

AVENGER NEWS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE U.S.S. AVENGER NCC-1860

<http://www.ussavenger.org>

#143 - APRIL 2014

<http://www.sfi.org>

FARPOINT 2014



MARYLAND'S FEBRUARY TREK/SCI-FI EVENT!

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CAPTAIN'S LOG

BY DAVID LYNCH



Hi, all,

2014 so far has been a much more active year for me. For those who haven't been around, I am now finally making it out to more events, which is a goal I set for myself this year. If you're not making it out to events, please do. I'd love to see more folks at events, including those I have not yet had the opportunity to meet. There are plenty of ideas on the table, so to speak; please come out and be a part of the fun.

Here are some ongoing events for the year: First are our monthly meetings. These are mostly scheduled for the second Sunday of every month at 2 PM, at the North Brunswick Public Library. Second, the "Command Staff Training Program" is currently also being held at the North Brunswick Public Library. Most of the training sessions are on the fourth Sunday of the month, with few exceptions. Please watch Facebook and our mailing list for exact dates. The training sessions are from 1 PM to 5 PM and are open to ALL members of the *Avenger*, not just the Command Staff. If you have ever been interested in being on the Command Staff or wondered what the Command Staff does, these training sessions are a good way to learn. I encourage everyone to come out to the training, even if you do not have an interest in being on the Command Staff; these sessions are a good way to see how things are done "behind the scenes".

I would at this time like to thank those who have been attending the training sessions that have been held so far. I have been enjoying sharing the information about how things are done behind the scenes and I am also happy that those who have been attending are taking the time to ask questions and take notes. I am also happy to report that other chapters who follow our Facebook group have expressed an interest in the program, and I have shared it with them. In this sense, we are setting a bar for others in STARFLEET to strive for in the sense of "in-house" training for their leadership.

At the beginning of March, I was contacted by a business in Phillipsburg, NJ who were planning an event. They asked if we

would like to come and recruit for our chapter. An invitation was also put out to other chapters in the region via the Region 7 Facebook group. If anyone has any ideas about how we can recruit new members, please let the Command Staff and Executive Command Staff know.

Last fall, we were talking about possible events for this year. If there is something you would like to see us do or something you feel we would like to do, please suggest it. You never know the response you might get. I would love to hear input from those that we normally do not hear from. As I always say, this is your chapter, and I would love to see everyone involved and participating in our various activities. These are a good way to socialize and get to know your fellow members.

I know this is a few months away, but I would love to see our members attend the 2014 Regional Conference in Binghamton, NY. The conference will be held October 3, 4, and 5, 2014 at the Holiday Inn-Downtown. These conferences are a good way to meet your fellow members of Region 7 and STARFLEET. It is my hope that we will have a good turnout for this event. I have already registered myself and Chief of Communications Jennifer Thompson. I will gladly make a copy of the Registration Form available to anyone who requests it. I am also passing out copies to anyone who attends meetings and to whom I know I haven't given one. This is also another way to obtain one from me.

Until next time,

Dave

Captain Dave Lynch

Avenger News is the official newsletter of the science fiction based fan club, *USS Avenger*, and is published bi-monthly. The *USS Avenger* is a chapter of Starfleet, the International Star Trek Fan Association, Inc. The opinions contained within do not necessarily reflect those of the staff, *Avenger*, or *STARFLEET*.

Subscription to *Avenger News* is free to all members and \$10 annually to non-members. To subscribe, send check or money order, payable to *USS Avenger*, to:

Avenger News 331 Academy Terrace, Apt 17 Linden, NJ 07036-5695

Advertisement inquiries, letters, and address corrections should be sent to the above address or emailed to: karate666.aol.com

Submissions for *Avenger News* should be emailed to Alexr1860@optimum.net or streetmailed to: *Avenger News* Home Office, c/o Alex Rosenzweig, 980 Linwood Place, North Brunswick, NJ 08902-2267

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EXECUTIVE THOUGHTS

BY ALEX ROSENZWEIG



Greetings, all!

As I write this, we're coming to the end of a long, tough winter in the northeastern United States. I, for one, am looking forward to spring. Of course, there are the usual clichés about renewal and revitalization, all of which are valid enough, but at the same time, it'll be a relief not to have to worry so much that every storm has the potential to immobilize travel, work, and the ability to get things done. We've actually been pretty lucky in that most of *Avenger's* events have been spared (though not all!), but some of our neighbor chapters haven't been so fortunate. Still and all, I think we have generally had enough of this winter!

Another thing which I'm having a much harder time getting enough of this year is the new "Cosmos". Subtitled "A Spacetime Odyssey", this series is hosted/narrated by Neil deGrasse Tyson. Many readers of this column might recall the profound impact the original "Cosmos" had on public perceptions of science. While this incarnation may not be as groundbreaking as its predecessor, it does something all too rare and valuable these days: it speaks uncompromisingly of the awe and wonder that comes from embracing science, and the importance of exploring the universe and relying on questions and reasoned analysis to help us seek out answers. In this day and age in which asking questions and following a reasoned analysis is so looked down upon, a show like "Cosmos", and a scientist like Tyson, are all too valuable, and deserve our support.

Meanwhile, I've gotten peripherally involved in the "Star Trek: Axanar" production. I'm helping with a tech book the team is working on for the ships of the film. I have to say, all the folks working on the project are either huge Trek fans or

folks committed to making a great film, so my hopes are very high,

Back on *Avenger*, I'm really hoping that with the renewal that comes with spring, more of you will come out and join in the fun activities that we both have scheduled and are planning. And, of course, at the risk of sounding like a broken record, we—that is, the senior staff—very much want to hear from you about what stuff you'd like the chapter to be doing.

Also, please don't forget about the 2014 recruiting program. As you saw last issue, if you actively recruit new people to join STARFLEET and the chapter, there are some cool reward incentives for YOU! We recommend having folks join STARFLEET first, and that's because they can then join the chapter at no additional charge, whereas it doesn't work the same way the other way around. So if you have friends or acquaintances who enjoy Star Trek and/or science fiction, and who might like to meet and hang out with others who share those interests, don't hesitate to encourage them to check us out. And if the people you recruit get active themselves, the rewards to you are even greater! So go out, recruit folks, and reap the rewards.

And that's it from me for now! Enjoy the rest of this issue of *Avenger News*! Have fun, and don't forget "Mission Docket" for neat upcoming events. Take care, and 'til next time...
Ad Astra!

Alex

ADM Alex Rosenzweig

FISCAL REPORT JANUARY-MARCH 2014

	Date	Debit	Credit	Balance
Initial Balance - January	1/1/14			\$1,596.02
Tim Drude Newsletter Renewal (Deposited 1/13)	1/12/14		\$5.00	\$1,601.02
Judy Waidlich Newsletter Renewal (Deposited 1/13)	1/12/14		\$5.00	\$1,606.02
Matt Rielly Newsletter Renewal (Deposited 1/13)	1/12/14		\$5.00	\$1,611.02
August Ciufu Chapter Renewal (Deposited 1/13)	1/12/14		\$15.00	\$1,626.02
50/50 (Deposited 1/13)	1/12/14		\$8.00	\$1,634.02
Ending Balance	3/31/14			\$1,634.02

SECOND OFFICER'S REPORT

BY JUDY WAIDLICH



No promotions to report! Haven't I told you how much I like seeing people earning promotions? Please join us at upcoming events – we have Command Staff Training Sessions where you learn the behind-the-scenes of running the chapter, movie outings, and our picnic in June, just to name a few.

I attended the Geology Open House and wrote a newsletter article. I also watched "Defying Gravity" at the video day at Alex's. I enjoyed the series. I'm not sure what I was watching at the time that I missed it originally.

Farpoint was a nice time to meet up with people I see at cons. I spent lots of time in various panels, including steampunk, fan films, and an author panel or two. I sat in on the R7 meeting, also.

I've racked up more Academy courses, earning the Garnet Boothby and getting over halfway to the next one. I should mention that passing Academy courses earns you 10 points per course and scoring honors or distinctions earns you 15 points per course. So taking something easy like the schematic courses in the School of Starship Design can earn you many points quickly (I earned distinctions on all of them (40 or so).

I've attended the three C-Staff Training Sessions. You learn a lot about the behind-the-scenes stuff – monthly status reports, nominations for Region and Fleet Awards, and *Avenger* records have been the subjects so far. I would like to see more people attend.

I've fallen behind with my reading for the Marine Academy Challenge, partly due to the Academy courses and partly with going through magazines in order to straighten out my apartment. I can see an improvement, but a lot a work (and magazines) remains.

I'm looking forward to the Intergalactic Food Fest (postponed from March) and "Captain America: The Winter Soldier". The Anniversary Picnic will be at the end of June, and then there'll be Shore Leave, among other events. Hopefully we'll even have a promotion or two in the upcoming months. I hope to see some of you at these events.

Take care until next time.

Judy

IMAGE GALLERY



"The Refits That Never Were", by "mckinneyc" (from DeviantArt)
[Submitted by Alex Rosenzweig]

MEMBERSHIP ALLEY

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(Family Memberships \$12.50)

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Join the International fun of STARFLEET at www.sfi.org \$10.00 gets you four electronic issues of the *Communiqué* (and \$20.00 gets you four hard copy issues) and access to the many fun programs STARFLEET offers. It also means that your next renewal with the *Avenger* is **FREE!**

ROSTER UPDATE

Additions--Welcome Aboard!

1) Vice Admiral Susan Bolick
Assistant Chief Medical Officer
35 South College St
Weaverville, NC 28787-9402
(828) 712-4797
E-Mail: needlerknits@gmail.com

2) Commander Mark Bolick
Division/Position Pending
35 South College St
Weaverville, NC 28787-9402
(828) 712-4797
E-Mail: heatpump@charter.net

Welcome Back--Thanks for Renewing

1) CMDR Kathy Dickinson
2) CMDR Stephan Dickinson

Commendations—Congratulations!

1) Command Commendation to LCDR Jason Blackstone

Changes and Revisions—Where Are They Now?

1) COL Amber Stronach should now be listed as Chief of Security.

IMAGE GALLERY



"New Horizons", by Jamie Hurst
[Submitted by Alex Rosenzweig]

THE 2014 U.S.S. AVENGER RECRUITING PROGRAM

For 2014, with the approval of the Command Staff, the following program has been put into effect, beginning in January:

If a member of the *Avenger*...

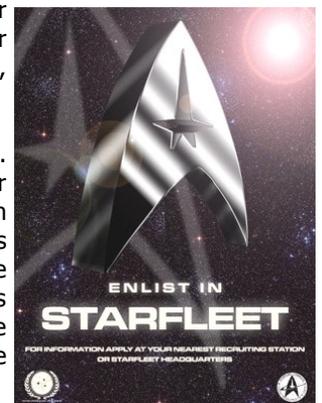
- ◆ Recruits **one member** to STARFLEET and/or the chapter, that member will get one year's membership paid for. (In most cases, that will be a STARFLEET membership, since the chapter is then mostly free, except for a hardcopy newsletter if desired.)
- ◆ Recruits **two (2) to four (4) members** to STARFLEET and/or the chapter, that member will get a free STARFLEET/*Avenger* renewal plus a \$25 gift certificate/card at either Barnes & Noble or a store of the member's choice.
- ◆ Recruits **five (5) or more** members, to STARFLEET and/or the chapter, that member will get a free STARFLEET/*Avenger* renewal plus a \$50 gift certificate/card at either Barnes & Noble or a store of the member's choice.
- ◆ If the new recruits get **active and involved** (as opposed to being just names on a roster) over a period of **three (3) months or longer**, we'll double the monetary reward.

Any member who puts in the effort to recruit new members to the group will also receive a **recruiting commendation** certificate.

Please note that this can apply to being instrumental in convincing **former members** to **reactivate** a membership, as well as to recruiting people who've never been members before. It doesn't, though, count for your own renewal.

Also, as a reminder, anyone who visits us at a meeting or activity, and chooses to join right then and there, can receive a **25% discount** on their membership. (If they join {or renew with} STARFLEET online, we will reimburse them in cash.)

So, go on out there and recruit. If you know folks who like Star Trek or sci-fi, invite them to join STARFLEET and the *Avenger*! As you can see, there are some pretty nice rewards in this year's program, so we invite you to take advantage of them and help the club grow.



U.S.S. AVENGER SIT-REP

BY ALEX ROSENZWEIG

This column, in accordance with the *Avenger* Officer's Manual, is "a regular report of crew activities, in the form of a column in *Avenger News* or as a separate mailing. It started out with the idea of being a roundup of divisional activities, but is being retooled into a more general summary of chapter events and highlights. As such, if there's something you'd like to share with the group—an idea, a suggestion, a personal milestone, etc.—feel free to let me know and it can get included. "SitRep" is a term used typically by the military or other government groups. It's an abbreviation for "Situation Report", a report given to both senior officers and subordinate staff to make sure that, put simply, they know what's going on. And that's what we do here.

Onward...

DIVISIONS:

COMMAND:



FCAPT Dave continues to oversee the day-to-day administration of the chapter. Dave also continues to lead the "Command Staff Training Program" which he created for our chapter and has shared the program with three other chapters within STARFLEET. He has also been attending a good number of other events within our chapter. During March, he also coordinated a Recruiting Op held in Phillipsburg, NJ. Dave also continues to serve as a Subject Matter Expert Consultant at the STARFLEET Office of Technical Information.

The XO's office has continued to focus on activity-shepherding and newsletter work. The biggest challenge has remained getting members to participate, as well as to encourage others to bring ideas to the table. The XO was pleased to support the expansion of the Command Staff to a full complement, with the addition of COL Amber Stronach as Chief of Security, as well as supporting the recent recruiting operation in Phillipsburg.

ADM Alex has been a regular attendee at the Command Staff Training Sessions, having been at all three so far.

Meanwhile, *Avenger News* #142 was finished in mid-February, and Issue #143 is targeted for mid-April.

The Second Officer has continued maintaining the Promotion System and monitoring for the next promotions. She has also been updating the database, but no one is eligible for promotion. That could change if folks attend more events and activities, of course. RADM Judy has also been attending the Command Staff Training Sessions, and partly led the March session, which included a focus on the *Avenger's* point system database. She's been taking Academy courses, as well.

SCIENCES:



CMDR Sarah Bolick is happy to note that Sciences had a visible presence in the newsletter last issue, and will again in this issue, as well.

Sarah still hopes to hear back from Sciences members and have some fun conversations about Trek and science.

MEDICAL:



LCDR Jason Blackstone reports that things have been quiet in the Medical Division. Continuing efforts are being made to engage all members of Medical. MedDiv members, please feel free to chat with Jason! <Grin>

In the meantime, he has passed along some medical information tidbits, including warnings to be careful about burns and cuts, and news of a genetic mutation found by researchers which, if it could be mimicked by a drug, could be used to prevent Type 2 diabetes (see "Trekin' the Web").

Also, VADM Susan Bolick has transferred to the *Avenger*, and has joined MedDiv as Assistant Chief Medical Officer. Welcome, Susan!

OPERATIONS:



CMDR Norm Van Houten reports that, aside from his own ongoing assistance in getting the newsletter mailed out to those receiving it in hard copy (thanks, Norm!), Operations has remains quiet. OpsDiv members, don't forget to say hi to Norm from time to time!

ENGINEERING:



CAPT Matt Rielly continues to participate in the Command Staff Training Program initiated by our CO, having attended the second and third sessions.

Matt took a turn at chairing the March ship meeting, and has continued to update division members regarding details on future activities, events and other significant goings-on as more information is made available.

COMMUNICATIONS:



The Communications Division has been mostly quiet, though LCDR Jennifer Thompson has continued her attempts to communicate with the members of the Communications Division. CommDiv members, please give her a "hi, there" back!

SECURITY:



The Security Division now has a Chief! Please welcome COL Amber Stronach to the position of Chief of Security! She has begun to reach out to the members of Security, so, folks, if you haven't heard from Amber yet, you can expect to soon. Please do respond! She's also working on some fun "assignments" for the rest of the Division to carry out, and plans to encourage the members of SecDiv to take some Academy exams.

On the Marine side, Amber is actively taking part in the SFMC Reading Challenge, and has been enjoying novels such as *The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring*, by J.R.R. Tolkien; *The Hobbit*, also by J.R.R. Tolkien; *The Spook's Revenge*, by Joseph Delaney; and *A Game of Thrones*, by George R.R. Martin.

U.S.S. AVENGER SIT-REP

Meanwhile, FCAPT Dave continues to oversee the day-to-day administration of the 769th Marine Strike Group.

(If your division isn't included here, there wasn't any division-specific news this issue. For anyone interested in ideas for or assistance in developing divisional activity, feel free to contact your division chief and/or the XO.)

GENERAL:

Activity-wise, the *Avenger's* schedule has continued with lots of activities to choose from. Attendance has remained a problem, though, and we're continuing to try various approaches to try to improve response. This is something we hope that all of you will help with.

Our recent activities have included, in addition to the meetings:

- ◆ Command Staff "Training Sessions" Covering Report Writing, Award Nominations, and the *Avenger* and STARFLEET Databases (and Other Information Archiving)
- ◆ A Group Trip to the "Life In Space" Talk and Discussion at Trailside Nature and Science Center
- ◆ A Writers Workshop
- ◆ A Group Trip to the Opening of "Captain America: The Winter Soldier"

Looking ahead, we see activities including:

- ◆ More Video/Movie Days
- ◆ More Group Trips to Film Releases
- ◆ A Board Game Day
- ◆ Command Staff "Training Sessions" – All members are welcome!

By the way, we're always looking for suggestions from folks for films you'd like to see as a group. Feel free to share your suggestions on the *Avenger's* mailing list, in our Facebook group, or even by contacting any member of the Command Staff. We'll be heavily relying on your input to determine what films we should see together as a group.

We're looking forward to scheduling more video days, and we're definitely interested in knowing what films/TV shows **you'd** like to watch together, and also if you'd be willing to host such an event. (We've had some wonderfully generous folks host these events in the past, but hopefully we won't have to keep going back to the same people over and over again. If we can move things around a bit, that'd be welcome.)

And, as always, if there's something you'd like to suggest for an event, don't hesitate to speak up. We want to hold events that out members want to attend, but we can only do what members tell us they'd like. Your input is really important here. As some of you may have seen, we've been compiling a large list of potential activities, which we hope to develop into real events, but your input and support are crucial. The senior staff can't do it alone.

Mission Reports:

This section of the column features short recaps of various *Avenger* and STARFLEET events. To make it the best it can be, though, I need your help. If you've been to an event, you don't need to write a whole long article. Just a paragraph or two would be great. Send them to me and I'll include them here. And if you've got pictures you want to supply, that, too, would be pretty awesome. (By the way, if a lot of folks contribute for a single activity, it could always be broken out into a separate article, and if you **want** to write a stand-alone piece, don't let this feature stop you from doing so! It's not an either-or proposition, just another way to share.)

26 January, 23 February, 23 March 2014 – Command Staff Training Sessions:

As of the time you read this report, we will have held three sessions of our "Command Staff Training Program". I am happy to see a majority of our Command Staff attending these training sessions, while also taking notes and asking very good questions. These sessions are providing information to those attending about how things are done behind the scenes in relation to how the *Avenger* is run. I would, however, like to see more members attending these training sessions. They are open to ALL members, whether they are interested in being on the Command Staff or not, and are a good way to see what goes on between meetings and events, and what goes into preparing for both. My thanks go out to those of you who have been attending, taking notes, and asking questions. (FCAPT Dave Lynch)

14-16 February 2014 – Farpoint

Farpoint is always a fun convention. It's quieter and more laid-back than Shore Leave, our summer favorite, but that affords opportunities for interaction with attendees and guests just not possible at other conventions. For example,



a little oddity of a panel this year was called, "Ask Dave Mack Anything". The attendees, aside from David Mack himself, were one of the other author guests, RADM Judy Waidlich, and me. So, mostly, it was the four of us hanging around and Dave telling us writing stories and sharing his thoughts about his past work, and what he's working on in the future. Another panel I attended involved authors who made the choice to kill one or more of their characters (and, no, David Mack was not on that panel). It was interesting listening to the authors who were there discuss both the logic and emotion involved in such choices. Among the main guests, the one who most interested me was author Alan dean Foster, who told stories ranging from his involvement with "Star Trek: The Motion Picture" to travels in Africa, just to have the experience of having been there.

Of course, a big reason to go to conventions was to meet up with friends we don't often get to see elsewhere, such as our friends from "Starship Farragut" or current and past members

U.S.S. AVENGER SIT-REP

of 'FLEET from all over the area. The Farragut folks had a 1/350 scale model done of the ship by our other friends at The Collective, and the grin on John Broughton's face as he held that model was utterly infectious. I couldn't help but snap off a couple of shots of that happy man.

All in all, it was a really nice weekend, and one I heartily recommend for anyone who enjoys conventions that are interaction-heavy, with both guests and fellow fans.
(ADM Alex Rosenzweig)

8 March 2014 – "Life in Space" Event



The Trailside Nature and Science Center is a museum and educational facility located on the northern edge of Avenger's main operating area. We actually have a history with them going way back, though we hadn't visited in some time. Recently, though, we had an opportunity to return. They were hosting a lecture called "Life in Space", and FCAPT Dave, LCDR Jenn, RADM Judy, and I decided to see what it was all about. The speaker was Harold Kozak, a professor from Wagner College and a NASA Solar System Ambassador. Aided by a slide show he'd set up on his computer, he took the audience through the positives and negatives of human life in space, what we could expect, and how we'd adapt. A lot of it was fairly prosaic stuff, dealing with zero-g, radiation, etc., but he couldn't keep his enthusiasm for the topic from shining through, as he touched briefly on genetic modifications, galactic civilizations, and even time travel, which he said was an ever-popular subject with lecture audiences. In the end, it was a rewarding, fun talk, and we enjoyed meeting Professor Kozak and his wife afterward.

Following the talk, we spent a bit of time exploring the museum, as well. It had been redone quite a bit since the old days of Astronomy Sunday, when Avenger recruited one Sunday each February for about five years as part of a big astronomy-related event. These days there are still a lot of neat exhibits, and we particularly enjoyed watching the fish and the turtles.

We finished up the day with lunch at TGI Friday's not far from the museum, and then headed on home, our minds caught up in the wonder and possibilities of Humanity's future in outer space.

(ADM Alex Rosenzweig)

15 March 2014 – Writers' Workshop

Last fall, when we were chatting about activity ideas, one which got a lot of interest was a Writers' Workshop. This concept wasn't the same as the long-running Avenger Fiction Workshop series. Instead, the goal was to have folks be able to come and talk about whatever they might be working on: fiction, nonfiction, original, tie-in, whatever. As it happened, we got a very nice turnout at my place, where we gathered to chew the fat, as it were. Six of us were in attendance, including myself, RADM Judy Waidlich, FCAPT Dave Lynch, CAPT Matt Rielly, LCDR Jenn Thompson, and LTJG Daniel Negron. We

talked about stories we were all working on, struggles with writer's block, inspirations for writing, and even original universes we were creating. All in all, it was a very enjoyable and refreshing experience, and I hope folks might want to do it again.

(ADM Alex Rosenzweig)

22 March 2014 – Nevermoor Games Recruiting Operation

This was an interesting one. Out of nowhere, it seemed, FCAPT Dave was contacted by a lady identifying herself as Lee. As it turned out, she's the owner of a café, gaming store, auction house, and flea market in converted warehouse space in Phillipsburg, NJ. She had decided to host a sci-fi/fantasy day, had discovered the Avenger, and wanted to know if we'd like to join in for recruiting/publicity. Deciding it was a good chance to bring word of STARFLEET to an area we didn't usually visit, we eagerly agreed, and FCAPT Dave Lynch, LCDR Jenn Thompson, and I found ourselves manning a table at Lee's facility, Nevermoor Games/Café 22. While turnout wasn't huge, we did



make some new friends and let a bunch of folks know we existed. We had hoped that some of the other chapters, including ones located closer to the venue, might join in, but in the end, it was just us. We also spent a lot of time chatting with the medieval combat fan group who had a table next to ours, and found there were quite a few shared interests. We ended the day up the road at a nearby diner, where CAPT Matt Rielly, who'd gotten a later start than planned that day, joined us for a repast before we all journeyed home.

In a coda to the event, we have since been contacted by Lee again. She's hoping to hold another sci-fi event in September, and has invited us back! Plans are afoot...

(ADM Alex Rosenzweig)

Special thanks to those who have contributed to this column! It's really appreciated. We invite anyone who went to an event and would like to share to also contribute a paragraph or two to this column! It's quick and easy, and it's great to share different views of what the club and its members are doing!

THE GALILEO MISSION TO JUPITER

BY FRASER CAIN, *UNIVERSE TODAY*
 SUBMITTED (WITH SLIGHT MODIFICATION) BY GEORGE SHELDON

NASA's Galileo spacecraft arrived at Jupiter on 7 December 1995, and proceeded to study the giant planet for almost eight years. It sent back a tremendous amount of scientific information that revolutionized our understanding of the Jovian system. By the end of its mission, Galileo was worn down. Instruments were failing and scientists were worried they wouldn't be able to communicate with the spacecraft in the future. If they lost contact, Galileo would continue to orbit the Jupiter and potentially crash into one of its icy moons.

Galileo would certainly have Earth bacteria on board, which might contaminate the pristine environments of the Jovian moons, and so NASA decided it would be best to crash Galileo into Jupiter, removing the risk entirely. Although everyone in the scientific community was certain this was the safe and wise thing to do, there was a small group of people concerned that crashing Galileo into Jupiter, with its plutonium thermal reactor, might cause a cascade reaction that would ignite Jupiter into a second star in the Solar System.

Hydrogen bombs are ignited by detonating plutonium, and Jupiter's got a lot of hydrogen. Since we don't have a second star, you'll be glad to know this didn't happen. Could it have happened? Could it ever happen? The answer, of course, is a series of no's. No, it couldn't have happened. There's no way it could ever happen...or is there?

Jupiter is mostly made of hydrogen. In order to turn it into a giant fireball, you'd need oxygen to burn it. Water tells us what the recipe is. There are two atoms of hydrogen to one atom of oxygen. If you can get the two elements together in those quantities, you get water.

In other words, if you could surround Jupiter with half again more of Jupiter's worth of oxygen, you'd get a Jupiter plus a

half sized fireball. It would turn into water and release energy. But that much oxygen isn't handy, and even though it's a giant ball of fire, that's still not a star anyway. In fact, stars aren't "burning" at all, at least not in the combustion sense.

Our Sun produces its energy through fusion. The vast gravity compresses hydrogen down to the point that high pressure and temperatures cram hydrogen atoms into helium. This is a fusion reaction. It generates excess energy, and so the Sun is bright. And the only way you can get a reaction like this is when you bring together a massive amount of hydrogen. In fact, you'd need a star's worth of hydrogen. Jupiter is a thousand times less massive than the Sun. In other words, if you crashed 1,000 Jupiters together, then we'd have a second actual sun in our Solar System.

But the Sun isn't the smallest possible star you can have. In fact, if you have about 7.5% the mass of the Sun's worth of hydrogen collected together, you'll get a red dwarf star. So the smallest red dwarf star is still about 80 times the mass of Jupiter. You know the drill, find 79 more Jupiters, crash them into Jupiter, and we'd have a second star in the Solar System.

There's another object that's less massive than a red dwarf, but it's still sort of starlike: a brown dwarf. This is an object which isn't massive enough to ignite in true fusion, but it's still massive enough that deuterium, a variant of hydrogen, will fuse. You can get a brown dwarf with only 13 times the mass of Jupiter. Now that's not so hard, right? Find 13 more Jupiters, crash them into the planet? As was demonstrated with Galileo, igniting Jupiter or its hydrogen is not a simple matter. We won't get a second star unless there's a series of catastrophic collisions in the Solar System. And if that happens...we'll have other problems on our hands.



IMAGE GALLERY



"The Voyage of the *Mayflower*", by "eurylade" (from DeviantArt)
 [Submitted by Alex Rosenzweig]

STARFLEET AND REGION 7 NEWS



STARFLEET News:

** Executive Committee News:

- **RADM Hayden S. Segel** has been appointed as the Vice Commander, STARFLEET.

** Admiralty Board Updates:

- **GEN Sam Black** has been elected as the next **Region 3 Regional Coordinator**.

** GEN Mark Anbinder stepped down as STARFLEET **IC Liaison**. He has been succeeded by VADM Marian Murphy.

** There has been a **membership rate change** effective 1 January 2014. This will be based on whether a member wants a "paper" STARFLEET *Communiqué* or an "electronic" *Communiqué*. The prices will be \$5 higher for paper or \$5 lower for electronic, e.g., US\$20 for paper or \$10 for electronic.

** **STARFLEET Operations** has announced the commissioning of the following chapters:

- **U.S.S. Artemis**, NCC-75635, based in Dallas, TX, Region 3, CAPT Jeremy Mayes, Commanding
- **U.S.S. Venus**, NCC-74704, based in Sarasota, FL, Region 2, CAPT Michael McBride, Commanding



** **STARFLEET Operations** has announced the launching of the following shuttlecraft:

- **Shuttlecraft Coronet** NCC-74930/01 in Goulburn, NSW, Australia, Region 11, Aboard *U.S.S. Tydirium*
- **Shuttlecraft Hunter** NCC-74930/02 in Newcastle, NSW, Australia, Region 11, Aboard *U.S.S. Tydirium*
- **Shuttlecraft Thylacine** NCC-74930/03 in Wollongong, NSW, Australia, Region 11, Aboard *U.S.S. Tydirium*

** **STARFLEET Academy** News

- The **College of Gaming** is now live, with several courses ready. Active schools include the School of Carcassonne, the School of Star Trek Online, and the School of World of Warcraft.

** **STARFLEET Marine Corps** News

- The new STARFLEET Marine Corps **Logo/Seal** have been approved for use.

** **Membership Perks** have been established for **STARFLEET members**. Here is where to find discount codes to all of our Membership Perk Partners:

- Surf to the STARFLEET Database at <https://db.sfi.org/>
- Log on using your database ID (provided to you as part of your membership packet, but if you don't know what your

User ID and password is, please contact the STARFLEET Help Desk)

- Click on the "MEMBER" button on the left side to show the menu of available member tools
- Click on the "MEMBERSHIP PERK" button.

On this page, you'll see all of STARFLEET's Membership Perks and their discount codes for you to use!

For more information about STARFLEET's Membership Perks, please visit: <http://perks.sfi.org/>

** A new **STARFLEET Membership Perk**

- Thanks to Chris Tolbert, a 25% discount has been negotiated with **Trek Con Springfield** for STARFLEET Members! The discount can be applied to admission packages and t-shirts that are currently available for purchase from their website. The convention is taking place on **9-11 May 2014** at the Springfield Expo Center in Springfield, Missouri. The discount code is available in the STARFLEET Database under the "MEMBER" menu on the "MEMBERSHIP PERKS" page.

** **STARFLEET International Conference** News

- **IC 2014** will take place **8-10 August 2014**, at the **Clock Tower Resort and Convention Center** in Rockford, Illinois, in Region 12. Their web site is online and the hotel is accepting reservations:
<http://www.ic2014.com/>



- **IC 2015** has been announced. It will be held in **Niagara Falls, NY** on **21-23 August 2015**, at the **Conference & Event Center Niagara Falls**.

- The IC2015 **website** and **registration pages** are now online and ready for you to enjoy! You can find the website at: <http://www.ic2015.com/>
Register for IC2015 through EventBrite at:
<http://ic2015.eventbrite.com/>

Or visit the Facebook page for semi-regular updates about IC2015 and a video/picture walking tour of Niagara Falls at: <https://www.facebook.com/IC2015>



Region 7 News:

** **2014 Region 7 Conference** News:

- The Conference will be held at the Holiday Inn in Binghamton, NY on 3-5 October 2014.
- The conference theme will be Rod Serling.
- The conference is being hosted by the *U.S.S. Serling*.
- Conference Website: <http://www.ussserling.co.nf>

** Future **Region 7 Conferences**:

- The **2015** Regional Conference will be held in Hanover, MD.

STARFLEET AND REGION 7 NEWS

Information on this event will be announced as it becomes available.

** The *U.S.S. Robert E. Lee* is now under the **command of Tom Gorman**, and the chapter has relocated to upstate New York.

** The *U.S.S. Abraham Lincoln* celebrated its **fifth anniversary**.

** The *U.S.S. Britannic* celebrated its **seventh anniversary**.

** The *U.S.S. Storm* celebrated its **fourth anniversary**.

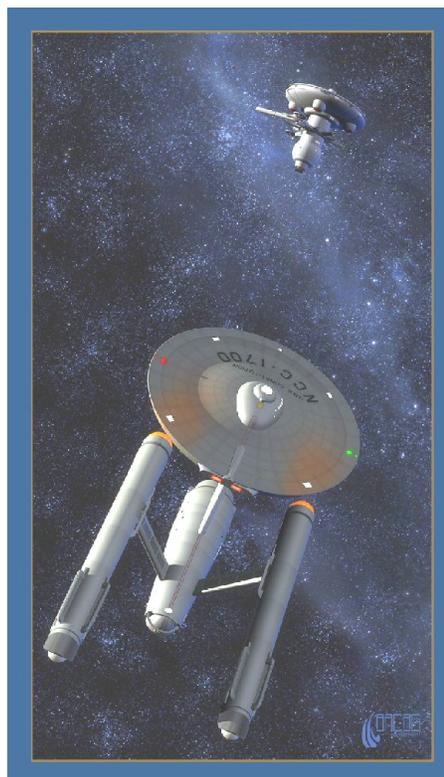
** The *U.S.S. Accord* has announced the dates for **Watkins Glen Weekend 2014**, the Silver Anniversary WGW. It is scheduled for **19-21 September 2014**.

** The **regional fundraiser** continues; return used inkjet cartridges for cash (<http://empties4cash.com>) For further info, contact Mike Stein at JusticeOC@aol.com

IMAGE GALLERY



"U.S.S. Ares", by Tobias Richter
[Submitted by Alex Rosenzweig]

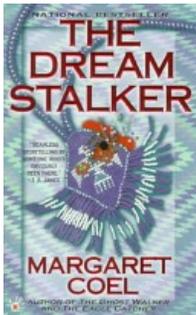


"Oasis", by Rob Caswell
[Submitted by Alex Rosenzweig]

BOOK REVIEW—*THE DREAM STALKER*

BY JENNIFER THOMPSON

Do you like mysteries? If you do, try reading *The Dream Stalker*, by Margaret Coel. This book is just one of many where her main characters are Father John O'Malley and Vicky Holden, and takes place on the Wind River Reservation and in the nearby towns. In this novel, O'Malley stumbles into a murder of an old traveling Indian cowboy. Holden gets threats and an attempt on her life for opposing a proposed nuclear waste site to be built on the reservation. Who killed the cowboy and who is after Holden? What is the



connection between these two seemingly different crimes? You will be surprised at the answers to these questions. Coel's novels are national bestsellers, well written and hard to put down. Coel not only tells a mystery; she also tells about the main characters' internal conflicts, and how they come to understand themselves.

STAR TREK BOOK NEWS

COMPILED BY ALEX ROSENZWEIG

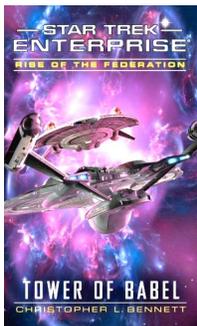
Here are the highlights of the next few months in Star Trek books...

Available April 2014:

ST: ENT: Rise of the Federation: Tower of Babel, by Christopher Bennett

The United Federation of Planets has weathered its first major crisis, but its growing pains are just beginning. Admiral Jonathan Archer hopes to bring the diverse inhabitants of the powerful and prosperous Rigel system into the Federation, jump-starting the young nation's growth and stabilizing a key sector of space. Archer and the Federation's top diplomats journey to the planetoid Babel to debate Rigel's admission...but a looming presidential race heats up the ideological divide within the young nation, jeopardizing the talks and threatening to undo the fragile unity Archer has worked so hard to preserve.

Meanwhile, the sinister Orion Syndicate recruits new allies of its own, seeking to beat the Federation at its own game. Determined to keep Rigel out of the union, they help a hostile Rigellian faction capture sensitive state secrets along with Star Fleet hostages, including a young officer with a vital destiny. Captain Malcolm Reed, Captain T'Pol, and their courageous crews must now brave the wonders and dangers of Rigel's many worlds to track down the captives before the system is plunged into all-out war.



ST: TOS: Seasons of Light and Darkness (eBook Novella), by Michael A. Martin

According to the author: "It's centered around Doctor McCoy, and the bulk of it actually takes place interstitially early during 'Wrath of Khan', sort of between scenes. There's an entire story that I teased out of a brief sequence at the beginning of the film."

Available May 2014:

ST: TOS: Serpents in the Garden, by Jeff Mariotte

Early in his five-year mission commanding the *U.S.S. Enterprise*, Captain James T. Kirk found himself caught up in a growing conflict on the planet Neural. To maintain the balance of power against a force being armed by the Klingons, he provided weapons to his friends, the Hill People. Years later, Admiral Kirk learns that the Klingon presence on the planet has grown considerably, in possible violation of the Treaty of Organia. Did his impulse as a young captain turn out disastrously wrong?

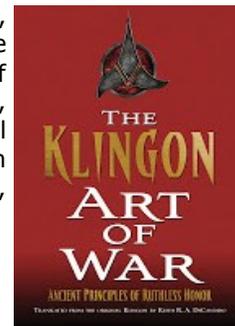


Should he—could he—have done more to eliminate the Klingon threat? To find out, he embarks on a secret mission back to Neural—where he might just be the only person who can prevent an interstellar war.

ST: All: The Klingon Art of War (Hardcover), by Keith R.A. DeCandido

Passed down from the time of Kahless, ten precepts have shaped Klingon culture and indoctrinated Klingons in the Way of the Warrior. With this new translation, people from all walks of life—and all worlds—can harness the ancient Klingon wisdom and learn to embody courage, discipline, and honor.

- Choose your enemies well.
- Strike quickly or strike not.
- Always face your enemy.
- Seek adversity.
- Reveal your true self in combat.
- Destroy weakness.
- Leave nothing until tomorrow.
- Choose death over chains.
- Die standing up.
- Guard honor above all.



Available June 2014:

ST: LE: One Constant Star, by David R. George III

When Captain Demora Sulu leads the crew of *U.S.S. Enterprise-B* on a mission near Tzenkethi space, they explore Rejarris II, a planet they cannot explain. A strange structure on the surface could hold answers, but when a landing party transports down to study it, chaos erupts. After communication fails with one officer and another is horribly injured, Captain Sulu deems the planet too dangerous to continue exploring. She decides to leave Rejarris II, but not until she can retrieve her lost crew member. But when contact is ultimately severed with the captain, a Tzenkethi force subsequently appears. Could they be behind the mysteries on the planet, or the disappearances of the *Enterprise* officers? Regardless, will Sulu's crew be able stand up to them long enough to find and retrieve their captain and the other missing personnel?

Once, John Harriman commanded *Enterprise-B* with Demora Sulu by his side as his first officer. Eight years after stepping down as a starship captain—in the wake of the Tomed Incident—Harriman now serves as an admiral based out of Helaspont Station, on the edge of the Tzenkethi Coalition. When he receives a mysterious message from Rejarris II, he realizes that he might hold the key to finding his former crewmate. In choosing to help recover Demora Sulu, though, he could risk losing everything he holds dear. What price is Harriman willing to pay to attempt to rescue his longtime friend?

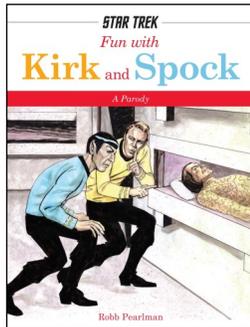


STAR TREK BOOK NEWS

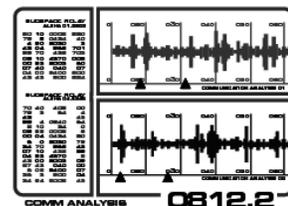
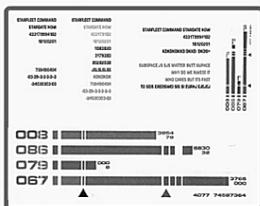
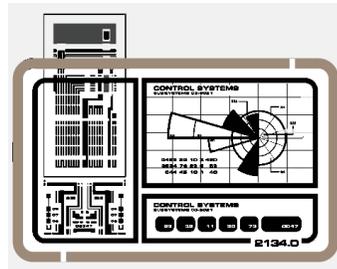
ST: TOS: Fun With Kirk and Spock (Hardcover). Author Unknown, Published by Cider Mill Press

See the *Enterprise*. See the *Enterprise* go boldly. Go Go Go, Enterprise! Go Boldly! Join Kirk and Spock as they go boldly where no parody has gone before!

Since the 1930s, the book Fun with Dick and Jane and its various adaptations have helped children learn to read. It's inspired several parodies and movie and television references, but none as amusing as this clever



spoof, written with Trekkies in mind! The characteristic simplicity of the classic book is used in Fun with Kirk and Spock, delighting Trek fans with creative sequences and humorous illustrations.



THOUGHTS ON THE PASSING OF A FRIEND BY SARAH BOLICK

This is the song that's been running through my head for the past couple of days. A dear friend was expected to pass very soon. Her name was Dianne. She left this world peacefully. It brings comfort. She will be missed. She is free now.

"Into the West"
by Annie Lennox

Lay down
Your sweet and weary head
Night is falling
You have come to journeys end

Sleep now and dream
Of the ones who came before
They are calling
From across the distant shore

Why do you weep?
What are these tears upon your face?
Soon you will see
All of your fears will pass away
Safe in my arms
You're only sleeping

What can you see on the horizon?
Why do the white gulls call?

Across the sea a pale moon rises
The ships have come to carry you home

And all will turn to silver glass
A light on the water
All souls pass

Hope fades
Into the world of night
Through shadows falling
Out of memory and time

Don't say
We have come now to the end
White shores are calling
You and I will meet again
and you'll be here in my arms
just sleeping

What can you see on the horizon?
Why do the white gulls call?
Across the sea a pale moon rises
The ships have come to carry you home

And all will turn to silver glass
A light on the water
Grey ships pass into the west

SHIP'S BBS

The Ship's BBS was first introduced in the novel *Spock's World*, written by Diane Duane. Like BBSs of today, it was a place where items of interest could be posted for the crew to read and respond to. This column is much like that. Things do change from issue to issue, so keep checking back each issue, and if you've got an item you'd like to share, feel free to send it in. ☺

* Help Wanted!

Looking to contribute to the *Avenger*? If so, we need your help! The following positions are open:

- **Press Officer:** Write and distribute press releases to the ship's media list, interact with reporters and other media personnel, and help craft our club image to the world at large!
Contact FCAPT Dave or ADM Alex if you'd like to volunteer!

* **Do you have an idea for an event or activity?** We love to do stuff, that's for sure! Lots of stuff is based on ideas our members bring to the group, and can be as simple as something you enjoy and would like to share. How? It's easy! Just ask an *Avenger* Command Staff member for an Event Planner and begin your adventure today. Event Planners contain descriptions of events/activities, and both the Planners and sign-up sheets are passed around at each month's ship meeting. This is a way for everyone to find out the details of what's going on, or to share your ideas for what *you* want to do! We need your help, because if no one coordinates events, **they don't happen!!**

* Internet Resources:

The *Avenger* has a lot of opportunities to interact through the Internet! Check 'em out...

- The adventure begins with our spiffy website where you can find information about your fellow crewmates and read online logs from your division chief: <http://www.ussavenger.org/>
- Another great way to contact your STARFLEET buddies is through Internet Relay Chat (IRC). Instructions can be found on the *Avenger* site. Go to the Internet Resources link on the navigation bar on the *Avenger's* main site, and follow the instructions about IRC. NOTE: To access the IRC servers, use:
chat.trekfan.org
Port 6667
The main STARFLEET channel is #Fleetchat, and *Avenger* maintains its own channel at #avenger
- The *Avenger* Yahoo Group is a great place to get updated news from the *Avenger* via email and special website features. Check it out at:
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/avenger-sfi>
- *Avenger* is also well-represented on Facebook, with both a page and a group. The page is generally updated with information directed more to the general public, while the group includes more of the discussions, events announcements, and cross-chatter among members and friends. The URLs are:
Avenger Facebook Group: <http://www.facebook.com/groups/27371220186/>
Avenger Facebook Page: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/USS-Avenger/159162957480482>
- Avenger News newsletters are archived online, in PDF format, on the *Avenger* website.

* **Our CaféPress Store:** You can buy *Avenger* stuff online like T-shirts, sweatshirts, mugs, mousepads, etc at the CaféPress *Avenger* Store, featuring our logo. It can be found at: <http://www.cafepress.com/ussavenger>

* **CaféPress Store Feedback:** Is there something you'd like that we're not offering at the *Avenger* Store? Check out CaféPress's product list, and if you see something there that you'd like and that's not available in our store, contact *Avenger* Command and let them know.

* **Look at the spiffy poster below and go buy one!** The *Avenger* Cutaway Poster, done by artist Chris Allan, is a detailed poster that matches up with the official *Avenger* Blueprints and gives a fascinating look inside our vessel. Take a look! It's at our CaféPress store: <http://www.cafepress.com/ussavenger>



* **A STARFLEET Community of Particular Note:** Interested members are invited to join a community called Project SIMELE. "SIMELE" is short for "STARFLEET In the Movie and Early Lost Eras", and its focus is for members or chapters of STARFLEET who have an interest in, use the motif of, or are fictionally set in the timeframe of roughly 2270 to 2335 in the Star Trek Universe, to interact. (This, of course, includes the *Avenger*.) It's designed to provide a venue for members to share resources, exchange ideas and thoughts about playing in this era of Star Trek, possibly develop cooperative fiction, and so forth. Come check the group out at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SIMELE/>

* Avenger Blueprints!

Do you find yourself getting lost every time you're on duty while serving aboard your ship? Maybe you should get one of these spiffy blueprint maps!

From the Federation Frontiers publishing office, we are pleased to offer General Plans for the *Avenger*-Class Heavy Frigate. No starship, save the famous line of those named *Enterprise*, has received this much attention to detail.

The twenty (20) sheet set includes:

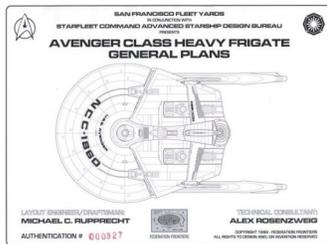
SHIP'S BBS

- Construction history
- Ship's directory
- Six (6) external views
- Full starship specifications
- Equipment listing (with system contractors)
- Four (4) cross-section views
- Plan views of all eleven decks at 1:600 scale
- Full-sheet details of the bridge, torpedo pod, main engineering, two-level recreation deck, Sickbay, transporter complex, and auxiliary control.

For more information e-mail the author, Mike Rupprecht, at mrupprecht@hindlepowerinc.com, or just visit the Federation Frontiers web site for this and other spectacular Star Trek technical documents: <http://federationfrontiers.tripod.com/fh1860/>

The *Avenger*-class Heavy Frigate General Plans cost a mere \$10.00 for *Avenger* crew members, and can be purchased directly from Alex Rosenzweig. You can also buy the plans via mail order for \$12, which includes shipping charges. Money orders are preferred, and will speed delivery. However, personal checks are acceptable and should be payable to "Michael C. Rupprecht". Custom rolled sets are available for \$15.00 and deluxe poster-sized sets for \$40.00. To order, simply print out the handy order form at web site, or send your name, address, e-mail address, number and type of sets desired, along with your check or money order, to the following address:

Federation Frontiers
c/o Michael C. Rupprecht
3711 Bloomingdale Drive
Hillsborough, NJ 08844-5531

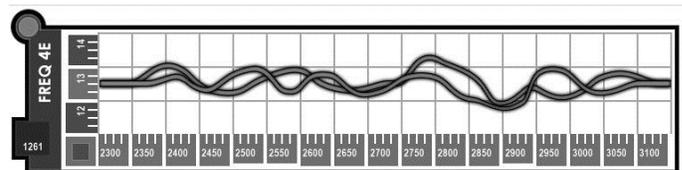


* *Avenger* Fiction Update

- The first draft of a new story by Alex Rosenzweig has been completed and is finishing beta reads. It deals with a group of Humans who had settled far across the galaxy coming to the Federation seeking their legendary homeworld.
- Another new story is now being written.
- Contributions of stories set in the *Avenger's* fictional universe, of any length, are welcome!
- Ideas and suggestions for future possible group collaborations are welcomed. Feel free to send them to ADM Alex, or even pitch them to the *Avenger's* e-mail list.
- Suggestions for interesting characters to fill open spots in *Avenger's* fictional crew are wanted! You can provide just some rough notes, or a full character file. If you'd like to get in on the fun, check in with ADM Alex.
- And don't forget to work on keeping your own main character's file up-to-date, too! Or create one if you haven't done so yet. Check with ADM Alex for assistance if you need it.

* Quote for this Issue:

"Make no little plans; they have no magic to stir men's blood and probably themselves will not be realized. Make big plans; aim high in hope and work, remembering that a noble, logical diagram once recorded will never die, but long after we are gone will be a living thing, asserting itself with ever-growing consistency. Remember that our sons and grandsons are going to do things that would stagger us. Let your watchword be order and your beacon beauty." - Daniel H. Burnham, 1910



THE AVENGER IN FICTION

(Continued from page 17)

Current Assignment: *U.S.S. Avenger*, Heavy Frigate, NCC-1860
Nature and Duration of Mission: Multi-Purpose (Exploration; Peaceforcer; Survey; Etc.), 5 Years
Nationality: Terran
Place of Birth: Louisiana--United States--Earth
Date of Birth: 18 March 2288

History: Entered Star Fleet Academy at age 18, and completed all required coursework in four years. Graduated at age 22, with the class rank of 34th of 800. Assigned with the rank of Ensign to the heavy frigate *U.S.S. Avenger* as a defense systems specialist.

Personal: Unmarried. Father, Commander Pierre Carville, is an engineering officer at Jupiter Station in the Sol System. Mother, Captain Savannah Robinson, is the chief medical officer

of Jupiter Station. One sister, Marie, is a midshipman fourth-class in the Academy class of 2316. Carville's interest in the history of weapons technology from the spears, slingshots, and swords of ancient Earth to contemporary energy weapons stemmed from he and his sister having been raised by their paternal grandparents when they were younger. (Their parents were assigned to different units during this time.) Their paternal grandmother, Dr. Alicia Devereaux, was a physicist and researcher who helped develop improvements to phaser technology. Carville's mother's family were 15th-generation Gulf Coasters. Some 21st and 22nd century ancestors in this branch of the family worked with Centaurian technology to help reclaim lands lost during the rise in sea levels during the post-World War III, pre-Federation era. Carville's primary hobby is cooking Cajun and other cuisines of the southern United States.

[Meta: Carville is a Creole and has skin coloring and features similar to that of CNN's Suzane Malveaux.]

THE AVENGER IN FICTION

SHIPS OF "STAR TREK: AVENGER", PART IV AND A NEW CHARACTER BY ALEX ROSENZWEIG, WITH RAHADYAN SASTROWARDOYO

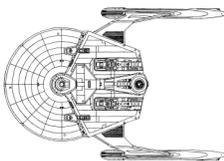
"Space, The Final Frontier... These are the continuing voyages of the starship *Avenger*. Her ongoing mission: to explore strange, new worlds; to seek out new life and new civilizations; to boldly go where no one has gone before."

Many members' questions have dealt with the fictional *Avenger*. Since we call for members to make up personnel files for their characters and invite them to write stories in the "*Avengerverse*", members want to know just how our fictional universe works. What does the fictional *Avenger* do? How does it fit into the Star Trek Universe as portrayed on TV and in the films, books, comics, etc.? To answer these questions, and to (hopefully) keep you folks entertained, this series of articles was born.

In this issue, while we await the completion of the next new stories, we'll return to a review of the ships that have been introduced in the ongoing series we call "Star Trek: Avenger". This is the fourth article in that occasional series of vessels in review.

Each entry is followed by the story (or background material) in which the ship was referenced.

Lagrange, U.S.S. *Ptolemy*-class, *Lagrange*-subclass transport/tug, registry NCC-3916. The *Lagrange* was serving in February 2288 as a free-flying Star Fleet command post, and operated within inner Quadrant 0. ["As Others See Us"]



Le-Matya, U.S.S. *Charger*-class destroyer, registry NCC-4028, commissioned November 2278. In October 2309, while on a priority mission, the *Le-Matya* passed the Hompidae Star System and detected unusual readings. The ship was unable to detour for a more thorough study, and so the *U.S.S. Avenger* was ordered to do so several weeks later. ["Sciences Inspection"]

Leo Minor, U.S.S. *Hermes*-class, *Monoceros*-subclass scout, registry NCC-614. Chaym n'Maldonado was assigned to the *Leo Minor* for an Academy training cruise in 2285. During the cruise, the ship developed a navigational sensor malfunction and collided with an asteroid, killing nearly half the crew. [Character File—Chaym n'Maldonado]

Leonov, U.S.S. *Gagarin*-class science scout, registry NCC-648, commissioned in the late 2270s. Commanded in the early 2290s by Stephen Penik. ["Crash"]

Lexington, U.S.S. *Constitution*-class, *Enterprise*-subclass heavy cruiser, registry NCC-1703, commissioned 2247, refit in 2275-2276. The *Lexington* was at Starbase 7 in late-October 2294, following the attack on Starbase 29. It was also part of the task force which destroyed the energy creature which attacked Starbase 29. ["Aftermath"] In June 2299, participated in the defeat of the Darnath in the Voranis System. ["The Road Goes Ever On"] In 2276, Robert Gossenberger was

serving as an engineering officer aboard the *Lexington*. ["Star Survey"] Jonathan Lane served aboard the *Lexington* from 2279 to 2281. In mid-2281, over 70% of the crew, including Lane, contracted a nearly fatal virus on Delta Canaris IV. [Character File—Jonathan Lane] Michael Shappe served aboard the *Lexington* from 2280 to 2282, and he and Lane first met aboard that ship. [Character File—Michael Shappe]

Lonberge, U.S.S. Starship lost with all hands but one in the Denobli Expanse in February 2302. ["Iso"]

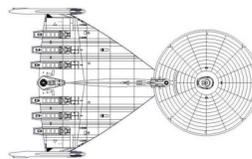
Lynx, U.S.S. *Hermes*-class, *Monoceros*-subclass scout, registry NCC-608. In 2290, the ship was commanded by Captain Ruth Bellamy. [Character File—Christopher Bellamy] Kella Cristarella served aboard the *Lynx* from early 2300 to early 2301. [Character File—Kella Cristarella]

McAuliffe, Christa, U.S.S. *Gagarin*-class science scout, registry NCC-860. The *McAuliffe* was surveying UFC-2116 in February 2288. ["As Others See Us"] In March 2288, the *McAuliffe* was reassigned from a vegetation-testing mission on Stonybrook VII to pick up several marine biologists and data from a cetacean research project on Mabship IV. ["Operations Log-U.S.S. Avenger"] Bruce Brocton served aboard the *McAuliffe* prior to his transfer to the *U.S.S. Avenger* in mid-2294. ["Thy Avenging Spirit"]

McCaffrey, U.S.S. Survey vessel. The *U.S.S. Avenger* was ordered to rendezvous with the *McCaffrey* in late 2292, and transfer aboard Ensign Hayden Pope. ["Belonging"]

McCandless, U.S.S. *Gagarin*-class science scout, registry NCC-642. The *McCandless* was dispatched to the ringworld in Sector 27473 at the beginning of March 2310, to begin an extended study of the structure, following the *U.S.S. Avenger's* departure from the ringworld. ["A Ringing Announcement"]

Malverne, U.S.S. *Fredrikstad*-class supercarrier, registry NCC-2205, commissioned 2292. In June 2299, participated in the defeat of the Darnath in the Voranis System. ["The Road Goes Ever On"] Was running peacekeeping patrols near the Romulan Neutral Zone in June 2304. Also in June 2304, the *Malverne* was assigned as part of a squadron formed to locate a Jinimar vessel which had attacked the *U.S.S. Highlander*. ["To Everything There is a Season"]

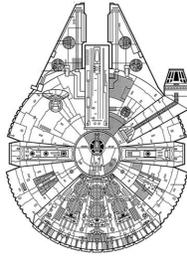


Matrix, U.S.S. Shuttlecarrier, commissioned November 2297. Commanded in the early 24th Century by Joseph Hoolihan. ["To Everything There is a Season"]

Medallion, U.S.S. *Pleiades*-class survey cruiser, registry NCC-459. Rhonda E. Green transferred to the *Medallion* in mid-2294. ["Aftermath"] By July 2299, she had left that ship. ["Just a Run Around the Block"]

THE AVENGER IN FICTION

Millennium Falcon. In the Star Wars Universe, a converted Correllian freighter, owned first by Lando Calrissian and then by Han Solo. Despite humble beginnings, this ship played a major role in the rebellion against the Galactic Empire. The *Millennium Falcon* is captured by the *U.S.S. Avenger* at the battle of Scopelon, and its crew convinces the officers of the *Avenger* to switch sides in the conflict. ["The Star Wars Encounter"]



Miranda, U.S.S. *Miranda*-class cruiser, registry NCC-1833, commissioned 2283. Lead vessel of the *Miranda*-class. [*Avenger*-Class Heavy Frigate General Deck Plans]

Moisanen, U.S.S. *Nelson*-class scout, registry NCC-7371, commissioned 2254. **Threll A'von** served aboard the *Moisanen* in 2279-2283. [Character File—Threll A'von]

Monarch Butterfly, U.S.S. Light survey skiff. The *Monarch Butterfly* was sent to survey Menrik IV in September 2288 and determine its suitability for contact. When contact was lost with the ship in October 2288, the *U.S.S. Avenger* was ordered to investigate. The ship is discovered hulled and abandoned in planetary orbit. Following the recovery of the surviving crew, the *Avenger* tows the *Monarch Butterfly* to Starbase 22. ["Rescue at Menrik"]

Monoceros, U.S.S. *Hermes*-class, *Monoceros*-subclass scout, registry NCC-601. The *Monoceros* served as backup to the *U.S.S. Avenger* during a patrol along the Klingon border in April 2288. ["Border Skirmish"]

Nahntohb. Spacraft encountered by the *U.S.S. Avenger* in Sector 58772 in July 2308. The *Nahntohb* was an exploration vessel crewed by an artificial intelligence known as the Controller and an organic life-form which served as a pilot through a direct neurological linkage to the ship's systems. When encountered by the *Avenger*, the *Nahntohb* was attempting to recover from an engagement with a Cardassian vessel in which its pilot had been killed. Bob Csuti became the *Nahntohb's* newest pilot and left the *Avenger* to join the Controller on its mission. ["And the Stars Look Very Different Today"]

New Horizons, U.S.S. Newly-commissioned exploratory cruiser in October 2294, undergoing trial operations in preparation for assignment to the 7th Fleet. While operating near the planet known as Sha Ka Ree, the *New Horizons* was boarded by the energy creature trapped on that planet, which had previously been believed destroyed. The creature seized control of the ship and directed that it be brought back to Starbase 29. ["Aftermath"]

Niagara, U.S.S. Escort. The *Niagara* was overdue in May 2302 for transfer to the 7th Fleet. ["Back in the Saddle Again"]

Nusantara, U.S.S. Tactical frigate. **Rahadyan Sastrowardoyo** served aboard the *Nusantara* from 2277 to 2278. [Character File—Rahadyan Sastrowardoyo]

End Part IV

In future articles, we'll continue to talk about what's aboard the ship, how various systems work, crew specifics, etc. (Members are urged to suggest topics. If there's something you want to know about the ship, chances are that someone else wants to know, too. So send in your questions, and we'll try to get answers for you in upcoming columns.)

This column also supports short stories! Stories should be no more than 4 pages in 10-point type, and can be about anything in the *Avenger* Universe. (Serializations are also accepted, but the story must be submitted **complete**, and arrangements with the column editor and *Avenger News* editor for serialization will be made ahead of time.) We hope everyone will take the opportunity to contribute to the tales of the *Avenger*.

To help you out, we're also running story ideas each issue. These aren't fleshed out, but are jumping-off points from which stories may evolve. If you do see an idea listed here that you'd like to build a story from, let me know, so that we don't get multiple members working on the same idea. And here we have the next suggestions...

1] The *Avenger* discovers an apparently uninhabited city on an otherwise barren world. A landing party gets stuck inside a holographic "experiment" in the city that slowly degrades their memory. Finding the source/"scientists" that started the experiment would be their primary concern, but messing with their memories will make it very difficult. The crew still on the ship have to try and get them out, with a nasty force field in the way.

2] When the *Avenger* intercepts a merchant vessel carrying stolen medical supplies for a disease-stricken frontier colony, the crew must decide whether to follow orders to seize the stolen goods, or assist the merchant crew in helping the colony.

Finally, as a part of this series, we include character-files of members of the crew. So, if you've made up a character-file, great! If not, why not try making one? We'll try to publish one or two each issue, as space and contributions permit. We're always looking for members to create files for their own characters. If you're interested in creating a file for your fictional character, or updating an existing file, contact ADM Rosenzweig for help/information.

In this issue, we introduce you to one more character created by Rahadyan Sastrowardoyo, one of the many "background" crewmembers who populate the *Avenger*. Enjoy!

CARVILLE, LAMAR PIERRE

ENSIGN

Serial Number: ES 78104 WPS

Official Position: Defense Systems Specialist

(Continued on page 15)

TREKKIN' THE WEB

From Jason Blackstone:

Genetic Mutations Discovered That Could Prevent Type 2 Diabetes

Almost 26 million children and adults in the US have diabetes, while 79 million of us have pre-diabetes. Now, researchers have identified rare mutations in a gene that they say could prevent Type 2 diabetes—the most common form of the disease—even in people who have risk factors for the condition.



The international research team, led by investigators from the Broad Institute of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Harvard, and the Massachusetts General Hospital, recently published the findings in the journal *Nature Genetics*. The researchers say that if a drug can be created that mimics the protective effects of these mutations, this could open the doors to the prevention of Type 2 diabetes.
<http://www.medicalnewstoday.com/articles/273452.php>

From Alex Rosenzweig:



Galaxy Class

Not about a large StarFleet vessel, this site is instead a galactic education and space awareness site.

It does support an actual class, live educational presentations that teach the mysteries of the Universe!

One can also browse the galactic gallery for photos and information, and then help name some galaxies; or visit the Dashboard to see the Picture of the Day, live Sun images, Moon info, and more; or learn about current discoveries in astronomy and read ideas about space on the Space Blog.
<http://www.galaxyclass.org/>



Star Trek - Horizon

Yes, another fan production! "Star Trek: Horizon" is a feature-length film, made by fans in love with Star Trek, that is set during the time of "Enterprise" (the fifth Star Trek series). It is our goal to create a feature film that is worthy of the name Star Trek and that can close out the story threads that were left hanging after "Enterprise"'s untimely cancellation in 2005.

However, if you have not seen any previous Star Trek films or TV series, this close tie to "Enterprise" is not cause to worry. While this film will close out story threads that began in "Enterprise", it will also certainly tell an original story and be able to stand alone as a science fiction feature film.

Story Synopsis: The Coalition of Planets, a young alliance of worlds led by Earth, is at war with the Romulan Empire. Desperate for a chance to gain the upper hand in the war, the Coalition forms an alliance with T'mar, a Romulan deserter, in the hopes that she can provide valuable intelligence on her former masters.

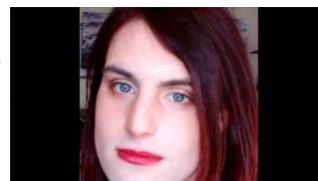
<http://www.startrekhorizon.com/>

From Amber Stronach:

Amber's YouTube Page

Amber shares music and videos with the crew. Enjoy!

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCJ1SxYdiu-9ID1h6k84dMrg>



Amber's Knitting Projects

Amber has also shared one of her other endeavors. Like knitted stuff? Check it out!

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Ambers-Knitting-Projects/271127179723785>



MISSION DOCKET

UPCOMING EVENTS

13 April 2014 – *Avenger* Ship Meeting

North Brunswick Public Library, 880 Hermann Road, North Brunswick, NJ, 2:00 PM

Join us for the usual fun, chatter, and good times. Program: Government and Politics in the Federation. We've heard about the Federation Council since ST:TOS, met Federation Presidents in ST:TVH and ST:TUC (as well as "Deep Space Nine"), and been exposed to the inner workings of the Federation's halls of power in *Articles of the Federation*. How does it all work, and who are some of the personalities we've met along the way? Dinner to follow.

Event Coordinator: FCAPT David Lynch, Karate666@aol.com

18 May 2014 – *Avenger* Ship Meeting

North Brunswick Public Library, 880 Hermann Road, North Brunswick, NJ, 2:00 PM

Join us for the usual fun, chatter, and good times. Program: Dragonriders of Pern. A look at this long-running sci-fi novel franchise and how it's affected several generations of readers. Dinner to follow.

Event Coordinator: FCAPT David Lynch, Karate666@aol.com

8 June 2014 – *Avenger* Ship Meeting

North Brunswick Public Library, 880 Hermann Road, North Brunswick, NJ, 2:00 PM

Join us for the usual fun, chatter, and good times. Program: Summer Genre Films. What can we expect in sci-fi and fantasy films, and what's already been released, for Summer 2014? Dinner to follow.

Event Coordinator: FCAPT David Lynch, Karate666@aol.com

28 June 2014 – *Avenger* 29th Anniversary Picnic

Alex Rosenzweig and Ann-Ruth Rosenzweig's Home, 980 Linwood Place, North Brunswick, NJ, 12:30 PM

We've been around for 29 years! Party time! Once again, we shall gather for our annual picnic. Food and fun shall abound! And who knows when a water battle might break out? >:)

This year, we're trying a quasi-pot luck approach. You can volunteer to bring a food or supply item (you must RSVP ahead of time {by 10 June} so we can ensure that we're not duplicating), or simply provide a small contribution (see cost below) and show up.

Hours: 12:30 to ???

Cost: \$7.00 per person if not bringing food/supplies

Event Coordinator: FCAPT David Lynch, Karate666@aol.com

3-5 October 2014 – Region 7 Conference

Holiday Inn, Arena, 2-8 Hawley Street, Binghamton, NY, (607) 722-1212

The *U.S.S. Serling* invites you to journey into a wondrous world of imagination... Join us as we explore new dimensions, dimensions as vast as space and as timeless as infinity, through panels and group discussions.

The Region 7 Conference is a great opportunity to get to know fellow friends and members from around Region 7, and have a fun weekend doing so.

Event Cost and Other Details:

Conference Registration - \$25

Children's Programming - \$10

Banquet - \$25

Conference T-Shirt (S-XL) - \$15

Conference T-Shirt (XXL) - \$15

Hotel rooms will be available for \$110.00/night plus tax. Please call to reserve a hotel room and mention the code **R7 Conference** to receive the conference room rate

Refunds are available for the full amount of registration as long as notice is sent on or before 20 September 2014.

Please send check or money order made out to *U.S.S. Serling* to:

U.S.S. Serling Region 7 Conference Registration

c/o Joshua Palmatier

213 State Street, 3rd Floor

Binghamton, NY 13901

Please email questions regarding registration to: ussserling.starfleet@gmail.com

Event Website: <http://www.ussserling.co.nf>



NOTE: Please, if you are planning to attend an event, let the event/project coordinator know of your plans, so he/she can make the proper arrangements. Thanks!

Avenger News 144 Deadline: May 20, 2014
Please send all submissions to Alex Rosenzweig
alexr1860@optimum.net

<http://www.northbrunswicklibrary.org>
North Brunswick, NJ 08902

880 Hermann Road
North Brunswick Public Library

2:00 PM

Sunday, May 18, 2014

The Next Meeting of the U.S. Avenger will be:

U.S.S. Avenger

331 Academy Terrace, Apt 17
Linden, NJ 07036-5695

NOTE: YOUR AVENGER MEMBERSHIP EXPIRES WITH ISSUE #