

STARFLEET COMMUNICATIONS



Back Row: ADM Barclay, ADM Johnson, FADM Sams,
FADM Jackson, ADM Williams, ADM Scott
Front Row: ADM Shell, FADM Bischoff, ADM Pinsky

Issue #79, December 2013

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Public Affairs Office

The Public Affairs Office publishes the
Starfleet Command hardcopy newsletter three (3) times per year.
For more information or to submit articles, email the Public Affairs Office at
cpa@sfcq1.com

You can start a new ship, renew or join *online* at:
<http://www.starfleet-command.com/membership.htm>
(We also accept paypal with online applications)

From the Fleet Commander



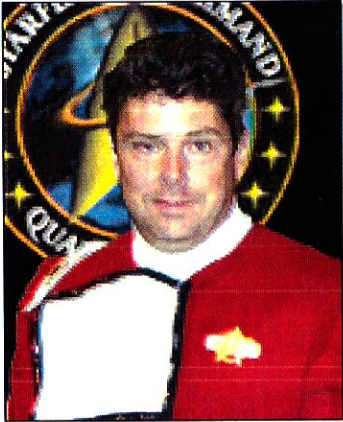
Greetings,
As year three of my term as your Fleet Commander comes to a close, I feel I have a lot to share with everyone. I would like to thank ADM Gary Barclay for working so hard to get the newsletter out on time, every time, during this administration. It gives me the opportunity to share my thoughts and experiences on this page.

I hope everyone knows how much I appreciate this position and what it means to me. It has been my goal to be able to look back at my term and say, "I made a positive difference in this organization." I feel I am reaching this goal, but I know it is because of your help. I will not be running for reelection, so I would like to leave my successor with one word of advice. Thomas Sergiovanni once said, "People don't care how much you know, until they know how much you care." It is my hope that my successor cares about SFC as much as I do and shows it.

Next year will be the election for the new Fleet Commander, but just because I am on my last year does not mean I am finished. I will continue to approach my job with the same enthusiasm I did when I was first elected. I feel I have accomplished much during my term and I hope to spend my last year as Fleet Commander as busy as the first.

This will also be the year of planning. As many of you know, Starfleet Command started in October of 1974. This October will be our 40th anniversary. This is quite an accomplishment, since most fan clubs only last three to four years. It is my hope to celebrate this milestone during our annual meeting at Starbase Indy. If you have any suggestions for activities to include in our celebration, please contact me or any Admiralty Board member.

A Message from the Deputy Fleet Commander



Well, here we are in late 2013. I've now served as the Deputy Fleet Commander for the past three years. It doesn't seem to have been three years, but alas, it has. Still, I find myself as excited now as when I started in this position. I have been most fortunate to have had FADM James Roy Jackson as my SFC Fleet Commander. I have thrown out so many ideas on how to improve Starfleet Command and he has supported me since day one. This

support has allowed me to be the best Deputy Fleet Commander that I could be. I have one more year as your DFC and I hope to finish just as strong.

We have started a new year and so Commanding Officers of the fleet, it's time to make sure that you get your SPAR I's to your Starbase CO's monthly. Share ideas with your fellow fleet members and inspire them with a report of your monthly activities. Watch your crew and don't forget to get your promotions to the Chief of Membership Services in a timely manner.

Lastly, I want to thank the units in STARFLEET COMMAND that helped with the Charity War against the Royal Manticoran Navy. I do not have a total raised for the Autism Research Center as I type this, but it is over \$3000! I have to give a special thank you to the USS Mighty Mississippi, the USS Endeavour, and the USS Armstrong. Their work, along with my annual fundraiser and our convention fundraisers, is what made this such a positive experience. I have to say that win or lose, we did ok for ourselves, and the real winner is the Autism Research Institute.

Deputy Fleet Commander,
ADM Mark Williams

Winter Safety

RADM Andy Sams, Quadrant One's Chief of Security

"Tis the season to focus on winter safety," for our crews, friends and family. Here are a few ideas from the National Safety Council to get you ready.

1. It's a good idea to change the batteries in your smoke and carbon alarms when you change your clocks to and from Daylight Savings Time. The NSC also recommends testing them every month and if your alarm is pushing 10 years it is time to replace it. Check your fire extinguisher to ensure that it has the proper charge and replace it if it is low.
2. If you have a Chimney, clean it to prevent chimney fires.
3. Get your furnace/heating system checked by a professional. If it's under an extended warranty it may require annual checks. Be sure not to store newspapers, rags or other items near it that may ignite. When using space heaters use caution. Don't put them too close (3 feet) to anything and don't leave them unattended.
4. Prepare your vehicle. Ensure you do your regular maintenance but for the winter it's a good idea to add deicer to your wiper fluid to prevent it from freezing. Also check the concentration of anti-freeze in your car and the tread on your tires. In some of our Northern areas, snow tires may be needed.
5. Be ready for the cold and ice. In cars I put a small shovel, a battery jump starter with power adapters and air compressor, melting salt, blanket and a first aid kit. I've started more cars and gotten more cars out of the snow than I've had to of my own. It's also a very good for my peace of mind that my family has emergency tools with them if they or their friends need them.
6. Finally get your flu shot, unless your physician has told you not too. It takes two weeks for the medication from the shot to build up in your system. It will protect you from the most common strains that are out there this season.

Till next time fellow fleet members stay safe and protect your family and your crew. For more information I encourage you to visit the NSC's website at www.nsc.org.

SB 03 Shore-Leave

By CMDR Nancy Bailey, Saint Laurant PQ, Canada

The week-end of September 13th - 15th 2013 was a very important week-end for this Montrealer - it was Comic Con! On Saturday, we celebrated the 10th anniversary of the Battlestar Galactica, the rebooted series. I had my picture taken with the cast: Edward James Olmos, Michael Hogan, Tahmoh Penikett and James Callis. I went for autographs, and attended their conference. It was great to hear them talk about the series and some of the activities they have been involved with. At some point, someone asked Edward James Olmos about his presentation to the UN with Mary McDonnell and how they had asked people from different backgrounds to discuss the issues of the day. "we are all part of the same race, the human race. So say we all!" Of course we all repeated "so say we all!" He went ahead and said it 2 more times, and we responded, just like in the mini-series. I felt like I was looking at Commander Adama who had just said something profound and that we all believed in.

There were other great moments that day, like the conference with Christopher Lloyd who talked about how fun it is to play a villain like in "Who Framed Roger Rabbit" or "The Search for Spock". Of course, I had my picture taken in the DeLorean! According to their site, they had a total of 42,000 visitors during the 3 days. A lot of people were in costumes, we even saw "Predator" and his lady. People have spent a lot of time of their costumes. I also spent some time with my favorite comic book artist who remembered me from last year (we had played win, lose or draw). Cool!

I also went to see George Takei's presentation. The room was full - I would estimate maybe 3,000 people. He had celebrated his 5th wedding anniversary the day before and he was happy to talk about it. That presentation ended with the people of Comic Con giving him a lifetime achievement award! What a great way to finish the day!

Working Starbase Indy

By FCAPT Misty Jackson

Working a convention is much different than attending a convention. As CO of the USS Endeavour, I was able to follow the experiences of many of our members, since almost everyone from the Endeavour who attended, also worked. FCAPT Cyndi Jackson and I ran Operations, LTCDR Jon Blaylock and FADM Roy Jackson ran Room Captains, and CAPT Athena Holman worked Registration. FCAPT Lora Holman was a Stage Manager, and ADM Mark Williams ran a fundraiser for Autism Research. The rest of the crew was general labor. Roy and Cyndi were also working Guest Relations on their down time. We even ran Photo Ops and had a few hours left over to attend the annual Starfleet Command meeting.

I can honestly say there was never a boring moment. Between knowing where everything was, where everybody was, and what was going on all the time, we had to remember to eat. Thank God for the Con Sweet.

It can be a positive experience as it is nice to know what goes on behind the scenes. And while I feel it is something everyone should try at least once, I cannot say I would want to volunteer every year. After all, one of the best things about a con is being able to relax and catch up with old friends that you only see at the con. You have to really enjoy the job because the time you work only saves you about \$2-3 an hour and my time is worth more than that.

I am glad I had the opportunity to help and I do feel a great deal of satisfaction knowing that the Endeavour made a difference. I hope next year will be a lot less chaotic, so I can visit with all my friends who attend. Until then, I wish you all the best.

USS Sobro Away Mission

By LTjg Brenda Havens

Captain Havens met with Indianapolis Mayor, Greg Ballard, and the Marion County Director of Public Safety, Troy Riggs, in September to further the organization's mission to encourage residents to walk in their neighborhoods. This is a photo of Captain Havens with Mayor Ballard and WUI co-organizer Martha Baker Blue.



SFC Award Winners 2013

Starbase of the Year	1st Place	Starbase 06
	2nd Place	Starbase 05
	3rd Place	Starbase 03
Newsletter	1st Place	Starbase Connection
	2 nd Place	USS Mighty Mississippi
	3rd Place	USS Halsey
Website	1st Place	USS Endeavour
	2nd Place	USS Indianapolis
	3rd Place	USS Bright star
Senior Officer,	1 st Place	Kevin Johnson
	2nd Place	Mary Miller
	3rd Place	Anthony Day
Junior Officer	1st Place	Rose Compton
	2nd Place	Nancy Bailey
	3rd Place	James Coree
Enlisted	Petty Officer	Sam Anderson
Large Ship,	1st Place	USS Endeavour
	2nd Place	USS Bismarck
Medium Ship,	1st Place	USS Halsey
	2nd Place	USS Armstrong
Small Ship,	1st Place	USS Mississippi
	2nd Place	USS Indianapolis
	3rd Place	USS Winfield Scott
Recruiter Ind.	1st Place	Bob McDonald
	1st Place	Lee Starshine
	1st Place	Latonya Alcala
Recruiter Unit	1st	Starbase 03
	2nd	USS Endeavour
	3rd	USS Winfield Scott

Election Season has Begun!

Elections for the Quadrant One Fleet Commander are held every 4 years. The newest election cycle opened at the 2013 Annual Meeting when the current Fleet Commander, FADM Roy Jackson, started the call for nominations. FADM Jackson stated he will not be running for re-election.

FCAPT Gene Adams nominated ADM Mark Williams, Deputy Fleet Commander. ADM Williams accepted. No further nominations were made at the Fleet meeting, but nominations may be made through June 2014. Nominees must meet the following criteria:

- Hold the rank of Captain/Colonel or higher.
- Be at least 21 years of age
- Be a SFC member in good standing
- Have a minimum of 7 years of service in SFC
- Have served as a Unit Commanding Officer or in a Fleet Support position for at least one year.

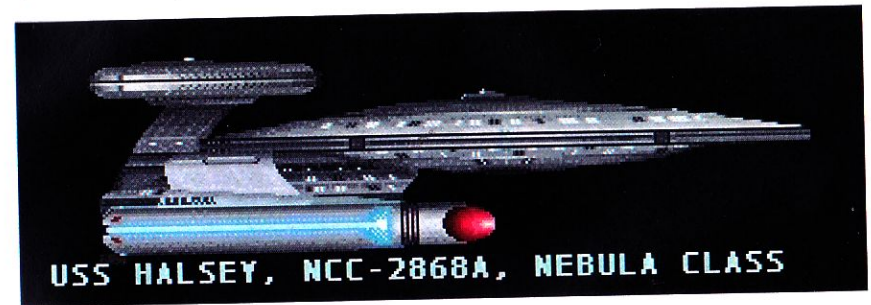
Nominees must also complete the Command Basics exam. Nominations must come from a member holding the rank of Captain/Colonel or higher. If you wish to make a nomination but do not meet the rank requirements, please contact your Unit CO, Starbase CO, or an Admiralty Board member.

The Admiralty Board members and Starbase Commanders will conduct a closed vote in September 2014. A change-of-command ceremony will be held at the 2014 Annual Meeting to be held at Starbase Indy.

For more details on this process, please see Article V of the AFED or contact an Admiralty Board member.

FROM THE BRIDGE of the USS HALSEY NCC-2686-A

By VADM Mary Bischoff



September's away mission to clean our plane at Grissom AFB Museum turned out to be a mission to clean our planes! The Museum asked if we could clean an additional aircraft so we did. In addition to the F-100 that we normally clean, we also cleaned the bomber next to it. Thanks to Mark Milhous, Roseann, David, Jamie and Justin, Clan Bischoff and last, but not least, Clan Walker! We had an awesome time, even if we had to do the cooking ourselves!

A few of us got to meet astronaut Jerry Ross at the downtown Central Library. It was the first time that I had been to the "new" library; gee, it has been several years since it opened. It is a gorgeous place! Mr. Ross was a great speaker and it revived some of my enthusiasm for the space program. And Mr. Ross is also a fan of Star Trek!

PLEASE NOTE:

**All Starfleet Command membership
renewals for 2014**

are due January 31, 2014.

(See our website for details)

1ST MARDIV, SFCQ1



If you've always wanted to be a marine, but didn't know how -- here's your chance. I'm told that many members didn't even know there was a marine component of Starfleet Command. Email the Starfleet Academy (ADM Pinsky) for your basic marine exam.

The 1STMARDIV is organizing. Those wannabe marines in the fleet should report NOW (via your ship's CO) for duty. Make your intentions and identity known to your chain of command.

Marine Battalion (MARBAT) officers-in-charge slots (at the starbase level) are being created and qualified officers selected. Announcements will be made once selections are made.

COL. D. "Firehawk" Sauls
1STMARDIV-BAMF Leader
marineadvisor@sfcq1.com

Do it...do it NOW!

Picnic Review

By CAPT Rose Compton

Saturday, September 21st was a beautiful day for having a picnic with mild temperatures, a slight breeze and sunshine. Several members of Starfleet Command were on hand to enjoy the food, festivities and camaraderie.

In attendance were and representing Starfleet Command were:

USS Mighty M. crew; Rose Compton, Ed Ciccarone, Les Pullman III, Alex & Katie Haugen as well as guests Rhonda Haller & Dana Taylor. TSY's Alan & Heidee Thompson, USS Winfield Scott crew: Faith & Ken Raley, Tony Alcala, John Durham, Christopher Anderson, Dakota & John Dusenberry & guest Dorothy Raley. USS Starfield crew; Lee Starshine & Amina Singh, Starbase 03 members: Mike House, Liz Robinson and Brad Smith.

The games began with a scavenger hunt; listing 20 items to be found within the park and a time limit of 30 minutes to complete.

Participants drew lots to set up teams of 3. The teams consisted of a security officer, to shoot (photograph) several items, a medical officer to collect specimens and a science officer to record and hold the items.

I would like to extend a special thank you to EVERYONE who attended and thank everyone who participated. You ALL made this a success!!!!!!!



Several members had fun throwing tribbles throughout the day.

Comic Con Chicago

By Ensign Alex Haugen, RN, USS Mighty Mississippi, Buffalo, Iowa

Katie and I had an amazing adventure to Comic Con Chicago over the weekend of the 10th and 11th. Wizard World Comic Con Chicago, for those who do not know, is a traveling, smaller version of the big Comic Con in San Diego. This is our second year going to the con. Last year we were delighted to see 3 of the captains from Star Trek and this year was no different.

In line waiting for the con to start on Saturday, we were delighted to talk to other Comic, Sci Fi, and fantasy lovers about anything and everything including the new Star Trek movie, to the up and coming Star Wars Episode 7, and what our favorite comics were. We also got a look at some of the other cosplayers in line. Katie and I dressed up as Troi



and Riker from First Contact, right behind us was a fun Deadpool.

Once we headed inside we went to seek out what we really made it to the con for, the celebrities. We got autographs from Zachary Quinto, Wil Wheaton, and James and Oliver Phelps (Fred and George Weasley from Harry Potter). They were all very nice and we got to talk to each of them

for a few minutes, as well as other fans in line about their roles and a bit about their favorite moments in the making of each movie or episode.

All of this was an amazing time, and the day kept getting better. We went out on the floor to look around at all of the collectables and the comics. We picked up a few small things of art but basically just looked around this year to save up money for next year's con. Our last treat of the day was watching Five Year Mission perform on the Cosplay Stage! It was a good time and they played some of my favorite tunes!

Fan-Based Fun

By ADM Kevin Johnson

While I was at Starbase Indy in November, I heard the question "What is Starfleet Command?" The answer was easy: We are an organization run by fans for fans. We know there's many different Star Trek and sci-fi groups out there. I believe that SFC isn't trying to be the biggest Star Trek group - we want to be the best! Because we are fan-based fun, SFC is growing fast! In 2013 we averaged 10 new members each month. We are growing because we have local starships and space stations with friendly, caring environments.

The Starbase Commanders and Admiralty Board wants monthly reports from each ship not because "that's the rule" but because they want to hear about the fun stuff you're doing. A local ship might not think "only" doing a monthly carry-in dinner is a big deal, but it is simply activities like these that build the bond of friendship. It's okay to be a ship of 3 or a ship of 30 as long as you're having fun.

Starfleet Command leadership exists to make your Fleet experience better. We take the time to make and mail full-color duty orders in special SFC envelopes because we know that's more meaningful than an emailed certificate. Each local unit can promote members using a system that works best for them. If you want help making your unit grow, contact a Starbase Commander or an Admiralty Board member. If that promotion request wasn't processed, email Membership Services (nicely) and we'll take care of it. If you want help building a website for your unit, let us know and we will help. Throughout my entire SFC career, I have always seen Fleet leadership supporting and helping local units and members, not hindering them

Our 40-year anniversary is approaching because we are a 400+ member family, from the midshipmen to the recruits to the admirals. A family of fans...for fans.

USS Starfield

Lee Starshine, CO
Fairfield, Iowa

We held a regular meeting Sept 20, at Mini's house: trivia game and discussed upcoming Star Trek events and watched a video.

Mini and Lee attended the USS Mighty Mississippi picnic in Quad Cities Sept 21.

All three local print newspapers ran articles announcing our October 11 Ship Commissioning event (Fairfield Ledger, Iowa Source, Weekly Reader). A Starbase 03 contingent came from Quad Cities: Commodore James Olson, Ambassadors Liz, Brent, and Tony Steckman. They took a tour of the Maharishi University of Management Campus and had dinner catered by the USS Starfield's First Officer Mini Singh from her restaurant. The commissioning event was held at the Crop Circle Café and Gallery in Fairfield, which is decorated with hundreds of photos of crop circles. The evening started with a lively trivia game (in which the Ambassadors cleaned up most of the prizes – Star Trek DS9 cards). The Crop Circle Café owner Marlene provided snacks and beverages. Susan brought Klingon Blood Wine complete with pitted cherries on the bottom in place of the traditional animal parts. Mini showed video clips from Star Trek ship launches. Captain Lee Starshine gave a presentation about Starfleet Command and the local ship. Jon won the grand prize – a “Beam Me Up” button – in the costume contest with a classic “Monster Maroon” Star Trek II uniform. Runners-up won Borg-style LED finger lights. Commodore Olson presented Captain Starshine and Mini with a Certificate of Ship's Registry for the USS Starfield NCC-108, Fairfield, IA. He also awarded a Dedication Plaque as special recognition for how far the ship has already come since June. This was followed by sparkling cider and a special cake baked by Capt. Starshine, and photo sessions. A total of 43 people attended the event.

Starfleet Command Room Party at Starbase Indy

Each year, Starbase Indy has a major room party sponsored by the UBS Indycent of Barfleet. The party has grown so big and crowded that the Indycent held a room-party contest so patrons could attend other parties and “thin the herd,” so to speak. While the SFC board knew we could not win a room party contest, we thought it was an excellent opportunity to offer convention patrons a room party alternative. We held a non-alcohol party called “Meet the Fleet.”

CAPT Rose Compton and her crew donated decorations and helped with the set-up. We added decorations furnished by the Thompson Ship Yard and our SFC banner. Rose brought her SFC recipe book project for anticipated comments and suggestions, and FCAPT Cyndi Jackson brought her latest project called, “Meet the Fleet,” which is a large photo album with a section devoted to every ship in SFC. All ships are still invited to add photos of their members at events of their choice, along with their ship's logo.

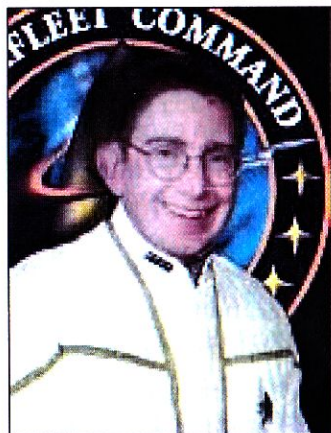


SFC members and non-members joined in lively conversation that lasted until the early hours of the morning. Most people who came in immediately noticed that we were the only room party that offered anything beyond drinks. We offered chips,

nuts, party mix and other snacks, but the big hit was Star Trek shaped chocolates furnished by Cyndi. This was followed by COL Derek Sauls donating candy fudge. Before the night was over, everyone was announcing, “Join Starfleet Command, we have Chocolate.” All in all, we had a great time visiting old friends and making new ones. It is this reporter's hope that we continue this tradition for years to come, and expand it to include conventions all over Quadrant One.

From the Chief of Membership Services

ADM Kevin Johnson



Greetings, Fleet! I am ADM Kevin Johnson, your new Chief of Membership Services. It is my pleasure to create new-member kits, process promotions, help commission new SFC starships and space stations, and overall, improve the member experience.

Our fleet is growing strong! As of 20Nov 2013, Quadrant One (North America) has 405 active members in 4 different countries. We have had 19 members join SFC just since the beginning of September!

We have 116 enlisted personnel, 258 officers, and 31 midshipmen (age 9 and under). Of those 405 members, 158 hold a lifetime membership. See a membership application for lifetime member pricing.

We have 39 local chapters. Most chapters are starships, but we do have space stations, a ship yard, and planetary outposts as well. The average chapter size is 8. The largest chapter is the USS Endeavour at 45 members!

Many members have asked to only receive the Fleet newsletter electronically. We would be happy to do so! Please notify Membership Services if you no longer wish to receive a paper copy of the newsletter.

Finally, it's renewal time again! You can mail a check to Starfleet Command, but you can also renew via PayPal. Either send us a payment via PayPal, or request a PayPal bill. (Paying a PayPal bill does not require having a PayPal account.)

If there is anything Membership Services can do for you, please email me at cms@sfcq1.com.

STARFLEET COMMAND FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER 2013

by ADM Anthony Scott

BEGINNING BALANCE	\$4,151.02
INCOME	
MEMBERSHIP DUES:	
SB 03	\$32.00
SB 06	\$12.00
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP DUES	\$44.00
SHIP STORE SALES:	
T-SHIRTS	\$20.00
POLO SHIRTS	\$25.00
TOTAL STORE SALES	\$45.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$89.00
EXPENSES	
FINANCE:	
PAYPAL CHARGES	\$0.88
TOTAL FINANCE	\$0.88
FLEET STORE:	
T-SHIRTS	(\$120.00)
TOTAL FLEET STORE	(\$120.00)
OTHER:	
TOTAL EXPENSES	(\$119.12)
ENDING BALANCE	\$4,359.14

USS Indianapolis: From the Desk of the Ops Department

by CDR Patricia Young

I joined the crew of the USS Indianapolis last year. I tried to find a way to get to know my fellow crew members, so I decided to invite them to join me in an old fashioned crocheting party. I showed them how our ancestors made many different items using a crochet hook and many different colors of yarn.

The party was a big hit and many of my fellow crew members have asked to learn how to crochet. I took the opportunity to show them how to do blankets as we were heading towards a planet that has been devastated by many earthquakes and tsunamis and extreme climate changes, which left over half of the planet's residents without homes and basic necessities. I admit that what we can do is a small drop in the bucket, but every bit helps.

I have not had a chance to make any log entries until now. We have been so busy helping that all I can do is take a nap here and there and eat when I can. When we finally got there, I was so overwhelmed by the devastation that it took my breath away. I didn't know where to start. The people were so lost that I couldn't imagine them ever recovering from this. When we were looking around, my captain saw an elderly lady in the corner just sitting. He grabbed one of the blankets that we had made and wrapped it around her. It was like a light had turned on in her eyes. She gave him the biggest smile and thanked him. So, for the rest of the day we handed out the blankets with food and water. That was the start of a very long two weeks that had become the most rewarding two weeks that I have experienced. At first, I didn't think that it would be possible for them to recover. Now I have no doubt that they will. I saw people risking their own lives to save two little dogs for some children who had been upset about them. I saw another man go into the water and let a dog climb on his back so he could get him to safety. Also, there were many ships coming with food, water and basic needs. Many people came and helped them to build temporary shelters. I know that this will be a shining example of spirit and great compassion.

A Busy Summer for this Starbase 03 Officer!

By CMDR Nancy Bailey, FO, SB03

It has been a very busy summer for this Officer, starting with the much anticipated Star Trek Creation in Chicago. I had been looking forward to this event for months. The cast of Star Trek, the Next Generation was there. But, what was so special about it to me, was that I had the chance to finally meet people I consider friends: my colleagues at Starfleet Command and the crews of many Starbase 03 ships. After chatting on Facebook, exchanging through emails and conference calls, it was great to finally meet face to face. Everyone was very welcoming, we talked, they got me to try the local cuisine and we got to see a great show that evening – an evening with the crew of the Starship Enterprise. I didn't think anything could top that, but I was wrong. I got



a surprise promotion ceremony lead by ... Commodore James Olson, Admiral Mark Williams and Fleet Admiral Roy Jackson. I was presented with my promotion certificate and a few tokens of appreciation.

At the end of the day, the whole group joined up in Rose Compton's room where we chatted some more, took pictures (there is a nice picture of us 3 girls wearing the 3 different SFC shirts) and exchanged ideas. I felt really special that day. Thank you everyone!



On July 1st, I joined the members of Starship Obready in Magog so that we could all go together to the Canada Day parade in Hatley. We were asked to come again next year. Maybe we'll get first prize!

On July 6th a terrible accident happened in a town in the Eastern Townships. The following Friday, a candle light vigil was held in about 50 cities across the province to show our support. Even now, activities are still taking place to support the people of the town of Lac Megantic who have lost so much. This is part of what we do at Starfleet Command, so of course we are involved.

August 24th will be the Starship Obready's annual barbecue, which is always fun. I am so lucky to be surrounded by such good friends.

Ohio Comic Con 2013

by Vice Admiral Lisa Johnson

The Johnson family attended Ohio Comic Con on Sept 21-22 in Columbus, Ohio. Stars included William Shatner, Stan Lee, Sean Astin, Ray Parks, Jason David Franks, Summer Glau, and many, many more.



While it was a large convention, it did not feel crowded. Everyone was polite and friendly, from fellow attendees to staff members to guests of honor. The few lines we saw moved very fast.

Stan Lee is over 90 years old, but is just as vibrant as you would expect him to be!

William Shatner has mellowed a good deal and is not the egotist he once was. (Nor can he figure out his own Priceline.com phone app.) Both Jason David Franks (*Power Rangers*) and Ray Parks (*The Phantom Menace*, *X-Men*, *GI Joe*) started learning martial arts at a young age and both have high-level black belts in multiple styles.

It was the kids' first convention, and it was a very kid-friendly experience. The kids got to see R2-D2 moving and chirping as soon as they walked in the con. They got their pictures taken with Stormtroopers, bounty hunters, and even a Predator. The con gave them many take-home goodies, as did several vendors. While there was no children's programming track, there was a lot for children to see and do. The big moment was when the kids got to meet Jason David Franks, get his autograph, and be part of his martial arts "power hour" (where they got to do martial arts with Mr. Franks).

Ohio Comic Con 2014 will be held Halloween weekend in Columbus. There will also be a Louisville Comic Con 2014 in March (within a weekend or two of Millennicon, if not the same weekend.) Con tickets were not much more expensive than tickets to Millennicon, Starbase Indy, or other local cons. Children were free.



Yeoman Moxie Magnus
Chief Cosmetologist, USS Five Year Mission