



The RAINBOW CONNECTION

The Official Monthly Newsletter of the USS Heimdal, NCC 1793
Based (Space docked?) in Madison Heights, Virginia

STARFLEET'S CHAPTER OF THE YEAR 2008 & 2012

REGION ONE'S CHAPTER OF THE YEAR 1996, 2006, 2008, 2009, 2012, 2013

REGION ONE'S RUNNER-UP CHAPTER OF THE YEAR 2007, 2011, 2017, 2018 & 2021

BEST REGION ONE NEWSLETTER 2011 & 2020

BEST R/1 MONTHLY NEWSLETTER 2015, 2018 & 2020

BEST R/1 MEMBERSHIP HANDBOOK 2020

WINNER - BEST FLOAT AWARD, AMHERST CHRISTMAS PARADE – 2006, 2020, 2021



*The **VALENTINE'S DAY** Issue, February 2024*

Email: heimdalco@aol.com, Website: <http://www.ussheimdal.com>

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FROM THE COMMANDING OFFICER

Adm. Linda Smith - Starfleet 2024 SFDPP Certified

Hello and *Happy Valentine's Day!* We're trying to incorporate this special day of candy and flowers and loving special people into this newsletter here and there just for fun and the **Question of the Month** is geared towards what our most memorable Valentine's Day was and why. **THIS** will be my answer to that question simply because that day is very significant to me.

On Valentine's Day 1997 Willy and I got married. What a special day that was. We woke up to snow falling that kept 2 of my out-of-town





relatives from being there but later in the day it warmed up and the wedding went on as planned. Almost everyone from the Heimdal that were local folks came, which made it even more memorable.

Kenny gave me away. When everything got going, he seated my mom first but sat down beside her. She looked at him and said, "*Aren't you forgetting something?*" Horrified, he said, "*Oh, My Goodness!!! ... Linda!!!*" and he came back and got me and walked me down the aisle.

Willy's son, who was 14 at the time, was his Best Man.

It was a beautiful wedding and by far the MOST memorable Valentine's Day I've ever had. I can't believe it's been 27 years. How time flies ...

I hope you have an equally memorable Valentine's Day memory. I've enjoyed sharing mine with you.

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER

XO, Chief Science Officer, Adm. Willy Smith – Starfleet SFDPP Certified

Do you remember when people lost body parts ... they just fell off? You overhear the strangest conversations while your car is being worked on. A lady was telling someone in the waiting room with me about Earl (or Beryl) having a limb fall off and I assumed she was talking about a person and a body part. While I forgot to share this with Linda, *actually* the lady had a tree named Earl (or Beryl) and ... well, you know what I thought. In retrospect I probably need a hearing aid.

I hope everyone is doing well and you are looking forward to better weather like I am. We finally received measurable snow and after a few days I was ready for it to be gone. Gosh, what must it be like in Maine or Canada where ST:SNW is being filmed finally.

Speaking of SNWs, I gave season 1 to my sister (& new Heimdal member) for Christmas only to find out she couldn't get it to play. I live about 15 miles away and when I got to her house, the DVDs were laid out, plus a pair of Vulcan ears

(also from me the nerd) and I thought to myself, "She's gonna have a Marathon!" I was determined to get it working thinking it MUST be a remote button (NOT!) and now a new player is on its way (sorry sis ... it was too good not to share).

The January Heimdal Chili and Movie Night was excellent (thanks' everyone) and I'm looking forward to Bud Walker's presentation on heraldry and the use of "coats of arms" in fantasy and science fiction. It was one of those topics you think might be dull and it turns out to be interesting and where I haven't formed one for myself ... I'm thinking about it seriously.

On Heimdal news, well, I could probably fill half a page but it's one of those things that happens in the background, but it's been resolved... so no need to go there.

Thanks for reading this far and while I have you, consider joining our Heimdalgroups email list where you receive email information that shouldn't wait until next newsletter. If you're interested, email me at heimdalscience@comcast.net and I'll explain it more.

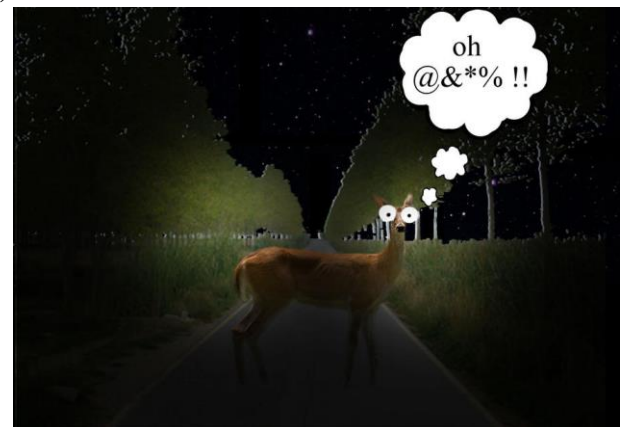
Oh, and a VERY Happy Anniversary from me to Linda.



FROM THE DESK OF THE SECOND OFFICER

RAdm. Carl Davis, Starfleet SFDPP Certified

Greetings fellow crew. Hoping everyone is settling into the new year alright. I was adjusting well until a large deer placed itself firmly in the path of my ground transportation and aided in the destruction of fender, grill, headlight and hood. Even with my catlike reflexes (very old cat) I had no choice but to solidly make contact with the massive creature who somehow





didn't realize that the lights moving through the darkness presented a degree of danger to both of us. The result was a total loss of our 2009 Toyota. Fortunately, I will be able to make the needed repairs as they are all cosmetic but it has still added quite a bit of work to my retirement. I'm looking at the bright side and how blessed I have been to have not hit the hundreds of obstacles that I've seen in all my years of driving. This is the first major contact I've had with a deer and it will suit me if it is the last. So, hang in there. Be alert but realize that sometimes we will be in the right place at the wrong time. Or vice versa. Don't worry, be happy.

MEETINGS AND COMMITMENTS

FEBRUARY MEETING

The February meeting will be February 17 starting at 6:30 p.m. at the Madison Heights Library and on ZOOM. For those attending at the library, please bring an item for refreshments.

Our meeting guest speaker will be, by popular demand, Bud Walker. On Hobby Night Bud's brief presentation about Coats of Arms (Heraldry) was so interesting that several of you asked if he could actually present a meeting and tell us more about this topic. He agreed and will be here doing just that.

About his presentation, Bud says, ***"I plan on doing a BRIEF look at the history and development of Heraldry. (This is not a history club). Then I plan on discussing the use of heraldry in fantasy and science fiction (Game of Thrones, Dune, etc)."***

If you know Bud, you KNOW he will make this a wonderful presentation and you don't want to miss it.

Darrell will be our ZOOM Coordinator for the meeting and the coordinate are:

USS Heimdal is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: **FEB2024 Heimdal Meeting - Scouting the Universe**

Time: Feb 17, 2024 06:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting via link below or via zoom.us

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89416751675?pwd=ZDRibzF5NUxiazhIMGtDSUs1MXUzUT09>

Meeting ID: 894 1675 1675 **Passcode:** eagle24

We hope you can make it to this meeting. Bring questions for Bud and we'll see you there.



JANUARY MEETING

Plenty of Gas for the Heimdal

January 2024 Chapter Meeting of the USS Heimdal

By Commander Bud Walker, Operations

The Heimdal crew gathered at the Madison Heights Public Library (part of Amherst County Public Library system) and online via Zoom on January 20, 2024, for the monthly chapter meeting.

Admiral Linda Smith called the meeting to order and commended all crew members who had braved the cold to attend. She stated that she has submitted the November issue of the Rainbow Connection to Region One for its annual newsletter award process. She indicated that the Heimdal web site is automatically considered for the Region One web site award every year. Admiral Smith also encouraged all members to visit the web site, as it has several updates.





Admiral Smith led a discussion that was prompted by suggestions from Commander Zak Lyon, on how to better integrate chapter members using Zoom, with members living in the Lynchburg area. Ideas that were mentioned included having book clubs, discussion groups and science panels. The goal is to have more interaction between all members outside of the monthly meeting.

Before turning to the Department Heads, Admiral Linda Smith made several announcements:

- The next meeting will be February 17, 2024, and will feature a presentation by either Jonathan & Allen Hatter, or Bud Walker.
- February 1, 2024, is the deadline for the next newsletter. Members are asked to use Linda's AOL email address and not her Yahoo email address.

Admiral Smith announced that the 2024 Anniversary Party on April 13, will be \$28.95 per person for the meal. The theme continues to be "Back to the Future, 1984."

Rear Admiral Carl Davis reported that, at the moment, the weather was too cold for phaser simulations.

Fleet Captain Darrell Millner updated the chapter on Engineering activities and Role-Playing Writing activity. He also showed four drawings done by PO3 Gary Burley, who lives in the United Kingdom.

With business concluded, the annual Chili Fest was served with five different pots of chili. Also served was corn bread, crackers, desserts, and drinks. Members participating on Zoom enjoyed their virtual chili. While folks ate, an episode of the TV show, *Firefly* was shown. The title of the episode was "Out of Gas," which was ironic, given the amount of chili that was consumed by the Heimdal crew. Each member was responsible for bringing their own GasX.



40th ANNIVERSARY PARTY ~ *Back to the Future* 1984 ~

From Linda

REALLY getting ready for the Anniversary Party. Costume Contest prize and door prizes are ordered and on the way. Gift bags will soon be put together and I'm excited.

Because the Heimdal launched as shuttlecraft in 1984, the costumes for the evening can be one of two things ... any vintage outfit from that 1984 era OR any costume relative to the actual *Back to the Future* movie. That is a pretty broad range and will be fun. Remember ... there WILL be a Costume Contest with prizes.

The meal is \$28.95 per person so start saving NOW so you'll be ready. The meal is the **ONLY** thing you'll be paying

for at the party and that's quite a deal. **It includes meal, salad, dessert most beverages PLUS tax and tip.**

I will be taking up money for your meal ANY TIME you want to give it to me. WATCH THIS SPACE ... Just TWO short months until **PARTY TIME**

As a walk down Memory Lane I will be adding several photos from the 'early years' to the newsletters until the party ... just for the sake of nostalgia. See if you recognize anyone. Enjoy!



Heimdal lake party 1984. That's Bud way back then on the far right in the white shorts & striped shirt. I think he was 18. WOW! What a great crowd we had, huh???

HEIMDAL PEOPLE

STARFLEET ACADEMY GRADUATES – CONGRATULATIONS!



Admiral Willy Smith

JAN 23 thru JAN 29

1 Award – 5 Certificates

BOCP - Chief Security Officer Certification from the School of SFA Awards completed on Jan 29, 2024.

DISTINCTION for **SLEH 101** Ancient to Middle Ages School of IPSS Jan 23, 2024

DISTINCTION for **SLEH 102** 1600 to 1900 School of IPSS Jan 23, 2024

DISTINCTION for **SLEH 103** 1900 to present School of IPSS Jan 25, 2024

DISTINCTION for **SLEH 104** Badges School of IPSS Jan 27, 2024

DISTINCTION for **SLEH 105** International Police School of IPSS Jan 28, 2024



CMDR ZACHARY LYON

CMDR Zachary Lyon (3 Courses)

IOSS - College of Spaceflight

DISTINCTION for MERC 101 - Mercury 1 on Jan 22, 2024

DISTINCTION for MERC 102 - Mercury 2 on Jan 22, 2024

HONORS for MERC 103 - Mercury 3 on Jan 23, 2024



CMDR William Walker, JR. (26 Courses)

IOIE - College of Intel in Movies (CIM)

PASS for CIM-103 - The Bourne Identity on Jan 2, 2024

HONORS for CIM-117 - Hunt For Red October on Jan 2, 2024

IOIE - College of Bond, James Bond (CBB)

PASS for BJB 114 - Never Say Never Again on Jan 2, 2024

HONORS for BJB 115 - A View To Kill on Jan 2, 2024

IOMA - College of Emergency Medical Services

HONORS for IOMA CEMS 103a - First Responder part 1 on Jan 4, 2024

DISTINCTION for IOMA CEMS 103b - First Responder part 2 on Jan 4, 2024

DISTINCTION for IOMA CEMS 103c - First Responder part 3 on Jan 4, 2024

HONORS for IOMA CEMS 103d - First Responder part 4 on Jan 4, 2024

DISTINCTION for IOMA CEMS 103e - First Responder part 5 on Jan 4, 2024

IOAS - Vulcan Orientation College

DISTINCTION for VOC-101a – Geography on Jan 9, 2024

HONORS for VOC-101b – Physiology on Jan 5, 2024

HONORS for VOC-101c – Philosophy on Jan 5, 2024

IOMA – College of Psychology

DISTINCTION for DRM 101 Dream Interpretation Part 1 on Jan 9, 2024

HONORS for SCM 101 - Stress and Coping Mechanisms on Jan 9, 2024

HONORS for SCM 102 - Stress and Coping Mechanism on Jan 9, 2024

IOSTS - College of Security in Trek

HONORS for CST 011 General Alerts part 2 on Jan 11, 2024

HONORS for CST 012 General Alerts part 3 on Jan 11, 2024

HONORS for CST 013 General Alerts part 4 on Jan 14, 2024

HONORS for CST 014 General Alerts part 5 on Jan 14, 2024

DISTINCTION for CST 015 General Alerts part 6 on Jan 14, 2024

IOSTS - College of Parallel Studies

PASS for CoPS 102 - The Mirror Universe ST:DS9 on Jan 14, 2024

IOIE - School of Intel Gathering (SIG)



HONORS
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DISTINCTION
HONORS

for SIG 213 US Intel Community
for SIG 214 the FBIS
for SIG 304 - Interrogation Planning
for SIG 305 - Interrogation Methods
for SIG 306 the US -CERT

on Jan 1, 2024
on Jan 2, 2024
on Jan 3, 2024.
on Jan 4, 2024
on Jan 5, 2024



FCAPT Darrell Millner (2 Courses)

IOSS - College of Astronomy

DISTINCTION for AST 208 - Supernova & Supernova Remnants part 1 on Jan 13, 2024

IOLS - STARFLEET Data Protection Policy

HONORS for SFDPP 2024 Re-certification on Jan 7, 2024

RENEWALS

No renewals ... and none due in February. Looking forward to March renewals.

Our Membership Coordinator (one of the many hats he wears), Willy Smith sends out email reminders to everyone a month in advance of your renewal date. THANK YOU, Willy! And he will renew for you with the Heimdal's PayPal account and you can pay us back if you'd rather do it that way. To pay the Heimdal back if we renew for you, please make your check out to Linda Smith and she will deposit it into the Heimdal's account. We ask that you reimburse the Heimdal within in 60 days following your renewal.

Remember the increase in membership rates went into effect on January 1. For a reminder of what the rates are, please see an article from later under the heading of STARFLEET STUFF ... and congratulations to those of you that renewed 'under the wire.' **You may also renew for multiple years with Starfleet ... not just a year at the time.**

XXX PLEASE NOTE: When Willy sends you your renewal reminder, he includes in that email your SCC number and expiration date.

Remember, Starfleet suggests you renew a month before your expiration date so you won't risk being removed from the Heimdal's roster, which happens at the stroke of midnight on your expiration date if you haven't renewed.

Those needing to renew are

March - Kenny Proehl & Chris Thompson –

March 4

Cathy Fletcher – March 5

Jonathan, Karen & Allen Hatter – March 7

Tammy White, Robin Hudson

& Madison Litchford – March 23

Katrine Contreras – March 31

April – Paul Campbell – April 4

Gary Burley – April 16

Dee Stinson – April 13

Weston & Sarah Webb – April 18

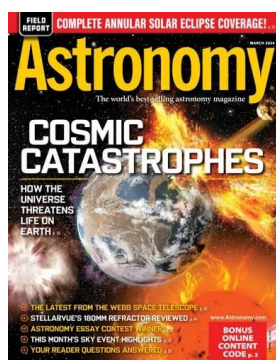
Robert, Cindy & Kinsey Ward – April 18

May- Paul Muse – May 10

Bill Booker – May 18

Mike Davis – May 21

Bud Walker – May 31



CONGRATULATIONS TO RON MILLER

By Linda

Congratulations to Heimdal friend and meeting guest speaker extraordinaire, author and space artist Ron Miller for recently having his space art used for the covers of two Magazines ... **SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN** and **ASTRONOMY**. When Ron visits us as meeting guest speaker, he always shows us his most recent space art and we are always in awe of his talent. Congratulations, again, Ron. So happy for you ... and that you are our friend.



GARY'S ARTWORK

From Gary Burley and Linda Smith

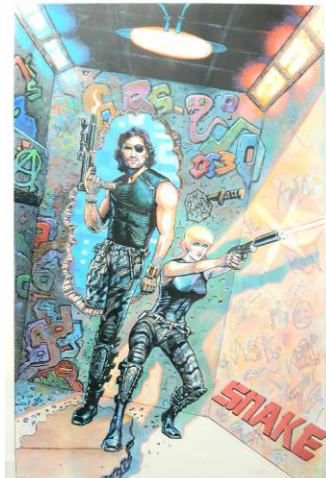
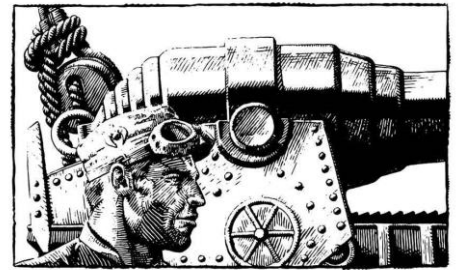
Gary Burley is our Heimdal member that lives in the United Kingdom. He's been with us by correspondence since 2020 and is a member of the Engineering Department. He is also an AMAZING artist with some of his work shown in local museums.

Gary contacted both Darrell and me to tell us he is shipping some of his artwork to me to share with Heimdal people. Darrell showed us photos of the pieces at the January meeting. Here's what Gary told me about it:

"I am sending you 8 rare posters worth at least \$200 each for use in a charity raffle or to auction amongst the Heimdal members. They are big, the tube is a metre long and the info has the history.

When you get them and you have a group get together, lay them out on a table ... online photos don't really show or do justice to the giant posters. I sent all the in-depth details, stories and museum photos to Darrell on Facebook Messenger so get all the info from him. I wish I could join the ZOOM when it happens."

Here are photos of the posters he is sending ... The last picture is a little fuzzy but that's Gary.



HEIMDAL STUFF

FEBRUARY QUESTION OF THE MONTH

What has been your MOST memorable Valentine's Day & why?

Bonnie Davis: I am sure that there have been many in my years but I must say that February 14, 1972 was 33 days before our wedding day. I could not have been more excited for that coming event or for our future. And to celebrate, we probably had a Burger King Whopper, fries and Coke on our date that night and exchanged chocolate hearts!!! LOL!

Darrell Millner: Now this is an easy one, it's Valentine's Day 1983 – that day I would be marrying the love of my life, begin raising two amazing boys ages 6 & 3, and start on the greatest adventure of my life.

Linda Smith: Our wedding in 1997 on Valentine's Day & our anniversary in 2022 when we celebrated our Silver Anniversary ... 25 years.

Gary Burley: I don't remember, even though I used to be a model and I'm not ugly. I finally get an attractive woman who doesn't assume I'm married, who fancies me and she lives in Germany. Of all the luck ...



COUNSELOR'S CORNER

WELCOME TO 2024

By Beth Hopkins

I have several friends who tell me that as far as their new year's resolutions are concerned, they see January as just a "warm up" period and don't take their new goals very seriously until February. Their explanation goes something along the line of, *"After the holiday, I am just too tired and worn to take seriously any new goals until I catch my breath. I just don't have the energy."* But then...February begins and provides a new opportunity to begin those yearly resolutions that promise change and new beginnings.

So, if you are one of those folks that believes we are always able to improve our lives based on our goals and actions, here are a few tips to develop SMART goals this year to improve your chance at success:

S: Specific (the who/what)

M: Measurable (Amount or % change/by how much?)

A: Achievable (How you will accomplish this?)

R: Relevant/Realistic (Make sure the goal is YOUR goal and reasonable to achieve.)

T: Time bound (How long will you set to achieve this goal? Months or the whole year?)

There is no time like the present to set new goals or expectations for yourself. February 2024 is here and provides new opportunities for you to live your best life with gratitude. Go for it – you have nothing to lose!



RILEY'S RAMBLINGS

GREASE AND THE 1948 FORD

By Richard Riley

Hello and I hope that everyone's New Year is off to a great start!

Wanted to share one of my most challenging projects to date ... I made a life-size car! My client reached out to have me make a car and my first question to them was why not use a real one? Anytime someone wants me to make an item that can readily be found I always steer them in that direction due to cost savings. It is almost always cheaper to buy an item if it is readily available than for me to build it. The client though, had a very specific reason for having the car made, it would be on stage and the theater had no way to get a real car

on stage.

The specifics for this piece required that it be able to be broken down into multiple sections, the doors open and close, that the pieces can be turned up on end and be able to be rolled on and off the stage, that the actors can be able to dance on



the hood and car seat, working headlights and that certain parts can be removed so that the car would be assembled in a dance routine. Well, time to get to work then!



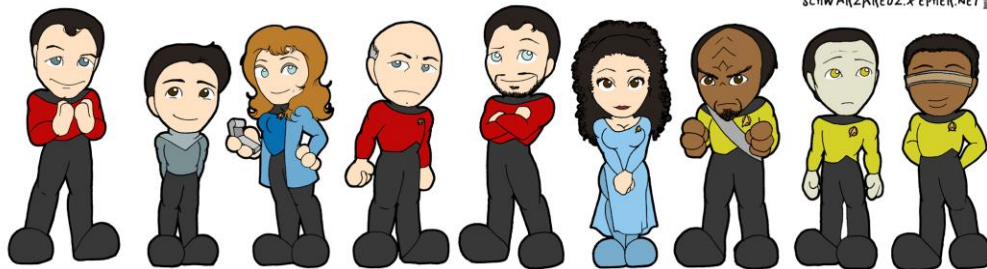
The car is supposed to be a 1948 Ford since the play is *Grease* and the car in the movie was a 1948 Ford. The first thing that I did was to purchase a model of a 1948 Ford, I was then able to use that to go by to get the correct shapes and proportions. I created images of all of the parts and put them into my computer so that my CNC machine could cut out the basic shapes. After that I then had to hand carve and shape the pieces to be rounded like the actual car.

This was not the hardest project that I have had to make but it was quite frustrating due to the fact this was being made in December and the front end of the car would not fit into my outdoor shed! I had to work on the front end outside and paint it in a tent. Luckily this past December we did not have a foot of snow or that many days of very cold temperatures! For details I used stick-on chrome molding, actual door handles from a 1948 Ford along with the correct style headlights and parking lights. I have found that on details like those it is easier to just purchase those items than to make them.

All in all, a great project that really pushed my skills! Foam is not known for being smooth textured so I had to work out how to get a finish that was acceptable. It is not 100% perfect but the client loved it and on stage it looks great!

Perhaps one day I will get the opportunity to build a life-size shuttlecraft!

FROM OUR DEPARTMENTS



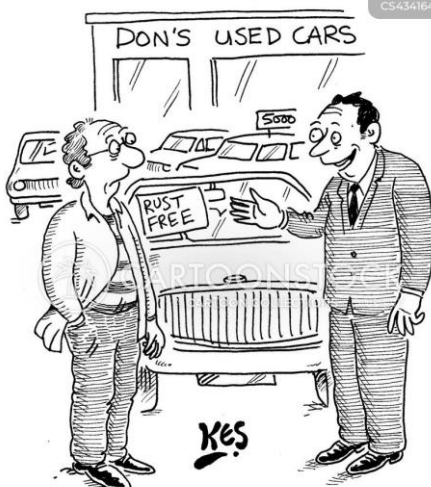
<<<SECURITY>>>



SECURITY REPORT: FEBRUARY 2024

By RAdm. Carl Davis, Chief of Security, Starfleet SFDPP Certified

Looking forward to the warmer weather that is right around the corner so we can continue with phaser sim.



"... Oh, no. That just means we won't charge you for the rust."

Lately I have become aware of something of a security risk as I was looking around at the used car market to possibly replace our old Toyota that came into contact with a large deerlike creature in the middle of the night. I checked Facebook Marketplace and found lots of cars to choose from where I also discovered that there are a lot of people falsely advertising autos that are in "excellent" condition. Excellent condition is supposed to indicate better than average condition with no repairs made from accidents.

I ventured into our local city and looked at one of these excellent vehicles only to find that it had major body damage that had been repaired. One of the excellent vehicles still had a piece of tape holding the windshield in place. When I asked to see the Carfax, I was told that they didn't do that because all of their cars had been repaired from wreck damage, which wouldn't have bothered me too much if the repairs had been well done, which they weren't.



Another trip to a different dealer resulted in similar disappointment because the car that was given such glowing praise had been dinged and touched up all over. Rust under the hood indicated the car had come from further north and water was standing in the trunk where there was an obvious leak. It was another “excellent” conditioned car that was junk to a trained eye. And the interior reeked of smoke odor covered with cheap air freshener.

I mention this so anyone that finds themselves with the need to purchase a nice used car be aware that there seem to be far more “crooks” in the business than ever before. If the price seems too good to be true then it likely is due to false advertising and you could end up with an unwanted money pit. Buyer beware.

<<<SCIENCE>>>



MARS EXPIRIMENT COMES TO AN END

Chief Science Officer, Adm. Willy Smith, Starfleet SFDPP Certified
The Mars Helicopter, Ingenuity landed on Mars Feb. 18, 2021. Attached to the



belly of NASA’s Perseverance rover first lifted off the Martian surface on April 19, proving that powered, controlled flight on Mars was possible.

After notching another four flights, it embarked on a new mission as an operations demonstration, serving as an aerial scout for Perseverance scientists and rover drivers. In 2023, the helicopter executed two successful flight tests that further expanded the team’s knowledge of its aerodynamic limits.

The helicopter completed its technology demonstration after three successful flights. For the first flight on April 19, 2021, Ingenuity took off, climbed to about 10 feet above the ground, hovered in the air briefly, completed a turn, and then landed. It was a major milestone: the very first



powered, controlled flight in the extremely thin atmosphere of Mars, and, in fact, the first such flight in any world beyond Earth. After that, the helicopter successfully performed additional experimental flights of incrementally farther distance and greater altitude.

As in Star Trek: SNW, the Enterprise had a “**Skortch**” from older spacecraft, Ingenuity not only carries onboard a **swatch** from the original Wright Brothers Flyer under the solar panel, but this helicopter also followed in the Wright Brothers footsteps and proved flight is possible *even* on another world.

The Mars helicopter would have never flown once, much less 72 times, if it were not for the passion and dedication of the Ingenuity and Perseverance teams. History’s first Mars helicopter will leave behind an indelible mark on the future of space exploration and will inspire fleets of aircraft on Mars – and other worlds – for decades to come.

72 FLIGHTS, DISTANCE FLOWN -11MILES, HIGHEST ALTITUDE -79 ft

Cool link to learn more: <https://mars.nasa.gov/technology/helicopter/>



<<<ENGINEERING>>>

ENGINEERING UPDATE, FEBRUARY 2024

ENGINEERING UPDATE

FCAPT Darrell Millner, Chief Engineering Officer
R1 RDC ENG., Starfleet SFDPP Certified, SFA RED Squad

Monthly ENG/OPS Report - SD: 202401.31





The Heimdal and Engineering are starting the month on full thrusters (or was that just the chili from the January Cookoff and Zoom?). The team continues to put forth strong efforts with 31 Starfleet Academy courses completed – way to keep the pace up Mr. Walker. Also, we are wrapping up our departmental newsletter ‘The Engineering Link’, February will be our 28th issue since its relaunch in September of 2021. It’s been a full month including:



SD: 202401.20 Several Engineers including myself attended the Heimdal monthly meeting and zoom with Engineering providing connectivity and Bud providing AV support. Gary Burley forwarded several examples of his custom artwork which we were able to share with all the attendees. After the short meeting and teasing with chili, when we were not able to participate in viewing the ‘Firefly’ episode all the Zoom participants sat back and together watched ‘Star Trek Short Takes episode “Ask Not”’. In my opinion one of the most powerful episodes in the series’. And we enjoyed a spirited discussion afterwards.

SD: 202401.15 we held our monthly Engineering Zoom

SD: 202401.11 many of our team participated in the monthly Interdepartmental Role Play Zoom

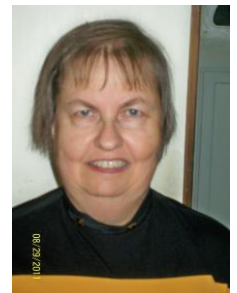
Progress continues on many internal projects from a department manual, timeline charts, webpage design and much more. Here’s to a great February everyone. Remember always “WE ARE STARFLEET” – Millner out.

COMMUNICATIONS



FEBRUARY COMMUNICATIONS REPORT THE LANGUAGE OF LOVE

By Vice Admiral Glenda Blanks, Communications Chief,
Starfleet SFDPP Certified



Love is universal, but how someone determines what acts are truly loving depends on the person. “Love languages” are a popular way to determine how someone prefers expressing and receiving love.

The concept was created by Gary Chapman, Ph.D., who says the five love languages are words of affirmation, quality time, physical touch, acts of service, and giving gifts.

Preply, a research group, did a study to find out what love languages Americans prefer in different parts of the country. They recently surveyed more than 2,000 Americans about their preferences related to love languages.

According to the study, the love language Virginians like to give is physical touch, while the love language they like to receive is words of affirmation.

Overall Findings:

1. Quality time is America’s favorite love language to receive.
2. Acts of service is America’s favorite love language to express.
3. Receiving gifts is the least popular love language.

Do you ever give gifts “just because”? One time Dan brought me a dozen roses to work. My co-workers were convinced that he was either apologizing for something he did or making up for something he didn’t do. It was neither, he just wanted to give me roses.

Have you ever been labelled a “hugger”? I have, by a former Heimdal member, no less. But I don’t care, I love hugging, and receiving hugs in return.

What is your favorite love language?



CADET NEWS

HEIMDAL’S CADET CORPS
Heimdal’s Cadet Corps: Left to right – Allen Hatter,
Darrell Spencer and Jonah Ryan





CADET ALLEN HATTER

by Jonathan Hatter

Merit Badge College 2024

On Saturday, January 27th Cadet Allen attended the first session of the Troop 29 2024 Merit Badge College. He chose to take Bird Study to start this year's classes.

Our Scoutmaster is an avid bird watcher who has a listening station set up in his backyard that he uses to capture and identify multiple bird calls. We spent the morning discussing the vast number of species and went outside to identify some local ones.

Some of the additional badge requirements include identifying 15 parts of a bird, explaining why birds are useful indicators of the environmental quality around us and demonstrating how to properly use a bird study field guide.

We had a fun day and everyone concluded the afternoon with pizza. The Scouts finished off the food quickly, after all, chasing those birds is hard work .

HEIMDAL'S PET FLEET

CONGRATULATIONS TO ROBIN AND GEMINI

In December Heimdal member, Robin Hudson entered a photo of her cat, Gemini in Starfleet's Pet Fleet January photo contest "A New Year's Photo." There were a whopping 37 entries! Pet Fleet personnel said, *"It was very hard to judge, as we adore every one of our boopable Petfleet members very much!"*

CONGRATULATIONS to Robin and Gemini:

1st Place Winner [Constance Ruth Fleming](#)

Honorable Mention (2nd) [Chris Numbertwo](#)

Honorable Mention (3rd) [Lea Elwood Relyea](#)

Honorable Mention (4th) [Marissa Jeffrey](#)

Honorable Mention (5th) [Tim Johns](#)

***Honorable Mention (6th) [Robin Marie Hudson](#)

Honorable Mention (7th) [Kim Lockman](#)

Honorable Mention (8th) [Debra Kavanaugh](#)

The STARFLEET Petfleet Newsletter came out on February 1st, if you're not already subscribed you can subscribe now to receive it. <https://sfi.us9.list-manage.com/subscribe...>

[#STARFLEET](#) [#Petfleet](#) [#Newsletter](#)



Gemini

STARFLEET STUFF

NEW STARFLEET MEMBERSHIP RATES

Here's a reminder for those Heimdal members that will be renewing this year. **NEWS FLASH!!! We may now renew for more than one year at a time, which is just cool.** Keep that in mind when renewing this year.

Starfleet's new membership rates:

STARFLEET dues as of 2024 of January 2024

Individual: \$10.00 US

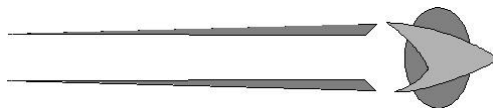
Family of 2: \$14.00 US

Family of 3: \$17.00 US

Family of 4: \$19.00 US

Family of 5: \$21.00 US

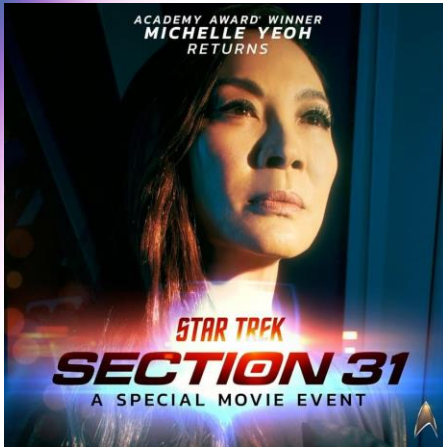
Family of 6: \$22.00 US



STAR TREK STUFF

STAR TREK SECTION 31

'Star Trek: Section 31' film with Michelle Yeoh begins production, adds new cast
From Glenda Blanks, Star Trek Editor



Production for Paramount Plus's highly anticipated "Star Trek: Section 31," starring Academy Award winner Michelle Yeoh, has begun.

Breaking the news: Executive producer Alex Kurtzman announced in a statement that the principal photography for "Star Trek: Section 31" has started. The movie, which was initially planned as a CBS All Access series, will continue the events from "Star Trek: Discovery," as previously reported.

The film also added seven new cast members. "We welcome our incredible cast of new characters as they join our beloved Michelle Yeoh on her next wild adventure across the 'Trek' universe," Kurtzman said.

What to expect: Yeoh, who won a best actress award for "Everything Everywhere All at Once" at last year's Oscars, will reprise her role as Emperor Philippa Georgiou. First introduced in "Discovery," Georgiou, leader of the mirror universe's fascist Terran Empire, ends up with the Federation's covert Section 31 after crossing into the prime universe.

"Tasked with protecting the United Federation of Planets, [Georgiou] also must face the sins of her past," the official film description reads.

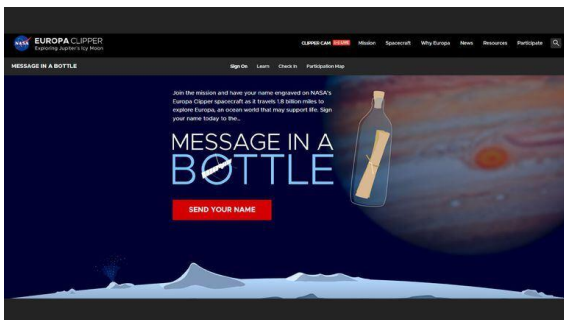
New cast members: Joining Yeoh in the Olatunde Osunsanmi-directed film are Omari Hardwick ("Power"), Kacey Rohl ("Hannibal"), Sam Richardson ("Ted Lasso"), Robert Kazinsky ("Pacific Rim"), Humberly Gonzalez ("Ginny & Georgia"), James Hiroyuki Liao ("Barry") and Sven Ruygrok, who also appeared in Netflix's "One Piece."

THE ZAK PERSPECTIVE

one who is remembered

By Zak and Jody Lyon

When Zak asked me to contribute to his article for this month's Rainbow Connection, I was honored but challenged. It was meaningful that he was so excited about a birthday present. It's always hard to hit a home run while gift-giving! But creative writing is not my forte and I wondered how it would meld. With Zak's encouragement...here goes "my perspective." Jody Lyon



Since I was a small child, I loved being outside...and looking up. At first, the sun and the clouds each moving across the sky grabbed my attention. Then the moon and the stars. My early scribbles always had a sun or some stars colored at the top of the page. As I got older, picture books of the planets were my go-to. I strained to find the real planets and watched the night sky change over the seasons. My early reading material was largely soft science fiction. And usually included alien life. As I got older, books became more sophisticated but always included novels of space exploration. NASA's programs blossomed when I was a preteen, and I followed the news of astronauts and missions beyond our atmosphere. And of course, Star Trek was right up my alley when I was in high school. When I began Zak's education in the 80's naturally the sky, the solar system, space, and the questions the topics generated were central in all aspects my 30curriculum. I don't know if it was genetic, environmental, or imposed, but Zak has always been just as interested in astronomy and worlds/life beyond as I was.

It was serendipity that allowed me to find the Message in a Bottle Campaign on the next to the last day it was being offered. I read the description of NASA's Europa Clipper Mission. I was hooked. "Water connects Earth and Europa, the two ocean worlds NASA's Europa Clipper spacecraft travels between on its journey. The existence of a vast ocean on a moon of Jupiter – which the Europa Clipper mission is equipped to decisively confirm and characterize – is what makes Europa such a promising place to better understand the astrobiological potential for habitable worlds beyond Earth." Wow! Ada Limón, the Poet Laurette of the US dedicated a beautiful poem to the mission. *In Praise of Mystery: A Poem for Europa* spoke of curiosity, awe, wonder and water. I read this poem that was to be engraved on the spacecraft and the invitation for citizens of the world to have their names engraved as well. I knew that Zak would love it. But when I presented the certificate to him and saw the joy on his face, I was overwhelmed. It meant so much to him. I nailed it. I still



look at the sky every day and wonder at the beauty of creation - and what is out there to discover. Now and for the next 10 years, I can imagine Zak's name riding the Europa Clipper across the solar system as well as all the wonders that await.

I want to thank my mother for contributing to this article and for my awesome birthday present. Now here goes my perspective...

NASA's Europa Clipper Mission

By Prashant
Dhawan

हिंदी में



Space exploration has always been interesting to me. But if I were to interrogate that feeling I know that the possibility of finding new life has always been at the forefront of the imagination of the human species. And mine. And that's why I am so thrilled that I got one of the very last slots on the Europa Clipper Mission. Quoting NASA: *"In 2024 the Journey begins. Europa Clipper is being crafted with one overarching goal. Determine if Europa has conditions suitable to support life."*

With the rapid pace in which the world is altering around me - that doesn't just mean what is used to mean as in technology is moving so fast, I can't keep up - but rather what can be expected of the world politically, socially, and economically in the near future. Not too optimistic. I thrive on anything that connects me to one of my great sources of strength - the optimistic futurism advanced by people like Ray Bradbury, Walt Disney, and Gene Roddenberry. This idea that human beings have the potential to build an optimistic future creates the sparks that fuel the imagination of space programs and allow the forward-looking approach to life that gives me hope for the future. As a writer, I love this quote from NASA's website: *"Painters, musicians, writers, and others have long been inspired by space. In ancient times, storytellers looked to the skies, found patterns, or constellations, and created tales about what they saw. Today, there are countless plays, books, songs, and other creative works all about space. These works of art have helped inspire many NASA scientists and engineers to pursue their careers in space exploration. And now, their work is inspiring future poets, filmmakers, and artists."*

So...having my name included in the "Message in a Bottle" program, which will send my name into space headed for Europa and the secrets that may lie 390.4 million miles from home, was awesome. When I received this gift, I was unaware of this Europa Clipper mission and immediately began to devour any information I could about it.

My co-writer explained "Message in a Bottle," so let me tell you a little about what I learned about the Europa Clipper Mission mostly from the NASA website.

The Europa Clipper, conceived in 2013, will launch in October of this year. This spacecraft will be the largest spacecraft NASA has ever developed for a planetary mission. Because of the distance from the sun, its solar panels have to be huge. Because Europa is bathed in radiation, the Clipper's electronics and payload are enclosed in a titanium and aluminum vault. Its payload will include: cameras, spectrometers, ice-penetrating radar, magnetometer and gravity monitor. It will be able to pinpoint warm versus cooler ice with its thermal instruments, as well as measure particles in the atmosphere. The Clipper will arrive at Jupiter in 2030 after having made an extremely close flyby of Mars, returned briefly to earth to swing around for a second gravity assist, and then head for its destination. It will complete flybys of the moons of Jupiter and by May of 2031, the science campaign begins in earnest. Optimistic Futurism is at the heart of our exploration. NASA says they are sure there is a great ocean within Europa. So, it is not whether their optimism is rewarded but rather to what degree. The perfect mission for me to be invested in.

Again, speaking to the link between science and art, the words of our Poet Laurette, Ada Limón are sure to send the spirit of this mission ringing through the years, and through the stars. When I was very young, like 6 or 7, I learned that in Hebrew my name means "one who God remembers." I revel in the idea that now with so many fellow passengers, the stars will hold part of that memory too. And I, as a "creature of constant awe," will be one who is remembered.

Go to <https://europa.nasa.gov/message-in-a-bottle> to read the poem.

CONTINUING ROLE PLAY

Part 16 of *The Bound Dog Shall be Loosed:*

"Hatter is not Angry, only Mad"

By Kathy Whately, Zak Lyon and Jody Lyon



Aboard the USS Heimdal:



Having made the decision to report their suspicions about Cmdr. Hatter's unusual behavior, Lt Cmdr. Whately and Lt. Lyon hurried to find Captain Millner for advice. As they were insinuating that Security had been compromised, they did not want to go directly to Admiral Davis until they had gotten some feedback from a member of Command Staff. They broke into a run when they heard a scream. Whately rounded the bend in the corridor first, as a bright pulsating light assaulted her eyes. What did she see?

Lt. Cmdr. Whately skid to a halt as Lyon caught up to her, crashing into her back. Whately didn't react but stood ramrod straight staring at a point in the corridor directly ahead where a sparkling aura was quickly fading out of existence. Lt. Lyon rubbed her eyes and squinted, trying to bring the corridor back into focus.

Whately turned to her companion and asked, "Did you see that?"

Jody responded, "See what? That light?"

"I don't know," Kathy replied. "It was more than that. I definitely know it was not a transporter signature. At least not one that I recognize"

Whately was breathing rapidly and rubbing her temples. "Are you okay, Kathy?" Lyon could tell there was something her friend wasn't saying. Something that she saw in the light?

"It looked like a shimmering man standing over a sitting man, I think. Am I losing it, Jody? Am I starting to hallucinate now?!" Kathy was almost screaming, so Jody reached out to calm her and replied, "You are not losing it. Be calm. I think I saw a shimmering, too. We have got to talk to someone before jumping to any conclusions."

Lyon watched her friend calm down slightly. She could still feel that there was something Whately wasn't sharing.

"Look, is that Zak on the floor?" Whately's emotions spiked again as she ran to him. "Zak! Zak!" Lt. Lyon followed and they hovered over the prone form of Cmdr. Lyon like two hens.

"What's going on? Are you alright? Did you see a light?"

Lt. Cmdr. Whately and Lt. Lyon talked over each other as Zak began to shake his head trying to clear his thoughts. *Hadn't he come from the holodeck having just done that? No, wait. The apparition...of himself warning him of something. Was that right? Then it hit him.*

"Bud?" He squinted his eyes, thinking. That's right... "Bud! He was taken."

"What about Cmdr. Walker?"

Lt. Lyon helped him to sit. Zak moaned and seemed to be about to lose consciousness. As she pulled a water bottle out of her bag, the rest of the bag's contents spilled out and rolled across the corridor. As Kathy began crawling across the deck scooping the scattered items up, Cmdr. Robin Hudson walked into the chaos and slipped, nearly barreling over Kathy on her hands and knees.

"Over here, Robin," Lt Lyon called. Medical Officer Hudson scurried to Zak's side. Lt. Lyon overheard Zak talking to Robin. "A beam of some kind hit me. I'm in agony. I think I'll be alright, but it attenuated my force fields. I need help. I'll need my chair until I can get my systems back up."

"I'll get it," said Cmdr. Hudson as she rushed off, tapping her comm badge as she exits. Kathy could hear her requesting that the Chief of Security come to this location. *Oh, boy*, she thought.

"Do you think we are in danger, Zak?" Kathy said as she stood up, surveying the corridor fearfully.

"As the official canary in the coal mine, 'cough, cough.'" Zak mimicked a cough that turned quickly

"Take it easy." Jody smiled slightly. "At least that weird sense of humor of yours is returning,"

"I'm serious. Let me..."

Before he could explain, Chief Engineer, Darrell Millner turned the corner and rushed to the group.

"Chief!" they cried out in unison.

"Just the man we need to see!" cried Kathy.

"Excellent timing!" exclaimed Jody.

"Ow," declared Zak.

"What's happening? I was on my way to find Cmdr. Walker. I think he's somehow mixed up in something. Maybe in danger," Millner shared.

"He's not on board."

"What?"

"He was hunted down and beamed off by Security Officer Hatter."

"Hatter?" Millner said.

Zak's head was clearing. He realized that he had picked up more images from his "other self."

"We need to help Bud."



The four Heimdal crew members began spewing out all of their thoughts about Jonathan's change in personality, Bud's secret conversations, and Zak's "alien" encounter with himself. Their voices overlapped as they became agitated and even more confused.

"No, you are wrong, Hatter is not a kidnapper..."

"But, you see, that wasn't Hatter."

"Not Hatter?"

"Not our Hatter."

"What do you mean?"

"A 'Hatter' from elsewhere."

"Elsewhere? Are you crazy Zak?"

"I don't think so, but I do know that 'other' Hatter left me in agony."

"Where's our Hatter?"

Into the midst of this noisy group stepped RAdm Davis. He spoke very calmly but authoritatively.

"Shut your mouths," he whispered. "And come with me right now."

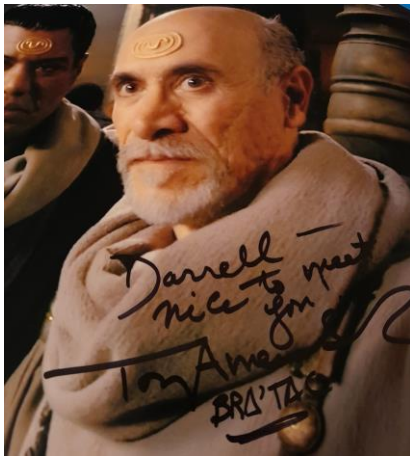
To be continued...



CONVENTION REPORT

AWAY MISSION TO MIDDLE GEORGIA COMIC CONVENTION 2024

CEO Millner Reporting SD:202401.14



I rarely make it to conventions these days, showing my age "It's not like in my early years when the admission prices were low, photo ops and autographs were free, and carrying a backpack was not considered a criminal offense". However, when I heard there was a convention close by and there would be a dealer room, I couldn't resist going to take a look. And I am so glad I did.

There were Comic Artist, Illustrators, and to my joy an actor who I have enjoyed on the big and small screen. I had the distinct honor to talk with the legendary actor, Tony Amendola. Now, from a Star Trek perspective his name may not jump out at you. He played in one series, the role of "Chorus #3" in 2000 Season 6 episode 22 of STAR TREK VOYAGER "Muse". That was the episode where an alien playwright discovers B'Elanna Torres, crash landed in the Delta Flier, and uses her and her logs as story material to please his patron. The Chorus members narrate the plays. A good role, but personally I remember him best as Don Luiz in the 1998 "Mask of Zorro". In 40 years of film and television he has starred in everything from Stargate SG-1, Annabelle, CSI, Law and Order, Space Ranges, to Columbo Goes to the Guillotine. And the list goes on. A truly down to earth actor, we sat and spoke for some time, we both had a pause and he laughingly said to me *"Forgive me, as an actor I am use to the dialogue being given to me and not creating it myself"*. I found him to be humble and very thankful to have come to Georgia this day.

I must say the dealer's room was very nice, good variety, I was able to acquire a plastic Enterprise model that had been on my wish list for years, Uniform hardware, and meet the local Georgia Ghostbuster & Star Wars 501st Legion. I did hear there were a number of uniformed STAR TREK Officers on hand Saturday. So, the fandom is alive and well here in Central Georgia. – Millner Out.

COMING IN AUGUST: CRASHCITYCON

Is Heimdal Interested?????

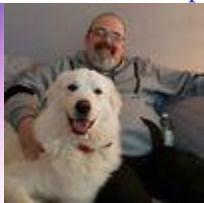


Welcome to Roanoke's Premier Gaming and Fan Convention!!!!

Tabletop Gaming at its best! Role Playing Games, Board Gaming, Card Gaming, Vendors, and so much more!!! Play with some of the top Game Masters in the area. Enjoy a casual game in our open gaming area. Learn to play games you always wanted to play.



Enter our Cosplay contest, Anime Trivia Contest, Writers Panels, Art gallery, and Young-Gamer-Zone!!!!



Don Haymaker used to be a Starfleet member and member of the USS Pathfinder in Roanoke ... a shuttle the Heimdal sponsored. I got this email from him. Please let me know what you think and if anyone is interested.

Good morning, Linda. I'm not sure if you heard, but I own Crashcitycon in Roanoke. This year we are offering Fan tables at no charge and I thought of Starfleet. I would like to invite your group. Please let me know if you are interested.

THAT'S IT - WE QUIT ...

Thank you to everyone that contributed to this newsletter AND to you for reading it. It's HEIMDAL ... it's who we are. AND we'll see you at the meeting.

Linda, Willy and our staff of THOUSANDS.



***Disclaimer:** No part of this newsletter is intended as an infringement on the Star Trek copyright held by Paramount, CBS, Disney or any other company or entity. This is just us doing good and having fun.*

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IN THIS FEBRUARY 2024 ISSUE:

Editor-in-Chief, Staff Writer & Layout: Linda Smith

Star Trek Editor/Staff Writer: Glenda Blanks

Staff Photographer: Willy Smith

Other photo contributors – Linda Smith, Richard Riley, Jonathan Hatter, Jennifer Long, Gary Burley, Robin Hudson, Darrell Millner

Contributors this issue: Linda Smith, Willy Smith, Carl Davis, Darrell Millner, Zak Lyon, Jody Lyon, Glenda Blanks, Bud Walker, Jonathan Hatter, Gary Burley, Beth Hopkins, Kathy Whately & all that answered the Question of the Month. *Thanks!*

On-Going Contributing Columnist:

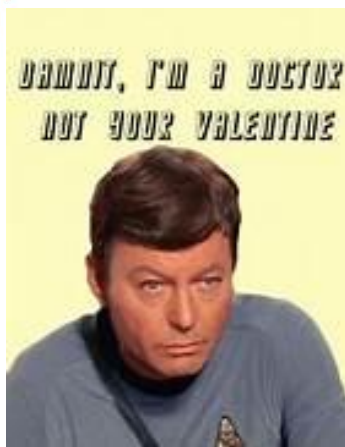
Richard Riley (Riley's Replicas)

Guest Contributors – None this month

Distribution Guy: Willy Smith



We'll See You Around the Galaxy ...





Communiqué

Issue Number 80

STARFLEET: The International Star Trek Fan Association

April / May, 1997

Overseas Coupon Project: Help for Military Families

Greetings. Over the past two years, I have noticed a lot of new names in the ranks of chapters within STARFLEET. This is a great news, because it means new people are reaching out to the community - the sense of all people working together and helping others who may need it. We call it "community service" and usually involve helping out in the local community.

However, there is one very big community that gets largely overlooked - that of U.S. Military families living overseas. I know that a lot of people in STARFLEET have never been in the military or have not experienced the tremendous hardships that are a part of the military life. The service duty military personnel are trained for, and expect this type of life. Their families, on the other hand, are not trained for this life and are the ones that suffer the most. They not only have to live with moving every few years (sometimes in the same location) and having their service duty husbands with no income for going overseas for days or months at a time, but they also have to live with EXTREMELY high inflation rates in the countries they live in (often ranging from 25% to 50% each year) with virtually no additional money to help offset these costs. This is where the OVERSEAS COUPON PROJECT comes into play.

Lately, I have received numerous requests for information about this program and quite a few are from chapters who did not even know the program existed. This program is a free regional website where the amount of help depends on the amount of help needed. It is a great way to help military families who are overseas and have the sense of community that is STARFLEET during the past two years. So let me tell you a little bit about this very worthwhile program.

The Overseas Coupon Project is a program that was started in 1993 by a few people in Texas as a way to help American military families overseas with their expenses. In the past two years, this program has grown to include over 100 STARFLEET chapters worldwide as well as other organizations (Star Trek organizations and other organizations). The amount of coupons collected and mailed off is growing as well. In 1995, the

program collected and shipped more than 1500,000 worth of coupons. These coupons were mailed to over 50 American military bases worldwide. The figures for 1996, in the coming months of receiving the amount.

Why is this program growing so fast? It is because of its simplicity. The only requirement to participate in this program is a pair of scissors, a stack of coupons and a desire to help others. The special qualifications are made simply so that anyone can help others who need it. In fact, you can be a volunteer even more. Whether your chapter is a small chapter or a large one, this is a program that you can participate in and feel good that you are helping others who need it the most.

You do not need to be a chapter to participate. We have many individual members who are sending coupons to us. Each of them has the same desire to help others in the chapters who are going through a chapter. STARFLEET's coupons are welcome!

If you feel that this is a program that you would like to participate in, or if you simply want more information about the program and how to get started, please feel free to contact one of the coordinators for this program by E-mail or by mail with SASE to one of the addresses below.

(East of the Mississippi River)

Carl L. Lewis, Jr.
8000 Chatham Rd.
N 1204
St. Charles, MO 63041

E-Mail: CARL@earthlink.net

(West of the Mississippi River)

Rocky Thayer
701 Kennedy Trail
Hewitt, TX 76041
E-Mail: ROCKY@earthlink.net

With everyone's participation, this program will continue to grow and make life easier for the military families who are overseas. Please help!

Next Communiqué Deadline:
June 15, 1997



Region 1 Wedding



Region 1 Coordinator Linda Neighbors is escorted by John Sprouse of the USS Hornet at the Region 1 Summit during her and Willy Smith's wedding ceremony.

As you can see, Linda and I were "roped" into getting married again by a REAL Cardassian minister. She was the Region One Regional Coordinator and I held several regional positions at the time. I wonder if we got a divorce would we have to get two of them?? John Sprouse walked Linda to the pulpit where I even gave her another wedding ring (made by Roy Sessler a real jeweler.) It wasn't one of those Cuban zirconium rings either, plus he made wedding bands for us both (14k) ... nothing from Cuba for Linda! Those were the days!

Does anyone have this issue? It's worth like ...ummm ... a bunch! *The Delivery Guy*