



COMMUNIQUÉ

The Official Publication of STARFLEET, The International STAR TREK Fan Association, Inc.

August
September

136



In this issue...

Awards

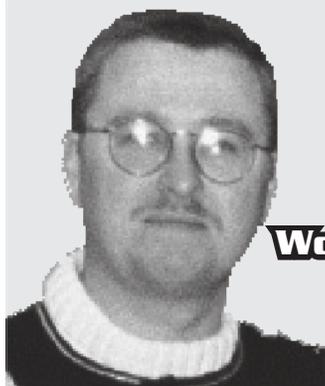
IC)Photos

**Attention On Deck
the official SFMC
Publication**

ECAB)Reports

Words from the Fleet Admiral

**and much, much
MORE.....**



USPS 017-671

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COMMUNIQUE

Volume 1, Number 136

Published by: STARFLEET, The International Star Trek Fan Association, Inc.
906-L Lakecrest Avenue
High Point, NC 27265

Send Submissions to: STARFLEET COMMUNIQUE
Dixie Halber
8606 King George Road
Evansville, IN 47725

Publisher: Dixie Halber
Layout Editor: Neal F. Fischer

Neal's work on this edition of COMMUNIQUE is in memory of Angel "the Wonderpup" She was my baby.



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(USPS 017-671) Entered as periodical matter at the Post of Tecumseh, Oklahoma, under the act of March 8, 1879. The COMMUNIQUE is published bi-monthly by STARFLEET, The International Star Trek Fan Association, Inc. 906-L Lakecrest Avenue, High Point, NC 27265.

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS FOR COMMUNIQUE 137:
SEPTEMBER 25TH, 2006**



A Day of Astronaut Adventure

By: Rear Admiral David Klingman - USS Jaguar

If you don't read my blog at <http://ddmd.livejournal.com/http://ddmd.livejournal.com> you SHOULD! But if you don't, here's the recap of my day at the Universal Autograph Collector's Convention here in San Antonio.

I attended the Universal Autograph Collector's Club (UACC) Show here in San Antonio, and it was an opportunity for me to have the day to myself. I absolutely enjoyed the whole day, though I have to say I'm pretty worn.

Started out at 0545. Got up, showered, put the stuff (suit, camera, and so forth) in the car and

headed out at 0630. Quick stop for gas and then it was off to my friend Steve Gordon's house to meet up with the folks from the USS Victory, one of the three local STARFLEET chapters, to head out.

We arrived downtown at the Wyndham St. Anthony Hotel about 0815, parked, and got into the hotel and got our general admission tickets. There was some disorganization at first, since the promoter was using hand-printed, non-alphabetical lists, so the lady handling the front desk had little to no idea who the general admission vs. preferred admission attendees were. After clearing this

up, folks got their admission bracelets without too much difficulty and we pressed forward.

I was a bit more serious about getting autographs than the rest of the group, so after about two hours, the rest of the group left while I stayed in line to get the autograph of Buzz Aldrin that I had paid for. I wanted to have him sign my copy of From the Earth to the Moon but he was charging \$325 to sign any '3-D' items (including DVD boxes) so I opted for a personalized autograph of a 16x20" glossy photo of Buzz taken by Neil Armstrong on the lunar surface (and you can see Neil's reflection in Buzz's visor). Great photo, and personalized. THAT will go in a nice frame with glass, for sure.

I also got Wally Schirra's and Scott Carpenter's autographs on my DVD box for The Right Stuff. I pressed on and got Sy Leibergot and Clint Howard, who played Sy in Apollo 13, to both sign my DVD of the aforementioned film, along with Gene Krantz. Gene was at his first autograph signing convention and was an absolute charmer, fabulous speaker and all-around-nice-fellow. Gene is donating all his memorabilia and time this year to various charity functions such as Habitat for Humanity, so he was, in my opinion, the real star of the event.

I deferred getting autographs from Al Bean, Dave Scott, and Gene Cernan since I had at this point spent a significant amount of money, though I did manage to snap a photo with Dave Scott later in the evening after the banquet.

By this time, the group had returned and had been kind enough to bring me a take-out lunch. I think very highly of them and have really enjoyed hanging out with them this last year as an honorary member of the group. They left soon after to tend to other stuff and I pressed on, checking out some merchandise that I decided I could no longer afford.

At this point, I decided to take a stroll 3 blocks down from the hotel onto the Riverwalk. I have been so busy lately that the day was a more than welcome opportunity to get out by myself. I spent about 2 hours down on the Riverwalk between the autograph session and the cocktail hour/dinner reception.

I managed to pick up something for my dad as his birthday is on the 18th. He and my mom are flying to Germany in late September to spend a few weeks with friends and seeing the country. I got him a paperback version of The DaVinci Code to read on the plane which hopefully that won't get confiscated by Lufthansa due to all the troubles of late.

Then I just did something for myself and stopped at the Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory and picked up something called a B-52 Bomber which was a white and dark chocolate truffle with Grand Marnier and Kahlua. DECADENT!

I then took a Riverboat ride, enjoying a Military

discount, and then had some ice cream before returning to the hotel to change into my dinner clothes

There was a short cocktail reception before dinner, and I spent most of this time talking to people I had met during the day. I actually enjoy talking to the attendees more than the celebrities, since we often have similar interests. I exchanged a few business cards with folks - hopefully we'll exchange some emails in the future.

The dinner and charity auction, to raise money for the Astronaut Scholarship Foundation, was quite nice for a plated affair. I've found sit-down/plated dinners to be very hit or miss but this one was well done. The choices were chicken or beef. I had chicken with a nice red cream sauce, seasoned cheese stuffing, mashed potatoes, carrots, and asparagus. Dinner came with a salad and marble cheesecake for dessert. The staff was very attentive, drink glasses were filled constantly, and the food quality scored a solid 3 to 4 (on a 5-scale).

I sat with Rusty Schweickart for the dinner session, and although I often feel somewhat uncomfortable at these events, since I never really know how to kick off conversation with 'famous people' we were quickly at ease once dinner got rolling. The nine people seated with Rusty charged into routine conversation about family, children and grandchildren and then Rusty's work on research into near-Earth objects (you can see what Rusty is up to at <http://www.b612foundation.org/> and <http://www.space-explorers.org/>

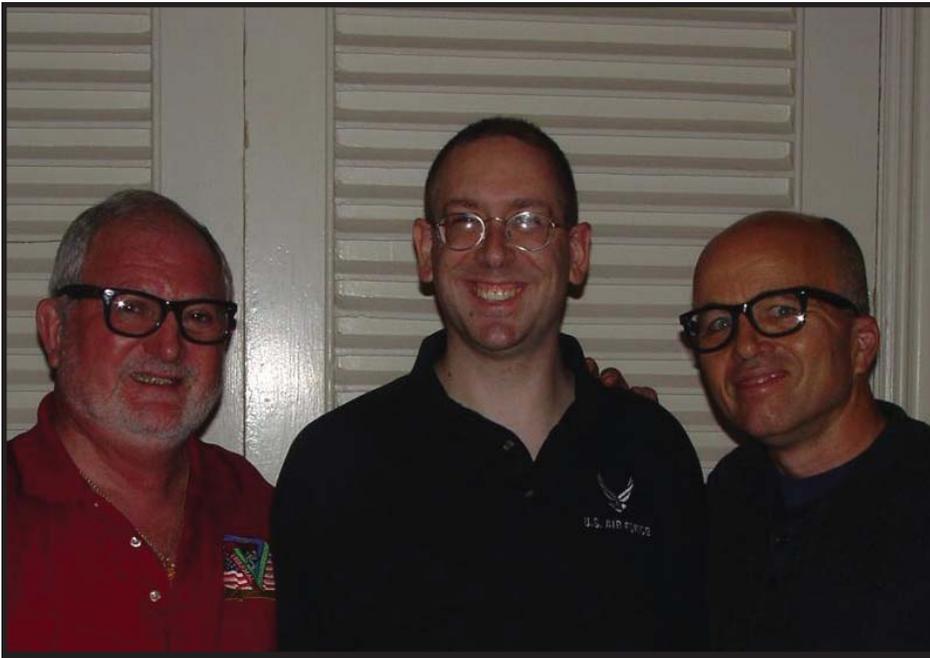
After dinner, the real fun came, because there were ample photo opportunities!

The final stroke of absolute happiness came when I was sucked into a conversation between several attendees and Rick Searfoss (STS-58 and STS-76 pilot, STS-90 commander) regarding his current work on privatized experimental aircraft and entrepreneurial ventures. I've seen Rick at one or two sci-fi conventions, and he's always a gracious speaker and conversationalist. Almost 90 minutes later we all finally broke conversation for the night.

All in all, it was an expensive but satisfying day.



RADM Dave Klingman with Buzz Aldrin at the autograph session.



With Sy Leibergot and Clint Howard, "Sy'd by Sy'd" at the autograph session.



With Gene Krantz after the dinner session. The wrist lock was his idea!

Klingon Day of Honor 10 - Kang

By: Fleet Captain Unicorn Escobedo - USS Agusta Ada



A glorious time was had by all who attend the 10th Annual Klingon Day of Honor, Kang, in the StarFire Region, Ring of Fire Fleet, which took place at the Chabot Space Science Center in Oakland, CA, also known as Region 4 on stardate 10606.17. The crowd of some 57 Klingon Warriors, Terrains, Vulcan's, several STARFLEET Officers/personal, a Romulan, and one lone Bajoran Officer was deemed a successful event in this officer's observation.

Upon arrival with Augusta Ada Crewmembers Albert Cromedy and Andrey Kuznetsov who was also the official Subspace Communicator photographer, we unloaded our various food item contributions in the Great Hall where dinner would be served. Among the many tables of food where several large pans of meat (roast beef, ham, chicken tenders in various forms and sauces), home made lasagna, a crock pot full of yummy chili, another full of thick saucy and very tasty meatballs and my own six-quart crock pot of home made Targ (pork) vegetable stew to name just a few of many and varied items. I also spotted a white bucket of some Colonel Poultry items that quickly disappeared. Suggestion, never be in the back of the line at a Klingon feast, lest you miss some of the limited items. Although in all honesty, there seemed to be enough food for seconds, thirds and fourths, even for Klingon warriors. There were tables of assorted cakes, pies, chips, salads, cookies, candy, ice cream and other yummy items to be had with your meal. Albert made and brought three kinds of corn bread muffins, which were an assortment of plain, spicy and cheesy. They too disappeared in the course of the evening. A feast was going to be had be all.

While waiting for the dinner call to be announced, the various Warriors and guests mingled, conversed, took photos and partook of the many beverages to found at the bar. Numerous tankards could be heard through out the evening clinking together in a toast, or in some rare occasions, drained, before they were

refilled from the never-ending vat of blood wine in the middle of the hall. Then the call rang out, "Dinner is now served".

Quickly a line formed, of which I was near the front, as I just happened to be in that section of the hall when the call rang out. Plate? Got one. Bowl? Looks like I will have to chose between stew or chili, or come back for a second bowl later. There were so many items to choose from, so much to sample and taste. I just take a half serving of this, and maybe just a small slice of that, and oh, what is this morsel of goodness? I needed a bigger plate. I returned to the tables several times, as did many of the guest to sample and some cases indulge in the various home made and some cases store bought items.

As I finished my way down the many tables of food for my first pass through, I then joined my fellow crewmembers and a strange, yet familiar looking Captain. At first I thought he was James T. Kirk himself. I mean he was wearing a green wrap around Captain's tunic. And who could miss that bad hairpiece, I mean comb over. But no it was not the famous Kirk himself, but a Terrain from years past, named K.J. Karvonen. As we all cleaned our various plates and returned for additional items, we chatted and caught up on old times. The slice of chocolate pie and slice of cheesecake were the prefect ending to a very filling and tasty meal.

After awhile another call rang out through the hall, announcing that additional raffle tickets (besides the three you were given upon arrival) were for sale. Proceeds would be donated to the Make-A-Wish foundation. I had spotted a table over flowing with what I though were going to be auction items, but instead was told they were all to be given to the raffle winners, usually with more then one item at time been given.

I decided to part with a few of my credits and purchase additional tickets that were three tickets per credit. I purchased an additional five credits worth. If I did not win an item myself, I felt at least some kid would get a wish, so I did win in the end.

Soon it was time to announce the items and call the winning numbers. Items ranged from paper back books, to various figures of size and shapes, a rare ST:TNG phone, autographed pictures, books, posters and much more. Some items were Trek/Fleet related, while others were Klingon items, such as a drinking tankard, that many seemed to wish they could win.

I heard the numbers called and realized I had a winning ticket. Upon verification I received a mouse pad with the Starfleet Command logo from StarTrek.com, a small stuffed Gorn and a limited addition, autographed card of Ensign Wesley Crusher in a Lucite holder with a small certificate of authenticity.

The last and 'best prize' of the evening and the



STARFLEET Day of Honor attendees: RADM Jerry Tien, CO, USS Eagle, R4 & Chief of Shakedown Operations STARFLEET, VADM Beryl Washington, CO, USS Sovereign, Philadelphia, PA, R7, FCPT Unicorn Escobedo, Recreation Chief of AA & R4 Subspace Communicator Editor & Crewman Albert Cromedy of USS Augusta Ada, R4



Cub Scout Pack 693 and Boy Scout Troop 81 of Hercules, CA with a few new friends and allies.

one that had to be claimed if your ticket was called, was the 'Day of Honor Orange Hazard Cone', that each year's recipient must autograph and return the following year so that once again it could be handed out. We had a winner upon the first drawing and he was sitting beside me. When Albert realized he had won, he oh so quietly leaned across the table and 'begged' me to claim it for him. Instead like a good officer, I announced, "here's your winner!" We could not get him to wear the cone, however we did get some good shots of him holding his new prize. I'm sure the cone will have many stories to tell next year, if it becomes sentient.

Upon conclusion of the raffle, we were told to refill out tankards and cups, and then to adjourn to the outdoor theater for the main event of the evening, announcement of promotions and the handing out of various Awards to deserving and unsuspecting warriors. However before we could leave the hall, we had some special guests appear.

Cub Scouts Pack 693 and Boy Scout Troop 81 of Hercules, CA were in the building and heard that Klingons were there. Although several looked scared that they soon maybe become last minute appetizers for some of the Klingons,

a temporary truce was called in honor of the various Federation members. So instead we all gathered around the youngness to pose for photos and answer a few questions, before they moved on, just in case the truce did not last. Those young men were going to have tales to tell come there next gathering.

On the way to the outdoor theater, I ran into RADM Jerry Tien, CO of the USS Eagle and Chief of Shuttle Operations STARFLEET, whom had arrived late and had been sitting behind me at another table, enjoying the various goodies from the feast tables. I also got a chance to speak with VADM Beryl Washington, the CO of the USS Sovereign of Philadelphia, PA, Region 7 and home to the upcoming IC this coming August. I wished I had known this sooner, as I would have enjoyed hearing any last minute gossip of the pending IC. I know numerous members of R4 plan to attend, including this officer. I look forward to meeting her again and this time hopefully having a longer conversation. Finally I was able to get my photo taken with a fellow Vulcan 'Obi-have' (Alex Diaz) of the Black Fleet, another universe ship located here in R4.

Continued on page 5.



Although I cannot recall who all the warriors were, or what their promotions, awards and recognitions were for, a couple of notable announcements did catch my pointed ear. The first was the awarding of the 'Eyes of Kahless' award to a Klingon female warrior, Vul'Ra Yur'Ass, 1st Lt. and Chief of Security for the IKV Black Dragon, whom many solar passing's ago, I knew as then R4 RC Admiral Janis Moore. We got to speak briefly earlier in the evening, but later made sure to exchange hailing frequencies so that we could try to keep better in touch in the coming moons. A full description of the award can be found at <http://www.ikvbloodlust.net/Decorations.htm>.

The second was the promotion to Marine Major of Marine Kaptain Moragh-epetai-pan'qaQs (aka Pete Briggs), CO, IKV Black Dragon and SC contributor with his column "Empire Eavesdropping." Congratulations Major Moragh. May you continue to bring glory and honor to your ship and her crew. We at the SC look forward to your future columns.

After the various awards had been handed out and recognitions made, it was time to settle back for few laughs, several at the expense of the Federation members. Good humor was needed and welcomed. We saw several short video clips via the wall projector of various G4 trek promos, and other clips from the Internet and television programs, all Trek related in one manner or another. Oh the moans, the groans and yes the belly laughs that could be heard throughout the outdoor theater. Some I had seen before, but most were new. I too found myself groaning and laughing out loud. Must have been the Vulcan lemonade I was drinking, because I know I hadn't drunk any of the Blood wine.

At the conclusion of the showing, all Federation and non-Klingon guests were invited onto the center stage for a group photo. Of course Captain KJ brought his phaser, just in case it was a trick and the warriors were to massacre us. However that did not happen and instead, hem lines were raised on a few uniforms and one kilt. Oh the whistles, catcalls and moans that followed.

We then all returned to the great hall to grab some last bites from the great feast. Belongings, winnings and others items were claimed and put into their respective travel modes. Hailing frequency cards were exchanged, as were numerous last moment photos taken of old and new friends made, with promises to see one another soon at the next gathering.

Thank-you to Commander Motat sutai-Heck'Lher of the house of Heck'Lher and the IKV Bloodlust for hosting such an honorable and glorious event. Congratulations to all the Warriors who were honored with awards and

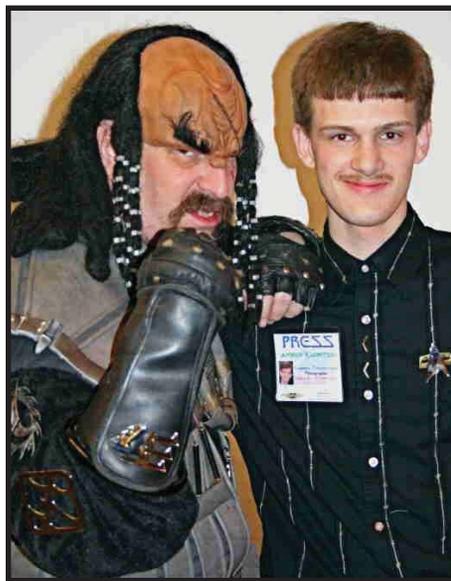
promotions. May you continue to bring Honor and Glory to the Empire and beyond. I look forward to the next day of Honor and good health allowing, attending again.

For additional information about this event go to

<http://www.ikvbloodlust.net/DayofHonor10.html>.

To see more of the photos taken by Andrey that could not be included with this report go to <http://s66.photobucket.com/albums/h275/kandrey89/Klingon%20Day%20of%20Honor%202010/>

Hailing frequencies closed.



Commander Motat sutai-Heck'Lher (Mike Wilson), Security Chief of the IKV Bloodlust & Andrey Kuznetsov of the USS Augusta Ada, R4

TO BOLDLY DIE



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STARFLEET Member Wins EMMY!

By: Commodore Shirley Weaver - USS Alpha Centauri



Capt. David Weaver (USS Alpha Centauri - R7) received an Emmy Award in the category of "Audio: Live" for the telecast of The National Cherry Blossom Parade in 2005. The awards were presented June 10th at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel in Washington, DC. This was David's fourth nomination and his third Emmy Award. David and his wife Shirley, pose with the Emmy.

Away Mission To Riverside

By: Commander John Schulte - Shuttle Riverside



As most of you know, Riverside is the birthplace of legendary Captain James T. Kirk of the USS Enterprise. First Officer Arps has been living undercover with the remote culture of Riverside, Iowa in the late 20th and early 21st centuries, before Kirk was born, and we've determined that they seem sufficiently advanced for First Contact. Due to the primitive nature of the locals, First Officer Dennis Arps' advice against Commander Schulte joining the away mission was so noted and approved by Admiral Urvand during the recent Regional Summit. An Away Team of the Riverside consisting of the Commanding Officer, Commander John Schulte; Science Officer, Lieutenant (junior grade) T'Plon; and Cadet Second Class Trent Schulte joined XO Lieutenant Commander Dennis Arps and family in Riverside. The Away Team was met by USS St. George's Commanding Officer, Commodore Tom Webster; and Chief Medical Officer, Commander Tom Schulte, as well as the USS Czar'ak Admiral Linda Kloempken and her guest.



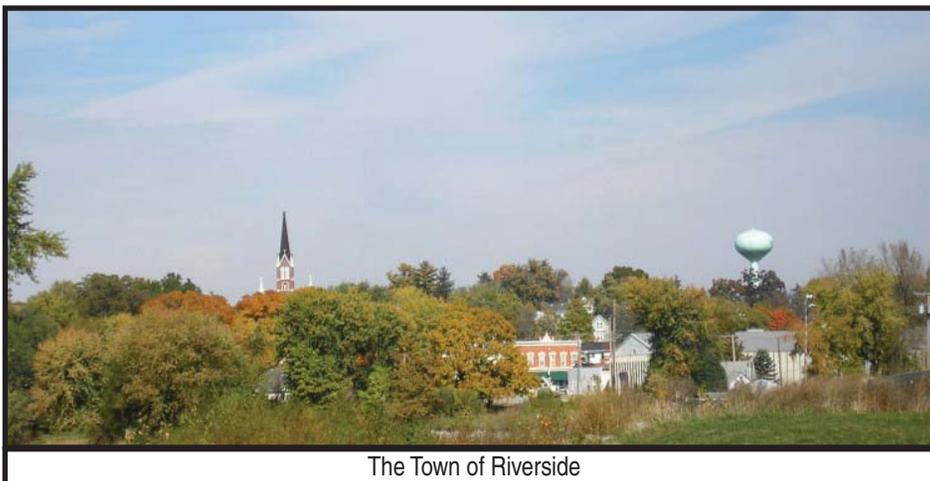
USS Riverside Float

Engineering completed patch work repairs on the shuttle craft in time for the annual "Trek Fest" celebration in James T. Kirk's hometown of Riverside, Iowa. A landing party from the St. George accompanied Admiral Linda Kloempken and Commodore Tom Webster through a local pageant. I believe that Science Officer T'Plon termed it a "parade." It was a large gathering of all ages from the populace who were friendly and welcoming although the youth of the gathering seemed more interested in acquiring glucose based food stuffs termed "candy." This was thrown by all landing party members with gusto; it seemed to appease the gathered horde. The shuttle craft was towed by a surface vehicle powered by an "internal combustion engine." The XO was lucky enough to pilot the vehicle since having attended the ancient vehicle classes taught by Instructor Paris at the Academy. It was a remarkable journey.



Shuttlecraft, with a feline visitor.

After the parade, there was a presentation about Terran space exploration presented by Dr. George Hospodarsky from the nearby University. Following that was a pageant of old Starfleet Uniforms called a "costume contest" won by a Horta, which was amusing since they are not clothed. To our delight, the shuttle craft was christened with a traditional bottle of champagne and officially named the Shuttlecraft Riverside. The local populace dispersed to several different areas, some went to a Ground Vehicle exhibition, others engaged in demonstrations of martial and performance arts termed "A Talent contest." Several different games of chance and sensory deprivation were available, although they do not use credits as



The Town of Riverside

much as a form of barter involving "money" used to acquire "tickets."

The CO and Cadet Schulte engaged in a contest of navigation through an obstacle course while visual clues were denied. "Golf Cart Rodeo" was the term and was very entertaining as Cadet Schulte provide verbal directions to Commander Schulte as they navigated a path around assorted hazards. The demonstration was tremendous for crew morale. Science Officer T'Plon was able to take several scans of the action.

Another game of chance in which we participated, which we termed "Bovine Fecal Matter Bingo," was also known as "Cow Chip Bingo." Science Officer T'Plon, Cadet Schulte, and I were included in the final experiment of the study. For a wager of 5 dollars, we picked a number out of a paper bag, which were numbered 1 through 100. After all the numbers were purchased, an area that was fenced off with a number grid which had a young female bovine placed inside. It was at this juncture that the probability portion of the study was tested. The goal of the study was to observe the square in which the bovine defecated. As it happened the number purchased by our Science Officer was the one that got the fecal matter. The reward was 250 dollars, half of the proceeds for that round.

The festivities covered two days and several different locations; a brief homage was paid to the birthplace of Captain Kirk as indicated by a large stone marker. While not quite up to the level of Risa or Ripley's Pleasure Planet, for a local primitive culture it is worth continuing study.

Shuttlecraft Riverside is ready for duty and we continue to plan for future away missions to Captain Kirk's Earth birthplace. With the coming of a 200 room Casino Hotel and Resort, expansion of their yearly celebration is inevitable, and the probability of bringing Trek dignitaries is possible either for Trek Fest or a new Convention at the Casino and Resort.

Information on our activities can be had by going to <http://www.ussriverside.org> or joining us on our message board at <http://riversidesfi.proboards61.com>.





Canada Celebrations Raise Funds and Fun

By: Captain Loreleigh Graves - Shuttle Bondar

Well, well, well, July first, 2006 and Canada is 139 years old.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY CANADA

Shuttle Bondar held its weekly meat raffle at the Chase River Arms Bar and Grill, to raise funds to support the Loaves and Fishes Food Bank and the safe house for battered women through Haven Society, in Nanaimo, B.C.

This was in partnership with NASCAR Assoc. who were busy with their Beer and Burger Day, auctioning off a NASCAR jacket donated by Tom Bloudoff, and a water tank for dunking, at a price. The Jacket Raffle proceeds to went to the Shuttle Bondar's pet charities as well as the proceeds from the dunk tank.

The busy day came to an end with shuttle commander, Capt. Graves being dunked before the "Shuttle Bondo" returned Shuttle Bondar's working crew to 10 Forward for their own hot



Crystal Exeter awaits her turn to be dunked.
Pictures taken by Lt. Dale Friesen

dog BBQ and pleasantries

An unbelievable \$476.00 was raised after expenses for charity. Hooray for Canada Day Celebrations.

Within the hour of closing the festivities on Canada Day (July 1st), Crystal Exeter (pictured) was in a horrific motorcycle accident that resulted in 11 hours of reconstructive facial surgery. Shuttle Bondar is now asking for financial assistance for this girl and her young child. Checks or money orders can be sent to:

The Crystal Fund
c/o The Chase Rivers Arms Bar and Grill
P.O. Box 219, Nanaimo, BC V9R 5N9
Canada

or to:

The Crystal Fund
c/o Loreleigh Graves
104-1500 Boundary Cres, Nanaimo, BC
V9S 4N8, Canada



Yeager Racing

By: Captain Jerry Conner - USS Yeager

The U.S.S. Yeager Racing Team took part in the Downhill Derby at this year's Bluefield Lemonade Days, Saturday, August 6. Downhill Derby is a lower cost variant of the popular Soapbox Derby. A number of Bluefield businesses, including Sarver Candy, Landmark Antiques Mall and First Community Bank also had cars built for the contest.

Of course, U.S.S. Yeager couldn't just enter a simple frame and wheels car. Instead, their entry was a small-scale replica of a Yeager shuttlecraft, numbered "20" in celebration of Yeager's twenty years of community service as a Bluefield State organization. While it didn't set any records, it was greatly enjoyed by the attendees, drivers and parents alike, especially the youngsters who test drove it around Chicory Square before the actual race.



A young racer tries out the Yeager's shuttle racer.

The Downhill Derby is only the latest community service activity of U.S.S. Yeager. Other activities have included maintaining the "Bulldog" tank that guards the gate of Bluefield City Park, donations of food and litter to various animal care groups, and donations of canned food and toys to the Bluefield Union Mission each Christmas. They will also be sponsoring Bluefield's first ever science fiction convention in November, and are already in the planning stages for a Klingon shuttle to go with the Federation shuttle for next year's Downhill Derby.

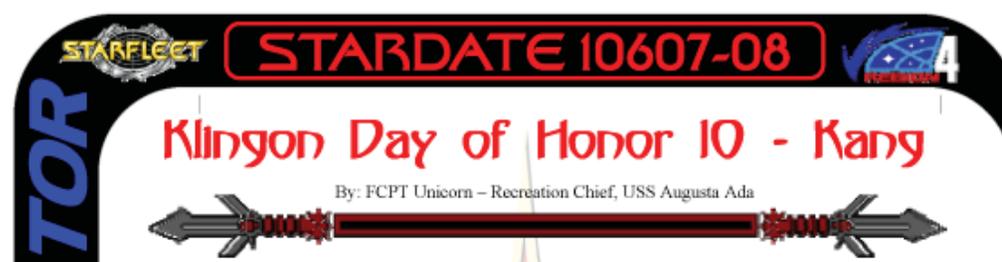


STARFLEET Newsletter Awards

3rd Place –
The Commlink – USS Haise Region 2

2nd Place –
Angles Flight – USS Angeles, Region 4

USS Maat Award of Excellence –
Subspace Communicator Region 4



Border Patrol: Joint Operation of The USS Niagara and USS Hadfield

By: Captain Tom Pawelczak - USS Niagara



STARFLEET, The International Star Trek Fan Assoc., that's us! And that's exactly what we were the weekend of July 7-9, 2006 as Crewmembers of the USS Niagara; FCapt. Glen Diebold, CO of the Niagara, and his family, wife Lt. Ruth and daughters, Ensigns Kelley and Tabitha, Cmdr Shawn Slattery, Science Officer, and me headed north to Toronto Trek 20 being held at the Doubletree Hotel, near the Toronto Airport. Already on site were Lt (JG) Karen Stevenson, our local Diplomatic Liaison, and LtCmdr Tom Pecoraro, on detached duty to the Convention. We were linking up with the USS Hadfield, a local SFI ship of R13, commanded by Capt. Debbie Blaser. Our mission, spread the word that Star Trek Lives through STARFLEET.

Friday night we joined forces at a local chicken 'n' rib restaurant, the Swiss Chalet. In addition to the crews from our two ships, we were joined by XO of the USS Whitestar, Paul Stevens, and several "friends of the ship," formerly of the USS Galloway, Pittsburgh, but now visiting from the US Virgin Islands. As several members on both sides were new, it was an enjoyable meal getting acquainted while I busily snapped pictures. Cadet Andrew Topp of the Hadfield snuck in some rabbit ears while his Mom, LtCmdr Darlene Topp wasn't looking.

Then it was back to the hotel. The Hadfield headed off to the opening ceremonies and panels while the Niagara made up grab bags for sale at the convention. The grab bags consisted of items donated by various local businesses and members. Each bag had an estimated value of at least 5.00 USD. Among the items was an audio book autographed by William Shatner, a Magnum Equipment computer bag/backpack, and a Univ. of Buffalo soft briefcase. Additionally, there were ship's logo T-shirts (in red of course!) and coffee mugs. After the work detail was finished and our good Captain gave us our table duty assignments for the morrow, it was play time.

Some headed off to the panels but I went to "Harry's Bar" where a Toronto Trek tradition was being held- Klingon Karaoke! While I may face a raging targ with nothing more than my Swiss Army Knife, I'm not brave enough to get up on stage. So I watched those who were or just had a little too much bloodwine, while socializing with my fellow Fleeter's.

Saturday was the big day! The convention was now at Warp Speed. There were many guests to celebrate the 20th Anniversary; Richard Hatch, Julie Caitlin Brown, Adam Busch, Amber Benson, Mira Furlan, George Takei, Garrett

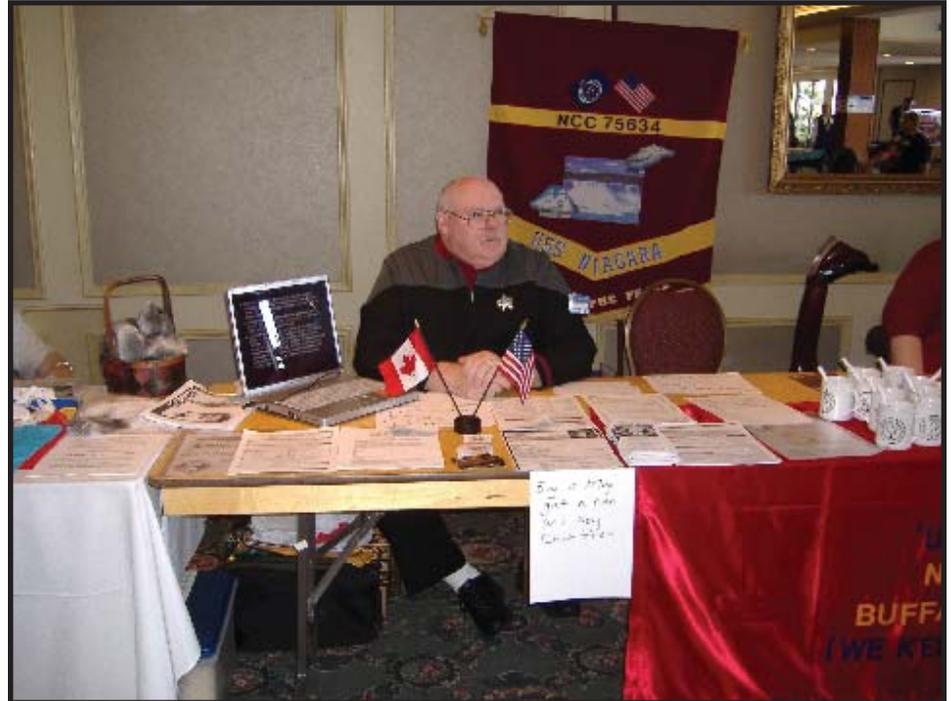
Wang, Jewel Staite, and with Michael Shanks and Lexa Doig appearing Sunday only. With the schedule FCapt. Glen set-up, everyone had a chance to see their favorites.

The Hadfield and the Niagara had tables next to each other and we worked as a team, supply information of SFI and SFA to everyone who stopped by to chat. FCapt Glen is the Dean of IOIE as well as Director of COSS, Capt. Debbie Blaser is Director of the Canadian Campus of the Leadership School and LtCmdr Darlene Topp is Director of IOSF's College of Trekology. Both ships had goodies for sale; the Hadfield was selling both ready made and make your own tribble kits and logo tote bags. The Niagara had the aforementioned grab bags, shirts and mugs. Working closely together, we explained that we both had the same parent organization. If the person was Canadian, they were directed to the Hadfield, if American, to the Niagara. And surprise-surprise! LtCmdr Bonni Stevenson, Lt (jg) Karen's Mom, showed up unexpectedly! Bonni initially had to work this weekend but managed to free things up and join us. I think Bonni mothers me more than she does Karen. Hey, at my age, I need all the help I can get.

While the adults were working, the cadets were playing. Hadfield Cadets Andrew Topp and Ben Petrovich entered a Leggo Building Contest as a team. And they won First Place! Thus bringing honor to the glory of the Hadfield. Andrew it would seem, is quite a lucky boy as he also won a weekend pass to next year's Toronto Trek at Sunday's closing ceremonies.

After duty hours, both ships again broke bread together in the Doubletree dining room, enjoying a delicious buffet supper. Then it was off to the Masquerade, another Toronto Trek staple. This year's was a little short, lasting only about an hour, but the various skits and costumes were highly imaginative. The night ended with a dance in the ballroom where this old man cut a rug with several of the young ladies. Ohhhh, my aching feet! I'm not as young as I used to be.

Sunday, everything's winding down. As we still had grab bags left and didn't want to lug them back across the border, we marked them down and eventually sold out entirely. Shirts and mugs didn't sell as well as anticipated but there's always next year. FCapt Glen had us pack up around noon. Several of us stayed around for awhile but not much longer. One never knows how long the drive back will be both with the Toronto traffic and the border crossing. So tired but very happy for spending the weekend with my Canadian friends, I set the runabout at Warp 7, plotted my course for the border, and blasted off, already thinking about next year and TT21.



FCapt Glen Diebold of the USS Niagara mans the table



Top: Hadfield Cadets Ben Petrovich and Andrew Topp show off their first place award.

Left: Two Crime Fighters: RoboCop and Col. Tom Pawelczak





Funtrek

By: Captain Pam Michaud - USS Ronald E. McNair

May 20, 2006 found the crews of the USS Starleague and USS Ronald E. McNair, both chapters of the NC/SC sector of Region One, at a local amusement area named Franke's Fun Park. This was to be the first of what both crews hoped would be an annual event, hopefully with more NC/SC chapters participating. Events planned were mini golf and go carts and possibly laser tag should any be brave enough to enter the dark abyss and try to dodge the myriad of laser beams shooting in about and overhead.

Before the events began both crews decided to partake of the delicious foods, since both crews were tired of Starship replicated foods and beverages. After roaming the arcade inside we encountered an alien life form which we thought

might be related to the robot of "Danger Will Robinson" fame. But, alas he was only a little robot of unknown origins. The robot was kind enough to pose for photos.

Mini golf was the first endeavor. Starleague and McNair members divided into teams. We tried for a full 18 holes but Mother Nature had other plans with a thunderstorm. The game was called since both crews had finished 13 holes. The winner of the mini golf trophy was Starleague member Michael Mann, he having the lowest score of all of us. We decided not to try to do the gocarts due to ominous black clouds rumbling overhead.

Both crews had a great time and hope to do this again.



Above - CDR Denise James shoots for a birdie.

Top Right - McNair XO Frank Parker dreams of something other than mini-golf.

Middle Right - Pam Michaud goofs for the camera while a new friend of the crew looks on.

Lower Right - McNair Ensign Ree Clark and CO Pam Michaud of the McNair pose with their robot friend.

Region Fifteen Summit

By: Fleet Captain Doug Mayo - USS Nelson



Region 15's annual Summit took place on April 28th – 30th, 2006 and was once again held in centrally located Seabrook New Hampshire. Well over 85% of Region 15's chapters reported in or were being represented.

The Summit's special guest was STARFLEET's Chief of Operations Jack Eaton. One of biggest challenges for the behind the scenes people of the Summit team was the assembly of the Region's pride and joy, the TNG bridgeset. With all the rain we've had here in the New England area, large portions of the bridgeset had suffered damage from either water saturation or mold. Donning cleaning attire, the assembly crew got to work on cleaning it up as best we could. I think we all can agree from the photos that the cleaning and assembly crew did a great job.

Opening ceremonies included a Marine Honor Guard conducting a flag presentation. The Charity Auction held on Saturday, benefiting the New England Shelter for Homeless Veterans raised \$1,267.00. The Awards Committee with the assistance of the Regional Coordinator Gary Halverson, and Jack Easton presented this year's Region 15 Awards (below is a complete listing of the winners in each award category).



Pictured from left to right are: U.S.S. Nelson's CO Doug Mayo (accepting Charitable Works Awards); RC-Gary Halverson; Starfleet's Jack Eaton



Pictured from left to right are: RC15-Gary Halverson, STARFLEET's Jack Eaton, U.S.S. O'Bannon's CO, Mark Craft (receiving Newsletter of the Year Award, U.S.S. Galaxy's XO Tom

Also, for the first time, the Marines presented their awards during this time, as opposed to handing the awards out at the Marine muster, scheduled for the next day.

Shuttle Anubis was commissioned as U.S.S. Anubis. Regional Coordinator Gary Halverson was promoted to Vice Admiral; Vice Coordinator Bob McCann was promoted to Commodore;

Corey Grant, Commanding Officer of the U.S.S. Darwin was also promoted to Commodore, Commanding Officer of the U.S.S. Hood Robert Chin to Fleet Captain.

Region Fifteen Awards List

Chapter Awards

SHUTTLE of the Year
Anubis

CHARITABLE WORKS CHAPTER(S) of the Year
U.S.S. O'Bannon, U.S.S. Nelson

SHIP of the Year
U.S.S. O'Bannon

NEWSLETTER of the Year
U.S.S. O'Bannon's 'Right Full Rudder'

Individual Awards

Award of Excellence
Mark Libby (U.S.S. Kasimar)
Kathy Mullins (U.S.S. Nelson)
Douglas Mayo (U.S.S. Nelson)

Distinguished Service Award
Mark Craft (U.S.S. O'Bannon)
Robert McCann (O'Bannon)
Kandyleigh Provencher (O'Bannon)
Shawn Levesque (O'Bannon)
Mike Soucy (U.S.S. Kasimar)
Matt Ingles (U.S.S. Kasimar)
Ellen Majka (U.S.S. Nelson)
Distinguished Service Award (continued)
Ann Mayo (U.S.S. Nelson)
Deborah Kowal (U.S.S. Nelson)

Charitable Individual(s) of the Year
Kathy Mullins (U.S.S. Nelson)
Kandyleigh Provencher (U.S.S. O'Bannon)

Departmental Awards
Kim Capelle-Communication (O'Bannon)
Shawn Levesque-Medical (O'Bannon)

Student of the Year
Douglas Mayo-12 courses (U.S.S. Nelson)

Enlisted Member of the Year
Ruth Forrand (U.S.S. Darwin)

Member of the Year
Robert McCann (U.S.S. O'Bannon)

Officer of the Year
Douglas Mayo (U.S.S. Nelson)
Departmental Awards
Kim Capelle-Communications (U.S.S. O'Bannon)
Shawn Levesque-Medical (U.S.S. O'Bannon)

Marine Awards

Brigade Awards
The 15th Brigade annually recognizes its members with the Valor Awards.

The Cross of Valor
Marine of the Year 2005 Awardee
Kathy Mullins 980th MSG

Sword of Valor
Leader of the Year 2005 Awardee
Matthew Ingles 920th MSG

The Shield of Valor
Volunteer of the Year 2005 Awardee
Arnold E. Splan 920th MSG

The Legion of Valor
Unit of the Year 2005 Awardee
920th MSG U.S.S. Kasimar

The Star of Valor
NCO of the Year 2005 Awardee
No Recipient 000 MSG

STARFLEET Academy Scholarships

Jimmy Doohan/Montgomery Scott Engineering Scholarship
- James Winsley - USS Jamestown
- Kerry Scott - Shuttle Riverside

DeForest Kelley/Leonard McCoy Medical Scholarship
- Joshua Wagner - USS Ohio

Space Exploration Memorial Scholarship
- Kristi Long - USS Lone Star

Armin Shimmerman Scholarship for Profitable Business
- Kristie Halford - USS Lone Star

George Takai International Studies Scholarship
- Trisha Davies - USS Niagara





UFOs on Parade

By: Fleet Captain Craig Martin - USS Destiny

May 20th Saturday 2006...
McMenamins UFO Parade/
Festival....McMinnville, OR.

The Klingon's IKV T' Mar from Tacoma, Washington and the Portland, Oregon IKV Raptor Klingon's Group showed up right on time with a dozen members to help our five members get the 30' trailer ready, and we had no problem being ready on time. The judging of the floats took place at 11:30 am and then we visited and got a bite to eat till the parade's start at 1 pm. The Klingon's T'Mar CO, Robyn Meadows, took the time to tell a TARG Dog story to Craig's daughter Shelby Martin and Michael's Granddaughter Sonya, or was it more like recruiting?

It was fun checking out the other 27 floats and being checked out by a lot of people as well as being interviewed by local news crews. When the parade awards were announced at 12:30 we were not shocked that our float was not the best, as this is only our second time in the parade. However, many ideas for next year are all ready on the drawing board including a working transporter! We did however get to celebrate that the XO of the Klingon's IKV Raptor's Lee Matheny from our float was crowned the "King Alien of the Parade!" He got to ride at the front of the parade with the two "twin" alien queens. The Raptor Klingon's also boasted that their own Darrelyn Karczag was named Queen Alien last year. Klingon's have all the luck!

Because of safety issues there was to be no candy thrown from the floats this year. We had people walking beside the floats handing out candy and it was a great opportunity for our STARFLEET Marines and the IKV Raptors & T'Mar Klingons to show what we are made of. The weather was perfect and the total length of the parade was 11 blocks long. The parade went well except that the parade's pace was a little fast for our walkers, but our Chief of Engineering ENS Michael Martin navigating the 12' flat bed pulling the 30' trailer kept us at sub-light speed. Great job ENS Michael.

The Raptors CO Robert Ison's idea about the table and chairs on the float as a symbol for peace talks shaking hands, but also having weapons pointed at each other under the table was enjoyed by many spectators. This struggle for peace was even mentioned in our local Statesman Journal, along with a picture of CAPT Kirk and Spock. If only other Nations could follow our example for peace, we can get a long.

BDR Norm DeRoux wore his STARFLEET Marines Dress Uniform to give the "Peace Talks" that official look and FCPT Craig Martin found a group of Cone-heads to chat with.

After the goodbyes were done there was about a half dozen of us left, so we wandered downtown to see the sites and check out the costume ball at 8 pm in Mcmenamins. There were alot of people taking pictures of us and

asking questions about our groups, we even met a real director of fan films.

The costume ball was a lot of fun in the bar with a live band, and aluminum foil covering just about everybody there. We all knew that only real TIN foil will actually keep the aliens from reading our minds, but we did not want to ruin the mood of the crowd. We were enjoying the evening when the band saw the Tacoma Washington Klingon's IKV T'Mar's CO Robyn Meadows and her XO Steve Greenfield out on the dance floor, and picked them as best costume couple and handed them gift certificates. On the way out they stopped at the hotel's gift store and got McMenamins UFO drinking glasses for the group. We had a lot of fun and plan to make it a yearly event.



Above
Lee Matheny shows off his crown.
Photo by Robert Ison

Top Right
Coneheads march!
Photo by Craig Martin

Middle Right
Alien Queens
Photo by Robert Ison

Bottom Right
Klingon storytime. Or is it recruitment?
Photo by Craig Martin



U.S. Space and Rocket Center Away Team Mission

By: Vice Admiral Pete Mohney - USS Hephaestus and Commander Grady Glover - USS Blue Sun



Nineteen members of STARFLEET from three chapters (shuttle Blue Sun, Dark Silence Station and USS Hephaestus) traveled to Huntsville, Alabama, to spend a day at the U.S. Space and Rocket Center Museum. We gathered at the front entrance at ten a.m. and paused for a group photo. Several of us had brought cameras, and were taking turns snapping away, when we realized that this method would simply create a lot of pictures of everyone but the photographer. Fortunately, a bystander who was nearby taking his own pictures was willing to take over our cameras and get a full group shot. He also asked to stand in with us and get his picture taken, which we were happy to do. We presented him with some STARFLEET pins and a business card as thanks, and moved on in.

The first part of the museum is, not surprisingly, a gift shop. However, this gift shop specializes in kid-related merchandise, including such items as an Astronaut Barbie, various space-related toys, and a machine that will squish a penny flat and emboss it with your choice of four space related emblems. We then moved on to the next area, which was... a much larger gift shop, with everything from videos to books to games, puzzles, mementos, and astronaut jump suits in sizes from kid to adult. Several of us parted with some of our funds here, and then we finally moved on to the actual museum.

After we passed through the entrance hallway, which contains some plaques and dioramas of early spaceflight info, we moved into the Time for Courage Theater, where a film loop tells of the pioneers of spaceflight, and some of the

events of the times that pushed the U.S. and other countries into developing space flight. This was followed by the Space City Legacy exhibit, where many of the early engineers and scientists working in the development of rockets and other space flight technology are showcased. Photos and memorabilia from names like Von Braun and Goddard fill the hallway, and many of us were hard put to leave quickly enough to keep from blocking the hall.

The next area is a large hands-on display of space hardware, including rocket parts, a demo of the soviet space station Mir, a shuttle landing simulator, a Gemini and Mercury capsule replica that you can climb into, and dozens of other items. Up a flight of stairs from this is a new exhibit, the Space Shuttle Exhibit, showing the development and technology of how the shuttle lifts off, orbits, performs tasks, and returns to earth.

After this you enter into the main room of the Space Museum, a huge room full of all sorts of objects and displays, from rocket nozzles and nose cones to rocket segments, pumps and space suits, comparative models, crew capsules, and many other items all over the floor, walls and hanging from the ceiling. There is a lunar lander exhibit, the Apollo 16 command module, a Mercury capsule procedures trainer, and a Gemini capsule procedures trainer. By the time you are through this room, you feel like you're halfway to becoming an astronaut yourself!

Beyond this is an area that highlights the military aspect of the space effort. There is an exhibit showing the technology of space as



Front row, l-r: Pete Mohney, Tara Mohney, Annika Glover, Katrina Mohney. Second row, l-r: Pat Hicks, Flo Hurst, Gloria Greening, Karina Coleman, Anne Glover, Grady Glover, Kim Glover, Darrell Glover Third Row, l-r: Brad Coleman, DeWayne Fulmer, Nic Coleman, Carol Burhans Back row, l-r: Roy Green, Sue Ellen Mohney, Willis Burhans, William Burhans, Kenny Hewitt.

applied to military hardware; the kids found the remote controlled track-mounted camera to be especially fun, using it to follow other museum-goers around and make them a bit nervous. The 'Mars climbing wall' looked especially fun, but of the two kids who got in line to climb, one was too short and the other didn't have on acceptable shoes (you just can't climb cliffs in sandals, it seems).

The next exhibit is simulated flight and drive on and around a Martian colony, with an accidental run through an ancient Martian roller coaster – complete with country music! This was one of those rides with LOTS of disclaimers at

the beginning about neck and back injuries, dizziness, motion sickness, and pregnancy, but everyone who went in came out in roughly the condition they started in, so apparently the warnings weren't needed. A warning about country music on a roller coaster should perhaps be added, though.

The next hallway led through yet another gift shop, past an underwater training tank (for the Space Camp kids) and into the food court, where everyone stopped for lunch before moving outside to the displays of rockets, missiles, capsules, a kids' area with a crawl-through play area and zero-g ride, and a four-



Lunar Lander



A-12 Blackbird

Continued on page 13.

gravity centrifuge for the hardest of the adults. Both of our people who rode the centrifuge commented that four G's went past 'interesting' into 'unpleasant', but it was a fascinating ride nonetheless. Beyond that ride was a large space-station walk through (some of the floors are transparent with displays under them, giving pause to the two toddlers in the group, who were afraid to walk over them), and beyond that, a 200' tall 'Space Shot' zero-g ride for the big kids. Despite the presence of more than thirty pieces of space and military hardware, we only stayed outside for an hour or so because it was more than ninety degrees outside.

We spent some time watching the Space and Rocket Center Campers running a simulated control room for a shuttle flight. Several rows of kids at computer consoles were speaking to the astronauts, checking on data, and running programs to check the status of various aspects of the flight in progress. Others were swimming in the zero-gravity simulation pool, a very deep water tank where they could practice working with space hardware in simulated zero gravity. There are observation windows near the bottom of the outside of the pool for visitors to watch from, and we spent quite a bit of time observing them at their work.

Another trip through the Space Museum took us to our appointed Imax time, and we all gathered in line for the show. The lobby outside of the Imax theater has displays ranging from a video presentation by Wernher von Braun himself, extolling the plans for a permanent manned



Annika Glover demonstrates the potty

orbiting station, to a full-sized Darth Vader costume, comparative US and USSR space shuttle modules, and a theater snack shop so you can grab a drink or some popcorn before the show. The movie was a presentation of the Mars Rover missions, from conception to where they stood just a few months ago, including a bird's eye view of a launch – thunderously loud, brilliantly bright, and a ton of fun to watch (especially to watch the little kids' reactions, as they literally had never heard anything so loud in their lives).

Amidst all the Apollo mission goodies, the various shuttle launching info and the all-to-wonderful IMAX theater, there is a room with a nice little mock-up of the inside of the Space Station that is currently being completed. Several members of each of our three crews attended a workshop on space station life. When the young lady running the demonstration asked for volunteers, a member from each crew jumped at the chance to get in on the action.

PO3 Nic Coleman of Shuttle Blue Sun, RADM Carol Burhans of SS Dark Silence Station, and LT Gloria Greening of the USS Hephaestus each demonstrated a part of the space station life. Nic is now well trained in taking a shower in outer space, even though, as we have found out, it does not require any water but merely gel and something akin to baby wipes. Carol got some on hand training of how one sleeps in zero gravity. Basically you are wrapped up in a canvas-type material like a big burrito so that you don't float about while you are asleep. Gloria, well, lets just say that she got training on what to do when 'nature calls' and we were introduced to 'Mr. Thirsty', a hose-like device used for when you have to...hmm...go. Even Cadet Annika Glover got in on the potty training action. After this great training session, I would have to say that our crew members are ready to take on what ever the final frontier has to through at them.

For the rest of the afternoon, we scattered to revisit the displays and shows we hadn't had enough of, from the Outpost In Space Theater, to another ride on the Martian Colony flight simulator, more time looking around in the Space Museum, and then out towards the exit to look over the A-12 Blackbird (like the X-Men jet from the movies) and the marker over the grave of Mrs. Baker, the first animal to go into space and return alive. On the way out of the museum grounds, we drove by Area 51, and took pictures, but all the photos taken inside the fenced area did not come out somehow.

After a good dinner at a nearby Cracker Barrel, we scattered to our homes for much-needed rest!

STARFLEET Academy Boothby Awards

Garnet
Truman D. Temple

Amber
Scott A. Akers

Zirconium
Thomas Pawelczak, Dean Andre Rogers

Titanium
Michael D. Anderson, Glendon Diebold

Dilithium
Wayne Lee Killough Jr., Bill Rowlette

Latinum
Sean A. Meyer, George Ann Wheeler,
Judy Waidlich, Scott A. Anderson Sr.

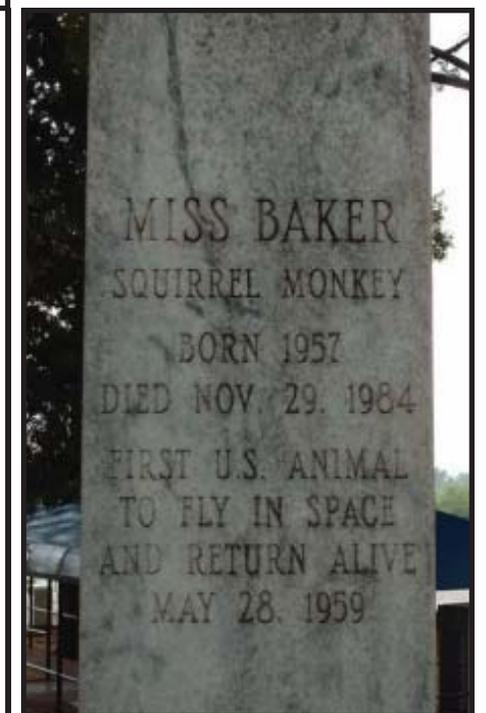
Gold
John Roberts, Gregory A. Franklin,
Jill Michelle Tipton, Robin Smith,
Antonio Lopes III

Silver
Angel Avery, Anne Miller, Jan Sleigh
Todd Fredrick Brugmans, John Fenison
Sean Niemeyer, Darlene Topp,
Douglas Wayne Mayo, Erik B. Cowand,
Teri Lotta, Michael John Timko III,

Glenn D. Martin, Kyle J. Wolf Sr.,
Patricia Lewis, Scott E. Grant,
Larry Dale French Sr., Cathy L. Edgington,
Sofyan Sahrom, Susan Mahaffey,
Carolyn Donner, James William Monroe,
Kurt F. Roithinger, Nancy Joan O'Shields,
John Kiwi Kane, Edith Lawaine Padgett,
Geoff Upton, Wayne Augustson,
Grady Glover

Bronze
Brett Price, Tracy Andrews, Gary M. Ensey Jr.
Monika Ruth Reinholz,
Gary Wayne Hollifield Jr., Jill J. Rayburn,
Karen Watson, Carolyn M. A. Zimdahl,
Victor Carl Swindell, Marie Wilson,
George Parker, Raye Norma Crews,
Kyle Stewart, John Chiaromonte,
Carol Thompson, Anne Glover,
Christopher Esquibel, Joanne Schoenthaler,
Arnel Carigo, Dave Slaughter,
Michael Vermoesen, Nancy Rabel Hall,
Becky Slater, Shawn Gregory,
Larry S. Neigut, Billie Clifton,
John Watson, Michael W Malotte,
Jeremy T. Trent, Adrian Jones,
Tracy Lilly, Joseph C. Dorffner Jr.,
David Lee Kania, Betty Ann Leverence,
Nancy Lynch, David Eller 2nd,
Michael D. Smith, Cathey Osborne,

Caroline Pajany, Amy L'Abbe,
Steve Turner, Alice Carey,
Timothy Lionel Barrington,
Chris Knoblauch, Daniel Dreesbach,
Marie Anderson, Eddie Milbrandt Jr.,
Allyson M.W. Dyar, Cary Scherer,
Raymond Burkhart, Shawn P. Levesque,
Leo A. Rogers, Joseph Lee White,
Paul M. Reid, George Pimentel,
Andrew Tatlock, David E. Klingman,
Cynthia Temple, Joseph L. Podesta Jr



Miss Baker memorial

The Science of Xenoarchaeology, Part 2

By: Rear Admiral David Klingman - USS Jaguar



Xenoarchaeology and Literature - A Uniquely Human Evidence-Based Science

I was pondering this evening, as I was doing a literature search for my residency, how deeply we as scientists are mired in clinical research and evidence-based medicine and dentistry. We rely on well-designed research for many of the clinical decisions we make, particularly where patient care is concerned, and we even go so far as to grade types of research on a spectrum from best to worst.

The best research is the prospective randomized double-blind placebo-controlled study

- prospective in that the research is actually done (as opposed to retrospective studies which simply look at past data)
- randomized in that the type of treatment is assigned randomly, to reduce or eliminate bias and variables
- double-blind in that neither the researcher nor the subject know what they are giving/getting (again, to reduce bias)
- placebo-controlled in order to prove that the treatment works better than nothing or a 'placebo'

The worst research is generally thought to be the retrospective case study where a researcher just looks at one or a few cases that have been treated. These tend to fall into the category of "professional experience" and lack both the randomization and statistical/mathematical analysis thought to be necessary to prove that something/a treatment actually works.

There are, of course, other variants of research, such as case reviews and metanalysis. This type of research, particularly metanalysis, can be used to apply some statistical testing in order to determine validity of past results.

Generally, it's looked upon favorably, of course, for these studies to be published in "peer-reviewed" journals, such as the *Journal of Dental Research* and *British Medical Journal*. After all, research that isn't shared can't add to the public and professional knowledge and aid in the formulation of new therapies and growth of the body of knowledge.

Xenoarchaeology has been defined in earlier literature simply as the archaeological study of alien races and cultures. It implies a physical science (i.e. archaeology) that involves field work and physical manipulation of the site, yet it also implies a more basic scientific analysis using the tools at hand. Twentieth century science permits a somewhat more limited investigation of the field site (i.e. having to physically dig up a specimen, with some assistance of imaging techniques such as magnetic resonance and ultrasound imaging and computed tomography), whereas 24th century science permits a more sophisticated analysis which often obviates the need for more crude methods and the use of more advanced technologies, including the tricorder and transporter, thus greatly reducing the likelihood of damaging the specimen being studied.

Along with these more sophisticated "physical" analyses, one might also expect a more complex analysis of the specimen in question. In the early 20th century, analysis of tissues was more or less limited to what we could see, what we could dig up, and what we could manipulate. Not until the discovery of x-rays by Wilhelm Conrad Roentgen and the numerous other ways developed to look at tissues; radiologically, immunologically, histologically/histochemically, were we able to start seeing living and non-living things in any great detail. By the end of the 20th century, routine examination of living and non-living tissues, specimens, fossils used relatively sophisticated methods ranging from radiologic studies to molecular and even subatomic analysis. Certainly, by the 24th century, smaller was certainly better for any analysis.

Still, it's perhaps a uniquely human characteristic to classify and report things the way we do. Perhaps modern science has programmed us toward this evidence-based peer-reviewed reported science. A quick glance at the myriad of journals and articles in the modern literature tends to confirm this human trait.

So what of the 24th-century scientist? Is there any less of a need for well-designed science? For a xenoarchaeologist, like any physical

scientist, evidence is extremely important to prove an archaeological find. If no one else saw it, how do they know it's there?

The problem, in part, is a matter of scope. Imagine the difficulty of finding intact the remains of one species in one location on one planet (for purposes of this example, Earth) and then transpose that finding intact to a single species that may be worlds away and may represent a species that has been extinct for a much longer time and whose discovery relies on finding something over a much greater distance; a small needle in a much larger haystack, as it were. Compound this with the fact that your audience is now no longer limited to just other humans, but aliens who may have their own way of looking at science, evidence, and scientific interpretation of results. Certainly, a Klingon who's most concerned with honorable death in battle isn't going to care as much for the cultural remains of a long-dead civilization as a Vulcan who may be looking for the fine details that may be hidden in a new scientific discovery. Add to this the fact that a common scientific language is perhaps the only way to communicate these ideas across cultural and species lines, and the importance of smaller as better may even more evident.

So what does a true xenoarchaeologist look for on a dig? What sciences are involved?

Certainly, Archaeology and physical Anthropology are at the heart of it. Physical evidence still has to be obtained, either directly through actually digging something up, or indirectly through various imaging techniques described previously.

But there's more to it. There are perhaps countless disciplines that both contribute to and benefit from xenoarchaeological research - Taxonomy, Cladistics, and Phylogeny (relating species from different worlds in some coherent way), Phylogeny and Evolution (relating species that may have once been more similar on an evolutionary scale), Biology/Biochemistry/ Cellular and Molecular Biology (relating species on a cellular and microbiological level), Genetics (relating and describing specimens based on their genetic makeup and expression of traits derived at a genetic level) and perhaps most importantly the relationships of these many species on cultural, sociologic, and even religious level based on differing faiths and beliefs. In some cases the science itself may even come in conflict with the belief systems and faith/philosophic/religious systems among these species. It's complicated even further by the fact that not every life form is inherently "humanoid." Some species are in fact SO alien as to have a complete lack of understanding of our scientific method.

Fortunately, the "humanoid" form of life is relatively ubiquitous as we've seen, particularly in this galaxy, and so our method of "research it, analyze it, and write it down an report it" seems

to work very well for communicating our ideas.

This returns us to our original discussion of original research and the reporting through peer-reviewed journals.

Would these forms of scientific reporting survive into the 24th century? Certainly, we can trace a number of scientific publications even in the late 20th and early 21st centuries back to the 1700s and 1800s and journals like *Lancet* and *New England Journal of Medicine* have been around longer than most. We can imagine that the human need to write it down and have it recorded in a scientific journal wouldn't stop in a mere 200 to 300 years given that some of these journals have been around for almost two centuries already.

Upon what journals does the xenoarchaeologist rely, then? The list of journals would likely constitute the journals of Terrestrial (Earth) origin as they relate to the fields of xenobiology and xenoarchaeology and as is evident, include and encompass multiple fields, including medicine, dentistry, forensics, pathology, archaeology and anthropology and even physical sciences. Included in these are 'contemporary' journals [as of 2399] and a number of historical journals that have survived into the 24th century which include *Alien Medicine*, *Alien Taxonomy Journal*, *Annals of Clinical Microbiology*, *Applied Immunohistochemistry and Molecular Morphology*, *Applied Microbiology*, *Archaeoastronomy*, *Biochemical Journal*, *Cell and Chromosome*, *Cell Communication and Signaling*, *Cell Regulation*, *Centers for Disease Control and Prevention MMWR [Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report]*, *Clinical Medicine and Research*, *Clinical Xenophysiology*, *Common Origin*, *Comparative Xenophysiology and Xenogenetics*, *Cultural Xenoanthropology and Archaeology*, *Cytojournal*, *Diagnostic Submolecular Chemistry*, *Federation Medical Journal*, *Field Archaeology and Method*, *Forensic Xenoarchaeology*, *Forensic Xenodontology*, *Forensic Xenoosteopathology*, *Genes and Development*, *Genetic Vaccines and Therapy*, *Genome Biology*, *Genome Research*, *Humanoid*, *Journal of Anthropology*, *Journal of Archaeology*, *Journal of Biomaterials Applications*, *Journal of Biotechnology*, *Journal of Classification*, *Journal of Clinical Biology*, *Journal of Clinical Microbiology*, *Journal of Clinical Xenobiology*, *Journal of Cybernetics*, *Journal of Nanobiotechnology*, *Journal of Neurology*, *Neurosurgery and Psychiatry*, *Journal of Neuroscience*, *Journal of the Daystrom Institute*, *Journal of the Federation Institute of Health*, *Journal of the Starfleet Academy College of Medicine*, *Journal of Systematic Palaeontology*, *Journal of Xenoanthropology*, *Journal of Xenoarchaeology*, *Journal of Xenobiochemistry*, *Journal of Xenobiology*, *Journal of Xenogenetics*, *Journal*

Continued on page 15.





Boarding the Enterprise: A Preview

By: Lieutenant Commander Jackie Bundy - USS Angeles

Over the past few years, Smart Pop Books, a division of BenBella Books that specializes in titles that examine popular culture, has produced a series of anthologies that examine the best of pop culture. With the 40th anniversary of Star Trek fast approaching on September 8th, Smart Pop is set to release the all new title "Boarding the Enterprise" this August.

"Boarding the Enterprise: Transporters, Tribbles and the Vulcan Death Grip in Gene Roddenberry's Star Trek", edited by David Gerrold and Robert J. Sawyer is a collection of essays by Star Trek writers, and the writers and scientists they inspired who remember and celebrate Star Trek's influence on our society with a mix of humor and nostalgia.

Contributors to "Boarding the Enterprise" include, Michael Burstein, Don DeBrandt, David DeGraff, Melissa Dickinson, D.C. Fontana, Eric Greene, Paul Levinson, Robert A. Metzger, Adam Roberts, Norman Spinrad, Allen Steele, Lawrence Watt-Evans, Howard Weinstein and Lyle Zynda.

I had an opportunity to talk with Howard Weinstein, the writer of the animated Star Trek episode "The Pirates of Orion" and the author of numerous Star Trek novels and comics about his contribution to "Boarding the Enterprise."

"When my old pal David Gerrold came to Baltimore for the Farpoint 2005 convention, he invited me to participate in "Boarding the Enterprise." I've been writing and talking about Star Trek for more than 30 of those 40 years, so

I was happy to join the roster and share my perspective," explained Weinstein.

Elaborating further Howard added, "It's a grab-bag of opinions, impressions and recollections of the original Star Trek and its incredible 40 years of existence. It includes people who worked on the original series, people who observe pop-media for a living, and people like me, who grew up watching the show and then were lucky enough to contribute our stories to the Star Trek universe. So, for any Trek fan, this book provides plenty of thoughtful and thought-provoking reading."

When asked about his contribution to the collection, a piece entitled "Being Better," Howard offers, "My essay is very personal, about what Star Trek first meant to me and how that's evolved over 40 years of life experience.

There are lots of reasons why we like Star Trek. One of the most valuable, I think, is that Star Trek urges us to be better than we are -- as individuals and as a species. Human nature may never change for the better. But human behavior can change right now, if we each make the conscious choice to overcome our natural flaws. That's not an easy thing to do, as the daily headlines sadly show. But nature, or God, or whatever, gave us these big brains -- it might be nice if we started using them!"

You can find out more about "Boarding the Enterprise" and find a preview with excerpts at <http://www.smartpopbooks.com>. The book will be available in book stores and from online retailers August 2006.



Region One Awards Recipients

By: Captain Pam Michaud - USS Ronald E. McNair

Region 1's 2006 Summit was held May 19-21 in Akron, Ohio and was entitled "A Weekend on Risa". The following Chapters and personnel were the recipients of the Region One 2005 Annual Awards.

Chapter of the Year
USS Ohio NCC-75007

Chapter of Excellence
USS Ronald E. McNair NCC-61809

Shuttle of the Year
Shuttle Excalibur NCC-1721/06

R1 Medal Enlisted
PO1 Carla Ackley
USS Jurassic NCC-3500

R1 Medal Officer
Cmdr Nancy Hall
USS Jurassic NCC-3500

R1 Medal of the Year Flag Officer
RAdm Gary Donner
USS Jurassic NCC-3500

Class of Excellence
Commodore Barbara Buffington
USS Ohio NCC-75007

Jonathan Archer (Rookie CO)
Capt Pamela Michaud
USS Ronald E. McNair NCC-61809

Cadet of the Year
CPO Karolyn Wojtowicz
USS Tycho NCC-59325

Dept of the Year
CompOps USS Jurassic NCC-3500

Edith Keeler Award
Commodore Barbara Buffington
USS Ohio NCC-75007
RDC of Excellence
RAdm Richard Heim
USS Alaric NCC-503

Staff Member of the Year
Commodore Ruth Green
USS Liberator NCC-75008

COMMUNICATIONS AWARDS
Newsletter of the Year
"Stardate" USS Jamestown NCC-1843-D

Best Monthly Newsletter
"Trekosaurus" USS Jurassic NCC-3500

Best Bi Monthly Newsletter None submitted

Best Quarterly Newsletter None submitted

COMMUNICATIONS EXCELLENCE

Best Handbook
McNair Crew member handbook
USS Ronald E. McNair NCC-61809

Best Fanzine
"To then and back again"
Jeff Davis
USS Indiana NCC-779158

Best Website
<http://www.ussjamestown.org>
USS Jamestown NCC-1843-D

Best Department Website
<http://www.regionone.net>
Alien Ambassador Corps



The Science of Xenoarchaeology, Part 2

Continued...

of Xenophylogeny, Molecular and Cellular Biology, Molecular Biology of the Cell Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution, Neurobiology, and Oral Microbiology and Immunology.

It's evident (at least to me, I'm a Dentist and specialize in the diagnosis and treatment of oral diseases) that even oral biology, health, and disease plays a role in the identification and classification of our own species, as well as the multitude of alien species. Ask any "Forensic Odontologist" or any Coroner about the role

of Dentists in the identification of remains both naturally and unnaturally deceased, and you'll quickly understand how individuals and entire species can be uniquely identified by just teeth alone. Extrapolate this to some of the more unusual phenomena we see in the real of alien oral biology (for example, the Ferengi art of tooth shaping, or the Denobulan tongue-combing activity) and you can get an appreciation for the Dentist/Odontologist role.

I noted in the title that this is all uniquely "human"

based, this certainly isn't meant to imply that other sentient species don't have their own and completely thorough body of scientific literature. One would be hard pressed to argue that the Vulcans have no scientific literature. It simply draws attention to the fact that humans have been recording the results of their scientific endeavors for millennia. From cave paintings depicting the natural world around them, to stacks of journal articles found in any doctor's office, to the terraquads of information contained on a padd and within the computer cores of

starships, man has been researching it and writing it down and reporting it and analyzing it since he first conceived it.

STAR WARS: Where Science Meets Imagination

By: Commodore Barbara M. Buffington - USS Ohio



Four ships participated in the Region One, Ohio/Indiana Sector Away Mission to COSI in Columbus, Ohio on July 22nd: the USS Columbus, USS Indiana, USS OHIO and USS Renegade. The OHIO met up with members of the Renegade in Lodi, then proceeded to COSI where we met the other two ships. There were 15 people all together who toured the Stars Wars Exhibit and COSI museum.

Of course, the first place we headed to was the Star Wars Exhibit. As we were walking to the entrance, there were Japanese tourists who showed more interest in us than the "Americans." The oldest in the bunch (probably 50ish) asked Jeff Davis, CO of the Indiana, if we were there to check out the competition. Jeff responded that we had received intelligence reports from the Orions and Klingons that a new threat force was emerging on the other side of the Beta Quadrant, something calling itself "The Galactic Empire." Our ships had been sent on a deep

exploration probe by Starfleet to investigate these reports and, if necessary, evaluate the seriousness of the threat they may pose to the Federation.

The Japanese gentleman and those with him got a heck of a kick out of it and wished us luck on our mission. As Jeff says, "It felt good to see someone not wrinkle up their nose at the sight of a 'Fleet uniform.'"

The exhibit itself was broken into two main areas. The first area, Getting Around, explores transportation and contains props like Luke's Landspeeder, a Podracer, a hovercraft you can take a ride in and other ships. The second area, Robots and People, contains many of the robots and droids, like C3PO and R2D2 and my personal favorite, a "naked" C3PO where they took off his outer shell to show the inner circuitry. This area also shows real world robotics and how the two are tied. There are costumes, like the full Chewbacca, Stormtrooper and

Snowtrooper outfits, though I was disappointed that there weren't more of Princess Amadala's elaborate dresses and headdresses.

There are many hands-on experiments where you can try your hand at building robotic legs or a "hovercraft." My Chief Science Officer, Janet Wagoner, and I tried our hands at being Jawas at the "Create A Moisture Farm On Tattooine" exhibit. As she says, "Our mission was to collect water, store it and keep away from the Sand People. It didn't take long to figure out being a little Jawa, you had to keep moving! The computer game at the end showed us a perfect score to compare to ours. We were off a few points at the end of the game but we got our water stored after only five raids. Not bad." Janice Graham, XO of the Renegade, told me their blind Ops Chief Erik Stovall got their best score!

After we were through exploring Star Wars we headed to the cafeteria for lunch before seeing

what else COSI had to offer, which to me was too much as I didn't get to see everything that was there. I checked out Space, which had flight simulators and a mock shuttle, then went to see one of the films they offer on their IMAX theater screen, "Everest." For someone who doesn't really like heights, some of the scenery was a bit scary. It was then off to Ocean, where you thought you were in an underwater cave. We stopped at the gift shop for souvenirs and then it was off to the Spaghetti Warehouse where we were met by another member of the Columbus and had some great food.

I think we all had a wonderful time exploring science, but more especially seeing friends you usually only see at the R1 Summit and meeting members of other ships. I hope the next time that more ships will get involved.



R2D2



Master Yoda



"Naked" C3PO



Jeff Davis and Walter Ewing (USS Indiana), The Dark Lord Darth Vader, Janice Graham and Ron Novak (USS Renegade), Barbara Buffington, Jason Kyer, Janet Wagoner and (behind Ron) Joshua Wagoner (USS OHIO)



Camp Dover: Peace Conference 2006

By: Brigadier K'moghjH zantaiKi'RK (Larry D. French, Sr.) - USS Inferno

Greetings, STARFLEET,

This is Brigadier K'moghjH zantai-Ki'RK (Larry D. French, Sr.) again with news about the Camp Dover Peace Conference that the infamous USS Inferno, ICV Heghnach, and RS Hecate crew attended.

Six members of the crew attended the Camp Dover Peace Conference. Three members that are exclusively ICV HEGHNACH also attended the conference. House Ki'RK had a dozen and a half in attendance. Everyone that went had a good time and none went away dissatisfied. It was the fifteenth annual conference, but unfortunately, it was their last conference. The conference organizer has decided to retire and pass the torch to the organizers of Maquis Gras. Photos came from <http://www.campdover.com/Photo.asp>.



Camp Dover Honor Guard



Second Life, STARFLEET Style

By: Commander Jack H. Alexander - USS Europe

To boldly go where no chapter has gone before.....

Since any new TV showings of Star Trek are on hold for the indefinite future, the modern day world now has a chance to catch up. Today's technology in all areas of Health, Finance, Gadgets, Communications and Space Exploration are very quickly gaining momentum.

Along with this, is the continuing increase in real world stress caused by work, family and finances. This can be one reason for a waning interest in Trek. This problem is evident at the chapter level as commanders look for ways to keep the interest of the members and the members look for ways to relive stress from the everyday world and seek entertainment.

One such Regional Coordinator, Admiral Ed Nowlin of Region 4 thinks he has found a way. Remember the Mirror Universe? Well, how about a Virtual World that mirrors ours in many ways and seems to allow our dreams of Starfleet service and exploration to come true.

It's called Second Life. It's a 3D virtual world that has exploded in growth and continues to do so. Best of all it's free. Game software is downloaded and basic monthly subscription is free. So far, it seems the only restrictions in this world are limited by your mind. Ed has taken things in this world to another level. He has created a group within Second Life and called it SL STARFLEET. Members in this group are coming from all species of life. SFI members who come aboard find themselves wearing Starfleet uniforms, piloting Starships and shuttles, transporting from one location to another.

For example, you are in a role play in your correy chapter....<Sickbay> Security Officer Hammersmith lays on a biobed, life signs dropping as the doctor looks on. Well, this gives you and the others a basic feeling of what's going on. But what if you could walk into a visually see sickbay and see that security officer dieing on the biobed and hear the sounds of phaser fire around you along with the smoke. There are role play events, parties, classes etc.; all this in a rich 3D environment so detailed that you to forget that you are sitting at a computer.

Another chapter, Region 9's U.S.S. Europe, Commanded by Fleet Captain Mike Vermoesen currently holds its weekly chapter meetings in this environment, sitting in the observation lounge of what looks just like the Enterprise, dressed in uniforms of the DS9/Voyager era.

This Second Life SL STARFLEET organization

has grown to the point that it has SFI members from over eight chapters, covering six regions. Plus it has already brought in new SFI members from residents of Second Life that are Star Trek Fans. The Europe's Commander states that activity within his chapter has increased and even members that were inactive are participating again.

Of course, like any online program there are certain requirements. The main website for Second Life can be found at www.secondlife.com. The site will show you what computer requirements are needed. Then once inside, there is a full featured Welcome Center that walks you thru the basics. Once that is done, you can contact within the game Ed Nowlin aka Brice Campbell, Mike Vermoesen aka Mike Calhoun or Jack Alexander aka Sanstrom Laxness and they will dispatch a shuttle to pick you up and bring you to the SL STARFLEET HQ where you will be processed and issued your free Starfleet uniform, complete with com badge, rank pips and type II phaser.

For more information on SL STARFLEET, you can visit the website at <http://host.megasom.org/~region9/SLSTARFLEET/>



Some STARFLEET members in Second Life.



STARFLEET members sitting around a conference table in Second Life

“Exploring Strange New Worlds! Seeking Out New life!”

By: Rear Admiral Richard Heim - USS Alaric



In this report, I'll discuss a subject that spans two science fields, Planetary Sciences and Fortean Research.

To date, 200 planets have been detected orbiting stars other than the Sun (<http://exoplanet.eu/catalog.php>). Most of these planets are gas giants like Jupiter and Saturn, and many orbit stars hundreds or thousands of light years away. But not all. In June of last year, scientists announced the discovery of the nearest solar system outside our own – an Earth-like planet just 15 light years away (<http://www.sciencenews.org/articles/20050618/fob1.asp>). It's about 7.5 times as massive as Earth (the least massive of the “warm” extrasolar planets detected so far), about twice Earth's radius, and the most likely to have a rocky composition (http://www.nsf.gov/news/news_summ.jsp?cntn_id=104243). It orbits the star Gliese 876 in just 1.9 days at one-fiftieth Earth's distance from the Sun, or less than one-tenth the size of Mercury's orbit. At that distance it is extremely hot – about 200 degrees Celsius too hot for liquid water – and can't sustain life as we know it. Gliese 876 is a small red star known as an M dwarf – the most common type of star in the galaxy – and is located in the direction of the constellation Aquarius. It is a normal star not much different from our Sun, about one-third the mass of the Sun, the smallest star around which planets have been discovered. Gliese 876 is known to have 3 planets now, the rocky Earthy cousin and two much more massive planets that orbit at greater distances. The 2 siblings orbit in 30 and 61 days and are located at 0.13 and 0.21 AU, respectively, from the star.

The Gliese solar system joins several other multiplanet systems with relatively small planets. These systems “look like scaled-down versions of the solar system,” says Alan Boss of the Carnegie Institution.

The next in this stellar club that I'll discuss is 55 Cancri, a spectral type G8 V star about the same mass as the Sun. It is only 41 light years from Earth in the constellation Cancer. 55 Cancri has 4 planets, the small inner planet being about 15 times the mass of Earth and orbiting its star at about 0.038 AU, completing an orbit in about 2.8 days. 55 Cancri also has a distant red dwarf companion star (<http://www.astro.uiuc.edu/~kaler/sow/55cnc.html>).

Mu Arae is a yellow-orange G-type star similar to our Sun located only 50 light years from Earth in the constellation Ara (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mu_Arae). It has 3 planets – two are Jupiter-size but the smallest (Mu Arae d), discovered in 2004, was described as a “super-Earth”, about 14 times Earth's mass (or about as massive as Uranus) and orbiting Mu Arae

every 9.5 days. Because Mu Arae d orbits so close to its star (0.09 AU), it is too hot to support life, having a surface temperature estimated at about 900 K and probably a volcanic surface. But one of the gas giants (Mu Arae b) orbits within the star's habitable zone at 1.5 AU and completing an orbit in 650 days. Mu Arae b has a mass about 1.7 times Jupiter's. If it is anything like our Jupiter or Saturn, it could have a myriad collection of moons, some possibly like Titan. A Titan-like moon orbiting Mu Arae b in the star's habitable zone could, possibly, just maybe, support life. I would love to be on a starship exploring THIS solar system!

HD69830 is about 40 light years from Earth, toward the constellation Puppis, and is of spectral type K0V. It has a mass about 0.86 that of the Sun, but is also cooler than the Sun. HD69830 has 3 rocky planets, discovered this year, ranging from about 10 to 20 times the mass of Earth (about the size of Neptune) and orbiting their star at orbits ranging from 0.08 to 0.63 AU. “Among the known planetary systems, HD69830 is quite similar to our own solar system because it contains three non-giant planets located on nearly circular orbits within 1 Astronomical Unit (AU), like Mercury, Venus and Earth, but 10 to 20 times more massive,” explains scientific team member François Bouchy. It also contains an asteroid belt, like our solar system (<http://www2.cnrs.fr/en/570.htm>). The outermost planet orbits at 0.63 AU with a period of about 200 days. It is believed to be just within HD69830's habitable zone, making it the first Earth-like planet to be found in a star's habitable zone (<http://www2.cnrs.fr/en/570.htm>). Bottom line: it might be able to support liquid water (<http://www.abc.net.au/rn/scienceshow/stories/2006/1641371.htm#>), which is a basic requirement for life as we know it. However, the researchers have calculated that this planet's water would not be able to support life because it is at high pressure and temperature, a state called supercritical. Still, put me on an Excelsior-class starship to explore THIS solar system, too!

Gliese 436 is a dim red dwarf star 33 light years from Earth in the constellation Leo. It has one known planet, discovered in 2004, which may be a very massive terrestrial planet at 22 times as massive as Earth (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/GJ_436). It orbits the star in only 2.6 days because its orbit is so close at 0.028 AU. Even though Gliese 436 doesn't have a multiple planetary system, I mention it because its planet is one of the smallest extrasolar planets discovered so far.

Some stars thought to be highly unlikely to house solar systems have been found to have planets. Pulsar PSR 1257+12, located 980 light years from Earth in the direction of the constellation of Virgo, is orbited by 4 planets, the first extrasolar planets ever discovered (in 1992) (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/PSR_B1257%2B12). This

star is a millisecond pulsar, a kind of neutron star, which is what results after a supernova explosion near the end of a star's life. Pulsars are very small neutron stars (on the order of 10 km, about the size of a large city) that spin on their axis very rapidly, emitting huge amounts of energy of different wavelengths. Planets orbiting pulsars or neutron stars are not likely to harbor life because of this deadly electromagnetic radiation (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pulsar_planets). The planets are believed to be either the rocky cores of former gas giants, or the result of a second round of planetary system formation resulting from unusual supernova remnants. If they are the remains of planets orbiting the star before supernova, they were theoretically gas giants with large rocky cores, whose atmospheres were stripped away by the supernova, and which spiraled inward to their current orbits (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/PSR_B1257%2B12). The innermost 3 planets of Pulsar PSR 1257+12 range in size from 0.02 to 4.3 times Earth's mass and orbit from 0.19 to 0.46 AU. The outermost planet orbits at 2.7 AU and is so small (0.0004 Earth masses) that it is considered to be the first known extrasolar asteroid or comet.

There are so many more exciting worlds to discover, and so much more to learn! The Starfleet Sciences web page

<http://alaricrh.home.sprynet.com/science/science-pages.html#planetsys>

has links to several web pages discussing extra-solar planets if you wish to study the subject in more detail.

As we can see, solar systems appear to be a common phenomenon in the galaxy, and as our instruments and observational techniques improve, more Earth-like planets are being discovered. It is not known whether any of these planets support life. But that hasn't stopped the world's governments from getting ready to confront alien life forms!

A lot of people believe that Unidentified Flying Objects are spacecraft piloted by beings from another planet. Government agencies have responded in all sorts of ways.

In 1950, the U.S. government issued the 33-page Joint Army-Navy-Air Force Publication 146(E) (JANAP 146E), also called the “Canadian-United States Communications Instructions for Reporting Vital Intelligence Sightings”. It was revised (“change No. 2”) on May 17, 1977, and a version was released as recently as February 28, 1994 by the Assistant to the Secretary of Defense. Chapter 1 states that “The purpose of this publication is to provide uniform instructions for the peacetime reporting of vital intelligence sightings and to provide communications instructions for the passing of these intelligence reports to appropriate military authorities.”

JANAP 146 is important for a couple of reasons (<http://www.cufon.org/cufon/janp1462.htm>):

1. It is mentioned in the “Bollender Memo” (dated 1969) as being one of the “reporting channels” by which UFO reports which are matters of national security are reported; UFO reports “not part of the Blue Book system”.

2. This copy is dated 1977 and still bears “Unidentified Flying Objects” as one of the items which must be reported despite protestations by virtually every agency queried that there has been no interest in UFOs since the USAF Project Blue Book closed in 1969.

Dr. H. P. Robertson led a scientific panel at the request of the CIA which issued the Report of Scientific Advisory Panel on Unidentified Flying Objects Convened by Office of Scientific Intelligence, CIA, January 14-18, 1953 (<http://www.cufon.org/cufon/robert.htm>). The Robertson report essentially concluded that UFO reports could be explained away as natural or manmade phenomena, misidentifications, or hoaxes, and recommended that an education program be conducted aimed at training and “debunking”. According to the report, “The training aim would result in proper recognition of unusually illuminated objects (e.g., balloons, aircraft reflections) as well as natural phenomena (meteors, fireballs, mirages, noctilucent clouds). ... The ‘debunking’ aim would result in reduction in public interest in ‘flying saucers’ which today evokes a strong psychological reaction. This education could be accomplished by mass media such as television, motion pictures, and popular articles. ... Members of the Panel had various suggestions related to the planning of such an educational program. It was felt strongly that psychologists familiar with mass psychology should advise on the nature and extent of the program.” The panel also recommended monitoring civilian independent UFO organizations. “The Panel took cognizance of the existence of such groups as the ‘Civilian Flying Saucer Investigators’ (Los Angeles) and the ‘Aerial Phenomena Research Organization’ (Wisconsin). It was believed that such organizations should be watched because of their potentially great influence on mass thinking if widespread sightings should occur.” In all honesty, the panelists had the best interests of the nation in mind: “the continued emphasis on the reporting of these phenomena does, in these parlous times, result in a threat to the orderly functioning of the protective organs of the body politic.”

In 1960, the Brookings Institution prepared a 300+ page document called, Proposed Studies on the Implications of Peaceful Space Activities for Human Affairs, for NASA. This document seems to have played a crucial role in determining official NASA policy (if not that of other branches of the Federal government) on the controversial subject of “solar system

artifacts" (<http://www.enterprisemission.com/brooking.html>). In The Brookings Report Re-examined, Keith Woodard writes that the Brookings Report "did raise the possibility of withholding information, but took no position on its advisability. 'Questions one might wish to answer by such studies,' intoned the report, 'would include: how might such information, under what circumstances, be presented to or withheld from the public for what ends? What might be the role of the discovering scientists and other decision makers regarding release of the fact of discovery?' Those two sentences comprise the report's entire commentary on the subject of covering up the truth" (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Brookings_Report). Here are some more excerpts:

"Though intelligent or semi-intelligent life conceivably exists elsewhere in our solar system, if intelligent extraterrestrial life is discovered in the next twenty years, it will very probably be by radio telescope from other solar systems. Evidences of its existence might also be found in artifacts left on the moon or other planets. The consequences for attitudes and values are unpredictable, but would vary profoundly in different cultures and between groups within complex societies; a crucial factor would be the nature of the communication between us and the other beings. Whether or not earth would be inspired to an all-out space effort by such a discovery is moot: societies sure of their own place in the universe have disintegrated when confronted by a superior society, and others have survived even though changed. Clearly, the better we can come to understand the factors involved in responding to such crises the better prepared we may be. ... While the discovery of intelligent life in other parts of the universe is not likely in the immediate future, it could nevertheless happen at any time. Whenever it does occur its consequences for earth attitudes and values may be profound. Hence a long-term research effort, which would aid in preparing for this possibility, could usefully begin with ... a continuing determination of emotional and intellectual understanding and attitudes regarding the possibility and consequences of discovering intelligent extraterrestrial life" (<http://www.virtuallystrange.net/ufo/updates/1998/may/m01-024.shtml>).

As our scientific programs for exploring other planets got under way, the government kept up with special legislation. The U.S. Congress passed the Extraterrestrial Exposure Law in July 1969 which mandated that anyone who was "extra-terrestrially exposed" was subject to quarantine. The 1960s was the heyday of the Apollo program and there was concern about bringing back viruses or other pathogens from the Moon against which we would have no defense. This law established: (a) NASA policy, responsibility and authority to guard the Earth against any harmful contamination or adverse changes in its environment resulting from personnel, spacecraft and other property returning to the Earth after landing on or coming

within the atmospheric envelope of a celestial body; and (b) security requirements, restrictions and safeguards that are necessary in the interest of national security (<http://www.vibrani.com/law.htm>). But some wanted it to go even further. On October 5, 1982, Dr. Brain T. Clifford of the Pentagon announced at a press conference ("The Star", New York, Oct. 5, 1982) that contact between U.S. citizens and extra-terrestrials or their vehicles is strictly illegal. According to a law already on the books: (Title 14, Section 1211 of the Code of Federal Regulations, adopted on July 16, 1969, before the Apollo moon shots), anyone guilty of such contact automatically becomes a wanted criminal to be jailed for one year and fined \$5,000. The NASA administrator is empowered to determine with or without a hearing that a person or object has been "extra-terrestrially exposed" and impose an indeterminate quarantine under armed guard, which could not be broken even by court order (<http://www.karenlyster.com/law.html>). The law was removed from the Code of Federal Regulations in 1991, NASA having determined that it had "served its purpose" and was "no longer in keeping with current policy," and is no longer in force (<http://www.snopes.com/legal/et.htm>).

Chapter 13 of the 1994 Fire Officer's Guide to Disaster Control is entitled "Enemy Attack and UFO Potential". This is a book that FEMA uses to train fire fighters. The lengthy chapter begins with, "In this chapter we will now turn our attention to the very real threat posed by Unidentified Flying Objects (UFOs), whether they exist or not." The document goes on to say, "We will see, as we continue our discussion in this chapter, that widespread blackouts, communication disruptions, and other potentially disastrous conditions have been linked directly to UFO sightings" (<http://www.qtm.net/~geibdan/news2/fire.html>). The chapter lists several examples of UFO sightings that have had adverse effects on the witnesses, noting that "the two principal hazards noted with relation to UFOs have been attributed to powerful electrical fields which they can project in a general or localized area and the psychological effects they have produced on the general populace or individual contacts" (<http://www.abovetopsecret.com/forum/thread39572/pg1>). The manual warns: "Near approaches of UFOs can be hazardous to human beings. Do not stand under a UFO that is hovering at low altitude. Do not touch or attempt to touch a UFO that has landed. In either case, the best thing to do is to get away from there very quickly and let the military take over. There is a possibility of radiation danger and there are known cases where persons have been burned by rays emanating from UFOs. Don't take chances with UFOs!" (<http://www.qtm.net/~geibdan/news2/fire.html>). Then it goes on to say: "In the absence of overt acts indicating hostility, there may be no danger in approaching a landing (or landed) UFO with a positive, solicitous attitude of wanting to be of service. This nonaggressive mental state may be telepathically sensed by those aboard

or emerging from the craft; a form of nonvocal communication is a possibility. It goes without saying that any display of firearms or other weapons on your part could be construed as unfriendly and likely to thwart your intention of conveying a helpful attitude" (<http://www.abovetopsecret.com/forum/thread39572/pg1>).

Air Force Manual 10-206 defines the procedures for Operational Reporting by Air Force personnel. Section 5.7.3 of the September 1995 release includes UFOs as specific sightings that must be reported. Section 3.3.2 (PINNACLE NUCFLASH) deals with reporting the actual or possible detonation of a nuclear weapon which risks the outbreak of nuclear war. Air Force personnel are instructed to report the "detection of unidentified objects by a missile warning system or interference (experienced by such a system or related communications) that appears threatening and could create a risk of nuclear war" (<http://www.fas.org/spp/military/docops/usaf/10-206.htm>).

On July 16, 1999 an important document was published in France entitled, UFOs and Defense: What Must We Be Prepared For? ("Les Ovni Et La Defense: A quoi doit-on se préparer?"). This 90-page report was the result of an in-depth study of UFOs, covering many aspects of the subject, especially questions of national defense. The study was carried out over several years by an independent group of former "auditors" at the Institute of Advanced Studies for National Defense, or IHEDN, and by qualified experts from various fields (<http://www.ufoevidence.org/topics/Cometa.htm>). It has come to be known as the COMETA report after the acronym of the French group. The COMETA study concluded that the physical reality of UFOs, under control of intelligent beings, is "quasi certain"; only one hypothesis takes into account the available data – the hypothesis of extraterrestrial visitors. It also established a contact protocol and procedures for training of officials and made recommendations for international political agreements. The report is divided into several sections. Part three ("UFOs and Defense") concluded that it is necessary to study the consequences of the extraterrestrial hypothesis at the strategic level, but also political, religious and media/public information levels. Possible motivations of extraterrestrial visitors are explored here, such as protection of planet Earth against the dangers of nuclear war, suggested for instance by repeated flying over nuclear missile sites. The committee then ponders the possible repercussion on the behavior, official or not, of different states, and focuses on the possibility of secret, privileged contacts which might be "attributed to the United States". The attitude of the U.S. is seen as "most strange" since the 1947 UFO wave and the Roswell event. Since that time, a policy of increasing secrecy seems to have been applied, which might be explained by the protection at all cost of military technological superiority to be acquired from the study of UFOs (<http://www.virtuallystrange.net/ufo/updates/1999/au>

m07-012.shtml).

Finally, there is the SETI Declaration of Principles Concerning Activities Following the Detection of Extraterrestrial Intelligence (<http://www.seti.org/site/pp.asp?c=ktJ2J9MMIsE&b=179287>). This set of 9 principles, agreed to by scientists engaged in the Search for Extra-Terrestrial Intelligence, establishes a procedure for confirming the detection of an intelligent extraterrestrial signal and informing "the relevant national authorities." The Principles specify that no public announcement of the information shall be made until it is determined whether the information is or is not credible evidence of the existence of extraterrestrial intelligence. Official announcement of the detection should be made through the International Astronomical Union and several international institutions should be informed, including the United Nations, then "confirmed detection of extraterrestrial intelligence should be disseminated promptly, openly, and widely through scientific channels and public media, observing the procedures in this declaration. ... No response to a signal or other evidence of extraterrestrial intelligence should be sent until appropriate international consultations have taken place." In the Star Trek: Voyager episode, "Future's End", SETI astronomer Rain Robinson was confronted with the Principles when she mistook gamma emissions from Voyager as a signal from an extraterrestrial intelligence.

Well, there you have it. With all of these laws and protocols and procedures in place, it looks like we're ready for our first dialog with our celestial brethren <grin>!

For more information about UFOs and SETI, check out the Starfleet Sciences web page:

<http://alaricrh.home.sprynet.com/science/science-pages.html#Fortean>
<http://alaricrh.home.sprynet.com/science/science-pages.html#SETI>





Back to school.

For generations, this phrase has brought both anticipation and dread to many a student. In the world of Star Trek, however, these words affect those in Starfleet differently. While serving in Starfleet, the learning never ends and is part of each and every day. Attending the Academy is only the start of a life-long journey through the universe, allowing one to discover the strange, the spectacular, and the sublime. In both reality and the Star Trek

universe, formal education is a foundation upon which greater knowledge can be built.

Education is not just about facts and figures, of course. Some of our longest and strongest friendships are founded in the halls of schools and colleges. For many, the discovery of one's own identity happens in between classes and while working and playing with their classmates.

The theme for the STARFLEET International Conference for 2008 is "Back to School." We hope that, in addition to accomplishing Fleet

business, attendees can learn something new, make some new friends, and have fun in the process. Our theme gives us many possibilities regarding programming for the conference. For example, we will be joined by Rick Kline, Data Manager for Cornell University's Spacecraft Planetary Imaging Facility, for a guest lecture. Also, we will have field trips to Cornell University's Fuertes Observatory, the Ithaca Sciencenter, and the Museum of the Earth. During the conference, we will offer panels that will engage attendees in conversation and idea sharing. We plan to host a number of courses offered through our own STARFLEET Academy. And, of course, we will be sure that

Fleet business is facilitated and conducted in a comfortable and welcoming environment.

The STARFLEET 2008 International Conference website is located at <http://www.ic2008.org>. The website has hotel and registration information and will be updated with programming information as the Conference date approaches.

USS Accord welcomes STARFLEET to beautiful Ithaca, NY, June 27th-29th, 2008. Don't forget your lunch money and remember to bring something for Show and Tell.

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Ode to Pluto

By: Commodore Jon Lane - USS Angeles

Pluto, we barely knew ye!

Today, I am saddened...not just for a hunk of rock, frozen nitrogen, methane, and carbon monoxide floating through space about 2.67 billion miles away from us, but for the little guy everywhere.

In 1909, astronomers Percival Lowell and William H. Pickering took a look at the orbit of the planet Neptune and said, "Y'know, this is !%#&ed up." (That might not be an exact quote.) There was something tugging gently on Neptune--and doggone it!--Percy and Bill were gonna find it. Unfortunately, Percy died seven years later, but he had an observatory in Arizona named after him. And in the winter of 1930, astronomer Clyde Tombaugh actually saw the ninth "planet" of our solar system for the first time in telescopic photographs.

Named "Pluto" after the Roman god of the underworld, this tiny speck of rock at the frozen fringes of our solar system was classified as our ninth planet. School textbooks were changed. The waters parted. The world let out a collective gasp. And then things went back to normal.

Now, in August of 2006, the International Astronomical Union--a bunch of 2,500 scientists...the vast majority of whom have never even been to another planet!--have decided to remove Pluto's status as a planet and demote it to the rank of "dwarf planet." Separate-but-equal? Hardly! Earth and its

buddies have been planets for over four and a half billion years. Pluto was a planet for barely 76 years! I ask you: is that fair? We give Pluto the briefest of brief tastes of the good life and then a bunch of geeks in the Czech Republic pull the rug out from underneath it.

Granted, Pluto is pretty small. In fact, it's smaller than the Earth's moon (which is obviously not considered a planet), and also smaller than six other moons in our solar system--most of them orbiting those gas giant "bullies" Jupiter, Saturn, and Neptune. Yes, Pluto was tiny, but it made the cut anyway--the Rhode Island or Luxemburg of our solar system! Whether by clerical error, oversight, or bad judgment, Pluto was a planet, dammit! Was it a mistake? Yes, probably...but it was OUR mistake. And now poor Pluto is being punished for it.

And look at all we're losing because of this unfair and arbitrary decision. Pluto was the only planet that started with the same first two letters as the actual word "planet." In fact, not only are we losing the ability to alliterate when writing astronomical poetry, but kicking out Pluto also removes the letters "L" and "O" entirely from the list of planet names. That's right, none of the remaining 8 planets contains either of those two letters! Now, any idiot with half a brain who plays Wheel of Fortune when the category is "PLANET" won't have to waste \$250 buying an "O"! What a frickin' unfair advantage!

Pluto was also the only planet to share its name with an animated dog. Kids in elementary

school with short attention spans had at least one "gimme" on science tests--they could remember at least one planet's name because of their last trip to Disneyland. Now, they'll have to figure out a way to remember Uranus... and what sticks out about Uranus, huh?

Then there's the planetary symbols--a trident, a vanity mirror, a sword and shield...heck, Jupiter has that darn thingie that looks like the number 2 and the number 4 are doing the nasty! And then there was Pluto. Its symbol: "PL". Straight, simple, direct. And you even get the double-bonus because it's the same as the initials of Percival Lowell, who predicted the planet would exist in the first place.

We're also losing any chance we had to field a planetary softball team. Yesterday, we had 9 players. Today we have just 8. Sure, Pluto sucked in the outfield, but its small size gave it an almost impossible strike zone. Now, if we discover that other solar systems are fielding teams, we've just royally screwed ourselves unless some new planet just floats into the sun's gravity from somewhere in the outer space cornfields!

Pluto might have been the runt of the litter, but Pluto was a headstrong rebel...the kid who colors outside the lines. While all the other planets are orbiting the sun in a nice even plane, Pluto was going wild with a 17-degree orbital tilt. Remember all those solar system mobiles you used to see in grade school? Remember that one orbital ring that lifted up diagonally like a broken slinky link? Yeah, that was Pluto, man!

The trouble-maker! The bad boy of space!

Pluto couldn't even be bothered to stay out beyond the orbit of Neptune! Nope, for 20-or-so years every couple of centuries, Pluto crosses Neptune's orbit to be even closer to the sun than that overbearing blue-spotted gas giant! Take that, you arrogant "Jovian" planet!

But I suppose I feel even sorrier for the New Horizons spacecraft, launched by NASA in January of this year to go visit the "planet" Pluto and its binary buddy, Charon. It'll take NH nearly a DECADE to get there! And by the time it does arrive--pysch!--joke's on you, NH: Pluto isn't a planet anymore! All that effort, the dreams of glory and fame, and all NH will have to show for its trouble are two and a half billion frequent flyer miles. (Well, at least that's something.)

So I say: Farewell, Pluto. This is not good-bye, but only till we meet again. I know you'll be waiting, just outside the fence, looking in on all the fun you used to have. But cheer up, because you're not alone. There are other dwarf planets, minor planets, planetoids, planetesimals, and small solar system bodies...all waiting to welcome you. And they've got a decent softball team (although it's only little league). You'll be able to share your tales of glory with your new friends. While you used to be a small fish in a big pond, you're now the big fish in a small pond. Just know we still love you...dwarf planet or not.

And look out, Mercury, 'cause you're probably next!

STARFLEET Academy - Squadron Awards

Gold Squadron

- College of the Fantasy Realm
Cathey Osborne
Conell Osborne
- College of Sci-Fi Cinema
Bradley Coleman
Karina Coleman

Blue Squadron

- Cadet College of Borg Technology
Raven Avery
- Cadet College of Security
Christopher Bailey

Red Squadron

- Institute of Alien Studies
- College of Alien History and Culture
Wayne Augustson
- College of Borg Technology
Kyle Stewart
- College of Delta Quadrant Studies
George Ann Wheeler
- College of XenoAnthropology
Caroline Pajany
- Klingon Warrior Academy
Michael D. Anderson
- The Gorn Academy
David Susman
- Institute of the Arts
- College of Communications
Amanda Griffin

- College of History
Michael D. Anderson
- College of Law
Scott A. Anderson, Sr.
- College of Mythological Studies
John Chiaromonte
- Institute of Foreign Affairs
- College of European Studies
Jack H. Alexander
- Officer's Training School (Canadian Campus)
Petrina Wilson
- Officer's Training School (European Campus)
John Peedle
- Officer's Command College (European Campus)
Jack H. Alexander
- Institute of Intelligence and Espionage
- College of Cryptography
Sean Niemeyer
- Institute of Leadership Studies
- Officer's Training School
Kimberly Temple
- Officer's Command College
Joanne Brothers
- Flag Officer's School
John Chiaromonte
- College of Accessibility
John Chiaromonte
- College of Recruiting

- Raymond Spiteri
- Institute of Military Studies
- College of Security
Richard W. Hewitt
- College of Starship Operations
Sean Niemeyer
- College of Strategy and Tactics
Michael D. Anderson
- College of Survival Studies
Truman Temple
- Institute of Science and Technology
- College of Computer History
John Chiaromonte
- College of Medicine
Truman Temple
- College of Online Chat
Truman Temple
- College of Temporal Physics
Wayne Augustson
- College of Trade and Commerce
Bill Rowlette
- STARFLEET in Cyberspace
Teri Lotta
- STARFLEET Officer's Radio School
Nick Hamze
- Vulcan Academy of Science
Truman Temple
- Institute of Science Fiction Studies
- College of the Fantasy Realm

- Michael D. Anderson
- College of Federation Studies
Douglas Wayne Mayo
- College of Sci-Fi Cinema
Michael D. Anderson
- College of Sci-Fi Literature
Antonio J. Lopes, III
- College of Sci-Fi Television
George Ann Wheeler
- College of Star Trek Chronology
Jeffery E. Higdon
- College of Treknology
Michael D. Anderson
- Assistant Squadron Leader of the Year
John Chiaromonte
Truman Temple
- Squadron Leader of the Year
Michael D. Anderson
- College of the Year
College of Survival Studies
- Director of the Year
Glendon L. Diebold
- Institute of the Year
Institute of Science Fiction Studies
- Dean of the Year
Carol Thompson

Never let it be said that Starfleet is stagnant, or our members don't know how to have fun. You'll see from the following report gleaned from May and June MSRs, that's far from what makes Starfleet tick. In this report, you'll see we've eliminated the Region separations. After all, we're one big happy 'Fleet! So without further ado, sit back and take a journey into your neighbor's activities.

USS APPOMATTOX invited the Region 1 chapters to Danville, VA to the Trek museum to play with their remote controlled tanks and view the exhibits. USS EXCALIBUR's XO and approximately 2,000 two-wheeled Killer Bees escorted the replica of the Vietnam Wall during its recent Ohio tour. They also attended a memorial service. The Wall will be going to Barberton, Ohio in September, 2006. USS INTREPID shipped a total of \$13,696.00 of coupons to Schweinurt, German Air Force Base. This makes a total Year-To-Date of \$40,186.00 and a Grand Total of \$296,801.00 since they began sending coupons in 1998. USS JAMESTOWN sent an away team to the IKV Bat'Leth and IKV Bat'Leth members attended a JAMESTOWN meeting. Mary Ann Winsley returned from her tour of duty in Mosul, Iraq. Welcome Home! USS OHIO had a cook-out at a local park on the CO's birthday, to celebrate the CO's and XO's birthdays which are three days apart. USS RENEGADE is still sending cancelled postage stamps to the Veteran's hospital in Arizona. We've also introduced kids to fishing by hosting several kid fishing derbies. No kid goes home without a prize. SHUTTLE BLUE SUN sent off their first fundraiser donation to the National Kidney Foundation. They're planning a trip to the Huntsville Space & Rocket Center along with the USS DARK SILENCE STATION and USS HEPAESTUS. SS DARK SILENCE STATION had several Dr. Who viewing parties with the SHUTTLE BLUE SUN. Members of both chapters attended each other's meetings. Other combined away missions are planned. USS GASPARILLA visited with USS HAISE crewmembers. They had dinner with members of the USS JUBILEE, USS HAISE and USS DaVINCI; participated (along with the USS HAISE and USS NEW HOPE) in the USS JUBILEE'S recruiting drive in Mobile, Alabama. GASPARILLA members also mailed 110 lbs of Overseas Coupon Project coupons with a total face value of \$174,099.00 to Spangdahlem Air Force Base in Germany and mailed 119 lbs of OCP coupons with a total face value of \$148,288.00 to Illsheim AFB in Germany. USS HAISE is finalizing a list of birthdays and anniversaries to submit to the Starfleet Morale Officer. USS HEPAESTUS held the annual Captain's Cookout with members of the USS

NEW HOPE and DARK SILENCE STATION in attendance. USS NEW HOPE traveled several hours to Mobile to help the USS JUBILEE at a Mall Walk to help recruit new members. USS ARK ANGEL along with the USS RHYANN hosted the Region 3 Summit and the Woodward Hotel in Austin, Texas. USS FIREBIRD continues to aid Harris County Pets. Crewmembers volunteered at ApolloCon; and volunteered at Summit as needed. USS JOAN of ARC crewmembers traveled to San Antonio to assist the USS VICTORY with their PBS auction since the VICTORY helped with theirs. USS REGULATOR members attended Region 3 Summit and volunteered to work with the TRINITY RIVER to help with next year's Summit. USS RHYANNA worked at the R3 Summit and attended ARK ANGEL's meeting. USS DRAGON'S CUB crewmembers and their children are learning sign language so they can better communicate with a fellow crewmember, Layla Alderman, who recently had a mastoidectomy (mastoid bone in ear removed). SHUTTLE THERMOPYLAE is taking part in the OCP benefiting a base in Grafenwhor, Germany. Crew watched "Galaxy Quest" for their 'Fleet night at the movies. USS RUBICON is close to achieving their goal of \$116,000 coupons for 2006. SHUTTLE RIVERSIDE took part in Riverside, Iowa's Trek Fest as the Birthplace of Captain James T. Kirk. Crewmembers took part in a parade with a refurbished shuttle craft, and gave interviews to local TV and newspaper personnel. USS LEXINGTON attended Shore Leave and will co-host the 1st Imperial Mixer at IC-06 for all ISS ships. Charity efforts continue for troops overseas. SHUTTLE BRITANNIC attended IC 2006 and has purchased a ¼ page ad in the conference program book. Not only does this garner exposure for the chapter, it also supports the Region and 'Fleet. SHUTTLE MAWSON is busy recruiting and had their first dinner where the crew got to meet each face-to-face for the first time. USS ADAMANT watched the movie "Over The Hedge" which sports the voice of William Shatner as a hysterical character. If you go to see the movie, wait for the extra scene after the credits crawl. USS ALBANY continues collecting coupons and recently mailed \$4,406.35 for a YTD total of \$13,465.10. USS ARI went to see "Over The Hedge". USS ASCENSION, ADAMANT and SOVEREIGN enjoyed a special midnight showing of the movie "Serenity" for charity. USS CHALLENGER members attended AVENGER CO's birthday at an Indian restaurant. USS FLYING FOX took part in "Relay For Life" for the American Cancer Society. USS JUSTICE is working on a Star Trek 40th Anniversary event. USS THOR attended AnimeMid-Atlantic which is a Richmond based anime convention. Crew volunteered their services. SHUTTLE BONDAR continues Meat Draw which provides food for low-income families. USS MORNING STAR sadly reports the death of their XO, Capt. Pat Canada who served in that capacity for 12 years. Crew strength is diminished by 1. A beautiful bouquet of blue flowers was sent, and a memorial service will be held in the near

future. Crew continues charity efforts. USS SUNFLOWER crew volunteered in the community's "Relay For Life" by making and selling funnel cakes and pop. Over all funds raised for the event was the highest ever at \$33,000.00. SS IAN FLEMING believes in promoting very close friendships. CO Gary Halverson and member Michelle Darrach got married with chapter and Region members in attendance. USS ARES mourns the passing of Donald Henderson, ARES member, and father of Larry Henderson. They offer support for Donald's family during this most difficult time. USS AVALON Food Bank is open with emergency food being distributed on an "as needed" basis any day of the week. USS NELSON is sending over \$11,000.00 worth of coupons to Ikego, Japan. Several USS O'BANNON members attended the wedding at the IAN FLEMING. SHUTTLE TOMAHAWK and USS ANASAZI members are attending joint meetings and are preparing for the ANNASAZI 5th Anniversary & Commissioning party in August. USS MOONTYPE crew has been making handouts to be given out at their presentation for the American Council of the Blind (ACB) National Convention. Working on the handouts includes Braille and making Large Print copies of a booklet promoting the MOONTYPE to be used for recruiting efforts. USS TIBURON crew enjoyed a yard work day which involved cleaning up, setting up a small pool, and consuming some nice steaks at a member's home. SHUTTLE TIGER is inviting more friends to join the ship. SS BENNU attended Region 1 Summit with USS TRISTAR AND USS BANSHEE. USS AEON crew met at member's home for Memorial Day pot luck lunch. USS ALARIC attended Region 1 Summit. USS APPOMATTOX assisted in a local Food Pantry, adopted a Hellcat M-19 tank hunter in the Tank Museum in Danville, VA and assisted the Fellowship Christian Academy, a school that is renovating an abandoned school, by getting a shower unite donated to them. USS ARMAGEDDON had a cook-out and gaming day. USS ATHENA created an auction item for Shore Leave to raise money for the Julien Fleming Memorial Fund. USS DRAGON'S FURY attended Region 1 Summit. USS EXCALIBUR attended R1 Summit. USS GALLIFREY attended Region 1 Summit, and gave a panel on the paranormal. Crewman Thomas Heffner volunteers his time at the local Food Bank. USS HEIMDAL meeting was the "Outer Starship Hull Inspection!" which used a climbing wall to simulate hull inspection. Outer hull inspectors climbed the wall wearing helmets and harnesses, which those who did not wish to climb "beamed down to the planet" to locate materials to patch the hull. This consisted of going into the woods & locating articles hidden there using a GPS locator system. Members attended the Region 1 Summit. Chapter received "Thank You" notes from Salvation Army for chapter donations in response to calls for help. USS HORNET celebrated Memorial Day by going to a movie and having lunch after. USS INDEPENDENCE collected donations for

Ronald McDonald House. USS INDIANA attended Region 1 Summit and Marine Muster. USS JAMESTOWN kept busy collecting coupons for the OCP, attended the Virginia Air and Space Center, had a picnic, attended Atlantic Sci-Fi Yard Sale, Casino Night and Fantasi Con. Collected 7 cans of food for the Food Bank and received \$50 donation for the March of Dimes bringing the total to \$270.00. USS JURASSIC attended Region 1 Summit; took 115 baby hats to local hospital for their new borns; made and donated 2 baby shawls and 2 Beanie & Bootie sets to the Children's Hospital in Cincinnati, Ohio. USS KITTY HAWK collected 996 books which will be donated to libraries. Books not used by public libraries will be offered to school libraries or turned over to the Sea Bee's base to be distributed to troops overseas or to sailors deployed in the Middle East. Salvation Army recognized chapter at the Appreciation Dinner for donation of \$1,000 in its relief effort for Hurricane Katrina victims. USS LAGRANGE took part in Memorial Day Parade. The Stow Sentry newspaper printed an article about the event. USS LIBERATOR donated to March of Dimes Walk and collected \$16,044.06 in coupons for the OCP. LIBERATOR also hosted the Region 1 Summit with USS LAGRANGE and USS RENEGADE. USS MAELSTROM attended ConCarolinas. USS OHIO attended Region 1 Summit. USS PRIDE of SCOTLAND cadets worked with children in a craft demo and workshop or the Louisville Center for the Arts. Adriane was awarded the blue ribbon for her entry in the Iroquois Mayfair's first annual baking competition. Proceeds from the sale benefited the Little Loomhouse Foundation. Attended Region 1 Summit; Karen gave a panel on Morale. First Shuttle commissioned at R1 Summit, now is USS ARMAGEDDON. Launched third Shuttle, SHUTTLE MARS shortly after Region 1 Summit. USS PROVIDENCE attended Region 1 Summit. USS RENEGADE, aside from co-hosting Region 1 Summit (Weekend on Risa), welcomed an honored guest, Admiral Helen Pawlowski from Region 12, who graced us with her appearance at the Summit. Summit's "Who's Marlene" was fun. We continue sending care packages to troops and once again received a donation of goodies from USS OHIO's Barbara Buffington. USS REPRISAL held a meeting and cookout. USS RONALD E. McNAIR added 5 new members to their roster. Held first annual McNair Fun Trek where they were joined by USS STARLEAGUE. USS RUTLEDGE continues work with Operation Eagle sending care packages and collecting sweat shirts and pants for injured troops. USS STAR RUNNER sends care packages to troops. ISS MacARTHUR attended Dalmutti Tournament hosted by USS GASPARILLA. Member of the MacARTHUR'S Special Ops ADU 057 "The Black Sheep" have been assisting with a charity showing of Serenity sponsored by Serenity Now / Equality & The Florida Browncoats. SHUTTLE ANDROMEDA went to a Gaming night with the

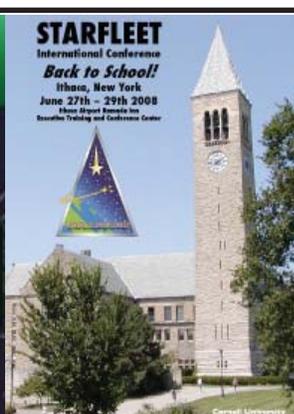
Continued on page 23.

USS GASPARILLA. SHUTTLE BLUE SUN crew went on an Away Mission to the Tennessee Renaissance Fair. USS BLACKSTAR had a successful Bowling Night. USS CONTINUUM is busy making summer uniforms. USS GASPARILLA had a chapter business meeting and Krewe dine-out to celebrate chapter's 4th commissioning anniversary. Attended Region 1 Summit where we met with the other 2/3 of the Annual Campaign staff (Helen Pawlowski and Marlene Miller) .. only Sherry Anne Newell couldn't attend. Crew is hosting a Great Dalmuti tournament for SFI and Genesis Fleet chapters in/near the Tampa Bay area. Members of ISS MacARTHUR, SHUTTLE ANDROMEDA and non-Fleet ISS ARCHANGEL attended. USS GUARDIAN attended a movie. USS HAISE crew traveled to Hattiesburg to assist USS DARK PHOENIX in the American Cancer Society's "Walk for Life". Crew trekked to the Rainwater Observatory at French Camp Academy for a night of stargazing and "camping out". USS MYRDDIN took an away team to the annual Medieval Times. USS NEW HOPE had a guest who was in STARFLEET some 20 years ago and had moved into the area. A USS OKATOMA member graduated from USC and will be doing a 3-year residency at Irvine, CA. USS PAEGAN had a whopping 19 people attending their monthly meeting, their best showing. USS RELENTLESS added TV and Radio to their recruiting efforts. USS ROGUE PHOENIX attended Humane Society Doggie Carnival at Forsyth Park. Participated in neighborhood clean-up and had a cookout. Members also attended a movie night. USS TRIDENT sent an away team to St. Lucie Mets Game. USS WERNHER von BRAUN had a pot-luck picnic. SS MAVERICK had their very first Anniversary Dinner. USS ARK ANGEL had a Battleship Texas Sleepover. The crew, joined by members of other chapters, spent the night and toured the Battleship Texas. USS AURORA VULCANUS attended Houston Galveston Hurricane Conference to get prepared for the season. They also mailed \$1062.08 in coupons to their base in Japan. USS BEXAR welcomed a potential new member to their meeting and continues to collect small stuffed animals for the EMS Trauma Buddy Program. USS FIREBIRD crew continues their Academy studies and assistance to Harris County Pets. Three kittens have been 'tamed' and turned over to Harris County Pets which offered them up for adoption within 6 hours, meaning they were healthy and

active when brought in. Crew members visited the Houston Zoological Gardens and the Houston Museum of Fine Arts. USS JOAN of ARC participated in the local PBS TeleAuction for the 12th year in a row to raise operating funds for KEDT. Crew collected and donated 3.5 pounds of pop tabs to Ronald McDonald house. Crew also had an away mission to San Antonio to help the USS VICTORY celebrate its 10th anniversary. USS LONE STAR hosted a cook out at the local Ronald McDonald House; had a game night and had a prospective member spend the evening. USS REGULATOR crew is working on TOS uniforms. USS RENAISSANCE had movie night with Starone Delta. USS RHYANNA crew attended ARK ANGEL's meeting. USS TAU'RI had a movie night. USS TRINITY RIVER had a game night and attracted a new member. Crew attended a Scarborough Faire Away Mission. USS VICTORY participated in KEDT-Alive TV auction by answering phones. ISS PEGASUS collected another 50,000 pop tops for Ronald McDonald House which brings the total to about 350,000. Two bikes were given to the school for prizes in a raffle. SHUTTLE BATTLEBORN participated in local "Walk America" and raised \$170 through a garage sale. USS ANGELES had troop package assembly get-togethers. USS ANGELFIRE said "Good bye" to founding members Peggy Salyer and Danielle Mitchell who moved to Kansas. A very large party was held in their honor. USS EAGLE crew went to BayCon and visited Fanime. USS GALLANT had a birthday dinner for several members. USS NORTHERN LIGHTS crew had an away mission to BayCon. USS ONIZUKA had its annual Memorial Day Bar-B-Q. USS STORMBRINGER welcomed 2 new members and began production of its next feature titled "Red Shirt Diaries". Some crew attended the Jet Propulsion Laboratory open house. USS WILLIAN O DARBY continues to work with other local Star Trek clubs on joint efforts. A cadet program is being discussed. Away Missions include a paint ball event. SHUTTLES ESCAPE POD had a crew poker game. SHUTTLE THERMOPYLAE celebrated Fleet night at the movies and Marines night at the movies, a well as a coupon clipping gathering. SS GREY WOLF is continuing their sci-fi nights. Some members are working on a play for Fandemonium. USS CRUSADER took part in the Bloomsday Rack and participated in the Letter Carriers Food Drive which benefited the Second Harvest Food Bank in Spokane.

USS DESTINY celebrates their 12th year since being commissioned. USS CZAR'AK and USS IMPERIUM had movie nights. USS FOX RIVER attended Region 6 Summit. USS THUNDERCHILD participated in the March of Dimes "Walk America" ISS LEXINGTON played host to sailors in port for Fleetweek 2006. The sailors visited Ellis Island, the Statue of Liberty and other sights to be seen along the New Jersey and New York waterfronts. In return, the 714th was given a private tour of the inner workings of the USS KEARSARGE including a bunk over and meal aboard ship. SHUTTLE MAWSON has a compliment of 30 members after their first month as a STARFLEET Shuttle. USS ADAMANT had a movie night and braved the rainy and windy weather for a round of miniature golf. Crew members ventured out to Region 1 for the annual sci-fi modelers convention where we met up with members of the USS PRIDE of SCOTLAND. USS ALBANY attended a baseball game, took part in the MS Wal, and played miniature golf. USS ASCENSION had a movie night, attended Monster-Mania Con, and met up for dinner with the USS PRIDE of SCOTLAND. USS AVENGER had a picnic and celebrated with daughter ships SOVEREIGN and CHALLENGER. USS CHALLENGER had a movie night, attended Mystic Reals Fantasy IV with friends from the USS AVENGER and USS SOVEREIGN. USS FLYING FOX attended Monstermania. USS HIGHLANDER celebrated 10 years as a commissioned chapter in STARFLEET. USS INFERNO had a cookout, signed up several new members and did a lot of charity work. They also had members taking Academy courses. USS JAGUAR had members taking Academy courses. USS JUSTICE finished "J-Team" video for Vietnam themed paintball game. USS MATRIX crew received targlets and started Targ Obedience training. USS NIAGARA away team attended Region 1 Summit. USS OSIRIS had a movie night. USS STARLORD has weekly gaming sessions. USS THOR crew volunteered to work in Operations and Security at Balticon. USS TOP GUN away team traveled to the Andrews Air Force Base to see the 60th Anniversary performance of the U.S. Navy Blue Angels. USS SOL received best comedy award for their fan film "Lord of the Time and views the latest "Doctor Who" episode on Sci-Fi channel. SHUTTLE CHICAGO got together for a BBQ. SHUTTLE ULTIMATUM attended the Region 12 Summit and attended the midnight premiere of

X-Men 3. USS BORTAS crew attended Region 12 Summit. USS CLAYMORE attended Region 12 Summit and 12th Brigade Muster. USS DISCOVERY went on an away mission to explore the Shawnee Wine Trail. USS DRAGONSTRIKE attended the annual Galena Days. Crew attended the Region 12 Summit. USS JEANNETTE MADDOX, USS MARKO RAMIUS and USS HELLFIRE & BRIMSTONE attended Region 12 Summit. USS MORNING STAR recycled Food for the Poor, helped feed 65 at Street Feeding, bought a fruit tree for an impoverished family in the Caribbean, helped organize volunteers to work at the local Arts for All Festival which was attended by approximately 30,000 people, contributed a large bag of staple food items to Mail Carriers' Stamp Out Hunger campaign. USS NOMAD attended Region 12 Summit. USS PHOENIX had another successful Earth Day booth. USS ROYAL SOVEREIGN attended Region 12 Summit and had monthly gaming nights. USS SUNFLOWER attended Region 12 Summit. USS THUNDERBIRD had movie nights. USS TROUBADOUR CO attended Region 1 Summit in Ohio. USS UMIK attended Region 12 Summit. USS BANTING had a movie outing. USS EMPRESS had a Bowl-a-thon. USS WHITE STAR attended and participated in a Memorial Day parade and ceremonies. SS IAN FLEMING attended Region 15 bowling tournament. USS GALAXY conducted an away mission to animie Boston. USS KASIMAR had a potluck Bar-B-Q meeting where they helped work on constructing a wheelchair ramp. USS NELSON celebrated its 3rd anniversary as a commissioned ship. They also met at Look Park in Northampton, MA for a picnic. USS O'BANNON had a Poker night and took part in a March of Dimes fund raiser. They had a movie night and a Cut-Throat Mini-Golf event. USS ALIOTH participated in writing a short story for the "Mind Meld". USS ANASAZI had a Memorial Day BBQ and an away mission to the Zoo and Bio-Park. USS MIR had a cookout. USS MOONTYPE showed off their new model of the ship's 2nd anniversary celebration. USS OMEGA GLORY took part in Bicycle Aurora's Aurora Trail Loop Ride, the 12th Annual DFL Furry Scurry Walk and Clean Omega Glory Hike. USS PIONEER volunteered for the Furry Scurry Crush game, had a dinner outing, had a movie day and Bar-B-Que. ISS SARATOGA crew assisted with the Region 20 Regional Charity Buffet / Disco. USS ALBION introduced a new member.



MISS THE 2006
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE?
DON'T MISS THE NEXT TWO!
<http://www.ic2007.org>
<http://www.ic2008.org>



PHILADELPHIA, PA -- We arrived at our first STARFLEET International conference – IC 2006 – and discovered a curious thing. We met many people, found it easy to make friends, and by the end of the three-day event, realized we had a whole new extended family.

It brought special meaning to STARFLEET Commander Les Rickard's opening comment that the "three most important words in STARFLEET are – let me help."

We also discovered an organization imbued with Gene Roddenberry's vision of hope for humankind... an organization replete with role players, raconteurs and masters of trivia... and an organization dotted with creative teams that produce Star Trek shows and charity hounds that raise money and volunteer for numerous causes.

Brian Schreur, commanding officer of Region 4's ISS Pegasus, greeted first-time attendees with gifts of \$10,000 Quatloos, the currency of the Imperial Federation of Planets. He also stealthily distributed tiny Tribbles. It didn't take long before they multiplied, with miniature fury creatures appearing all over the conference venues, even on the life-size replica of the bridge of the USS Sovereign (from the Philadelphia chapter of the same name). When not spreading Tribble cheer, 16-year veteran Schreur and the Pegasus crew clamor to help their local Ronald McDonald House.

Admiral Mark Hanford and Commodore Hazel Gilbert, the CO and executive officer (XO) of Region 7's ISS Lexington, were just as friendly, offering to answer questions and generally be of assistance. Hanford has been in STARFLEET for 15 years, and Gilbert, 13 years.

Another standout friendly face, Admiral Michelle Fanelli, was described as a model officer, always looking out for and encouraging members. The 21-year veteran from Region 3 was named Flag Officer of the Year. And her chapter, the USS Aurora Vulcanus, was named Mother Ship of the Year.

Self-described computer geek Capt. Jonathan Connor-Foertsch of Region 4's USS Angeles, who "can rattle off the specs of the warp core," is proud of his chapter's film series, Star Trek: Hidden Frontier (HiddenFrontier.com).

"We're in the 7th and final season," he said, with plans to have 50 episodes in the can.

"We've got a great creative team."

Speaking of creative, Web Site of the Year

honors went to the Angeles, where Connor-Foertsch is webmaster.

A number of attendees wore STARFLEET uniforms and costumes, and Connor-Foertsch made it a point to compliment those that were well done.

"You don't have to be Seven-of-Nine to make a uniform look good," he quipped. "You just need to have it tailored."

Among those wearing uniforms were Joe Perry, Freddy Keller and Russell Ruhland of Region 2's USS Da Vinci, who sat together at the banquet. Ruhland was sporting a Vulcan IDIC medal, symbol for "infinite diversity in infinite combinations." He wears it to commemorate an award from the Vulcan Science Academy. Also at the table was James Brunton, CO of Region 2's USS Oklahoma, from Mississippi's "Katrina hell." A 16-year STARFLEETER, Brunton said he was a retired U.S. Air Force sergeant. "Now I'm a rear admiral and major general. If only I got the pay!"

The lone Klingon present – at least the one with a proud forehead of ridges – was K'moghjIH zantai-Ki'RK, who serves as XO of Region 7's USS Inferno. Not sure how to say his name? Just call him Larry D. French Sr. He has been with STARFLEET for over 15 years – longer than Worf served on the Enterprise.

At the Marine Muster, one of several breakout sessions, Commandant John Roberts welcomed Cadet James Nicholson into the Corps to shouts of "hoo-rah". The youngster is the son of James Anderson of Region 1's USS Dragon's Foot.

STARFLEET Vice Commander Sal Lizard, with Santa-like mien, praised the Marines for their "integrity and honor," adding: "Like I always say – BE GOOD."

Then Commandant Roberts pinned the Marine insignia on him because Marines don't want to report to a non-Marine.

"You've been drafted!" Conference Chair Mike Smith shouted to cheers and applause.

Quipped Lizard: "I guess I should now say, 'CARRY ON – GOODLY'."

Gen. Mark Anbinder reported that a number of Marine units around the Fleet responded to the commandant's Reading Challenge, consuming a quarter of a million literary and tactical pages in the past year. The top reader was Capt. Thomas Pawelczak of Region 7's USS Niagara, who devoured 67 books. He joined STARFLEET four years ago when the Niagara was launched. His CO is Fleet Capt. and Brig. Glendon L. Diebold (whose wife, Ruth, coordinates the ship's charity efforts). Diebold gave the STARFLEET Academy report on

behalf of Commandant Wayne Lee Killough Jr., who was unable to attend. In fact, he is dean of the Institute of Intelligence and Espionage.

A pair of busy STARFLEET newcomers – Cathy and Joe Fuller – joined in February, and two months later launched Region 5's Shuttle Thermopylae in Washington State.

"I've been a Star Trek fan since I was a kid," said Commanding Officer Cathy. "I didn't know STARFLEET International existed until this year," when she saw a booth at a convention. "We have 19 members in our little shuttle so far."

Joe is officer in charge of the shuttle's Marine Strike Group.

They were looking forward to volunteering at the Star Trek 40th Anniversary Gala Sept. 8-10 at Seattle's Science Fiction Museum and Hall of Fame.

Dawn L. C. Miller, a long-time member, admitted she had not been very active until recently, and was especially enjoying making friends at the conference. The communications officer for Region 7's USS DeBraak, Lt. Commander Miller enjoys writing and is especially proud that her home-schooled son and daughter were challenged by excellence and able to win scholarships to college.

There were a number of couples, and at least two of them met, fell in love and married while in STARFLEET.

Commodores Lloyd and Reed Bates, members for six and five years respectively, tied the knot two years ago. Now he's chief of ops and she's logistics officer for Region 3's USS Ark Angel.

David and Leslie Ryan married in 1990 after meeting three years earlier at a STARFLEET function. With 28 years in Fleet, David is an admiral and XO of Region 2's ISS MacArthur. Leslie, a 20-year member, is chief medical officer with the rank of commodore.

Michelle and Joe Podesta were already a couple when they joined some 12 years ago.

"My husband dragged me in," revealed Captain Michelle, chief medical officer for Region 7's USS Starlord.

The ship's XO, Capt. John Kirwin, echoed that sentiment.

"Joe dragged me."

The trio was among a number of hard workers receiving promotions at the conference, and Fleet Commander Rickard, noting Kirwin recently returned from Iraq, called for "an extra round of applause for his service."

During the final morning of the conference, a wide-eyed woman approached Ben Redding while he was eating breakfast.

"You look just like Scotty!"

"Aye, Captain," he replied in a Scottish brogue, "we're giving it all we've got!"

Redding, the CO of the Region 1's Benu Station, slipped back into his native Tennessee drawl, explaining he has gotten his share of stares and comments – especially when he and fellow Fleeters served as escorts for stars at conventions.

At one Marina Sirtis was backstage, leaning against a wall with arms folded when she glanced to her left at Redding.

"She did a double-take, and said, 'I thought you were Jimmy (Doohan)!'"

George Takei, he said, greeted him with disbelief: "Man, I can't believe how much you look like Jimmy. You look more like Jimmy than Jimmy does!"

Sipping coffee, Redding returned to discussing charity work with fellow Fleeter Patrick McAndrew.

"I think our biggest accomplishment was to send three kids to (NASA's) Space Camp," Redding said. "One is now studying aeronautics in college."

McAndrew, CO of Region 5's USS Rubicon, described his chapter's coupon-clipping project, collecting for three different U.S. military bases overseas to provide shopping discounts to servicemen and women.

"We've shipped over \$90,000 worth of coupons so far this year."

Asked why he was so involved in STARFLEET, Redding was quick to point to "Gene Roddenberry's dream to make the universe a better place."

"It can be real," he said. "The first interracial kiss happened on Star Trek."





Ben Redding relates some of his experiences as "Scotty."



Dawn L. C. Miller enjoyed making friends at IC06 and talking about home schooling.



Brian Schreur



Cathy Fuller on the Sovereign Bridge



Leslie and David Ryan



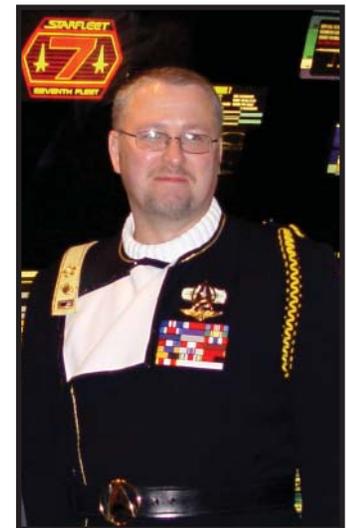
James Brunton



Col. Jonathan Slavin makes a point at the Marine Muster, with Klingon K'moghjIH zantai-Ki'RK and Lt. James McClure looking on.



Joost Ueffing



Les Rickard, Commander STARFLEET



Alyssa Clawson and Keira Russel Strong



The Disc Jockey with Alyssa and Julia Clawson



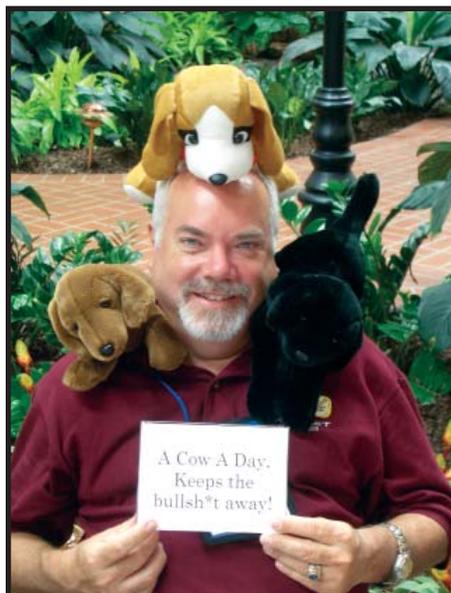
The "Pet Wall of Fame"



The IC 2006 was invaded by Tribbles from the ISS Pegasus!



Jada Avery won a door prize at the IC. Maryann Pugilese looks on.



7th Brigade OIC Major General Larry Neigut at the IC 2006 auction table, with some furry associates. Photo by Mark H. Anbinder.



Region 5 at the 2006 IC. Members of the USS Rubicon, Shuttle Thermopylae, and Shuttle Escape Pod enjoy the Saturday night banquet.



Dan Adonolfi, IC08 Chair wants you to go "Back to School" in Ithaca.



Scott Akers Speaks.



STARFLEET

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

2006



Scott Akers in a case of Man bites Dog!



Joost and Susan Ueffing @ Live IRC!

State of the Corps

By: Brigadier General John Roberts - USS Anasazi, Commandant, STARFLEET Marine Corps



ATTENTION ON DECK

SFMC

THE OFFICIAL NEWS AND INFORMATION RESOURCE OF THE STARFLEET MARINE CORPS.

<http://www.sfi-sfmc.org>



Greetings Marines!

First off, I would like to say:

Congratulations to BGN Aaron Murphy, Deputy Commandant of the SFMC, on his recent promotion to MGN (Effective June 10, 2006).

Bank Account Information

We started the month of May with a balance of \$552.86. We had deposits in the amount of \$307.83 (which reflects a deduction of \$10.32 for PayPal fees) and no withdrawals. This left the SFMC account with a balance of \$860.69 at the end of May.

We started the month of June with a balance of \$860.69. We had deposits in the amount of \$142.04 (which reflects a deduction of \$6.26 for PayPal fees) and withdrawals in the amount of \$105.00 for postage and CD productions costs for IM CDs. This left the SFMC account with a balance of \$897.73 at the end of June.

Commandant's Advisory Group

The following Marines have been selected for the Commandant's Advisory Group and will serve to give additional viewpoints to the Commandant and the General Staff. There are still vacancies on the Group for those Brigades not yet represented and for any additional former Commandant's who may wish to serve. If you are interested in serving on this group to help the Corps become an even better part of STARFLEET, please contact me at dant@sfi-sfmc.org.



I would like to welcome Matias Alvarez as the new representative for the 17th Brigade. The current Advisory Group now has the following members:

Brigade Representatives

- 1st Brigade: Tony Lopes (ajlopes3@att.net)
- 4th Brigade: James Monroe (daiuy19@earthlink.net)
- 7th Brigade: Mike Smith (msmith@uss-starlord.org)
- 10th Brigade: Paul Reid (saakari@shaw.ca)
- 12th Brigade: Carolyn Zimdahl (czimdahl@uiuc.edu)
- 17th Brigade: Matias Alvarez (matiasgalvarez@yahoo.com)

Past Commandants

- J T Trent (jtrent@cox.net)
- Scott Akers (scott@chunone.org)
- Les Rickard (erickardjr@triad.rr.com)
- Wade Olson (captwho@tallynet.com)

General Staff Members

- John Roberts (dant@sfi-sfmc.org)
- Aaron Murphy (depdant@sfi-sfmc.org)
- Linda Olson (forcecom@sfi-sfmc.org)
- Wade Hoover (infocom@sfi-sfmc.org)
- Joost Ueffing (tracom@sfi-sfmc.org)
- Marie Wilson (sgm-sfmc@sfi-sfmc.org)

Manual Updates

TRACOM is almost finished with the current round of updates to their Branch and course manuals. If you have ideas for the manual revisions, please contact the TRACOM staff and I am sure they will be happy to point you in the right direction for this project.

New Manual

At IM there will be a new manual and (hopefully) courses ready for your enjoyment. This new series of courses will be the officer's companion courses to the NCO Development Courses, the Officer's Development (OD) courses.

Please remember, we cannot help you enjoy your membership in the SFMC if you do not tell us what you want us to do to help that happen.

The General Staff is here to serve you, but we cannot do that without your constructive input as to what you would like to see. If you have ideas you would like us to consider as we work to develop the SFMC, please let the General Staff know. We will also be sending out more information on this as we work towards completion of the project and its ultimate release.

What do YOU want from the SFMC?

We have announced several changes and plans for the SFMC over the last several months. Generally, these have been well received. However, the members of the General Staff have received very little feedback about what you, the members, would like to see from the SFMC General Staff.

If you have ideas you think we should take a look at, please let us know. You can reach the members of the General Staff as follows:

SFMC Commandant:
dant@sfi-sfmc.org

SFMC Deputy Commandant:
depdant@sfi-sfmc.org

Sergeant Major, SFMC:
sgm-sfmc@sfi-sfmc.org

Commanding Officer, Forces Command:
forcecom@sfi-sfmc.org

Commanding Officer Training and Doctrine Command:
tracom@sfi-sfmc.org

Commanding Officer, Information Command:
infocom@sfi-sfmc.org

Remember, we are here to serve you and your needs. We can't do that without your input. Help us make the SFMC even better.

Until my next report, I remain in Service to the Corps,

John Roberts,
Commandant, SFMC

Be one of the Proud!

Join the STARFLEET Marine Corps

for more information visit:

<http://www.sfi-sfmc.org>



FORCECOM REPORT

By: Brigadier General Linda Olson - USS Relentless, Commander, Forces Command



Brigades reporting - 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 9th, 12th, 15th, 17th, 20th

Brigades Not Reporting - 10th, 13th, 14th

Units listed as not reporting by Brigade OICs

75th, 501st, 832nd, 786th, 7th BDE 5th BN, 850th, 203rd, 218th, 242nd, 269th, 276th, 312th,

Brigade Strengths

Brigade Number Active Reserve total

First	38	42	80
Second	73	13	86
Third	61	31	92
Fourth	58	6	64
Fifth	17	21	38
Sixth			
Seventh	30	64	94
Ninth	12	9	21
Tenth			
Twelfth	38	66	104
Thirteenth			
Fourteenth			
Fifteenth	17	19	36
Seventeenth	17	22	39
Twentieth	11	4	15

Marine Stike Groups Activated

5th BDE 503rd Shuttle Thermopylae
12th BDE 201st
20th BDE MEU Lonewolves

No Marine units were deactivated this period.

Recruits

2nd BDE - Oliver Savander, Guy Blandford, Jessica Workman, Shannon Taulbee, Matthew Connely, Gary Valentine, Diane Johnson, Markus Tuomi
3rd BDE - Nikki Green, Jack Norman, Matt Brinkley, Clint Hill, Dixie Hill, Sarah Jones, Douglas Poynor
4th BDE- Carla Ehly, Walter Sherwood
5th BDE - Robin Begin, Jason Eklund, Lee Eklund, Shawn McVay, Robert Rand Jr.
17th BDE- Chris Ferris
20th BDE-Sian Jackson

May include Marines with renewing memberships.

Discharges

2nd BDE-John Self, DJ Allen, Ramara Allen, Jennie OBrien
3rd BDE-Sean Meyer, Lythis Betterton, Norma Ybarra
4th BDE-Catherine Temple, Peggy Salyer, Danielle Mitchell, Tami Flowers
5th BDE-Bobby Robins Jr, Jenna Robbins
17th BDE-Darrell Harrod

May include Marines with pending memberships or who have changed ships.

Awards Issued

Legion of Valor

1st - 198th
3rd - 342nd
4th - 14th
12th - 225th
17th - 898th

Sword of Valor

1st - Antonio Lopes
3rd - Chanda Norman
4th - Danielle Mitchell
12th - John Fenison
17th - Susan Cerame

Cross of Valor

1st - Greg Franklin
3rd - Randi Spears
4th - Truman Temple
12th - Michael McGowan

Star of Valor

1st - Aaron Gregory
3rd - Tony Walker
4th - Joe Butts
12th - Jennifer Hoover
17th - David Cerame

Shield of Valor

1st - Keith A Styblo
3rd - Barbara Baker
4th - Peggy Salyer
12th - Kenny Watts
17th - Susan Cerame

Leaders Commendation

Christopher OBanion
Tommy Holman
Brigade Service Award
Aaron Murphy
John Johnson
Christopher OBanion
Joseph White
Kira Norman
Daniell Mitchell
Anthony Spotts
Norman E DeRoux

Brigade Achievement Award

Daniel Dreesback
Joy Flynn
Peggy Salyer
John Nelson

Michael McGowan
Marine Honor Guard
Randi Spears
Tony Walker
Matt Wabindato
Cody Wyatt
Jessica hench
Sarah Jones

Initial Entry Training

Cindy Styblo

Meritorious Unit Citation

333rd
342nd
347th
166th
1st

Good Conduct

Truman Temple
Steve Eizenberg
Arlene Garrison
Mike McGowan
John Fenison
Allen Glenn
Julie Rickard
Carolyn Zimdahl
Matt Wabindato
Cameron Houser
Robert Houser
Randi Spears
Tony Walker
Matt Hill
Jeff Webb
Betty Anne Leverence
Ben Fisk
William Duane
William Mock
Brandon Moore
Charles Jefferson
Deborah Duane
Don Meyer
Eileen Jones
Kelly Meyer
Markus Tomi
Roger Knoll
Melissa West
Veronica Duane Knoll
Terry Callahan
Shaughn O'Connor
Janice Waldhaur
Byron Flynt
Joy Flynt

Community Service

Ed Dravecky
Robyn Winans
Jan Agee
Kris Winegar
Debbie Winters
Kira Norman
Daniel Dreesbach
Chanda Norman
Adriane Lopes
Joseph Fuller
Steve Eizenberg
Arlene Garrison
Patrick Garrison

David Kania
Tom King
Michael Marquart
Patrick McAndrew
Lea Morgan
Julie Rickard
Donna Carlene
Carolyn Zimdahl
Ron Smith

SFMC Service Commendation

Greg Franklin
Ellie Claasen

20th Anniversary Ribbon

Mike McGowan
Mike Brim
John Fenison
Allen Glenn
Julie Rickard
Carolyn Zimdahl
William Duane
William Mock
Brandon Moore
Deborah Duane
Don Meyer
Eileen Jones
Kelly Meyer
Shaughn O'Connor
Shawn McVay
Embassy Duty
Keith Styblo
Cindy Styblo
Howard Knapp
Aaron Gregory
Curtis Bellman
Rey Cordero
Mark West
Clint Hill
Matt Hill
Tony Walker
Matthew Wabindato
Dixie Hill
L A Galvez
Jessica Hench
Cody Wyatt
Allen Glenn
Paula Keesler
Michael McGowan
Julie Rickard
Carolyn Zimdahl

Naval Unit Citation

USS Ark Angel

Naval Achievement Citation

Brad Pense

Academic Achievement

Truman Temple

Sargent Major's Report

By: Sargent Major Marie "M" Wilson - ISS Saratoga, Sargent Major, STARFLEET Marine Corps

Fellow Marines,

It is hard to believe that here we are, my second report for CQ. It has been a hectic few months, a computer going up in smoke, along with the NCO reporting guidelines I had been writing. But we recover, move on, and are stronger for the experience.

NCO Reporting

I mentioned NCO reporting in my last report for CQ, and it is wonderful to see the 3rd BDE take an active stance on this. As mentioned, we are still looking at including NCOIC information, and a NCO section within MSG/BDE reports, but in the meantime, I have put together a reporting schedule for those NCO's wishing to use it.

Individual NCO reports are due on the 20th of every odd numbered month to the MSG/MEU Senior Marine NCO.

MSG/MEU Senior NCO reports are due on the 1st of every even numbered month to the BN NCOIC.

BN NCOIC reports are due the 7th of every even numbered month to the BDE SGM
BDE SGM reports are due the 21st of every even numbered month to the SGM/SFMC.

To be included in the reports are the following:

Awards issued/earned by NCO's
Awards requested for NCO's
Courses taken by NCO's
Activities in past 30 days
Activities planned in the next 30 days
Promotions within NCO ranks, and NCO commissioned as Officers
Comments/Suggestions/Problems

The report forms can be found here, http://www.zianet.com/jdkern/sgm/NCO_form.htm
But, please don't use the online form, it is not working at this time. I am looking to set up an

online form for ease of reporting in the near future.

NCO Newsletter

I have the template for the forthcoming NCO newsletter, and am looking for not only articles, but ideas, and suggestions on just what may be of interest to the Enlisted member.

I have been asked about the length of articles. Long, short, it doesn't matter.. Plain text would be fine for submissions, Word is fine as well. As to subject matter, it can be anything that is of interest to, or related to the NCO. This is, after all, a newsletter for the NCOs, although, I hope it will also interest both Fleet member, and Officer alike.

Publications dates, I'm looking at February, May, August, and November, approximately.

E-mail lists

Just as a reminder, we do have two e-mail lists for the Enlisted member. The NCO list, and the Warrent Officer list. Both are on Yahoo groups at the moment, but I do hope to have them hosted on the SFMC server in due course.

To subscribe to the NCO list, send a mail to sfmcnco-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

To subscribe to the WO list, send a mail to wo_sfmc-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

These lists are not only open to the Enlisted member, but also those interested in the NCO Corps.

And finally, my door is always open, to Officer, and NCO alike. I can be reached on m@region20.org.uk, or sgm_sfmc@sfi-sfmc.org

The 2006 International Marine Muster

By: Brigadier General Kyle J. Wolf - USS Dragon Star, OIC 5th Battalion, 755th MSG, 7th Brigade

The 2006 International Marine Muster held at the Philadelphia, PA IC. A number of marines attended the meeting. MGN John Roberts reported that about 50 members were in attendance. It was great to see the marines well represented.

One of the issues considered for future inclusions was "more marine sponsored events," such as panels. At this years IC a mecha panel was presented. Hosted by Joe Dorffner, newly appointed Director of the Mecha Branch TRACOM, and yours truly. We found that there was indeed interest in marine style events to be included with events such as the IC and even regional events as our panel has be asked to participate in the Region 7 Conference for 2007.

It was good to have Linda Olson, Joost Ueffing, and John Roberts present at the meeting for the members to speak directly with them. While they are available through email and phone calls, being at the meeting they were able to "get in touch" with the membership. If you have an opportunity to attend an IC, please do so. Not only is it a lot of fun, you get to meet people you may only have names of; and having a face-to-face makes things come together like nothing else.



Marine Commandant, MGEN John Roberts, speaks at the Muster



Getting ready for the Muster



Table set up for the Mecha panel.

Mecha Force - Power Plant

By: Brigadier General Kyle J. Wolf - USS Dragon Star, OIC 5th Battalion, 755th MSG, 7th Brigade

Anti-matter/Matter Micro-Core Vs. Fusion Micro-Core

Within the fictional universe of mecha there are a number of power plants (core) that provide energy to the massive machines. For the mecha within the corps, fusion micro-cores are used. Since the corps is set in the fictional line of Star Trek, the question that comes up is why anti-matter/matter (AM/M) micro-cores are not used. The destructiveness of anti-matter, core containment failure, and transportability are the key reasons for not using AM/M micro-cores. Mecha are combat vehicles that require them to operate within hostile conditions. What that statement basically means is that mecha have to be able to take a beaten. For combat effectiveness and power usage, the fusion micro-core as a power plant for mecha is the logical design step.

While the 'best' power supply that has the least destructive force when it comes to blowing up would be a Battery Power Supply (PT-BPS), it does not have the longevity or resource allocation needed to power a mech. Unlike a battle vehicle that requires about 35% of its construction needing power, a mech requires about 80% from its construction design. The primary reason for the higher resource allocation is that mech design uses a movement design similar to humanoids. The number of actuators

and electro-bonded myomer fibers that are incorporated into the mech design in order to allow the mech to move in the manner it is designed too takes up the most power allocation for normal operation of the machine. Add all the other systems, which includes high powered weapon systems, and you can see that a PT-BPS is not efficient to use in mecha. Chemical fuel, such as petroleum, is even less efficient. That leaves AM/M and fusion power plants.

The basic idea behind how AM/M power plant works is to take a particle of matter, in this case slush deuterium, and collide it with a particle of anti-matter. The result of such a collision is the annihilation of the two (2) particles, which produces a certain amount of energy. It is the collection of the energy output from the annihilation process that grants power to other systems. While it is a lot more complicated than that, the 'explosion' from the basic principle alone is pretty powerful. Take a stream of anti-matter particles located within the core system, and have that stream come into contact with any matter (for anti-matter/matter conversion to happen only requires any form of matter to come into contact with anti-matter) and there is a large scale explosion. That amount of destructive force released on a planet, plus the amount of radiation released, would be catastrophic. Since a fusion power plant does not require anti-matter to fuel itself, there is less danger and destructiveness from an explosion

with a fusion plant.

To stream and contain anti-matter, magnetic force fields must be in place at all times. Since magnetic force fields do not contain matter, there use to contain and control anti-matter is crucial. As stated above, for conversion to take place anti-matter only needs to come into contact with matter. Should the magnetic force fields fail, there is nothing keeping the anti-matter from coming into contact with matter, thereby creating the conversion that should be taking place within the annihilation chamber. With the amount of combat stress a mech receives, the damage and impact from weapons, the probability of containment failure is high. The risk is high enough that containment failure alone is almost reason enough to forego the use of AM/M power plants. While a separate power source could be setup from the main plant, even have it shielded; the probability still remains high of containment failure. Since fusion power plants use deuterium fuel only, there is no chance of containment failure as there is no containment required; other than simply holding the fuel source.

While mecha are usually physically transported from place to place, there are times when a teleport may be needed. Teleporting the mecha itself is not an issue, what would become the problem would be the teleportation of the anti-matter fuel source. Teleport procedures

in combat situations would have the magnetic force fields go down long enough for anti-matter to come into contact with matter. There are procedures for teleporting anti-matter, but those procedures have to be followed completely or containment failure happens. A transporter technician has to be highly skilled to perform such a task, and even then it is risky. Therefore, because of the possibility of combat teleport, AM/M power plants cannot be used within mecha.

Mecha originated in Japan, and back in the beginning most power plants were nuclear. In the Star Trek universe nuclear power is obsolete. Additionally, while there are technologies for handling toxic materials, not all of the toxic materials produced can be safely dealt with. A core breach would also leak out deadly toxic waste materials that would affect a large portion of the environment. Therefore, the safest power plant that has enough power allocation and use of available fuel source is the fusion micro-core.



Commandant's Reading Challenge

By: General Mark H. Anbinder - USS Accord

Hey, STARFLEET! Do you read? Whether you go through a book or two on each vacation, or a book or two a day, you may be interested in the STARFLEET Marine Corps Commandant's Reading Challenge.

Congratulations to the members of the Corps, and especially our reading champs, for all of the books we've all read in the past year. Over the course of the year beginning with July 2005 and running through June 2006, the Corps read (or at least reported) a collective 240,574 pages!

Awards presented at the International Muster during IC last weekend...

Most Books Read: Thomas Pawelczak (67)

Most Pages Read: Thomas Pawelczak (25,994)

Youth Reading Champion: Kimberly Temple (2996 pages)

Unit with Most Readers: 369th MSG (6)

Family Champions (tie):

Marie Wilson, Sam Wilson (9), Liam Wilson (7), and Charlotte Wilson (6) from the 369th MSG in the 20th Brigade.

Truman Temple, Cyndi Temple, Kimberly Temple, and Robert Temple, from the 1st MSG.

Are you interested in participating in the 2006-2007 Commandant's Reading Challenge? Don't forget to use the official Reading Challenge e-mail address for reporting your progress...reading@sfi-sfmc.org points to me, and will help you get credited as individuals for your efforts. Don't forget to also include your total pages read each reporting period in your MSG and Brigade OIC's reports, so your unit and brigade can be credited. (Individual credit REQUIRES reporting to <reading@sfi-sfmc.org.)

Remember, individual members' Reading Challenge reports must include Title, Author, ISBN number, and number of pages for each book read, as well as the member's name and unit. (Younger members who wish their reading noted accordingly may identify themselves as youth or cadets, and include their age, but

THIS IS NOT REQUIRED. Younger members reading at an adult level are welcome to be counted among the general reader population.)

The ISBN is typically included on the copyright page that's on the back of the main title page of most modern books; it's also usually printed on the back of the book or the dust jacket, near the barcode. If you have an older book or a self-published book with no ISBN available, please include all of the above info PLUS the publisher and copyright date or date of publication.

EXAMPLE:

Mark H. Anbinder, Age 8 (no, not really)
771st MSG, USS Accord

"America (The Book): A Citizen's Guide to Democracy Inaction,"
Jon Stewart, 0-446-53268-1, 244 pages.

"Personal History," Katharine Graham, 0-375-70104-4, 643 pages.

"The Last Juror," John Grisham, 0-440-24157-X, 487 pages.

As a general rule, books count if they involve actual reading, such as a novel, biography,

or the like, and include a reasonable number of pages, say 100 or more. Pamphlets, magazines, comic books, cookbooks, tour books, and artbooks that consist mostly of illustrations, don't count.

Younger members may of course include age-appropriate books of any length, though we're still looking for books that focus on text, rather than comics.

THIS YEAR'S READING CHALLENGE will end at the end of next June; in order for your reading to be counted towards the year's totals, your info MUST be included in the Brigade reports for the reporting period PRIOR to the next International Muster. In other words, your reading through June should be included in your Brigade's June report, which is submitted in July. This will allow us to compile the information and prepare to announce winners at the IM in Denver next August!

STARFLEET Marine Corps Awards Issued at IC/IM

By: Brigadier General John Roberts - USS Anasazi, Commandant, STARFLEET Marine Corps

SFMC Awards Issued at IC/IM 2006

Below is the list of awards given out during or as a result from the recently concluded International Muster in Philadelphia, PA. If you have been given an award and wish the certificate, please email me at jcroberts2@hotmail.com with your name, email and awards and I will get the pdf of the certificates out to you ASAP.

Some awards were given during IM or after and the certificates will be sent to you directly from Joe Dorffner if that is the case.

The Great Barrier and Embassy Duty Awards are not listed here as those are to be requested and issued by your BDE OICs. So, without further ado, the awards presented at (or resulting from) IM 2006 are:

Cross of Honor

Randi Spears, 342nd MSG, USS Ark Angel

Sword of Honor

Chanda Norman, 325th MSG, USS Trinity River

Shield of Honor

Susan Cerame, 898th MSG, USS Anasazi

Star of Honor

Tony Walker, 342nd MSG, USS Ark Angel

Legion of Honor

342nd Marine Strike Group, USS Ark Angel

Naval Unit Citation (Issued by SFMC

Headquarters)

USS Anasazi
USS Angel Fire
USS Ark Angel
USS Trinity River

STARFLEET Cross

Joe Brouhard
Joe Dorffner
Chris Esquibel
Wade Hoover
Aaron Murphy
Sean Niemeyer
Linda Olson
Jill Rayburn
Joost Ueffing
Marie Wilson
John Roberts
Mike Smith
Angel Avery
Joe Podesta
Michelle Podesta
Beryl Washington
John Kerwin
Tony Rowley

Alex Rosenzweig
Bob Vosseler
Mark Anbinder
John Adcock
Rey Cordero
Mark Hanford
Martin Lessem
Bob Mulvey
Dean Rogers
Mike Stein
Kyle Wolf
Larry Neigut

SFMC Service Commendation

Joe Brouhard
Norman Deroux
Michael Dethlefs
Joe Dorffner
Chris Esquibel
Greg Franklin
Scott Grant
Dino Gravato
Thomas Guertin
Clayton Hobbs
Wade Hoover
Travis Littou
Aaron Murphy
Larry Neigut
Sean Niemeyer
Linda Olson
Jill Rayburn
Rebecca Self
Cynthia Temple
Joost Ueffing
Jeff Webb
Tom Webster
Marie Wilson

SFMC Achievement Award

John Kane
Martin Lessem
Tracy Lilly
Jim Monroe
John Nelson
Wade Olson
Truman Temple
Carol Thompson
Tony Walker

Communications Service Award

Joe Brouhard
Joe Dorffner
Christopher Esquibel
Dino Gravato
Sean Niemeyer

Leader's Commendation (Issued by SFMC

Commandant)
DJ Allen
Lauren Niemeyer
Rosy Dorffer

Leader's Commendation (Issued by

COINFOCOM)
Joe Brouhard
Dino Gravato

Leader's Commendation (Issued by

COFORCECOM)
Mark Anbinder
Rey Cordero
Joy Flynt
Susan Fugate
Clayton Hobbs
Kimberly Hoffman
Richard Jolitz
Wade Olson
Brett Price

Leader's Commendation (Issued by

COTRACOM)
Rey Cordero
Chris Esquibel
Greg Franklin
Clayton Hobbs
John Kane
Martin Lessem
James Monroe
John Nelson
Sean Niemeyer
Wade Olson
Jill Rayburn
John Roberts
Truman Temple

Meritorious Unit Citation (Issued by SFMC

Commandant)
SFMC Training and Doctrine Command, MGN
Joost Ueffing, Commanding

Chris Esquibel
Greg Franklin
Clayton Hobbs
John Kane
Martin Lessem
Tracy Lilly
Jim Monroe
Aaron Murphy
John Nelson
Wade Olson
Jill Rayburn
John Roberts
Truman Temple
Carol Thompson
Joost Ueffing

Honor Guard Ribbon

Larry Neigut
Patrick McAndrew
Scott Anderson
Paul Reid
Sean Niemeyer
Russell Garrison
Thomas Guertin
John Roberts
Les Rickard
DJ Allen

TRACOM Commander's Award

Tony Lopes

International Service Award

Tom Guertin
Sean Niemeyer
Scott Smith

Paul M. Reid
Russ Garrison
Patrick Garrison
Arlene Garrison
Patrick McAndrew
Larry S. Neigut
Joseph J. Fuller
Michael Stein
Kathy M. Mullins
Thomas Pawelczak
Carolyn Zimdahl
Sal Lizard
Matthew Ingles
Brian Schreur
Martin A. Lessem
Howard Knapp, Jr.
Clayton Hobbs
James M. Nicholson
Christine Anderson
Scott Anderson, Sr.
Lauren Niemeyer
Jonathan Slavin
James McClure
Larry D. French, Sr.
Valerie Rosenberg
Angel Avery
Michael D. Smith
Les Rickard
Parker Gabriel
Robert W. Chin
Mike Urvand
Vivian Wentworth
Dean Rogers
Susan Ueffing
Mark H. Anbinder
Scott A. Akers
Jennifer Cohen
Robert Stronach
Joseph C. Dorffner
Rosy Dorffner
Kyle J. Wolf
Linda Olson
Wade Olson
Joost Ueffing
DJ Allen
James L. Brunton



STARFLEET Marine Corps Youth, Our Future

By: Lieutenant Colonel Scott Anderson, Sr. - USS Dragon's Fury, 1st Brigade, 182nd MSG

At the International Conference in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania we introduced the future of STARFLEET and the STARFLEET Marine Corps. Ten-year-old Sergeant James Nicholson had the distinct pleasure of being pinned into the SFMC at this year's IC Muster. The pinning of a young Marine is a tradition that dates back many years in our own United States Marine Corps and it is an occasion when the title of Marine is bestowed and the Eagle, Globe and Anchor is presented. James has been a member of STARFLEET since February of 2006 and became interested in the SFMC at this year's Region 1 Summit in Akron, Ohio. He completed his Cadet Professional Development Certification PD-7: Cadet Advanced Marine Basic Training and did so with a 99%. This is proof of the diligence that our youth possess when properly motivated and instructed.

The Commandant of the SFMC was honored to allow James to be the first Marine Youth to have this ceremony at an IC and with the reception that we received at the Muster, I believe that this will be a new tradition. As MGEN John Roberts asked James of his desires to be a Marine and whether he wanted to hold the honor and traditions of the Corps to the high standard that they deserve, James answered that he

was willing to maintain those standards. So as James was introduced to his fellow Marines, he was given a standing ovation that will remain with him for the rest of his life. The look of pride in his eyes and what he felt will hopefully take him into his future roles in STARFLEET, the STARFLEET Marine Corps and his real life.

As James' father I would like to say that this ceremony also moved both his stepmother MCPT Christine and me. We are so proud to be a part of this great community and we look forward to many great years with all of you. To everyone at this year's Muster, I wish to thank you for your warm reception. It is people like you that make this worth while. I would also like to say a special thanks to MGEN John Roberts for making this work. When MGEN Roberts announced the formation of the cadet training in the STARFLEET Marine Corps Academy I felt this was an important step in the growth of the Corps. When James became interested in joining the SFMC, I contacted MGEN Roberts about having this ceremony and he felt it could be a great thing to do. Also, big thanks to BGEN Joseph Dorffner, Jr. for your presentation of a challenge coin to James and explaining the significance of that gift to him. Your personality won James over and motivated him to get interested in Mecha. Then last, but far from least, Sal Lizard. This is the second time we



James Nicholson is pinned into the Corps by LTC Scott Anderson, Sr. and MCPT Christine Anderson.

have gotten together and your wonderful spirit and great personality are very apparent when you are with children. From the first time James met you, you have been the center of conversation with him and we look forward to

seeing you again soon.

The STARFLEET Marine Corps will continue to grow in our children and with our hard work.

The 2nd Annual STARFLEET Battletech/Mechwarrior Tournament

The 2nd Annual Starfleet, Int. Battletech/ Mechwarrior Tournament

The Mecha Council is proud to announce the 2nd Annual Starfleet, Int. Battletech/ Mechwarrior Tournament. As with the first one, the tournament will end at the IC in 2007. This year we have added a new section to the tournament. Along with the miniatures play, we now have a modeler's competition. There are a number of categories for the

modelers. For more information and updates, please visit <http://www.mechacouncil.org>. The miniature rules have not changed from the first tournament. If you would like to participate, please stop by the web site and download the participation form today or use the one below.

Model Contest Rules

There are four categories for model judging. Models can be of any medium: plastic, resin,

wood, etc. Note: Lego doesn't qualify. The models may be in kit form or scratch built, can be built straight out of the box, or modified with aftermarket accessories. Model kits can be from any Mecha Based show or game, may be mecha, vehicles, characters (Hero's), or Spacecraft, any scale.

Contest Categories

Cadet – the category by which all entrants under 16 may enter.

Beginner Class – May not have entered any model in any contest for which an award was made.

Intermediate Class – Have built some models and entered a competition, or 2 but have not have won first place in any category.

Master Class – Very experienced modeler who has won best in show, placed first in any category, or builds and designs models for displays, museums, or as a business venture.

The Second Annual STARFLEET International Battlemech/Mechwarrior Competition

Sponsored by: Mecha Council

Please send to: bt-contest@mechacouncil.org

Name: _____

SCC#: _____

Chapter: _____

MSG/MEU: _____

Brigade: _____

Battalion: _____

Minature Tournament: _____

Model Tournament: _____

email address: _____

Awards Categories

- Best of Show
- Best Character
- Best Mecha Kit
- Best Vehicle Kit
- Best Spacecraft Kit

Attention First Fleet and First Brigade



USS DRAGONS FURY



USS JAMESTOWN



Your Hosts cordially invite you to attend Summit 007



USS ODINS FURY



USS MAAT



USS GALLIFREY

James darling,

M has sent you the following message.

Love, Moneypenny

You are to attend general sessions
 Where: Richmond, VA Summit 07
 When: April 21, 2007 9:00-12:00 EST
 Your Mission will be discovered at General session



USS STAR RUNNER



USS LIBERATOR



USS CHESAPEAKE



USS HORNET

Special thanks to our associate chapters and their members for their help.

Visit our website at <http://R1Summit007.teamcmx23.org/>

Page created and sponsored by: TeamCMX23.org



Words from the Fleet Admiral

By: Fleet Admiral Les Rickard - SS William D Leahy - Commander, STARFLEET

Greetings STARFLEET,

I have written this article several times now. But, after putting together my State of the Fleet address for the 2006 International Conference, I realized a large part of that speech belonged here. So, many of you will recognize a large portion of this report from my Saturday General Session speech.

First off, I asked a friend to write something so that I could present it as part of my 2006 IC State of the Fleet speech. I think it is appropriate to reprint that letter here. These are a few words from my friend and your former CS, FADM Mandi Livingston.

Greetings!

I want to thank Les for this brief opportunity to say a few things here at IC 2006. I hope everyone is having a great time, and I wish I could be in Philadelphia to enjoy the festivities. However, as everyone is aware, I have an infant daughter, and my place is with her at this time.

This past year has seen its fair share of ups and downs in Fleet. Things are never quite as bad as the naysayers would have you to believe, and likewise, the picture is never quite as rosy, either, as some would like to think. Just as in life, everything seems to shake out somewhere in the middle.

*What I would really like to say here today is a huge "Thank You" to the many volunteers that serve on the Fleet staff. Nothing in STARFLEET happens without people stepping up to the plate and saying, "Let me help." I'd like to name everyone individually, but I'd probably forget someone. So, to the EC, the Webteam, the MP teams, the CQ & Communication staff, the database gurus, the CFO team, the Ops & SHoC Crews, the Academy deans and directors, the SFMC General Staff, the FRC directors, the charities and annual campaign staffs, the awards & promotions crew, those in the Office of the IG, and everyone else that serves the membership, thank you. Thank you for being willing to help. Thank you for giving your time to the organization. It **IS** appreciated.*

Finally, I want to acknowledge that since the start of 2006, a lot of changes happened in the EC level. I'm not going to rehash everything that has been said on the lists and in the Communiqué. Everyone knows the story by now. But there is a moral to be learned

from everything that has happened. And it gives me hope for the future of STARFLEET. Yes, there seems to be so much bickering on the lists. It's not just due to Fleet level politics... It's happening in regions and between chapters as well. And at the end of the day, it just isn't worth it.

*But I have to look back on the past year or two and find the positives. And yes, there are some, and yes, I think the lesson we can take from this bodes well for STARFLEET. See, if Les Rickard and Mandi Livingston can put aside years of miscommunication, hurt feelings, and petty politics. If the two of us can realize that "Fleet Matters". If the two of us can sit down, talk things out, and in the process **restore** a lost friendship and **restore** trust... Well, then I have hope that the rest of the membership can follow suit.*

Folks, don't sweat the small stuff. Realize that at the end of the day, what truly matters about STARFLEET is our friendships. That's the one thing I'll miss the most about not being at IC this year... Is missing out on seeing my friends, relaxing with them, and sharing in our common desire to see STARFLEET prosper. I am blessed that this long, strange personal journey that I found myself in the past couple years ended on a high note – a restored friendship.

Again, many thanks to Les for giving me a chance to address the membership at IC. I may no longer have the time to serve as Commander, STARFLEET, but my desire to see STARFLEET achieve success in Leaps and Bounds has not diminished. I still want to contribute, it'll just have to be on a smaller scale now. My priority is my family. I make no apologies for that. But STARFLEET will always have a large place in my heart.

*Remember that friendship, fun, and fandom is why we all joined STARFLEET in the first place. Enjoy IC, and hopefully, I'll see you all in Denver.
FADM Mandi Livingston
Commander, STARFLEET (Retired)*

I want to thank my friend Mandi for sending me something that I could present to all of you for her. I want to thank Mandi for all she has done for Fleet during her STARFLEET career. I know she isn't going anywhere and will still be around. But I wanted to say good luck to her, Eric, Katie Grandpa Bill, Grandma Patti and the rest of her family, blood and Fleet.

Now, I am celebrating a couple of things. First I

am celebrating friendship. Whether it be all of the old friendships I have made over the years, the new ones I made over the recent IC weekend or a renewed friendship with an old friend.

I am also celebrating my 20th Anniversary in STARFLEET. I can't believe it's been 20 years since I joined the USS ALARIC with Jeanette Maddox as Commanding Officer. I can't believe it's been that long since I shuttled off the ALARIC on the SHUTTLE NORTHSTAR, eventually the USS BONAVENTURE with Commander Mom, Sue Hampton as CO. Those were the days, just hanging around with my fleet friends, doing chapter stuff, working movie openings, attending the local college sci-fi convention and enjoying my fandom everyday. Enjoying Fandom...Enjoying Fellowship...Enjoying STARFLEET!

Ten or so years later I was asked to be part of a team that helped renew STARFLEET's vigor. I haven't looked back since. Tom Monaghan, Mike Smith, the membership of this organization, and finally Mandi took a chance and had confidence in me to do what I could for STARFLEET.

Tom, wherever you are, I want to thank you for your belief and confidence in me when we were all trying to rebuild STARFLEET. If it weren't for you I wouldn't be standing here today doing what I am doing.

Thank you Mike Smith for having faith and confidence in me to stand beside you and the rest of the EC to continue the hard work, the fight to bring back STARFLEET from the place it was.

Thank you, the members, for giving me the opportunity to serve as your CS and build on the successes of Mike Smith's four years as CS. That took the hard work of a great EC, a fantastic AB and the support of the entire membership. We all did it together.

Finally thank you Mandi for having the vision and the courage to come to me and ask me to stand beside you...and then stand here for you to again serve the membership as Commander, STARFLEET.

Now, I want to talk a minute about politics. I'm not one of those who thinks all politics is bad -- the reality is that's the way change is made in an organization such as ours. And for half of my 20 years in this organization, I've been a part of that process.

But there are some people out there who engage in what I call "bulldozer politics" -- those who are so hell-bent on getting their way that they are willing to destroy anything in their path to get it.

It's not a new problem. I bet every person reading this has seen bulldozers within our club -- whether it's at the chapter, regional, or international levels. The bulldozers are perfectly

willing to destroy a member to get their way - and if they do get their way, they don't stop attacking those people. Why? It's all they really know how to do.

I'm sick of it. [And from the looks I saw in the General Session room that day, my bet is many of the audience is as well]. If there's one thing I'd like to change about this organization, that's it. But this isn't the kind of thing that one person, or even the leadership, can stop. It'll take everyone in this room, and every member you know. Maybe it means that every time we see someone bulldozing, we tell them that we don't approve. We tell them that relationships are more important than political agendas. We tell them that their days in STARFLEET are over. Why? Friends are honest with one another.

The last few months have been difficult, for us all. Finally I think I owe it to each of you to report on the events of the last few months. There have been rumor, innuendo and commentary about what transpired I want to set the record straight.

A few months ago I went to Sal Lizard, an old friend, and told him of my concern and disappointment in what was happening at the Fleet Level. I told him of my concern that the CS was either getting bad advice or not listening to good advice. He put me into contact with Mandi via IRC. Mandi, Sal and I had a long IRC conversation about things and I left that discussion feeling that Mandi was going to begin the process of making positive change for Fleet.

Shortly after that conversation Mandi called me at home with an admission. The same admission that everyone saw involving the 2004 CS Election. She came to me, hat in hand and not knowing how I would react. She came to me, told me what had happened and asked me for forgiveness. When she did this she offered to resign on the spot if it was what I thought was right. I told her no, I did not think that was the answer. Rather she had to make a decision on what she felt was best for Fleet and do it, regardless of what anyone said. She was the CS and she had to govern the way she knew was best for us all. Many times during this conversation I could clearly tell she was in tears and what she was telling me affected her strongly. I could tell that she knew that she really did not have to be telling me this. Rather, her own morals and ethics pushed her in the right direction and she followed her heart. I respect Mandi for having the courage, not knowing how I would react, to come to me and tell me the truth. After our conversation her first step was to make a public announcement about the events surrounding the 2004 CS Election and begin move forward - with conviction she was doing

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the right thing.

The next phone call I got from Mandi was one that I will never forget. She called and, with the pending vacancy at VCS on her mind, asked me to step up and serve as her VCS. Shock is an understatement compared to what I felt when asked this. I considered it for a short time and then told her that I would. I felt that if the two of us could mend our fences and could work for Fleet together then it would send a huge message to the rest of the organization – it is about friendship, fellowship and fun.

I stepped up and began working with Mandi on developing a plan to make some needed changes to STARFLEET, internal and in places that the entire organization would see. We began to have regular phone conversations and spoke often of new directions for Fleet. Mandi entrusted me to assume the role of Acting CS prior to the birth of her daughter Katie and then after the birth when she needed to spend quality time with her new daughter. She came back to active duty in time for me to take a short leave for military duty, with Sal Lizard as the Acting

VCS.

Shortly after returning to duty as VCS Mandi and I spoke of her feelings that she needed to step down from being CS. She and I talked a few times and she expressed to me her concerns of having less and less time to devote to her duties. This was due to various reasons, but most notably the time she felt she needed to devote to Katie. After a long week of contemplation she came back to me and told me she intended to resign as Commander, STARFLEET. Soon afterward she did, an announcement was made and I assumed the full time job of CS with Sal Lizard stepping up as Fleet's VCS.

As I said, there have been a lot of rumor and innuendo about what transpired. Conspiracy theorists see my assumption of the VCS role as a payoff to not demand her resignation. Others see my next step, assuming the duties of CS permanently as a pre-arranged plan so that Mandi could step away gracefully.

None of these things are even remotely true. Mandi, a good and honorable person came to

me and asked for forgiveness for an act that I had suspected but never acted upon. She did this when, in my opinion, she did not have to and could have kept on doing what she was doing with no danger I would ever know the truth. She did this not knowing what I would do, how I would react or whether I would want her administration impeached for it.

She then came to me, after her admission, and asked me to consider being her VCS and working with her to do some positive work for Fleet. I accepted and we began working for STARFLEET together. Time and circumstances took her and then me out of action for short periods of time. When we came back together Mandi had all but made a decision that she needed to step away. I honored her decision and made her a promise to do my best to complete her administration's term and do some work to improve how Fleet both worked and had fun.

So here I am, as your Commander, STARFLEET. I am not Mandi Livingston and I can say I probably will not go in exactly the same direction she was or would have. But I can say

that many ideas she had we are working on. I can also say that there are a number of things that my team and I had in the last campaign that either have been or will be revisited and considered. Some of those things are already on the launchpad and at least one of them has come to fruition - Shuttlecraft Operations to Shakedown Operations. That has been something discussed by SHOC for some time and something my SHOC team wanted to see happen then. The EC and I got behind it as a team and presented it to the ECAB at IC. Thanks to the EC and AB for coming together and it has become a reality. Thanks not only go to this great EC for getting behind it 100%. Thanks also go to the original authors of the idea Jonathon "Gumby" Simmons and Alex Rosenzweig for revamping it for presentation.

I am here making a pledge to you. I pledge that I use all of the tools at my disposal, listen to every suggestion presented, consider all of the ways we can improve and do my best to complete this term and hand over a healthy and thriving STARFLEET to the next administration. But I need all of your help to do so.

The Vice Squad

By: Vice Admiral Sal Lizard - USS Hood - Vice Commander, STARFLEET



Well, here we are again, but the view is different. Not only are we in beautiful and historic Philadelphia, but I now get to view STARFLEET from the Vice-Commander's seat. I can tell you that I stand before you without the same certainty that I had last year, when I spoke on behalf of Computer Operations.

First, on a personal level, it's been abit of a busy year. I was away last November and December, and have since been involved in several movie projects. Fortunately, I had a very good Vice Chief in Bob Chin and a dedicated CompOps Team. Now I have accepted the role of Vice Commander, STARFLEET and want to thank both former CS Mandi Livingston and current CS Les Rickard for their faith in me and in my ability to be an effective VCS. I also want to thank Bob for allowing me to comfortably leave CompOps in his capable hands. My wife, Linda, and my daughter, Ashley, both share my elation over my new position.

It has been a year of flux, not just for STARFLEET, but also for this office. I am the third person to hold the title of Vice Commander, STARFLEET since we met last year. My chief of staff, Michael Klufas, is the second person to hold that position since last July. While this gives the appearance of instability, we choose to look at it as an opportunity and will address a number of issues involving the various activities that are managed and/or supported y this office.

As I did in CompOps, I will work with my new staff to review the operations of my office, determine their value and act accordingly. If an activity no longer serves STARFLEET it will be discontinued; but if it does, we will try to evolve it into a greater asset. Michael and I are new to the VCS office, but we are both committed to STARFLEET. Michael has already demonstrated his worth as my Chief of Staff. It's his "attention to detail," counsel and determination that assures my confidence in this position.

Youth/Cadet Policy

We all know that one of STARFLEET's most important programs is that which concerns and provides for its younger members. These younger members are the ones who, we hope, will step up when some of us "old-timers" retire and ring with them new energy and new ideas to Fleet. I have personally watched those who were in their teens, when I joined, grow into active, contributing members of our organization. I've even witnessed one very active and enthusiastic teen grow to reach the highest office of our organization. Despite her age, she was encouraged and embraced by STARFLEET members. We need to look at every child, every young member, as a potential chapter president, as a future Regional Coordinator and even as a potential Fleet Admiral. To do less does them and our organization a disservice.

But in a day and age when our children face danger from so many different directions, including, sadly, from some charged with protecting them, we (STARFLEET) must revise our approach to our youngest members. We absolutely must make changes in how we provide and manage activities involving those

members who haven't yet "come of age," both for their protection and for the protection of our organization.

As you may have noted in last year's EC/AB meetingminutes, the subject of our youth program stirred up a lively debate. We decided that we needed to look at how STARFLEET protects the younger members of this organization. At that meeting, Mandi commissioned a Risk Management Committee to look at our current system and make recommendations to the EC. The EC then discussed those proposals with input from Robin Van Cleave, Michelle Muench and other concerned members to hammer out the Youth/Cadet Policy in its present form.

In one of Mandi's last official acts, she issued an executive order creating a Department of Youth Services, led by a coordinator. That coordinator would assure that all youth programming within STARFLEET, including at regional and International events as well as online, would meet the guidelines set down in our bylaws and ensure our children's safety. This coordinator must also submit to an appropriate background check, including criminal history and sexual abuse (Megan's Law) via state law enforcement agencies; this check can extend further, including to federal and international agencies if necessary. All background checks are done at STARFLEET's cost.

Some objected to this stringent approach, feeling that it took some autonomy away from local chapters. As a result, Les has put implementation of the Executive Order on hold. This weekend, the EC/AB are discussing the matter. We need to determine if this

Executive Order can stand as is, or if it requires modification. The bottom line, though, is that we will have a stringent set of policies in place to ensure the safety of our children.

While the exact interpretation of this executive order is subject to some debate, I have already chosen the person to lead this effort: Fleet Captain Robin Van Cleave. Robin previously served as the Fleet Resource Center Director for Youth Services. As such, Robin committed her time and enthusiasm to encourage our youth. Her efforts gained the trust of many of the parents who monitored their children's activities. In real life, Robin works for the Nueces County Texas Sheriff's Department, primarily as a Crime Data Clerk, but also filling in other places when needed. Her background in law enforcement gives Robin an acute understanding of child safety issues. Being the mother of two boys also qualifies her in this regard.

Robin will work with my office to fully implement Executive Order 2006-02 and any subsequent changes. This implementation will involve a committee that will fully review the terms of the executive order and how best to enact it. I look forward to Robin's involvement in this effort and thank her for her willingness to again step up and serve STARFLEET.

Fleet Resource Center

In the coming months, my staff and I need to reevaluate the Fleet Resource Center (FRC) program. The FRC was set up with a noble intent: to create a central clearinghouse – website, IRC channel, newsletter, email list – where those interested in a particular topic

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– medicine, engineering, sciences, to name a few – could discuss these interests with others who shared them.

With the expansion of the Internet, other resources outside of Fleet became available and challenged existing FRCs to maintain member interest. Likewise, FRC divisions began to mushroom. For a time, it seemed that any idea for an FRC was accepted, and some accused FRC directors of being nothing more than group of people with empty titles.

In their defense, let me say that some directors, Rich Heim and Sciences comes to mind, have been active and available. Others, unfortunately, have become inactive or have disappeared entirely. This is very disappointing, and it has raised questions about the future of this program. With Michael's assistance, we will begin a discussion about the FRC's future in the next few weeks, first among the active directors, then in the EC Conference Channel. Our goal is to have a final resolution on the future of the FRC program during the fall.

Since I mentioned Rich Heim, let me note that, during the past year, he has consistently published articles in the Communiqué and maintained his division's presence on the Internet. His stated goal is to continue providing science resources to his fellow members in Region 1 (where he lives) and throughout Fleet. RC-Engineering Jeff Davis maintains two lists and websites: one for the Engineering Research Outpost Project (EROP) and one for the Engineering and Design group. His immediate goal is to restart the departmental newsletter and publish in the Communiqué

RC-Medical Susan Bolick maintains a list for approximately a dozen people who share

interests in medical fields. Susan is working on developing a website, hopes to start an electronic newsletter and wants to create a system to honor health and lifesaving accomplishments by Fleet members.

STARFLEET Marine Corps

The STARFLEET Marine Corps, led by Commandant John Roberts, has had a fairly stable year (unlike some other offices in Fleet). The only change came in the office of Sergeant Major, where Marie Wilson (Region 20) replaced Scott Grant. John reports that, based on numbers seen in the Fleet database, the SFMC is growing. The SFMC is in the process of entering every Marine award into the STARFLEET database; this will create a central repository for this information and allows chapter and regional officers to easily find the latest information on a Marine's achievements.

The Marines have also been busy revising their Branch Manuals and revising tests accordingly. To further enhance the STARFLEET Marine experience, they have also added Marine Occupational Specialty (MOS), Officer's, Organization and Policy Manuals. Brigadier General Roberts noted that they are constantly working to make the experience better, no matter at what level a member chooses to participate.

At the IC, the Marines welcomed me into their ranks and now I am one -- What an honor!

Annual Campaign

Making the STARFLEET experience better is the goal of the Annual Campaign. Every two months, Marlene Miller, Sherry Newell and Helen Pawlowski gather information from all Fleet chapters – or more accurately, from the database – and determine which “good deeds”

will be highlighted as part of the Communiqué's Annual Campaign report. It's all about doing something in your community to promote Fleet in a positive way, especially when someone else – in or out of Fleet – is the beneficiary. And it's also a way to get positive press and attract more people to Fleet.

Overseas Coupon Project

One way that STARFLEET helps others, and it's a big way, is through the Overseas Coupon Program.

In fact, donations to OCP continue to rise, already topping 600,000 dollars this year after reaching 1.2 million in 2005. While that's a decline from the peak of 1.6 million in 2000, it is a recovery from the low of just 900,000 dollars in 2003. That low came the year after the program lost its tax-exempt status. Donations dropped off immediately (the program was on a pace for another 1.4 million in 2002 before the status changed), but many chapters have remained loyal to the program.

Of the 26 chapters that donated in 2005, four topped the 100,000-dollar mark. The USS Gasparilla, the top donor, contributed more than 300,000 dollars. The USS Appomattox, Nelson and Horizon each topped the 100,000 mark. Congratulations to these chapters for their efforts, and keep on clipping!

OCP Director Eddie Allen is hoping to get a sponsor for an awards program to recognize chapters such as these. He's had these plans on the back burner for some time because of the loss of the tax-exempt status, but is hoping to get the program going with his own funds, thanks to an improvement in his employment status. Eddie spends about 4,000 dollars a year of his own funds to administer OCP, for which we are grateful. That administration includes

processing coupons mailed to him. For more information on OCP, visit <http://www.ocpnet.org>.

International Charities Program

Another way STARFLEET helps others is through the International Charities Program. While there are currently no fleet-wide charity fundraisers ongoing, Charities Coordinator Trey Andrews keeps the SFI Charities we site updated with information from the 28 chapters that participate in the program, as well as other information about special fundraisers, such as those for the 2006 International Conference.

Unfortunately, Trey reports that things are not going as well with the Stampede program, which is not receiving the member involvement that its director, Gary Telescan, is looking for. In fact, Gary has not received enough stamps to take to our buyer.

If your chapter is involved in any charity work and you'd like to get share that information with the rest of STARFLEET, visit the SFI Charities section of the web site (under the VCS Department) or email Trey at charities@sfi.org for further details.

In the meantime, Trey is looking to put together a Fleet-wide charitable project that focuses on an emergency assistance effort anywhere in the world. Expect more information about that effort in the upcoming Communiqué (136).

In Closing

All the aforementioned folks have already helped me tremendously by helping me get a sense of what they do to make their little corner of Fleet the best it can possibly be. I look forward to working with them, helping ring their ideas to fruition and encouraging them to find new ways to get more people involved in STARFLEET.



Greetings STARFLEET

I hope this issue of the Communiqué finds everyone well. It was great to see so many people at the IC last month. For those of you who couldn't be there, I hope you're enjoying the coverage in this CQ. We held production of it for a few weeks so that we could get lots of photos in. It was a great IC and everyone had a wonderful time. I hope everyone who couldn't make it will make an effort to get to Denver for 2007.

You have probably already noticed that we're changing the look of the CQ. Neal is updating the look and feel of the CQ. I'm very pleased with the outcome and can't wait to see how it progresses. Many thanks to Neal for tackling the layout job and for updating our look as well.

The STARFLEET “look” is something that you may notice changing in the coming months. That's because, at the request of FADM Les Rickard, the Communications department is spearheading an effort to create a STARFLEET brand. What's that you may ask? That will give a consistent look and feel to all our STARFLEET products. Things like the CQ and the Membership Handbook, the Vessel Registry

and various manuals. Even the website will be a part of this. That does not mean that all of these items will be identical, it just means that it you'll be able to pick it up and know that it belongs to STARFLEET. This not only gives a recognizable image that will be easier to market and recruit with, it will also give the organization a more professional and “pulled together” look. It's an exciting project and you can be certain to hear much more about it in the coming months.

Speaking of Neal Fischer, I'm pleased to announce that Neal has stepped up to by my Vice Chief. He's been doing an amazing job in the few short months he's been in

Communications. My many thanks to him for helping me get things in order.

In closing I'd like to say a few thank yous to people. To ADM Chris Wallace, many many thanks for coming in and handling the CQ during the Interim and for being available for help and questions for this one. I'd like to thank my family who didn't think I was insane for taking on this job again and are standing by me while I do. And thanks to Mandi Livingston and Les Rickard for giving me a chance to do this job once more.

See you all in 60!

InCOMing Message

By: Commodore Dixie Halber - USS Flying Fox - Chief of Communications, STARFLEET

Notes from the Library

By: Rear Admiral Wayne Killough, Jr. - USS Royal Sovereign - Commandant, STARFLEET Academy



STARFLEET Academy
Rear Admiral Wayne Lee Killough, Jr.
Commandant, STARFLEET Academy

I hope this issue of the CQ finds everyone safe. There has been quite a bit of work going on within the Academy, so there is quite a bit to report.

First off, I must regretfully announce the resignation of Richard Jolitz, Director of the College of Delta Quadrant Studies. I wish Richard well in his future endeavors. This now leaves a vacancy within the Academy. I am accepting applications for this position. If you are interested, please send me a copy of your resume (both real-life and Fleet-related). Also, please submit your plans/goals for the College. The following are the general qualifications for a Director:

- Must have completed both OTS and OCC (FOS is recommended, but not required), or must successfully completed within 30 days of appointment.
- Must be a member in good standing in STARFLEET.
- Must be willing to work for the betterment of the College, the Academy, and Membership Relations.

Deadline for applications is September 30th.

Another vacant position within the Academy is that of Director, Electronic Services. This position is that of the SFA Webmaster, and is also responsible for all Electronic-related matters within the Academy. As we are looking to create a new SFA website, the ability to both create and maintain websites is a definite requirement. Below are some other areas of point for this position:

- Intimate knowledge of Graphics and Web Design.
- Intimate knowledge of SQL and PHP.
- Be able to devote the necessary time to continue with updates to the current site, as well as to the design of the new site.
- Be able to process requests within 24 – 48 hours (norm).

If you are interested in this position, please submit a copy of your resume (both real-life and Fleet-related), as well as your plans/goals for the position. Including samples of web/graphic design work will also be a plus. Deadline for applications is September 30th.

Next, I would like to thank those members of the Academy that were present and representing SFA at IC. It made my heart feel proud to hear that several of my Staff were present, and publicly representing the Academy. I would

like to personally thank Glendon Diebold for representing the Academy as my Proxy. Glen, from what I have been told, you did a fantastic job, and it is very much appreciated.

For the rest of my article, I have included a copy of my Report for IC, which gives the high points of what the Academy has accomplished since the new Administration took office on June 1st. Updates and additions are marked in brackets.

STARFLEET Academy Commandant's Report:
July 1, 2005 – June 30, 2006

STARFLEET Academy has seen many changes within the last 12 months. In that time, we have seen three Commandants, and one Interim Commandant. Many Staff have come and gone during this time. However, we are now back to building and growing, which is the Academy way.

I would like to personally thank my predecessors, Todd Brugmans and Jill Rayburn, for their hard work and determination to the Academy and to the membership of STARFLEET. While we have seen some rocky roads in the last few months, I honestly feel that the Academy is, once again, back on track and supplying the membership of STARFLEET with the best academic programs available.

The Staff, as well as the Chain of Command, within the Academy has changed within the last two months. Staffing within the Academy consists of:

- 1 Commandant
- 2 Vice-Commandants (one for Administration and one for Support Services)
- 1 Chief of Staff
- 7 Support Staff (Director of Academy Awards Program, Director of Scholarship Program, Director of Course Development, Director of Electronic Services, Director of Voucher Program, and two members of the Arts & Graphics Department)
- 9 Institute Deans (Alien Studies, Arts, Cadet Studies, Foreign Affairs, Intelligence and Espionage, Leadership Studies, Military Studies, Science and Technology, and Science Fiction Studies)
- 41 Directors offering 50 Colleges, covering approximately 500 Courses [number is actually over 700, per member counts]

The current Administrative Staff of the Academy (myself, both Vice Commandants, and the Chief of Staff) have been working relentlessly on refining and restructuring the Academy, making it as streamlined as possible. Several duplications have been brought to our attention, and those are being researched.

Shortly before taking office on June 1, 2006, the Academy saw the creation of the Institute of Intelligence and Espionage. Under the leadership of its Dean, Fleet Captain Glendon L. Diebold, this Institute offers a variety of courses for those that are "spy" minded.

Since coming into office on June 1st, the following changes have been implemented at the Academy:

- Reformation of the old Cadet Academy into the new Institute of Cadet Studies
- Reformation of the old Foreign Campuses into the new Institute of Foreign Affairs
- Creation of the Institute of Alien Studies
- Reallocation of Colleges to be placed in the most logical Institute possible
- Massive updates/clean-up of the Academy part of the SFI Database and the SFA Website
- Filling of all but one vacant position within the Academy (that of Director, Electronic Services) [Now two positions: Director, Electronic Services and Director, College of Delta Quadrant Studies]

New Colleges are on the outlook for the Academy, covering such topics as Archaeology, Genealogy [in it's final stages of Development], Linguistics (both Terran and Alien), and studies from "Down Under" (Australia and New Zealand). Greg Franklin, Director of Course Development, has been keeping everyone on their toes with the new Colleges. With actual procedures in place, the Course Development program is an easy and convenient process for members to create a new exam for an existing College and to create a new College itself.

Initial research has also started on an Athletics Department within the Academy, which will allow students to "letter" in specific sports (even Alien sports)! This is still in the design stages but hopes to be a new horizon for the Academy.

For our annual Squad Awards, I am pleased to announce that every College within the Academy that had students during the award timeframe, July 1, 2005 – June 30, 2006, participated in this years awards. This is a first for the Academy, as typically only a majority take part in the Squad Awards. Also, this year, four members will be receiving Gold Squad Awards, for family involvement and participation in a specific College.

For our Boothby Awards, due to various circumstances beyond the control of the current administration, several Boothby certificates were not sent out. This is being rectified, and all Boothby certificates are being reissued to make sure everyone receives their proper certificates. I would like to extend a special thanks to Chief of

Staff Chris Esquibel, Academy Awards Director Truman Temple, and Scott Anderson for all of their hard work with the Squad Awards and the Boothby Awards this year.

All Academy Awards (Squad, Boothby, etc.) are now being listed in the SFI Database. That way, it will be a part of the student's permanent record/transcript.

One of the biggest enhancements to the Academy this year is the FAC (Fully Automated Course) Project. Headed by Greg Staylor, Vice-Commandant – Support Services, this program is designed with instant results in mind. With this process, a student can apply for an exam, take the exam (or save the link to the exam to take it at your convenience), submit the answers, have the exam graded, and have a certificate created...all online in one smooth process. As of the time of this report, Officer's Training School (OTS) is being finalized in the FAC Project, and should be live by IC itself. [OTS is now available online through the FAC Project. Please check out the SFA website (academy.sfi.org) for details.]

Upon taking office on June 1st, I set three goals for myself and the Academy to initiate before IC. One of the goals (combine/realign Institutes-Colleges-Schools-Exams that are duplications) is an ongoing process within the Academy, and we have already seen major improvements in this area. The second goal, create a new Institute of Alien Studies, was completed by July 1st. The third goal, I am proud to say, is at a point to be ready for the membership. This goal was the enhancement to the Institute of Leadership Studies, a goal of several of the past administrations. As of the weekend of IC, the STARFLEET Officer's Leadership College is ready to go live. This College, currently under my Directorship (until another Director is chosen), expands STARFLEET as an organization for the membership. The courses are as follows:

- SOLC-101: Commander, STARFLEET Exam
- SOLC-102: Vice Commander, STARFLEET Exam
- SOLC-103: STARFLEET Operations Exam
- SOLC-104: STARFLEET Communications Exam
- SOLC-105: STARFLEET Academy Exam
- SOLC-106: STARFLEET Shuttle Operations Exam
- SOLC-107: STARFLEET Computer Operations Exam
- SOLC-108: STARFLEET Finances Exam
- SOLC-109: Shuttle Training Exam
- SOLC-110: Mothership Training Exam
- SOLC-111: Inspector General, STARFLEET Exam
- SOLC-112: STARFLEET Marine

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Corps Exam

SOLC-201: Leadership Thesis I – Choose any position on the Executive Committee (EC) and build a case on why it should not be on the Executive Committee (EC). (1 – 3 pages)

SOLC-202: Leadership Thesis II – Choose any position within STARFLEET (current position or make one up) and build a case on why it should be on the Executive Committee (EC). (1 – 3 pages)

SOLC-203: Leadership Thesis III – Choose any position on the Executive Committee (EC) and state how you would design that particular department if you held the position. (1 – 3 pages)

SOLC-301: STARFLEET Executive Committee Design – Building on what you have learned from earlier exams in this College, design a “new” STARFLEET Executive Committee (EC). This design will include Executive Committee (EC) members, their Staff,

chain of command, etc. Graphs, flow charts, and diagrams would be helpful for this exercise, but are not mandatory. (3+ pages, plus possible visual aids)

Courses 101 – 106, 109 – 111, and 201 – 301 are now ready for the membership. The remaining courses are currently being worked on. As will all Colleges within the Academy, future development is always welcome. [SOLC-106, 109, and 110 are currently being updated due to Shuttle Operations becoming Shakedown Operations.]

As of this report, all Foreign Campuses are closed. Now, all courses are through the Main Campus College, no matter where the College Director is located. Under the Institute of Foreign Affairs, headed by its Dean, Michael Vermoesen, courses will be offered in foreign languages. Right now, the offerings are somewhat limited, but this is changing as we speak. This will, once

again, work in the streamlining of the Academy for improvement. [The Administrative Staff of the Academy are working on cleaning up the Foreign Campuses, due to changes in policy/procedure, so they can be reopened soon.]

There are still several new projects that the Academy is currently working on...so please keep an eye and an ear out for future announcements!

In closing, there are several people that I would like to thank. The entire Staff at STARFLEET Academy have worked non-stop to assure that the Academy is the best it can be. For that, I thank each and every one of them. There are, however, a few that have personally worked along side me on projects within the last two months, and I would like to recognize them for their hard work and determination. If it wasn't for them, I cannot safely say what condition the Academy would be in today. To Scott

Anderson, Truman Temple, Marlene Miller, Todd Brugmans, Jill Rayburn, Glendon Diebold, Sam Black, and Greg Franklin, thank you for your support and dedication. Finally, to my main Administrative Staff (Carol Thompson, Greg Staylor, and Chris Esquibel), thank you for your long hours, thousands of emails, multiple projects, frank comments, terrific suggestions, and fantastic ideas. It is members like you that make this journey an incredible adventure! [I would also like to publicly thank Scott Akers for his assistance to the Academy. If it were not for Scott, there are current Colleges that would not be able to be open, due to missing exams/answer keys/diplomas. Scott has gone above and beyond to make sure the Academy is 100% tip-top, and I would like to recognize him for his efforts. Thanks, Bro!]



The Shakedown Breakdown

By: Rear Admiral Jerry Tien - USS Eagle - Chief of Shakedown Operations, STARFLEET

As we wrap up fiscal year 2006, I am happy to report that we successfully launched 24 shuttles, a 41.2% increase over the previous year. We also commissioned 11 new chapters, a 37.5% increase over the previous year. I want to thank my staff as well as the regional representatives that worked together to make this possible. I look forward to our continued cooperation to keep fleet growing.

Speaking of new chapters, we welcomed Shuttle Mars (R1) to the training program since last issue. We also commissioned the following chapters since last issue of Communiqué:

USS Deliverance (R1)
USS Independence (R1)
USS Renaissance (R3) (formerly Shuttle Rahxephon)

While every shuttle works hard to become a full fledged chapter, Shuttle Rahxephon faced a unique set of challenges. These members were devastated by Hurricane Katrina last

year. But they persevered and forged ahead with their chapter. I was very glad to see them commission in July. Good luck to all these newly commissioned chapters.

Now that we covered the standard business, I'd like to go over some changes enacted during IC 2006's ECAB meeting:

STARFLEET's Chapter-in-Training Program to Change Motif and Terminology

In a move designed to bring style into step with substance, STARFLEET's Chapter-in-Training program received authorization from the Admiralty Board at the 2006 International Conference to rename itself from Shuttle Operations to Shakedown Operations. Put succinctly, it means that for a newly-forming STARFLEET chapter, instead of spending nine months as a “shuttlecraft” and then being commissioned to “ship (or station) status,” the new group begins its life as a ship (or station) undergoing a nine-month shakedown period,

after which it is commissioned into full service.

This change reflects the growing trend of chapters-in-training operating independently or semi-independently from their sponsoring chapters (known as motherships or support ships), and seeking to brand themselves right from the beginning in the form their group will ultimately take, as opposed to having to change style and motif after their first nine months in existence.

Specific changes related to this are:

1. The department shall be renamed from Shuttlecraft Operations to Shakedown Operations. The abbreviation, ShOC, would not change.
2. The overall program concept/metaphor will change from “shuttlecraft” to “starships/stations on shakedown cruises/missions”.
3. Starships/stations will use their final registry numbers from initial deployment, with “NCC” replaced by “NX” and “SFR”

- replaced by “SFX” until commissioning.
4. The restriction against using “U.S.S.” and “S.S.” during the training period, for starships and stations, respectively, shall be dropped.
5. “Motherships” shall be referred to as “Support Ships”. In all other ways, their role will not change.

Since the use of fictional terms within STARFLEET is intended to enhance the fun experience of membership, we hope that this change also will enhance the fun of the chapter-building process, putting together a ship and getting it “flight-ready” from the very beginning and continue throughout the shake down cruise.

The existing chapters in the training program may elect to keep their current prefixes for the remainder of their training period.

Please contact me at shoc@sfi.org if you have any questions or comments.



CompOps

By: Commodore Bob Chin - USS Hood - Chief of Computer Operations, STARFLEET

Comp Ops

By Comm Bob Chin Chief of Computer Operations

The re-structured and re-organized Membership Processing process has exceeded our original expectations. Membership Processing is frequently averaging “less than two (2) weeks” turnaround time; well within the published, target window of six to eight (6-8) weeks.

Membership Processing (MP) is managed

by Chrissy Killian with the supporting cast organized into three (3) task specific and geographically diverse teams. Membership Processing is still one of the most important tasks in any organization like ours.

Lisa Pruitt with the Central Team (in Texas) initiates the MP process after receiving the new membership applications and renewals. And, as a member of Pat Spiller's CFO staff, and the presence of Bank of America branches in Texas, she is able to receive the checks and money orders and get them into the bank quickly ... without the potential for them being

lost in the mail. Lisa is also in a position to verify that credit card payments and PayPal transfers occur; thereby, eliminating or reducing the “pending status” that seems to cause so much consternation.

Matt Ingles leads the East Team (in Maine) provides relief and coordinates with Chrissy Killian leading the West Team (in California) by balancing the workload. Together, these two teams share the Membership Packet production and distribution with each team only working every second week. This is a definite “plus” for the MP Team members by avoiding the “burnout”

experienced so frequently in the past.

The outsourcing of the printing of membership materials to a national supplier continues to work well. Through Pat Spiller's efforts, we are outsourcing the printing for Membership Packet materials for the teams. This meant that we

Continued on page 40.

were able to get smaller printers for the teams and each team can replenish their supplies from their local Staples while eliminating the need for re-imbusement issues.

At the ECAB meeting, at last year's San Antonio IC, there was a discussion concerning putting the membership packet materials on CD's instead of sending out printed materials in the packet. The AB expressed membership interest and the EC promised to look at the feasibility of a membership CD. The consensus at that meeting was that we should offer the CD as an alternative, if we could do it without raising the membership price.

Today, with rising postage and printing costs, it appears that we may be able to save about \$1.00 USD on each membership if we begin to use the CD, so we are now trying the concept in a ninety (90) day pilot program.

To determine its real value to our membership, we really need feedback from members who are renewing -- those members who have already received a "printed materials" -- so that they can provide us with comparative feedback. At this time, most of our renewals occur online via the database link: "<https://database.sfi.org/secure/renewal.php>".

Once the program begins, there will be an additional checkbox on the renewal page where you can indicate that you'd prefer to receive your membership packet "on CD" as opposed to "printed materials". Whichever you choose, everyone will still receive their printed membership certificate, membership card, and chapter assignment cards.

For some of those who elect to receive a CD, Membership Processing will follow up with and email to ask your thoughts and considerations regarding the CD.

You can see the current contents of the CD by going to <http://sfi.org/MembershipCD>.

Starting in April 2006, we started offering Membership CD instead of the Paper Membership Supplies to members renewing. From April to June, we had 484 membership packets out of which 372 were renewals. Chrissy sent an email to the 372 to ask if they wish to participate in the test. 65 of those emails bounced (~17.5%). She also had 4 members respond and request the paper only. This amounted to about 81.5% of the email responses requesting the CD. We are currently gathering feedback and responses about how people liked the CD.

Though the final results are not yet here, I would speculate that the pilot program appears to be fairly well received (81.5%) and that instituting the CD Membership Packet as an option in the regular program [along with the Printed membership packet as an either/or option] would probably be the next logical step.

The DB team is still working on reviewing the existing database functionality, cleaning up the code, and making sure the foundation is sound and ready for future expansion. While the database works, code failures are inherent with the level of "pounding" our database receives. By looking over each section, removing redundancies and updating the code, we will continue to make it stronger and more efficient overall. We continue to work on expanding several areas of the Database based on requested new tools and inherent limitations in the original design or new needs assessed by our staff.

You can view works in progress by utilizing our development database at <http://dev.sfidatabase.com>. We also have a test database for practice and getting used to new tools or new permissions. This has the same code as the production database, so it's a good place to

try and duplicate a bug you may have found in the live database. You can find the test database at <http://test.sfidatabase.com>.

Kirylyn Dreamer has been appointed to the post of STARFLEET Email Administrator with responsibility to organize and maintain the organization's email addresses and emailboxes as well as the vanity mailboxes. Kiry is the "CastleKeep" ... [literally] the Keeper of the Keys to the Castle.

If you have any comments, suggestions, feedback, recommendations, or ideas for enhancements to the Email Administration, please forward them to Kirylyn Dreamer at MailAdmin@sfi.org and Bob Chin at CompOps@sfi.org.

The continuity of the technical service with long term experience is a major benefit to STARFLEET. Consistency and continuing improvement in Membership Processing is just one prime example. There are many other new features, ideas, and concepts around the corner. And, like the dynamics of change and growth in technology, we are always open to explore the possibilities with new concepts, ideas, suggestions, and recommendations from you, the members of STARFLEET.

The Big Money

By: Admiral Pat Spillers - USS Victory - Chief Finance Officer, STARFLEET



The CFO Department established a procedure when we took office January 2005 to make sure STARFLEET's money is spent wisely. We must have two EC members approve any expense before I will write a check or use the STARFLEET Visa/Debit Credit Card to purchase anything. I am not normally one of the two EC members that approves the expenditures. Over 90% of the time, the Department head does the initial request, resulting in four or half of the EC approving any expense we have made since January 2005. The only time have I done an approve on an emergency basis as the 2nd person, both the CS & VCS came in after the weekend and also approved it, so we still had 4 approvals even on that emergency expenditure.

Part of the CFO department also looks into making sure we are finding the best value for your dollars before we spend your money.

We work with CompOps very closely to get your membership processed as fast as we can. We have rotating teams to process your membership payments and do our best to get

them done in 3 days of CompOps releasing them to us. Remember we are all volunteers. We do our best to have all those released during the weekend by CompOps to us, done by Tuesday.

Each member can help us by making sure that the information in the database is current especially your e-mail. If you pay by credit card, you will get a notice from SkipJack when we process your membership payment. This is to let you know that we have processed your membership. This goes to what ever the e-mail address is in the database. If you have entered a membership renewal in the system and have not heard from us for in over three weeks, there may be a problem. Feel free to contact us to check it out. If we had a problem on your credit card, we will be sending a message by e-mail to you. Again if your e-mail is wrong, you won't be getting our notice of a problem. We also send messages out to those of you that have paid by check or money order to let you know that we have received and processed your membership dues. We just began this notice for the checks and money orders, so we hope you like this new procedure.

Please use the notes in the on-line system. If you are paying for someone else, indicate that you are giving us permission to use your credit card, or that you use your middle name, or the

credit card is in your full name, or something like that. With the Federal Banking Laws we are subject to thousands in fines, if we use a credit card without permission, even if it is only for a \$15 single membership. If the first name and last name on the credit card does not match the members name in our database, we can not process it without permission on file each time we use that credit card. So please understand we are asking for permission because it is federal law, not because we do not want to process your membership. We love to process your memberships so we can collect your dues and better serve you.

In 2005, we averaged membership dues income of \$19.49 per single or family membership. We spend an average of \$6.77 for your Membership Packages, \$4.90 for the CQ printing and postage, \$0.88 for processing fees for credit cards and PayPal payments, \$1.75 for new equipment, \$3.10 for awards, supplies, etc., for a total of \$18.40 per membership.

Rather purchasing new printer we kept cost down by having OfficeMax do the printing out your Membership Handbooks, VR form, etc. for the package that is sent to you. This allowed us to reduce the time getting the Membership Handbook Package to you this past year. Please

let the Membership Processing team know that you appreciate them for this speedy around. My problem from the CFO side is sometimes they have been so fast that you have your membership package before I have been able to process your payment so when I send you a message that we have a problem, you do not think so, since you have your package. Please understand these come from two separate volunteer teams and sometimes one or the other is faster.

For 2006 we have kept the breakdown on membership in more details. For January 2006 thru June 2006 so for the first six months of 2006; we have processed 243 new memberships for 351 new members and 792 renewal of 1544 members or a total of 1035 single or family memberships that were for 1895 members.

Please contact me or anyone in the CFO Department if you have a problem or question. We are here to serve you.

STARFLEET Income Statement

Prepared by
Pat Spillers July 2006

Beginning Balance			
Bank of America balance			\$42,576.61
Other			
Bank balance			\$42,576.61
Income			
Membership Processing			\$3,478.00
	Cash at Conferences	\$0.00	
	Checks or Money Orders	\$532.00	
	Credit Cards	\$2,734.00	
	Paypal	\$272.00	
	Return & Missing Checks	\$0.00	
	Adjustment for Scholarship Fund	\$60.00	
Starfleet Quartermaster Sales			\$356.00
	Cash	\$0.00	
	Checks or Money Orders	\$356.00	
	Credit Cards	\$0.00	
VRR Income			\$0.00
Scholarship Funds			\$104.38
	From Membership Processing	\$60.00	
	Interest on Savings	\$44.38	
	Special Funds	\$0.00	
Total Income			\$3,938.38
Grand Total			\$46,514.99
Expense			
Bank Fees			\$0.00
CQ Expenses			\$3,143.35
	FedEx Shipping for CQ	\$154.71	
	Postage for CQ	\$299.50	
	Printing of CQ	\$2,689.14	
Processing Fees			\$120.97
	NetPay System Bank Fee	\$0.00	
	Credit Card Fees	\$111.97	
		Membership Processing	\$111.97
		Quartermaster	\$0.00
		VR	\$0.00
	PayPal Fees	\$9.00	
		Membership Processing	\$9.00
		Quartermaster	
		VR	
Equipment Purchases			\$0.00
	CFO Department	\$0.00	
	CQ Department	\$0.00	
	Membership Processing of CompOps	\$0.00	
Insurance Bond			\$0.00
International Conference			\$0.00
Return Check		Membership Processing	\$0.00
Scholarship Funds			\$0.00
Supplies			\$8,953.52
	CFO Department		
	CS Office & Postage	\$0.00	
	Flags for IC Conferences	\$0.00	
	IC Awards	\$0.00	
	Fed Ex	\$0.00	
	Membership Processing	\$1,500.00	
		Lamination	\$0.00
		Membership Certificates	\$0.00
		Membership Printing	\$0.00
		Office Supplies paper	\$0.00
		PO Box Rental	\$0.00
		Postage	\$1,500.00
		Postage Machine Rental	\$0.00
		Bumper Stickers for MP Package	\$0.00
	Ops	\$0.00	
	SF QM Purchase of Merchandise	2004 & 2005	\$7,453.52
	SFA Office shipping to new Commandant		\$0.00
Web Hosting			
Adjustment for Starfleet Academy Account			\$152.40
	2006	Interest for Scholarship Fund	\$96.40
		Scholarship from Membership Processing	\$56.00
	Adjust for May not made of \$48.96 for Interest and \$33 from MP		
Total Expenses			\$12,370.24
Ending Balance			\$34,144.75

Promotions

By: Brigadier General Deborah A. Malotte - SS William D. Leahy - Director of Promotions, STARFLEET

Here are those who have been promoted since the last CQ:

Captain/Colonel

Fleet Captain/Brigadier

Robin Van Cleave
Elizabeth K. Goulet
Jessica Single
Craig Martin
Mark West
Robert Olivares
Steve Gordon
Jess Naumann
Raymond Spiteri
Dennis Relyea
Traci Giorgianni

Commodore/Brigadier General

John Dubose
Wendy Kjono
Tom Webster
Laura Konrad
Robert Chin

Rear Admiral/Major General

Aaron Murphy
Sean Caughman
Stephanie Izard
Heather Ford
Bill Herrmann
Angel Avery
Linda Olson
Johns Roberts
Hazel Gilbert

Vice Admiral/Lieutenant General

Sam Black
Joe Podesta, Jr.

Admiral/General

Linda Kloempken
Michelle Fanelli
Gregory Scott Staylor
Sharon Ann Clark

Congrats to all promotion recipients!

-- Minimum TIG scale, effective January 1, 2003:

Captain/Colonel
24 months Time in Fleet

Fleet Captain/Brigadier
18 months Time in Previous Rank

Commodore/Brigadier General
21 months Time in Previous Rank

Rear Admiral/Major General
24 months Time in Previous Rank

Vice Admiral/Lieutenant General
30 months Time in Previous Rank

Admiral/General
36 months Time in Previous Rank

Other than Captain/Colonel, all increases are based on minimum TIG. In recognition of Extraordinary Service to STARFLEET or Outstanding Performance of Duty, 6 months can be dropped from the minimum TIG requirements.

Promotion Nomination Submission Tips:

Submit promotion nominations early.

The SFI Promotions Department receives many nominations for promotions. Please try to plan ahead when nominating someone for a promotion to be awarded at events. You need to allow enough time for processing, and EC deliberation (plus 1 week for mailing) in order to receive a promotion certificate in time for an event. Submit promotion nominations as early as possible to ensure the certificate is received in time. If you submit your nomination 5 weeks (or earlier) prior to the event, you will have a better chance of receiving an answer to your request in time for the Summit, Conference, or other event.

It is also a good idea to send a separate email to promotions@sfi.org to let me know if you have a deadline.

Promotion Nomination Tips:

Here are some helpful tips when nominating someone for promotion.

--Use the online form at <http://promotions.sfi.org> for the fastest results.

I can forward your Nomination to the EC Promotions listserve immediately after receiving it if you use the online form. You can request an email form also—just send an email to promotions@sfi.org & ask for a blank email

Nomination form. This method takes a bit longer to process.

--Nominee Name

Enter in the nominee's name exactly as it should appear on the certificate. Please note that the promotion certificate will be printed with the name exactly as it is given on the Nomination Form for the promotion request. So unless "Big Tater Tot Billy" really does like to see his name displayed as "Big Tater Tot Billy" instead of William, please use his proper name. Otherwise, he may be disappointed with his new promotion certificate.

--Double-check everything:

Double-check all addresses, names, numbers, and proof read the Nominee Qualifications.

--Give your contact info:

Make sure you supply a phone number &/or email address for yourself....just in case the EC needs to reach you regarding your Nomination. This can save weeks or more of time.

--Filling out the Nominee Qualification section:

The most common reason a promotion is denied by the Executive Committee is insufficient information in the promotion request.

The Nominee Qualification section requires you to document, in your own words, why you believe this nominee deserves the promotion at this time. Be specific, and comment about each contribution made by the nominee at the International, Regional, and Chapter levels of STARFLEET. You can prepare this ahead of time and paste it into the "Nominee Qualifications" area on the online form if you wish.

Simply stating "She is a wonderful person." "The chapter would not have survived without him." "She is an incredible asset to the region." "He promotes STARFLEET every chance he gets" does not supply enough information. These sentences are nice compliments for the nominee, but do not add any weight to the nomination for the EC's consideration. They do not give specific details on the contributions the nominee has made.

Remember, you are trying to CONVINCED others (the EC) that this person truly deserves this promotion at this time. I can't stress this enough...be specific...give details. Point out every reason the nominee deserves this promotion and back it up with WHY she/he is

an asset to the region, exactly HOW, WHEN and WHERE she/he promotes STARFLEET, etc. --ONLY include details of contributions the nominee has made since her/his last promotion. The EC only wants information about the nominee's contributions since the last promotion.

--Endorsements:

Enlist the help of the nominee's CO, XO, or others who may know about some of the nominee's contributions. Ask others to send an email to me at promotions@sfi.org including specific detailed reasons why the nominee deserves this promotion. I will add these as endorsements to the original promotion request.

--Nominee and Nominator must be different individuals

Nominating yourself is not allowed for any reason. Occasionally a member will submit a self-nomination. These are promptly returned to the member and not accepted as a valid promotion request.

--Brief note on procedures:

Promotion requests for Captain/Colonel are forwarded to the respective Region Coordinator for approval. I can track them if the RC informs me of the promotion. Requests for promotions to Commander and below are redirected to the appropriate Chapter Commanding Officer for approval. If you have any questions about promotion requests for the ranks up to and including Captain/Colonel, please contact the appropriate CO or RC, or send me an email at promotions@sfi.org if you need help.

All requests for Fleet Captain/Brigadier and above are forwarded to the Executive Committee for consideration & approval. If a promotion is approved by the Executive Committee, the promotion certificate is then prepared and mailed out or sent to an event for presentation. Once your promotion is announced you should receive your new rank certificate in 2 or 3 weeks time.

--If you have questions or need help drop me a note at promotions@sfi.org. I'll be happy to help in any way I can.

Brigadier Deborah A. Malotte
STARFLEET Director of Promotions

STARFLEET Annual Award Winners

Shuttle of the Year
Shuttle Excalibur, Region 1

Mothership of the Year
USS Aurora Vulcanus, Region 3

Officer of the Year
Lieutenant Commander Robert Houser, Jr.,
USS Ark Angel, Region 3

Chapter of the Year
USS Justice, Region 7

Junior Member of the Year
Cadet Crewman Talon Speaect, USS Omega
Glory, Region 17

Commanding Officer of the Year
Captain Lucy Ferron, USS Haise, Region 2

Flag Officer of the Year
Admiral Michelle Fanelli, USS Aurora Vulcanus,
Region 3

Enlisted Member of the Year
Ensign Michaela Austen, USS Haise, Region 2

Quartermaster's Report

By: Vice Admiral Pete Mohny - USS Hephaestus - Quartermaster, STARFLEET

STARFLEET QUARTERMASTER REPORT Vice Admiral Pete Mohny

I'd like to start this first report with the traditional thanks sent out to those who appointed me to this position, our new Commander STARFLEET Les Rickard and his staff. I understand that they are placing a lot of trust in me, and I appreciate that a great deal.

You may be asking yourself, who is this guy running the STARFLEET Quartermaster office? So, here's a short bio. I joined STARFLEET in 1989, became commanding officer of my chapter two years later, and held that job for seven years. During that time, I served as the 'zone coordinator' (sort of a vice-vice-regional coordinator) for Alabama, worked for the Recruiting Officer as R2's representative, and led my chapter to winning a handful of awards, including the STARFLEET Chapter of the Year award in 1998. After that, I served as Region 2 Regional Coordinator for four years. During that time, the region's membership grew greatly, as did the region's bank account, and I like to think I had a small part in both of those things. After that, I served as my chapter CO for a couple more years, and as the region's official auctioneer, running the annual summit

charity auction, which including purchasing items for the auction, and convincing people to donate stuff to the auction. For about two years, up until this March, I served as STARFLEET's Retention and Recruiting Office director. Now I'm the quartermaster, and as I have done in all the other jobs I've held, I plan to expand things a bit, shake things up a lot, and build this office up so that it holds the place it should in STARFLEET's organization.

What do I mean by that? Well, I have felt for a long time that quartermaster sales could be a large part of the income for this organization, and could help keep membership dues down. I understand there are some questions about income from sales vs. income from dues regarding STARFLEET's not-for-profit status, and those will be answered before any major changes regarding this are made. For now, I am concentrating on two projects. First, creating a presence for the Quartermaster online and in publication. The upcoming revision to the SFI.ORG page, which may be released by the time you read this, will have a great page for the SFQM – I've seen the beta version – and this should be a great force towards showing people what the QM's office has, and encourage sales. I'll also be reporting in every issue of the CQ, and sending

out announcements on the STARFLEET e-mail list which I'm asking to be forwarded to regional lists and such. There will also be advertisements in the CQ as space permits, with new items and sale items prominently featured. I'd love to show all the items for sale, but that takes a 12 page catalog! Speaking of which, I've got an early version of a SFQM catalog available as a PDF to anyone who would like to see it, just email me at quartermaster@sfi.org for a copy. It should also be available on the Documents page at SFI.ORG soon, if it's not there already as will a PDF order form with prices and shipping costs.

The second project is one I'm calling the STARFLEET Quartermaster Away Team Project. This consists of me sending sample boxes of QM merchandise to gatherings of STARFLEET members, where they will be offered for sale. Also included in the box are order forms and a copy of the latest SFQM catalog. The actual contents of the packages will vary depending on the number of STARFLEET people present and the nature of the event, and to some degree, the location of the event. I've exchanged emails with a member in Europe, for instance, where it would only be financially feasible to send a few non-presold items if they were included with a selection of items already paid for, due to the

high cost of overseas postage.

This program will allow every multi-chapter gathering, and some smaller gatherings, to have QM items to view and sell. The postage expense should be offset by the higher sales. I've attended three events within driving distance of my own chapter, and sales have totaled close to \$300 so far on site, and I expect other sales via postal orders to follow. As of this writing, I've sent out two Away Team packages, and will have the results of those events by my next report. If you would be interested in having an Away Team package sent to your event, please email me for details.

The current QM inventory consists of a variety of embroidered and imprinted items, ranging from shirts to hats, fleece blankets and hand towels, mugs and cups, insulated lunch bags and duffel bags, pens and pins, date books and bumper stickers, bouncy balls and key chains, card holders and bibs, coin purses and money bags, and there will be even more items on hand after the International Conference. We also have a STARFLEET member who has very high-quality STARFLEET flags for sale. If you have any ideas for items you would like to see, please drop me a line and let me know!

Looking For a Way to Make a Difference to a Child in Need?

By: Fleet Captain Tracy Andrews - USS Avalon - Director, office of STARFLEET Charities

STARFLEET's official charity, STAMPEDE, could be the answer you're looking for. Whether you are an individual STARFLEET member, or part of a chapter that wants to make a difference, this project is quick, easy and incredibly rewarding. Proceeds from the STAMPEDE project benefit Ronald McDonald House Charities.

"A strong mind. A strong body. And a safe, supportive place to grow. These are things that every child needs - and deserves. Helping to provide these things is what we do.

By creating, finding and supporting programs that directly improve the health and well-being of children, Ronald McDonald House Charities (RMHC) is working to better the lives of children and their families around the world.

The three core programs of RMHC - the Ronald McDonald House, Ronald McDonald Family Room and Ronald McDonald Care Mobile - are focused on helping families in need. Our cornerstone Ronald McDonald House program began in 1974 based on a simple idea: Provide a "home away from home" for families of seriously ill children receiving treatment at nearby hospitals. Since that time, more than 10 million families around the world have benefited from the comfort provided by a Ronald McDonald House. The Ronald McDonald Family Room program extends the comfort of a Ronald McDonald House to a hospital setting. Typically located just steps from neonatal or pediatric intensive care units, the Family Room provides a place to escape the stress and tension of the hospital.

Through relationships with local health care providers, the Ronald McDonald Care Mobile program brings cost-effective medical, dental and health education services directly to underserved children in both rural and urban areas around the world.

In addition to supporting the core programs, RMHC and our global network of local Chapters in 48 countries have awarded more than \$400 million dollars in grants and program services WORLDWIDE to make an immediate, positive impact on as many children as possible. Together with support from hundreds of thousands of passionate and caring volunteers, donors and RMHC staff, we've had plenty of success."

-Exerpt from RMHC website [<http://www.rmhc.com>].

The STAMPEDE program fizzled out a few years ago, but in 2004 we resolved to revamp the program, with a new director, Gary Telecsan who found a new stamp buyer.

Participation, to date has been minimal, but we steadfastly continue on in the hopes of a growing enthusiasm, from you the STARFLEET membership. In order to reach our \$50 minimum, we need another 8 oz. of stamps; that's 10,000 stamps, roughly. At this time we've only got three or four chapters involved. For this to be an ongoing success, we need more.

All the information necessary to participate in this extremely rewarding project can be found on the SFI Website at <http://u.s.s.avalon.tripod.com/SFIcharities> or if you don't have readily available internet access, please mail a SASE. and a letter requesting more information to: Tracy Andrews 520 Harrison Rd. Naples, Me. 04055



ECAB Report - IC 2006

By: Commodore Michael Klufas - Chief of Staff, Vice Commander, STARFLEET

What follows may not be the most scintillating reading, but it is the most important ECAB report of the year. It covers the annual meeting of the Executive Committee and Admiralty Board, held on August 4, 2006 as part of the 2006 International Conference.

Before we get to the meeting, a number of personnel changes since May:

- Jill Rayburn resigned as Interim Commandant, STARFLEET Academy and was replaced on a permanent basis by Wayne Lee Killough.
- Dixie Halber was appointed Chief of Communications. In turn, Dixie appointed Neal Fischer as Senior Vice Chief of Communications. Neal will also serve as Communiqué Layout Editor. With these appointments, Chris Wallace's role as acting Chief of Communications and CQ editor ended.
- Mandi Livingston resigned as Commander, STARFLEET and was replaced by Les Rickard, who had been Vice Commander, STARFLEET.
- Les was replaced as Vice Commander by Sal Lizard, who had been Chief of Computer Operations.
- Sal replaced as CompOps Chief by Bob Chin, who has been Vice Chief of Computer Operations.
- Two new regional coordinators came on board: Jim Herring in Region 12 (replacing Wade Hoover) and Raymond Spiteri in Region 20 (replacing Adrian "Adi" Jones).
- During the August 4 meeting, Sal announced that he appointed Robin Van Cleeve as the Youth Services Coordinator and that Robin would be working with him to implement the new Cadet/Youth Policy.

During June and July, there were preliminary discussions on matters that were addressed during the IC. Among those were the implementation of the new Cadet/Youth Policy and technical questions regarding the rank of a Commander, STARFLEET who resigns before the end of his/her term.

The August 4 meeting began with introductions and a report from each EC member.

The longest discussions surrounded the Inspector General's report (0603-0327) on allegations of improper activities during the 2004 election. After brief opening remarks by Les — who recused himself from the investigation and all related votes — Sal introduced IG Ray Brown, who reported his findings: certain

unethical activities occurred, but there was no direct evidence that they influenced the election result.

Discussions on these matters followed:

- Dennis's Marine positions. Marine Commandant John Roberts explained that Dennis was on leave from all his positions and would remain so pending the outcome of this investigation and a decision on punishment, if any.
- Establishing an ethics committee that would encourage proper behavior in elections and at other times.
- The ability of the AB to determine the rank of a Commander, STARFLEET who failed to complete his/her term.
- Discrepancies involving the promotion guidelines between Appendix D of the Membership Handbook (STARFLEET Promotion Policy and Nomination Procedures), other parts of the Membership Handbook, the STARFLEET Constitution, and the promotion guidelines (Flag Officer Promotion Criteria).

Following the discussions, various votes took place:

- By motion of Region 4 Coordinator Ed Nowlin and a second from Region 6 Coordinator Mike Urvand, the AB voted unanimously (15-0) to accept the report.
- Region 12 representative Scott Akers moved to request that the Executive Committee demote Dennis Rayburn to captain. Region 17 Coordinator Bran Stimpson seconded the motion. By a vote of 8-6, with one abstention, the AB approved this resolution.
- Region 7 Coordinator Mike Smith moved that Dennis Rayburn's STARFLEET membership be suspended for two years. Region 6 Coordinator Mike Urvand seconded the motion. By a vote of 13-1, with one abstention, the AB approved this proposal.
- Region 7 Coordinator Mike Smith moved that Scott Grant's STARFLEET membership be suspended for one year. Region 6 Coordinator Mike Urvand seconded the motion. The motion was amended by Region 20 representative Mark Anbinder, seconded by Region 5 representative David Kania, to suspend Scott Grant's membership for two years. By a vote of 11-2, with two abstentions, the AB approved the amended proposal.
- Region 7 Coordinator Mike Smith moved that Mandi Livingston's lifetime membership in STARFLEET be deferred for two years, after which time it would begin. Region 6 Coordinator Mike Urvand seconded the motion. Since this involved an issue regarding the lifetime membership of a former Commander, STARFLEET, Article 9, Section 2 of the Constitution applied, requiring a vote by the full ECAB. This

motion was defeated by a vote of 12-10 (Les did not vote), but was later reopened (see below).

- After the initial vote on Mandi's lifetime membership, Region 1 Coordinator Ben Redding moved to suspend Mandi's STARFLEET membership for two years. Following technical discussions regarding who could vote on this resolution, Region 12 representative Scott Akers seconded the motion. By a vote of 10-4, with one abstention, this motion failed.
- A motion was introduced to correct a discrepancy involving the promotion guidelines. Appendix D of the Membership Handbook (on promotions) would be replaced by the Flag Officer Promotion Criteria, a separate document. After much discussion, this proposal was tabled for further discussion online.
- Toward the end of the ECAB meeting, Region 7 Coordinator Mike Smith moved to reenter the motion regarding the two-year deferment of Mandi Livingston's lifetime membership, noting that punishing only two of the three involved (Dennis Rayburn and Scott Grant) would not only be unfair, but would send a message that the Commander, STARFLEET is above the rules. By a 13-2 AB vote, the motion was reentered, then voted upon by the ECAB. This time, by a 14-5 vote, with 3 abstentions, the motion to defer Mandi's membership for two years was approved.

Other business discussed and voted on including the following:

- A proposal to change the name of Shuttle Operations Command to Shakedown Operations Command. This proposal, which had been discussed informally for several years, gives a greater recognition to the chapter-in-training, including its own NCC number (preceded by NX). The proposal is described as a procedural change; SHoC's function would not change. After some discussion, Region 5 representative David Kania moved the proposal and Region 4 Coordinator Ed Nowlin seconded. The AB's vote was unanimous (15-0) in favor.
- Fleet President Les Rickard indicated that Ray Brown would take minutes for the ECAB meeting, as per recent practice designating the IG as the ECAB meeting's secretary. Les also asked if there would be any objections to permanently designating the IG as the secretary for the ECAB meeting. There was no objection; the AB voted unanimously (15-0) in favor of memorializing this rule.
- Les moved that the membership handbook description of duties for the Judge Advocate General, STARFLEET (JAG), be amended to indicate that the JAG does not serve as a "defense attorney" for an accused party, but is simply involved to assert that no

Fleet bylaws are violated in the course of an investigation. Region 12 representative Scott Akers moved the motion, which was seconded by Region 4 Coordinator Ed Nowlin. The AB voted unanimously (15-0) in favor of presenting this item to the membership for a vote.

- A motion was introduced to amend the constitution requiring the Admiralty Board to approve an appointed Vice Commander, STARFLEET. This applies in cases where a VCS is not elected, but succeeds one who has become Commander, STARFLEET or is appointed to replace a VCS who resigned or was removed. The motion was moved by Region 12 representative Scott Akers and seconded by Region 20 representative Mark Anbinder. The AB voted 14-1 in favor of presenting this amendment to the membership for a vote.
- A motion was introduced to amend the requirements for Regional Coordinator, as stated in the Membership Handbook. It was noted that the job requirements for RCs do not indicate that they should have passed Officer's Training School and Officer's Command College. The motion was moved by Region 2 representative Freddy Heller and seconded by Region 7 Coordinator Mike Smith. The AB voted 14-0, with one abstention, in favor.
- The AB voted 13-0, with 2 abstentions, to suspend further action regarding the membership status of Gerri Wampler. This, in effect, ends the matter.
- The Admiralty Board also approved the following special memberships:
 - A Lifetime Membership for Region 3 Coordinator Brad Pense by a unanimous vote (15-0). (Brad was not present for this meeting, so the Region 3 representative voted.)
 - An Honorary Membership to Tony Rowley, former Chief of Staff to the Commander, STARFLEET and long-time commanding officer of the USS Malverne. The vote was 14-0, with one abstention.
 - An Honorary Membership to Mark Anbinder, the former Vice Commander, STARFLEET and long-time commanding officer of the USS Accord, by a unanimous vote (14-0). (Mark was not present when the vote occurred.)

As always, if you have any questions about the matters mentioned here, please contact your regional coordinator.

Bad Behavior Hurts Us All

By: Vice Admiral Sal Lizard - USS Hood - Vice Commander, STARFLEET

One of the reasons that I wanted to serve on the Executive Committee was because I really thought that I could make a difference. I think I made a difference as the CompOps Chief and I really want to make a difference as the Vice Commander of our STARFLEET. To that end I'd like to ask you to consider my thoughts on the matter of membership abuse:

Ever go back and re-read a good book? Or just review a handbook at work? I as recently re-reading our STARFLEET Membership Handbook I would like to bring up a list that I would hope you would recognize:

1. I will always behave in a manner that brings credit to the Fleet, my ship, and myself.
2. I will always praise in public and critique in private.
3. I will show courtesy to my subordinates, fellow officers, and superior officers at all times.
4. I will never assume, but always verify.
5. I will be resolute in the performance of my duty and the execution of Fleet policy and regulation.
6. I will always diffuse confrontations, not cause them.
7. I will listen to both sides of a dispute and act upon fact, not innuendo.
8. I will strive for impartiality and fairness in judgment and disqualify myself from decisions where my judgment may be compromised.
9. I will be the first to praise and the last to criticize.
10. I will always strive to be part of the solution, not part of the problem.

That's the STARFLEET Officer's Code of Conduct from our STARFLEET Membership Handbook. But notice that it wasn't from the Officer's Membership Handbook. Nor was it from the Enlisted Member's Membership Handbook. That's because our membership handbook is for all members, officer and enlisted. And while it is written as the STARFLEET Officer's Code of Conduct, the membership handbook prefaces it with these words:

"In addition to your membership rights, there are also membership responsibilities that must be considered, and which are equally important. Nowhere else are the responsibilities of membership in STARFLEET better outlined than in

the ten points of the STARFLEET Officer's Code of Conduct."

Our handbook is full of similar verbiage about our department towards one another. We are told in section 02:07 that:

"The main thrust of STARFLEET as always been to uphold and espouse the philosophy of Star Trek— with tolerance, brotherhood, mutual cooperation, and compassionate justice its worthy goals."

Of course, all STARFLEET members have a guarantee that STARFLEET will fully investigate allegations of misconduct and even unfair treatment. But if all of us are actually following the Officers' Code of Conduct, there should be very little for the Inspector General to investigate. I wish that were the case. Since sitting in the Vice Commander's seat, I've learned that it's not. I have received far too many complaints from members who have sent me copies of private emails and chat logs filled with unsubstantiated "facts," accusations, profanity, threats and abusive language. People have told me that they're not renewing or are leaving because of the abuse they have received by these "officers" of our organizations.

I have seen first-hand how certain members profane, provoke and harass members but then dismiss it with a semi-public, albeit, insincere apology. I say "insincere" because they seem to wait a short time before re-attacking the same or a different member in much the same manner. And we, as an organization, can't keep excusing this behavior. It no longer matters what contributions were made in the past if the present disregards fellow members and their enjoyment of STARFLEET.

Section 02:08 of our STARFLEET Membership Handbook tells us that:

"It is the policy of STARFLEET that harassment or misconduct, defined as behavior by one member perpetrated upon another member that would be construed as illegal under local, county, state, provincial, federal, or international law, will not be tolerated at any time."

Many cities, states and provinces have laws against harassing behavior but STARFLEET

seems to not only condone it but support it by not adequately confronting it and disposing of it in a manner that sends the appropriate message that we will not tolerate members abusing members. Sometimes, STARFLEET doesn't even remove these abusers from their leadership positions within the organization! It should matter not where and when abuse happens, that fact that it happens should be enough. As an organization, we say one thing, yet do another. We send "mixed signals" to the members and we ultimately chase some away.

When I as young, there was a saying that "if a customer is pleased, he will tell two others and you'll grow. But if he's displeased, he'll tell ten and you won't." Later, I told my employees that because of the Internet, a displeased customer will "tell the world!" That is happening with our organization. People hear about the troubles of STARFLEET without ever joining the organization and we lose potential members. It hurts our recruiting and retention efforts. I'm hearing it more and more, no one wants to pay \$15.00 to put up with the abuse and unpleasantness of STARFLEET.

My daughter once asked me, I think she was nine or ten years old at the time, what the difference was between "right" and "legal" because I admonished her to do what was "right" not just what is legal. As I explained to her, just because you can do something legally, it doesn't necessarily follow that it's "right."

Some STARFLEET members choose to act in a manner that, on one level or another, unnecessarily grieves other STARFLEET members but do it in such a manner that they can claim that they did so outside the purview of STARFLEET. They may make claims or statements, which deliberately belittle, embarrass, or demean their fellow members from the "sanctuary" of "unofficial" STARFLEET channels and decry STARFLEET's inability to police their actions there.

Don't misunderstand my intention here, there are some very good reasons for having communications outside the control of STARFLEET but these channels should not be the "virtual badlands" of those members who chose to attack and belittle their fellow members.

I would like to propose that STARFLEET members be held to a standard of conduct

towards one another. When I am at home, I am still a STARFLEET member, just as I am at work and at the mall. Actually, I was reminded recently that I am still the VCS when I make a statement and that all of my statements – wherever they may be (and even in the "unofficial" channels) – are from the Vice-Commander of STARFLEET.

As a "social organization" I think we should have the ability to require appropriate "social behavior" of our members and the right to reject "anti-social behavior". That's how the organization was designed and we need to quit accepting bad behavior towards other members. As we discuss how to change this organization to meet our future needs, perhaps we need to look at adapting behavioral standards and creating a review process with consequences for misbehaving.

Now our handbook also recognizes that our members are human and may sometimes unintentionally "hurt" another. OK, I can see that. Perhaps this is where a "three-strike rule" should be considered. My fellow STARFLEET members, our governing documents are full of words that can be interpreted as rules for conduct within the organization but they are ignored by some of our members. The reason is that these rules have no consequence attached to them for when they are violated. That is something that needs to be changed. Any policeman can tell you that making it illegal to rob banks won't keep people from robbing banks: it's the penalty for robbing banks that gives the law force.

It all boils down to this, we each, individually, have the choice to be a "blessing" or a "blight" to those we meet. But each of us are members of STARFLEET and that choice can reflect on STARFLEET. Our members are our greatest asset and mistreating them also erodes another asset, our reputation. When members, especially newer members, witness the abuse heaped upon them and others, they can't help but get discouraged and that hurts the organization as a whole. It's not right and it must stop. If a member repeatedly abuses other members, we should be prepared to send them a refund of their unused membership dues with a note saying, "No, thanks" and our governing documents should give STARFLEET the authority to do so.

Let's all members of STARFLEET resolve to do the "right" thing.

STAR TREK BOOKS & STUFF

In order to keep quality Star Trek books & other goodies in circulation and out of used bookstore trash bins, members of the USS Firebird, in cooperation with RSW Productions, have made numerous books available through a shop on eBay. Stop by and take a look! Fill out your collection or maybe just find a novel you haven't read.

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Christopher O'Banion, XO
obanioncm@gmail.com

www.usfirebird.com



ATTENTION: Unassigned Members and any other members of STARFLEET residing in the Houston, Texas metropolitan area. We are looking for new members to join the USS SpiritWolf, a Region 3 meeting chapter in the Houston area. Anyone who might be interested please e-mail Robert Graham at <mailto:Robert_26884@msn.com Robert_26884@msn.com> or send a snail mail to: Robert Graham, 1644 1/2 Hawthorne St. #C, Houston, Texas 77006. (713)526-0291.

Shuttle MARS Now Seeking Un-Assigned Officers For the Following Positions: Engineering, Medical, Operations, Security and Sciences.

The on-board Marine contingent also has open billets. For a complete list of available positions, please e-mail the Comm. Peter Lutz at plutz@jis.net. For information concerning the Marine positions contact Col. Richard Jolitz at emicarn@gmail.com

Attention all members of STARFLEET:

Are you looking for something new? A change of pace? Or are a new STARFLEET member and still have not yet decided on a chapter to join? Then the USS PeaceKeeper is for you. We are a Correspondence Chapter in the Region 4 area and are actively seeking new members. There are no chapter dues to be a member of the PeaceKeeper all we do ask is that you must be a member of STARFLEET and assign the PeaceKeeper as your Primary Chapter. We have an online IRC chat room for live chat with our members and also a Yahoo E-groups list.

If you would like to join our merry little group you or have questions you can contact me at co@usspeacekeeper.org. For more information about us you can go to our web site at www.usspeacekeeper.org.

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