant to alert

Computer Operations Report

LGEN Larry French, Sr., USS *Inferno*, Region 7



CompOps here again. We're off to a strong start in 2014! My team is a tremendous asset to me. They are all skilled at what they do. With a strong SFI database team led by CompOps Vice-Chief John Halliday and his team tackling DB issues, Laura Victor and her team are able to focus solely on the main SFI site (www.sfi.org). I have been doing my best to handle DB access authorizations and EC inquiries as they come in as well as track the progress of the web and DB teams for reporting to the EC. INFOCOM and STARFLEET Academy Electronic Services are also doing a fine job keeping their areas up and running. Computer Operations seems to be running smoothly and the problems that are identified are being looked at promptly. The team has posted what each is currently working on – a full list of activities have been submitted in the monthly status reports to the EC and include things like bug fixes to reports and various Member DB pages as well as hard-resets on passwords and corrections to data. We've had a few minor problems with DB and/or email access code transfers, but we are working hard to fix those.

A large number of membership renewal inquiries were routed to the Membership Processing group to handle. Mostly the requests were packet and renewal processing turnaround inquiries. We are still receiving password reset requests on some of our listservs and are taking the necessary steps to get these issues resolved.

We got a few new volunteers to help out the team. William Knopes has signed on to help in DB operations. Calvin McLearn has offered to host a new IRC Server. The EC has discussed this idea and have decided to not pursue an official IRC Server at this time. Debbie French, Maria Dutilly, and Jeffery Triz have volunteered to be Facebook Moderators. Capt. James Ortega (R1 CompOps) and Doodle Tribe (USS *Alba* Webmaster) have been invited to assist the CompOps Team in web development and web security should the need arise. We are currently looking for moderators for Flickr, Pinterest, and Twitter.

We are also looking at streamlining our operations by trying to enhance the Help Desk Operations. Each and every problem will hopefully be

funneled through the Help Desk and will be tracked. This will make it easier for us to see exactly what we've been able to accomplish each month.

In 2010, DreamHost upgraded our PHP version without warning and broke our sfi.db.org site in about 300 places. It took three days to get it back online according to my Vice Chief, and he put in the 30 hours to recode the thing. Now, this time Dreamhost gave a 30-day warning to our webmaster to either fix the Joomla pieces that they felt were not compatible with theirs without a shred of instruction as to how, or move those pieces off their domain. The webmaster felt that she didn't have enough time to make all of the changes, so she moved it to a temporary location on her personal server until she could make the appropriate repairs. Once the repairs are made, the site will be returned to the DreamHost domain.

I have been keeping our CS in the loop on all matters, so that he can offer his opinion and/or assistance should the need arise.

Operations Report, continued

the chapter's CO to the problem and (hopefully) open up communications between the chapter and OPS (as well as the chapter's RC) so as to work on solving the indicated problem(s). Each chapter in STARFLEET is a unique entity – be it due to geography, demographics, personality, etc. So what worked to help solve one chapter's problems may not work for another. While I realize that not all chapters will succeed, despite the best efforts and intentions of everyone involved, one of my least favorite duties

is to decommission or deactivate a chapter.

So, if you are the CO of a chapter that receives a notice from me changing your chapter's status, do not panic. You are not on the verge of anything, except garnering a bit more attention from OPS and your RC to help you correct the problems you're having and get you back to DEPLOYED status. The MHB sets out specific guidelines regarding chapter statuses... though just about anyone in SFI can attest to the fact that we very

rarely (if ever) have stuck strictly to the timelines laid out by the guidelines.

We want to do whatever we can to help chapters succeed. But the chapter must want to succeed, be willing to communicate and accept help. Chapters must also realize that despite its best efforts and intentions, OPS cannot (in most cases) personally be there to help – as we don't live there – but will do what it can to provide options, support, etc. to help a faltering chapter fix the problems that caused their change in status. We don't have all the answers, but will offer

20140401-
20140630



Commandant's Corner

Welcome to the great Halls of Learning and loads of FUN!

We are continually adding on to our wonderful list of college and courses. We even had to create another Institute, the Institute of Law Enforcement in the Media, because there was so much interest in trivia about old and new shows involving law enforcement, such as detective series on TV and in the cinema.

If you haven't given a second thought about taking any of our courses at STARFLEET Academy, please give it a third and look through our catalog on our website. I believe you'll find many things that will interest you. Good luck and enjoy!

Cadet Star Award

The following Cadets have earned the Cadet Star Award by completing the entire colleges listed with Distinctions and/or Honors. Any Cadet completing an adult college is allowed one Passing grade.

Katherine Lightheart

Cadet College of Law—02/23/14

Congratulations, Katherine! A few days after receiving this award, Katherine turned 18. No longer a cadet she has immediately started taking courses all other Institutes of STARFLEET Academy. Good luck and enjoy, Katherine.

Academy Information

Further information about the Academy, its staff and faculty, and courses offered will be found at the following website:

<http://acad.sfi.org/courses/index.php>

Academy News

For a listing of graduates and other news not included in this article, please

STARFLEET Academy News

ADM Peg Pellerin, USS *Constitution*, Region 15

Featured Director: David Hines

Captain David Hines

hinesdavid74@gmail.com

6 Emma Court

Driver, Northern Territory, 0830

AUSTRALIA

College Of Medical Knowledge

The College of Medical Knowledge (CMK) will test your knowledge on various medical subjects, illnesses, and little-known facts about the world of medicine all around us.

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

College Of Astrobiology

The College of Astrobiology is an introduction to the study of the possibility of life in the Universe.

What is life? What are the requirements of life? What is the probability and evidence that life exists beyond Earth? Where will that life be found?

New answers to those questions are discovered daily. Our nearest neighbors may harbor life...perhaps not as we know it.

College Of Sci-Fi Cinema: Artificial Intelligence

The College of Sci-Fi Cinema: Artificial Intelligence houses the IOSFS' theatrical-based courses concerning artificial intelligence. If it was released on the silver screen or was a made for TV movie that you saw, and it concerned robots, androids or the like, then you will find it here.

A Few Words From Our Director:

My name is CAPT David Hines of the USS *Arafura*, Region 11. I have been a huge fan of the Academy from very early on in my membership, many, many years ago. I started out taking a few exams here and there, learning more about the Star Trek culture and

then progressing onto more real-life studies. It was whilst I was learning about other countries and their history that I found my own country wasn't fully represented. Thus I petitioned the Academy to allow me to develop a college that would highlight my country.

Australia like any other countries within SFI has a rich, colourful history, starting from its first colonization over 100 years ago, when ships from the British Empire landed here. Since then, Australia has seen its fair share of hostilities within its own borders and overseas. We have aided others in all the great World Wars and during peacekeeping mission throughout the world. So with all this unknown history, I decided to develop the Collage of Australian History & Culture. The first school that went live was the School of Bushrangers, with exams highlighting a few of Australia's more notorious outlaws. These exams explain what it was like for them growing up in a hostile environment and what become of their life. There are plans to develop further schools; related to Australia's Military Involvement in the World Wars and Peacekeeping missions, also another school giving further detail about each State and Territory that make up the land from down under.

After I developed this new college and a few exams went live, I started to develop more of a desire to participate within the Academy, asking to take over Directorship of more colleges. I quickly tested out of these colleges and was handed the control of the College of Medical Knowledge, College of Artificial Intelligence, and College of Astrobiology. Upon taking control of these Colleges, I could see great potential in them. Thus started developing new exams to complement the already popular ones available.

20140401-
20140630

Boothby Awards: April, May, and June 2014

Tau Ceti Star - 3850

FCAPT Franklin M. Newman, III

Sol Star - 3800

FCAPT Franklin M. Newman, III

Romii Star - 3750

FCAPT Franklin M. Newman, III

Rigel Star - 3700

FCAPT Franklin M. Newman, III

Regulus Star - 3650

FCAPT Franklin M. Newman, III

Procyon Star - 3600

FCAPT Franklin M. Newman, III

ADM Carol A. Thompson

Omicron Star - 3550

FCAPT Franklin M. Newman, III

ADM Carol A. Thompson

Narendra Star - 3500

FCAPT Franklin M. Newman, III

ADM Carol A. Thompson

Mintaka Star - 3450

ADM Carol A. Thompson

Deneb Star - 3200

FCAPT Josephine Fisher

Delta Star - 3150

FCAPT Josephine Fisher

Bolarus Star - 2650

LGEN Larry Dale French, Sr.

Betelgeuse Star - 2600

LGEN Larry Dale French, Sr.

Benzite Star - 2550

VADM Glendon Diebold

Bellatrix Star - 2500

VADM Glendon Diebold

Barradas Star - 2450

VADM Glendon Diebold

B'hava'el Star - 2400

VADM Glendon Diebold

RADM George Ann Wheeler

Arcturus Star - 2350

RADM George Ann Wheeler

Ruby Star - 1900

COMM Eric Johansson

Sapphire Star - 1850

FCAPT Eric Johansson

Amber Star - 1550

FCAPT Adam Walter Wenclewicz

Trilithium Star - 1500

FCAPT Adam Walter Wenclewicz

Platinum Star - 1450

CMDR Adam Walter Wenclewicz

Zirconium Star - 1400

CMDR Adam Walter Wenclewicz

Titanium Star - 1350

VADM Patricia Lewis

Truman Temple - 1100

CAPT Frances B. Brock

Emerald - 950

CMDR Jeremy Andrew Skelton

Amethyst - 700

COL Leo A. Rogers

Topaz - 650

RADM Judy Waidlich

Zirconium - 400

CMDR Elizabeth Worth

FCAPT Lee Vitasek

Titanium - 350

CAPT Robin Woodell-Vitasek

Dilithium - 300

LT David Paul Goldsberry

Diamond - 250

ENS David Paul Goldsberry

RADM Paul Dyl

VADM Jason Schreck

LT George Hildebidie

Latinum - 200

LCDR David Phillips

LTC Jared K. Fielder

Gold - 150

LCDR Charles Robert Fisher

LTC Jared K. Fielder

Silver - 100

COMM Jeanne Wilson

LTJG Kate Foster

MAJ Adam Kieran Hudson

COL Anne Zecca

MCPT David W. Anderson, Jr.

LCDR Michael E. Houle

Bronze - 50

PFC David W. Anderson, Jr.

MID Margaret Ann Murphy

Erica Turrianni

CMDR Norbert J. Kessen, III

CPO Mary Esther Lightheart

SGT Christina Lynn Kovar

Eilidh Douglas Montgomery

ENS Jude Peace

CPO Samantha Stauffer

ENS Laura Perkins

Riddle Me This

I saw him where he never was,
And where he could not be.
And yet within this place,
I saw a wavering face,
Staring back at me.

SWER: PLOW
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. AN-

20140401-
20140630



Report from the Chief Financial Officer

GEN Linda M. Olson, USS *Relentless*, Region 2

	March	April	May
STARFLEET Main Checking Account			
Opening	\$42,139.68	\$36,816.39	\$39,454.20
Credits	\$4,449.92	\$4,342.79	\$4,868.70
Debits	(\$9,773.21)	(\$1,704.98)	(\$1,582.20)
Closing	\$36,816.39	\$39,454.20	\$42,740.70
IC Even Account			
Opening	\$4,150.65	\$4,713.65	\$5,161.97
Credits	\$605.00	\$488.32	\$0.00
Debits	(\$42.00)	\$0.00	(\$700.00)
Closing	\$4,713.65	\$5,161.97	\$4,461.97
IC Odd Account			
Opening	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
Credits	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Debits	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$29.95)
Closing	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$70.05
SFMC Checking Account			
Opening	\$4,603.33	\$4,664.98	\$4,825.53
Credits	\$101.25	\$160.55	\$357.75
Debits	(\$39.60)	\$0.00	(\$580.92)
Closing	\$4,664.98	\$4,825.53	\$4,602.36
STARFLEET Scholarships Savings Account			
Opening	\$5,035.51	\$5,035.68	\$5,035.85
Credits	\$0.17	\$0.17	\$574.67
Debits	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Closing	\$5,035.68	\$5,035.85	\$5,610.52
SFMC Scholarship Savings Account			
Opening	\$2,728.75	\$2,728.82	\$2,728.89
Credits (interest)	\$0.07	\$0.07	\$0.07
Debits	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Closing	\$2,728.82	\$2,728.89	\$2,728.96

	STARFLEET Scholarship CD	STARFLEET Savings CD
	March / April / May	March / April / May
Current Balance	\$1,116.87	\$17,026.66
Rate	.04%	.08%
Matures On	08/15/2014	09/30/2014
Interest Paid Last Year	\$2.86	\$34.52

20140401-
20140630

Communications Report

RADM Liz Woolf, USS *Angeles*, Region 4

Welcome to CQ #179! I know we've thrown a lot of Communiqués at you recently, so I hope you're not starting to get sick of them. Although this issue is a bit delayed, this now represents us being BACK ON TRACK with CQ production.

This is a very special issue, as it represents the launch of our partnership with the *Star Trek: Axanar* team. STARFLEET is *Axanar's* official fan club partner, and we're thrilled to be part of this exciting venture with them. Thanks to Jon Lane for all his work on this relationship, and on this issue of the CQ.

If you haven't yet seen the short film "Prelude to Axanar," I highly recommend you stop reading this right now and go watch it. (Please come back and finish reading the CQ when you're done, though!) It's really a brilliant piece of filmmaking, and it should make you very excited to see the feature-length film that will be created out of the Axanar team's current Kickstarter (<https://www.kickstarter.com/projects/194429923/star-trek-axanar>).

All the people who are always asking for more Trek in the CQ should be very happy right now—there is a LOT of Trek in this issue.

We are, however, a little thin on chapter articles, which I think is partially a factor of the lateness of the CQ up until now. I know it's depressing for all of you to write an article and send it in, and then see it just disappear. Now that we're not running behind, I'm hoping we'll see more news about activities

around STARFLEET pouring in. (Yes, that's a hint! Send us articles! Include pictures. Have I mentioned we really like pictures?)

Newsletter Awards

A few people have wondered what was up with the Newsletter Awards this year, and no, we didn't just forget about them.

The STARFLEET awards given out at the IC are all based on the previous calendar year — the awards handed out at IC 2014 will be the 2013 Annual Awards. For some reason, Communications got off this schedule (the 2013 Newsletter Awards announced at IC2013 were for any issue published between July 2012 and June 2013).

This really bugged me, so we decided to hold off on doing the Newsletter Awards this year, and reset our calendar to match the 'Fleet awards. Since we gave out the 2013 awards last year, the 2014 awards will be announced at IC 2015, and will be judged on issues published between July 2013 and December 2014. Keep your eyes out for an announcement asking for you to submit newsletters early next year.

Article Submission Deadlines

CQ # 180 (3rd Quarter 2014): 08/31/14

40th Anniversary Issue: 09/30/14

CQ #181 (4th Quarter 2014): 11/15/14

Here are some specific things we're looking for people to send in for upcoming issues:



Reviews of "Prelude to Axanar"

Now that you've gone to watch the video and come back to read the rest of the CQ, how about taking a moment to write a review? Try and keep your review short (500 words or less) so that we have room to feature a variety of opinions from members in CQ #180.

Reports from IC 2014

We've extended the deadline for CQ #180 to August 31, 2014 to allow people time to get their thoughts (and pictures) together after coming home from the International Conference in Rockford, Illinois. It's always great to hear about members' experiences at IC, so please take a moment to share. Even if you just want to send in a paragraph or two, we can use that in a roundup-type feature.

40th Anniversary Issue

See the article inside the front cover for more information about what we're looking to receive for our 40th Anniversary issue. I'm excited to announce that there will be a special issue published to commemorate this important milestone. That's right — you're getting an extra CQ this year! Thanks to the EC and AB for green-lighting this idea, and thanks to all of you for having been so very patient

20140401-
20140630

WE WANT TO READ ABOUT YOUR:
Chapter/Region Events
Opinions & Viewpoints
Review Columns
Features & Interviews

CQ@SFI.org

SUBMIT YOUR NEWS TO THE
STARFLEET
Communique

Boldly Going to the Head of the Buffet Line

ADM Bob Vosseller, USS *Challenger*, Region 7

We may disagree on the virtues of the JJ Abrams universe or which *Star Trek* television series was the best, but one area that members of STARFLEET can usually agree on is that we like to eat.

Around 20 members of the 7th Fleet came out to the Seaside Heights Community Center on April 6 to enjoy a meal that was out of this world.

The event, which has been going on for more than two decades, is called the Intergalactic Food Festival and is hosted by the USS *Challenger*, the shore-area chapter of STARFLEET and the second-oldest chapter in Region 7.

The festival was open to the public and included members from the R7 flagship USS *Britannic*, plus the USS *Avenger* and USS *Adamant*.

"We came together because of our love for *Star Trek*, but we stay together on the basis of friendship," Counselor Emily Vosseller told a reporter from the Asbury Park Press, the area's local daily newspaper that came out to cover the event.



20140401-
20140830

Her contribution to the day's event was the Counselor's Lettuce Help dish, a chicken dish contained in lettuce leaves.

In years past, dishes could be very colorful such as one entrée featuring green spaghetti with marshmallows.

"This is one of the most popular events we host each year," Admiral Bob Vosseller, the group's leader of 26 years said. "Everyone who attends helps make it a success by bringing their creative food item be it an entrée or dessert."

Many of those assembled were dressed in uniforms from the various *Star Trek* films and TV series.

They lined up to serve themselves dishes inspired by the science-fiction saga, such as a chicken marsala dish inspired by an episode of *Star Trek: Enterprise* and a Klingon cake made by pastry expert and USS *Adamant* member Terry Bingham, who traveled from Pennsylvania for the event.

Next to the cake sat a bowl of gummy worms with a sign that read, "Dead Gagh," a joke inspired by the Klingon delicacy of consuming live worms from that planet.

"*Star Trek* fans are very creative and optimistic and this event is an exercise in culinary creativity. I think many of us will need some real exercise after we're done here



From left: Alex Rosenzweig, Bob Vosseller, Dave Lynch, and Jeff Victor.

today," Bob joked.

The festival was canceled in 2013 due to the damage experienced at the Seaside Heights Community Center, the chapter's long-time headquarters, by Superstorm Sandy.

"We're glad to be back here. The place looks great and we appreciate the use of this facility," first officer Jeff Victor, said.

This marked the first time the event was held in April. It had been postponed due to a snow storm in March and had been moved in years past from January to February and then moved to the month of March to avoid a conflict with the Super Bowl.

"We celebrated spring after what had been a very grueling winter," Adm. Vosseller said.

Photos, opposite: (top left) Ship's Counselor Emily Vosseller seems concerned whether a particular food item is appropriate for a family-friendly event; (top right) Jeff Victor reveals his secret identity; (center left) Jeff Victor and R7 RC Wayne Augustson bravely sample some of the alien delicacies; (center right) Some of the exotic dishes served at the event; (bottom left) A reporter from the Asbury Park Press interviews attendees; (bottom right) A crowd shot from the event.



20140401-
20140630



Star Trek: Axanar Partners Up With STARFLEET

Terry McIntosh, Director of Marketing,
Star Trek: Axanar Production Team

There's a new *Trek* in town and its name is *Axanar*. Set twenty-one years before the events of the *TOS* episode "Where No Man Has Gone Before," *Star Trek: Axanar* will explore the brutal Four Years War between the Federation and the Klingon Empire that nearly tore the Federation apart.

Axanar tells the story of Garth of Izar, a legendary Starfleet captain and hero of Captain Kirk. Garth was featured in the third season *TOS* episode "Whom Gods Destroy." In that episode, a critically wounded Garth has gone insane and the *Enterprise* has brought a new cure for insanity. Kirk has to fight Garth and his minions who have taken over the asylum. In the final moments of the episode, after Kirk and Spock have won the day, we see a recovering Garth and the nobility that made him Kirk's hero.

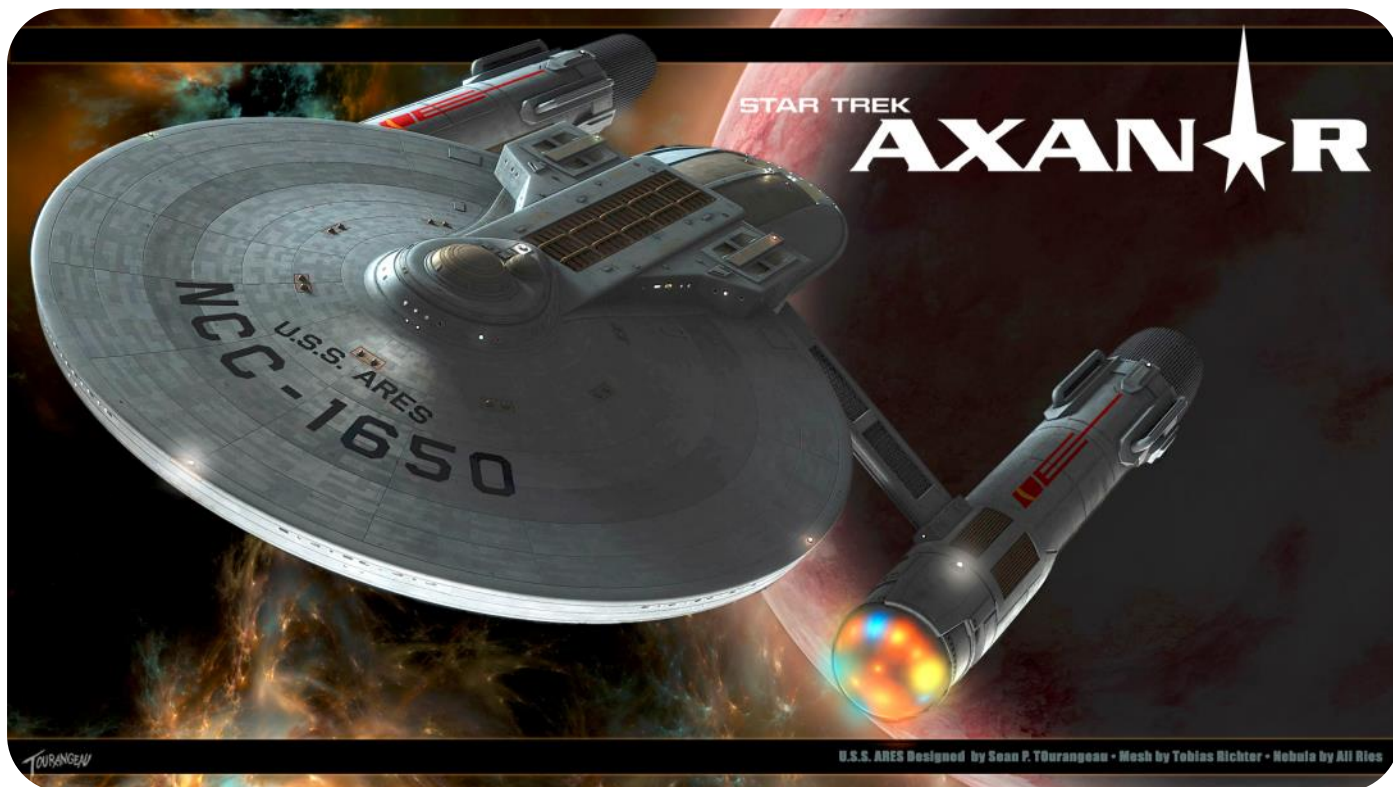
Alec Peters, the screenwriter, executive producer, and a star of *Axanar*, had always believed that there

was a great story waiting to be told about Garth, so the idea for this exciting new *Trek* adventure was born some twenty years ago. But it wasn't until he played Garth in the well-known *Star Trek: Phase II* fan film three years ago that Alec sat down and wrote his concept into a feature-length screenplay. *Star Trek: Axanar* is that story.

What is Star Trek: Axanar?

Star Trek: Axanar is a groundbreaking independent film that seeks to prove the idea that a studio doesn't need to spend millions of dollars to create a feature quality production. *Axanar* will be the first non-CBS/Paramount-produced *Star Trek* to look and feel like a true *Star Trek* movie.

Making a fan film was not of interest to Alec. A veteran entrepreneur and a 2004 Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year winner, Alec decided that if he was going to make *Axanar*, it needed to look like a studio-produced feature. He recruited his good friend,



20140401-
20140830

Christian Gosset, to direct. A visual artist, Christian's groundbreaking graphic novel *The Red Star* includes James Cameron and Ridley Scott among its fans. With such a strong foundation, Alec and Christian set out to sculpt the complex and detailed universe of this previously unexplored period of Federation history.

Star Trek (2009) and *Star Trek Into Darkness* (2012) have reset many of the canon elements of the *Star Trek* universe and taken them in a new, rebooted direction. Having worked out the continuity of the *Axanar* story, Alec and Christian actually found the official reboot to be advantageous to the production of *Axanar*. The Prime Universe still exists, unaffected and intact, during the battle of Axanar, allowing their film to fill in the blanks in a time period we have never seen.

Alec thought that if hundreds of thousands of fans are willing to see fan films that recreate *TOS*, then there certainly must be a huge appetite for something new, original, and professionally made. He was right. *Axanar* has already attracted the attention of *Star Trek* fans who are craving something new and innovative that honors and expands on the *Star Trek* they grew up with.

Where Few Have Gone Before

Alec and Christian knew that they wanted to create something new and exciting for the fans, because they are passionate fans of *Star Trek* themselves. But, they also knew that in the entertainment industry, bringing a quality story to the screen requires significant financing. CBS, the company that owns the rights to *Star Trek*, graciously allows independent *Trek* productions to exist, but only under the strict condition that the effort be a non-profit venture. This meant raising capital without selling any *Star Trek*-branded merchandise or charging any exhibition fees.

The highly successful crowd-funding platform Kickstarter provided a way to make Alec and Christian's dream a reality by allowing the *Axanar* project to request money from fans directly through donations. But the result had to prove to be exciting and different to set it apart from a growing crowd. That's when the decision was made to create not only the feature film, but also a short film that introduces the story of *Axanar*



Left to right: Christian Gossett (director), Kate Vernon (actor), and Alec Peters (writer, actor, and executive producer)

and serves as a fundraising proof-of-concept for the high production values that Alec and Christian wanted to deliver for the feature.

For the short, they opted to create something different in the form of a History Channel-style retrospective set ten years after the story of the feature film. This could show the key characters of *Axanar* reflecting back on the Four Years War and how it affected their alliances—both to the Federation and to the Klingon Empire—from each character's individual point of view.

Using his connections in the industry, Alec contacted several of his favorite actors, many of whom he had worked with previously in his business ventures, and secured their enthusiastic interest. He was able to bring on board such talented performers as Richard Hatch, Tony Todd, J.G. Hertzler, Gary Graham, and Kate Vernon—names that you might recognize from high profile roles in both the *Star Trek* and *Battlestar Galactica* franchises. But having incredible acting talent in front of the camera was only one piece of the puzzle. Superior talent behind the camera was also needed, so Alec and Christian began to assemble a team of highly skilled filmmaking professionals to help this story jump from the page and come to life in a huge way.

David Gerrold, the award winning screenwriter, novelist, and writer of the fan-favorite *TOS* episode "The Trouble with Tribbles," joined the team as Creative Consultant. Following David was Robert Meyer Burnett, the talented *Star Trek* consultant and

20140401-
20140830

producer/director of many coveted behind-the-scenes features, such as *The Next Generation* Blu-ray releases, as editor. Alec and Christian also knew that the visual effects needed to be absolutely stunning and hold up to anything produced for the big screen by the goliath studio of Paramount. They reached out to Tobias Richter, the eminent artist whose amazing CG *Enterprise* 1701-D was chosen by CBS for substitution shots of the 1701-D for the high definition restoration of *The Next Generation* on Blu-ray, to lead the VFX team. With accomplished composer Alexander Bornstein on board for the musical score, and the highly inventive Mark Edward Lewis also joining the

days, a crew of more than fifty gathered on a soundstage in Hollywood to support six featured actors, each focused on delivering powerful performances. *Prelude to Axanar* made its world debut during ComicCon in San Diego and is now available for any fan to watch for free over the Internet.

Eyes on the Feature

Although reaction to *Prelude to Axanar* has been stellar, our focus is fixed firmly on the future, and the future is the full-length feature film. As previously mentioned, *Prelude to Axanar* will serve as a primer for the feature, but there's more to it than that. More than

just a proof of concept piece, the film is a complete story in and of itself that will demonstrate to the backers exactly what they're investing in. It will also serve as the ultimate introduction video for the second Kickstarter fundraising campaign for the feature film that began on July 25, 2014 and which will blow the doors off of any effort that has come before in crowd-sourced funding for a *Star Trek* film project.

The feature, approximately one hour and thirty minutes in length, will be packed with powerful performances, stunning visual effects, soaring scores, and amazing sound

design that is worthy of the *Star Trek* legacy. But that will come at a cost, and that's where the fans once again come in. We need your help to make this happen, and with such an influential and passionate core group that is STARFLEET, we would be most grateful for your individual support to help make this project happen.

Mobilize STARFLEET

STARFLEET has been a trailblazer in the highest-end fan club scene since its founding in 1974, and *Axanar* is excited to partner with such a prestigious organization. Through the hundreds of STARFLEET chapters worldwide and the many members per chapter that live and crave *Star Trek* as we do, *Axanar* would sincerely appreciate it if you would help us in spreading the word about the production and help to raise much-



Props assembled for the crew of the USS Ares to take on their next away mission.

team as Post Production Supervisor, it was time to present the aggressive concept to the masses.

On March 1, 2014, the *Axanar* team launched a Kickstarter campaign with a modest funding goal of \$10,000. They hoped that fans would become excited during the thirty-day run to donate enough to cover production costs for the initial twenty-minute short, *Prelude to Axanar*. Did they ever! The initial fundraising goal was shattered on the first day, and by the campaign's end a total of \$101,171 had been raised...an unprecedented success for a new production of any kind using Kickstarter.

With a passionate and award-winning team assembled and funding in place, jump forward to May 4, 2014, and filming of the short, *Prelude to Axanar*, began in Los Angeles. With a shooting schedule of two

20140401-
20140830

needed funding for the feature's fundraising effort on Kickstarter. By the time this article is published, *Prelude to Axanar* will have been released, and you'll be able to experience for yourself the quality story and production value that we can deliver on a shoestring budget.

Prelude to Axanar was shot on a soundstage in front of green screens because the story was perfect for that style of filming. The feature, on the other hand, will require sets of the Federation and Klingon ship interiors, as well as a select group of other locations which are all pivotal to the story. The construction of sets is not an inexpensive proposition. The great news is that the *Axanar* production has secured permanent studio space where the filming sets can remain standing year-round in Los Angeles, CA. We also have plans in motion to open a *Star Trek* film school in our non-shooting months, where passionate fans such as yourselves can join actors, directors, and crew that have long pedigrees in the *Star Trek* franchise and learn how to make excellent *Trek* on real *Star Trek* sets.

The partnership between the production of *Axanar* and STARFLEET will be truly symbiotic, and we will work very hard to raise awareness of STARFLEET through our production in the film, social media, the many convention appearances where we'll be holding panels and tables, and on the streets. We couldn't be more grateful for such a powerful partnership with which to grow together, so please tell your friends, family, and others in your sphere of influence about *Star Trek: Axanar*, as *Axanar* will be spreading the word far and wide about the fantastic benefits of STARFLEET membership. We need your help to make this happen, so please get the word out, donate to our Kickstarter, and let's build the strongest of friendships with which to create new and exciting *Star Trek* in the universe

that we all know and love.

We sincerely thank you for the opportunity to be a part of the STARFLEET family, just as each and every one of you are now members of the *Axanar* family. Together, the future looks very bright indeed. Live long and prosper!

**Watch *Prelude to Axanar* online
and donate here:**



Actor Gary Graham sits in the make-up chair in Hollywood on May 4, ready to reprise his role as (an older) Vulcan Ambassador Soval in *Prelude to Axanar*.

STAR TREK

AXANAR

Online: StarTrekAxanar.com and facebook.com/StarTrekAxanar

20140401-
20140630

Star Trek: Axanar Casting the Future



Richard Hatch
as Supreme Commander Kharn

The most senior Klingon Commander. A warrior tempered with wisdom. Noble, fierce, and utterly dedicated to the Empire.

The world-famous actor and writer, Richard Hatch is best known for his roles in both the original as well as re-imagined versions of *Battlestar Galactica*, as well as for his tireless attempts keep the series alive in the public consciousness, notably in the form of his promotional trailer, *Battlestar Galactica: The Second Coming*, as well as in a number of critically acclaimed novels. As the Klingon general in *Axanar*, he is excited to be a part of the extended *Star Trek* universe, which inspired him as a young actor when he first encountered the original series.



Tony Todd
as Fleet Admiral Ramirez

The most senior Admiral in Starfleet. A veteran who knows what it takes to win.

Tony Todd will be forever memorable as the titular character from the *Candyman* horror franchise, but science fiction fans will also remember him from his vast array of roles. He's been a character on all three of the *Star Trek: The Next Generation* era series, including the recurring character of Worf's younger brother, Kurn. His roles on *Babylon 5*, *X-Files*, and *Stargate SG-1* have made him a respected figure within the sci-fi genre. His credits include more than 100 television episodes and dozens of feature films. His love of the stage has also kept him busy both on and off Broadway. Todd's considerable theatre credits include the world premiere of award-winning playwright August Wilson's "King Hedley II," where he originated the title role in Pittsburgh, Seattle, and Boston.



J.G. Hertzler
as Captain Samuel Travis

One of the most senior captains in Starfleet. An imposing figure, Travis respects Garth, even though he is his senior.

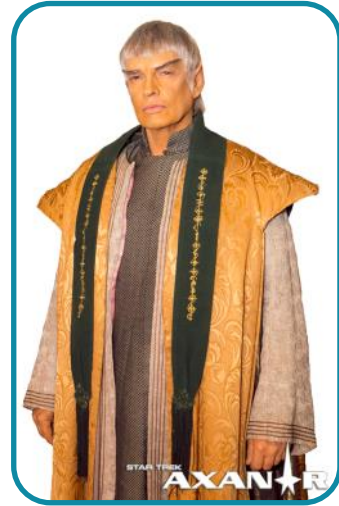
John has played a wide range of characters during his tenure on *Star Trek: Deep Space Nine*, *Voyager*, and *Enterprise*. Having been alternatively a Klingon, Vulcan, Hirogen, and a shape shifter, he brings a great background of experience in characterization to the cast of *Axanar*. Beyond the *Star Trek* franchise, he has also been on many other shows, including *Six Feet Under*, *Charmed*, *Quantum Leap*, and *Highlander: The Series*.

20140401-
20140830

Gary Graham as Ambassador Soval

Vulcan Ambassador to the Federation and most senior diplomat. A friend of Earth since before the founding of the Federation.

Gary has more than 80 credits to his name on television as well as movies, ranging from *Moonlighting* and *Alien Nation* to *Nip/Tuck* and the *Jace Hall Show*. We're thrilled to have Gary with us as he will be reprising his role of the Vulcan Ambassador Soval, whom he previously played on *Star Trek: Enterprise*. He is also the author of *Acting & Other Flying Lessons: A Practical Guide to Acting on a Film Set*.



Kate Vernon as Captain Sonya Alexander

Starfleet's most senior female captain. A firebrand and hard driver, she has a reputation as not wanting command of anything more than her ship. Second only to Garth in the number of Klingon ships destroyed.

Kate Vernon has had an amazing career spanning more than three decades, from 80's classics *Pretty in Pink* and *Falcon Crest* to her recent renown as Ellen Tigh on *Battlestar Galactica* and as Vanessa Wheeler on *Heroes*. Never one to be typecast, Kate's career has allowed her to work alongside many of TV and Film Industry leading writers, directors & producers such as Spike Lee, Peter Medak, Ronald D. Moore, David Eick, Joe Cacaci, David Weddle, Michael Nankin and John Woo.



Alec Peters as Garth of Izar

Captain of the *USS Ares*. Starfleet's most successful explorer reluctantly thrust into the role of Starfleet's greatest commander during the war.

The leader and visionary of the *Axanar* project, Alec is the epitome of someone who discovers their calling and succeeds in pursuing it. Making the jump from lawyer to NCAA and US National Team volleyball coach to successful entrepreneur, developing a sports management firm, two technology companies, and a successful auction house. His passion for *Star Trek* in particular has led him to become a producer and actor. Alec had a cameo appearance as Garth of Izar in the *Star Trek: Phase II* episode "Origins," which led to the development of *Axanar*.



Michael Hogan as Captain Robert April

Captain of the *USS Enterprise* during its shakedown. One of Starfleet's most respected officers. A close friend of Garth's and his mentor.

Most readily recognized as Colonel Tigh from the re-imagined *Battlestar Galactica* series, Michael is a Genie Award winning actor with countless acting credits to his name spanning stage, film, radio dramas, television, as well as video games. His energy and dramatic range make him the perfect choice for the role of the captain who would first helm the *USS Enterprise*.

20140401-
20140630

An Interview with Alec Peters of *Star Trek: Axanar*

RADM Jon Lane, USS *Angeles*, Region 4

Life-long *Star Trek* fan Alec Peters plays the legendary Captain Garth of Izar, whose tactical exploits at the Battle of Axanar were required reading at Starfleet Academy. Alec Peters also serves as writer and executive producer of both the *Prelude to Axanar* short film and the upcoming *Star Trek: Axanar* full-length independent film project.

How did this whole project start? Was there a big bang that suddenly got every ball rolling at once or did this endeavor slowly evolve? Or was it some kind of combination of the two?

I wrote my first Garth story 20 years ago. But it wasn't until I started collecting screen-used props and costumes from *Star Trek* and started Propworx that things began to happen. In 2010, I bought the original costume that Steve Inhat wore as Garth of Izar in "Whom Gods Destroy." It was one of my holy grails, and I was incredibly excited to get it. I happened to be talking about costumes one day with James Cawley of *Star Trek: Phase II* and I mentioned the costume. We discussed how great a character Garth was and how it was a shame that they had never explored the character more.

James said, "Well, you know we are shooting an episode called 'Origins' which is about Kirk at the Academy, and that was around the time of Garth. We should put him into the script." I said, "You should!" to which James said, "Well, you should come play him!" So I did, and it was a blast. While at lunch with James one day during the shoot, I told him of my story, and he said I should write a script and produce it. That started me on a journey that is

now, four years later in 2014, finally being realized.



The first step was to write a treatment. I got through the first three acts of that treatment, which take you up to the actual battle, and I sent it to Marco Palmieri, who had just left Pocket Books where he had served as editor of all the *Star Trek* novels. Marco was a Facebook friend, and I introduced myself and told him about *Axanar*, and he agreed to read the treatment. His feedback was amazing. Most importantly, he felt Garth actually needed more of a story arc. Marco told me that the best *Star Trek* pilots were "The Cage" and DS9's "Emissary" because they have great arcs for their captains. In both, the captains are struggling with their careers and their choices, and the story propels them to explore that struggle. So that meant I had to explore Garth more.

I then signed up for a screenwriting class with the godfather of Hollywood screenwriting coaches, Robert McKee. I am a pretty good writer, but I knew nothing about writing a screenplay. Well, four days with Robert McKee

and you learn a lot! I had already read his classic book *Story!* and so the seminar, which was the suggestion of John Kelly (*Star Trek: Phase II*'s Doctor McCoy), really expanded my understanding of writing for the screen.

So I started writing! I got the first three acts done in about six months, and then it took me a about a year to get act four done. During this time, I got to be friends with Dave Galanter, who has written a number of *Star Trek* novels for Pocket Books. He worked as my story editor and helped me really hone the script. Act four took a long time, as it was a real struggle what to do with the battle. I simply didn't want it to be like

anything we had seen before. The biggest battles we have seen in *Star Trek* were in *Deep Space Nine* in the war with the Dominion, and frankly, they were pretty weak. Just lots of ships beating each other up and punching through shields as if they weren't there. So I started researching space combat online and by reading the first three of David Weber's Honor Harrington novels. Those were really good and helped me envision a different type of space combat.

During this time I approached my good friend Christian Gossett about directing. Christian is one of the only comic book artists in the industry who is both a brilliant artist and a brilliant writer. Check out his amazing epic *The Red Star* as it is truly one of the best graphic novels of the last 20 years. Christian has already begun an impressive career in movies and is up to the task of making *Axanar* look amazing.

I then tackled act four, and I have to say, I was pretty satisfied when I fin-

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20140830

ished. The story is epic in scope, deals with new characters who are fresh and interesting, and Christian loved it. We were off to the races....

So who talked the big names into joining your cast? At first, the list was rather limited, but then more and more familiar sci-fi faces were announced on your website. It obviously wasn't the money that convinced them. (Aren't all the actors working either for free or very cheaply?) So how'd you talk them into it?

Well, we actually pay our actors fairly well. Oh, they aren't getting rich, but we didn't want them to be able to say no. We got Richard [Hatch] first, then JG [Hertzler], then Gary [Graham], and after that it was just a matter of being persistent. The actors bought into our passion and vision. They saw we weren't making a fan film. They knew we had very high expectations.

If more big name sci-fi stars wanted to be part of your film, would there be room for them? Or are all the juicy parts already gone? Would you be willing to adjust the script to add a new character so they could participate in more than just a quick cameo?

Well, it's possible, but you don't write a story for actors, you write a great story and then cast them. We actually have talked to Anthony Montgomery (Travis Mayweather of *Enterprise*) about playing a young Richard Daystrom. Our story is set only two years after the introduction of duotronics, so it would make sense and be cool. But the story doesn't really need it. Right now we have one more important actor to cast, we just haven't gotten to him yet. But we will.

You guys don't just have familiar faces in front of the camera; you've got a lot of folks behind the camera who've done work professionally on Star Trek

and other shows, some with careers that span decades. First, who are these people? And second, why are they doing it? Is it just for love of Star Trek?

Well, we have four of the make-up guys who worked on *Star Trek* working for us. I was actually directed to them by Michael Westmore. And they are all huge *Star Trek* fans. A lot of people come to the production because they love *Star Trek*. Rob Meyer Burnett, who wrote and directed *Free Enterprise* and produces the *Star Trek* Blu-rays for CBS, is our editor. There is no bigger *Star Trek* fan anywhere.



Garth of Izar (played by the late Steve Ihnat) appeared in the third season TOS episode "Whom Gods Destroy." Although irrational and insane for most of the episode, we see a brief glimpse of Garth's true nobility at the end after his mental illness is finally cured.

Your initial Kickstarter set out to raise about \$10,000 and ended up surpassing \$100,000, which is very impressive considering it took only 30 days to do so! But now it seems you're flush with cash...so why do yet another Kickstarter fund raiser?

Well, that is very deceptive. Of the \$101,000 raised, we only got \$80,000 after fees and perks. We initially asked for \$10,000 because we needed a low bar to reach. We had no clue how much we would raise. But we knew we needed \$20,000 minimum to make

Prelude to Axanar. And ultimately, it cost us \$70,000. But that is because we didn't make a fan film. We made a professional film that JG Hertzler said was as good as any indie production he had ever been on. And so with that being our cost for a two-day shoot, we project that the full, roughly 20-day *Axanar* shoot, will cost us about \$400,000-500,000.

Aren't you concerned that Paramount is going to suddenly notice you guys with a six-figure budget and a host of big-name actors from the sci-fi genre and pull the rug out from under you?

First of all, Paramount is not the rights holder, CBS is. Paramount has the right to make *Star Trek* movies, that is all. Second, as long as we don't make money from this, CBS is cool. They have a bunch of rules you need to follow, and we try and play by them and respect their rights.

Once this film is completed, you will have in your possession extensive and elaborate sets, costumes, props, etc. We know you have plans down the road for a Star Trek or sci-fi film school, but how about another film? Are there any other characters or untold stories from this or any other era of Star Trek that you'd want to explore?

We really haven't even thought that far, but the idea is we will be able to do whatever we decide because of the infrastructure we will have built.

What's your opinion of the other Star Trek fan film series? Do they hit the mark or miss the target? What makes you like the fan films that are your favorites, and what advice would you give to ones that aren't impressing you?

Well, I think there are three levels of *Star Trek* fan films. You have the ones where people get together with their friends, build some sets in their garage,

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20140630

and basically make a home movie. Those are great expressions of fans' love for *Star Trek*, but they're pretty much never going to appeal to a wide audience. Then there are true fan films, like *Star Trek: Phase 2*, *Continues*, *Horizon*, *Intrepid*, *Farragut* or the animated ones like *Aurora* or *Saladin*. Those are excellent efforts that reach a wide audience of fans. They are fun and shot with various levels of production value. With visual effects being so readily available, and the TOS style sets being fairly easy to build, you can get fairly high production values. Of course, story and acting are often the weak points. But overall, they are fun outings. I am a producer on *Star Trek: Phase II* and help Tommy Kraft with *Star Trek: Horizon*, and so I have good feelings towards those productions especially.

Finally, there are the true independent films like *Renegades* and *Axanar*—professionals in front and behind the camera, higher production values all around. Using the words "fan film" is really a disservice to these efforts as they are truly independent films.

And my advice? Seek out professionals. Work with others who know better. Don't think that, just because you are volunteering your time, you can slack off. Granted, we could only do what we did because we are in Los Angeles and have access to quality talent you don't get in other areas of the country. But raising the bar is something I preach all the time, and something Phase II has done by bringing in professional actors for Kirk and Spock and hiring David Gerrold as show runner.

Having an official partnership with STARFLEET the fan club sounds cool, but it's a bit of a vague term. In a perfect world, what are you hoping comes out of this relationship between your team and our organization?

As far as we're concerned, working with STARFLEET is a win-win for both parties. We're hoping to get your help in expanding our range of donors with your thousands of members and the

friends and fellow fans that they know. So ask your members to please consider making a donation, of whatever size, to our big Kickstarter campaign. And if they can't, then please see if they can help us spread the word to other fans. We sincerely appreciate any and all efforts that STARFLEET and its members can give us.

In return, we certainly won't be keeping our partnership with your fine organization a secret. We're proud to say that STARFLEET is our official fan club partner, and we'll be putting that on our website and into our press releases to the media. We're also planning to get your club a copy of *Prelude To Axanar* to show at your International Conference in August...along with some exclusive *Axanar* merchandise to auction off and some table display materials for your members to check out.

I was actually a member of STARFLEET myself many, many years ago, and more recently, I worked with your group on the *Galileo* Shuttlecraft restoration project... and I was very impressed and happy with the partnership then. This time, we hope that STARFLEET can help raise the money we need to make *Axanar* the best independent *Star Trek* ever. We are giving true *Star Trek* fans exactly what we all want.

What has been the most exciting thing (for you personally) about Axanar to happen thus far?

I think shooting *Prelude* for two days. Just actually having 50+ professionals all come together to give my story life was truly amazing. Hearing the actors like Gary Graham and Tony Todd say lines I wrote sent a chill down my spine.

What is it like to be working with such a who's who list of sci-fi celebrities? Do you ever catch yourself feeling like a fan boy and just going "Holy moley! I'm playing Garth of Izar along with Tony Todd, Richard Hatch, Gary

Graham, and the rest!" Is it daunting and intimidating, or do you feel as though you're all just actors working together to do a job?

Well, as many know, Richard Hatch is my acting coach. I have been working with him for six months, and before that I spent a year and a half at the Howard Fine studio. So while I am certainly nowhere in the league of any of those other actors, I felt I could do a respectable job as I had lived with this character of Garth for so long. And Christian, our director, did such a great job preparing me for the role. We had an amazing rehearsal two days before the shoot. So I really felt I had an advantage in that I not only wrote the story with Christian and knew all the characters, but I knew Garth intimately. On the day of my shoot, I was amazingly relaxed. And I was never self-conscious when working. So I credit my teachers with great preparation and training.

For you personally, Alec (since this is very much your dream project), how will you know you've succeeded?

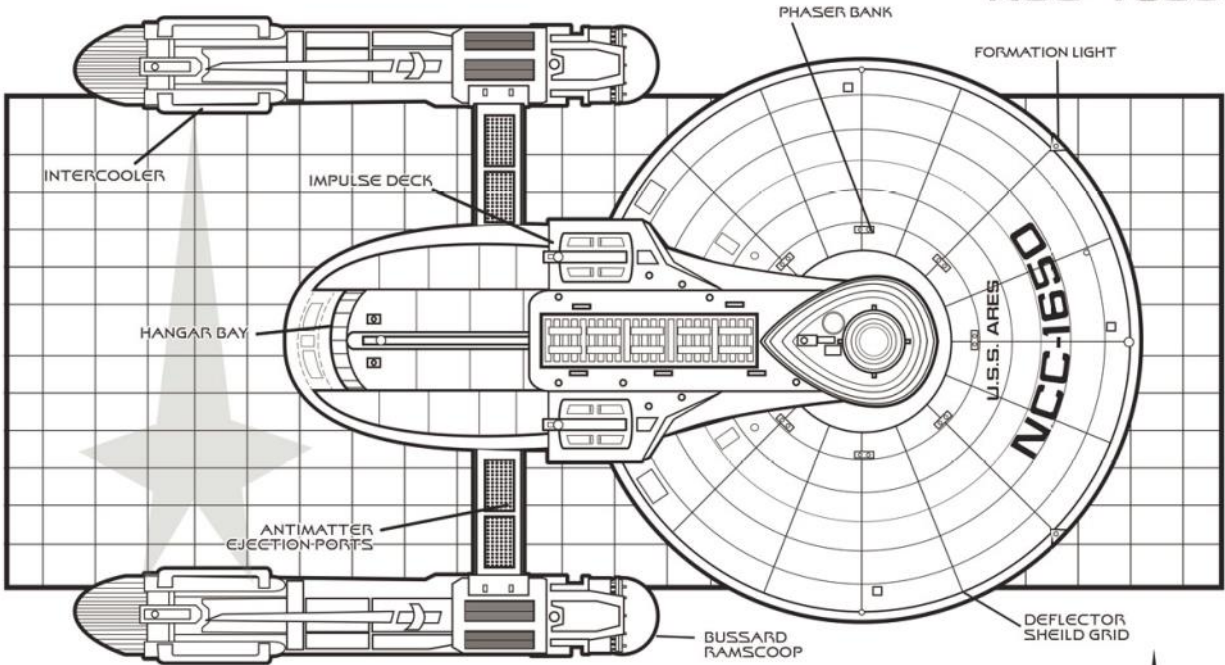
We will know we are successful by the quality of what we produce. I really don't care what "critics" online say. We have our own standards. We just finished cutting the trailer to *Prelude to Axanar* and all of us, as well as friends who weren't involved, feel it is simply better than anything ever produced outside of Paramount/CBS. Frankly, we know people will be blown away. Fans will love it.

STARFLEET thanks you for taking the time to chat with us...and for working so hard to carry on and expand the legend of Star Trek. We wish you the best of luck with Axanar. May it exceed your wildest expectations and set a new bar of quality for other independent productions to strive to reach.

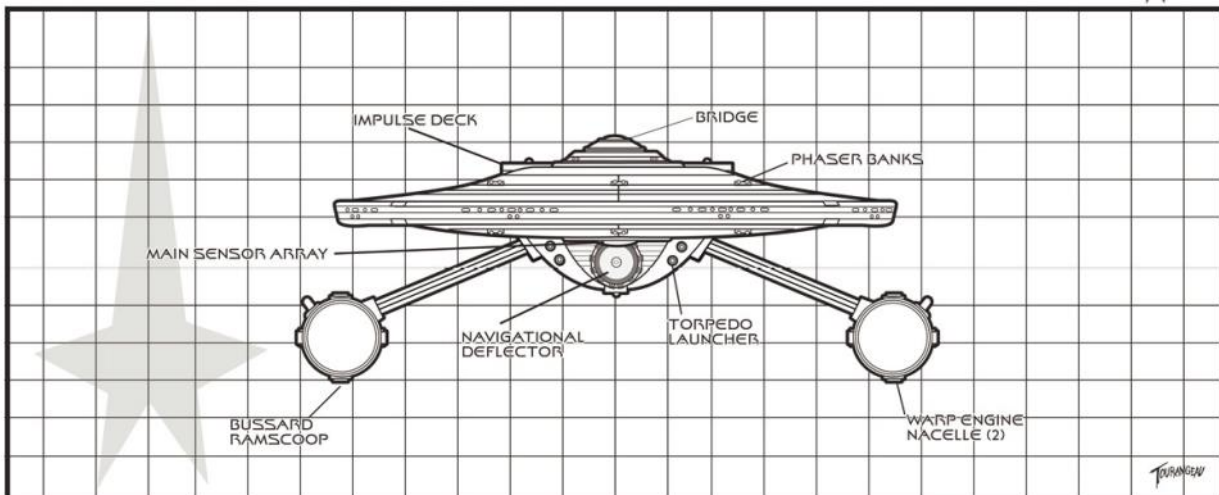
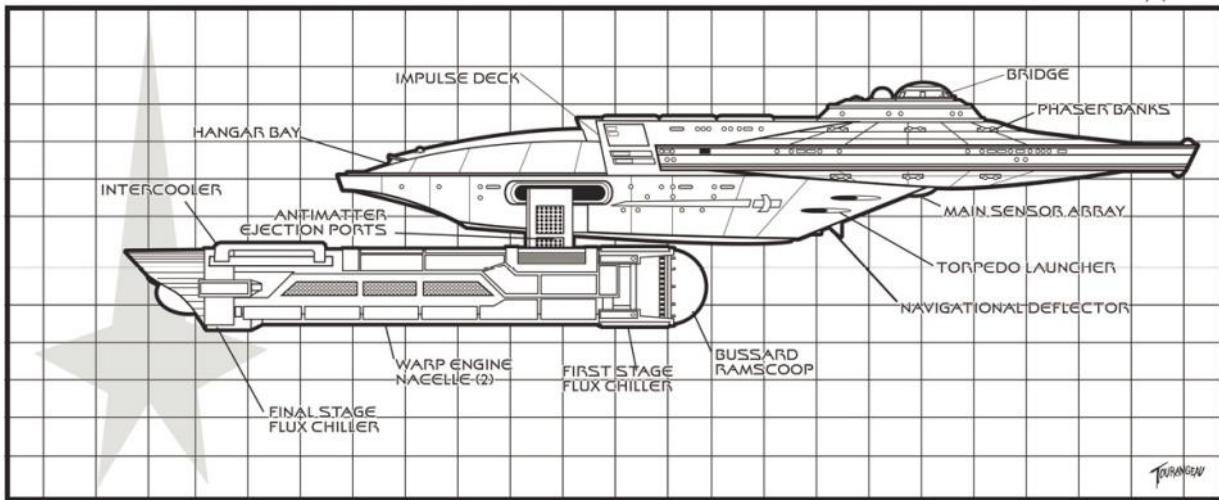
Thanks from the entire *Axanar* team!

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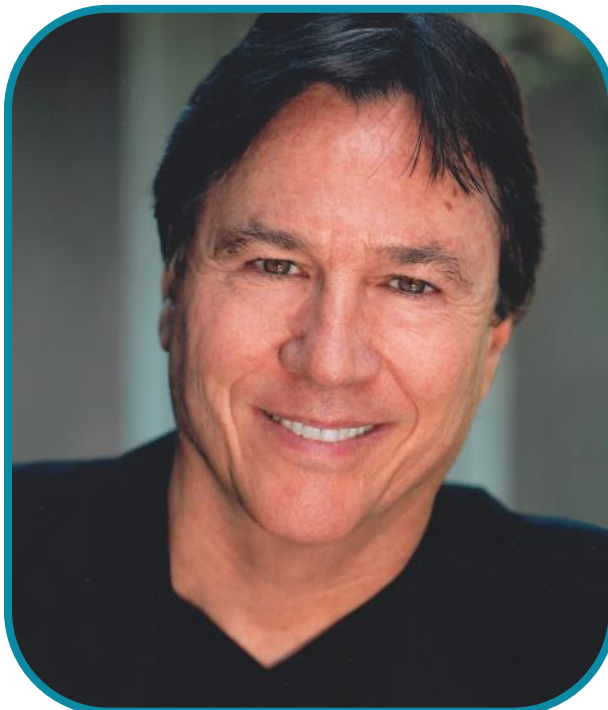
An Interview with Richard Hatch of *Star Trek: Axanar*

RADM Jon Lane, USS *Angeles*, Region 4

Actor Richard Hatch is well known to science fiction fans for playing the characters of Captain Apollo on the original *Battlestar Galactica* and Tom Zarek on the relaunched *Galactica*. Now he brings his experience and enthusiasm to an entirely new role, this time in the *Star Trek* universe.

How does it feel to shift between two legendary sci-fi franchises? Do you find yourself taking pieces of Apollo and/or Zarek with you, or are you consciously trying to exorcise the past characters you've played and create something entirely new?

Speaking as an actor, we don't particularly look at shifting from one franchise to another so much as we look at the story, the character we're playing, and who is involved. I've been a sci-fi fan since I was eight years old and a *Star Trek* fan since I was in my early 20s, watching it every day when I came home from work. So having the chance to play a character in the *Trek* universe has been a gift for me. And as actors, we bring all our life and career experience to every character we play. But when creating any new character, I always delve deeply into the heart and soul of the man I'm playing and see where I can build emotional and physiological bridges from myself to the character. I'm not looking to exorcise any part I've played; I look to build upon my past experiences to create a whole new character...as all actors do.



Tell us about your character, General Kharn.

Playing General Kharn has been a true pleasure for me, a man of such intelligence, strength of character, wisdom, and experience. Definitely a warrior in all senses of the word, but tempered by battle and years of war and loss. In past years, I've seen Klingons played by many different actors in many different ways, but for me, what I feel has been most misunderstood about Klingons is that while they are primal and a true warrior society, many of their kind are also sophisticated, technologically advanced, and obviously highly intelligent. I feel a strong connection to this Klingon I'm playing and look forward to filming the movie.

For you as an actor, what's the difference between working on a fan film and working on a tradi-

tional television series or feature film?

Actually, no difference...in fact, maybe even better than most so-called professional productions. I can't even think of this film as a fan film as the quality and scope of this production exceed my expectations. The fact is that everyone is a professional on *Axanar*, and the way they're filming this movie is no different than any quality productions I've ever been involved in. For the past several years, *Trek* fan films have continued to grow in production value and expertise with each production, pushing the

next ones to new levels of excellence and professionalism. For me, *Axanar*—with the quality of the script, cast, and scope of the production—is now taking that *Trek* fan film genre to the level of a *Star Trek* indie film.

How has the process been working with Alec Peters (writer and fellow actor playing Captain Garth) and Christian Gossett (director) on *Axanar*?

My experience working with Alec and Christian has been quite rare and extraordinary. To watch these guys actually take the time and care to research all their creative options, to use their preproduction time to the fullest evolving and perfecting the story and characters, along with finding the best actors and crew to bring the production to fruition, has blown me away. I've

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20140830

rarely been involved in a more artful and professionally run production or with such collaborative artists who have such a deep respect, passion, and understanding of their subject matter. These guys truly understand the *Trek* universe, and their plan to dramatize a barely-explored but powerful slice of the *Trek* timeline—the war between the Earthlings and Klingon Empire— is going to be epic and a game-changer in my mind. Chris Gossett, the director, reminds me of a young Ridley Scott. He's an amazing artist with such a powerful visual sense and ability to get the most out of his actors and crew. Alec is such a gifted collaborator, businessman, and expert in the *Trek* world, with the courage and dedication to explore and perfect his creative talents. I've never seen anyone grow so quickly as both an actor and as a producer/

writer in such a short amount of time. I'm sure this is only the beginning of long and successful careers for both Chris and Alec, and I feel so fortunate to be part of their first venture together.

Finally, there's a lot about Star Trek: Axanar that is, justifiably, getting fans' attention. But speaking just as Richard Hatch, sci-fi actor and fan yourself, why do you think Trek fans should be excited about Axanar?

I believe *Axanar* is going to set the standard in *Trek* fan/indie produc-



Everything about the production of Axanar is professional...including the make-up. By the time Richard Hatch steps in front of the camera as General Kharn, he is nearly unrecognizable.

tions and will pave the way for future fan-inspired projects that could open the door to a new partnership between the studios, the networks, and these evolving fan-run productions. I believe the higher-ups may come to realize soon that there is a huge marketplace of fans who want to see more of these type of shows and that there is a new and innovative way to fund, film, and distribute these productions that so many fans are hungry for. It's hard for me to believe, in this progressive day and age, that all the space shows we have loved are now off the air because of the studios' lack of understanding of how large and passionate the fan base is. That could all change with *Axanar*.

Thank you, Richard Hatch, for your time today and for being such a critical part of making Star Trek history. We in STARFLEET wish you all smooth sailing.

My thanks to you and to STARFLEET for helping to make *Axanar* a reality.



Thanks to executive producer Alec Peters' extensive collection of garments used on Star Trek, Richard Hatch plays General Kharn dressed in the same Klingon costume worn by actor Christopher Plummer when he played General Chang in Star Trek VI.

20140401-
20140830



State of the STARFLEET Marine Corps

GEN Michael J McGowan, USS *Bortas*, Region I2

The following awards were approved in the month of April and were presented prior to this report:

SFMC Achievement Award: Bobbie Baxter and Lea Morgan

I also have the privilege of presenting an SFMC Service Commendation to Julie Rickard.

Finally, I'd like to offer my congratulations to COFORCECOM Jari "Gato" James on her recently announced promotion to Brigadier General.

It has also come to my attention that BGN James has also been recognized for her efforts in saving the life of an elderly lady in her community. She recognized that this lady was suffering the very earliest onset stages of a stroke and took charge of the situation. She managed to get the lady and her sister situated in the beauty shop and calmed down. She also called "911" and summoned medical help, waiting with the two ladies and keeping them both calm and under control until that medical help had arrived on scene. At this past weekend's 5th Brigade Muster, for her efforts in this incident, BGN James was also awarded the Comet Award by 5th Brigade OIC Bobbie Baxter.

Congratulations one and all! Well done and well deserved!

Motto

Well, I can finally announce that we have a new motto. The new motto is three words, "Virtus, Vis, Decretum" (VIR-toose, VEESE, Day-CRAY-tum). In its basic form it means "Strength of Mind, Strength of Body, Strength of Purpose" in Latin. It has been brought to my attention, however, that these three words also have some nuanced meanings that are also appropriate. I will quote Jerry Stoddard, who knows much more about Latin than I, in explaining some of these more subtle meanings:

"...I realized with a grin that sometimes having Latin words that carried specific shades of meaning that didn't easily cross to English could HELP.

"*Virtus* implies a strength of will or character - in other words moral and mental strength

"*Vis* is more about physical strength, might, power...

"...*Decretum* is a strong conviction to an ideal, resolve, a code to live by - I rather like all these meanings and more to stand for Strength of Purpose."

Now that we have a motto, we'll start swapping it in on all of our sites and publications. I want to thank everyone who sent in their motto ideas and everyone who offered help, support, and suggestions.

Summit Season

This past month I spoke to the marines of the Twelfth Brigade at their Muster in Tulsa, OK. We had a great time even though tech limitations kept us on speaker phone for the discussion. We did have an engaging conversation and I thoroughly enjoyed it.

If any other Brigade would like to arrange a Skype visit with me or other members of the General Staff, please feel free to contact us the addresses listed below. Speaking for myself, I enjoyed it and am willing to do so again any time.

A couple of items from last time that bear repeating:

Email Addresses

It is important to remember that email addresses no longer appear on the STARFLEET Database. This being the case, it is of vital importance that marines check and double check the email address entered on any form being sent to the SFMC for any reason. If your email address is entered incorrectly, servicing whatever request you are making, SFMCA Course, Award Certificate request, etc., will be significantly delayed.

Suggestions and Ideas

The General Staff exists to make the SFMC a better place to be. That being said, we never claim to have all the answers. If you have an idea or suggestion of benefit to the SFMC please, by all means, send it to one of us.

The SFMC continues to grow and it's the marines of the SFMC that make the Corps an attractive option to more and more STARFLEET members each month. We're getting to the time of year, at least here in North America, where the temperatures are more and more welcoming to the kinds of outdoor activities we enjoy doing, both for fun and to help our communities. I look forward to reading about the things you do.

Recognition

Finally, there is a little saying that I'd like you all to remember from here on out. It goes like this: "If you don't report it, we can't reward it." It really is just that simple. And this isn't a concept just for OICs or even just for officers. If you do something that merits recognition of some type, you **MUST** take some responsibility and let your OIC and DOIC know about it. Unit officers, you must take that information and pass it up the chain. If you know that your marines are doing something of note but don't have all the information, call them up or email them! Get the information and put it in your report.

Remember that we need who, what, where, when, and why. If you've tried something new and different, 'how' is a great thing to pass up the chain as well. The details you include can help another unit do better for their communities as well. [Editor's note: For more tips, check out Deputy Commandant GEN Jim Monroe's column on writing award nominations on page 21 of CQ 178.]

What I hear most often from marines is that they don't feel they have been recognized for their work. During the conversation, however, it normally comes out that they simply didn't tell anyone what they had done. There just isn't any way that the officers of the Corps, at any level, can report and arrange recognition for actions about which they know nothing.

We, as an organization, can get better about recognizing the efforts of our members, but its going to take a concerted effort by all levels of the Chain of Command from the General Staff all the

20140401-
20140830

State of the NCO Corps

MMSGT Jerome A. Stoddard, USS *Thermopylae*, R5



Let's start off this time with a few numbers--this is a "report" after all. According to the latest information pulled from the database, as I write this, 27.4% of the members of the STARFLEET Marines hold some form of enlisted rank. In other words, about one Marine in four is enlisted. And, since the SFMC makes up a bit over a quarter of STARFLEET, that makes about one member in sixteen of the larger organization we all belong to an enlisted Marine. The actual number is a bit higher - about eight percent of all STARFLEET consists of enlisted Marines. The numbers for non-Marines aren't available to me, but if even two percent of the whole organization is strictly Fleet that also hold enlisted ranks, that means a tenth of STARFLEET is enlisted. So, for my fellow enlisted members, you're not alone in your decision to avoid a commission and play our common game your own way.

Six years ago, when I became the Sergeant Major of the STARFLEET

Marines, the best guess that anybody had was that maybe one Marine in ten or so held enlisted rank, and the total in the whole organization was perhaps a few percent. I can't say for sure whether it's simply having real data at last, or if, for whatever reason, the number of enlisted personnel has actually grown over those six years. All I can say is that, today, enlisted Marines form a significant part of our numbers, and I am proud to be your voice on the SFMC General Staff.

Now, throughout history, one of the traditional roles of senior enlisted personnel has been that of the person who makes sure they know the various rules of their organization, and speaking of those rules, I would like to remind you all (with my tongue mostly in cheek) that every time you ask a question whose answer is clearly in the Book, or answer a question without looking in the Book to be sure you're right, some reasonably omnipotent being somewhere in the

universe takes a completely innocent little adorable puppy, fluffy bunny, or playful kitten, or their alien equivalent, and cruelly promotes them to "butter bar." Please, Marines, think of the puppies, bunnies, and kittens (and alien equivalents)! Check the current Marine Force Manual (MFM) first (and don't forget the current Policy Manual is included by reference in the MFM).

Finally, I'd like to draw your attention to the three words that will stand for the STARFLEET Marine Corps going forward: "*Virtus, Vis, Decretum*," our new and unique motto. The Commandant has told you what that motto means, and how to pronounce it. I simply ask that you embrace it, along with our new logo and seal, and remember that we are the STARFLEET Marine Corps both as a real-life and a fictional organization, and not simply a pale copy of the US Marines in space.



State of INFOCOM

COMM Mark Anderson, USS *Victorious*, R2

I want to take this opportunity to say thanks to all the current and past INFOCOM staff who have served the SFMC to improve the Marines experience in the Corps. To the former CO's of INFOCOM, I would like thank you for your service to the Corps and we wouldn't be where we are today without all your hard work.

As the former INFOCOM CO's know we are always looking for new staff members. If you feel you have time and ability to help out, check the monthly SOR reports for positions that are currently open. Not only for INFOCOM but other Commands as

well. If you feel you can help make a difference please volunteer your time to make the Corps better place to serve.

Currently we here at INFOCOM are working on several projects. Getting the new Logo, seal and motto rolled out and changed everywhere it needs to be change is a big job. I was very surprised the amount of material we have to go through to make the needed changes. It will take some time to complete but we are making steady progress.

One last note, if you are using at the SFMC Website, submitting a

report or award and have any issues, please send an email to infocom@sf-sfmc.org and let me know about it. Provide as much information as you can. For example, the page where the problem occurred, what browser you were using and a description on the issue. The more information we have to work with and recreate the problem the faster we get the problem resolved. If you notice someone has gotten promoted and the rank needs to be changed or their name is misspelled please let us know and we can got those pages updated.

20140401-
20140630



SRO FORCECOM

BGN Jari L James, USS *Thermopylae*, Region 5

First off, I wish to thank members of my direct command (both up and down) as well as the Promotion Board (EC) for have the trust in me to advance me to the rank of Brigadier General. And like anything else in life, just when you think you've got things settled, changes occur. Or, in my case, getting my four diamond pins to update my Class A uniform just in time to get to change them out for stars.

No, that doesn't mean a meteoric promotion. It means I haven't worn the thing for a couple of years. I need to get out more.

Personal Records

Up here in the northern hemisphere Summer is in full swing and Winter's bite is in the air 'Down Under'. You all know what that means: IC is just around the corner. With this in mind I want to remind everyone this is a good time for an annual records review.

I'm sure everyone out there wants to look their best, with their uniforms in tip top condition and all ribbons, badges and such in their proper places. But it's amazing how fast the time will fly by. It's never a good thing to wait until the last moment to review your database records to make sure everything is there that should be on there.

There are policies in place to enter awards that you have already been issued but, for some reason, were not entered at that time. But it needs to be made clear that the responsibility of proof rests on the individual themselves. If you request an award to be entered, you will need to produce a copy of the award certificate, an email statement from the original issuing individual, a

notation pointing to where it was announced in a newsletter, something that shows it was issued.

I am always willing to discuss things and will do everything I can to assist the individual, but one of my personal guidelines has always been "Trust, but Verify."

Communications

For those out there who ask me from time to time 'Will you take a phone call?' there are reasons why I don't conduct day to day FORCECOM business via phone or Skype. First off, this is my personal preference. I prefer a paper trail to help me remember the various discussions and decisions. Also, I have a fairly odd wake/sleep schedule. In my 'verse there is only one 7 o'clock and it's when the sun is going down. Sometime around 1900 MDT.

Those specific individuals who are on my "Approved to Call" list know who they are.

Other members of the General Staff have their own policies but it's

only polite to email the individual and ask if they want a phone call about something and when would be a good time. People have may not be able to take calls at work. People may work weird hours and may not appreciate a phone call in the middle of the day when that may be their only sleep time.

Disasters

Suffice it to say that disasters seem to be occurring just about everywhere. If you find yourself in a place where you can lend a hand, please do so. And keep your Command informed as to what you and those around you are doing. 'Pay it Forward' because no one knows when it may be their neighborhood next.

To close I want to leave you with some fast statistics. As I wrote the rough draft of this on the first of May the SFMC Strength was listed on the database as 1432 individuals (856 Active and 576 Reserve) spread out through 153 units or on unassigned status.

TOGETHER, WE HOLD THE LINE AGAINST THE DANGERS OF
THE FINAL FRONTIER!



[HTTP://WWW.SFI-SFMC.ORG](http://www.sfi-sfmc.org)

MAKE US YOUR PRIMARY AFFILIATION OR GO RESERVE
TO ENJOY THE BEST OF BOTH WORLDS!

20140401-
20140630

USS Angeles Gathers for Khaaaaaannnn! Fest

FCAPT Dave Mason, USS *Angeles*, Region 4

"Khaaaaaaan!"

Karen Hoagland led us in shouting that January 18 at Gloria Rodriguez's home. Gloria hosted as USS *Angeles* members watched "Space Seed," the original *Star Trek* series episode that introduced Ricardo Montalban, during Khaaaaan! Fest. At the viewing party at Gloria's home in Whittier, near Los Angeles, we saw Montalban reprise his iconic villain in *Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan* (1982) and Benedict Cumberbatch play Khan in *Star Trek Into Darkness* (2013).

Renee Wike, new member Andy Petruzzo, and I joined Gloria and Karen.

We enjoyed pizza and a mix of veggies, chips, and cookies and chatted about "Space Seed" and the movies.

We laughed about Walter Koenig's explanation as to how

Khan remembered Chekov, even though the latter wasn't in "Space Seed" or any other first-season episode. Koenig claims the two characters met off-screen when Chekov took too long in the men's restroom, and Khan didn't like the wait. That's when Khan first told Chekov, "I never forget a face!"

We talked about the creative and technical brilliance of *Wrath of Khan*, as well as Montalban's talent and athletic fitness. That was his real chest! We discussed too how director Nicholas Meyer was impressed with how well Montalban took instructions and successfully played Khan with some restraint.

It made the villain that much



more effective and his words more powerful.

Andy noted Montalban left it to the imagination just how far Khan's rage could go.

We couldn't help but recite some of the lines with the movie, especially those inspired by Herman Melville's *Moby Dick*. USS *Angeles* member Ariel Vitali has always impressed me with his ability to recite the entire movie!

And we told Andy, who recently moved to Los Angeles from Austin, Texas, about a familiar location in *Star Trek Into Darkness*. Starfleet Headquarters, which Khan attacked in the movie, was the Getty Center in Brentwood. Khan not struck at only at Starfleet but priceless masterpieces. Van Gogh, whose art work is in the museum, didn't take this sitting down, and traveled to our time with The Doctor in his



Karen Hoagland, left, and Gloria Rodriguez watch "Star Trek" movies and episode featuring Khan.

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USS Heimdal Celebrates 30 Years as a STARFLEET Chapter

ADM Linda Smith, USS *Heimdal*, Region 2



Partygoers get down to the sound of The Rain Stealers Band at the Heimdal's 30th Anniversary Party.

On April 19, 2014, 64 people gathered at The Lounge in the Holliday Inn Downtown Lynchburg, VA to celebrate the USS *Heimdal*'s 30th. Anniversary as a Starfleet chapter. *Heimdal* members were joined by Starfleet members from the USS *Yeager*, USS *Maat*, and USS *Hornet* as well as other friends of the *Heimdal* for a wonderful evening of entertainment. The theme of the party was "30 Years... the *Heimdal* on the Edge of Forever."

After spending months putting the party together Commanding Officer Admiral Linda Smith was ill and couldn't, attend but Second Officer Willy Smith acted as Master of Ceremonies for the evening in her absence with assistance from Executive Officer Vice Admiral Kenny Proehl.

People arrived and signed in at the welcome table where they received tickets for door prize drawings and guessed the number of aliens in a jar for a prize later in the evening. Everyone also received a gift bag full of goofy stuff like

Zombie Brains candy, mustache lip whistles and funny glasses with noses.

After signing in everyone had their picture taken in

front of or jumping through a life-size, lighted Guardian of Forever built in February by Linda and Willy Smith.

The evening began with a Meet and Greet followed by the blessing by Chief Chaplain, Tim Hazlett. A Southern Buffet was the meal for the evening and dinner was followed by Kenny Proehl's surprise promotion to full Admiral.

Karen Delano and Willy Smith gave a video presentation that consisted of a retrospective of photos from the past 30 years aboard the *Heimdal*. They also showed last year's award winning video, *Heimdal Style*. This year's video, *Heim Warp* was shown at the

end of the video presentation to the delight of everyone present.

Drawings for door prizes followed the video presentation. *Heimdal* member, Jeanne Wilson won the Starfleet Membership, which is always one of the anniversary party prizes. Leslie Miller won the prize for guessing the number of Aliens in the Jar and five other door prizes were announced. Door prizes consisted of Star Trek mugs that everyone enjoyed.

Following the door prize drawings was an evening of dancing and listening to The Rain Stealers Band. The band is a six-member doctor's band that included a gastroenterologist, a plastic surgeon, a wound care specialist and a psychiatrist. They told everyone that no matter what kind of emergency might arise during the evening, they had it covered. People filled the floor and had a wonderful time dancing.



A mixture of sci-fi genres and Trek timelines highlighted the festivities as USS Heimdal looked back at the last three decades as a chapter.

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USS Inferno Tenth Anniversary Party

RADM Debbie French, USS *Inferno*, Region 7

It's hard to believe that it has been ten years since the USS *Inferno* joined STARFLEET; it feels like only yesterday. We commissioned on January 25, 2004, and celebrated our tenth anniversary party on March 22, 2014 at Buca di Beppo in Robinson, Pennsylvania.

Looking back, a lot has happened in the last ten years! We started out as three members and have grown to over 20 and counting. We have had three past Commanding Officers. Members serve in capacities throughout STARFLEET—Academy Directors and Deans, IC proxies, and even a member of the Executive Committee.

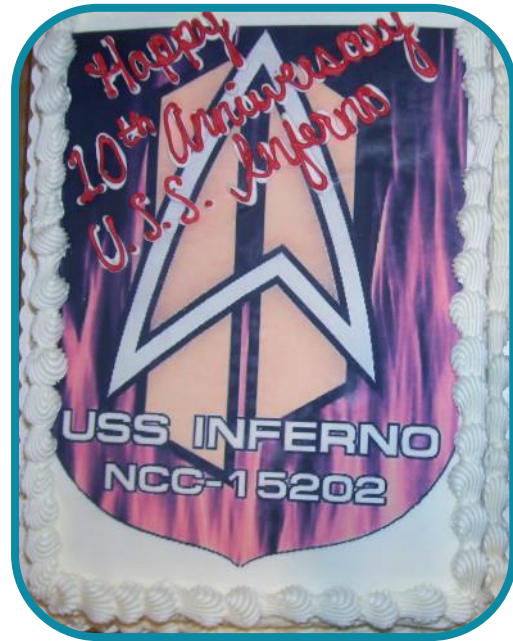
We have had our share of ups and downs along the way. We were the mother ship to the USS *Hecate*, a correspondence chapter located here in Pittsburgh. Our hope for the future is to not only represent our region and fleet itself, but to also grow more in numbers as we are hitting our stride in recruitment. We have an activity at least once a month, while having our ship's meeting every other month and that seems to be working out for us quite well.

Our ship motto is: "We put the fun in Dysfunctional." Our ship's song is "Disco Inferno", while "Lean on Me" by Club Nouveau is our secondary, because at one time or another we all have had to lean on one another for support in our time of need.

The food at the party was outstanding and everyone had a very good time. Fleet Captain

George Edwards presented a schematic of our ship to Larry French and me as two of the ship's founders, and had everyone at the party sign it. It was his way of thanking us for all the hard work and determination in getting our ship up and running and keeping it running ten years later. The schematic will work its way around to the other members that were not in attendance so that they can sign it as well. At the Steel City Con in April, we had Brent Spiner and Jonathan Frakes sign it as well.

All I can say is, Here is to another ten years to the



Inferno. See you all at our next



Back Row: ENS JG Dan Neff, CMDR Chris Hindman, LGEN Larry French, CMDR Sharlene Hupka, CMDR Maria Dutilly, FCAPT George Edwards, RADM Debbie French
Front Row: LT Jackie Robinson, LCDR D.C. Baricella, Patricia Edwards, CAPT. Ron Seymour

20140401-
20140630

Warping into the New Year with USS *Star League*

FCAPT Peggy Eubanks, USS *Star League*, Region I

These are the continuing voyages of the USS *Star League*. After a great 2013 we started off our 2014 season at high warp. We held our Edith Keeler Celebration to honor one of the great loves of Captain Kirk. This was to be held in February, to coincide with Valentine's Day, but had to be postponed due to a winter storm that hit our area. The celebration was moved to March. The crew met and had soup and assorted breads in her honor. As I am sure most of you know Edith Keeler ran a soup kitchen at a mission in the 21st century in the episode, "The City on the Edge of Forever". The crew also did

some filming on their Region One video submission for the R-1

Summit. There was a great turnout and all had a good time with lot of laughter.

The month of March also included a cadet outing, where the crew visited the historic town of Charleston, SC. The cadets along with adults in tow boarded the decommissioned World War II aircraft carrier *Yorktown*, where the crew walked the decks and enjoyed the other items on display at Patriots Point. After leaving the *Yorktown* the crew gathered at a local restaurant, Hymans, where they had a great meal and enjoyed each other's company before the ride back home.

The first Saturday in April the crew had their "First Contact Day" celebration. The Friedman Branch

Library, where our meetings are held, graciously allowed us to have our "First Contact Day" at the library. The crew came in uniform or crew shirts and we even had a Klingon which is always a good draw. We had flyers with ship information and STARFLEET information, along with business cards for people to take with them. We had a table set up with movie props, so people could see them up close. We had three power point presentations, Woman in *Star Trek*, Classic Literature in *Star Trek*, and Science Fiction and how it has influenced the future. We also had coloring books that were made by one of our crew members and crayons for people to take with them. The crew has had a very busy



Star League's crew visiting the aircraft carrier Yorktown. Back row, from left: Allen Moony, Ruslan Boyd, Aaron Knowles, Erin Williamson, Valerie Krenicky, Cindy Krell. Middle row: Nicole Aris, Tammy Smith, Jamie Knowles, William Knowles, Ann Marie Boyd, Lucille Skipper. Front row: Megan Krell, Carnell Eubanks

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USS Inferno Spring Activities

LGEN Larry French, Sr., USS *Inferno*, Region 7



At Steel City Con. Back, from left: CDR Sharlene Hupka, Jonathan Frakes, Cadet Josh Branstetter, and LTJG Char Branstetter. Middle: LCDR D.C. Barricella-McQuade, Brent Spiner, and LGEN Larry D. French, Sr.. Front: BDR Jim McClure, RADM Debbie French, and XO CMDR Maria Dutilly.



Free Comic Book Day

The USS *Inferno* participated in Free Comic Book Day at New Dimension Comics of Century II Mall on May 3, 2014. This was the second time that we participated in this event. The groups participating were the USS *Inferno* and the Rebel Alliance.

May the Fourth

On May The Fourth (Be With You), the USS *Inferno* did our late Earth Day project at our Adopt-A-Highway Project Site. We've been doing this for several years now. We started with one ramp, decided to take on two more, and then later decided to do all four. It took the four of us four hours.



20140401-
20140630



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