ISSUE #189

OCTOBER-DECEMBER 2016

"Time is a companion that goes with us on a journey.
It reminds us to cherish each moment, because it will never come again.
What we leave behind is not as important as how we have lived."

Jean-Luc Picard

STARFLEET MARINE CORPS

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Issue 189
OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2016

Features & Articles

Starfleet scholarship fund	3
The CQ is looking for you!	4
50th anniversary gear from the QM	5
A memorial to Oliver Savander	6
Donation from a local trust fund	7
USS Heimdal Recruits at Opening of New Theater	8
USS Justice Crew Enrolls In STARFLEET Academy Experience	9-11
Chaplains in STARFLEET	12-13
Having Summer Fun At Shore Leave 38	14-15
Star League Crew Attends Parade	16
A Night at the Smithsonian	17
Summer Fun at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center	18-25
A Milestone in Fandom...And More	26-27
Farewell from the executive committee	28-30
Staff directory	31-32

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A DOLLAR A YEAR OR MONEY IN THE BANK

MULTIPLE WAYS TO SUPPORT THE STARFLEET SCHOLARSHIP FUND

by Chelle Westfall, ISS Katana, Region 12

Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.

— Nelson Mandela

And STARFLEET has been supporting this "weapon" since 1990. Since that year, STARFLEET has presented monetary scholarships to active STARFLEET members who are furthering their education in community colleges, four-year colleges, most technical schools, junior colleges, universities or graduate school, or any other accredited institution/organization that offers a certificate/certified program. Whether its Engineering & Technology or the Medical Arts, STARFLEET has supported students realizing their potential for over 25 years. But this valuable program needs to be supported. And it's so easy.

Scholarships are awarded annually in the amounts of $1000 to help with the expenses in a variety of subject areas. Each of the scholarships is named for a Star Trek character or person who has contributed to Star Trek or STARFLEET. Even our former Commander, STARFLEET Wayne Killough was memorialized by having a scholarship given in his name.

The various STARFLEET scholarships cover a wide range of educational disciplines, including Engineering & Technology; Medical or Veterinary Sciences; Aspiring Writers & Artists; Business, Language & Education; and the Space Explorer's Memorial Scholarship (General Education Studies).

But, the high costs of modern education make every dollar meaningful. These scholarships, though they seem small, can make a big difference to someone trying to further their education. They are the biggest contribution to our legacy as an organization. However, support for these scholarships is inconsistent. Though multiple initiatives are underway.

The easiest and most obvious way to fund the scholarships is through member donations. If every member of STARFLEET added one extra dollar to their membership every year, the STARFLEET Scholarship program would be entirely funded. The membership renewal section on the STARFLEET website is already set up to receive the donations. A separate box allows any member to make a donation to the STARFLEET Scholarship Program.

Other initiatives to help fund the STARFLEET Scholarship Program include Pennies for Potential. Started in Region 12 by a go-getting CO, BGEN Justin Donovan of the USS Discovery, the concept is simple—a change can gone wild. Several chapters in Region 12 keep a variety of different penny banks to gather loose change and then send the donations to STARFLEET for the scholarships. The original mascot, a bright pink owl named Penny, has been making appearances at various Region and STARFLEET events since the 2014 International Conference. Since 2014, the participants in Pennies for Potential (P4P, for short), have raised over $1100. That amount is enough to fund one of the scholarships and it came from spare change.

Think about it, if every member made a $1 donation to the scholarship fund each year, we could fully fund the program.

Whether members choose to donate; go out an buy a penny bank and start saving their pennies; or start a new initiative, every dollar toward the STARFLEET Scholarship Program makes a difference.

WWW.SFI.ORG/SCHOLARSHIPS

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Donation from a Local Trust Fund

by Linda Smith, USS Heimdal, Region 1

In August 2016 as the USS Heimdal in Madison Heights, VA, Region One, was preparing for our Annual Public Charity Auction, I was contacted by the executor of a local family trust fund. He told me that each year the Trust Fund selected a local non-profit organization that stands out within the community to make a monetary donation to. The executor had seen our newspaper advertisement about our upcoming auction & was very impressed with our Space Camp Program. He wanted to know more about it.

Through proceeds from the Heimdal's Annual Public Charity Auction we are able to sponsor 10 local charities at Christmas & additionally send a local middle school student to Space Camp each summer; a scholarship that we have been able to offer to 9 area students. I told Mr. Daly about this & he was interested enough to come to our auction, speak with me privately about the Heimdal being considered for a donation from the Daly Trust Fund, meet our 2016 Space Camp recipient & he stayed for our auction. Afterward he told me he was truly amazed & impressed at the dedication of our members in bringing in more than 300 very nice items for the auction. He said he would get back to me.

Shortly after the auction Mr. Daly contacted me & told me the USS Heimdal had been chosen to be the 2016 recipient of the donation from the Daly Trust Fund because of our community involvement but primarily because of our successful Space Camp Program.

On October 17, the USS Heimdal received a check from the Daly Trust Fund in the amount of $1500. The donation assures the USS Heimdal of not only sending a local student to Space Camp in 2017, it allows us to donate just a bit more to our Christmas charities & begin building our funds to send a student to Space Camp again in 2018.

We are so very grateful for the recognition we have gotten as a credible helping force within our community & for the generous donation we received from the Daly Trust Fund because of our Space Camp Program. This is a huge recognition of our dedication & teamwork as a chapter.

USS Heimdal Recruits at Opening of New Theater

by Linda Smith, USS Heimdal, Region 1

On Friday, November 4 the Venue Theater held its Grand Opening in Lynchburg, VA & the USS Heimdal was there.

Earlier this year we learned that Venue Cinemas was opening a new movie theater in Lynchburg in late fall, giving Regal Cinemas … the only theater in town … the healthy competition it needs.

The Heimdal's XO, Kenny Proehl immediately contacted The Venue Cinema's manager / owner, told him about the Heimdal & discussed the possibility of establishing a working relationship with the theater. The manager was very excited at the prospect of working with us & told Kenny that one of the movies that would be shown on Grand Opening weekend would be Star Trek: BEYOND, which was perfect.

We discussed appearing at the theater with our members at our next Heimdal meeting & everyone was in favor of doing that. Proehl made a list of volunteers & put together a schedule for Heimdal members to work specific shifts on opening weekend.

On November 4, CO, Linda Smith, XO, Kenny Proehl, Second Officer, Willy Smith & new member, Jerry Werner met at 11:30 a.m. to set up the Heimdal's display. The theater gave us a large area, so we not only had a table with our recruiting materials, a sign-up sheet for interested people to get our newsletter, our Heimdal picture board & Trek memorabilia, we also had room for 2 mannequins wearing Star Trek costumes. It was a wonderful display.

Over the weekend the Heimdal signed up 14 interested people who will be getting our newsletter for 3 months. We talked to a lot of people who are Star Trek fans & found a number who may be interested in joining our chapter. It was a fun & very productive weekend.

The manager was very gracious in extending an open invitation to the Heimdal as well as donating a large, double-sided poster to our Annual Charity Auction.

The weekend reception from the public to the new Venue Theater was amazing, with crowds waiting in line for tickets at every showing of the movies that were part of the Grand Opening weekend. The Heimdal wishes Venue Theater huge success & thanks them for their warm welcome to the Heimdal & response to our working with them. We look forward to our future working together.

We also thank our Heimdal members that came out in uniform & helped man our recruiting table & display.

...Continued on Page 9.

USS Justice Crew Enrolls In STARFLEET Academy Experience

by Rose Caratozzolo, USS Justice, Region 7

Stardate 8.6.16: The brave crew of the USS Justice which included CO Mike Stein, XO Bob MacAlpin, Richard Heeren, Tim Longo, Mike Sawyer, Gene Cahill, Pam McPheron & Rose Marie Caratozzolo, along with two special guests- Rose's parents, Roy & Rosemarie, met at 8:30 AM at Port Authority in NYC and at around 9:10 AM embarked on their trek to the Intrepid Sea, Air and Space Museum to attend the Starfleet Academy Experience (SAE).

The SAE, housed in a tent on the Intrepid, is comprised of a series of interactive tasks to help you navigate through the Academy's recruitment process in seven disciplines: medical, communications, science, engineering, tactical, navigation and command. Each section has a five question quiz along with an interactive activity. You are given a radio-frequency identification (RFID) bracelet that is registered to you and tracks your progress throughout all the exercises and quizzes you undertake in the SAE. The first thing we saw upon entering the SAE is a 25-foot replica of the Enterprise NCC-1701 accompanied by music and overlaid with images of the original crew of Captain Kirk. This is followed by a hologram delivering a welcome message from Starfleet Academy. The first station we encountered was medical. Here you had to scan an injured Klingon officer using a medical tricorder to accurately identify the patient's symptoms. Next, at the communications station we were able to take a Klingon 101 course and make a "species selfie" where we could manipulate skin color, hair and other facial features such as adding antennae or forehead ridges in order to look like various species within the federation. At the science station, we were presented with the following scenario: your ship has malfunctioned and needs to crash-land, there are four planets within crashing distance, which one do you choose? Information, such as planet classification, atmosphere, weather and lifeforms is

provided for you to make the best choice.

In engineering, there was a replica of the transporter and our images were projected onto it so we could see what we would look like if we were getting "beamed up". Phaser target practice was the task at the tactical station. There were three targets to shoot at, each requiring a different technique to score a hit. You had two minutes to hit as many targets as possible while avoiding a fourth "hold your fire" target. At navigation, you need to plot a course to get your ship around planets, nebulas, asteroids and enemy ships to reach Deep Space 9.

As you make your way through the SAE, the walls are filled with profiles of famous members of Starfleet, timelines of important Federation and Starfleet events and descriptions of various technologies and instruments. In addition, there are multiple uniforms on display, including both Captain Kirk's and Picard's as well as an array of weapons and equipment. All of these stations and artifacts lead you to the final station, command.

This area is a recreation of the bridge of the Enterprise-D. Here, we were able to take a seat in the captain's chair and take the infamous Kobayashi Maru exam. The exam requires you to make tough decisions in order to rescue hundreds from a medical vessel under attack by three Klingon ships.

Once all stations have been completed, the results from all your tasks are compiled and sent to you via email detailing which discipline would be the best fit for you to study at the Academy. You are also sent a copy of your "species selfie" and transporter video.

Following the SAE, the crew of the USS Justice had lunch in the Intrepid's mess hall and a few went on a quick tour of a US Coast Guard cutter, the Eagle, that was temporarily moored at the Intrepid.

Our final event of the day was the "Boldly Go" tour of the Intrepid at 2:45 PM. This amazing tour is run as if we were recent graduates of Starfleet Academy in the 24th century and have been assigned to the Starship Intrepid, and need to learn how serving on a starship is similar to serving aboard an aircraft carrier. We were joined on this tour by two members

...Continued on Page 11.

of the USS Avenger, Alex Rosenzweig and his fiancé Sarah. Our guide was Molly, who was role-playing as the XO of the Starship Intrepid. It started with a few words from Captain Sulu, Honorary President of the Intrepid Sea Air and Space Museum. The tour then moved on to a select few areas highlighting the history of the names Intrepid and Enterprise in the U.S. Navy, NASA and the Federation. The tour was peppered with references to famous members of Starfleet, such as Commander Data, and major events in Federation history, such as when Dr. McCoy had to deal with the barbaric medical techniques used in 1986 San Francisco. The tour ended at the Space Shuttle Pavilion which houses the Space Shuttle Enterprise. As NASA's prototype orbiter, this shuttle paved the way for the space shuttle program. For the duration of this exhibit, the restored Shuttlecraft Galileo, previously housed at NASA in Houston, is situated below the Enterprise.

Once the tour was over, the crew of the USS Justice made their way back to Port Authority to catch buses back to New Jersey. Once back in our home state, Mike, Bob, Richard, Gene, Pam and Rose met at the Outback in Parsippany for dinner. Overall, it was a long, but amazing day filled with incredible and exciting experiences that every Star Trek fan should undertake.

Chaplains in STARFLEET

by Roberta Staymates, USS Wessex, Region 4

Gene Roddenberry was a sworn atheist, and his vision of the future did not include any sort of institutionalized religion. He is quoted as saying, "there's a very great difference among those religions you mentioned, there are degrees of idiocy….but I reject them all." (*The Gospel According to Star Trek: The Original Crew*.) According to Brannon Braga, one of the goals of Star Trek was to keep the Human Facet of the show 'totally secular'.

It is possible to find numerous references to human religion in the series: A number of religious symbols decorating the wedding chapel in "The Balance of Terror", a bridge officer wearing a Bindi on her forehead in "That Which Survives" and even a quote from the Bible in "The Empath" (www.ex-astris-scientia.org/inconsistincies/religion.htm) to name just a few. However, most references to organized religion, especially when these were central to a plot and during Roddenberry's lifetime, tended to be negative with 'gods' controlling and using their worshippers.

In fact, the network apparently wanted to place a Chaplain on the Enterprise. Roddenberry declined stating that since we were 'presumably dealing with worlds that were like earth in that several contending religions may have arisen over time…" How could you have a chaplain if you've got that many people of different and alien beliefs on your ship?" (*Humanist* 1991:6)

And, that, my friends, is the question. As members of STARFLEET, we care about canon. We care about the world that Roddenberry and his company of writers and imaginers envisioned. If he could not find room for religion and chaplains in his world, how can we?

Perhaps we should start with a definition of what a Chaplain is. According to Christianity Today, "A chaplain is a minister in the service of another." A chaplain at a hospital or in the military is clearly not the highest-ranking member of the institution, clearly not the person in charge of running things. The chaplain's job is defined by service—service to the institution's needs and goals, service to the individuals who come for spiritual help."

What defines the type of help that a person may receive from a chaplain? Frankly, it is the individual who has come for that help. When a chaplain is ministering to the needs of someone onboard his/her ship, the goal is never conversion to a belief system. Whether that chaplain is Christian, Buddhist, Muslim, Native American, or of any other spiritual or religious background, the goal is to help the person find their own way through their own needs.

Gene Roddenberry envisioned a world where, "They have their own beliefs, which are private to them, and they don't evangelize or go around discussing them with other people." (*Humanist* 1991:28) Your STARFLEET chaplain is committed to ministering to YOUR spiritual needs, not their own. Walk into any church, temple, synagogue or mosque and begin talking to the people that you find there how they walk on their personal relationship to their faith. While they may all quote to you the same chapter and verse, you will find each person living their faith in a deeply personal and individual way. Just as Roddenberry envisioned it to be in the future.

In the Trek universe, earth has effectively done away with those things that a communal organized religion might help the world to deal with. Poverty, social inequity, war, ecological crises, have all

...Continued on Page 13.

been solved doing away with the need for an organized religious response. The people of the 23rd and 24th centuries practice their faith in deeply personal and private ways.

We that live on the earth today, unfortunately are still dealing with these things. Medicine cannot cure most diseases, and our loved ones die. Social inequity is prevalent, and one need look no further than the recycling box to see that we are in ecological crisis.

The Chaplain's Corp of STARFLEET exists 'as an outreach to the spiritual and moral needs of Fleet members in order to express an avenue of love and hope to those who may require assistance in those areas….'

We are here to help. We are here to pray for you, if that is what you need. To listen to you, to be shoulder and an arm to help you through. Our chaplains make hospital visits, home visits, phone calls, emails and messages to those that reach out to us. Our chaplains participate in funeral services, or just make an appearance in support of our shipmates who are grieving. Our chaplains minister to the needs of many people of different and alien beliefs on our ships'.

So, say hello to your Chaplain today. Here is a current listing of our STARFLEET Chaplain Staff:

Chief Chaplain: VADM Russell D. Ruhland – trekchristian@gmail.com
Deputy Chief Chaplain: GEN Larry D. French, Sr. - kmoghjih@gmail.com
Chaplain Liaison, Region 2: FCPT Michael McBride - revmichaelm@yahoo.com
Chaplain Liaison, Region 3: Chris Lovejoy – ravenw82@yahoo.com
Chaplain Liaison, Region 4: LTJG Roberta Staymates - rstaymates@gmail.com
Chaplain Liaison, Region 6: COL Russell P. White-Dycus - duncan1574@sbcglobal.net
Chaplain Liaison, Region 7: COMM Karen Mitchell Carothers – trekkieturtle@gmail.com
Chaplain Liaison, Region 8: LT Daniel McCoy – fealtywithlove@hotmail.com
Chaplain Liaison, Region 11: 2LT Keith Miller – keithmiller.net@gmail.com
Chaplain Liaison, Region 12: ADM Jeffrey Higdon – jeffreyhigdon7@comcast.net
Chaplain Liaison, Region 13: FCPT Franklin M. Newman, III – fmn3usaf@yahoo.com
Chaplain Liaison, Region 15: CPT Robert Beaulieu – r15seniorchaplain@gmail.com
Chaplain Liaison, Region 17: CPT Jon Zenor – JonZ@johnzenor.com
Chaplain Liaison, Region 20: LTCMDR John Hardy – johnhardy632@gmail.com

If you may have an interest in the Chaplain Corps please contact the RCL for your Region, or you can go to and even join our website at: starfleetchaplain-services.webs.com.

Having Summer Fun At Shore Leave 38

by Michael Stein, USS Justice, Region 7

One of the best things about summer is Shore Leave and this year's SL 38 was no different. There was plenty to do and not enough time to do everything I wanted to do. I wish SL lasted a full week instead of just a long weekend. In any case, I went down to the Hunt Valley Inn early Friday morning and met up with a few people from our Chapter, the USS Justice - NCC 556.

I met up with my XO Bob McAlpin and his friend Charles Fisher from the USS Invincible, in the lobby of the Hunt Valley Inn after getting my registration materials. We took Bob's car down this time to the Inner Harbor and parked across the street from the Baltimore Aquarium.

Our first order of business was to go on the SeaDog, a high speed boat that was docked in the Inner Harbor. Charles declined to join us since he said he's been on enough ships when he was in the US Navy. While on our walk to the SeaDog we noticed there were two Japanese Warships also docked in the Inner Harbor next to the SeaDog. They were giving free tours on board. After our high speed boat ride we got off and went through the two open warships. Charles did the tours while we were on the SeaDog. I guess he got bored waiting for us. The tours were interesting but the crew spoke very little English so it was difficult to ask them questions about their warships. Charles did tell us some of the armament on board was similar to what they had on the US Navy ships he was on. I guess that would make sense, since they're giving open tours to the public.

After touring the two warships one was actually a training vessel and the other was a multipurpose destroyer. We walked around a bit and headed over to McCormick & Schmicks Seafood Restaurant. I guess it's no secret that I love seafood. Since it was so hot outside we decided to eat indoors by the large bay windows. The a/c felt great after what seemed like a long hot walk to get there. We had a very relaxing late seafood lunch before we headed back to the hotel. However, first we had to stop and get some fresh made fudge in the shopping center there. Bob and I split four large fudge bars and we got a fifth for free which we split too.

After getting back to the hotel we decided to relax a bit. I checked out the vendor room and went to a science talk about New Findings, from the Invisible Universe. Their science talks are always fun to listen to, since they get the some of the best scientists from NASA giving the talks. Later on I met up with Bob and Charles and Lou Srygley, (Lou is also a member of the 86th MSG) also joined us for dinner. This time we went to the Texas Roadhouse, which was an outstanding steak house, I was surprised as how to much better it was than Outback. After getting back to the hotel from the restaurant later that evening we headed first to see Meet the Pro's which was the Authors and later to the USS Chesapeake's Party. Being it was Star Trek's 50th Anniversary, they had a very large spread of food including a special ST B-Day Cake.

The following morning started as every Shore Leave Saturday morning does for me, at the STARFLEET Region 7 Meeting at 9 AM. As the Regional Financial Officer I gave a brief talk about what funds came in and what expenses we paid for and what our current bank balance is. I'm glad I kept it brief as I could see the early morning hour took it's toll on our members. After the meeting I wondered around a bit and checked out the vendors rooms and then went to see another science program about Exploring Exoplanets.

At around 11 AM I met up with Bob and we had our photo taken on a green screen on the Next Gen Bridge. This worked out well, as we discussed this in advance as to exactly what we wanted to do. Later after

...Continued on Page 15.

lunch both Bob and I helped out at the Region 7 Recruiting Table for an hour. Afterwards I met Anthony Montgomery who I had previously met at a Creation Con Event and had my photo taken with my camera. I got that photo made into an 8 X 10, which Anthony later signed for me as my free autograph.

I also attended another panel in the afternoon called Fifty Years of STARFLEET which should have been called Fifty Years of Star Trek since STARFLEET has only been around since 1974. The panel was led by a few people from the Region 7 Command Staff and we talked about how we all first got into Star Trek. There were a few people that weren't members of STARFLEET and they got to see what we were all about. I then attended another panel about Enterprise In Space. This was about sending an unmanned space probe called Enterprise into orbit and then returning it back to Earth.

Most of my crew met in the lobby at around 5:30 pm to go to dinner. We decided to go to the Green Turtle which was across the street and was reasonably priced. As we were having our drinks, the lights went out. After awhile, the lights were still out and we were told by the waitress that most of the stores in the same shopping center also had no power as well. At that point, we cancelled our orders and those having ice tea or soda were told there was no charge. A few people had mixed drinks which they did have to pay for of course. After leaving the darkened restaurant, we headed over to a diner which was about 20 minutes away but at least they had power and a variety of different foods.

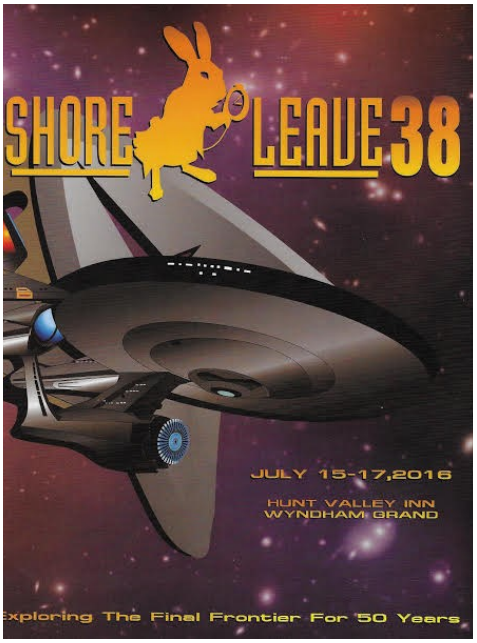
Afterwards we got back and most of us headed to see Masquerade. The costumes were okay although some were a lot better than others. My only concern is that there weren't enough Star Trek costumes being shown. I still remember one of my favorite costumes from a number of years ago was three men dressed as Borg/Blue Man Group.

The following Sunday morning I saw Mystery Trekkie Theater 3000 and this time they were doing a riff of TOS episode Spock's Brain. That was very funny and quite well done. The riff seemed right on the mark with what the actors may have been thinking while doing their lines.

Afterwards, I went to a panel about Planetary Defense against Asteroids and other space objects that could pose a threat to Earth. Once again, the three NASA scientists presenting this panel were experts in their fields in discussing their specific topics as it related to this panel. One of the scientists leading the panel I had met last year during another panel discussion. She was again wearing a blue TOS uniform although when I first met her last year, I didn't know who she was.

Later in the day, Bob and I once again manned the Region 7 table and spoke with several people that may have been interested in joining STARFLEET. During the autograph sessions I met and spoke with Michael Trucco who was on Battlestar Galatica. Michael spoke highly of his costars. The last panel I went to was suppose to be The Technological Vision of Star Trek. However, the moderator didn't show up. But Alex Rosenzweig was there, so I took it upon myself to ask him to lead this panel, which he gladly did. Still, we all had an enjoyable time,
since everyone participated in the moderated discussion that Alex led.

Later on we all headed over to another restaurant for our final dinner Sunday night. The following morning I left after breakfast and headed home and back into the real world once
again. Yes, I'm already looking forward to Shore Leave 39.



Star League Crew Attends Parade

by Carnell Eubanks, USS Star League, Region 1

Members of the U.S.S. Star League had a great time as several members endured rain and chilling temperatures to honor our commitment to be in this year's Martinez-Evans Christmas Parade.

The parade was a culmination of numerous hours of work constructing our float a replica of the TOS Enterprise. The mighty starship firing its phasers was hovering over Star Trek inspired winter wonder-land which included a Vulcan Snowman.

This was one of many activities that we held to honor Star Trek's 50th anniversary and to celebrate the USS Star League's 25th anniversary.

A Night at the Smithsonian

by Carnell Eubanks USS Star League, Region 1

Two members of the U.S.S. Star League received a much deserved honor recently,

John and Bjo Trimble were honored by the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum for their efforts on behalf of the Star Trek show and the renaming of the Space Shuttle to Enterprise. We were thrilled to see that their accomplishments and the impact the show has had through the years due to their efforts to save the show would be recognized by this historic institution. I and fellow member Allen Mooney shared in their experience as guests of both the Trimble's and the Smithsonian. On September 7th we flew out of Atlanta to attend this historic event! We met up with John and Bjo and spent the day exploring Washington, the museums and monuments. There were several moments that held great impact as we explored Washington. As a Star Trek fan seeing the newly refurbished Star Ship Enterprise on display in a place of honor in the museum with the two people who helped to ensure its legacy.

A sense of sadness and respect walking with John, a U.S. Veteran as we visited the Korean War memorial and the Vietnam Wall memorial and statues was deeply touching.

That evening we were honored to meet Rod Roddenberry and his wife Heidi, museum officials and Paramount representatives.

The Star League CO was given special privileges to photograph the event. We watched the Star Trek episode THE MAN TRAP on the IMAX screen at the same time it originally aired exactly fifty years ago followed by a question and answer session by the Smithsonian's special guests.

On Day Two the Trimble's were invited to a private event with some of the staff of the Air and Space Museum so Allen and I continued our exploration of Washington by visiting the new museum annex in Virginia. The subway map reminded me a lot of a LCARS layout and our bus ride reminded me of the Enterprise crew adventures on public transportation in (Star Trek The Voyage Home). It was wondrous seeing historic aircraft such as the Wright Flyer the day

before and now seeing the Black Bird, the Concord and the Space shuttle Discovery up close. That evening John and Bjo continued to be a part of special activities at the museum. Allen and I were delayed due to a subway issue. On the subway trip back to DC our car shuddered and came to a brief but sudden stop. Allen and I looked at each other and said the same thing out loud.

Jeff" (the alien who ate the subway car in Men in Black two. This is where traveling with a fellow Science fiction fan is a lot of fun. The next day before flying out we met one last time with our members from California, to say our goodbyes and to thank them in person one last time for a wonderful time, we had breakfast at the Captains table within sight of the U.S. capitol at "The Old Ebbitt Grill, Washington's oldest saloon" again a very surreal experience.

Summer Fun at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center

by Sebastian Motes, USS Columbia, Region 1

Editor's Note: Sebastian Motes is a crew member on STARFLEET's USS Columbia. He is also a 13-year-old dual-enrolled student at Austin Peay State University and the Middle College @ Austin Peay State University in Clarksville, Tennessee. He is concurrently working toward high school and university graduation, and would like to pursue a career in electrical and mechanical engineering. In 2016, he was awarded scholarships to attend two camps at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center in Huntsville, Alabama. The Army Aviation Association of America-Tennessee Valley Chapter sponsored his attendance at Aviation Challenge-MACH II, and STARFLEET Region 1 sponsored his attendance at Space Academy. He attended both camps in August, and this article describes his experiences.

My Experience at Aviation Challenge-MACH II

I had an amazing experience at the military-style Aviation Challenge camp at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center (USSRC) in Huntsville, Alabama. I participated in the MACH II section of the camp.

Day 1

On the first day, the trainees were divided into teams, given call signs (nicknames), and given Battle Dress Uniforms (BDUs). My team's sign was PPG, named after one of the camp's sponsors, PPG Industries, a company that specializes in manufacturing glass for planes. I was given the call sign "Crab" because when my team met me, they thought about Sebastian the Crab from the Disney movie, The Little Mermaid. We were informed that, throughout camp, each trainee would be required to wear his or her BDU the majority of the time.

Later in the day, we learned about parade rest, which is a military stance in which one keeps hands joined behind one's back with thumbs interlocked. In this stance, one must also maintain a straightforward gaze while remaining silent and still unless otherwise instructed. We were told when to execute it throughout the remainder of camp. We also learned the basics about airplanes, including that there are four main forces acting on them: lift, thrust, drag, and weight. In addition, we reviewed the history of how airplane technology has changed over the years.

We also explored an outdoor activity center known as "Area 51." Here, my team was split into two groups. The group to which I was assigned completed two activities. The first activity was a challenge. Using only ropes, we were required to transfer three tennis balls from one bucket to another. We were not allowed to touch the buckets or balls. To solve this problem, we had to tie a taut line hitch made from two ropes around one bucket. Afterwards, two people stood across from one another and tightly pulled the ropes while simultaneously twisting them in the same direction to tilt one bucket and release the balls into the other bucket. For the second activity, everyone was required to sing and do the motions to the song, "I'm a Little Teapot" while balancing on a big lever and alternately standing and sitting.

In the evening, we saw an IMAX film

...Continued on Page 19.

called A Beautiful Planet at the USSRC's museum. This film depicted what it is like to live and work on the International Space Station (ISS), what Earth looks like from space, and what we should do to help protect our planet for future generations.

Day 2

On the second day, we learned more formation stances and positions, including fall in, fall out, present arms, order arms, attention, at ease, left face, right face, and about face. We were also introduced to the daily protocols of living in a military-style dormitory. Wake-up time was 6:30 A.M. We were required to fix our beds so that they were uniform before we left for breakfast. To do this, we were required to put all personal belongings, not including our suitcases, into our lockers next to our beds so that no personal items were visible in the living space. Each trainee was also required to make "hospital corners" on his or her bed, and had to ensure that the blanket was pulled tight so that there were no wrinkles and so that a ball could be bounced on the bed.

Later, we were introduced to flight simulators designed specifically for Aviation Challenge. Using these simulators, we flew formation F-18 fighter jets, learned the basics of how to operate the joystick and throttle, and then practiced flying and landing. We also learned how to shoot missiles, drop bombs, and fire bullets. The next activity involved patrolling in the woods. For this activity, my team selected me to be Lead 1, which is a position that checks for enemies when crossing a road while patrolling. After patrolling in the woods, everyone went rafting and swimming in the facility's man-made lake.

Day 3

On the third day, we continued to explore the flight simulators. We learned about radars and how to get different views such as "air to air" and "air to ground." Using our radars to lock onto people, we refined our use of missiles, bombs, and bullets. We were later assigned to secret combat missions against an opponent team. My team was given a mission to stop an opponent force known as "Liber8." We completed a variety of missions throughout the week involving bombing enemy bases and shooting down enemy aircraft. These missions were entertaining and well thought-out.

Later on, my team learned about wilderness survival and basic first aid treatment. After that, each person on my team was able to take a ride in a Barney Chair, which is a spinning chair that simulates what it feels like to fly a fighter jet.

In the evening, we went patrolling in the woods with the mission to take out all enemy guards without being caught. In order to do this, a team member had to come out of hiding, sneak up on a counselor (a.k.a., guard), and touch both of the counselor's shoulders without being spotted. By the end of the activity, about half of the team members had been caught while the rest of the team was still hiding.

Day 4

On the fourth day, my team was able to ride Aviation Challenge's two-man centrifuge simulator. During the ride, a light would turn on periodically and each trainee would have to press a button beside his or her seat to keep the centrifuge spinning. This mechanism, along with a red emergency button located between the two seats, provided the option for a trainee to stop the ride if needed.

In the afternoon, we went swimming again in the man-made lake. We also were given the opportunity to go on two water-related simulators. The first one was a helicopter crash simulator in which trainees sat in a capsule with open windows. This capsule was lowered into the water. As water filled the simulator, the team swam out to safety via the windows. The next simulator replicated a helicopter rescue net. Trainees had to stand in the lake and each of us was assigned pretend injuries. The team had to help an injured individual get inside a safety net, which was then raised to a platform via a motorized pulley system. Trainees were hoisted up one by one until the entire team had experienced the simulator.

Afterwards, we returned to the flight simulators to complete a bombing mission and an air-to-air shoot-down mission. Then, we went to a survival-training lesson during which we discussed what is safe to eat and drink in the wilderness, how to find water and filter it, and how to set up traps and hunt if necessary. After eating dinner, we practiced building and maintaining a fire for an upcoming fire-building competition the next day.

In the evening, my team participated in a Search and Rescue (SAR) mission. Our first mistake was killing our pilot, who we thought was an enemy guard. After that, when we ran into the enemy with stolen secret files, nearly everyone was caught. However, a few people had the chance to hide before being spotted. As time passed though, the survivors were picked off one by one until only the assistant patrol leader was left. While my team distracted the enemy guard by talking to her, the assistant patrol leader managed to get behind a tree located next to the guard. Shortly thereafter, she was able to take out the guard, free the team, and retrieve the stolen secret files. We had nearly finished our mission when we ran out of time.

Before returning to the dorm, we participated in a plane-building activity. Each person was given a Styrofoam plate, tape, scissors, and a penny, and construction was limited to these materials. A template was also provided, but it could be modified if desired. Once each person was finished building his or her plane, we tested them outside. The tests turned into a competition, and on the final try, my plane came in second place.

Day 5

In the morning, the Top Gun competition was held in the flight simulators. This competition consisted of trainees fighting against each other, one-on-one, in a tournament to see who was the best. A point system was used to determine the winner.

To win points, if a trainee saw the enemy plane flying (not just on the radar) and he or she said, “Tally-Ho,” then he or she would receive a point. If one were behind the enemy, he or she was required to say “Alpha-Whisky” to ask permission to shoot at the enemy. If he or she did not say the phrase or his or her permission was declined and he or she shot anyway, points would be deducted. The trainee who lost would be eliminated from the tournament and the winning trainee would face another individual in the next round.

Later, we did a scavenger hunt searching for tagged poles using a map and compass. This was an exciting activity that helped me improve my survival skills. After that, each team had a formation competition based on the commands we learned. My team was coordinated and did pretty well. Before lunch, we got a chance to ride the Space Shot and G-force simulators. The Space Shot propelled us vertically 140 feet in 2.5 seconds. The G-force accelerator spun us around putting 3 Gs of force on our bodies. These rides were really cool and fun.

In the evening, the fire competition was held. Each team had to divide all of its trainees into three groups, which included gatherers, fire builders, and fire lighters. I was one of

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the fire builders. We successfully built a stable log cabin fire structure, but we were unfortunately not able to light the structure using five or less matches as required by the rules.

During the night, we did two activities. These activities were Seal Ops and Escape & Evasion (E&E). The Seal Ops mission was similar to the SAR mission except that we had to plant bombs on a military fighter aircraft instead of retrieving stolen secret files. My team was assigned to plant the bombs on the Grumman F-14 Tomcat and the Kaman SH-2 Seasprite aircraft. Working together, all of the teams successfully planted bombs on the assigned aircraft and eliminated all of the enemy guards. The next activity, E&E, involved crawling through the woods without being spotted by an enemy guard. Before the activity, everyone was given a coin and if they were caught once, they had to give it to an enemy guard but could continue the mission. At the end of the mission, each team earned points for coins that had not been confiscated. It was an intense but fun experience.

Day 6

This was the last day of Aviation Challenge, and it consisted of packing up personal belongings and attending the graduation ceremony. At the ceremony, Colonel Jerry L. Ross, an American astronaut who went on seven missions in space, totaling 58 days, 0 hours, and 52 minutes, presented a short inspirational speech about leadership and teamwork and then congratulated all of the trainees. After that, he passed out certificates, accepted each graduate by turning his or her name patch right-side up (as the patches had to be worn upside down throughout training), and shook hands with the graduates.

After camp, I attended a luncheon with Colonel Ross. During the luncheon, he gave a presentation in which he discussed his reactions during his first trip to space and showed the attendees clips of goofy activities and stunts that he and his team had completed. Colonel Ross also signed copies of his book, Spacewalker: My Journey to Space and Faith as NASA's Record-setting Frequent Flyer, for the attendees.

Overview

Overall, Aviation Challenge was a fun experience that emphasized discipline, teamwork, and leadership. This experience provided a challenging week of adventure around every corner and allowed me to enhance my skills in many areas.

My Experience at Space Academy

I had the incredible privilege of attending the Space Academy camp at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center (USSRC) in Huntsville, Alabama. This camp built upon my experiences at Aviation Challenge camp, which I had attended during the prior week.

Day 1

On the first day, all of the trainees were assigned to teams. My team's name was Boeing, named after the company that specializes in manufacturing aircraft, rockets, and satellites. Shortly thereafter, we were given a tour of the Space Academy facilities.

Later in the day, we saw an IMAX film at the USSRC's museum called A Beautiful Planet. Although I had seen this film previously at Aviation Challenge camp, a second viewing allowed me to gain additional insight about paying attention to the environment and avoiding harmful activities that may pollute and de-

stroy Earth.

In the evening, we went to the Davidson Center for Space Exploration, a museum that houses the Saturn V Dynamic Test Vehicle. The gigantic rocket is displayed horizontally and is elevated so that visitors can walk underneath it. In addition, the rocket stages are separated and the engines are exposed so that the various components can be easily viewed. The Davidson Center also houses numerous other interesting exhibits, including the Apollo 12 Mobile Quarantine Facility, an Apollo 12 moon rock, the Apollo 16 Command Module, and an Apollo 16 parachute, to name a few. Near the end of our visit, the team went over a brief history of space exploration with an extremely helpful staff member.

Day 2

On the second day, we got up at 8:00 A.M. and did physical training (PT) under the space shuttle exhibit beside the museum before heading off to breakfast. Later, we went to Rocket Park, a location near the museum that houses various rockets, where we were given a tour and then quizzed on our ability to identify each rocket. After that, we went on the G-force simulator. Even though I had experienced this simulator previously while attending Aviation Challenge camp, I still enjoyed it.

Later, we toured the International Space Station (ISS) center. This gave us an idea of what to expect for our missions. Not too long after that, we did team building exercises and trained for our first mission. During that mission, I was the Flight Director. The Flight Director is part of Mission Control, which is a ground-based communications facility. We were given transcripts to follow. These transcripts listed commands for us to speak and outlined what to press or monitor on the computers in front of us. This was a realistic and fun replication of a NASA mission.

Later on, we went to a room with rocket parts and divided into groups. Each group had to design and build a rocket. My group designed our rocket to be tall and aerodynamic. We were informed that we would build the rocket the following day.

In the evening, my team was assigned the job of making plans for a colony on the moon. We developed plans for food, oxygen, and water supply as well as industrial facilities that were to be built. In addition to planning, we also had to manage the money that we needed for developing the colony. We presented our ideas in front of all the Space Academy trainees a few days later.

Day 3

Once again, we got up at 8:00 A.M. and did PT under the space shuttle exhibit. After breakfast, we went swimming in the onsite man-made lake where we played an extreme game of Marco Polo. After swimming, we built our rockets from the designs that we had developed the previous day. However, my group had to redesign our rocket so that the center of mass was in the middle so that the rocket would perform correctly. We ended up naming our rocket “Apocalypse” since it was the tallest rocket out of all the teams. We were told that we would launch the rocket the following day.

Next, we went to a presentation about Newton’s Three Laws. There were interactive scenarios for which audience members were invited to come up and complete certain tasks to demonstrate Newton’s Three Laws. I went up with two other trainees to do an activity testing Newton’s second law which states, “Acceleration is produced when a force acts on a mass. The greater the mass (of the object being accelerated) the greater the amount of force needed (to accelerate the object)” [http://teachertech.rice.edu/Participants/louviere/Newton/law2.html]. The task was to use a straw to blow a cup of pennies to the opposite side of the table. This competition was easy for me. I was able to blow the cup across the table, even when the instructor put all of the pennies in the cup, but the

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other two trainees had trouble blowing the cup once more than 30 pennies were added. The experiment confirmed that when a force is exerted upon an object to move it, the amount of force must be increased as mass is added.

In the evening, we went on the 1/6th Gravity Chair, which is designed to simulate the lower level of gravity on the moon. I found that while it was easy to move up and down, it was quite difficult to move side to side or backwards and forwards. After this activity, we went to a fascinating presentation about the constellations and the lifecycle of stars.

Finally, before bed, we played a game known as Poison Dart Frog. In this game, a trainee was designated as the Poison Dart Frog and assigned the task of eliminating everyone else. In order to eliminate someone, the Poison Dart Frog had to stick out his or her tongue at someone without anyone noticing. If someone caught the Poison Dart Frog sticking out his or her tongue then everyone but the Poison Dart Frog won that round. However, if someone wrongly accused the Poison Dart Frog then the accuser was dead until the next round. This was an amusing game, especially watching the victims do their dramatic dying scenes.

Day 4

On the fourth day, we once again did PT in the morning under the space shuttle exhibit. After breakfast, we went to two presentations. The first presentation was about astronaut suit durability. We tested various types of space gloves using special equipment. Some of the qualities we investigated were maneuverability, protection against space debris, protection against pressure, protection against radiation, and protection against extreme temperatures. Of course, none of these test gloves would be suitable for actual use in the field, but we got an idea of what factors must be considered when a space glove is being designed. The second presentation covered various commercial space businesses including each company's current positions and future goals. The companies that were discussed included SpaceX, Boeing, Orbital ATK, Blue Origin, Orbital Sciences, and Bigelow Aerospace.

After the presentations, our second mission was conducted. Before the actual mission, however, we practiced our roles. This mission happened to be our most successful mission out of the three that we completed. During this mission, I was assigned to be the Commander of the Explorer. My role was to execute the operations listed in my manual once I received commands from Mission Control. When anomalies came up, the pilot or I informed Mission Control by saying, "Houston, we have a problem," and then waited for follow-up instructions from Mission Control. In addition, I was in charge of landing the shuttle which I did successfully. Apparently, I was one of the few people who actually landed on the track. I was told that most trainees who take the role of Commander end up landing the shuttle in the water or in one of the fields. This was my favorite mission, as it allowed me to further develop my teamwork and problem solving skills.

After our mission, we went on the G-force simulator again as well as the Bullet Spaceship simulator. The Bullet Spaceship simulator is a neat ride that incorporates a capsule that moves in accordance with video it displays to make the scenario seem realistic. After this, we went to launch our rockets. My group's rocket shot up about 75 feet off the ground before the engine shot out causing the rocket to go a few feet horizontally, curve at its peak, and then land into the ground like a dart. Fortunately, the rocket was not damaged. After everyone launched their rockets, we went back to redesign them for a second launch scheduled for the next day. My group decided to add more weight to the front and to add two extra wings that were about twice the size of the original wings.

One of the last things we did on this day was go on the Multi-Axis Trainer (MAT). The MAT is a giant human gyroscope. The cool thing about this simulator is that when a trainee rides it, he or she does not get sick because his or her body is in the center of the gyroscope. Also, the trainee does not get dizzy because he or she does not spin more than twice consecutively in the same direction (so the inner ear fluid is not disrupted).

Day 5

Once again, we woke up early and did PT under the space shuttle exhibit. But, this was the last time for PT, which was a welcome relief! After breakfast, we saw a presentation about exoplanets. It reviewed various types of exoplanets, how they get their names, and methods that scientists use to find them. This presentation suggested that there may potentially be many life-bearing planets in the universe. After that, we went to a presentation and experiment involving thermal heat tiles. The experiment involved developing and testing products to prevent hot glue from melting off a stick when heated. Trainees were able to use materials such as bronze screen, aluminum screen, and aluminum foil in their products. The experiment was interesting and demonstrated that metal could effectively conduct heat away from the glue so that it would not melt.

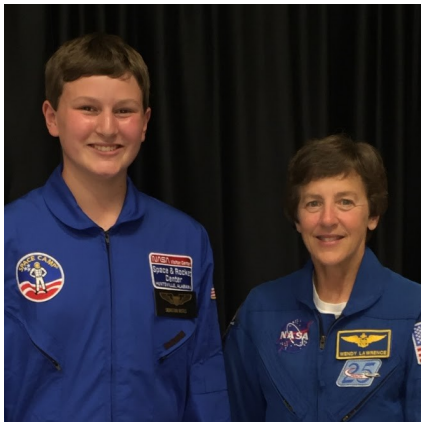
For our final mission, I was Scientist 1 and Mission Specialist 1. During the practice run of the mission, we learned how to use a keypad to solve anomalies and we learned where all the materials for the experiments were kept. As Scientist 1, I performed an experiment using Borax and another chemical to produce a bouncy ball. As Mission Specialist 1, I followed written procedures in a manual and instructed the Commander how to land the shuttle. When the Commander overshot the runway, I told her to pull up and try it again. Instead of pulling up, however, she pushed down and dived right into the ground, thinking that is what I'd meant. This mission became a highlight at Space Academy for such a funny crash.

Later on, we relaunched our rockets. This time, my group's rocket soared about 100 feet before reaching its peak. Then, it turned toward the ground and the engine shot out, making it go double the speed. The parachute failed to deploy and the rocket landed in the ground like a dart. Due to the fast rate of descent, the middle part collapsed and one of the big wings detached.

Next, we then rode the Space Shot simulator again. Before the day was over, we saw an astronaut present about her journey to space. Not too long afterwards, my team presented our lunar base plans to the other Space Academy trainees and received a loud round of applause.

Day 6

This was the last day of Space Academy. After cleaning and packing up our personal belongings, all trainees participated in the Space Bowl, a trivia competition focusing on what we learned during our time at Space Academy. My team ended up winning first place.



The camp concluded with a graduation ceremony. At the ceremony, Captain Wendy B. Lawrence, an American astronaut who was the first female graduate of the United States Naval Academy to fly into space, and who went on four missions in space totaling 51 days, 3 hours, and 56 minutes, presented a short inspirational speech about pursuing our dreams, and then congratulated all of the trainees. After-

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wards, she passed out certificates, accepted each graduate by turning his or her name patch right-side up (as the patches had to be worn upside down throughout training), and shook hands with the graduates.

After camp, I attended a luncheon with Captain Lawrence. During the luncheon, she gave a presentation in which she discussed what it was like to be in space and how it affected her life. She also signed copies of her official NASA photograph for attendees.

Overview

Overall, Space Academy was a fun experience that emphasized problem solving, teamwork, and leadership. This experience provided several challenging adventures and allowed me to enhance my skills in various areas.

A Milestone in Fandom...And More

by Robert Westfall, ISS Katana, Region 12

Twenty-five years is quite the milestone for a chapter in STARFLEET. It is also one that I honestly did not think my chapter would make it to… but am quite happy that we have.

On 24 March 1991, the Shuttle *Gallifrey* was launched by a group of Star Trek and science-fiction fans on the campus of NW Missouri State University in Marysville, MO. Eight months later they were commissioned as the USS *Krazny Oktyabr*, an *Olympus* Class Dreadnaught. The next five years saw the chapter grow and become more involved with other chapters and Region 12, earning numerous accolades along the way.

In December 1996, the founding CO, Dwain Gleason, of the chapter stepped down in order to devote more time to the duties he had taken on at the regional and international levels. Dwain named the chapter XO, Robert Westfall, as his replacement, though Dwain remained with the chapter as its Second Officer.

In 1999, in order to expand the chapter's desirability beyond purely Trek, the chapter decided to undergo a name and class change. It was decided to take advantage of the current DS9 story-line to facilitate this change. Thus the USS *Royal Sovereign*, a *Griffon* Class Space Control Ship, was "commissioned" after the "destruction" of the *Krazny* during the Dominion War (as portrayed in the story Dreadfleet by Dwain and Robert). Over the next decade, members of the Royal Sovereign continued with their participation in STARFLEET, their community, and the fic-writing.

The crew of the *Royal Sovereign* was hit with a shock in mid-2009 when they learned of the passing of their founder in June. While Dwain hadn't been an active member in STARFLEET for several years at that point, he and his wife were still an integral part of our family. Dwain had set the course and tone of the chapter since its inception, and his loss hit the chapter hard. His death hit me especially hard as he was one of my best friends, and I had relied on his advice and counsel regarding the chapter he had created.

The chapter faltered for a short time while we attempted to re-gain our bearings and determine where our course lay. 2010 found us making our decision as we decided to 'branch-out' into other fandoms. The first products of that decision was the EAS *Katana*, a *Warlock* Class destroyer in the Babylon 5 universe and the Katana School of Majikky and Jyujutsu. These platforms provided a playground for the chapter members which were B5 and Harry Potter fans (which was a good number of us).

The following year saw the creation of the Battlestar *Katana*, which unlike the B5 group, became affiliated with another fan association (in this case the Colonial Ministry of Defense). With the formation of the third chapter 'platform', the crews decided to unify the existing groups, as well as any future ones, under a single "umbrella."

Thus the Katana Sci-Fi/Fantasy Association was formed in 2011.

It was also decided that to complete the unification, all aspects of the KSFFA would share the same name. In that vein the Royal Sovereign would need to undergo a name change. However the crew was stymied as to how to create said change, remembering how the chapter received its [then] current name. The answer came when a crewmember came across a technical data sheet penned by Joost Ueffing as part of the ASDB. As such, in 2011 the USS *Royal Sovereign* became the ISS *Katana*, an *Excalibur* Class Battleship (even though SFI refers to it as the *Champion* Class).

On Saturday, 10 December 2016, the crew of the ISS *Katana* gathered together to celebrate their 25th year as a commissioned chapter in STARFLEET. Only one those present had been there when the chapter was commissioned on 7 December 1991; of the rest, most had joined within the last decade or so. We were joined by eight of our fellow chapters from both Region 12 and Region 6. It was a night of friendship, celebration, remembrance, and reflection, that the *Katana's* crew was honored to share with crews from the *Aux Arc*, *Czar'ak*, *Dark Phoenix*, *Discovery*, *Horizon*, *Jeannette Maddox*, *Missouri*, and *Valiant*.

In 2017 the Katana embarks upon the next phase of its history: serving as the flagship for STARFLEET. Her crew is not going to let that distinction deter them from continuing to serve their community through participation with/in Harvesters, Backpack Buddies, Toys-for-Tots, the Humane Society, Wounded Warrior Project, and Habitat for Humanity (among others). Then there will be the fun as well, with picnics, away missions, and so much more keeping them busy.

Here's looking to next five… or twenty-five years of friendship, fandom, and service with the ISS *Katana*!

Farewell From The Commander, STARFLEET

RADM Theresa Bristow, USS Aurora Vulcanus, Region 4

When I joined STARFLEET in 2009, I wondered whether someone, not from the North American continent, would ever become Commander Starfleet, I certainly did not think that a few years down the line I would be holding that position, albeit for one month.

This year has been one of the more turbulent in the history of STARFLEET, the untimely passing of Wayne Killough Jr. heralded several months of discord and fleetwide unrest. There has been argument and behaviour better suited to 'Game of Thrones' than Star Trek.

However, despite the difficulties faced this year, the Executive Committee and Admiralty Board have come together to keep the Club moving forward, and the Elections have presented us with the CS Elect Robert Westfall and his team, contracts have been signed for the next two ICs, 2017 in New Orleans [http://www.ic2017.org] and 2018 in Minneapolis.

This Administration closes out with the Executive Committees, existing and incoming, and Admiralty Board working together as a single cohesive team, to get the new Administration up and running as soon as possible and to bring back a sense of STARFLEET being inclusive, regardless of which series is your favourite, which Captain you think is the best, what colour you think the sky of Vulcan is, or even whether or not you can speak Klingon.

Whilst I have only held the position of Commander Starfleet for a month, it has been a privilege and an honour to do so.

STARFLEET Communications

CDRE Matthew Miller, USS Alaric, Region 1

STARFLEET,

I'm going to keep my farewell short and sweet. It has been an absolute joy to be your Chief of Communications. When I started, we were a year behind and had very few submissions. We now have a large group of regular submissions each month, compared to the original three per quarter. It makes me very happy to see the number of submissions grow over time. Hopefully you will continue to invest your time with the CQ. The Communique represents the best aspects of STARFLEET like our comradery, hard work, and dedication to ideals of Star Trek. I could not have done this without you and that's the truth.

Sincerely,

Matthew Miller

Editor-in– Chief

Chief of Communications, STARFLEET

Farewell From The Commandant

ADM Peg Pellerin, Commandant of Starfleet Academy USS Constitution, Region 15

Where have nine years gone. It is difficult for me to believe that this is my last article as Commandant of STARFLEET Academy.

I can say I'm proud of myself for the Academy's growth in institutes, colleges, courses and staff, but I won't because it isn't myself that I'm proud of. I'm very proud of the personnel of this Academy. The only reason the Academy has gone so far as it has is because of all of them.. Simply but truthfully put, I'm so very proud of all of them. You are what made and continue to make this Academy great.

I have heard from many of our seasoned staff members as well as our newbies of how they feel being a staff member of the Academy team/family gives them purpose in belonging to STARFLEET. I couldn't agree with them more.

I thank each and every one of you as well as the members of STARFLEET who have given the Academy so much support

My last answer to: Riddle me this

It is too much for one.
Two it is meant for.
But it no longer exists,
When the two become more.

ANSWER: Secret

HUGS to everyone.

Admiral Peg Pellerin,

Retired SFA Commandant

admiralpeg@gmail.com

You don't stop playing because you grow old. You grow old because you stop playing.

Never play leapfrog with a unicorn. However, never play leapfrog with a unicorn

ACADEMY INFORMATION

The current index of live courses is at http://acad.sfi.org/courses/index.php .

The current printed Course Catalog (which becomes obsolete almost as soon as it's uploaded!) is at http://acad.sfi.org/doc/SFACollegeCatalogue.pdf

The latest copy of Academy's rules and regs for Students, Directors, and Deans is at http://acad.sfi.org/courses/iols/doc/SAOC_Manual.pdf This manual supersedes the SOPs scattered all over our current site, and is subject to change as how we do business adapts to the members' needs.

The Academy Newsletter Archive is at http://acad.sfi.org/news/news.php .

Members wish to request STARFLEET Academy course(s) should follow these directions:

1) Enter into your browser http://acad.sfi.org/courses/index.php. This brings you to our college catalogue.

2) Click onto the course you wish to take and it will bring you to a page that describes the course and at the very top of this page, the name and email of the director. Email this director to personally request what you wish to take. You may request up to five courses at one time. Please give the director a full 7 days to reply to your request. If you don't receive anything after that time, send another request, but this time copy the Dean of said Institute.

3) Good luck and most importantly, HAVE FUN!

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