



# RAINBOW CONNECTION

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

**STARFLEET'S CHAPTER OF THE YEAR 2008 & 2012**  
**REGION ONE'S CHAPTER OF THE YEAR 1996, 2006, 2008, 2009, 2012, 2013**  
**REGION ONE'S RUNNER-UP CHAPTER OF THE YEAR 2007, 2011, 2017, 2018 & 2021**  
**BEST REGION ONE NEWSLETTER 2011 & 2020 \*\*\***  
**BEST R/1 MONTHLY NEWSLETTER 2015, 2018 & 2020 \*\*\***  
**BEST R/1 MEMBERSHIP HANDBOOK 2020**  
**WINNER - BEST FLOAT AWARD, AMHERST CHRISTMAS PARADE – 2006, 2020, 2021**



*The Halloween Issue*

October 2022

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Website: <http://www.ussheimdal.com>

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**COMMAND**



## FROM THE COMMANDING OFFICER

**Adm. Linda Smith - Starfleet SFDPP Certified**



September was a month of reflection for me as our Heimdal Executive Committee got together and planned our activities, meetings and events for the rest of this year and 2023. It made me think about WHY I started our chapter way back in 1983 and what it meant to me then AND what it means to me now.

I started the Heimdal because I was (still am) a huge Star Trek fan. I'd learned about Starfleet and became a member. I saw chapters of people who shared that same love making uniforms, meeting together, watching Star Trek episodes, enjoying the comradery, and doing helping things in the community. I started the Heimdal because I was pretty sure there were other people in this area that also thought like that and my goal was to offer a fun place to come once-a-month to do all that stuff with like-minded people. My objective hasn't changed ... the Heimdal is STILL that place where we can get together and share what we have in common, have a lot of fun, enjoy each other's diversity and help within the community. I have no personal agenda other than that ... and it remains that way today.

The Heimdal has grown, for sure, and expanded but I wouldn't say we've changed. The goals remain the same.

I have been very concerned since COVID became less of a threat and we began having 'in person' meetings again with far less participation from our members. I keep asking myself WHY and what I can do, and what the Executive Committee and I can do to get us back to our pre-COVID days. Maybe COVID has robbed us of our naiveté ... we can't just ignore the bad breath of the angry Klingon at our door anymore. We've witnessed him in the form of COVID breaking down our door and we KNOW what he can do when he gets in. Maybe we've lost our spark. I hope NOT.

At the R/1 'Meet the Candidates' (for Starfleet CS in the upcoming election) ZOOM meeting recently a question was asked of all candidates, *"What are your plans to make Starfleet fun again?"* Each answered the question but candidate, David Nottage, pointing out that the administration AND the members held responsibility, added, *"If you stop participating you aren't going to get much out of it ..."* Of all the comments at that meeting, David's made the most sense.

We have some wonderful meetings and special events and Game Nights lined up for our Heimdal members for a full year and we so hope those of you that have lost that spark and stopped coming to 'in person' meetings will come back and rediscover why you signed on in the first place. We have some excellent things to look forward to. So set aside the third Saturday of the month for a couple of months and come back and check us out. Check your calendars and attend a Phaser



Simulation experience. You just won't find such fun and diversity anywhere else with any other club. Do what I did and think back about why you wanted to be here in the first place. Whatever your reason, it's still HERE. And do keep in mind what David Nottage said. His comment is true not only in clubs and organizations but in everything we do if we want to enjoy it to its fullest.



**FROM THE OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER**  
**XO, Chief Science Officer, Adm. Willy Smith – Starfleet SFDPP Certified**

Thanks to everyone who attended the “after auction get together” at the Sugar Mill pool and pavilion. Good hot dogs and Linda's deviled eggs. We enjoyed doing very little – wish more could have attended.

On September 17<sup>th</sup> we had the Heimdal meeting with Alan Provo and I set up the sound system so the Zoom people could hear us better. I forgot my phone charger and Carl pulled me out of the fire ... I have a list now (*Thanks Carl*). There was so much Science stuff going on that I let everyone know what is coming up. *See Science in this newsletter.*

On the 18<sup>th</sup> of September Linda and I attended the Region 1 CO/XO meeting where the Heimdal was mentioned having a successful auction and later we were able to meet the candidates running for Commander of STARFLEET. There was talk of raising the membership rates, but I can't see that unless Starfleet is once again going to give us tangible stuff to renewing members like the Heimdal does.

We have kicked off our Heimdal Space Camp Contest with 8 area middle schools. The contest ends on October 21 with a winner announced somewhere around Nov. 11. Linda gets the raw essays and I remove any personal information (he, she, school, etc.) before the committee judges them and from that point even I won't remember what/who they are – they are now a number. I now have a folder with 1 essay named ONE.

Next year's Heimdal Auction depends on members letting Linda know if they will participate, HOW and at what level. She needs to know by January.

We have just been given another donation of canned food by 2 members (24 cans). Please keep this in mind because that is our membership dues – 1 can per month. If you bring it please let me know. Some give canned goods, rice, macaroni or most any non-perishable items. A select few rather give cash or checks made out to Linda Smith. I keep a record of all donations in case you forget.

**WOULD ANYONE LIKE TO HELP (PLEASE)?**

Zoom is with us for all meetings and I would like a volunteer to help me set up the sound system and anything else that goes with ZOOM. I bring everything we need. I need someone to assist in setup and takedown if possible. There seems to be more stuff to do and only one of me. Someone I can depend on that is local... and if you're keeping up with promotion points, this will help. Thanks! Please let me know if you are interested and willing to assist. [heimdalscience@comcast.net](mailto:heimdalscience@comcast.net).



**FROM THE DESK OF THE SECOND OFFICER**  
**RAdm. Carl Davis, 2<sup>nd</sup> Officer's Report October 2022**

It was a magnificent day to be outdoors!!! The weather was nearly perfect. The company was excellent. Everybody was of one accord and that was to enjoy the afternoon playing paintball or phaser sim as we aboard the Heimdal prefer to call it.

It had been months since we'd been together largely because the heat and humidity had been so uncomfortable during the summer months. Bonnie had been recuperating from hip replacement surgery before that and she always adds a lot to the games.

Security had three members in attendance and Sciences had two. I am always amazed at how few members come out to enjoy the games.

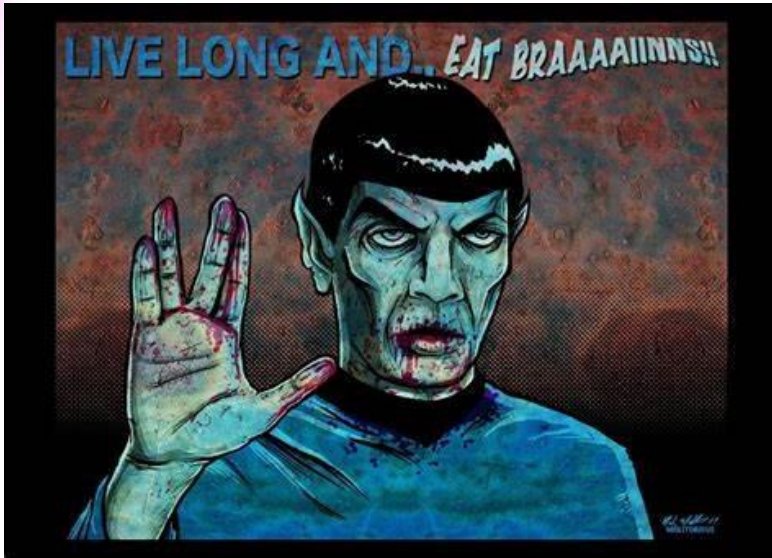




Willy will be making a formal report of how the game play proceeded but I just wanted to report that we had a really good time and it was great to again be out in the woods. We'll set up another Saturday in October so watch for an announcement coming soon.

## MEETINGS AND COMMITMENTS

### OCTOBER MEETING: HALLOWEEN PARTY/COSTUME CONTEST



The October Heimdal meeting won't just be a MEETING ... it is our Annual Halloween Party with a Costume Contest with PRIZES! You KNOW you don't want to miss that. It will be 'in person' at the Madison Heights Library starting at 6:30 p.m. Bring individually wrapped or homemade refreshments with a Halloween flare. As with all of our meetings, we will also be on ZOOM.

The evening will begin with our Costume Contest so all costumes will be fresh and ready to be judged. Our ZOOMIES will also be included in the Costume Contest because NOBODY gets left out of the contest.

We'll follow with Halloween Games on site presented by our Department Chiefs ... putting us through the paces and having a fun time.

Put your VERY BEST costume together and plan to WIN THAT CONTEST. Costumes will be judged in the following categories: **Best Science Fiction**

#### **Costume, Most Creative Costume, Most Humorous, and Best All Around.**

This will be a FUN EVENING, heavy on fun and very light on meeting. Darrell Millner will be our ZOOM Coordinator for the evening. Here are the ZOOM coordinates: USS Heimdal is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: **Heimdal's Monthly Meeting - October 2022**

Time: **Oct 15, 2022 06:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85133791952?pwd=MnJqWnFBQzl2azA4Q1hKdVhPTk16UT09>

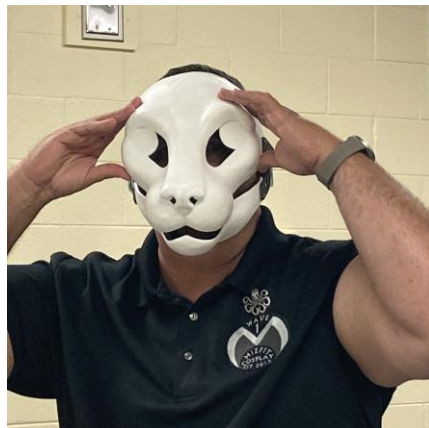
**Meeting ID: 851 3379 1952**

**Passcode: ncc1793**

Mobil Phone Audio Access only codes available upon request.



### SEPTEMBER MEETING



The September meeting was an 'in person' meeting at the library and a ZOOM meeting. 8 people joined us on ZOOM and 11 were 'in person' including the guest



speaker and a guest.

Alan Provo, costumer extraordinaire was our guest speaker talking to us about costuming. He brought along several forms over which he makes masks. One had a moveable jaw that actually moves when the wearer is speaking and the prices range from relatively cheap to very expensive, depending on how animated the mask maker wants it to be. He showed us a completed Furry mask, which was pretty impressive. Alan also showed us some of his more intricate costumes, some that he fashioned with the help of a seamstress but with no patterns, which is a testimony to the gift Alan has for making really professional costumes.

Alan told us that he and his wife have bought a home and he finally has room to stretch out in the basement where he makes all of his costumes ... a place that is all his.

Alan is a member of 8 clubs, including Star Wars, cosplay groups and most recently Hill City Ghost Busters. He told us about making Ghost Busters costumes and custom Ghost Busters back packs. Most of us didn't get to see his Ectomobile when the meeting was over but he made sure he walked out with Willy and me and we got to see it. He has all the painting completed and a huge array of Ghost Buster very bright flashing lights on top. He turned the lights on and treated us to a light show. It was spectacular. The Ectomobile is complete now and he just added the decals.

Alan hopes to come back next year and talk to us again about costuming. He plans to bring more costumes and be better prepared. He's just been VERY busy.

Alan answered our questions as he gave the presentation, making the presentation more conversational and more personal. He also talked about Star Trek (he loves Strange New Worlds), Star Wars and the Orville. It was like old home week and was a very good evening.



## SEPTEMBER MEETING FROM THE 'ZOOM' PERSPECTIVE

By Jody Lyon

Once again, the Heimdal monthly meeting was held in person and via ZOOM. And once again I was able to attend and was so glad. I was looking forward to the guest speaker, Alan Provo. The whole idea of cosplay is so fascinating to me. I believe that keeping our childlike nature alive is essential to whole health. What is more childlike than pretend play? What is cooler than pretend play with the skills and resources of an adult?

After a short business meeting, the speaker arrived with his costumes and stories. His work is incredible, and he made sure his pieces could be seen by those on ZOOM. Alan is also a big nerd just like me. I enjoyed his stories from conventions and meeting celebrities. As the meeting closed, he also went into extreme fan mode as he answered questions and expounded on favorite Star Trek episodes (and other genre fare). I was not spoiled as I am always caught up on trek episodes:-).

From the ZOOM side, Tim was an excellent host as always, making sure we could all see, hear and ask questions. And Willy is becoming an expert. No backup needed this month. I have taken to setting up Facebook live on my computer as well as the ZOOM feed. That way, I have two sources from different angles and with different lighting. The one thing I really missed not being there was to touch the fabric and see the details of his costumes close up.

The most wonderful benefit of ZOOM this month was having Dennis be able to join us. From his hospital bed! What a trooper. God speed, Dennis.

One of the challenging things about hybrid meetings is when there is down time. And we had a bit of down time this month while waiting for our speaker. Just FYI for the in-person group - you guys are one of our ZOOM windows. It



Zak and Jody on ZOOM





may seem to you that you are just chatting among yourselves, but your conversations are being broadcast. Especially if you are near Willy's phone. :-) No worries, all was cool, but keep it in mind. It's easy to forget that the ZOOM participants are there and listening.

I want to thank everyone responsible for keeping the ZOOM aspect of the meetings going, despite the challenges and extra effort. It is so greatly appreciated.

### **\*\*\*XXX VERY SPECIAL NOVEMBER MEETING XXX\*\*\***



We don't usually do write-ups about meetings nearly two months ahead but our November Heimdal meeting is a special one. We're going to be telling you about it again in the November newsletter but we're giving you a 'heads-up' about it now. It's special with a special speaker and maybe if we tell you about it twice you really won't want to miss it.

Our guest speaker will be Mary Hurst. Mary started working at NASA Langley in 1998 and retired in 2016. She served as the center's Historic Preservation Officer, documenting the history of the first NACA/NASA center. One of the subjects was the role of the women who served as computers, which led to her friendship with Margot Shetterly, the author of the book *Hidden Figures: The True Story of Four Black Women and the Space Race*.

When *Hidden Figures* was made into a feature film, our meeting guest, Mary Hurst was one of the several consultants on the film from NASA and is listed in the movie's credits. She will be telling us about her career, working on the movie, her friendship with Shetterly and the background of the film.



**Mary Hurst**

Mary will be joining us in person at the library and on ZOOM for those that can't make it to the library. BUT we hope you DO come to see Mary at the library and give her a huge welcome.

### **HEIMDAL PEOPLE**

#### **STARFLEET ACADEMY GRADUATES – CONGRATULATIONS!**

##### **Darrell Millner - WAY TO GO, Darrell!!!**



**A grade of HONORS** for CSO-101 - Flight Operations from the School of IOSTS - College of Starship Operations (IOMS:COSO) completed on Sep 4, 2022  
CAPT Darrell Millner (67122),

**A grade of DISTINCTION** for SFDPP 2022-2023 Data Protection Recertification from the School of IOLS - STARFLEET Data Protection Policy completed on Sep 12, 2022.

**A grade of HONORS** for CSO-103 - Rescue and Evacuation Operations from the School of IOSTS - College of

Starship Operations (IOMS:COSO) completed on Sep 12, 2022

**A grade of DISTINCTION** for GEMI 101 - Gemini 1 from the School of IOSS - College of Spaceflight completed on Sep 26, 2022

**A grade of DISTINCTION** for GEMI 102 - Gemini 2 from the School of IOSS - College of Spaceflight completed on Sep 26, 2022

### **RENEWALS**

A special THANK YOU to Glenda and Dan Blanks and Karen Delano for renewing and staying with our Heimdal "family" for another year ... hopefully getting back to the normal of the "before times" (thank you, Jody!)

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



make your check out to Linda Smith and she will deposit it into the Heimdal's account. We ask that you reimburse the Heimdal in no less than 60 days following your renewal.

**XXX PLEASE NOTE:** When Willy sends you your renewal reminder he includes in that email your SCC number and instructions on how to renew through Starfleet's web site, as well as your expiration date.

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

Those needing to renew are:

**November** – Tim Hazlett – **November 18**

**December** – Carlos Neyre – **December 20**

**January** – Janice Lawson – **January 4**

Kathy & Larry Whately – **January 18 (already paid)**

Nikki Cole – **January 24**

**\*\*\* New bumper stickers are out this month with renewals. Be the first in your quadrant to get one when you renew with Starfleet / Heimdal.**



## HEIMDAL STUFF

### HEIMDAL RECEIVES QUARTERLY AMAZON SMILE DONATION

The last of August the Heimdal received our quarterly donation from AmazonSmile in the amount of \$12. Please DO keep using Amazon and specifically AmazonSmile with donations made to Heimdal Science Fiction. If you don't know how to do that, please ask Willy and he will tell you. Thank you to those that already tie your Amazon purchases in with the Heimdal.

### SPACE CAMP CONTEST 'LAUNCHED' IN LOCAL MIDDLE SCHOOLS

In early September, just 2 weeks following the auction in August, I checked with Space Camp about available dates for campers in 2023 since the Heimdal usually kicks off our Space Camp Contest in local middle schools at the end of the year. I was shocked to find out they are already booking trips and 2 weeks in July were already fully booked and kids want to go during those 2 weeks had to go on a Wait List. If we wanted our contest winner to go in 2023 we had to move quickly.

In no time we updated our Space Camp materials and got them into the schools. In less than a week we got confirmation from 5 schools / school systems that they will participate. Those are **Amherst, Monelison, Linkhorne, Dunbar, Campbell County and Lynchburg City Schools.**

The Space Camp Contest began on September 21 and will end on October 21, giving the students a month to write their essay on "Why I Want to Go to Space Camp" and get them back to our school liaisons. All essays must be returned to Heimdal's Space Camp Committee no later than October 28. A winner will be announced on or before November 11. Hopefully by doing all this early our winner will have a better chance of going when he/she wants to.

Watch your email and this newsletter for Space Camp Contest progress.



### HEIMDAL GAME NIGHT – RAINED OUT AGAIN

Because we've had such beautiful early fall weather we were REALLY looking forward to Game Night at Putt Putt on October 1. None of us could have guessed that a hurricane named Ian would rear his ugly head and mess up our plans but it did (rear its head) and our plans were (messed up).

So we rescheduled for October 8 at 6 p.m. and are hoping for the best. For questions and info contact and watch for emails from Angie at [akdecker64@yahoo.com](mailto:akdecker64@yahoo.com).

See article next month and HAPPY PUTTING ...





## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 'PLANNING MEETING'

The Heimdal's Executive Committee ... consisting of the Command Staff (Linda, Willy and Carl) and the Department Chiefs (Tammy, Glenda, Darrell, and Tim) met on ZOOM on September 9 for the Annual Planning Meeting for 2022/2023. All were present. Discussed was the concern about low attendance at meetings since returning to 'in person' meetings in the library, our Space Camp Contest, how to proceed with holiday meetings/events/parties and upcoming auctions. Also the schedule for meetings and events was tentatively made. Please see the upcoming article.

Please note that as a committee we are ALWAYS open to concerns from members and especially ideas and suggestions for possible meeting topics and guest speakers.

### HEIMDAL CALENDAR FOR 2022/2023

The following is the tentative meeting schedule for the remainder of 2022 and most of 2023.

**October 15, 2022** – Annual Halloween Party and Costume Contest with prizes. At the library and on ZOOM

**November 19** – In person at the library and also on ZOOM - guest speaker, Mary Hurst, who was one of the NASA consultants on the *Hidden Figures* movie telling us about her part in the actual events and her part in making the film.

**December 17** – Early evening – Heimdal Christmas Covered Dish Dinner & Dirty Santa 'in person' at library.

Later in evening, presentation by Tim Hazlet on ZOOM showing us his extensive collection of Hallmark Star Trek Christmas ornaments with the history of each.

**January 21 2023** – Meeting to be presented by Darrell Millner on ZOOM

**February 15** – In person at the library and also on ZOOM space artist Ron Miller telling us about his latest collection of extraordinary Space Art. *This is tentative ... waiting on Ron to confirm after setting his February schedule*

**February Game Night** – Card and Board Game Night – at the library in person. Time and date TBA

**March 18** – Annual Movie Night and Chili Fest.' Movie TBA

**April 15** – Heimdal's 39<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Party – Lynchburg Grand Hotel. Will take the place of a regular meeting.

**May** – Date, time and location to be announced. Heimdal's Public Science Fiction Auction. Will take the place of a regular meeting

**May Game Night** – Location, date and time TBA

**June 17** – In person at the library and on ZOOM. Hobby Night and Ice Cream Sundae Night

**July 15** – In person and on ZOOM at the Sugar Mill pavilion. Guest speaker will be Foam Artist, Richard Riley. He will also be giving a demonstration of recent foam sculpting.

**August** – Presentation by our Space Camp winner

**August Game Night** – Location, date and time TBA

**September 16** – Annual Public Charity Auction – Lynchburg Grand Hotel. Will take the place of a regular meeting

**Heimdal Game Nights will continue on a quarterly schedule.**

Now is a great time to mark your calendars so you won't miss these special meetings and events.



### ANNIVERSARY PARTY

#### OK ... HERE IT IS – BIG, EXCITING NEWS!

The Heimdal's 39<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration will be April 15 at the Lynchburg Grand Hotel. Doors open at 5 p.m.

The party will be a costume party again and the theme is **BE YOUR FAVORITE STAR TREK EPISODE**. The costume possibilities are endless and will be so much fun. There will be a Costume Contest with prizes.

We have LIVE entertainment.

The buffet meal will be \$27.95 per person which includes the meal, dessert, beverage, tax and tip. You'll NEVER find

anything that good at such a reasonable price anywhere else.

We will have ALL the usual bells and whistles so mark your calendar, bring a guest and plan to be there for another spectacular anniversary event.

### 2023 CHARITY AUCTION

At the Executive Committee Planning Meeting it was decided that we really HAD to have an auction in 2023. While all of our usual auction guests didn't come back this year, 2/3 DID. We don't want to lose those people by not having an auction and we DO hope that guests that didn't come this year may come back in 2023 AND we hope to have new guests interested. So it was unanimously decided to move forward with the auction next year.

Just two weeks following our August auction this year I called to reserve the Lynchburg Grand Hotel for our August 2023 auction. Surprisingly, ALL August Saturday's were already reserved plus the first two Saturdays in September. So I reserved the earliest available Saturday, which will be **September 16**. This is much later than we'd like and the hotel has us on a list to change the date to an August date if there is a cancelation but as it stands now, the auction will be September 16.

PLEASE DO start thinking about your level of participation. We had a fantastic turn-out at this year's auction to help but we were grossly under staffed for canvassing for the auction. Please consider helping us canvas. The same very few of us really can't handle it alone again and desperately need your help. PLEASE let me know by the middle of January if you will be willing to help canvas and what areas you will be able to canvas. If more of us help with this we can ALL do our part and no one will have to carry such a huge load. We will discuss this later and I will let you know suggested canvassing areas. If you've never canvassed for donations and need someone to go with you to show you how it's done, please let me know and I will spend time with you canvassing your first time out.

The amazing things we are able to accomplish in the community ... our Space Camp Program, the 9 charities we support ... makes canvassing less of a chore and more of a winning reason to help. Thank you all in advance.



### AUCTION ADVERTISING COMMITTEE

Heimdal's Chief of Communications, Glenda Blanks will be putting together an Auction Advertising Committee. The 2023 auction will find us not only coming back post-COVID, but we will be holding the auction later than usual. We also may not have access to one of the advertising opportunities we've had in years past so ADVERTISING will be KEY to the success of this next auction.

Glenda will need several people to help find innovative ways to get the word out about the event PLUS how best to advertise in local area newspapers to get the auction information noticed in the most effective way. She will need some good creative thinkers so if you're interested in serving on the committee please let her know at [gkblanks@yahoo.com](mailto:gkblanks@yahoo.com). She may also be contacting you asking for your participation. Our Auction Questionnaire was completed by more guests this year than ever before. On the question, **How Did You Hear About the Auction?** The most responses were from Heimdal members and from the newspaper. We had exceptional newspaper coverage so we really need to do that again. Thanks for considering throwing your creative hat into this committee.

### HEIMDAL PUBLIC SCIENCE FICTION AUCTION PLANNED FOR MAY

We've been talking about doing this for at least 6 months and NOW we're actually PLANNING it... WOW!

During the COVID years when people had more time on their hands and more time at home, many used that time to clean out their attics, spare rooms and basement storage areas. That had 2 really cool outcomes: they ended up with more room and the Heimdal ended up with 2 vintage Star Trek collections plus other items that people had no room for. Two people that contacted me had collections that had belonged to a family member that had passed and stipulated that their Trek collection go to someone or a group that would appreciate it and use it to help others. And that's where the Heimdal came in. The family members that had inherited the collections heard about us in newspaper articles and through Facebook and the rest, as they say, is history.







Riverviews ArtSpace Theater

We have a LOT of items, some fairly common but some are rare and are truly 'collector's items. We couldn't see putting them in the Heimdal Charity Auction because our guests are looking for gift cards, household items and automotive items. We didn't want to GIVE these collector's items away. So Carl, Willy and I began kicking around the idea of having a Public Science Fiction Auction ... exclusively. I contacted the Director of Riverviews ArtSpace where we had the Star Trek 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration and asked for rental prices. Because she and I have been friends for quite a while she offered us a discount of \$50.

With the worst of COVID behind us and mostly manageable we decided NOW was the time to add the S-F Auction to our 2023 Agenda.

SO the plan is this – we're shooting for a date in May to do this at Riverviews. Since we have ALL the items taking

up most of the bar room at our house, Willy, Carl, Bonnie and I will catalog all the items there, Bonnie will get them into a computer file, Tammy and Glenda will help us tag and box them for the actual auction and we'll see how this flies.

We will need volunteers to work this auction like we do for the Annual Charity Auction. We think since this is a totally S-F auction and most of it is Star Trek it might be fun for those working the event to wear our uniforms (those that have them). Why go half way??? We will have to do all the stuff we do for the Charity Auction EXCEPT canvassing, which will make this more fun for all of us.

**PLEASE DO WATCH THIS NEWSLETTER AND EMAIL FOR INFO ABOUT THIS EVENT.** It's all very exciting and maybe the most FUN thing we do all year.



Webmaster Weston

### HEIMDAL WEBSITE BACK UP AND RUNNING

Just before the auction in August the Heimdal's website went down when we needed it most. Because of all the work on the auction we were never able to get it back up and running. In September I contacted our Web Master, WESTON Webb and he and I finally had a chance to check it out. Weston found out what we needed to do, told me and we did it ... well Weston did all the techie stuff.

A HUGE Thank You to Weston for his expertise and his patience waiting for me to spend the necessary time to work with him. Weston Rocks! Check the site out at [www.ussheimdal.com](http://www.ussheimdal.com)

Watch for website updates .....

### AMHERST CHRISTMAS PARADE – HEIMDAL'S FLOAT

Our Heimdal Parade Coordinator, Carl Davis has received all the information about entering a float in the Amherst Christmas Parade and we have some ideas on board that we are attempting to 'flesh out' for our float entry. After winning the Grand Champion Prize the past two years we just thought we should enter again. It will involve some work. Carl is entering the Heimdal float so we are committed. This is a chance for us to SHINE (again).

Here are the details. **Please DO watch your Heimdal emails for information from Carl about the float, what he needs to 'Make It SO,' volunteers needed and volunteers needed on parade night.** The following is from the Amherst Parade Committee:

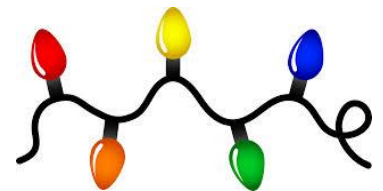
### CHRISTMAS PARADE ON MAIN STREET

We are pleased to announce that the 2022 Christmas Parade on December 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Town of Amherst will be back on Main Street in celebration of the holiday season. The parade will take place rain or shine. The excitement begins at 6:30 p.m. where the parade will step-off at Kenmore Road before traveling up Main Street and ending at the traffic circle.

We will continue to closely work with all agencies to ensure the parade operates in such a way that health and safety for our participants and the community is the top priority, but your favorite nighttime parade is back.

This year's theme is **Blue Christmas**. Parade participants are encouraged to decorate their entries inspired by this theme.

**PARADE DETAIL** - Date and Time: December 2, 2022, beginning at 6:30 PM





## COUNSELOR'S CORNER

### TIME TO CONNECT WITH YOUR SQUAD

By Beth Hopkins, Counselor

I have had friends say they admired the way I managed my breast cancer diagnosis ten years ago. They wonder if I have any secrets to share. No, not secrets, but I do have some insights for dealing with real/imagined threats on life's journey. Here is one:

You know the old saying that sometimes "it takes a village" (to get something done or resolved)? Well, although I use this saying regularly in my work life, my personal version of this sage advice is that it takes a "Squad." I have had a "Squad" longer than I can remember, although the "membership" has changed some over time and distances, two of my Squad (of five) have been with me for over 50 years.

A Squad is different than a "village." It is your personal inner circle; a group of folks who seek each other out when a crisis happens. They may provide a variety of important comforts for you such as advice, information, listening without interruptions, needed contacts, a shoulder to cry on, a hug to hold you, chocolate, a bowl of good home-made chicken noodle soup (without celery), or welcome prayers. This is your "go-to" group that could include family and/or friends that you know by experience you can count on when times get tough. You will likely have a history with them and have relied on their support and wisdom in the past. They could include longtime friends, new friends, spouses, or other close family members (or your animals). You may not necessarily have regular contact with all your Squad, but these folks, when called upon, quickly re-establish the closeness you had when you last connected. You know that feeling.

Now whether you know it or not, pretty much everyone has a Squad or could create one. You may never have formerly or consciously identified them or notified them as such, but I encourage you to do so...and to do so ahead of any future trials that may come your way. Give it some thought and make some phone calls. It is comforting and pleasing to know you are never alone and part of a Squad...people like that.

(For fun - you can even agree on a name for your Squad. It's like being a part of an exclusive club that is primed to be there for you in time of need and .... and you for them.)



Counselor Beth

## RILEY'S RAMBLINGS ...

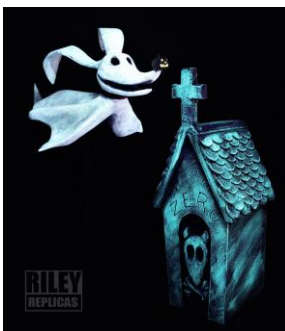
### EARLY CHRISTMAS

By Richard Riley



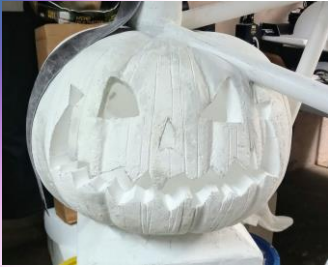
### HELLO EVERYONE!

For this month's installment I will be discussing my latest project, a life-size Jack Skellington and his ghost dog, Zero along with his



tombstone / doghouse! These characters are from the stop motion animated film *The Nightmare Before Christmas*. The story is about Jack who is called the Pumpkin King and is the ruler of Halloween! He is depressed and feels he is in a rut with his life. After discovering that there are other Holidays, he sets his sights on Christmas and wants to take over for "Sandy Claws." You can just imagine how this plays out in the movie!





Now for the pieces I made - they are actually based on a display at Disneyland in California. For the months of September through January the amusement park changes the display of the Haunted Mansion ride and will do what they call an "overlay" of placing Jack, his dog Zero and other characters from the movie into the ride. Last year I made a display for a client of The Haunted Mansion of 3 hitchhiking ghosts in front of 2 columns and a fence. My client had told me last year to plan ahead, that he would want to swap the ghosts out for Jack and Zero for Christmas so this project was planned well in advance!

The biggest obstacle for this was to make sure that the characters would fit with the fence and columns so careful measurements of the columns and display were made before shipping it out last year. Jack was fairly straightforward; I started out by purchasing a toy Jack and Zero. Using those figures I am able to measure them off and get the correct proportions and scale. Working with 3 dimensional items, whether it is a toy or statue takes out a lot of the guess work. For example the toy Jack is 12 inches high. I multiply all the measurements off of the figure by 7 to get to the correct size of 7 feet high for Jack. His head is 1 inch high so by multiplying it by 7 I get to 7 inches which is how large his head needs to be. I do this with his legs, arms, even his fingers!

The first thing I had to do was to make a new column top. The column tops are removable so this has the top along with the pumpkin all as one piece. I carved all of this out then started with the PVC pipe for the legs. From there I then started the body, arms and head. I took my time on this to make sure the pose would look natural and that his arms and legs will clear the fence. The client did give me some freedom on the arm pose - on the actual statue I am basing this on Jack is studying a snowflake while stroking his beard. I went with his hand on his hip, a more whimsical look on his face and also made sure that the head can come off so for future builds I can make more heads with different facial expressions.

Next up was Zero. He is mounted on a pole so he appears to be floating. I did the same thing with my measurements with Zero to get his proportions correct. Zero will be placed in front of the fence. Zero's doghouse / tombstone was pretty straightforward. I did not have a reference model to use but instead used images from the movie and looking at how

large Zero is in comparison to the doghouse I was able to gauge what size it should be.

The whole piece was coated for durability, painted and is waiting to be shipped to California for this year's Christmas decoration for my client. In case you are wondering, the client has already come up with new decorations for NEXT year! For 2023 I will be making Jack's girlfriend Sally! He says that he has years of ideas lined up for me so I am looking forward to what the other projects will be!



## FROM OUR DEPARTMENTS





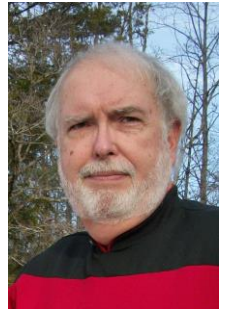
<<SECURITY>>



## SECURITY REPORT, OCTOBER 2022

By RAdm. Carl Davis, Security Chief

*I was searching for some materials I had saved the other day when I ran across a report I had typed up from ten years ago. I found it interesting and thought some others might enjoy having a look at yesteryear, as the Lone Ranger always called it.  
(A Trip Back in Phaser Sim Time ...)*



### Spring 2012 Simulated Phaser Practice By Carl

Crewmembers gathered at Mountaintop Christian Adventures on Saturday March 10<sup>th</sup> for a great afternoon of fun. 10 in all for our best attended day ever of Simulated Phaser Practice. The day was perfect. Present were Joe (Massie), Jennifer, Robin, Tammy, Willy, Cheryl, Logan, Travis, Bonnie, and Carl.

After an orientation meeting, sides were divided and play began on the smallest field which had changed some since last the group met in combat. The camper shell at midfield had been removed and two satellite dish halves were in place to offer strategic cover. With four on each team the first game went by quickly as everyone became familiar with the equipment. Everybody mixed it up and got some paint flying.

The second game was on the same field with teams starting from opposite ends of the field. With a bit more assurance and perhaps caution the teams came together. Players from both sides made good plays but luck, or skill, (sometimes it's hard to tell the difference) favored the winners. (I wish I could remember who they were. If you ask, somebody will tell you.)

For the next game Carl and Bonnie joined the teams. Sciences managed to have 3 players on one team and Carl persuaded Joe and Logan that they belonged in Security though they didn't get to be on the same team very much. Medical and Engineering took positions to fill out the teams at 5 members each. Play moved to the big field.

The first game favored the no arm bands team as Travis managed to sweep behind the arm bands (Willy's team) and surprise players with well calculated shots. 5 eliminations built momentum for the no bands. (Not a very original name. We must work on that next time. Perhaps we need some players from the communications department to give us

guidance.)

Superior numbers quickly crushed any resistance that could be mounted.

After repairs and replenishing paint the teams moved to the long roadside field. Armbands began at the narrow end of the field and moved forward to get some decent cover. Willy fell quickly from his point position and opened the advantage to the no bands. One by one they were able to make good shots and remove the opposition. Cheryl was the last player dug in behind good cover but Carl was able to flank her and gave her the opportunity to surrender, which she wisely did, ending the game.

After replaying the game in words and gestures we swapped ends and when the

whistle blew both teams moved forward with caution and respect. It was clear that the team with elevation advantage had the edge so no bands determined to take cover with overarching fields of fire, waiting more cautiously, having learned from the first game. Caution paid off along with some misfortune on the part of the armband team. Willy had an equipment malfunction rendering him all but useless. Bonnie fell to a good shot from Joe or Jennifer. Cheryl moved downfield much too close to the position Carl had been hiding in from the start of the game and she was surprised by a hail of paintballs, one of which found its mark. Robin, being the last person on the field, (after Willy asked for a mercy killing) was quick to admit defeat as her position was advanced on by the no bands.

Joe, Tammy and Robin retired from play as it was 4:30 by that time. Willy, Bonnie, Jennifer and Travis decided it would be great fun to take on Cheryl, Logan and Carl. Play moved to the small "car field" and the slaughter began. It



Phaser Simulation 2012





became clear that superior firepower held a definite advantage as the three were eliminated fairly quickly. What came as a surprise to me was the giddy enjoyment that the victory seemed to bring for the four.

We changed ends of the field and the results were much the same as before. Once a single player fell the four against two quickly ended the game. Again, much joy from the victors.

So....we decided to change things a bit. Travis joined the underdog three and we moved to the dish field. Once again four on three marched forward and wiped out the valiant three. As victors, we quickly realized that having the advantage didn't diminish the sweetness of victory all that much.

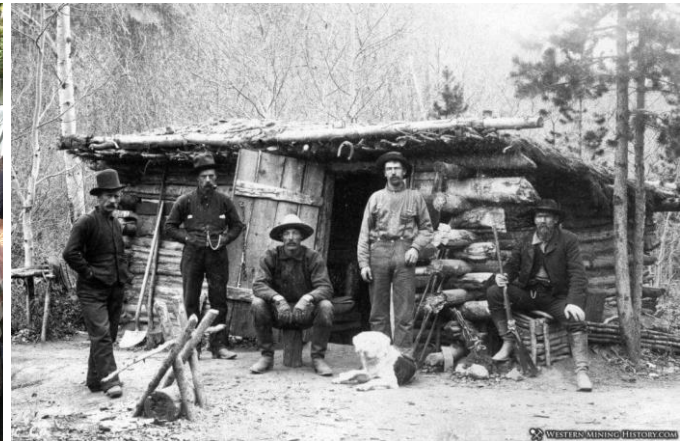
Swapping ends of the field made a big difference and the tiny three made some quick, good shots. Travis and Logan left the field with big explosions of paint marking them. Bonnie and Cheryl exchanged fire until Cheryl raised her gun in the air signaling she, too, had been eliminated. Now things looked as though the three would be victorious. Things are a little foggy as to what happened next. Bonnie and Willy had me in a crossfire with Jennifer moving into position. Bonnie had the most favorable shooting position on me when I detected a change in the sound of her gun. After years of play it is possible for me to tell when a gun runs dry on paint and hers made that beautiful sound. That allowed me to focus on Willy who was my next nearest threat. I think he went light on paint, too and was eliminated. I told Bonnie I knew she was out and she had the option to walk or get shot. She chose walking and once again I got to quote my favorite line from Quigley Down Under, ***"It ain't brave but it is smart."***

Jennifer gave me my second opportunity to quote Quigley and I did so with great relish, winning the game by simply having more paint than the others. (There's a lesson there I'm sure)

So...another fun day was had by all. We shot each other and lived to tell about it. No animals were hurt in the making of the movie and we learned a few things. Like teamwork is important. Communications is a must. Rushing an opponent's position is not always the smart thing to do. Paintballs hurt in the neck (ask Bonnie), NEVER take your mask off in a game. You only get to break three guns a day. The paintball in your hopper will not eliminate anyone until sent out the barrel. Carry extra paint. And Carl will write a report showing himself as the star player every time. ;) Looking forward to the next time. I suggest...soon....carl out

## PHASER SIM – SEPTEMBER 2022

By Adm. Willy Smith, CSO



Phaser Simulation 2022

I really don't know how Carl chooses these perfect days, but we couldn't have wished for a better day to

be running around in the woods sharpening our phaser skills and being with friends. REAL phasers WOULD be the ultimate to have on a weekend to stay fit and be with friends but I'm sure there would be SOME kind of drawback. ANYWAY....

Sorry I got off track there, but Joe (Arnold), Jonathan, Carl, Bonnie and I had a wonderful time that day. Bonnie was back moving well again and I found out Joe was good to have on *your* team. I found myself in a bad location and had to fall back while Joe and Jonathan got into a battle. I heard Joe hit Jonathan but the paint didn't break ... Joe sez, ***"It WILL break the next time."*** Sure enough, Joe eliminated Jonathan, which finally gave us a break we needed but in the next minute Carl took me out using some wicked red competition paint that stayed with you.

The next game we finally were on the BIG field and my teammates did all the work the first game and Science won, but I had done so poorly that day there was no chance of us winning the day. The next game Joe and I tried to overtake Carl and Jonathan while Bonnie moved to their other side. Our attack didn't work as planned which left those two hunting for



Bonnie and I felt I'd somehow let her down, but she must've been wayyy around 'cause I watched them look everywhere for her (while I was on the side, splattered in red). I finally heard shooting and then Carl appeared so I followed to see Bonnie and Jonathan in battle and I knew Carl would end it, but Bonnie wasn't easily overtaken.

It was really a fun day and I'm glad to have taken the time to be there because it's evident I need the practice.

I think we all would like to see more participation and more people equals more fun. Plus, the hot days are behind us and it's such a good place to have a day of exercise and competition is good. Yes, I have muscles that are sore but it's a good feeling. Please consider joining us next time, I don't think you'll find a better workout and have fun as well.



## <<<SCIENCE>>>

### OCTOBER SCIENCE REPORT

**By Adm. Willy Smith, Chief Science Officer, Starfleet SFDPP Certified**

A NASA spacecraft is on course to deliberately collide with a small asteroid

Sept. 26 to test how that technique could be used to deflect a potentially hazardous asteroid.

The Double Asteroid Redirection Test (DART) spacecraft, launched last November, is on a trajectory to collide with Dimorphos, a small asteroid orbiting the larger near Earth asteroid, Didymos, at **7:14 p.m. Eastern Sept. 26**. The collision will change slightly the orbit of Dimorphos, allowing scientists to measure how effective such a collision, or "kinetic impact," could be to change the trajectory of any future asteroids that pose a hazard to the Earth.



**THIS ALL HAPPENED SEPTEMBER 26 ... UPDATE???**

## <<<MEDICAL>>>

### MEDICAL MINUTE OCTOBER 2022: SOLAR SYSTEM STEP CHALLENGE

**By Commodore Tammy White, Chief Medical Officer**

For those of you who do not know, Starfleet has an ongoing Walk Across the Galaxy Challenge. Linda has been putting it in this newsletter. The challenge is to walk across the galaxy by taking each planet, and the moon, one at a time. The moon was September's challenge. Rumors had it that October's challenge may be our own planet

Earth but it turned out to be Venus. It's a fun way to participate with your chapter and other SFI members while getting fit and encouraging and supporting others to do the same.

The challenge goes through the end of the year so there is still plenty of time to join the fun. If you plan on walking across the galaxy with us here is some information you may need.

Some clarifications for you regarding the STARFLEET Medical Step Challenge:

**1.** The final week of each month (Week 4) goes through the last day of the month. For example, our July trek across Ganymede continued through July 31. If you so wish, you can go dancing at 11:30 PM tonight and those steps will count towards October!

I've received a few step reports for Week 4 over the last few days, before Week 4 actually ends. Don't sell yourself short! Keep track of your count through midnight of the last day.

**2.** It is not necessary to submit your step count for each individual day of a given week. Just your weekly total is fine!







3. Please turn in your crew's individual weekly totals within 2 days of the previous week's end. For example, July Week 4 steps had to be turned in by August 2. Because this challenge is Fleet wide, we cannot accept step counts past the stated deadlines.

4. The next month's step challenge — Venus for October, in our case — begins immediately on the 1st of the month. So... if you go dancing tonight, any dance steps completed as of 12:01 AM count towards October Week 1.

Remember, you can hike, jog, run, dance, skip, swim, paddle, and bike your steps! And walking works, too!

#### **SOLAR SYSTEM CHALLENGE 2022 RULES**

1) You are only to enter STEP totals for each week. Do NOT convert whatever other format total you may count yourself into steps if you are unable to measure steps. If you have physical or mental limitations that restrict you from counting steps, then you must clear this with Pip Slack (you can email her at [medicdsg@sfi.org](mailto:medicdsg@sfi.org)) and she will clear with you specifically what you can do as an exception to this rule. This is not to be awkward, but so that everyone's measurements are standardized and fair to the entire fleet.

2) Step totals must be submitted to your Regional ASG NO LATER than midnight (PST) Sunday each week. Any step totals that are submitted after this deadline are disqualified — there will be NO EXCEPTIONS.

3) ASG's must enter their step totals to me NO LATER than midnight (PST) Tuesday each week. Any step totals that are submitted after this deadline are disqualified — there will be NO EXCEPTIONS.



4) The data to be entered will consist of the person's name and the total number of their steps for each reporting weekly period.

5) If you do not have an ASG in your Region but want to get involved, please speak to your RC to see if it is possible to set up an ASG. If you want to apply to become your Regional ASG, then you can do so here: [https://sfi.org/...](https://sfi.org/)

If you need a reason to walk how about reducing your risk of dementia? CNN states that according to a new study you should walk. Want to reduce your risk for dementia? Slap on a step counter and start tallying your steps -- you'll need between 3,800 and 9,800 each day to reduce your risk of mental decline, according to a new study.

People between the ages of 40 and 79 who took 9,826 steps per day were 50% less likely to develop dementia within seven years, the study found. Furthermore, people who walked with "purpose" -- at a pace over 40 steps a minute -- were able to cut their risk of dementia by 57% with just 6,315 steps a day.

"It is a brisk walking activity, like a power walk," said study coauthor Borja del Pozo Cruz, an adjunct associate professor at the University of Southern Denmark in Odense, Denmark, and senior researcher in health sciences for the University of Cadiz in Spain.

😊 Don't worry if you start in the middle of the week just send me your steps you do count and I will forward them to our regional CMO. Hope to see you out there.

#### **<<<<ENGINEERING>>>>**



#### **ENGINEERING UPDATE OCTOBER Captain Darrell Millner, Chief Engineering Officer, Starfleet SFDPP Certified**

#### **ENGINEERING: MONTHLY UPDATE FOR SEPTEMBER Monthly Ops Report - Engineering SD: 202209.28**

#### **Capt. Darrell Millner, Chief Engineering Officer, R1 Chief Engineer**

Like the snail said riding on the back of the turtle.... *"Weeeeeee, That Was Fast,"* that was my month in short. Relatively quiet from a departmental perspective but here are a few highlights - Heimdal Engineering Department monthly zoom was held on 19<sup>th</sup> September, fun, informative, and challenging. We laid out several plans for upcoming projects, documentation, and discussions regarding recruiting. Plus discussions regarding STARFLEET Academy, accessing the [SFI.org](https://sfi.org) website, and confirming access for voting in the upcoming SFI CS Election. Top notch efforts and team building with Jody, Kathy, Zak and myself.

Engineering members in general took a break on SFA in August — for me I kicked it in gear a bit, really enjoying getting my SFI \$5 a year in value and having fun with it.

I am glad to report I continue to participate in the "Solar System Step Challenge" sponsored by STARFLEET Medical and encourage everyone to reach out to CMO T. White for details; it's simple, it's healthy, and helps promote and





represent the Heimdal. Let's support our Medical Department folks.

Look for additional details and updates in The Engineering Link ( <https://trek.millnernet.com/home/eng-link/> ) our team continues to put amazing effort and spirit into. Speaking of which...

On the Monday Night "Pathfinder Zoom" a Region One, SFI initiative for live open and fun discussions weekly it was a joy to hear a new participant talking about having been following our departmental newsletter via the R1 newsletter exchange program and the Heimdal's Rainbow Connection. **The Heimdal makes a difference crew – it really does.**

On a final note: warm and positive thoughts, cards, and more continue to go out to our fellow crew members with health and personal challenges - When in doubt, reach out. Look forward to the updates next month, October is going to be a trip. Millner Out.

## REGION ONE STUFF



### REGIONAL COORDINATOR HOLDING MONTHLY CO/XO ZOOM MEETINGS

A few months ago R/1 Regional Coordinator, Phillip Cox began holding monthly ZOOM meetings with the COs and XOs of Region One. He is keeping everyone updated and informed about what's going on with the Region and any issue / votes he is involved in at the Starfleet level as a member of the Admiralty Board. These meetings also give the COs and XOs an opportunity to ask questions, make suggestions, share concerns and share chapter news with the RC and the other R/1 COs and XOs.

At the September meeting Phillip arranged for the candidates in the CS election to be available to meet interested members of the Region ... not just the COs and XOs. It was an excellent opportunity to actually speak to the candidates and get an idea of the direction each plans to take Starfleet should they win. Many thanks to RC Cox for arranging this.



## STARFLEET STUFF

### FLEET ADMIRAL ELECTION

**By Stephen Stott, Starfleet Inspector General**

As of September 24, 2022 there are 1262 members that have voted so far out of 4738 eligible voters which equates to 26% of the membership that has voted. Keep up the good work.

Just as a reminder - if you have not received a ballot first check your spam mail but if you have not received one then send me an email at [ig@sfi.org](mailto:ig@sfi.org). Include your name, SCC# and registered email and I will find out what is going on or arrange to have a new ballot emailed to you.

Live long and prosper, RADM Stephen Stott IG, STARFLEET

### STARFLEET OCTOBER MEDICAL CHALLENGE

**From Cmdr. Pip Slack**

I am very happy to announce the Solar System Challenge for October - Venus!

This month you will be making a trek around the planet, with the following landmarks:

Starting point, Tepev Mons– 5 miles

Ovda Regio – 10 miles

Tethis Regio – 20 miles

Artemis Corona – 30 miles

Zhibek Planitia – 40 miles

Imdr Regio – 50 miles

Maat Mons – 60 miles

Rusalka Planitia – 70 miles

Ulfrun Regio – 80 miles

Phoebe Regio – 90 miles

Themis Regio – 100 miles

Alpha Regio- 110 miles

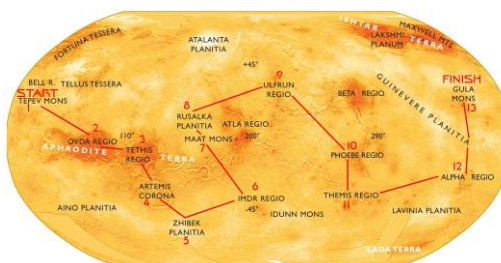
Gula Mons, Finish – 120 miles.

Your report weeks for October are:

Week 1: October 1st to 7th

Week 2: October 8th to 14th

Week 3: October 15th to 21st







Week 4: October 22nd to 31st

Until then, you have a few more days to try and get as far as you can with the Moon, so come all, let's make a final push to reach that next landmark!

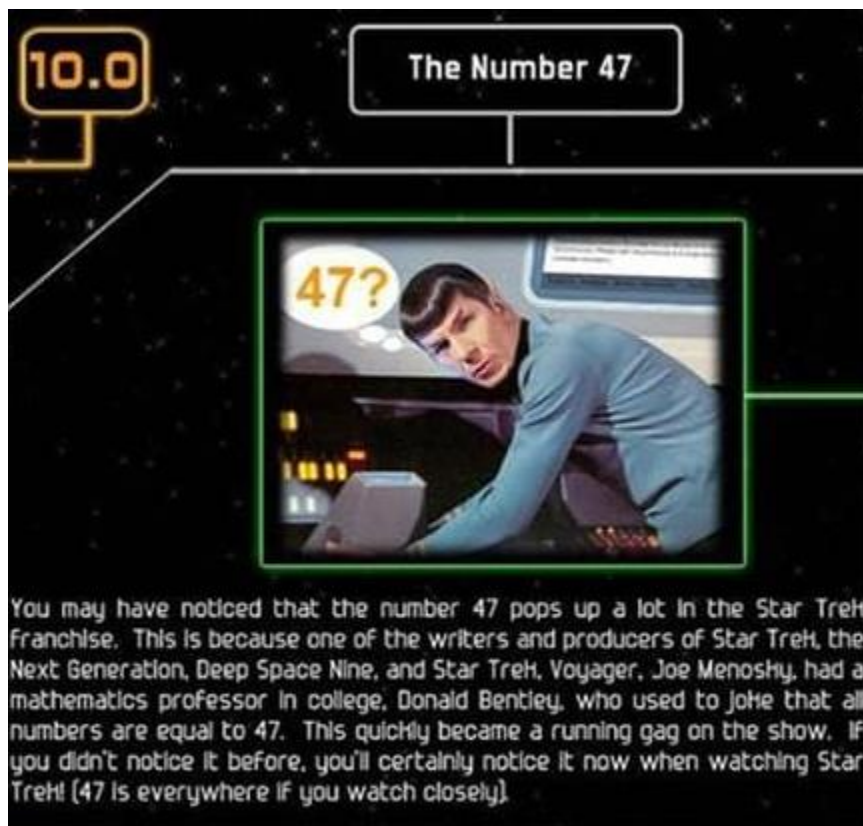
If you're enjoying these challenges, why not try to get some of your crewmates involved too; the more the merrier! You'll all help cheer each other on 😊

Have fun, LLAP

Capt. Pip Slack, Deputy Surgeon General, STARFLEET Medical

## STAR TREK STUFF

### LITTLE KNOWN STAR TREK FACTS



### REMEMBERING LOUISE FLETCHER 1934 – 2022

[StarTrek.com](https://www.startrek.com) honors the late actress and her contributions to the Star Trek universe.

BY [StarTrek.com](https://www.startrek.com) Staff

September 23, 2022 7:30 PM PDT



the age of 88.

Fletcher was a beloved Oscar-winning character actress. Fans of Star Trek knew her best as the cunning and ambitious Winn Adami, a Bajoran religious figure who frequently fought with

[StarTrek.com](https://www.startrek.com) is deeply saddened to report the passing of actress Louise Fletcher, who played Kai Winn on *Star Trek: Deep Space Nine*. Fletcher passed away on September 23, 2022, at



Captain Sisko and his crew throughout the show's seven season run.

Born July 22, 1934, in Birmingham, Alabama, Fletcher's career began in the late '50s, with appearances in shows such as *Maverick* and *The Untouchables*. Her performance in the 1974 Robert Altman film *Thieves Like Us* drew the attention of director Miloš Forman for a role in the 1975 film, *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*. For her portrayal of Nurse Ratched, Fletcher won an Academy Award, a BAFTA Award, and a Golden Globe, making her the third woman in history to win all three awards for a single performance.

Fletcher first appeared on *Deep Space Nine* in the first season finale, setting up her multi-season journey as Winn Adami. Her character was key to the show's ultimate endgame set up in the series finale, *"What You Leave Behind."* Over the course of 14 episodes, Fletcher delivered a nuanced portrait of an ambitious woman who was willing to do whatever it took to gain and maintain power, becoming a fan-favorite villain.

Speaking to [StarTrek.com](https://www.startrek.com) in 2012, Fletcher shared that *"DS9 was one of the best memories of my working life, of my day-to-day working life."*

*"It was like playing a symphony for the 99th time,"* continued Fletcher. *"I still get fan mail. People are still interested. They still want your autograph. Or they'll send those [trading] cards and ask you to sign them and send them back. I would say that my mail is 40 percent Cuckoo's Nest, 40 percent Star Trek, and 20 percent other shows and movies. And that's great. I'm glad I did Star Trek. I'm so glad I'm part of that whole happening."*

The entire Star Trek family sends their condolences to Fletcher's family, friends, loved ones, and fans around the world.

## REVIEWS

### STAR TREK DAY 2022

By Zak Lyon

On September 8, 1966, Star Trek premiered. That makes September 8 **Star Trek Day**. For a second year, Paramount celebrated this anniversary with a two hour block of streamed entertainment. I am going to attempt to give you a taste of it along with some of my thoughts starting with two meaningful quotes that I took away from the presentation.

*"Star Trek represents so much. It's really about honoring and preserving cultures."*

Blair Imani, super fan and cosplayer

*"Though my soul may set in darkness, it will rise to perfect light. I have loved the stars too fondly to be fearful of the night."* "The Old Astronomer" by Sarah Williams. Plaque on FED HQ Discovery



The MCs were Paul F. Tompkins and Tawny Newsome, comedians, hosts of the official Star Trek podcast, and voice actors from *Lower Decks*. This kind of set the tone for the event as there was a lot of silliness. A tribute to Nichelle Nichols was screened. All five currently running shows were highlighted. A few announcements were made (and some not made). Cosplayers were shown off. And the in-person crowd was hyped. This event was about celebrating the Star Trek family.

There were several small panels and individual interviews. The *Picard* panel consisted of Patrick Stewart, Jeri Ryan and Michelle Hurd. Sir Patrick said he wanted fans to be excited to

see that *"they"* (the crew) could still do an essential and necessary job of rescue, safety and hospitality even *"when under threat."* Hmm. A little glimpse. If you squint. He reemphasized that while the old *Next Generation* cast was reuniting that this was not a reunion show. Michelle Hurd said that we would get to see the criminal underbelly of life in the 25<sup>th</sup> century. Though many wish to see the world of Star Trek as having no underbelly ... Cyrano Jones, Quark, et. al. need somewhere to operate.

When introducing the trailer, Sir Patrick exclaimed, *"We're back in space!"* The trailer did entice. *"This message is for Admiral Jean Luc Picard, we need your help."* For the first time in 25 years we hear the voice of Beverly Crusher coming over a combadge. *"We need a ship,"* Picard laments. Then, *"Jean Luc, wherever you go, we go."* from Riker. Yeah, I'm interested! Then *"Welcome to the Titan"* says its first officer (no spoilers). Oh yeah! Premieres on Feb 16, 2023.

To begin the *Discovery* portion of the event, Tawny Newsome said *"There is so much good Star Trek. If you love one thing about 'new Trek' - one character, one ship, one show, one little wrinkly forehead alien - if you like only one thing, we have Discovery to thank for that."* So true. Although no *Discovery* cast/crew was in attendance, we got a set tour from season five guided by Wilson Cruz. We saw Tilly on the bridge! Captain Burnham's new quarters. New





uniforms. The corridors of FED HQ. And a still of Captain Burnham on a “motorcycle” that looks like she just got run off the road by Cassian Andor. It did whet my appetite for more *Discovery*.

Then we had the voice actor panels from *Lower Decks* and *Prodigy*. Typically, the cast of *Lower Decks* begins a chant when they are in front of an audience. This time the crowd started the chant when the actors walked on stage. They have been trained well. Season 3 was underway at the time, but they still showed another little teaser. I love this show. Since these actors are comedians, this panel was pretty funny and showed how much fun these guys have when they can get together in person. Something that doing voice work during COVID did not allow for.

Then Kate Mulgrew and Brett Gray from *Prodigy* took the stage and basically introduced a teaser. And the only mildly non-spoilery thing I can say is: did I see the Outrageous Okona on the bridge of the Protostar? The team is still fugitives. Was I seeing the next evolution of Murf? I can’t wait for the next 10 episodes of season one to begin on October 27.

The largest panel was *Strange New Worlds*. I called it Babs and the Babes. Babs Olusanmokin (Dr. M’benga) was surrounded by the women of SNW. Wow. What a cast. They reminisced, so basically all spoilers. They did talk some about Christina’s dog who was in one episode. The Gorn. And does Ortegas finally get to go on an away mission? Guess we’ll have to wait until season two – the date a nebulous 2023. Oh, one bit of news. Carol Kane is joining the crew of the Enterprise! That should be interesting.

Other points of interest.

- Pod Directive podcast will be back in February.
- A little merch was shared. But not what I was looking for. Darn it.
- Games... exclusive look of Star Trek online’s new update about the Terran Empire. Wesley Crusher is the emperor?
- The Ready Room will continue with its interview format and behind the scenes look at all five Star Trek shows.

Wil Wheaton’s intense emotion about his love of Trek and love of his costars always shines through.

Finally, the thing I was most excited about. It’s no secret my Trek fandom came into its own through novels and audiobooks. I was thrilled when Nicholas Meyer took the stage and announced *Star Trek: Ceti Alpha V*. What was Khan up to during his 15-year exile marooned on a harsh world? Meyer’s long gestating Khan project - which was to be a miniseries aired between series seasons - will “start life” as a radio show style podcast. This took me aback a little bit. Start life? The audio drama format is not a kind of infancy. It is a fully grown art form on its own! But regardless of my fondness for the format – a Khan show is on the horizon. No date given. By taking away the visual dimension, the thorny issue of casting can be leapt over and we can all imagine a Khan of whatever ethnicity, whatever degree of flamboyance we desire. I can hear him say now *“This is Ceti Alpha V!”*

Happy Star Trek Day. Hope you saw something you liked. See you on First Contact Day.



## CONTINUING ROLE PLAY

### UPDATE: REGARDING INTERDEPARTMENTAL ROLE PLAY PARTICIPATION

#### CEO Darrell Millner Reporting

Advertised as: “USS Heimdal NCC-1793 is a member group of STARFLEET International ([SFL.org](https://www.starfleet.org)).

To enhance the experience our team has developed a role play as a continuing storyline detailing our fictitious adventures onboard our Galaxy Class Starship centered in the STAR TREK™ Universe.

Heimdal's Interdepartmental Role Play promotes unified communication and creative exchange between its members, departments and leadership. If you are a current member of the USS Heimdal and wish to participate or simply stay in the loop prior to the monthly publication in the award winning *Rainbow Connection* newsletter please join in."

[HeimdalRolePlay@groups.io](mailto:HeimdalRolePlay@groups.io) Is now open!

Many of us are already members of the [HeimdalGroupsio] distribution list and enjoy regular updates of chapter happenings, alerts, and more. [HeimdalRolePlay] is a separate group specifically designed to enhance the Interdepartmental Role Play experience and empower the team to communicate more efficiently. You can subscribe, unsubscribe, even modify your communication settings. Get timely updates and exchange ideas, add your unique perspective, be part of our storyline.

To Subscribe email us at : [HeimdalRolePlay+subscribe@groups.io](mailto:HeimdalRolePlay+subscribe@groups.io) Please include a note letting us know you are a member of the Heimdal to help with the approval process



## INTERDEPARTMENTAL ROLE PLAY, PART 15 “Reflections”

**Editor’s note:** “Time is an illusion. Lunchtime doubly so” Douglas Adams once quipped and reflecting over the past fifteen months feels that way. When this saga began SD: 202107.15 we had no idea the adventure we were setting on. Working with the multiple departments including, zooming together monthly, emailing and posting to our role play website has been a journey for us all and we hope you, the reader has enjoyed the process as much as we have enjoyed sharing with you. As we wrap up the final chapter in the Mazur/El-Aurian Saga remember ‘time lines are a peculiar thing’. What has been 15 months in the telling only took 6 days in the storyline. Now on SD:202209.29 (Cannon time line of SD:48423.2 roughly DS9: S03 EP 08\*) our team finds itself reflecting and recapping the events that took place then.

**From: LT. Kathy Whately's log,** Communications Department: SD:202209.30 : What an unbelievable 6 days that seem more like 6 weeks. I'm still trying to process all that happened. The Admiral left the Heimdal on Phoebe's Folly to be pursued by the away team on the Stravinsky. We, the Heimdal, were boarded by pirates who, after a battle royale, just disappeared along with all the damage they caused. There were aliens who were testing the Admiral and the crew to see if we could be entrusted with something very valuable. And, we passed the test. What an adventure!

**From: Lt. Lyon, Engineering Department**

Re: Mission Debrief on the events following SD:202107.15

I could not have anticipated, and if I were told would not have believed, the events that followed my initial report of a hack into the communication system set up between Lt. Vinaya and me by the known El-Aurian conman, Larsala Mazur. At first, I thought I knew not to take this man seriously, a noted liar accustomed to getting his way using his charisma. In any case, my connection with this criminal instigated the events. As it turned out, he was legitimately warning us. Even a Kertalian Panda is fertile every three decades. I should learn to trust sincere warnings whatever the source.

Those who boarded the ship, particularly the shape shifter captured by Cmdr. Hatter were after something they thought we had. And Mazur did pass on the information. So, we were somewhat prepared. But could not have been prepared for what came next. The Admiral kidnapped. Taken in her own Yacht. Our pursuit in the shuttle Stravinsky following a trail of breadcrumbs. A planet that appeared out of nowhere. Aliens whom an alternate version of the Heimdal had contact with. Aliens that were saved by our unremembered sacrifice.

Those of us on the Stravinsky each experienced an enlightening vision created to test our counterparts in this dimension - the dimension where the Heimdal survived. My El-Aurian nature allowed me to see what actually happened. What the Heimdal did for Avenel's race. My test was one of clarity. And I guess I passed. I cannot know what my crewmates saw, felt...however you would describe it. Perhaps they had an equally enlightening experience. One thing that Avenel said to me, that I must put into my report is that our Lt Cmdrs. Rowland and Hudson did not need to be tested. The content of their character spoke to the alien, Avenel, through time. I wonder what they did for her in the other timeline. This race of beings is quite powerful. I am honored that they deemed the Heimdal worthy of trust and responsibility which I will not name here.

I will be happy to answer any further questions during our in-person debriefing in the morning. I hope to make things as clear as possible for those who were not present.

**From: Captain Millner, Engineering**

Has it been that long? I can still smell the smoke, feel the vibrations, hear the screams from Engineering on a Constitution Class refit of the USS Heimdal that I know didn't exist. Counselor Hopkins has been very patient with me and yes I am making progress she says, but I still feel shaken. I pass Lt.Cmdr. Rowland in the corridors and smile with admiration – but then find an excuse to keep moving. Ens. Whately told me as we were handing off during shift change last week that he and Hatter can't do the details *“we simply toast to what was and focus on today.”* I completely understand that, most of us gather after shift in the mess hall, sit quietly and nod.

Unusual for all of us to meet today, the mess hall is quiet and both the Whately's, both Lyon engineers, Rowland, Hatter, Hudson, and I are sitting quietly enjoying appetizers. Lt. Cmdr Walker enters, enters the hall and quickly nods in our direction and heads to the replicators. He stays at arm's length more than most.

\*\_A more detailed discussion of Heimdal Timelines will be included in the November 2022 issue of the Heimdal's “The Engineering Link”

## LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

**From Linda**

OK ... the IMMEDIATE future is full to the top with the Heimdal's upcoming Halloween Party and Costume Contest. Get started right now on that prize-winning costume and WOW us all. And don't forget to bring those Halloween-themed refreshments to the 'in person' party. It's going to be SO MUCH FUN... remember how it was before COVID?

For the future you've had a chance to see what the Heimdal has in store for us by checking the line-up of meetings and events coming up the rest of this year and next







year. You KNOW you'll never find this much fun and diversity at ANY OTHER club on the planet. So check it out and come back if you've been away for a while. You won't be sorry you did.

### THAT'S IT - WE QUIT ...

We'll see you soon at the Halloween Party on October 15. It's going to be so much fun.

Thank you to ALL of our newsletter contributors. You make this publication outstanding and give it the amazing personality it has. See you soon.

*Linda, Willy and all of our staff and contributors.*

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*We'll see you around the galaxy...*

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**HAPPY HALLOWEEN!!!**



Oh COME ON! I work two weeks on this silly costume and Jim STILL won't notice ME??!

Sorry Janice! On Halloween, the Captain has only one thing on his mind...

CandyCandy  
CandyCandy  
CandyCandy