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STARFLEET

COMMUNIQUE

ISSUE #181

OCTOBER—DECEMBER 2014



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Who Edits the Editors?

by CDRE Michael D. Garcia,
Communiqué Editor-in-Chief,

In most every magazine I've ever worked for or read, you can usually count on the first column you see to be from one of the editors. I intend to have one of us sit down and talk about CQ production with you or perhaps another point of interest within STARFLEET or Communications that we'd like to discuss. Think of this as one of the many editorials you'll be seeing in the CQ from now on.

That's not the only change; we're formatting your CQ a little differently as well. Some of it is to help our readers locate the bits of information they're looking for with some better efficiency, and to give the CQ a better flow. We're bringing back some fanfic and hope to showcase some fanart from our members.

Now, some changes are going to come slowly and some aspects are going to remain the same as you can see by the LCARS design remaining in place. Liz Woolf spent quite a bit

of time designing this look for us, and I personally like the Trekkiness of it all. I think that we'll keep it around for a few more issues, at least.

You might've noticed that this issue is using a different masthead graphic on the cover. With the help of Jon Lane, I took a look at the advent of the CQ's logo and decided that now was the perfect time to bring out a brand new lettering that took advantage of our Star Trek history. The new CQ masthead logo was designed by General Aaron Murphy, SFMC.

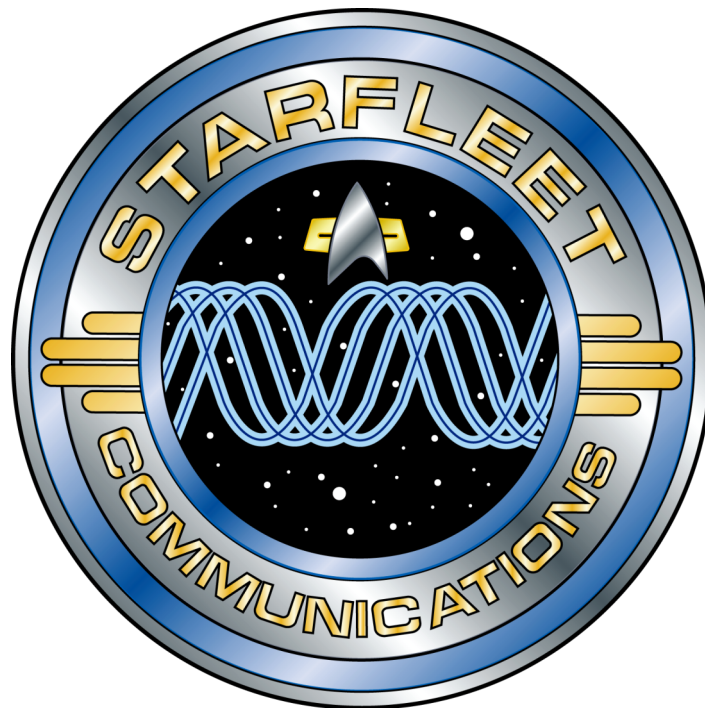
We're a Star Trek fan organization, and while we're going to do our best to bring you news about chapters from all over the world, we need to focus some of our attention on Star Trek itself. We used to do that in days gone by, and I think it's high time we brought it back.

If you or members of your chapter have fanfic, fanart, podcasts, opinions, or want to respond to something you've read here, please don't hesitate to send it to us

at CQ@sfi.org. With your voice, we'll help keep the CQ diverse and humming with your activity. We want to increase the participation level of our members!

And before I close this out, I want to apologize profusely for the glaring error on the cover of the last issue (CQ #180). For some reason, it got through absolutely every iteration of the cover design process and ended up going to print like that. It is an embarrassing moment as an editor of the CQ and I have no excuse for that mistake. I can only say that I will do better as we move forward.

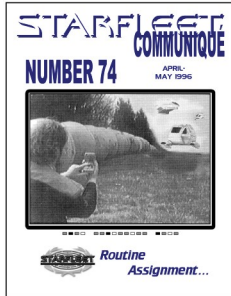
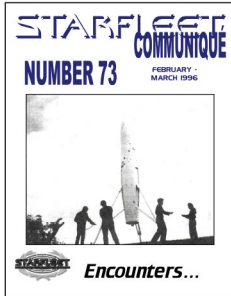
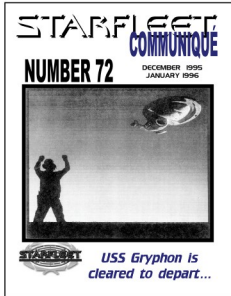
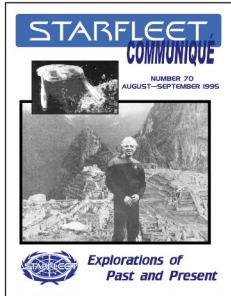
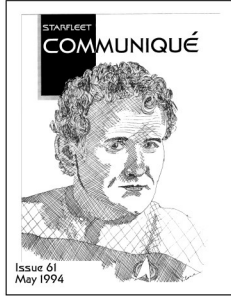
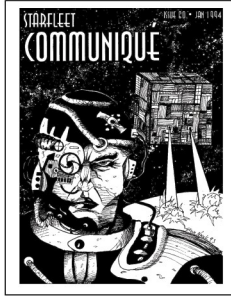
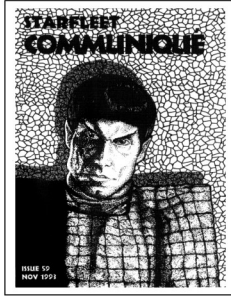
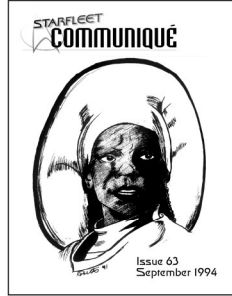
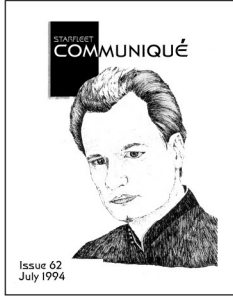
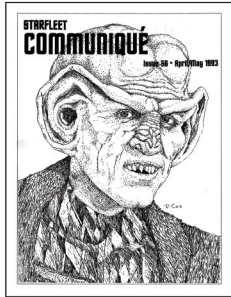
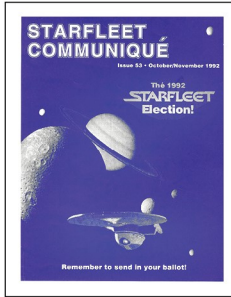
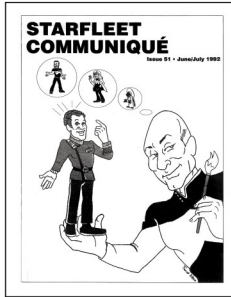
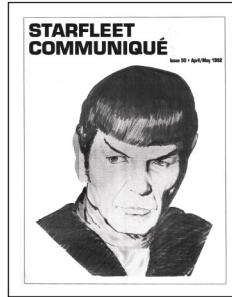
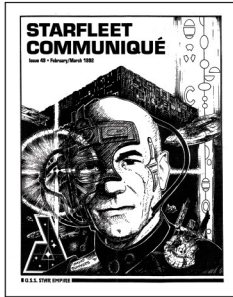
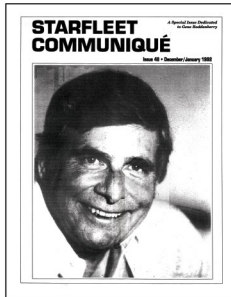
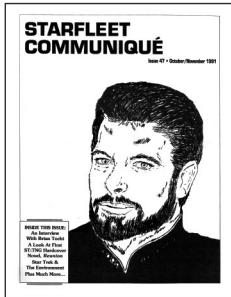
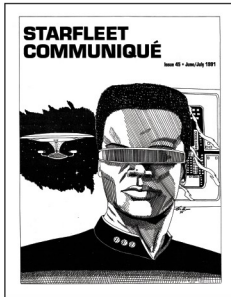
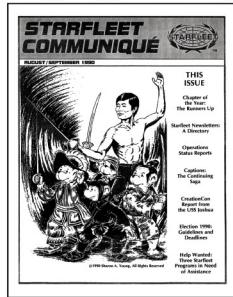
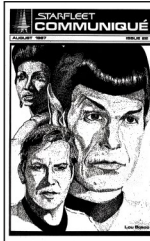
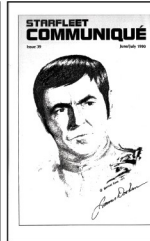
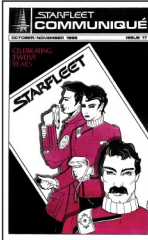
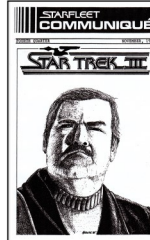
With that, I'd like to showcase 40 years of amazing CQ Covers, as researched, compiled, and collaged by Jon Lane of USS *Angeles*. We had intended to run this in the proposed 40th anniversary issue, but as that will not be produced, we're going to incorporate it in the final issue of the year.



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COVER GALLERY







STARFLEET Q4 2014 Promotions & Awards

ADM Linda Kloempken, Member Recognition Administrator, USS *Czar'ak*, Region 6

From the period of October to December 2014, the following officers were promoted on the order of the Regional Coordinator or the Executive Committee, submitted for consideration by their peers using the online form at <http://www.sfi.org/promotions/>. If you know of a crewmember who is eligible and deserving of a promotion, use that form. Promotion criteria is located at <http://www.sfi.org/docs/flag-promotion-criteria.pdf>.

In STARFLEET, promotions up through the rank of Commander or Lt. Colonel, SFMC, are typically granted by the chapter Commanding Officer. Promotions to Captain or Colonel, SFMC are typically the responsibility of the Regional Coordinator. Those promotions are usually announced at the chapter and regional level. Flag Officer ranks are those of Fleet Captain (Brigadier) and above, and those promotions are voted on by the seven-member Executive Committee after reviewing nominations submitted by members. If you have any questions or concerns, you may reach me at promotions@sfi.org.

The STARFLEET Executive Committee is proud to announce the following promotions:

To the rank of FLEET CAPTAIN:

Jane Van Bibber, USS *Columbus*, R1
Pamela Bryant, USS *Columbus*, R1
Melinda Coates, USS *Columbus*, R1
Krystal Harper-Karges, USS *Columbus*, R1
Wesley Kincaid, USS *Columbus*, R1
Denise L. Rush, USS *Longbow*, R4

To the rank of BRIGADIER:

Betty Ann Leverage, USS *Robins*, R2

To the rank of REAR ADMIRAL:

Meg Roach, USS *Appomattox*, R1

To the rank of COMMODORE:

Kathlene Harper-Cook, USS *Columbus*, R1
Melinda Kincaid, USS *Columbus*, R1
Melissa Lillie, USS *Appomattox*, R1
Jana Sandarg, USS *Star League*, R1
Ralph Winans III, USS *Columbus*, R1

To the rank of BRIGADIER GENERAL:

Richard Jolitz, USS *Tang*, R15

To the rank of ADMIRAL:

Patricia Lewis, USS *Arizona*, R1

STARFLEET Orders of Merit

Each Order of Merit is named based on a cultural aspect that reflects the qualities recognized in the award. Cultures used include Terran, Vulcan and other species.

Each Order has three classes — First, Second and Third. Generally, an Order of Merit, Third Class will recognize significant achievement at the chapter level, Second Class will recognize significant achievement at the regional level, and First Class will recognize the highest level of

achievement to STARFLEET. An Order of Merit, First Class, must have its nomination endorsed by a Regional Coordinator and may only be awarded by majority vote of the STARFLEET Executive Committee.

Members wishing to submit another member for recognition for any class of Order may do so at the STARFLEET Website, using the online form at <http://www.sfi.org/merit/> or by emailing me directly at recognition@sfi.org. The webpage has a complete description of each

Order for your reference, just above the form.

On the opposite page, the following STARFLEET members were submitted to Member Recognition on behalf of their Chapter, Region, or STARFLEET for acting in the best traditions representing the service-oriented philosophy of STARFLEET and Star Trek.

Orders of Merit (October to December 2014)

ORDER OF AXANAR (MEDIATION)

Third Class

Jeffrey Redmond, USS *Valkyrie*, R13

ORDER OF BABEL (RECRUITING)

Second Class

Paul C. Dyl, USS *Helen Pawlowski*, R1

Third Class

Janidean Bruner, USS *Drakonia*, R1

Stuart Griggs, USS *Lafite*, R3

Garret Manuel, USS *Lafite*, R3

Lisa Nybaek, USS *Valkyrie*, R13

ORDER OF COCHRANE (TECHNOLOGY)

First Class

Dave Blaser, USS *Hadfield*, R13

Justin Donovan, Retribution Station, R3

Michael Garcia, USS *Gygax*, R4

Laura Victor, USS *Challenger*, R7

Third Class

Anni Potts, USS *Stargazer*, R20

Jeanne Renew, USS *Star League*, R1

ORDER OF DARMOK & JALAD (OUTREACH)

Second Class

Bryan Jones, USS *Tiberius*, R2

Daniel Toole, USS *Sinclair*, R13

Third Class

Stephen Halkovic, USS *Valkyrie*, R13

Jeffrey Redmond, USS *Valkyrie*, R13

Samuel Scott Osborne, USS *Drakonia*, R1

ORDER OF DIONYSUS (ACTIVITY PLANNING)

Third Class

Lorna Bergin, USS *Iceni*, R20

GRANKITE ORDER OF TACTICS (EVENT PLANNING)

First Class

Eddie Allen III, USS *Horizon*, R12

Steven Gorner, USS *Black Hawk*, R12

Second Class

Amanda Barrow, USS *York*, R20

Lorna Bergin, USS *Iceni*, R20

Wade Larkin, USS *Revelation*, R1

Kevin McNeillie-Welsh, USS *Alba*, R20

Anni Potts, USS *Stargazer*, R20

Warren Price, USS *Providence*, R1

Richard Sams, USS *Stargazer*, R20

Third Class

Laura Perkins, USS *Iceni*, R20

ORDER OF HAWKING (ACCESSIBILITY)

Third Class

Samuel Scott Osborne, USS *Drakonia*, R1

ORDER OF HERODOTUS (HISTORY/RECORDKEEPING)

Second Class

Justin Donovan, Retribution Station, R3

Third Class

Paul C. Dyl, USS *Helen Pawlowski*, R1

ORDER OF RODDENBERRY (STAR TREK)

Third Class

Adam Dolphin, USS *Iceni*, R20

ORDER OF S'HARIEN (INVENTIVENESS)

Third Class

Alex Everett, USS *Star League*, R1

James Carnell Eubanks, USS *Star League*, R1

Laura Perkins, USS *Iceni*, R20

Anni Potts, USS *Stargazer*, R20

Jeffrey Redmond, USS *Valkyrie*, R13

Lawrence Reeves, USS *Iceni*, R20

ORDER OF SAMARITAN (VOLUNTEERISM)

Second Class

Victoria McBride, USS *Venus*, R2

Jana Sandarg, USS *Star League*, R1

Anne Zecca, USS *Tiberius*, R2

Third Class

John Hardy, USS *Iceni*, R20

Katie Lowe-Guest, USS *Iceni*, R20

Scott A. J. Peter, USS *Alba*, R20

Lawrence Reeves, USS *Iceni*, R20

Leah Michelle Reeves, USS *Iceni*, R20

ORDER OF SURAK (SCHOLARSHIP)

Third Class

Paul C. Dyl, USS *Helen Pawlowski*, R1

Jeffrey Redmond, USS *Valkyrie*, R13

ORDER OF TARBOLDE OF CANOPIUS (WRITING)

Third Class

Laura Perkins, USS *Iceni*, R20

Jeffrey Redmond, USS *Valkyrie*, R13

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The Gaming Frontier #1

By MAJ Jeffrey Webb,
USS *Texas*, Region 3

Gaming. The word means many things to many people. For the purposes of our discussion over the next few issues of the CQ, we're going to be talking about tabletop gaming. These games can be further subdivided. There are board games, card games, war games, roleplaying games and more. Star Trek fandom and tabletop gaming intersected and hit their stride in the 1970s with the first Star Trek conventions, the founding of our own STARFLEET organization and the publication of the seminal Dungeons & Dragons roleplaying game in 1974.

The Gaming Frontier will endeavor to chronicle the evolution of Star Trek tabletop gaming over the years from the 1970s to the present day over the course of several installments. From the time-tested, tax-form ridden *Star Fleet Battles* and the alternate Trek universe, to how FASA's *The Klingons* supplement influenced the samurai biker Vikings we know and love today; many interesting things occurred over the last four decades of Star Trek tabletop, and we shall make it a point to take a look at them all. In this inaugural

article, I wish to address why tabletop gaming is germane to a STARFLEET chapter, how the tabletop industry got its start, and where things stood when the first Star Trek tabletop game hit store shelves in 1967.

Why should gaming be an important part of your STARFLEET chapter? Gaming is a participatory activity, unlike just watching *Star Trek* re-runs it brings your members together engaging in a common activity.. Each player is actively engaged in the ongoing spectacle of the game, encouraging thought and communication. Games like *Star Fleet Battles* and *Star Trek Cataan* offer opportunities for friendly rivalry and teamwork alike. Roleplaying games such as any of those that have carried the *Star Trek* name from the 70s to today's *Prime Directive RPG* allow a crew to tell their own *Star Trek* stories collaboratively. Unlike fan fiction writing the outcome is by no means assured- even the Game Master "author" has no idea how things will ultimately end. My experience as a Game Master for USS *Ark Angel* and USS *Texas*, tabletop games, especially roleplaying games, offer an amazing bonding experience that generates stories

meloid assistant security chief bluffing an Admiral, or that one time the grounded runabout was sliced in half by phaser fire from its own base ship...

Board games, card games, war games and RPGs all share the trait of being intended to get people together to have fun. In the current days of the Internet, a lot of these hobbies can be undertaken with great geographic distance. Thanks to utilities like Skype, roll20.net, and VASSAL- the online board game client – even correspondence chapters can host Game Nights just as readily as meeting chapters. Any chapter that sees the advantage of adopting an activity that members will look forward to in enthusiastic anticipation should consider hosting a monthly chapter game night. some chapters do so more than monthly. *Texas* has two gaming meetings per month as part of our STARFLEET and Royal Manticoran Army meetings. Individual members are part of several ongoing gaming events in addition to the regular meetings. Gaming is the social grease that keeps the gears turning, and it could be just the activity for your chapter,

Here are some resources for members wishing to learn more about the kinds of Star Trek games that are available for play:

www.boardgamegeek.com – A comprehensive database of board games, card games and war games. Includes player comments, reviews and summaries of actual play.

www.rpggeek.com – Does for RPGs what Board Game Geek does for board games.

www.starfleetgames.com – The longest-running publisher of Star Trek games, whose rather interesting history we will discuss in a later installment of this column.



that will be told for years to come. Just ask any member who was aboard *Ark Angel* during the height of our Dominion War campaign about Andorian Sushi, the Cha-

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Don't delay. Acquire these manuals today at your local game or hobby store. Just ask for #2301 **Klingon Ship Recognition Manual**, #2302 **Federation Ship Recognition Manual** or #2303 **Romulan Ship Recognition Manual** (only \$7.00 each). If you really want to surprise the enemy, pick up a copy of #2204 **Ship Construction Manual** (only \$10.00) and build ships of your own design.

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One of the famous FASA advertisements found on the pages of *Starlog* magazine, showcasing the starship recognition manuals for *Star Trek: Role-Playing Game*. The manuals helped identify Federation, Klingon, and Romulan vessels, including a detailed history of each class of ship.

AXANAR Is Making Star Trek History!

By VADM Jon Lane,
USS *Angeles*, Region 4

In just under a year, the “Star Trek: Axanar” independent production has grown from what seemed like just another ambitious fan film project to a professional-level Hollywood venture.

Six major science fiction actors have signed to appear in the full-length feature film, scheduled to begin production later this year: Tony Todd, Gary Graham, J.G. Hertzler and Garrett Wang from various “Star Trek” series, plus Richard Hatch and Kate Vernon from “Battlestar Galactica.”

Six Emmy winners and two Oscar winners also have joined the production crew in various roles. And more than 10,000 fans have donated money to turn the dream of writer/executive producer Alec Peters into a cinematic reality.

After their first online Kickstarter fundraiser brought in more than \$100,000 in 30 days last March, the “Axanar” team produced the 20-minute-long, History Channel-style documentary “Prelude to Axanar.” That movie detailed the Four Years War between the Federation and the Klingon Empire, 22 years before Kirk took command of the USS Enterprise. In many ways, this is the “Star Trek” “missing link” between Archer’s NX-01 era and Kirk’s TOS era, and it’s fascinating to watch and discover.

The “Prelude to Axanar” documentary blew fans away when they first saw it during the San Diego Comic Con last summer and then later online via the Internet. However, the short film had a more directed purpose than just impressing Trekkers. It was a proof-of-concept that would lead into the second Kick-



AXANAR in Long Beach—Front row: Alec Peters (left), Diana Kingsbury (center), and Richard Hatch (right). Back row: Jon Lane (right), Derek Allen (center), and Martin Horowitz (left).

starter, essentially saying to fans and potential donors (both old and new), “Okay, see what we can do with \$100,000. What do you think we can do with a half million?”

As the second Kickstarter campaign was launched, word of “Axanar” quickly spread, and the first \$150,000 was pledged in less than a week by nearly 2,000 donors (outpacing the entire first Kickstarter with more than three weeks of fund raising still to go!)

It was about this time that STARFLEET joined the “Axanar” supporters as one of their official “Trek” fan clubs. SFI did what it could to raise both awareness and money, including an exclusive feature and interviews in the *Communiqué*, an online link to the Kickstarter page from our website, plus special promotions like holding a drawing for a free one-year STARFLEET membership for one lucky member who donated, and also offering a special VIP tour of the Axanar sets for bid at the annual

STARFLEET auction at IC 2014.

With just under 24 hours to go, the second “Axanar” Kickstarter had already reached \$428,000 when, most unexpectedly, George “Sulu” Takei promoted “Axanar” on his Facebook page, with his 8 million followers.

“Trekkies, you don’t want to miss this,” Takei wrote in a status update. “Quite impressive. Truly. Be sure to click on the Kickstarter link and lend a hand to help make the whole production happen. Less than a day to go.”

Almost instantly, the total on “Axanar’s” Kickstarter page started going up like a telethon tote board. By the end of the next day, “Axanar” had raised more than \$638,000!

Granted, “Axanar” didn’t get all of that money. A percentage went to Kickstarter, another percentage went to credit card processing, and a good chunk went into purchasing and shipping merchandise

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for donors at different levels of support (for example, the smallest donations would get a patch, larger donors would get posters, T-shirts, and other perks...and really high donations would get VIP tours and mentions in the credits as producers).

Even so, the "Axanar" team still had a few hundred thousand dollars to work with, and that went into securing a studio, setting up offices, and getting sets constructed, which is happening right now.

But the team hasn't reached the end zone just yet. One final Kickstarter is planned for April to raise money for paying the actors, production crew, and post-production resources to make a truly jaw-dropping feature film that will be downloadable for free by any Star Trek fan or person with Internet access.

Did I say "free"? Yes! It has to be this way. At the end of the project, "Axanar" needs to have zero profit... otherwise CBS/Paramount will shut it down. For the last decade and a half, fan films have been allowed to exist by the Star Trek trademark holders providing that the fan productions make NO MONEY whatsoever. "Star Trek: Hidden Frontier," "Phase II," "Renegades," "Exeter," "Intrepid," "Equinox," "Star Trek Continues" and many others have also played by this rule of making zero profit, and all can be accessed for free over the Internet with no attempts by CBS or Paramount to stop them.

In the meantime, as "Axanar" ramps up for their next Kickstarter, they still need to spread the word. And they're looking for more volunteers. Interested? Sign up here: <https://docs.google.com/>

forms.gle/1KoaS9y3nbFSuJ5oEhK8bKPybQnxilfJPg5UzvHZmZbw/viewform

It's actually a lot of fun, a great opportunity to talk to and hang out with other fans who really love Star Trek with a passion, and even a good chance to recruit for your chapter. In fact, I just finished doing that exact thing on February 8 at a small convention in Pasadena and three weeks later at a larger con in Long Beach, California. Along with fellow USS *Angeles* members David Westbay and Luis Valentin, and joined by USS *Stephen Hawking* CO Derek Allen and member Martin Horowitz, we helped Alec Peters ("Axanar" executive producer who will be playing Garth of Izar), Diana Kingsbury ("Axanar" director of fulfillment), Robert Meyer Burnett (editor of both "Prelude to Axanar" and the upcoming "Axanar" feature film), and actor Richard Hatch (who will be playing the Klingon General Kharn) man their booth, introduce "Axanar" to new fans, and even distribute a few STARFLEET and chapter fliers while we were at it.

(The "Axanar" folks happily let us promote STARFLEET at their table.)

I encourage you to check the "Axanar" website (www.startrekaxanar.com) to watch "Prelude to Axanar" (if you haven't already) and see when the next Kickstarter gets underway (likely in April). Then, if you're so inclined, please consider donating a little something. The perks are really cool, all donors get access to an invitation-only Facebook Donor Group, and there's also a special online donor store with even more exclusive merchandise (like a resin model kit for the USS *Ares*, a bronze bust of Klingon General Kharn, and who knows what else might be coming!?).

And last but not least, you can keep up on the latest "Axanar" news by listening to their weekly podcast, available for free download on iTunes here: <http://hyprch.nl/itunes>

An impressive table display in Pasadena: David Westbay (left), Diana Kingsbury (center), and Luis Valentin (right).



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Alberni Deep Space Port on Parade!

by LT Gillian Shearwater
Alberni Deep Space Port, Region 10

Alberni Deep Space Port may be a small chapter in a small town, but it's a town where everybody loves a parade. The Alberni District Fall Fair has been an award-winning agricultural fair for 51 years, complete with an annual parade. This was our second year carrying the STARFLEET name in the Fall Fair parade. It was a special year because our entry celebrated the fortieth anniversary of STARFLEET, we got to show off the STARFLEET flag to a crowd of some thousands, our numbers were up, and our obviously-alien contingent was up.

A parade is street theatre -- the audience expects a performance. Crewman Apprentice (CRA) Vicky Bellas arrived wiggled and dyed to

match her evolving Bajoran-Orion heritage and wowed the crowd, especially the kids. LT Gillian Shearwater donned full Ferengi kit, caftaned à la Iskha and complete with Ferengi ear chains. TRG Kevin Bakken rolled out his recumbent bike in an impersonation of Picard's "Nemesis" dune buggy, rigged with the STARFLEET flag and Trek music. TRG Cindy Greve, our resident freed Borg, impersonated a human in TOS dress, and CRA Brett Davies donned our chapter's custom shirt as the logical Vulcan way to convey our identity.

On Saturday, September 6, marshaling time was spent in final make-up, bike fitting, costume adjustments and enjoying the brilliant autumn sunshine. Then at 11 am, we set off down the parade route. Members took turns distributing 125 bright yellow bookmarks with chapter information. Lots of specta-

tors snapped pictures, with some asking for poses with our crew members. Afterward, we transported to TRG Greve's home for photos and readjusted to life on Earth.

Will we do it again? The 2015 date is already booked! Our first entry in 2013 earned first place in the non-commercial category, plus a special mention. This year we earned third place in non-commercial category which is the biggest, most competitive category. For the 2015 Fall Fair parade, Captain Picard says it best: "We strive to better ourselves."



Alberni Deep Space Port personnel marshal for the 51st Annual Fall Fair parade in Port Alberni, B.C., Canada. L-R: TRG Kevin Bakken, TRG Cindy Greve, LT Gillian Shearwater (Ferengi); CRA Brett Davies, CRA Vicky Bellas (Bajoran-Orion).

USS *Serling*: There's... Something On The Wing!

By Commander David "Doc" Rasey
USS *Serling*, Region 7

"There is a fifth dimension beyond that which is known to man. It is a dimension as vast as space, and as timeless as infinity. It is the middle ground between light and shadow, between science and superstition, and it lies between the pit of man's fears and the summit of his knowledge. This is the dimension of imagination..."

Rod Serling
"The Twilight Zone"

When Rod Serling intoned those words a new era in television science fiction began. One in which science fiction grew from silly and poorly written "escapist fantasy;" beginning to receive serious attention. Gene Roddenberry advanced television science fiction into even more popularity with "Star Trek". It is interesting to note that before "Star Trek", actors such as William Shatner, Leonard Nimoy, and George Takei did their earliest television work appearing in "The Twilight Zone".

Rod Serling was a resident of Binghamton, New York. He regarded it, no matter where he worked and lived, as his hometown. He based several of the more famous "Twilight Zone" episodes on Binghamton. Binghamton is now home to the Starfleet Science Vessel USS *Serling*. So named in honor of Rod Serling, dedicated to carrying on the Roddenberry vision, and known for its tag-line famously shouted by William Shatner in the "Twilight Zone" episode called "Nightmare at 20,000 Feet": "There's... Something on the wing!"

You could call it kismet.



Beginning on a snowy day in December, 2010 the journey of the USS *Serling* shuttled off under the guidance of our mother ship, the USS *Justice*. The first small crew assembled and led by Capt. David Grate (ret.) met where we still do today; At Fat Cat Comics in Johnson City, N.Y. Lisa Stuckey, then Commander, was appointed as X.O. and the shake-down cruise began. Other crew members signed on-board and our ship's culture took shape. By spring, the crew complement of the USS *Serling* passed ten members and was still growing.

We passed our first major landmark at Shore Leave in August of 2011, when we were awarded the Region 7 Shakedown Chapter of the Year award. Later in August we were fully commissioned at the 2011 I.C. and the USS *Serling* embarked on her solo voyage.

We were working with several charities in our area, including the Animal Care Counsel, an organization that rescues and cares for abandoned cats, The Literacy Volunteers of Broome County, Mom's House (a local women's shelter) and others. We began having fun Away Missions. On September 10 of 2011, we had a Charter Party which involved a concoction called

"Jim Tea" (a play on Jim T. Kirk) which contained several kinds of liquor and is... Uh... It's green. We also beat and broke a Borg Cube piñata with a sign on it saying; "Remember Wolf 359!" We were joined by the good crew of the USS Accord from Ithaca. A great time was held by all!

In the summer of 2012, we held our First Annual USS *Serling* Carousel Run. Binghamton, NY is home to six antique carousels that are free to ride from Memorial Day to Labor Day, and a button is awarded to anyone who rides all six. Our crew turned out on a beautiful Saturday in June of 2012, rode all six carousels, and ended with a barbeque in historic Recreation Park. A young Rod Serling once played there and from it drew the story inspiration for his Emmy-winning episode "Walking Distance".

In September of 2012, our Captain, David Grate, suffered from health issues that in January of 2013 required him to step down as Commanding Officer.

At our 2nd anniversary party held on New Year's Eve, Commander Lisa Stuckey was officially promoted to Captain and took command of the USS *Serling*. Lt. Commander David "Doc" Rasey was promoted to Commander and became the Executive Officer. Our ship had now grown to a crew of eighteen.

In 2013, under the new command, we took an even more active role in local charities and planned more Away Missions, such as crew trips to see a movie, or our First Annual USS *Serling* Drive-In Night event, where we set up a "drive-in movie", complete with

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Honor and Dishonor Among Klingons, Part One

By LCDR Michael Caruso,
USS *Sinclair*, Region 13

Special to the Communique, we have a multi-part feature regarding Klingon culture from Region 13's Michael Caruso. Part Two will be featured in the next issue of the CQ.

“A Klingon's honor means more to him than his life.”

This statement was made by Kurn, son of Mogh, to his elder brother, Worf. Would a more accurate statement have been, “A true Klingon's honor means more to him than his life.” Why do I say this? Is not honor lacking many Klingons in the Star Trek universe?

We see this as a recurring theme throughout the latter day Star Trek series and novels. The House of Duras' treachery (of which we had learned moments after Kurn spoke the quote earlier cited to him). Korath, another example, altered the terms of his agreement with Admiral Janeway, after she had already made good her end of the original deal, demanding the shield technology her shuttlecraft possessed. When he saw the scans of the shield's ablative armor capability that Jane-

way's shuttlecraft possessed, Korath demanded the technology in addition to what she had already done for him. At first, Janeway denied his request. Later, she seemed to have reconsidered, but it was a ruse to make Korath honor the original deal. It meant deception on her part, but she felt no compunction against conning this dishonorable Klingon. When she asked to examine the chrono deflector, so as to ensure it was the real thing, Korath was insulted and said, “You question my honor?!” To which Janeway replied, “If you were honorable, you wouldn't have changed the terms of our agreement.” Korath knew better than to deny the accusation, and had the holographic wall removed, and Janeway was able to transport the device, and herself, to her shuttlecraft.

Klingons have not always been a race associated with honor. Kronos was once a planet ruled by a cruel people; a people who ran roughshod over the weaker among them. This remained the status quo until a time came in the 9th century (all dates given are Terran). A Klingon with an honorable soul rebelled against a leader who had given him the order to slaughter those who could not afford to pay the taxes that would have left villages to die slow deaths from starvation, while the warlord and his men lived an opulent lifestyle.

After the warlord's defeat, the dictates of honor grew to be a part of all aspects of Klingon life as well as on the battlefield. A Klingon's word, in the business place, and all other aspects of life, was as good as a written contract.

In the centuries that followed, Molor, a Klingon's actions not only came to reflect upon his own honor, but also upon the honor of his fam-



Actor John Colicos as Commander Kor in “Errand of Mercy.” (Photo: Memory Alpha)

ily. All members of a House shared in the glorious deeds of their clansmen and clanswomen. The honor brought to their Houses also carried with them an increase in political strength, as well as prestige.

As it is with most things, along with the Yin, there is also the Yang. For the families of Klingon Houses not only shared in the glories, but also in the ignominy wrought by their members. While the power and prestige that a House may hold might have taken decades, or even centuries to achieve, a single clanmember's act of cowardice or treachery could lead to the loss of their honor, and their position in the Empire, for many generations to come.

Klingons not only respect honor within their own society, they admire any person or race that exhibits that very same trait. When the Narr attacked the Klingon agricultural colony on Signi Beta, and the USS Enterprise, under the command of Captain James T. Kirk, came to their aid, the Klingons on that agricultural colony were shocked that the Terrans fought at their sides, in defense of the settlement. It must have seemed very odd to them, as the Klingon Empire and the United Federation of Planets had vied to see which of them



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Star Trek: Valkyrie

by CAPT Aleksander Rodner,
USS Vanguard, Region 9

I have been a Trekkie ever since, as a nine-year old, I first watched *Star Trek: The Next Generation*. The world imagined, the stories of heroism, exploring and adventure were all inspiring to me, and commands of "Make it so", "Tea, Earl Grey, Hot", and "Engage" still make my spine tingle. Ever since I was a young boy, I have loved audio drama, starting with Norwegian shows, graduating to shows like the Hitchhiker's guide to the galaxy and the like.

About a year ago, I started looking around for Trek audio dramas. As it turns out, there is a veritable treasure trove of them out there. Beginning with this number of CQ, I will be reviewing them, one at a time.

Star Trek: Valkyrie

Publisher: High Resolution

U R L : <http://highresolutionvideos.com/category/star-trek-valkyrie/>

Status: Ended

Number of episodes: 12

Concept: *"Space. There is no beginning and no end, but for more than two hundred thousand years of human existence, the question of 'Why are we here?' has never been so important - until now."*

Set in a Star Trek Universe that has some ill-defined connection to that of *Battlestar Galactica*, (introduced in the pilot episode, but never expand-

ed on) *Star Trek: Valkyrie* follows the USS *Valkyrie* as Earth is kicked out of the Federation due to two terror attacks, destroying Bajor and another planet along with their entire populations.

Production value:

The production value of *Star Trek: Valkyrie* is its high point, consistently delivering quality audio. However, good audio mixing can only take you so far.

Plot value:

The plot is, in a word, thin. Have another look at the quote up in the Concept section, it's about par for the show. There is very little exposition, and hand-waving and magic is the go-to for this show. None of the well-known tropes of Trek are present, and conflicts have one of two resolutions: violence or the single shapeshifter, well, shifting shape.

Final thoughts:

If you are a die-hard fan of the genre, and a completist, you might want to give *Valkyrie* a chance. If you are not; leave well enough alone. It is a weak show, with a less than inspired plotline which is so far removed from the Star Trek we know as to be unrecognisable.

Rating: Two out of six starships.

(Editor's Note: This series is not to be confused with the 23rd Century-based podcast from Glass City Productions, currently in its third season.)

Welcome to PETFLEET!

By Commodore Lee Vitasek,
Director, PETFLEET

STARFLEET: The International Star Trek Fan Association is proud to bring its members PETFLEET! STARFLEET has members worldwide that have united in the appreciation of the human adventure that is Star Trek. However, STARFLEET believes that adventure should not only be limited to humans. That is why STARFLEET created PETFLEET, to share that adventure with our pet and mascot friends.

It's time for you and your best friend to serve side by side, explore the unknown, face perilous dangers and experience the thrills of a mission's success. You can set out on a voyage of exploration where you and your best friend can explore strange new worlds, seek out new life and new civilizations, and to boldly go where no other pet has gone before.

PETFLEET members include living animals, stuffed mascots, and other so loved companions. It is a free membership that comes with a certificate, PCC number, welcome letter, quarterly newsletters, as well as the opportunity to interact with other pet parents via both Facebook and Yahoo Group pages.

Join us on Facebook: <http://on.fb.me/1Kx768c> or join us on Yahoo Groups: <http://yhoo.it/1CfQiA9>. You will find applications to join in both locations, or you can email direct at petfleet@sfi.org.

PETFLEET members will not have voting rights, count for chapter manning levels, or receive the Communiqué.

Sign up for PETFLEET today so your companion can join Porthos and Captain Archer of the *Enterprise*, going where no pet has gone before.

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USS Star League: Star Trek Warps Ahead at DragonCon!

by FCAPT Jana Sandarg
USS *Star League*, Region 1

The Borg are back! Seven-of-Nine Jeri Ryan and Hugh, the Borg played by Jonathan del Arco, stormed DragonCon 2014 over Labor Day weekend in Atlanta. A contingent of STARFLEET personnel complemented the Star Trek presence by marching in the DragonCon parade. Two crew members of the USS *Star League*, Fleet Captain Jana Sandarg and Lieutenant (jg) Aaron Knowles, led the Star Trek section with a STARFLEET banner and a crew banner held aloft. They were followed by Andorians, Klingons, Trills and other sentient beings of the Star Trek universe. STARFLEET members as far away as Washington, D. C., joined the procession and promoted the Star Trek spirit. Fifty times more Star Trek fans lined the streets of the parade, cheering the fleet on.

This year's array of Star Trek



guests represented the old and the new, the new and the newer. Representing the old guard, Walter Koenig gave a lively presentation about his decades on the Enterprise, from the series to the films. Fans utterly drowned him out with applause. Especially moving was a series of questions from young fans, born in the 21st century, who cited their parents and their grandparents for inspiring them to become Trekkers.

Patrick Stewart and Gates McFadden reminisced about their adventures on Star Trek TNG, as well as their other successes on stage and on film. They had the audience in stitches with inside stories on the set as well as tales about Risa and their relationships with other stars. Years after their last movie, these two actors have maintained their charm and personal appeal. Picard and Crusher are always a hit.

Representing the newer of the new were Karl Urban, the Doctor McCoy of the reboot film, and Peter Waller, who played Admiral Alexander Marcus in the second reboot film. It was their first DragonCon appearance, and the fans packed the room to hear their stories. They were surprised by the audience's enthusiasm and adoration.

Garrett Wang, Voyager's Harry Kim and DragonCon Trek Director, hosted all the Trek sessions. With his unique brand of humor and wealth of Trek tales, he was the consummate interviewer, eliciting the best from each actor and confirming his role in maintaining the Trek fever. Thanks to Garrett and his myriad of contacts, the Star Trek sessions at DragonCon have grown larger each year, filling major ballrooms with devoted fans dressed in Star Trek costumes.

You haven't experienced Trek at its best if you have not witnessed the Star Trek Miss Universe pageant hosted by Garrett Wang. Where else can a rock be Miss Universe? This year "Mother Horta" walked off with the crown. Garrett's ability to orchestrate the participation of the audience, plus the impressive array of contestants and judges, make this a unique performance. The old, the new, the reboot. Not just the actors, but also the fans. From kids to grandparents, Star Trek fans rule the universe!



Members of the USS Star League out of Augusta, GA march in the Dragon*Con 2014 parade, leading the Star Trek section and representing STARFLEET well over the Labor Day weekend.
Photo: John Wilson

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USS Thunderchild: The Great Black Hills Duck Race

By CAPT James Bakken
USS *Thunderchild*, Region 6

In 1989, Children's Miracle Network (CMN) of Rapid City, South Dakota, created a fund-raising event that was destined to become, in today's vernacular, "viral".

The Concept was fairly simple, you get several hundred yellow rubber ducks, put numbers on their little bottoms, and offer them for "adoption" at \$5.00 per duck, with specially designed tee-shirts awarded to anyone who adopts five ducks.

Then, on the last Sunday of July, you drop all of these adopted duckies into Rapid Creek from the bridge by McDonald's (A major event sponsor) and, voila, the Great Black Hills Duck Race is under way.

Meanwhile, at the finish line in Memorial Park by the Rushmore Plaza Civic Center, the CMN staff and sound crew from KKKM, along with hundreds of children and their parents, patiently await the arrival of the ducks, to see whose numbers come up for all the fabulous prizes that have been provided by local merchants.

Okay, so the children aren't all that patient. And what do you do for hundreds of antsy kids? Why, you set up a children's carnival, of course, and invite local organizations



(National Guard, Civil Air Patrol, Boy Scouts, Girl Scout, and many other...) and vendors to provide activities and refreshments.

If you are wondering what all of this has to do with STARFLEET, here it is. Shortly after his election to the center seat in 1995, Capt. Jim Bakken of the USS *Thunderchild* discovered that his predecessor, Capt. Susan Commeford, had been a adoptive

duck-mom. It seemed only right that the ship carry on her tradition by adopting some ducks, starting with the 1996 event. Then Jim found out about the Children's Carnival and decided to check it out to see if there was anything that the *Thunderchild* crew could do to help out with it.

After attending the festivities with Lt. Cathy Silbernagel and her son Michael, the possibility of our participation was brought up at our August meeting, and the response was immediate and intense. Games! The wheels started turning and plans developing game boards and furry little bean bags that look amazingly like Tribbles, Hence the advent of "Tribble Tac-Toe". Over the years,

other games have been added, as well as other activities for the kids and parents, with all proceeds going to the CMN.

With this year's Duck Race being number 25 for the CMN, community involvement and support have been nothing short of amazing. The number of ducks taking the dive is up to a record setting 19,000 and local businesses have opened their hearts and vaults to provide prizes valued at a grand total \$33,763. This will help to make a lot more miracles possible for all children, thank to the CMN and the wonderful people of Rapid City and the Black Hills community.



FCAPT William Schnitger (standing, center) watches as CAPT James Bakken (kneeling, right) help two participants at the *Thunderchild's* "Planet Puttz" game.

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Why does AXANAR need Another Crowdfund?

An Interview with Alec Peters, Executive Producer

By VADM Jon Lane
USS *Angeles*, Region 4

There have been two Kickstarters so far for Team *Axanar*. The first, which took place in March of 2014, generated \$101,000 in fan donations...the proceeds of which went almost entirely into the filming of the *Prelude to Axanar* short film. *Prelude to Axanar* served as a proof-of-concept to help build excitement and enthusiasm, along with encouraging donations for *Axanar*'s second Kickstarter, which took place last summer and was intended to fund (or at least start to fund) the full-length *Axanar* feature film. That Kickstarter was a huge success, taking in more than \$600,000 in donations in just 30 days!

Now Team *Axanar* is planning to run a third pass at crowdfunding with Indiegogo to (hopefully) complete the funding for their feature film. But fans and donors have been asking a number of hard-hitting questions about production costs, spending priorities, and even perk fulfillment. Executive Producer Alec Peters has promised full transparency on this entire project, and he has responded elsewhere to the tough questions. But now it's STARFLEET's turn to ask some upfront questions of our own, since many of our members have donated to the first two Kickstarters and want to know where our money is going.

STARFLEET COMMUNIQUÉ: ALEC, YOUR KICKSTARTER LAST SUMMER TOOK IN AN AMAZING \$638,000 IN DONATIONS. BUT WHEN ALL WAS SAID AND DONE, YOU DIDN'T ACTUALLY RECEIVE ALL THAT MONEY, DID YOU?

ALEC PETERS: No. By the time we paid for all the costs of the Kickstarter it-



AXANAR Executive Producer
Alec Peters.

self, we had about \$446,000 left over.

CQ: WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY "ALL THE COSTS OF THE KICKSTARTER"?

AP: Well, the folks at Kickstarter have a business model where they get 5% of the money you raise as a commission. So, about \$32,000 of the money we raised went immediately to Kickstarter. Another 5% (approximately) went to Amazon for payment processing fees. So subtract another \$32,000 for that.

But it doesn't end there. We learned during our first Kickstarter (which allowed us to make our short film, *Prelude to Axanar*) that producing perks for the donors is not cheap! Even things as seemingly small and simple as patches, posters, and t-shirts can really add up. And then there are shipping costs, which have really skyrocketed over the past couple of years. When all is said and done, then, you can tack on an additional 20% for perk production and fulfillment/shipping.

So, by the time we got around to spending our Kickstarter money on what we'd planned to spend it on, nearly a third was already gone!

Not that we're complaining, mind you; it's just the cost of doing business if you're crowd-sourcing. And we're so happy to provide the donors with great perks because they're so supportive of us in the first place. Perks also help us spread the word about *Axanar* and build excitement about the project, and that's very important for *Axanar*'s ultimate success.

CQ: SPEAKING OF PERKS, MANY DONORS HAVEN'T RECEIVED THEIR ITEMS YET, AND IT'S BEEN NEARLY A YEAR SINCE THE PREVIOUS KICKSTARTER. WHY THE DELAY?

AP: There are two reasons why fulfillment has taken longer than we planned. First, we decided to delay our international *Prelude to Axanar* shipments until we had all the items in a kit available to mail together. This was because sending multiple packages—which to foreign countries is super-expensive—would have taken money away from the project. So while it has been frustrating to some overseas donors to have to wait a year to receive their items, we literally saved ourselves (are our donors) tens of thousands of dollars in shipping costs by holding everything until all the items were ready to ship in one package.

The second reason for the delay is because we've had to wait until the last of the *Prelude* items--the soundtrack CDs and the DVDs/Blu-rays--were finished. Both of these projects were considerably more involved--and thus, took more time--than we could've imagined! The amount of behind-the-scenes work that goes into producing a high-quality disk--not just the content, but also the design, cover art, captioning, formatting, etc.--is incredible. In addition, most of the people working on the

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disks had other professional commitments that had to take priority, so they were only able to give their time to our projects when they had time to do so.

But I'm happy to say that both the soundtrack CD and the DVD/Blu-ray are finally both completed and being printed as I answer this question right now. The copies should arrive here in our offices within the next couple of weeks, and as soon as we receive them, we'll start packing up more than 10,000 shipments to finally get all of our donors what they've been patiently waiting for.

I'm happy to say, though, that both the CD and the DVD/Blu-ray are finished, and being printed as we speak. They should arrive in our offices within the next couple of weeks, and once we receive them, we'll begin the process of packing up all those remaining *Prelude to Axanar* shipments to get them out to happy donors!

CQ: I'VE NOTICED THAT, IN DISCUSSING PERK FULFILLMENT, YOU'VE BEEN CAREFUL TO SAY *PRELUDE TO AXANAR*, WHICH WAS YOUR FIRST KICKSTARTER BACK IN MARCH OF 2014, AND IT HAD ABOUT 2,600 DONORS. BUT LAST SUM-

MER YOU HELD YOUR SECOND KICKSTARTER THAT MADE \$638,000, AND THAT HAD MORE THAN 8,500 DONORS. WHEN WILL THEY GET THEIR PERKS?

... by the time we got around to spending our Kickstarter money on what we'd planned to spend it on, nearly a third was already gone!

AP: What we learned with our first Kickstarter for *Prelude to Axanar* last March was how much work it is to fulfill all those perks AND how expensive it is to ship them. So we decided a couple of things before we even began the first *Axanar* Kickstarter last summer: 1) we would only ship out donor packages when the perks for each kit were complete for everyone (regardless of whether they were domestic or international), and 2)

that we would also most likely hold off on shipping the perks kits from our first *Axanar* Kickstarter until after we'd held a second one, so that—when the perks were eventually all ready—we could ship out kits from both together (to all the donors who donated to both campaigns).

Keep in mind that one of the main perks from the *Axanar* Kickstarters last summer and this summer is, of course, the DVD/Blu-ray of the finished movie. So we've got to make the movie first, right? Since this major perk can't be produced until after we have the finished movie, we can save a lot of money—money that can be put to use making the movie, instead—by combining the perks shipments for both *Axanar* summer Kickstarters.

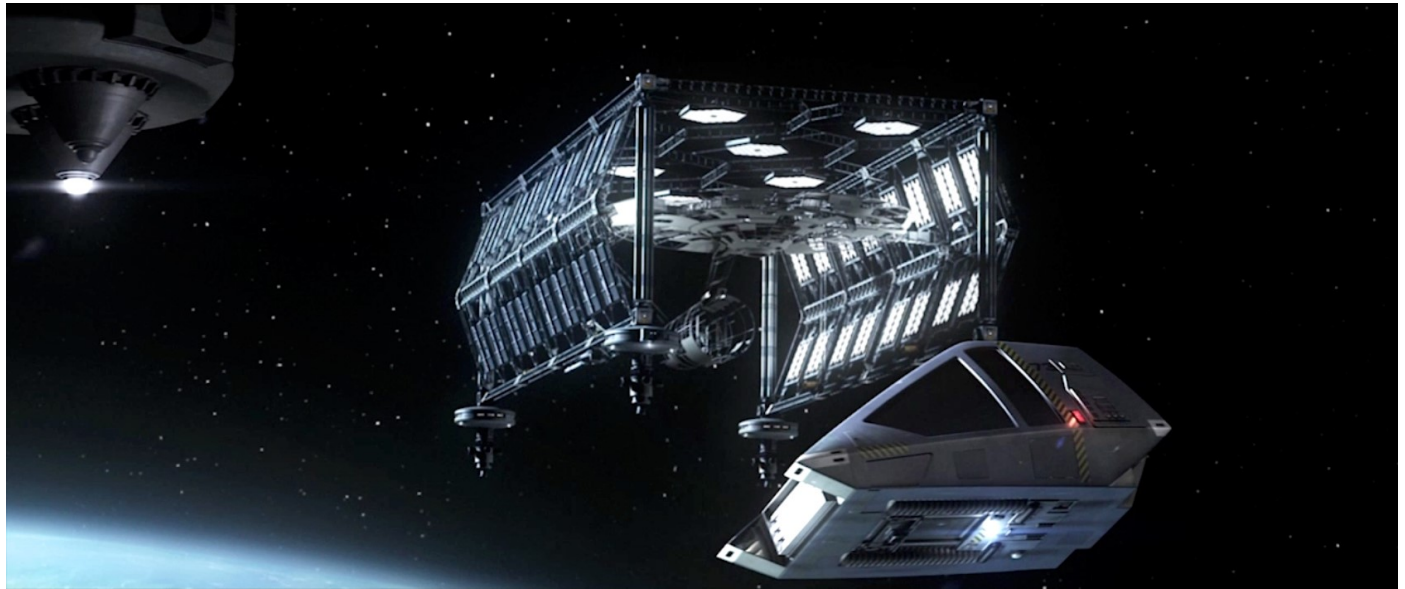
CQ: IN YOUR PREVIOUS KICKSTARTER LAST SUMMER, YOU SAID THE 90-MINUTE FEATURE FILM WOULD COST BETWEEN \$650,000 AND \$750,000 IN TOTAL. AND IT SEEMS LIKE YOU'RE ALREADY TWO-THIRDS OF THE WAY THERE. YOU'VE SAID YOU WANT THIS NEXT KICKSTARTER TO GENERATE \$250,000 ON THE FIRST DAY AND WIND UP WITH A TOTAL FAR ABOVE

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Gary Graham reprises his role of Ambassador Soval from *Star Trek: Enterprise*. Gary, whose career spans almost 40 years, is also known to sci-fi fans as Detective Sikes from the *Alien Nation* television series. Soval and his Vulcan diplomatic colleagues tried to negotiate a peace between the Federation and Klingons. Regrettably, they failed. (Screencap: *Prelude to Axanar*)

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Starfleet needed more time--desperately--to finish construction on their next generation of starship. Admiral Ramirez (Tony Todd) went to his three best captains for options, and Garth came up with an audacious plan. When Sam Travis heard it, he called the idea: "One-hundred percent insanity; a blood bath waiting to happen." That was Axanar. (Screencap: *Prelude to Axanar*)

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THE LAST KICKSTARTER. DOESN'T THAT PUT YOU FAR OVER YOUR PROJECTED FEATURE FILM COST FROM LAST YEAR? WHY DOES *AXANAR* NEED SO MUCH MONEY?

AP: When we held our Kickstarter last summer, we made sure in the executive summary on the Kickstarter page to be very clear and upfront about two things:

1) We didn't have a good budget estimate because there still were a lot of unknowns, and we wouldn't know the final budget until we could hire on an experienced line producer to run a budget for us. In fact, in the top section of the Kickstarter page, I even said the \$650-750,000 estimate would likely climb, and it did. It is now \$850,000 - \$950,000 after we had our line producer, Mike DeMerrit (who worked on *Star Trek* for 11 years), break down the script.

2) The Kickstarter last summer explained that we were raising money for the studio first. We listed those expense estimates: \$125,000 for rent (it wound up being \$ 182,000), \$50,000 for renovations (we have already spent \$70,000 and haven't

even finished yet!), \$100,000 for set construction (it will wind up being more than that), and \$50,000 for pre-production costs.

So the building of Ares Studio is what the first Kickstarter really focused on, and we have done a pretty good job with that. But everything cost more than we thought, which isn't unheard of in Hollywood

We're doing everything the RIGHT WAY, though. Getting all the necessary permits and licenses takes both time and money...

people are very impressed at what we have done, and we are setting the stage for not just *Axanar*, but more *Star Trek* and science fiction projects in the future.

Plus, remember the Kickstarter math above: of the \$ 638,000 we raised last year, we only have \$446,000 for production after expenses.

We're doing everything the RIGHT WAY, though. Getting all the necessary permits and licenses takes both time and money, but it's how we're making sure Ares Studios will be a professional environment where we can produce great things, now and in the future!

CQ: SO WHAT ARE SOME OF THE THINGS THAT YOU'RE PLANNING TO DO DIFFERENTLY AND/OR BETTER FOR INDIE-GOGO THAT YOU DIDN'T DO LAST TIME?

AP: The biggest change is we have been developing the best Kickstarter fulfillment program in the country. With Diana Kingsbury working full time helming fulfillment and donor relations, and Chief Technology Officer Terry McIntosh developing cutting edge technology in Ares Digital, our digital fulfillment

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platform, we are making sure we can deliver donor perks more efficiently than ever. Even Kickstarter has expressed how impressed they are with the process we have created.

Plus, for Indiegogo, we want to get the whole *Axanar* fan community involved with promoting and supporting the new campaign! Launch parties, local events, contests...we have some really great things in the works that we think will be a LOT of fun. By the time this crowdfunding ends, we want every *Star Trek* fan to know about *Axanar*!

CQ: WHAT DOES THE FUTURE HOLD FOR *AXANAR*? WHEN WILL FILMING BEGIN, AND WHEN WILL THE FINAL FEATURE FILM BE FINISHED? AND WHAT HAPPENS AFTER THE *AXANAR* FILM IS FINISHED?

AP: We are looking at a shoot during the final quarter of 2015, hopefully October/November. After that, of course, we'll go into post-production, so a spring 2016 debut of the finished *Axanar* is our goal. Since 2016 also happens to be the monumentally important 50th anniversary of the *Star Trek* franchise, we think our timing couldn't be better.

Once we've finished *Axanar*, it will be on to other projects. One fun thing is our plan to host a Sci-Fi Film School at Ares Studios, where fans will be able to learn from industry professionals for a few days and then use our sets to film their own student projects. Of course, we're looking at creating more *Axanar* pieces to further expand upon this era of *Trek* history. And there are also some other really interesting and exciting sci-fi stories out there that we can't wait to tell!

A USS Heimdal Halloween

by Admiral Linda Smith
USS *Heimdal*, Region 1

On October 18, 2014 twenty *Heimdal* members got together for the chapter's Annual Halloween Party & Costume Contest. The event has become one of the chapter's most favorite get-togethers.

The *Heimdal's* Executive Committee (CO, XO & department chiefs) plan the party for the chapter members & each DC presents a fun activity / game station. All games take place simultaneously so everyone is busy (and loud) all night long. Among the games presented this year was "Help Spock Get His Brain Back," which is the *Heimdal's* version of "Pin the Tail on the Donkey." Using a photo from the *Trek* episode, Spock's Brain, participants were blindfolded, spun around several times & given a small brain to pin on the photo of Spock. There was also the Planet Toss, Alien Football & a number of other fun games.

Everyone got to pin a dialogue bubble on a photo of Dr. McCoy filling in the blanks, "I'm a Doctor, not a ____." It was fun at the end of the evening seeing just how many



variations there were.

The Costume Contest was the most exciting part of the party with prizes for the winners in four categories; Best in Show, Most Original, Best Sci Fi / Star Trek & Funniest. Chris Thompson & Kenny Proehl won the Best in Show prize dressed as the Coke Polar Bears, Robin Hudson won Most Original as an adapted Klingon, Chuck Rayburn won the Best SF / Trek prize dressed in an Enterprise series jumpsuit, & Linda & Willy Smith won the prize for Funniest dressed as Homer & Marge Simpson. The costumes were wonderful this year & it was difficult deciding on winners in each category.

A fantastic evening was had by everyone who attended the Halloween Party & we're already looking forward to next year's chance to step into the fantasy world in the *Heimdal's* own Holodeck with our friends.



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Region 4: Fresno Confab

by CAPT Gloria Rodriguez
USS *Angeles*, Region 4

(This article originally ran in the USS *Angeles*' quarterly newsletter, "Angels Flight," December 2014.)

A good number of my fellow USS *Angeles* members attended the STARFLEET Region 4 Conference our chapter hosted in 2013. Conferences we host are larger and possibly more entertaining than the norm. We take advantage of our Hollywood/L.A. resources!

But there is something to be said for smaller, more relaxed conferences. Let me tell you about this year's summit (sometimes they call it that) in Fresno. And I hope our members will be encouraged to come to conferences more often!

Why Fresno? We were there because the hosting chapter, the USS *PeaceKeeper*, is based in nearby Kingsburg. Region 4, by the way, consists of STARFLEET chapters across Arizona, Nevada, California and Hawaii.

Tip: Friday night before the conference is prime time to hangout and get to know people. Most of us met up for dinner at a BJ's Brewhouse near our Ramada location. USS *Angeles* members Kat Campbell, Jennifer "NextJenn" Cole and I greeted familiar faces and introduced ourselves to some new ones. Then back to the ConSuite, as our hosts called the hospitality suite. We crowded in and shared stories about getting to Fresno, previous summits, what's going on with folks we haven't seen in a while, the usual catch-up stuff.

And the suite got heavily stocked for the weekend with candy, chips and drinks, i.e., replicator-engineered morale enhancement. Another tip: Some people skip the morning panels, but I often catch important bits of information during this "business" part of the conference, so keep the coffee coming. What, there's a "Star Trek" bridge re-creation in Pasadena to see? David Nottage, the vice regional coordinator, has a line on free "Star Trek" 2016 movie tickets for everybody? R4 Lists will be offline next spring? Good to know!

But here is another good rea-

son to show up in the morning: Auction and quartermaster merchandise are on display, and you will want to spot the good stuff early. I snapped up a STARFLEET messenger bag with no shipping cost; almost \$9 saved! When people saw mine, the other two flew off the table.

I just want to mention Jennifer Cole took on the job of sales clerk for the quartermaster. Keeping track of money and inventory is tedious and time-consuming, so well done, Rear Admiral NextJenn!

Now, our Commanding Officer Fleet Captain Dave Mason was able to attend panels that I didn't, but couldn't stay long. So we never crossed paths at this summit! But you (and I) can read what he experienced in his article on Page 26.

Should I mention Admiral Nottage and I killed a pitcher of margaritas at lunch? Anywho, it's a good thing CPR dummies aren't rigged as breathalyzers because next on my agenda was CPR/AED instruction.

For a \$5 fee, Lieutenant Commander Stephen Griswold of USS

The Meet the Brass panel in the ConSuite. COMM Larry Barnes (left) listens as CAPT Michael Garcia (center), the Vice-Chief of STARFLEET Communications answers a question. FADM Wayne Killough, Jr (center-right), Commander, STARFLEET, and MAJ David Anderson look on.



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PeaceKeeper, a professional CPR instructor, explained how to assess and respond in an emergency. We worked with training defibrillators, which don't charge up, and practiced breathing and compressions on CPR dummies, including an infant-sized one.

Did you know those defibrillators talk? And if someone is too hairy to place those defib pads, use the sticky pad backing to "wax" him! Stephen also discussed Good

Samaritan laws and changes in choking procedures.

Finally, the banquet is always the highlight of a conference. Everyone wears his or her best uniform or costume because this is the time for awards and promotions and photos for newsletters. The surprise was, they decided on a live auction instead of a silent auction. Our auctioneer, Captain Mike Garcia of the USS *Gygax*, turned out to have quite



Region 4 Coordinator ADM Jerry Tien of USS *Eagle* (left) gives his annual "State of the Region" address, while Vice-Regional Coordinator ADM David G. Nottage III of USS *Golden Gate* updates the attendees on current financial news as well as future plans for the region's finances.



FADM Wayne Killough, Jr (right) promotes LT David Goldsberry (left) of USS *Gygax* to Lieutenant Commander during the Awards Banquet on Saturday night.

a talent for running jokes and inciting bid wars! I did bring home one toy, just because it included a tiny Riker and LaForge. More than \$600 was raised for the STARFLEET Academy Scholarship Fund.

There would still be an outing to the Forestiere Underground Gardens and lunch the next day, but I especially remember our final gathering in Con Suite.

Someone was making Photon Torpedo shots, layers of cinnamon schnapps and Rumchata liqueur. Tasty. And stories of getting lost and going the wrong way on one-way streets sounded hilarious. But when Right to Carry supporters got vocal, I got myself off to bed. Infinite diversity in infinite combinations can be exhausting.

I hope you will join the diversity next year. Maybe we will claim the Right to Carry a water-pistol phaser loaded with a margarita.

All photos used in this article belong to Jennifer Cole.

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Klingons; Continued from Page 16

would colonize the planet.

Commander Kor had told Kirk that he was disappointed that the Organians had put a halt to an impending war; he would have reveled in the glory. It must have been difficult for him to fight alongside his one-time adversary. The truly honorable Kor rose above his prejudices, and, through no little effort of Kirk's, the Klingons and the Narr (who the Klingons found to be honorable warriors, also) discovered common ground, and were able to cease hostilities. So impressed were the Klingons that an enemy of the Empire would go to such lengths when answering a distress call from a Klingon colony, that they set aside the anniversary of those days on Signi Beta as the Day of Honor celebration throughout the Klingon Empire. It is a time of great revelry and festivals, but most of all it is a reminder that even ones enemies may possess and act with the same sense of honor as that of a Klingon.

According to Klingon mytho-historical legends, Kahless, the rebel who overthrew the tyrant Molor, was a simple warrior. He wanted no more than to serve his leader, and live the life of a warrior. He was a skilled fighter and a clever strategist. Beneath the savagery, his heart held a burning knowledge of right and wrong, along with an innate sense of honor. Kahless may have needed his warrior-brother, Morath, to goad him into doing the right thing, but, once he started, there was nothing that would stop him.

Not so was the tyrant, Molor. Fierce and vicious, though he may have been, but within, he was much like any bully, a coward. After years of fighting, Kahless and Molor once again came face to face. Molor had aged fast and hard from the stress and worry that the rebellion had brought. Where he once might have been more than Kahless' equal in a fight, he was no longer a match for his one-time officer. He showed further lack of honor by trying to defeat Kahless through deceit.

Molor may not have been the first Klingon without honor, and Kahless may not have been the first honorable Klingon, still, they are excellent examples of both ends of the spectrum.

In the next part, LCDR Caruso discusses the Houses of Mogh and Duras. Look for it in CQ #182!

Serling; Continued from Page 15

concession stand, in Captain Stuckey's yard and watched the original "War of the Worlds" and "Galaxy Quest". Serling bid for, and was awarded, the honor of hosting the 2014 Region 7 Conference in Binghamton. *Serling* attended the Shore Leave Convention in August of 2013 as a group and left quite the impression there.

We rode carousels and went for ice cream, held meetings, attended conventions, had fun, did a lot of work for the community, and added a few more crew members. We had a crew presence at the Far Point Convention in Maryland, and worked on the ap-

proaching Conference. *Serling* took a major part of hosting a local convention called RoberCon. *Serling* also launched a shuttle, the USS *Sirius* in Elmira, NY.

October 3, 2014, was a watershed moment for the USS *Serling*. After more than a year of planning and worrying and discussion, we opened the Region 7 Conference at the Holiday Inn in downtown Binghamton, New York. Crews from all over Region 7 and even a couple people from Florida attended the event. We began with a mixer. Everyone had a good time. The following day, after the Region 7 Business meeting, we opened the panel discussions.

One panel featured a presentation by Ann Serling, daughter of our namesake, Rod Serling. She shared memories of her famous father in a video presentation that brought tears to many eyes, and gave us a great understanding of the man within the legend.

One of our crew members, Lt. Ian Jensen works for the Ross Park Zoo in Binghamton and brought the Zoo Mobile. It was a hit with all as who would not want to pet an owl?

There were Star Trek-themed craft sessions presented by Lieutenant Commander Maryse Quinn and discussions of the future of Star Trek in television. Later, there was a wonderful banquet at a local restaurant. By the time the Conference ended on Sunday, October 5th, we had raised \$500 for the Wounded Warrior Project, our charity of choice for the Conference, and we knew we had staged an overwhelming success and set a new bar for the Regional Conference.

The crew of the USS *Serling* is planning more missions, both for the community and for fun. Our crew complement continues to grow. We continue to explore "strange, new worlds" and the "dimension of imagination". We have one ship, one heartbeat, and there is always... Something... On the wing!

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Juan Ortiz Portrays TOS as Moviehouse Art

Designer and Illustrator Juan Ortiz has been re-imagining every single episode of Star Trek: The Original Series into new movie-style art prints.

His nineteen print sets of four all run for \$39.95 each and are available at QMxonline.com for purchase.

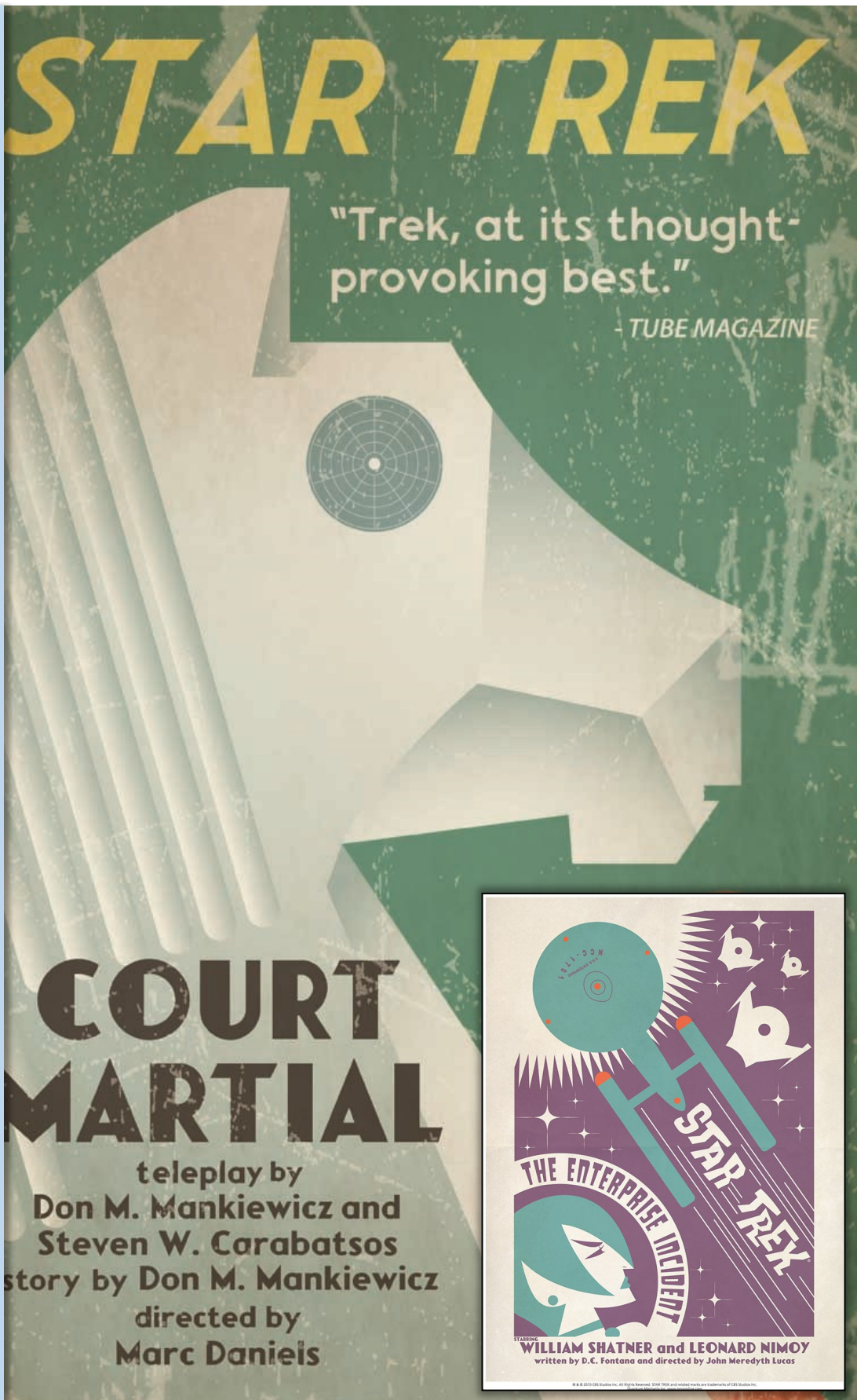
The larger print features a large knight chess piece with a fictional pull quote to give it authenticity.

"Court Martial," which Ortiz says he was inspired by the chess game that was pivotal within the context of the script. "Chess has always been an important element in Star Trek. When we first meet Kirk, he's playing chess with Spock. In 'Whom Gods Destroy,' Kirk and Scotty use a passcode based on a chess move. In this episode, Spock plays chess against the ship's computer and is able to make a discovery that will later exonerate Kirk of negligence."

"The Enterprise Incident" was originally inspired by Busby Berkeley but toned down the elements to give it its current feel.

Pick up your set today!

"Court Martial" and "The Enterprise Incident" poster artwork by Juan Ortiz.

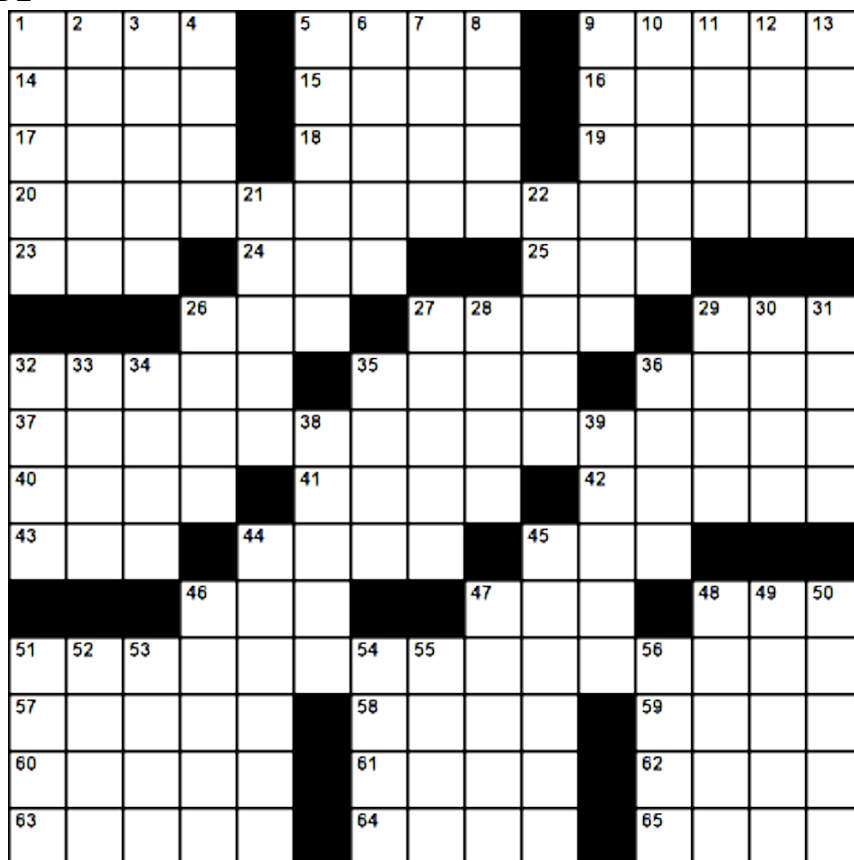


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CQ Crossword #181

ACROSS

1. Drop from the eye
5. Beauty pageant wear
9. Trowel wielder
14. Arm bone
15. Car bar
16. "Remember the ____!"
17. Peel
18. Obsolescent phone feature
19. A violin made by Antonio Stradivari
20. TOS Episode Title; Hull made of neutronium
23. Dump
24. "Is that ____?"
25. ____ juice (milk)
26. Chowd down
27. Captain, Abbrev.
29. "____, humbug!"
32. DS9 Actor Biggs
35. Gangster's gal
36. Kamarupan languages spoken in northeastern India and western Burma
37. The chief law officer of a country or state
40. "High" time
41. Length x width, for a rectangle
42. Blatant
43. Star Trek: The Motion Picture, Abbrev.
44. A coffin along with its stand
45. Award bestowed by Queen Eliz.
46. Tasha or Ishara
47. Letters on a Cardinal's cap
48. "Ain't ____ Sweet"
51. The sciences involved in the study of the physical world and its phenomena
57. Conscious
58. "Thanks ____!"
59. Colored eye part
60. Some shirts
61. French novelist Pierre
62. Seven of ____ or Deep Space ____
63. Bias
64. Chooses, with "for"



65. Kind of card

DOWN

1. Term for feces
2. Ness of "The Untouchables"
3. Bother
4. Rear Admiral, Abbrev.
5. A seat for the rider of a horse
6. Like some symmetry
7. Cut down
8. Station on the bridge; controls flight
9. A person or animal that is adopted by a team
10. Even if, briefly
11. Delhi dress
12. Arab League member
13. Plasma power object
21. Debaucher
22. Copious
26. Federation timeship
27. Demurer
28. Aquatic plant
29. In need of resupply, maybe
30. Biology lab supply
31. "Stop right there!"
32. "Out of the question"

33. Bit of physics
34. "Enough!"
35. ____ mortals
36. Actress Campbell
38. Nigerian money
39. Federation starship; went searching for the *Hera*
44. Minimum
45. Inflammation of the ear
46. Runabout; named for a Canadian river
47. Captain Montgomery or Captain Tryla
48. Curtain fabric
49. "Die Lorelei" poet
50. Federation starship; lost at Mab-Bu VI
51. Drops off
52. Military no-show
53. The basic unit of money in Western Samoa
54. Federation freighter that "hiccuped"
55. Hogwash
56. Holographic woman at Vic's lounge

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ATTENTION ON DECK!

OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2014

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State of FORCECOM

BGN Jari James, COFORCECOM, 503rd MSG, 5th Brigade

With the start of the New Year just around the corner this will be fairly short and sweet because I'm sure folks have plans for the next two days and reading articles probably doesn't sit high on folk's 'To Do List'. The two topics I want to touch on are personal records and awards. If this sounds like a rehash of previous articles of mine, you're probably right. Questions about awards and individual records tend to make up the biggest percentage of questions and problems that come across my desk.

So here we go.

PERSONNEL RECORDS: You need to ask yourself 'When was the last time I logged on and reviewed my records?' Consider the start of the New Year a good time to go take a look. While the various Brigade OICs will work hard to make sure FORCECOM is kept up to date with information changes and awards issued to their Command, it is ultimately your personal responsibility to make sure things are accurate and ship shape. It may be something simple as making sure an email address change is reflected on your records or something a bit larger as finding that an award that is missing in your records.

No one's going to know something is missing but you. Rather than trying to catch things up at the last minute when you're doing the final review of your Class A's for an upcoming event, get in the habit of reviewing your personal records every couple of months or so.

It's a fact of life in electronic record keeping that sometimes things go missing. An email may get eaten by a spam folder. Records may be lost on a hard drive. It is the responsibility of the individual to keep a



copy of all his personal records, awards received, courses completed, etc. if you find an error, it's certainly acceptable to point it out and request the data be added, updated or changed. Just know that you'll need to provide documentation so that the appropriate correction to the database. Documentation can be a scanned copy of the certificate, an email from the issuing authority, a copy of a Unit or Brigade report noting the award, etc.

I can't emphasize this point enough: if it can't be documented, it can't be changed, corrected or added.

As a reminder as to who does what: FORCECOM is in charge of entering Achievement and Service awards as well as making sure you're in the right unit, etc. If you have any questions about these two classifications of awards, your Unit assignments or other personnel questions, please send them up the Chain to FORCECOM.

TRACOM manages all entries to do with SFMCA courses and Training Awards. If you've completed a course and you don't see it on the database after a reasonable amount of time has past [please give them a few weeks] or you feel you are due a Training Award, contact the Dean of the specific Branch/School or go up the Chain

to TRACOM.

Concerns or questions regarding either of the specialized Medical Award go directly to the SFMCA Medical Director who is the issuing authority for them.

Email addresses for all of the above can be found on the SFMC website.

AWARDS: I ask that all Marines who have taken on volunteer and community service projects that are targeted as part of the Commandant's Campaign Award please contact your BDE OICs with a tally of hours donated over the last year. The Commandant/SFMC has designated the Special Olympics, Toys for Tots and MGSgt Stoddard's 'March for the Disabled' that took place last March. Please tally all activities done over the year and make sure your Unit, Battalion and Brigade OICs are informed. This information has to be to COFORCECOM by the February 2015 reporting cycle to be considered for the 2014 award cycle. Please don't skip up your Chain of Command and send it directly to me as I will simply send it right back down the Chain.

The BDE OIC will need the following: Name, SCC#, unit, what you did, the date you did it, where you did it and how many hours were spent in the activity. A minimum of 4 hours is required for consideration for this award.

In fact, it's never a bad idea to keep your Chain of Command informed of the good deeds you and your fellow Marines have done. There will be various Brigade Musters coming up over the next few months, along with the 2015 Marine Muster in August. It is always rewarding to see good deeds recognized.

Keep it safe out there and be nice to each other.

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State of the NCO Corps

MGSGT Jerome A. Stoddard, SGTMAJSFMC, 503rd MSG, 5th Brigade

Well, it's been a while, but let's head on back to the booth in the back in the corner in the dark of my local NCO club, where the past couple months we've been discussing the relative merits of a flamethrower versus an assault transport in ground effect mode as a combined leaf-blowing and snow removal device, and the stockings are hung by the chimney with care in hopes that Ole Gunny Claus will fill them with spares (Dern Fleet and Corps budget shortfalls anyway!)

Let me lead off with a profound apology for my general silence the past couple of months. For better than six years, I've been very regular with this report, but beginning in October, I hit a bit of a personal wall. It began with a partially dislocated shoulder, and then continued with some family matters that have taken up most if not all of my time for the past couple of months. I'm happy to report that there's finally alight at the end of the tunnel, and so long as it's not a muzzle flash, things should be back to what passes for normal going forward.

As the year winds down, I'd like to remind you all to be sure that your unit OIC passes information on your participation in the Commandant's Campaign up the line. If you don't report it, we can't reward it comes to mind. And, as a note touching a bit



closer to my own office, remember that the March for the Disabled was extended to cover the entire year by action of the Dant. If you're not sure if something you've done qualifies for recognition under that campaign, get in touch with me ASAP and ask. Next month, I'll cover some of the frequently asked questions I've dealt with concerning the March.

At least in this neck of the woods, winter weather made an early, pre-emptive strike this year, and that brings up two points as far as community service is concerned. The first is something I've been endorsing for years now, namely seeing what you can do in your own community about helping out those who may need warmer clothing to deal with the cold. It's often not just a matter of being more comfortable, it could literally help someone survive. Remember HUGS: Hats, Underwear, Gloves, and Socks. These are often in short supply, and sorely needed.

The second is a little less obvious, and concerns the community that we are all a part of: STARFLEET in general and the STARFLEET Marines in particular. Bitterly

cold weather can affect all of us, and there's often not a lot we can do about it. One thing we CAN do is check up on each other, or simply let folks know we're doing ok. It may not earn you another star on your Community Service ribbon, but it may just set some of your fellow STARFLEET Marines minds at ease. If we can't help each other, I'm not sure how much real help we are to others.

Remember, community service doesn't have to be any part of any organized charity effort. Just giving of your time and energy to someone who needs a hand is the spirit of community service. Whatever you do, make sure that whoever is filing the report for your unit knows the details, and sends it up the Chain of Command in their official report so you can be given the recognition your efforts deserve. Again, If you don't report it, we can't reward it.

As always, the SFMC General Staff needs your input and ideas in order to properly do our jobs. Don't hesitate to contact the appropriate GS member with your questions, comments and ideas. You can find all the email addresses at the SFMC website, and, of course, we monitor the Corps-L list, and the SFMC Facebook group.

Now it's time for Top's History Lesson. I've told this one before, and odds are I'll tell it again. To me, it is not only one of the bright spots in history, but it's a little beacon of hope for the future. And, this year marks the 100th anniversary of that extraordinary event.

Back in 1914, the heads of state on both sides of World War One, and even the power of the Vatican had proven unable to negotiate some sort of cease fire for Christmas. But, on Christmas Eve 1914, for a time, the guns fell silent in many are-



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State of INFOCOM

MGN Mark Anderson, COINFOCOM, 699th MSG, 2nd Brigade

Well just couple of days left I wanted to get my final report in for the year. It seems the years are passing by much faster than they used to.

It was pointed out a couple of days ago we had had another hack attack on the SFMC website. Luckily this was just an injection of two news articles and I was able to delete them and return the site to normal quickly. If you are ever on the site and something doesn't look right please let me know. I try and check



the site as often as I can but the more eyes the better. We have only had a couple of incidents over the

last few months, so we have been lucky. I think that about wraps things up for this year and I look forward to the New Year.

I hope everyone has had a great holiday season and I wish you all the best for the New Year.

In closing here are the pingdom stats for November 2014.

Uptime: 100%

Outages: 0

Downtime: 0 minutes

Response time: 368 ms

Gunny; Continued from Page 31

as along the Western Front in a spontaneous mass act of human decency that has become known as the Christmas Truce. The generals and leaders on both sides had no part in it- it was driven by the actions of common soldiers in the front lines - who gave their enemies leave to search for and bury their dead without fear, and even shared precious small luxuries from home.

They discovered that they knew many of the same Christmas songs - just with different words, and they sang them together. They shared pictures of their families, and despite the language barrier, they managed to get along. In one spot along the lines, they even improvised soccer field and played a spirited game.

In the middle of a terrible war, they found time for "Peace on Earth - Good Will to Men" ... and perhaps saw the soldiers on the other side as people not much different from themselves.

Needless to say, the high commands of both sides were a bit concerned about all this fraternizing with the enemy, and stern orders were

passed down the Chain of Command. Soon, everybody was back in their own trenches, and the War to End All Wars went on. To give credit where credit is due, the politicians and generals tried to arrange a similar truce in 1915, but the war had gotten even uglier and nothing came of it. The unlikely series of events that led to the Christmas Truce never happened again.

If the Christmas Truce of 1914 teaches us anything, it's perhaps that the person best able to treat those around us well is staring back at us from the mirror.

Please accept my best wishes for the season, and my hopes for a good 2015.

State of FINCOM

MGN Barry Jackson, COFINCOM, 131st MSG, 1st Brigade

The checking account opened the month with a balance of \$5299.58.

Credit - \$615.24 PayPal transfer

Debits - \$58.65

Closing balance for the account was \$5856.17

There were 11 sales for the month.

Scholarship interest - \$0.04 . The current balance \$2729.16



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Questions for The Searcher

By BDR William "Junior" Hof
263rd MSG, 12th Brigade

Editor's Note: In a new series of questions and answers inspired by his interactions on the SFMC Facebook Group, Brigadier Hof will take your questions about the life and culture of the STARFLEET Marine Corps and help you find the answer. If you have any questions you'd like to see answered in a future edition of Attention on Deck, please send them to cq@sfi.org.

The General Staff of the SFMC would like to mention that any opinions expressed here are done so without the approval of the SFMC and should not construe any endorsement.

QUESTION: WHY DOES SFMC NEED ITS OWN NAVY? (MARITIME BRANCH) – MGN EDWARD C. TUNIS III, 327TH MSG, 3RD BRIGADE.

THE SEARCHER: That's a great first question. The simplest answer is also the "real-world" one, because we can. However since I'm in the business of giving "in-universe" answers, I shall elaborate. The best canonical argument for the existence of a Maritime Branch is found in the Voyager episode "Thirty Days", which includes both technical and organizational evidence for the existence of such a branch.

The technical aspects include:

The *Delta Flyer* needed special modifications to operate at extreme aquatic depths, stated as being 600 kilometers down, even though the *Delta Flyer* was specifically designed to operate inside the atmosphere of a gas giant.

The Moneans, an advanced interstellar species, hadn't been able to reach such depths even after 300 years of inhabitation. Indicating that operating in deep space is much different than operating at depth.

The *Delta Flyer* was able to be seriously damaged by a native electric eel-type creature, indicating that

standard shields were either ineffective or lost a significant amount of effectiveness at depth.

Captain Janeway was unconcerned when contact was lost with the *Delta Flyer* and doesn't seem to have detected the eel attack even though it was only 600 kilometers away, which is nothing compared to the light years that sensors can often detect a target.

Starship phasers are powerful enough that firing into the ocean would create a hydrodynamic shock wave, which would be akin to a weapon of mass destruction for the native Moneans. This problem may be only applicable to a phaser fired from outside the water as the *Delta Flyer* and Monean ships are shown trading phaser fire immediately prior to this statement.

Photon torpedo use also seems to be problematic as it cannot seem to operate at depth as the *Delta Flyer* needed to be in range in order for Commander Tuvok to use one. This depth is not stated nor alluded to, so it is impossible to determine what the maximum depth of a Photon Torpedo is.

The only conclusion that can be drawn from these canonical points is that Starfleet, or any deep space capable organization, would be hard pressed to fully control an aquatic environment. However, even if you discard the planet seen in "Thirty Days", since it was artificially created, there is canonical evidence that planet's with world spanning oceans naturally exist. In The Animated Series episode "The Ambergris Element" the planet Argo was almost entirely covered in water and another unnamed Federation planet was nearly identical. These examples indicate that planets with world spanning oceans are not uncommon. As stated above and using examples from "The Ambergris Element" it is possible to infer that Starfleet is ill-equipped to secure a maritime environment. Since this inability exists there would be need for an organization with the appropriate equipment to operate from, secure, and patrol the maritime environment.

In the aforementioned *Voyager* episode the existence of a Federation Naval Patrol is revealed; however besides its existence, no other information about its mission or structure was offered. This canonical "easter egg" can be interpreted two ways by the members of the SFMC: either we don't have a navy as these missions are covered by the Federation Naval Patrol, or this organization is more analogous to the United States Coast Guard (USCG) and National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) than the United States Navy.

This places us in a quandary because if the first option is true than the Federation military has a third branch and there is no need for the Maritime Operations Branch of the SFMC. So when in a dilemma like this one I have a policy of justifying something in the Star Trek universe by using the "real-world" argument. The SFMC has members that want to be naval sailors and marines at the same time, so I have to justify that.

The Federation Naval Patrol is a security and safety organization answerable to the Federation Ministry of State. Like coast guard organizations from Earth's history, it is not a war-fighting force but a law enforcement and rescue organization dedicated to the security of the maritime environments of member worlds. This group also works closely with Starfleet and Federation research teams in order to study all aspects of aquatic environments. The Maritime Operations Branch of the SFMC however is combat force capable of defending the oceans of member worlds from hostile forces and attacking threat forces in the maritime environment on non-member or hostile worlds.

In conclusion, while Starfleet ships and the Aerospace Branch can effectively operate as a stop-gap measure as they can engage naval surface ships and submarines at shallow depths. However starships and atmospheric fighters are the cornerstones of interstellar combat and therefore listed as priority targets for enemy forces and defense networks.

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Searcher: Continued from Page 33

So the SFMC must maintain a force that can fully utilize a maritime environment, engage threat naval forces, provide unique combat capabilities that other hostile governments may not be able to field or effectively counter, and ensure that the SFMC rules any theater it might be called on to fight in. That is why the SFMC needs the Maritime Operations Branch.



QUESTION: WHAT PART DOES THE CHAPLAIN AND CHAPLAIN SERVICES SERVE IN SFMC. - COL RUSSELL WITTE-DYCUS, 631ST MSG, 2ND BRIGADE

THE SEARCHER: Ok, this is a loaded question for many reasons; not the least of which being that many of our members are at least religious and at most extremely devout. So I shall tread lightly and attempt to stick to historical examples, Star Trek canon, and production notes. In that thread I shall begin with a quote from the Great Bird of the Galaxy, Gene Roddenberry himself:

"For most people, religion is nothing more than a substitute for a malfunctioning brain. If people need religion, ignore them and maybe they will ignore you, and you can go on with your life. It wasn't until I was beginning to do Star Trek that the subject of religion arose. What brought it up was that people were saying that I would have a chaplain on board the Enterprise. I replied, 'No, we don't'."

It is a well known fact that Roddenberry was a secular humanist that believed that religion created far more problems for the world than it solved. And as we have all seen, every religious figure ever shown in Star Trek has been either a con-artist, alien, or far less concerned with purely spiritual matters than with their own secular agenda. But that is not to say that religious beliefs and attitudes were completely eliminated from the characters or the galaxy in general. Numerous times throughout the years characters were shown to have more than a passing knowledge of human religions and customs, and there are a few instances where characters expressed religious beliefs or participated in religious ceremonies. So in order to adapt the Chaplain and Chaplain

Services in the universe of Star Trek we must change our understanding of what these people would do. And the best place to start with that change is with the US military.

The United States is a melting pot of cultures and therefore its military is as well. In the religious realm, the Department of Defense recognized about 100 different religions and sects in 2009, from the mainstream Roman Catholic to the more rare New Age Churches – they even have a category for Wiccans and Atheists. With this kind of spread it is understandable that most Chaplains don't try to minister to every possible religion. In fact, trying to do so may even violate the principles of their own religion and the individual's right to freedom of religion. So what military chaplains try to do is provide for the spiritual well being of the marines in their unit. This may be as easy as holding mass to as difficult as finding a Shinto Temple in the middle of Africa so that a marine can practice his religion. The one thing that all these different religions do hold in common is that a Chaplain should comfort a man in death, so Chaplains try to become familiar with the "last rites" of all the marines in their unit. And unless the governing body of the religion in question is incredibly prejudice, no one is going to condemn a Chaplain from one religion for giving last rites to a dying marine of another or declare that said rights are invalid.

Some of you not familiar with Military Chaplains may be wondering at this point what exactly a Chaplain does most of the time. Besides tracking down the aforementioned Shinto Temple in Africa – a full time job if it needed to happen – the Chaplain finds himself ministering to the emotional needs of the marines, which in practice is incredibly close to the spiritual and religious needs. Military Chaplains, especially those schooled in philosophy, are great listeners and adapt at providing guidance to troubled marines. To a certain degree this would place them into the category of psychological enablers who can recognize whether a marine is just going through a difficult stage of life or is in need of more skilled mental health assistance. And since Chaplains are universally sworn to uphold a high degree of confidentiality they are often sought out for advice and counsel without the stig-

ma that often accompanies a visit to a psychologist.

It is this mold that I would envision the Chaplains of Starfleet and SFMC; advising those who seek help and enabling those wishing to practice their spiritual beliefs. How much involvement or influence religious personnel would have over Starfleet is up for debate, particularly since Gene Roddenberry forbids it and there has never been a Chaplain in Starfleet seen in canon. But with the plethora of religions and beliefs throughout the Star Trek galaxy there should be a class of officer within Starfleet that can be familiar with religious practices and, most importantly, faith.

The biggest difference between the US Military model and the Star Trek model would probably be accreditation. The US Military requires that Chaplains be accredited by a recognized religious organization in order to serve in such a post. This obviously would cause problems with the atheists and Humanists that Gene Roddenberry envisioned would make up the majority of Starfleet, as religious organizations emphasize faith in a deity while the Humanists, and atheists especially, do not have such beliefs. Therefore it is highly likely that Chaplains in Star Trek would have lost their strictly religious connotations and have become more akin to the aforementioned psychological enablers and spiritual advocates. Training for such would include philosophy, psychology, and studies in galactic religions; and while accreditation from religious organizations would be a bonus it would not be required, and the basic training requirements would otherwise need to be met in order to be considered for Chaplaincy in Starfleet.

More answered questions in the next issue of Attention on Deck!

Do you have a Question for the Searcher? Send them to CQ@SFI.org and make sure you put "Question for the Searcher" in your subject line.



**THE FOLLOWING SECTION
CONTAINS BUSINESS
REPORTS FROM THE
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.**

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Report from the Commander, STARFLEET

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

Welcome back to another exciting issue of the *Communique*! They say time flies when you are having fun... well, it really flies when you are working AND having fun! This has been a whirlwind of a year and while I am sad to see it go, I am looking forward to what 2015 has in store.

At the October Admiralty Board Meeting, the AB confirmed our new Chief of Computer Operations, Admiral Laura Victor. Welcome to the team in your new capacity, Laura! The AB Meeting Minutes from the March, April, and July were approved. I brought to the AB's attention that I had been contacted by the production company working with the movie "Ted 2" and they were asking permission to use the STARFLEET logo as part of a backdrop in the upcoming movie. CBS was already in the loop on this request and had no issues with it. The Board agreed that, if the logo was used, it would be free publicity for the organization, so it was agreed to give the go-ahead to the company. I am looking forward to seeing if the logo is actually used.

I flew out to Fresno, California the weekend of October 18th to celebrate my birthday with everyone at the Region 4 Summit. I want to thank Chrissy Killian and Larry Barnes for putting on a fantastic event! They, along with R4 RC Jerry Tien, made me feel welcome and I had a wonderful time. I got to meet some incredible members throughout the weekend, catch up with our Vice-Chief of Communications Michael Garcia, and see some sights, so the trip was great!

I spent the weekend with two dear friends of mine, David Anderson and Craig Kamikawa. From picking me up at the airport (let's hope they didn't get your license

plate in the video!) to taking me shopping and showing me the sights around town, they were the best all weekend! On my last day there, we passed by a tiny pink building that, from a distance, concerned me. The boys made a loop so I could get a closer look. It is a business called *Pink Pantherz*. It is a coffee shop, but the décor of the business causes several questions to come to mind. I have included the picture for you to see. I was curious if dancers were serving the coffee after seeing the sign up close! There is a drive-in window on each side of the building. They were making patrons pay at one window and then drive around to the other to pick up their coffee...even though the building is small enough for only one person to work in. I just found this whole scenario funny and could not for the life of me stop laughing!

While in California, Chrissy and I sat down and discussed many areas of Fleet, especially those that she personally had an interest in. Please join me in welcoming Chrissy to the Historian's Department. I am sure she will do a remarkable job in helping keep the Historian's website updated and ensuring our history is accurately documented.

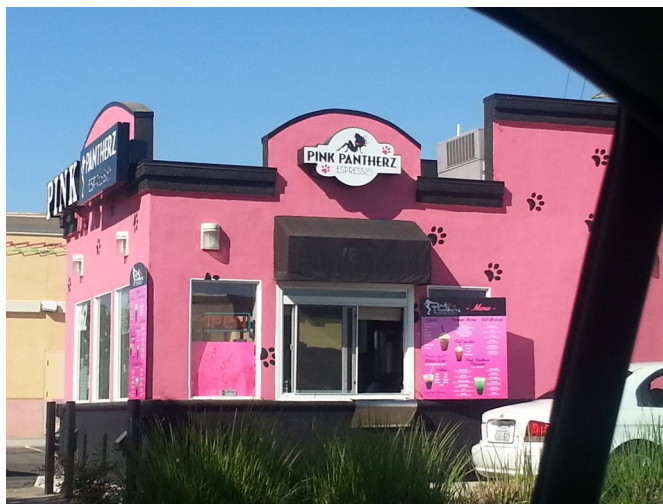
November and December were a little on the slow side, primarily due to the holidays. Several members were off enjoying the holidays with family and friends, which is always a great time. I got to spend some time with my family, including getting to see my two new

great nephews. They are precious to me and definitely know the sound of their great uncle's voice!

December was a great month for me, as we were finally able to close out IC 2014 financials. We had some major discrepancies with the Clock Tower Resort which took months to correct (primarily due to a massive turn-over the hotel was experiencing in office and accounting personnel). There were some outstanding shirts and packets that needed to be sent to members who purchased them. One shirt was refunded, which ended IC 2014 with a loss of \$12.76 for the event. To ensure there were no additional losses, I requested that the shirts and packets be sent to me so I could send them out at my expense. Once these items are mailed out, we can finally close the books on this event.

I will be taking a trip back to Springfield, Missouri for New Year's (like normal) to spend time with my best friend up there. That will be how I end the current year...and kick off the new one! From STARFLEET Headquarters, I would like to wish all members a safe and happy holiday season

That's all for this issue. See you next year!



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Report from the Vice Commander, STARFLEET

RADM Hayden Segel, USS *Potomac*, Region 1

As the year comes to a close, I would like to express my hope that everyone has the happiest of holiday seasons. I would also like for this final report of 2014 to serve as an opportunity to take a look back to the state of our organization back in late March and see how far we have progressed since then.

In late March and early April of this year, we were at a near standstill when it came to Membership Processing. Under new leadership, the member processing teams have executed two mass fulfillment sessions, processing over 3,000 membership packets, encompassing over 100 man hours. There is still much work to be done, as this is year-round function. Hopefully though, the momentum will continue with the result of giving you, the members the level of service you expect and deserve.

In recent months, the Fleet Resource Center underwent some moderate restructuring. The existing structure was streamlined into an assembly of independent working groups. They now have the ability to communicate directly with my office while still set up to easily share ideas and experiences with each other.

PETFLEET went from a practically dormant state to a thriving online community. Our PETFLEET Director, Commodore Lee Vitasek has put a lot of time and effort towards the Petfleet "Reboot" and has many initi-



atives in store for the future to bring Petfleet to forefront of the overall STARFLEET experience.

This year, the STARFLEET Marines displayed exceptional levels of leadership, innovation, and cooperation to better serve the Fleet and the community. The outcome of the logo issue with the US Marine Corps turned out better than anyone could have ever expected. I'm still in awe of what was accomplished and will always be grateful for that. The SFMC also stepped forward during IC 2014 and helped to resolve a number of technical issues. My thanks to the Commandant, the General Staff, and all Marines for making 2014 a great year for the Corps.

The Member Help Desk has, in true STARFLEET fashion, continued to perform admirably. Whether addressing a minor issue affecting a single member or a major one affecting the bulk of the membership, the attention and service provided by the Help Desk continues to exceed expectations. I know I have

raved about Captain Melissa Hadley and the Help Desk team in previous reports, but believe me, they truly deserve it.

A special thank you goes out to Robin, my Chief for all the time and effort put in to our Meeting Minutes project and all the other things necessary to keep the ball rolling in the VCS office. Thank you to Wayne, Denine, Robert, Laura, Peg, Liz, and Linda for their leadership, guidance, support, and dedication as well. And most of all, thank you to all the members STARFLEET for making our 40th Anniversary a year to remember! I wish you all nothing but the best in the year to come. Thank you!

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STARFLEET Operations Report

ADM Robert Westfall, Chief of STARFLEET Operations, ISS *Katana*, Region 6

No report was submitted for publishing.



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Hailing Frequencies Open

CDRE Michael D. Garcia, Chief of STARFLEET Communications, USS *Gygax*, Region 4

Issue #181 was intended to be Liz Woolf's final CQ as Chief, but circumstances beyond her control prevented that from happening. After discussing it with her, she urged me to begin my tenure as Chief with this issue rather than the next one. To that end, I'd like to talk a little bit about my predecessor.

Liz acted as my mentor when I came aboard as Vice-Chief, especially since I had zero experience operating at the 'Fleet level. She showed a lot of patience as I got the hang of things. Even today, I still seek her advice from time to time, and I'm really glad that she's decided to stay on as a member of the editing team and helping out as a Listmod. I appreciate her dedication and all of the time that she put into the role. It's my hope that I can adequately fulfill the role as capably as she did.

Some of you reading this might now have a clue as to who I am. I got my start in journalism in the mid-90s, working for a magazine covering Japanese Animation called *Animecca*. I mostly wrote columns showcasing titles long past in order to introduce them to newer audiences. When *Animecca* shut down, I did some freelance work for minor outlets and ended up working at *Animerica Magazine* in 2003. I wrote video game reviews and worked pretty closely with the managing editor.

I learned a lot about layout and design from him and after my work there completed, I moved on to edit a couple of sports blogs for a few years until I became the managing editor of a baseball online magazine called *Baseball Bias*. It was my first completely online gig, and it paid very little.

Freelancing work doesn't pay a lot unless you write for many maga-

zines all at once, and my primary occupation was in the tech industry. Though this was a welcome distraction, I love to write and I hope to show that love here in the pages of the Communique.

Within STARFLEET, I served as the Chief Engineer (webmaster) and later the Chief Communications Officer of Region 4. I published and edited the *Subspace Communicator Online*, as well as my chapter's newsletter, *Achievement Unlocked*. I currently serve as the Commanding Officer of USS *Gygax*.

By now, a rapid-fire pace of CQ issues should've hit mailboxes beginning in February of 2015. These are issues previously completed and placed on the website, but due to circumstances beyond our control, were not mailed out on time. For that, you have our sincere apologies. We're doing our best to make corrections and work harder to ensure an on-time schedule for the CQ in the future.

And now, let me introduce the team that will be assisting me:

FADM Dave Blaser has agreed to step on board as my Vice-Chief. Dave has years of experience in producing newsletters, including the CQ. Along with his years of experience as a member of the Executive Commission, he will serve as a highly-valued resource within the department. His role within the CQ Staff will be as Managing Editor.

VADM Tammy Willcox will be taking up the newly-created role of Associate Vice-Chief. The Associate Vice-Chief will act as the third-in-command of the Communications department, focusing mostly on wrangling the talented writers for the CQ. Her role will be as the Executive Editor. Like Dave, Tammy has both years of newsletter experience and EC experience which will



be most helpful to me in navigating this role.

ADM Mary Kane will continue to serve as the Senior Copy Editor and team lead.

LGEN Bran Stimpson has volunteered to be our Production Manager. His job will be to liaise with the Printer; inspecting proof copies, delivering finished files, and communicating all necessary changes on behalf of the department.

GEN Aaron Murphy has volunteered to be the CQ Graphics Director. His job will be to produce and approve any and all graphics we will be running within the CQ. If you have images you'd like us to run, you will likely be hearing from him if there are any problems or concerns.

Finally, let me write here that I have been conversing with some of you on your thoughts about the CQ and I assure you that I've listened to them all. You may be seeing some implementation of refined versions of those new ideas over the course of my tenure. I'm always willing to listen and discuss the department or the CQ with anyone showing interest. Please feel free to reach out and contact me at comms@sfi.org.

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STARFLEET Computer Operations Report

ADM Laura Victor, Chief of STARFLEET Computer Operations, USS *Challenger*, Region 7

I am happy to say, as the new Chief of Computer Operations, that we have a lot of good news to report. After an extensive search, we have decided on a new web host for SFI's websites, and will transition over to the new host in the beginning of 2015. Our new host offers a much higher level of quality and customer service, and great new features for our webmasters to utilize on their web sites at a reasonable price. We're very excited to be making this transition, and are looking forward to the improved performance and security for sfi.org, the Member Database, and all our other SFI websites.

We are completing fixes on the Member Database, including issues affecting functionality of Monthly Status Reports, Membership Processing, and member lookup features. This has been a long process, which could not have happened without the incredible talent of Vice-Chief John Halliday, and the Member Database team.

Meet the New CompOps Staff:

The Department is proud to present several new staff members. New members on the Member Database team are Lieutenant Commander William Knopes, USS *Dejah Thoris* and Ensign Ivar Bardie, USS *Vanguard*. Both gentlemen have been worth their weight in latinum over the past few months, working to fix bugs, add enhancements and address emergencies as they arise with the STARFLEET Member Database.

As many of you know, before I was CompOps chief, I served as SFI.org's webmaster for several years. Upon taking this new position, I have had to maintain my duties as webmaster until a replacement could be found. I'm proud to



announce that Fleet Captain Greg Mortensen will be taking on the role in January '15. He brings a wealth of knowledge and talent; having had success as webmaster and CO of the SFI Web award-winning USS *Tydirium* in R11, as well as Region 11 webmaster. He has been working on some major projects along with CompOps, including the SFI Forums and SFI.org's security enhancements. I am very much looking forward to handing over the keys to SFI.org to such a strong successor.

Fleet Captain James Ortega, from the USS *Potomac*, comes from an Internet security background in real life, and has been instrumental in beefing up SFI's online security, providing invaluable guidance in safeguarding our online presence. I'm proud to be bringing on a full-time specialist to handle our security needs.

Getting the most from SFI.org

As you may know, SFI.org has been redesigned over the past year, with a lot of new features. Here's some ways in which sfi.org can help make your Fleet duties a little easier:

- ⇒ Renew your membership from sfi.org: from the main menu of SFI.org, click "JOIN" and you will see a dropdown menu. Enter your SCC # under "Renew Now" and click the "Submit" button, and you will be taken directly to the online renewal form, with all of your membership info automatically entered!
- ⇒ Having a chapter or regional event? Promote it on SFI.org: Enter your chapter and/or regional events to SFI.org's online calendar, to get the word out about your next party, meeting or regional conference.
- ⇒ Submit to the CQ Online! We've merged the CQ online with SFI.org, so your article can be on SFI.org's news feed!

A little about me...

I have been a member of STARFLEET for 15 years now, having been very active at the Fleet, Regional and chapter level since 2000. I've served as Webmaster of Region 7, USS *Archer*, USS *Challenger*, the STARFLEET Marine Corps, STARFLEET Academy and SFI.org, as well as layout editor of the USS *Avenger's* newsletter *Avenger News*, and the *STARFLEET Communique*. In addition, I have served on the STARFLEET Graphic Design Bureau, the 2002, 2005, 2012 and 2013 Region 7 Conference committees, as well as the IC2011 and 2015 committees. In addition to CompOps, I currently serve as 2nd Officer/Communications Chief aboard the USS *Challenger* -- proud to be the current STARFLEET Chapter of the Year.

Commandant's Corner

ADM Peg Pellerin, Commandant of STARFLEET Academy, USS *Constitution*, Region 15

CADET STAR AWARD

Congratulations, Donald Arnold on receiving the Cadet Star Award for completion of the Ferengi Orientation College (adult based college) receiving Distinction in all seven courses.

FEATURED COLLEGES

Dreams Do Come True!

Joining the staff of Starfleet Academy has been a dream of mine for 20 years. I still have to pinch myself sometimes that I've finally made it, I'm a Director! And better than that, I have been fortunate to be given directorship over such interesting colleges such as the College of Foreign Language Knowledge, Animal Knowledge, Star Trek Actors College, and Sci-Fi TV Alien Contact.

Working with the Starfleet Academy staff has been one of the best experiences since I first joined Starfleet. The support and camaraderie is exactly what one looks for in a team effort, and the professionalism is top-notch.

Everyone at Starfleet Academy is working hard to bring Starfleet members a wonderful, educational experience. There is a course for nearly every subject and if by chance you don't find what you are looking for...suggest it.

Here's a peek at just four of the many courses.

COLLEGE OF FOREIGN LANGUAGE KNOWLEDGE

Vice Admiral Patricia Lewis,
Director
roseshakara@gmail.com
5394 N Street NE
Magnolia, OH 44643-8475

Bonjour! Salud! Aloha!
Do you think learning a new



language is too hard? Well, there's help right here in the Starfleet Academy College of Foreign Language Knowledge.

It's simple to learn some basic words and phrases in dozens of different languages. With online translation programs and access to hundreds of reference materials, you are just a few clicks away from discovering the difference between British and Australian slang or Dutch and Danish. Come let us introduce you to greetings and common sayings from all around the world.

I'm thrilled to announce that over the next few weeks, we'll be adding more languages and a new History of Languages series.

COLLEGE OF ANIMAL KNOWLEDGE

Vice Admiral Patricia Lewis,
Director
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5394 N Street NE
Magnolia, OH 44643-8475

Lions! Tigers! Bears! Oh My!

The College of Animal Knowledge is the place for all of you animal lovers out there! Start out with some interesting trivia exams to warm up, because very soon we are going to debut the A-Z of Animals series. And for all of those dog and

cat lovers, we'll have a Domestic Animal series coming later this year.

COLLEGE OF STAR TREK ACTORS

Vice Admiral Patricia Lewis,
Director
roseshakara@gmail.com
5394 N Street NE
Magnolia, OH 44643-8475

Shatner vs. Stewart

Do you have a favorite Star Trek actor? At the College of Star Trek Actors, we feature over 70 different actors and actresses from the many different Star Trek series. Which actor was Knighted by Pope John Paul II and which was "discovered" while break-dancing on Dance Fever? What has your favorite star been up to lately?

COLLEGE OF SCI-FI ON TV

Vice Admiral Patricia Lewis,
Director
roseshakara@gmail.com
5394 N Street NE
Magnolia, OH 44643-8475

I Need Your Help

The College of Science Fiction Television - Alien Contact has been around a few years with courses coming and going. These are favorite shows of days gone by such as: My Favorite Martian, Alien Nation, Space: Above and Beyond, Farscape and more. With so many new and interesting shows on television these days, let's not forget our old favorites. The College has had very little activity during the past year, and it would be a shame to see it closed. Please help out by picking a course or two of your favorites. You don't have to watch the episodes to take the exams, web site references are provided for the answers. I hope to see you, soon!

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Boothby Awards: October, November & December 2014

4400 - USS Aventine
FCPT Franklin Newman III

4350 - USS Aries
FCPT Franklin Newman III

4300 - USS Archon
FCAPT Franklin M. Newman, III

4250 - USS Apollo
FCAPT Franklin M. Newman, III

4200 - USS Andromeda
FCAPT Franklin M. Newman, III

4100 - USS Akira
ADM Carol Thompson

4050 - USS Akagi
ADM Carol Thompson

4000 - USS Agamemnon
ADM Carol A. Thompson

3450 - Mintaka Star
FCAPT Josephine Fisher

2950 - Cetus Star
VADM Glendon Diebold

2850 - Capella Star
LGEN Larry Dale French Sr.

2800 - Canopus Star
LGEN Larry Dale French, Sr.

1950 - Emerald Star
COMM Eric Johansson

1800 - Opal Star
LTC Adam Walter Wenclewicz

1500 - Trilithium Star
VADM Patricia Lewis

1450 - Platinum Star
ADM Barbara M. Paul

1200 - Latinum Star
CAPT Frances B. Brock

500 - Trilithium
COMM Jayden Tyronian
CMDR Elizabeth Worth
LCDR David Paul Goldsberry Dr.

450 - Platinum
COMM Jayden Tyronian
FCPT Lee Vitasek
COL Betty Ann Leverence
LTC David Paul Goldsberry

400 - Zirconium
LT David Paul Goldsberry
LCDR Sharon Helen Norris
BDR Christopher Anthony Bayonet

350 - Titanium
BDR Christopher Anthony Bayonet
LCDR Sharon Helen Norris
RADM Paul C. Dyl
LCDR Michael J. Caruso

300 - Dilithium
LCDR David Phillips
VADM Darlene Harper
CAPT John Wilson

250 - Diamond
CAPT Hooper
MAJ David W. Anderson, Jr.
LTC Jared K. Fielder
FCPT Anne Miller
James William Ferguson

200 - Latinum
LCDR Allen Arthur Anderson
LCDR Andrew McDonald
James Ferguson
CMDR Luis Rodriguez Pinto

LTC Tracy Lilly

150 - Gold
1LT Sean Waitman
CAPT Richard Childers
Brian L. Gilbert
LCDR Allen Arthur Anderson
ENS Christopher Michael Roberts
CWO3 Adam Kieran Hudson
CMDR Luis Rodriguez Pinto

100 - Silver
BDR Christopher O'Banion
LCDR Adam Paul Dolphin
ENS Donald Ray Arnold
ENS Christopher Michael Roberts
ADM David Almon Miller MD
CMDR Luis Rodriguez Pinto
Brian L. Gilbert
MCPT Mark Anthony Wheeler
MAJ Gary D. Christeson
COMM Janice R. Graham
CMDR Eilidh Douglas Montgomery
LCDR Bernard David Dacey
1LT Joshua Ryan Shaw

50 - Bronze
MAJ Gary D. Christeson
2LT Rayne W. Vitasek
ENS Christopher Michael Roberts
CAPT Christopher Johnson
FCAPT Curtis D. Bellman
LCDR Bernard David Dacey
ENS Donald Ray Arnold
COL Derek France
Brian L. Gilbert
LCDR Sarah Ritch Toball
CMDR Eddie Riddle
2LT Timothy Dyl
CDT 2C Martin Robert Lightheart, Jr.
2LT Michael McCarthy
Howard Helmer Jr
CMDR Andrew Blain Carlson

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STARFLEET Financial Report

GEN Linda Olson, Chief Financial Officer

The CFO's office has been very busy this 3 month period. As a result of a bank card change that was required, I had to contact all of our vendors that do automatic billings for us and give them a new account number.

I attempted to transfer the \$5000.00 to the Main account to cover the checks written for the scholarships, but this account did not show up in the fields of available accounts to withdraw from electronically. When I talked to the bank they said it wasn't linked properly and supposedly made the adjustment, however, I still could not make the transfer on line. Therefore, I had to go to the bank to get this resolved.

I had to double check on the domain name renewal as the notice arrived and we need to renew for another year. When I called them earlier this week, they told me that all renewals are automatic, however that was before the bank informed me that the debit card they had on file would be changing..

I have the North Carolina sales has been paid for the quarter on time.

Currently we only pay sales tax in NC, and Florida. NC because we are incorporated there and Florida because that is where all the quartermaster sales are handled. I have opened a Post Office box in Valdosta, GA for the items that are directly related to the CFO's office. I checked into the need for taxes in Georgia and found that since we do not maintain either an office or warehouse in that state, we do not have to pay taxes to Georgia. Merely having a Post Office address does not make us taxable.

I called Pepperdine's yesterday and gave them the new card number to charge CQ #177. The bank account is about to take a hefty hit with the three CQ's coming up and the membership packets that have been sent thru Stamps.com.

All Scholarship checks have been cashed and donations from the membership renewals will be transferred to the Scholarship account shortly.

We are continuing to process multiple membership renewals and new member applications each week and I am working on the idea of a New Member Report to be made to the membership weekly after the first of the year.

That is about all from the Vault at the STARFLEET Finance Office at this time.

	September	October	November
STARFLEET Main Checking Account			
Opening	\$38,899.07	\$41,935.79	\$49,330.46
Credits	\$7,039.27	\$8,327.81	\$2,357.47
Debits	\$4,002.55	\$933.14	\$2,079.50
Closing	\$41,935.79	\$49,330.46	\$49,608.43
IC Even Account			
Opening	\$5,806.87	\$907.56	\$907.56
Credits	\$100.69	\$0.00	\$0.00
Debits	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Closing	\$907.56	\$907.56	\$907.56
IC Odd Account			
Opening	\$558.18	\$558.18	\$1,558.18
Credits	\$29.95	\$1,029.95	\$0.00
Debits	\$29.95	\$29.95	\$29.95
Closing	\$558.18	\$1,558.18	\$1,528.23
SFMC Checking Account			
Opening	\$5,012.36	\$5,299.58	\$5,856.17
Credits	\$507.19	\$615.25	\$230.38
Debits	\$219.97	\$58.66	\$20.47
Closing	\$5,299.58	\$5,856.17	\$6,066.08
STARFLEET Scholarships Savings Account			
Opening	\$5,610.94	\$5,611.08	\$611.10
Credits/Interest	\$0.14	\$0.02	\$599.93
Debits	\$0.00	\$5,000.00	\$0.00
Closing	\$5,611.08	\$611.10	\$1,211.03
SFMC Scholarship Savings Account			
Opening	\$2,729.12	\$2,729.16	\$2,729.21
Credits/Interest	\$0.04	\$0.05	\$0.04
Debits	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Closing	\$2,729.16	\$2,729.21	\$2,729.25
STARFLEET Scholarship CD			
Current Balance	\$1,117.05	\$1,117.05	\$1,117.05
Rate	0.03%	0.03%	0.03%
Matures On	2014-08-15	2014-08-15	2014-08-15
Interest Paid Last Year	\$2.86	\$2.86	\$2.86
STARFLEET Savings CD			
Current Balance	\$17,026.66	\$17,026.66	\$17,026.66
Rate	0.08%	0.08%	0.08%
Matures On	2014-09-30	2015-06-30	2015-06-30
Interest Paid Last Year	\$34.52	\$34.52	\$34.52

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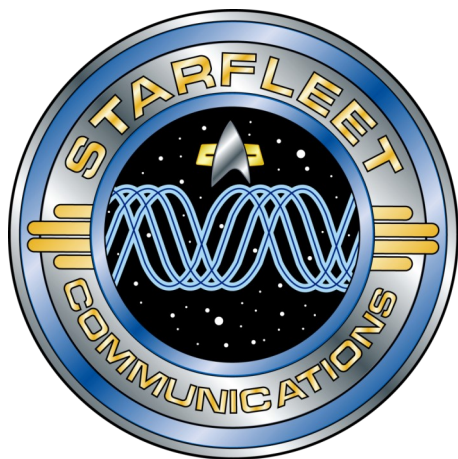
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In STARFLEET Communiqué Issue #182, we pay tribute to those members of the Star Trek family who've departed on their final missions, including Leonard Nimoy, Harve Bennett, and Grace Lee Whitney. Tributes from around the world from fans and celebrities alike will be compiled by our staff in a special memorial section of the CQ.

- ⇒ We sit down with acclaimed director and documentarian, **Adam Nimoy**, to discuss his memorial project, “For the Love of Spock.”
- ⇒ Our new column, “**The Gaming Frontier**,” will continue with another look at Star Trek gaming, both online and off.
- ⇒ “**Star Trek Continues**” episode reviews.
- ⇒ New fanfic and fanart, plus another cross-word puzzle from our staff!

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C	A	S	E	Y		M	O	L	L		N	A	G	A		
A	T	T	O	R	N	E	Y	G	E	N	E	R	A	L		
N	O	N	O	N		A	R	E	A		O	V	E	R	T	
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S	L	A	N	T		O	P	T	S		A	M	E	X		

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!

The Communiqué Staff wishes all of you and your families a safe and warm winter season. We leave you this issue with a blast from the past: Thirty-five years ago, *Star Trek: The Motion Picture* opened on December 7, 1979.



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2015 STARFLEET International Conference

August 21st to 23rd, 2015

Niagara Falls, New York

Honeymoon
in
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