



***This November Newsletter is Dedicated to the Memory of Our Friend  
and Fellow Heimdal Member – DENNIS HENDERSON***

**From Linda**



I really don't remember when I met Dennis but I can't remember when he hasn't 'been here.' He joined the Heimdal very early in our history so it has to be close to 40 years, which is a very long time. He was one of our first members to have a monster maroon and he went to those very early RoVaCon conventions when we went as a group ... as a chapter of Starfleet. He was even guest host to Angelique Pettyjohn one year, which was the most exciting thing for him.

Dennis let his membership lapse for several years but he came back. In those years when he wasn't a member, he remained my friend.

Dennis was quiet, but always thoughtful, intellectual and described himself as *'a man of few words.'* Sometimes I'd ask him something and he would give me a one-word answer, which led to a much longer conversation, LOL. Yet he DID engage in much longer conversations when the topic was something he was really interested in. He was unique in the universe.

Dennis was the Heimdal's first Chief Engineer and was Region One's first Regional Division Chief of Engineering (RDC). He was a Heimdal engineer for almost all of his Heimdal career but recently changed to the Science Department when he developed a huge interest in Astrophysics. He wrote an occasional newsletter article and tried to come to as many meetings and events as possible. He served on the Space Camp Committee. There are so many Heimdal anecdotes involving Dennis that I don't have room for here but some are funny and will forever be a part of this chapter and my memory of the Heimdal and of him.

He introduced me and eventually the Heimdal to artist, author and good friend, Ron Miller and to talented artist and now club member, Gary Burley. He had an on-going friendship with actor and Star Trek character actor, David Frankham and made sure David was a Heimdal member and still is today.

As a person, Dennis was dedicated to his children and his grandchildren.

Family was very important to him. He used to sky dive, which he loved, but gave up the sport when he got custody of his young children, Jennifer and Mark, both of whom have grown up to be very fine adults. Jennifer and her son, Darrell are Heimdal members.

Personally, he helped me through some difficult and confusing times and I did the same for him, which solidified our relationship as not just club members but as friends. He admitted to having a mercurial temper and turned to counted cross stitch as a means of anger management and came to love it. His pieces are intricate and mind boggling and his talent was amazing.

That's kind of an overview of Dennis but it doesn't really tell you WHO he was. If you knew him personally, then you just knew ...

There's no way I can really tell you about my friendship with Dennis. He

was always 'there,' and now I can't believe he isn't. I knew when he was diagnosed with Amyloidosis that his prognosis was poor and the events of the early morning of October 31 were looming. It is incredible that he overcame crisis after crisis and defied the expectations of his survival. Because he kept doing that, my own expectations became that he would always be here. I can still hear his voice in my head and I can't believe he isn't ...

My friendship with Dennis and the part of his personal medical struggle he shared with me have reinforced in me the belief that we're putting a lot of things out front that maybe don't deserve that place in our lives. People, family and friends are the only things that matter in the end, really. Petty differences and



**With Ron Miller**



**With his amazing cross stitch.**



**With Grace Lee Whitney, 'Yeoman Rand'**

grievances are just that, petty. Say you're sorry if you need to. Accept apologies. Enjoy your friends because they ARE your friends and not for what they can do or be for you. Find that level of friendship that matters and hold your friends close. It is the glue that holds the best of us together.

### Remembering Dennis From Willy



I joined the Heimdal in 1986 and started going to meetings in 1987. Dennis was a member and we spoke but never a long conversation. Over the years I learned he liked Grace Lee Whitney (Yoman Rand) and later, Linda put me in Engineering where Dennis was Chief.

Over the years as members of Heimdal I knew Dennis was an electrician and I worked for the power company. That mutual work only brought out several paragraphs from him but I learned he was a man of few words. I have more similar Dennis stories than sand in your shoes on a beach.

Dennis left Heimdal for a few years but returned to the club. The night he officially re-joined we all gathered 'round him for a picture. There we 15 smiling faces and 1 no smile (take a guess). Dennis's expression said, "***What have I done? What have I gotten myself back into?***" I enlarged and framed that picture and hung it on our bar room wall. Dennis always said he hated that photo but I think he secretly liked it and the message it sent ... that we were all very glad to have him back ... home.



Heimdal supported the ALS Foundation one year and members agreed to do the Ice Bucket Challenge at a Heimdal Picnic and Pool Party. All our volunteers agreed to have a bucket of ice water dumped on them and I was taking videos of the event. For a moment I feared for my life when Dennis moved so fast toward me. We all got a dose of ice, including Dennis and the pictures and videos are priceless.

We played paintball and Dennis seemed to enjoy it. Once he even brought his daughter and her husband along for a day in the woods getting splattered with paint.

I liked his truck but couldn't get him to sell it to me. His grandkids, Darrell and Alexis helped me with a science project at a pool party – wrapping a watermelon with rubber bands until it exploded ... and making Heimdal a place where Dennis was happy to bring his family. We both worked with voltage, which gave us even more in common.

Dennis spoke several times of astronomy and 2 months ago moved to the Science Department. I was pleased to have an Astrophysicist in the department and thought we had another common ground but his health changed for the worse.





I will miss knowing a man who only spoke when he had something to say. I *really* hope we meet again and he has stories to tell.

Dennis, know that you are missed by your Heimdal friends. You and I, we *were* friends after all. I hope we can name an event or month to honor his time with Heimdal.

### **D is for Dependable From Carl**



I have known Dennis for all the years I've been in the Heimdal and that goes back a long ways. He was always one of the few people who were quieter than I was and that was OK with me.

I suppose we grew closer when he started playing paintball with us and he liked the sport. He bought his own equipment and I helped him make some repairs to his marker so it would be serviceable. He made several trips to our house bringing wooden spools that had been left over on the job sites that we could use for cover on the paintball fields and we still play behind several of those today. He seemed to enjoy bringing his family to play and brought Darrel many times. Win or lose he took it all in stride.

If Dennis said he was going to be there then you could pretty much count on it and that meant a lot. The same went for helping

with the Christmas float. He would volunteer to help with construction when he was still physically able and again, if he said count him in then he'd be there to quietly lend a hand.

I'll miss him and his dependable steadfastness. A quality that is getting harder and harder to find.

### **Knowing Dennis From Darrell**

Dennis set the Gold Standard in the early years of the Heimdal and R1 Engineering. I may have known him for 40 years, but if I knew I only had 40 years I would like to have known him more. Will miss him, his example, our discussions.



### **In Memory of Our Friend, Dennis Henderson From Beth**

Time momentarily stands still when we lose someone that we have called a friend. I know that many of us felt this pause in time when we heard that Dennis had passed. Although Dennis's life was not easy, he was kind and special in many ways.

I know for a fact that Dennis really liked being part of the Heimdal family and enjoyed the fellowship it brought into his life. I remember all the times he sat in meetings enjoying the conversations, activities, and the meals he contributed to every time. (He made awesome chili.) I can see him, in my mind, the many years he came to our house for July 4<sup>th</sup> celebrations, and I so appreciated that he would stay a little longer than most people, just listening to late evening conversations.

Anyone who knew Dennis, also realized how very talented and creative he was. We all were forever amazed by his cross-stich creations, which he told me brought him focus and some serenity.

Sadly, over these last months, we watched our friend struggle more and more with his health and it was so apparent in him. And although he never gave up searching for more time in life to spend with his family and us – nothing much seemed to help improve his illness. We already miss Dennis.

***Dennis Wade Henderson, January 11, 1958 – October 31, 2023***





## DENNIS RECEIVES STARFLEET REGION ONE 'DEAREST BLOOD' DECORATION

I received word from Starfleet Region One on November 5 that Dennis has received the posthumous 'Dearest Blood' decoration. I have forwarded it to Dennis' children, Jennifer and Mark. Here is what it says:

*Dennis Henderson*

*We fondly remember and give proper respect to one of the finest members of STARFLEET Region One. The 'life blood' of STARFLEET is its dedicated members. Without remarkable members like Dennis who give of themselves to the best of their abilities, have a drive to help see this organization become the best it can be, and show dedication, drive and 'esprit de corps' for their community, their chapter, STARFLEET Region One, and STARFLEET International we are without substance. Thus, we are greatly saddened and keenly feel the loss when one of our own ... 'Our Dearest Blood,' takes their final voyage.*

*We will never forget Dennis's time with us. The impact of this member's membership on STARFLEET Region One will long be remembered. Thus, STARFLEET Region One proudly remembers our dear comrade with the 'STARFLEET Region One 'Dearest Blood' decoration.*

*Stardate: 202310.05*

*Phillip M Cox III BGN Phillip M Cox III  
Coordinator, Region One*

*Admiral Pam Michaud  
Regional Awards Director*

... AND FINALLY



Dennis' daughter, Jennifer sent this message:

*"We have decided at the moment to not have a funeral, and we will later spread his ashes probably over Sharp Top or Flat Top, Peaks of Otter."*

This November newsletter is dedicated to the Memory of Dennis. Please do remember Dennis in your personal way through memories you have of him, what you feel in your heart and through this issue of the newsletter. You will find photos of him from over the years throughout this issue.

Dennis' daughter asked that we add the donation of \$50 that the Heimdal makes to a favorite charity when we lose a member or when a member loses a parent, to the Heimdal's Space Camp Fund. Dennis was on our Space Camp Committee and Jennifer thought he would like that donation. Flowers don't last nearly as long as a donation will and we thank Jennifer and Mark for this most kind donation in memory of Dennis.

Linda



# *The RAINBOW CONNECTION*

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

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

*The **THANKSGIVING** Issue, November 2023*

Email: [heimdalco@aol.com](mailto:heimdalco@aol.com), Website: <http://www.ussheimdal.com>

Visit & LIKE us on Facebook at [Heimdal's Science Fiction Page](#)



## **FROM THE COMMANDING OFFICER** **Adm. Linda Smith - Starfleet SFDPP Certified**

Hello and Happy Thanksgiving. It's been a very fast year. You kind of expect old folks to say that but numbers of younger people are saying it, too, so it must really have been that fast. My prayer for 2024 is that it is a better one. 2023 was certainly better than some but there is room for improvement.

The Heimdal has done more this year than we have before. We've had TWO auctions, and that alone has been a huge undertaking and something I'm not crazy about doing again. We're currently involved in our Space Camp Contest, have just added an extension to the deadline so the announcement of a winner will be in the December newsletter and not this one. After that we can take a much-needed rest. I'm exhausted.

In April we will be celebrating our 40<sup>th</sup> year as a Starfleet chapter. That's a long time, we've done some amazing, miraculous things and we have so much to be proud of.

I'm hoping we can have a ZOOM meeting after the holidays to discuss the direction the Heimdal will be taking in 2024 and as we move forward. I'd hoped to do that before the end of the year but it looks like we will be doing really well to get it done early next year. As I said when I started this column, time has flown and we just can't fit everything in. But hang in there with us and we will git 'er done.

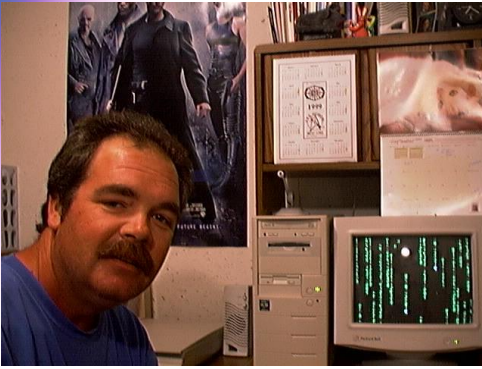
Have a happy and bountiful Thanksgiving.



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

I've probably said it before ... here we are still wearing short sleeves and not only has Halloween passed us, but we have Christmas Trees in Walmart and that doggone daylight savings time change is upon us, not to mention Thanksgiving. I'm sure I'm leaving something out, but not exactly like summer where the biggest thing to mark time is the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. Ah yes, the passing of time. Let's make the most of it while we're still walking the earth (and occasionally shoosting paintball).





"Buff" Willy back in the day ...

The Heimdal has lost another of its "gold" members ... someone who was here before I joined the Heimdal, Dennis Henderson. I only hope that people will still be together to remember the days that I roamed the decks of the Heimdal as Dennis did.

If I had to write an essay about the good times I've had while being with this club it would be difficult without leaving something or someone out. With any club there are changes and looking back there was a time where nobody had wrinkles or was retired, and we ate what we wanted and we were "buff" (at least in my mind). We have pictures that back my story up.

This club has changed over the years but I am glad I'm still a part of it. Because of careful management we can do things we never thought possible. Gone are the days of baking items for sale in the hot sun the next day

or washing cars with the hopes of reaching \$100. Maybe that led us to the auctions and whatever lies beyond ... I'm glad I was a part of those years.

While writing this I thought of the Heimdal members who are no longer with us and I hope by just the thought others will remember people that were special to them. Make the best of the time you are here.

### FROM THE DESK OF THE SECOND OFFICER

#### **RArm. Carl Davis, Starfleet SFDPP Certified**

Greetings crew! And Happy Holidays! The temperature is finally right to put me in the Christmas spirit and I'm loving it! Not a big fan of cold weather but I have found the secret to staying comfortable. Layering. And when layering stops working then go sit by the fire and sip hot chocolate. Works most of the time.

\*\*\* **PARADE:** You have probably heard that the Amherst Christmas Parade is the first Friday night in December, which will be here before you know it. I have entered the Heimdal in the parade and we can go with just

the Galileo or can pull a trailer behind it. I don't intend to spend a great deal of time and money this year but we can decorate a short trailer with a Snoopy doghouse and be in the theme of A Cartoon Christmas. **It would be good to know how far to go and to know that, I need a list of those able and willing to be in the parade. Crew response will indicate how far our efforts will take us. Enthusiasm counts but bottom line is will you be able to be at the parade and represent the Heimdal.**

**Get back to me ASAP with what you are willing to do and will commit to. I will make plans accordingly. Thanks for considering.**

*Carl .....Out*



### MEETINGS AND COMMITMENTS

#### **NOVEMBER MEETING**

The November meeting will be November 18 starting at 6:30 p.m. at the Madison Heights Library and on ZOOM. Our meeting guest speaker will be David Young from "Stones N Bones" speaking to us about Virginia rocks. He will be bringing examples to show us. We have several people on vacation so please DO try to come in person, if possible, to show Mr. Young how interested we are in his presentation. We don't want him to be speaking to an empty library. Of course, if you CAN'T be there is person, DO join us on ZOOM.





For our in-person people, please bring an item for refreshments AND your questions for Mr. Young. Our ZOOM Coordinator for the evening will be Darrell Millner and the ZOOM coordinates are:

USS Heimdal is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: **Heimdal's Nov 2023 Monthly Meeting**

Time: Saturday Nov 18, 2023 6:30 until 9:30 PM ET (US and Canada)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81887390742?pwd=anRTeTV4S2ZKQUNIL0dET0JVMk44dz09>

**Meeting ID:** 818 8739 0742 **Passcode:** ncc1793

## OCTOBER MEETING

**Canopus is not Cannabis**

### October 2023 Chapter Meeting of the USS Heimdal

**By Commander Bud Walker, Operations, Starfleet SFDPP Certified**

The Heimdal crew gathered at the Madison Heights Public Library (part of Amherst County Public Library system) and online via Zoom on October 21, 2023, for the monthly chapter meeting.

Admiral Linda Smith called the meeting to order and led a short discussion on STARFLEET INTERNATIONAL's data protection policy. Admirals Linda Smith and Willy Smith are both SFDPP certified, and Admiral Willy Smith serves as the chapter's Data Protection Officer. Recently, Vice Admiral Glenda Blanks, Rear Admiral Carl Davis and Commander William Walker have all passed the certification courses. Admiral Smith encouraged all remaining department heads to take the courses as well.

Admiral Linda Smith reported that the Heimdal's 2023 Space Camp Contest materials have been distributed to local middle schools, with a goal of having a winner announced by the November chapter meeting.

Admiral Linda Smith stated that there needs to be a group discussion on the future of the chapter. Attendance and member participation has still not recovered to pre-pandemic levels. Admiral Smith stated that the most likely venue for this discussion will be a Zoom meeting.

Admiral Linda Smith reported that Jim Daly, via the Daly Trust, made a donation to the chapter in the amount of ten thousand dollars. Mr. Daly indicated that the donation was in recognition of the chapter's fortieth anniversary and to honor all the service work that chapter members have performed. As this was an unanticipated donation, Admiral Smith consulted with the Executive Committee, and it was decided to invest this in a bank CD for now.

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

- The next chapter meeting will be November 18, with a geologist guest speaker, David Young of "Stones N Bones"
- November 6 is the deadline for the next newsletter.

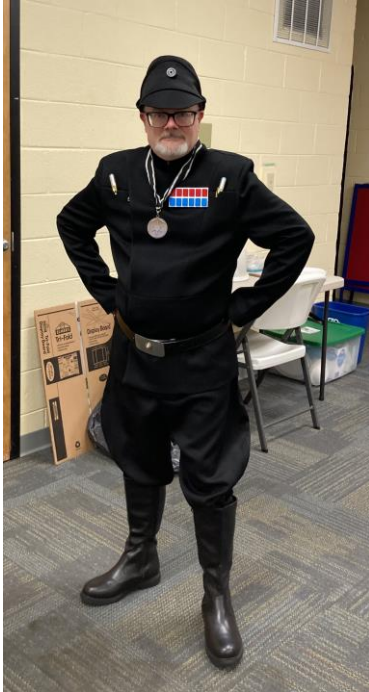
Admiral Willy Smith announced that Admiral Linda Smith had been awarded STARFLEET's "Order of Tarbolde of Canopus" (Third Class). This award was given "for activities in the area of chapter fiction, or writing for the chapter, region or

STARFLEET publication." Linda was surprised but delighted.

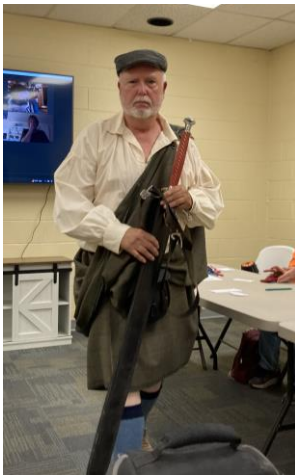
Rear Admiral Carl Davis announced that the Security Department Phaser Simulation (paintball) will be tomorrow.

Admiral Davis also announced that the Amherst Christmas parade will be on December 1, and that the theme is "Cartoon Christmas." Admiral Davis called for volunteers to assist with the Heimdal's float.

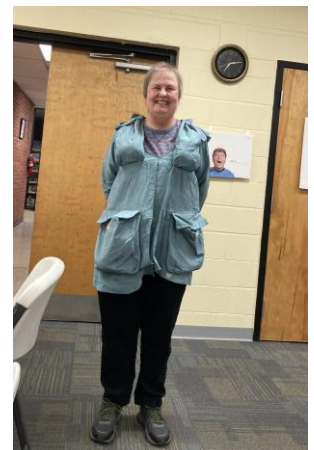
Fleet Captain Darrell Millner announced that the Engineering team has designed a departmental logo. Captain Millner has also designed recruiting flyers and images for the department.



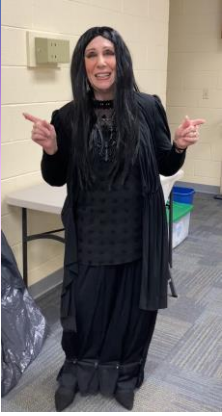
**Bud wins BEST COSTUME & Best Science Fiction Costume**



**Carl wins prize for Most Original Costume**



**Glenda as Cyrano Jones wins Most Humorous prize**



... and Linda won a  
Starfleet award

With business concluded, Admiral Linda Smith commenced with the Heimdal's Halloween Costume Contest. After each contestant gave a short presentation, a vote was held. Winning for "Funniest Costume" was Vice Admiral Glenda Blanks, who dressed as Cyrano Jones. Winning for "Most Original Costume," was Rear Admiral Carl Davis, who portrayed William Wallace of Braveheart fame. Winning for "Best Science Fiction Costume," was Commander William Walker, wearing the uniform of an Imperial Admiral from Star Wars. For "Best Overall Costume," there was a tie between Admiral Davis and Commander Walker, with Walker winning the final vote.

Following the contest, refreshments were served, and the Department Heads hosted game stations for the membership to enjoy. After much merriment was enjoyed by all, the meeting was adjourned.

## HEIMDAL PEOPLE

### CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR RECENTLY SFDPP CERTIFIED MEMBERS

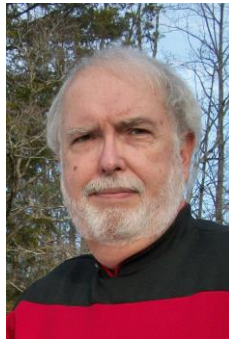
Congratulations to:

Second Officer, **RAdm. Carl Davis** for taking Starfleet's Privacy Policy course and passing both exams with HONORS on October 28, 2023

To Chief Communication's Officer, **VAdm. Glenda Blanks** for taking Starfleet's Privacy Policy course and passing both exams on

October 18, 2023

To Heimdal Engineer, **Commander Bud Walker** for taking Starfleet's Privacy Policy course and passing both exams on with HONORS and DISTINCTION on October 20, 2023



Carl

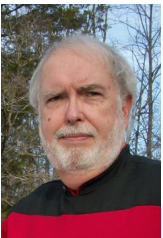


Glenda



Bud

### STARFLEET ACADEMY GRADUATES – CONGRATULATIONS!



**Rear Admiral, Carl Davis**  
**College of Chapter Development –**  
**DISTINCTION – November 6, 2023**



**Admiral Willy Smith**

**SFA Award Bridge Officer Certification Program – 2 Awards**

Awarded BOCP - Executive Officer Certification -10. 20. 23

Awarded BOCP – Chief Science Officer Certification – 10.29.23

**IOSC – College of Ecology- School of Alternative Energy**

ALTEN 120 - Solar pt. 1 - DISTINCTION 10. 20. 23

ALTEN 121 - Solar pt. 2 - DISTINCTION 10. 23. 23

ALTEN 122 - Nuclear Energy pt 1 - DISTINCTION 10. 23. 23

ALTEN 123 - Nuclear Energy pt 2 - PASS 10. 25. 23

**IOSTS – College of Starship Operations**

CSO 102 – Medical Operations – HONORS – 10.30.23

CSO 103 - Rescue & Evacuation Operations – HONORS – 10.31.23

CSO 104 - Guidance & Navigation Operations – PASS – 10.31.23



**CMDR Zachary Lyon** (5 Courses, 1 Award)

Awarded **BOCP Chief Science Officer** on Nov 03, 2023

**IOTK - STARFLEET Officers Radio School (IOT:SORS)**

DISTINCTION for SORS 101 - Radio in TOS on Oct 30, 2023

DISTINCTION for SORS 102 - Radio in TAS on Oct 30, 2023

**IOTK - College of Laser Technology**

DISTINCTION for COLT 101 - Lasers part 1 on Oct 30, 2023





**Fleet Captain, Darrell Millner (7 Courses, 1 Award)**

**IOSC - College of Oceanography COCN**

HONORS for COCN-102 - Intro to Oceanography Pt 2 on Oct 1, 2023

**IOSTS - College of Starship Operations (IOMS:CO SO)**

DISTINCTION for CSO-105 - Communications Operations on Oct 13, 2023

**SFA Awards**

Awarded for **Boothby 0250** - Diamond (250) on Oct 9, 2023

**School of IOSTS - College of Federation Studies (IOSF:COFS)**

DISTINCTION for ECST 101 - Monetary Units on Oct 10, 2023

DISTINCTION for ECST 102 - Intergalactic Economics on Oct 10, 2023

PASS for ECST 103 - Profit and Loss on Oct 15, 2023

**IOLS - College of Chapter Development (IOLS:COCD)**

DISTINCTION for COCD-104 - Chapter Manuals and Documents on Oct 24, 2023

**IOAE - College of Communications**

HONORS for BLI 101 Body Language Interpretation 1 on Oct 25, 2023

**IOSS - College of Rocketry**

DISTINCTION for COR 106 Modern Rocket Flight Directional Controls on Oct 29, 2023

**IOSFE - College of Babylon 5 (COB5)**

HONORS for B5 101a - Babylon 5 Station Pt 1 on Oct 25, 2023



**CMDR William Walker, JR. (23 Courses, 2 Awards) SFA Awards**

Awarded for **Boothby 0100** - Silver (100) on Oct 17, 2023

Awarded for **BOCP - Chief Communications Officer** Oct 14, 2023

**IOLS - STARFLEET Command College**

DISTINCTION for SFDPP 101 - SFDPP Pt 1 on Oct 20, 2023

HONORS for SFDPP 102 - SFDPP Pt 2 on Oct 20, 2023

**IOT - Starfleet Officers Radio School**

DISTINCTION for SORS 102 - Radio in TAS on Oct 2, 2023

DISTINCTION for SORS 103 - Radio in TNG on Oct 2, 2023

PASS for SORS 104 - Radio in DS9 on Oct 2, 2023

HONORS for SORS 105 - Radio in VOY on Oct 2, 2023

**IOIE - School of Intelligence Gathering**

DISTINCTION for SIG 103 - Intel Gathering Pt. 2 on Oct 3, 2023

HONORS for SIG 204 - Interrogation on Oct 3, 2023

HONORS for SIG 205 Domestic KGB on Oct 3, 2023

DISTINCTION for SIG 206 British Intelligence on Oct 4, 2023

DISTINCTION for SIG 207 CIA on Oct 4, 2023

**IOIE - College of Bond, James Bond**

HONORS for BJB 108 - Live and Let Die on Oct 4, 2023

HONORS for BJB 109 - Man with a Golden Gun on Oct 5, 2023

PASS for BJB 110 - The Spy Who Loved Me on Oct 5, 2023

PASS for BJB 111 - Moonraker on Oct 5, 2023

HONORS for BJB 112 - For Your Eyes Only on Oct 5, 2023

**IOPSS - School of Law Enforcement History**

DISTINCTION for SLEH 108 - ICE on Oct 5, 2023

**IOAE - College of Communications**

DISTINCTION for COM 102 - Abbreviations on Oct 5, 2023

**IMOS - College of Strategy and Tactics**

DISTINCTION for CST 006 Security Alerts on Oct 6, 2023

DISTINCTION for CST 007 Color Alerts part 1 on Oct 6, 2023

DISTINCTION for CST 008 Color Alerts part 2 on Oct 8, 2023

HONORS for CST 009 Intruder Alerts on Oct 10, 2023

DISTINCTION for CST 010 General Alerts part 1 on Oct 12, 2023



**RENEWALS**

**A special THANK YOU to Tim Hazlett and Kathy & Larry Whately for renewing and staying with our Heimdal "family" for another year.**

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 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**

**December – No renewals in December – Merry Christmas!**

**January 2024 – Janice Lawson – January 4  
Nikki Cole – January 24**

**February – No renewals in February – Happy Valentine's Day!**

**March - Kenny Proehl & Chris Thompson – March 4  
Cathy Fletcher – March 5**

**Jonathan, Karen & Allen Hatter – March 7**

**Jennifer Long – March 21**

**Darrell Spencer – March 21**

**Tammy White, Robin Hudson & Madison Litchford – March 23**

**Katrine Contreras – March 31  
(Whew!)**



## HEIMDAL STUFF

### ANNIVERSARY PARTY 2024: DATE CHANGE \*\*\*

The 40<sup>th</sup>. Anniversary Party entertainment will be the very talented singer and performer, McKinley Cardwell. I contracted with him the first of August to be our entertainment since the 40<sup>th</sup>. anniversary is something special.

McKinley contacted me the last of October and asked if there was any way we could change the date of the party. A very close friend of his is getting married that day and he wanted to go to the wedding. He said he WOULD honor his commitment to me if the date couldn't be changed. He DID offer to entertain us and waive his fee if I could somehow make the change, which was the most generous offer.

After contacting the hotel and all of you, the hotel had April 13 available and you guys were SO kind to agree with the date change, so the new date for the Anniversary Party will be **April 13, 2024**. When I told McKinley his response was, *"Aww, bless you!! And the whole group. This is probably one of the kindest acts I have received in my life. I so look forward to the event!"*

I'm REALLY glad we could work with McKinley and the hotel and make the wedding happen for McKinley. Because he is an exceptional singer and entertainer ... and a genuinely nice human being, I WILL be paying him his fee to entertain us. I'm just glad everything worked out for all of us.

See you on **April 13, 2024** at the Heimdal's Anniversary Party. Bring a guest.

**WATCH THIS SPACE FOR DETAILS ...**

### SPACE CAMP CONTEST 2023

We launched the Heimdal's 2023 Space Camp Contest in local middle schools the first week of October and expected to have a winner by this newsletter. Essays, however, have come in very slowly so we extended the deadline a week to make sure all interested kids could be included. So NOW we expect to have a 2023 Space Camp Contest winner by the December newsletter. We'll keep you posted .....







## AGENDA 2023 – 24

While we still have 2 2024 meetings that need a guest speaker, we DO have a new speaker to add although she is currently checking her schedule to see which of the 3 months we have vacant she can fill.

The guest I'm working with to set a date is Trish Cerulli, President of BRAC – Blue Ridge Astronomy Club. She's excited about speaking to us and plans to speak about the astronomy club AND some *"exciting things happening in NASA."* I can't wait! Sounds like a meeting we DON'T want to miss.



Watch this newsletter for updates about Trish's appearance. Many THANKS to Angie Arnold for suggesting Trish as a guest speaker.

There are still meetings available that need a speaker. If you have a topic you'd like to know more about or a speaker you'd like to see / hear, PLEASE let me know and I will do my best to make sure it happens. Just ask Angie ...

**May 18 – available**  
**July 20 – available**  
**September 19 – available**

## FROM A SATISFIED AUCTION CUSTOMER

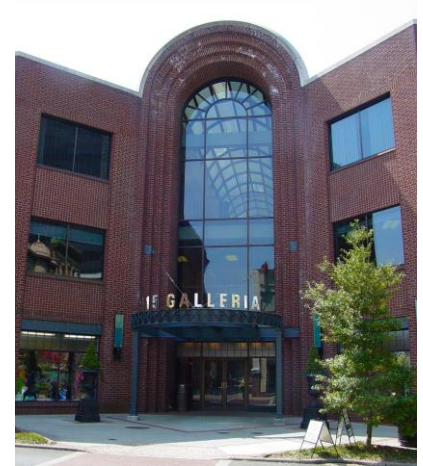
**By Carol Authur, Auction Customer and Heimdal Member**

I have thoroughly enjoyed my gift certificates I won at auction. Today I had to use Ledos pizza GC because they expired today. I am telling you; those pizzas were huge. I got 2 and could feed many people. I only paid \$8 for the 2 pizza's at auction. Looked it up and I think they were like \$22 apiece. Wow!

I also really like Georgias Subs at the Galleria downtown. Delicious.

Oh, and the best one is I went to Peaks View Hydro and got all kinds of fertilizers, soil, etc., totaling \$100 and only paid \$16. And I filled up my car with gas with the Speedway gift card.

The auction was VERY good to me this year



The Galleria on Main Street – home of Georgia's Subs

## NOVEMBER QUESTION OF THE MONTH

**Late last night an alien ship made an emergency landing on your property, which is miles outside the city in a rather remote area. The damage to the craft was minimal and, while dazed, the survivors had no visible injuries. You approached the aliens, who appear quite different physically from you and offer them, through gestures and signing, a place to recover in your fairly large barn. They accepted through gestures and signs of their own.**

**Today is Thanksgiving and you & your family have a celebration and feast planned. How do you proceed? Do you attempt to include the aliens in some way? Do you feel that is a safe thing to do?**

**Bud Walker:** If the Aliens are insectoids, I would not include them in my Thanksgiving and would hide in my house, holding a big can of Raid. As long as they were not insectoids, I would include them in our family Thanksgiving, communicating its meaning as best as I could.

**Darrell Millner:** Absolutely not, to quote Kirk, *"This is an extremely primitive and paranoid culture."* I would not wish to endanger them. I

would, however provide a to-go box of cooked Meleagris Gallopavo with fixings, a bottle of fermented grape and hope they provide me a token in kind.

**Willy Smith:** Since the aliens look kind of 'turkey-like,' I don't think it would be right to include the aliens for Thanksgiving dinner because grandma (with her failing eyesight and hearing) has prepared one of the aliens for our main course. Matter of fact, I don't know how to break the news to the "head alien" that we



DUBS





are about to dine on one of his crewmates and that was an accident and to speed up repairs on their craft because Christmas dinner is only a month away.

**Gary Burley:** They seem friendly, yes, I would include them. If anything is going to happen, it will happen anyway

**Tim Hazlett:** Since so many of my relatives who are expected to come to my Thanksgiving festivities are so spacey already, I figure the aliens would fit right in. So, I invite them, too.

**Janice Lawson:** I would offer my welcome and friendship and try to teach them our customs as I would love to learn about theirs.

**Linda Smith:** Invite them unless they are 'spitters.' 'Spitters' really make lousy dinner guests. In that case, leave them in the barn and take some food out to them. After all, we don't KNOW if our food is poisonous to them and a lot of poisoned aliens at the dinner table really is messy and we don't know how to do CPR on them. I mean, where's their airway????

**Zak Lyon:** Breaking bread together unlocks fun, stories and wisdom. Gathering sustenance in community lets us meet as one. And that is true wherever we are, whatever we consume. Even if it is photons. Even if your guests look like living lamp posts. Even if communication is telepathic.

## COUNSELOR'S CORNER

### KEEP CALM AND CARRY ON

By Counselor, Beth Hopkins

What do you do when it seems as if there is so much chaos and craziness happening in the world? Here is some common-sense advice that may be helpful.

1. Decide what you have control over and what you have no control over. Realize your control may be limited to how you react to the external craziness. Remember the prayer used for years by those struggling with addictions:
  - (Lord) Help me to accept the things I cannot change; change the things I can, and to know the difference.
  - 2. Focus on self-care of yourself and family.
  - 3. Continue your regular daily schedule and healthy routines.
  - 4. Eat regularly and make good food choices. (But not in front of the TV.)
  - 5. Get adequate sleep (Most people are sleep deprived.) If you have trouble sleeping, check out this link: [17 Proven Tips to Sleep Better at Night \(healthline.com\)](http://17ProvenTipsToSleepBetteratNight(healthline.com)) for tips on ways to help you sleep more soundly.
  - 6. Exercise or move your body in ways that are comfortable for you.
  - 7. Limit your exposure to media including TV to some reasonable amount. Realize there are always two sides to every issue. Be open to exploring that by being open to others' opinions.
  - 8. Don't isolate yourself. Spend time helping others and/or community.
  - 9. Be spontaneous.... seek out time for fun and joy in your day.
  - 10. If you believe in prayer....do more of that.
  - 11. Bottom line – **Keep Calm and Carry On**.... Panic never helped any situation.
  - 12. **Hope and perseverance are keys to moving successfully through difficult times.**



Counselor Beth

## RILEY'S RAMBLINGS ...

### Building MARVEL

By Richard Riley



Hello everyone! Looks like Fall is finally here and I am enjoying it! I am one of those strange people that enjoys the cooler weather.

For this month's column I wanted to show a piece I made quite a few years back. I had a comic book shop from





Pennsylvania commission me to build a Marvel comics display for them. This is a perfect example of having to get



creative on a very tight budget.

The client had proposed several full-size character builds. He wanted a life-size Ironman, Thor and the Hulk. His budget would not even cover building one of those figures let alone three so I had to get creative and drew a sketch of a concrete wall being torn apart by our heroes! The story would be that this was a villain's lair and all of super heroes were converging to break through the wall! Going this route allowed me to show just parts of the heroes instead of full figures which allowed me to stay within his budget and I was able to showcase more heroes than he had even asked for.

I started out with foam for the walls, breaking and cutting out sections where the characters are bursting through. Most of the weapons I was able to purchase, there was no need to try and make them when they are readily available. I have Ironman's helmet and hand, Thor's enchanted hammer, Captain America's shield, Hulk's hands, Mr. Fantastic demonstrating his stretch ability, Wolverine using his metal claws, Spiderman's web and last but not least, Antman leading his army of ants against the evil villain!

A fairly straightforward project but a lot of fun figuring which characters to use and how to represent them! The client was so pleased he had me do a second wall, that one is dedicated to the villains of the DC Comic universe but I will save that one for a future column.

Projects like this are what I truly enjoy, being able to work through a client's budget constraints and give them something that is even better than what they had envisioned.

## FROM OUR DEPARTMENTS



## <<<SECURITY>>>

### SECURITY REPORT: NOVEMBER 2023

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

Thanks to the security team on the Heimdal for jobs well done this month. We did manage to get in a Phaser SIM outing in October and appreciate those who came out





to join in the day. Congratulations to the Science Department on their good day of play during Phaser SIM. They were in splendid form and ruled the day!

Security will once again lead in the Amherst Christmas parade float preparation. Read the second officers report for the response I need from crew members. Christmas only comes once a year and it is worth the efforts that we take to put a float in the parade as we watch faces light up along the parade route. Be sure to let me know as soon as possible if you are going to be able to attend the first Friday night in December.



## OCTOBER PHASER SIMULATION

By Adm. Willy Smith, Chief Science Officer

Looking at that day's paintball games in a different way, I'm sure you've had instances along the same lines that I'm about to describe even without sneaking thru a wooded forest with a paintball marker in your hands, ready to inflict color on the opposite team. What I'm describing is a moment in time where you think to yourself, "*Oh, I can't be so fortunate!*" In this case Bonnie was in a firefight with Carl and I took the advantage to move toward the skirmish only to see Carl's backside. Remember my fortunate moment? I didn't hesitate and I let off 3 rounds which caught Carl in the



back. I *did* hear a yell

What I *did not see* was that Carl had just been hit by Bonnie (my teammate) and was raising his arms to signal she could stop shooting him. *Fortunately* for me, no paint of mine broke on his back. Even though I was in error by not seeing him raise his arms, I had shot one too many times. He asked for a paint check and if there were 3 spots of paint I would have been ejected for the day. We go over these rules at the start of each day that we play. I hope it is realized that it was an honest mistake and I can be forgiven.

One game on the large field, Joe and I ran into each other early on and I took him out, but where was Carl? Come to find out if I had remained behind a tree waiting for a Carl sighting, he would have come up behind me – SURPRISE! Bonnie said she saw him but I had moved onto their end of the field when time ran out. Carl had traveled miles in my mind. That's why we need more people to "*occupy parts*" of that large field.

At the end of the day, Team Science managed the most wins and that always makes for a good day, plus the weather was wonderful. We had hoped for a much larger turnout but things happen that are out of our control, so we enjoy the time together and hopefully next time things will fall into place. Either way, *we won't poof into bunnies*. [ST:SNW Season 2]

Come sharpen your skills, you'll be glad you did!

## <<<SCIENCE>>>



### OSIRIS-REx

From NASA

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

**AT LONG LAST**, NASA's curation scientists have revealed what OSIRIS-REx ferried back from an asteroid 100 million miles away. The seven-year mission scooped up a rock sample from Bennu in 2020, then returned it to Earth in September, parachuting it down



into the Utah desert. Scientist painstakingly cleaned and shipped the capsule to Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas, making sure none of the rocks were contaminated by exposure to oxygen, moisture, or earthly bacteria and they're now analyzing the precious cargo.

Initial studies of the 4.5-billion-year-old asteroid Bennu sample collected in space and







brought to Earth by NASA show evidence of high-carbon content and water, which together could indicate the building blocks of life on Earth may be found in the rock. NASA made the news public Wednesday.

For the next two years, the mission's science team will continue characterizing the samples and conduct the analysis needed to meet the mission's science goals. NASA will preserve at least 70% of the sample at Johnson for further research by scientists worldwide, including future generations of scientists. As part of OSIRIS-REx's science program more than 200 scientists around the world will explore Benu's properties, including researchers from many U.S. institutions, NASA partners JAXA (Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency), CSA (Canadian Space Agency), and other scientists from around the world. Additional samples will also be loaned later this fall to the Smithsonian Institution, for public display (where we may one day view the samples.)

OSIRIS-REx – the first U.S. mission to return a sample collected from an asteroid – got its own postage stamp which is on sale now for a limited time.



<<<MEDICAL>>>

## MEDICAL MINUTE: NOVEMBER 2023

### HOLIDAY BLUES

By Commodore Tammy White, Chief Medical Officer

The holidays are quickly approaching and I'd like to remind everyone that not everyone will be happy or jolly. I found some information on the holiday blues from the site True Care.

They define the holiday blues as temporary feelings of anxiety, depression, sadness, loneliness, and other negative emotions. Even those without regularly occurring mental health challenges can experience the holiday blues.

People with a mental illness, those who have experienced a loss or trauma, and those prone to stress are more likely to struggle with mental health challenges during the holidays.

Some of the symptoms include sadness, fatigue, tension, frustration, loneliness, isolation, sense of loss dissatisfaction, hopelessness, and overwhelming stress.

Mental illness is very serious, so any feelings of anxiety, depression, or overwhelming emotion should be taken seriously and dealt with appropriately. Even if your feelings are temporary, it's best to stay on top of your mental health to ensure you remain emotionally and physically healthy long-term.

**If you're struggling with the holiday blues, here are some tips for managing your mental health this holiday season:**

Recognize the holiday blues for what they are.

**The holiday blues are temporary feelings.** They do not dictate your present-day nor determine your future. Your feelings cannot control you, and they don't get to determine how much or how little you enjoy yourself this holiday season.

They offered some tips for helping to cope with the holiday blues which included take time for yourself. Many people simply overbook themselves between family visits, work parties, getting together with friends and neighbors and that can cause stress and burnout. Plan times to get together with friends or family and just enjoy each other's company, and make sure you're spending time with positive, caring people who have your best interest at heart. Staying active and spending time in the sun are also great ways to take care of yourself and boost your mood this holiday season.

Don't get out of control with your planning and the expectations you place on others. Be realistic about how much time you can and will spend with others, how much money you're going to spend on gifts, and how much time you're going to spend by yourself resting and recharging. Overextending yourself or failing to live up to your own expectations are big catalysts for feelings of dissatisfaction and sadness.

Make sure you're getting enough sleep, as exhaustion can bring about a slew of unwelcomed negative feelings and poor decision making.

Additionally, don't overcommit financially, as that will just add stress to your life. Don't spend too much money on gifts for everyone, and don't commit to attending too many expensive holiday events. The more you

limit your spending, the better off you'll be both during the holidays and afterward.





**The holidays are full of delicious treats and yummy foods**, and there are plenty of opportunities to indulge in alcoholic beverages as well. Overindulging can lead to feelings of sluggishness and fatigue, as well as feelings of guilt and shame. Be patient and realistic with yourself. Don't eliminate the opportunity to indulge, just be sure to limit what you're consuming and be sure to eat holiday foods and drink alcohol in moderation.

Don't forget to drink plenty of water!

Face negative feelings in a healthy way.

**If you're dealing with loss, loneliness, or isolation this holiday season, do your best to face those things in the healthiest way possible.** This may mean talk therapy or sharing your thoughts with a close friend or family member. Acknowledge the struggle that you're facing and do your best to create new, positive memories this holiday season to associate happier feelings with the holidays.

Healthline website had more suggestions for dealing with the holiday blues. Some of their suggestions included limiting alcohol, getting plenty of sleep, learn to say no, be open to new traditions, get support when mourning the loss of a loved one, spend time with loved ones, do something fun if you've had a recent breakup, if you're unable to be with friends or family this holiday, look for volunteer opportunities that allow you to be around others. Some no-profits will provide transportation.

Hopefully, you will enjoy the holidays but remember, many will not feel the same way you do. Please be kind to everyone this holiday season.

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



#### ENGINEERING UPDATE, NOVEMBER

##### ENGINEERING UPDATE

**FCAPT Darrell Millner, Chief Engineering Officer**

**R1 RDC ENG., Starfleet SFDPP Certified, SFA RED Squad**

**Monthly ENG/OPS Report - SD: 202311.05**

As quoted before - The past cannot be cured "Time is an illusion. Lunchtime doubly so."  
– Ford Prefect. One cannot change the past, it is best to enjoy the ride, embrace its lessons, and try your best to maintain your sense of awe. With all that has occurred and will, these are the words I try to hold onto.

And Engineering, like other areas of life, is a matter of growing or fading, the illusion of a 'static warp bubble' is just that – illusion. So, with that let me say – I am endeavoring to do my best and stay on course. More in the December "T.E.L.".

Let me acknowledge two members of this exceptional team and their STARFLEET Academy accomplishments this past month. First: I raise a glass to the Department as a whole for 35 completed SFA courses in October. Secondly special acknowledgements to Zachary Lyon: BOCP Chief Science Officer Certificate, William Walker Jr.: BOCP Chief Communications Officer Certificate & BOOTHBY Silver (100). Those are thrilling accomplishments and you both do your department and vessel proud. Keep leading the way.

As we move forward into November and December especially a special raising of my glass of eggnog to Jody Lyon, thank you for all that you do – and especially your leadership role in the Interdepartmental Role Play scenario. You have no idea the difference it has made to me.

Congratulations and thanks again all those amazing costumes for the Heimdal Halloween Extravaganza. What a great spirit we have here ha ha.

I hope that you will also join me in recognizing the stellar support and creativity with the Engineering Department as we work to create our The Engineering Link (T.E.L.) <https://trek.millnernet.com/home/eng-link/> it could not be down without them.

That's it for this month. Our thoughts remain with the Henderson family, Dan & Glenda Blanks, Linda & Willy Smith, and all those dealing with significant challenges this month and beyond. – Millner Out

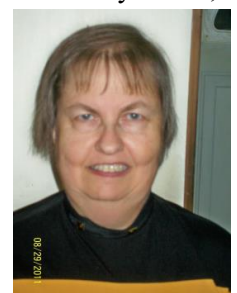


### <<<<COMMUNICATIONS>>>>



#### NOVEMBER COMMUNICATIONS REPORT

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







**Glenda & Dennis being interviewed by Linda on the 'Lynchburg Live' TV show in 2014.**

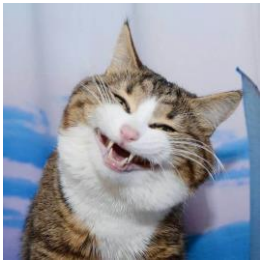
I regret that I didn't take the time to get to know Dennis Henderson better. I remember when Linda was doing her TV show, and she wanted me and Dennis to go on and talk about the auction that year. Dennis was very quiet, and I told him, "***You have to talk when we go on Linda's show!***" And he did, with a little prodding(?) from me and Linda.

In light of Dennis' passing, I urge you to communicate more with friends and loved ones because one day it will be too late. I wish that I had asked my Mom and Dad more about family history before they left us.

Get in contact with folks you haven't heard from in a while. Anyone you're not speaking to, or harbor bad feelings about, mend those broken fences. Because all too soon, they won't be here anymore.

Happy Thanksgiving! As you gather around the table,

share those stories. I challenge you to find out at least one thing that you didn't already know.



### **HEIMDAL'S PET FLEET**

#### **DON'T DO THIS! WAYS YOU CAN HURT YOUR CAT WITHOUT REALIZING IT**

**From Animal Channel. Reported by Linda Smith**

Cats are pretty independent animals as far as pets go. Regular visits to the vet and the right food are good starting points but not a lot of people know what not to do with cats.

We're talking about things that can leave cats emotionally scarred, hurt, or worse, so read on and learn about our feline friends.

##### **Never push a cat off the counter**

Cats are very inquisitive but do avoid pushing them off the counter.

Try to redirect their attention instead, or just remove them from the counter or whatever is causing their curiosity.

They mean no harm and will appreciate you treating them with the utmost care and respect.

##### **Never forget to clean that water dish**

Simply replacing or refilling the water in your cat's dish is not enough.

Always remember to scrub the bowl and rinse it out first to remove mold and other unhealthy substances from the side of the bowl.

##### **Don't overfeed your cat**

Overfeeding will result in weight issues such as diabetes, joint disease, and heart problems.

Avoid overfeeding your cat, and make sure they get all the proper nutrients they need.

##### **Get them spayed or neutered**

Have your cat spayed or neutered before the age of five months. Not unless you plan on having kittens.

These procedures will also help cut down on the spraying cats often do to mark their territory.

##### **Insure your cat**

There are a lot of insurance companies offering insurance for your pets.

Pet insurance helps cover the cost of sickness, or even worse ones that will burn a hole in your wallet.

It is cheaper to pay for insurance as compared to the mounting medical bills if your cat gets sick.

##### **Do not punish a cat**

When disciplining your cat, it's important to handle with care. Punishing cats can have several negative consequences such as:

- Instilling fear and anxiety
- Teaching aggressive behavior
- Avoidance and hiding from you
- Litter box issues

Skip the yelling and opt for positive reinforcement instead. Reward good behavior with treats to encourage positive habits. Redirect their attention to help them burn off excess energy and show them lots of affection.



#### **Allow them to have some exposure to the outside world**

Your indoor cats do like watching those birds outside.  
Allow your cats plenty of exposure to the outside world simply by opening the window shades so they can look outside.  
Leave the window slightly open for some fresh air too.

#### **Don't let multiple cats use the same litter box**

Cats are very private animals so having multiple cats means getting them their own separate litter box each.  
This lets a cat go to the bathroom in the security of his own private space.

#### **Never back a cat into a corner**

Do not back a cat into a corner, and make sure to provide them an escape route in any situation.  
Cats can become aggressive and even lash out when needed.  
Your cat may end up being nervous or stressed out, and that can cause changes in their behavior.

#### **Do not declaw your cat**

What you are doing is removing the upper parts of a cat's toes.  
This puts your cat at a disadvantage when they have to defend themselves, so use other methods to deter scratching, like specially designed tapes and sprays.

#### **Don't leave an indoor cat outside without supervision**

Your indoor cat has to be supervised when outdoors.  
Cats who are not used to being outdoors can react out of curiosity, fright, or even confusion.  
You don't want your cat to run into traffic, unaware of the dangers involved.

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#### **Don't expose them to second hand smoke**

If you smoke, then avoid exposing your cat to secondhand smoke. It's dangerous to humans and to animals.  
Not to mention that secondhand smoke is also linked to the development of cancer.

#### **Never throw your cat**

Some people actually think it's funny, while others are just mean to cats, but throwing a cat can seriously injure them.  
Always treat animals gently and with respect.  
Your cat may not get physically hurt, but you could damage her mentally.

#### **Never leave them in the dark for extended periods of time**

Nobody likes living in a cave, and the same goes for our pets. Make sure they have lots of light within your home, including both sunlight and artificial light.  
This is important if you need to leave your cat for an extended period of time. Leaving them in complete darkness can make them feel abandoned.

#### **Don't ignore those hairballs**

Hairballs and cats are a common thing for us humans, but frequent hairballs can be a sign of gastrointestinal problems for your pet.  
You can buy medicine to help them cut down on the frequency of hairballs being spit out.

#### **Clean that litter box**

Like us humans, cats want a clean area to use the bathroom. A dirty litter box will have your cat going in other areas around your home.  
So, scoop that litter box at least once a day, and be sure to change it out every week.

### **STARFLEET STUFF and REGION ONE STUFF**

#### **STARFLEET INCREASE IN MEMBERSHIP RATES**

**From Linda**



In late September I sent out an email with ALL details of Starfleet's proposal to raise the membership and renewal rate to \$10 annually. With many thanks to the R/1 RC, Phillip Cox, he was able to get copies of Starfleet's financial records for the past several years and I was able to include that with the email so every Heimdal member choosing to read their emails and respond by the deadline would have all the information available in order to make an informed decision.

Of those responding, ALL were in agreement with the \$10 rate increase. 3 people thought doing it incrementally, beginning with a \$7.50 increase, would lessen the 'sticker shock' some may feel at the increase, which could interfere with joining and renewing for some. But they also thought it best to go ahead and raise the rate to \$10 once. They felt that raising the rate incrementally and doing it again fairly soon would be a bad idea.

So, the Heimdal voted in favor of the rate increase to \$10.



Thank you to those Heimdal members taking the time to respond and vote on this subject that affects us all. Also, thank you to RC, Phillip Cox for giving everyone this opportunity to be heard.

## STAR TREK STUFF



### LITTLE KNOWN STAR TREK FACTS

#### WARF AND DAX'S ROMANCE WAS THE ACTORS' IDEA

By Annie West from Linda Smith

Deep Space 9 is fondly remembered for many things, but the romance between Worf and Dax was a fan favorite. Surprisingly, it wasn't planned.

Originally from The Next Generation, Worf joined the cast of Deep Space 9 in season 4 to help give a ratings boost to the show. A romance for his character with one of the existing cast wasn't

expected. Michael Dorn and Terry Farrell have said the idea was all theirs. Farrell had joked that she and Dorn's character should flirt together so they both would get more scenes.

The first scene when the two meet is also the first time Dax tries flirting with Worf. One of Dax's past hosts is revered by the Klingons. When Worf mentions this, Dax responds in Klingon, essentially saying, "*Yes, but I'm a lot better-looking than he was*" to which Worf awkwardly *replies "I suppose so."*

The chemistry between the two characters was apparent, two years later Dax and Worf were married, much to fans delight...until the tragic demise of Dax at the end of season 6.

### THE PICARD LEGACY COLLECTION

**Star Trek: Picard – The Final Season, and Star Trek: Picard – The Complete Series, arrive on Blu-ray later this year**

**Written By Kyle Hadyniak for Trek News. Reported by Glenda Blanks – Trek Editor**

Star Trek home media collectors are in for a treat, as Paramount announces three upcoming releases related to the legendary Jean-Luc Picard: Star Trek: Picard – The Final Season, Star Trek: Picard – The Complete Series, and the mammoth Star Trek: The Picard Legacy Collection.

Star Trek: Picard – The Final Season

Coming September 5, 2023, is the final season of Star Trek: Picard on DVD, Blu-ray, and limited-edition Blu-ray Steelbook. Star Trek: Picard – The Final Season includes more than two hours of special features, including behind-the-scenes featurettes with the cast and crew, a gag reel, and deleted scenes.

The special features included in this release are:

The Gang's All Here – Featurette (Exclusive)

The Making of the Last Generation – Featurette (Exclusive)

Audio Commentary on select episodes (Exclusive)

Deleted Scenes (Exclusive)

Gag Reel (Exclusive)

Rebuilding the Enterprise-D – Featurette

Villainous Vadic – Featurette

Picard: The Final Season Q&A

**Star Trek: Picard – The Complete Series**

Also coming on September 5 is Star Trek: Picard – The Complete Series, a collection that includes all three seasons of the titular show and more than seven hours of special features.

**Star Trek: The Picard Legacy Collection**

Finally, on October 17, 2023, fans can get their hands on the Star Trek: The Picard Legacy Collection, a 54-disc set containing the entirety of Star Trek: The Next Generation, all four TNG movies, and all three seasons of Star Trek: Picard. This limited set also includes an exclusive edition of The Wisdom of Picard featuring brand new artwork and quotes, along with a one-of-a-kind deck of playing cards, a magnet sheet featuring all of Captain Picard's badges, and four custom Chateau Picard drink coasters.



There's no word yet on pricing or pre-order availability. Unfortunately, there are no details about a 4K release for any of these items.

## THE ZAK PERSPECTIVE

### Prodigy's Crew Reassigned ...with promotions and help from their "fan moms"

By Zak Lyon

I bet you were expecting me to write about this sooner - about one of my favorite *Star Trek* series suddenly being in peril. But I promised myself I wasn't going to fly off the handle like I did in my article about *Star Trek* novels two issues ago. That wouldn't be a good look. So, I vowed not to write about the cancellation of *Star Trek: Prodigy* until I knew the end of the story. We've got it now. So, here it is along with my liberally sprinkled commentary. First, here, laid out before you are the facts:

June 23: Paramount+ announces: "*Star Trek: Prodigy* will not be returning for the previously announced second season. On behalf of everyone at Paramount+, Nickelodeon and CBS Studios, we want to thank Kevin and Dan Hageman... along with the fantastic cast and crew for all their hard work and dedication bringing the series to life." CBS Studios said it was committed to trying to sell seasons 1 & 2 of the show. But it wasn't the best environment for TV at the time.

June 27: The first season of *Prodigy* is removed from the streaming service. Only the first 10 episodes had been released on DVD, with no promise of the last 10 being released. Fans were devastated that they may not be able to view this show again. Needless to say, this pokes holes in their reasoning for developing it in the first place. For the kids. Paramount+ loses credibility. Lessons cannot continue to be taught or reinforced by multiple viewings. Besides, leaving Chakotay stranded is just wrong! (To learn more about the goals of this show see any of the interviews with Kate Mulgrew. Her passion is infectious.)

Oct 11: Netflix picks up *Prodigy*! Season one will premiere in 2023. Season two in 2024. So, now the first season of *Prodigy* will live at Netflix and we will show it some love. I know some of us already ordered the DVDs (that was part of the save *Prodigy* campaign AND the discs have special features!) but we will stream it anyway.

This was "cancelled Trek" and as we know something great can come out of that. Hope. And when did I have hope? When I found that there were determined women. Mothers and daughters of all ages that were true to the cause. As it was in the beginning and ever shall be, I love Lucy and you should to. From Lucy to Bjo to Michelle. *Star Trek* owes its survival to women.

Who is Michelle and how did she save *Prodigy*? Michelle Stokes, a UK *Star Trek* fan, created a petition to save *Prodigy* collecting 33,000 signatures and later organized a GoFundMe campaign which raised \$1517 to pay for an aerial banner. On Aug 24, it was flown over Netflix headquarters in Hollywood and then to Santa Monica to fly over the Apple, Hulu and Amazon buildings. In an interview with TrekMovie.com she said: ***"I've always been a big Voyager and Janeway fan, so when Prodigy came along, it gave me a chance to share my love for Trek with my daughter. Prodigy is such a beautiful show, both visually and in the purity of its storytelling. It deserves to be given the opportunity to continue to develop and grow."*** Michelle gets it. In response to learning that the removal was being used as a tax write off, Michelle wrote: ***"Money talks, but so do fans and we can't let this beautiful show go without a fight!"***



Bjo and John Trimble

In the clip of season two shown at the 57 Year Mission Con in Las Vegas when there was still no home for the show, we learned that Voyager-A was a Lamar class vessel. There is a whole article here about another amazing woman. That's for another day. So glad I get a chance to talk about it now that *Prodigy* will continue.

In response to the pickup by Netflix, Alex Kurtzman and co-showrunners Dan and Kevin Hageman tweeted: ***"We set out to inspire you, but you inspired us."*** And my favorite: ***"I've always held that the Star Trek fan base is among the strongest and most intelligent in the world. They have shown their collective passion, and we're happy to be***

***able to celebrate Prodigy once again,"*** said Kate Mulgrew, voice of Admiral Janeway.





In the early days of the announcement of the casting of *Strange New Worlds*, I heard certain snippy voices on-line remark with rage about how they were too many women on the bridge. In the nanoseconds that I thought about this opinion, I came to the conclusion that it was wonderful to have a star ship bridge mostly populated by women. Because historically, they have been the ones with the skill to steer this enterprise - in all forms pun and otherwise.

Hopefully, a third season of *Prodigy* will be commissioned – I am confident it will if we continue to do our job. I could say that that is a long shot, but we are Trekkies and we know there is something to be said for hope. And the ingenuity of female fans.

### CONTINUING ROLE PLAY

#### Part 13 of *The Bound Dog Shall be Loosed*:

“For Now We See, But What?”

By Darrell Millner and Zak Lyon

*Note: We last encountered Millner and Lyon on the Heimdal in the June installment. Millner had overheard a voice on a secure channel talking about the El-Aurian and just before contacting Davis, recognized that it was Walker talking with an unknown superior. Lyon had discovered his quarters turned over and a threatening message relating to his El-Aurian heritage. He was off to process and figure out his next steps. In the Holodeck.*

#### Aboard the USS Heimdal:



The shuttle bay lounge is particularly quiet this evening, as Captain Millner finished off the last of his raktijino as well as the review of the duty roster. These routine activities kept his mind off what to do about Walker. It just didn't make any sense. He considered the low-cal toffee scone sitting untouched. “Yuck!” he reacted. Down below in the staging area several crew members were boarding a shuttle. but that's as normal as it's going to be today. Watching the group move along, Millner locked eyes with a young Lieutenant and stumbled forward against the window. *My head is spinning, all these images*, he thinks as he reels. *Flashbacks from the “Mazur” incident. Constitution class*

*refit, fire in Engineering, monster maroons, an explosion, and locking eyes with this person as they were drawn into the void of space.* Millner tries to clear his head. *This is doubly strange as the Lt. had gone missing months before any of those memories were made.* What was the name, something Russian, simple, one word, yes – “Stawpah”. How could he possibly be here on the Heimdal? No, he can't be not in this... Everything goes black.

In what feels like the blink of an eye for Millner, he is aware that he is in Medical and trying to grasp the moment. XO Smith and CMO White are talking over him. “I'm not sure, thought perhaps he had a glucose imbalance, but his numbers are within normal range, he does have a slight increase in serotonin, but I don't see an issue,” he heard the voice of the CMO. Then the XO: “What about the scar on his forehead, it looks like a burn.” “Hmm,” CMO White continued, “dermal regenerator is not bonding correctly with his skin, he does have a history of ‘impaired healing’ but that's a genetic issue I'll discuss with the patient, let's give it a few days.” With a smile, Millner interrupted. “Well, if I can put in my two cents, I could really use some water, and to sit up, these beds are not meant for comfort. ha ha!”, Tammy chimed in, “Yep he's normal...ish”.

Still processing the whole Stawpah side of things Millner elected not to discuss it yet, and instead said “I don't know what happened, Doc. Found myself blacking out and hugging the window.”

#### Meanwhile, back on the ISS Garmr:

A young Lieutenant is writing in his personal log – turning the pages quietly – aware of his surroundings and alert to the danger that has just surfaced. ... “I knew it was a risk to follow him to the Heimdal, but I needed to be sure, there is much more going on than I thought. Plus, Chief Engineer Millner is a complication I could not have foreseen, but I wonder - did he make the connection?” and with a tap of his pen on the notebook the lettering lit up like static, the language changed, the page became artwork, and the logbook seemed like a normal item once again. There is a whisper of thought in the air “*any sufficiently advanced technology is indistinguishable from magic*”

#### Back on the USS Heimdal:

Hovering above the turrets of Glamis Castle in Scotland, Earth, Lt. Cmdr. Lyon looks out at the meadow, clearing his mind. He liked to hover. Many would say like a ghost, but he didn't like to compare himself to such things, they might get upset. This castle is in his family line. He had visited it with his parents. And now he comes here to think...on the holodeck of the Heimdal.

*Think. Who rummaged through my quarters? Who left that threatening note? It's not Bud, I know it is not Bud. I know I may have crossed the line on the bridge today. And I'm not sure how he took it. He doesn't talk much - that's not a crime. What was done was abusive, backward. From a different time. Civilized people don't threaten like that anymore. And why couldn't I find Capt. Millner or Bud. What's going on?*



He decided to go “play” with the ghosts, as he called it. They would cheer him up. He knew them all. They were famous. Besides, he had programmed them all. And had allowed them a “life” of their own. *I need to let that young boy get off the boulder. He likes that. I need to make sure that the Baron isn't bothering too many of the “inhabitants.” Then I'll talk with the Grey Lady. That always helps.*

To the open air he says: “Thank you for seeing me. I find myself lost as to what action to take.” A wispy form takes the shape of a woman. She says: “If you find yourself lost why come to me in this abandoned chapel?”

The Cmdr. responded, “I always find calm here. Thank you.” He didn't voice that there were no people here projecting feelings that he was drawn to listen to. “Do you hear that? Is someone else here?”

“That is no denizen of this place.” The marshal tone of the Grey Lady's voice sent chills down his spine. “Take heart, child. This time is yours to face.” And then she vanished.

Lyon slowly looked across the pews of the chapel to the first row and froze. “No!”

*I am looking into the eyes of myself!*

*To be continued...*

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

We hope to see you ALL at the November meeting. It will be a special one.

Thank you to all of you that contributed to this newsletter. We hope you enjoy reading it.

*Linda, Willy and our staff of THOUSANDS.*



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### IN THIS NOVEMBER (THANKSGIVING) ISSUE:

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

**Star Trek Editor/Staff Writer:** Glenda Blanks

**Staff Photographer:** Willy Smith

**Other photo contributors** – Linda Smith, , Richard Riley, Zak Lyon, Darrell Millner

**Contributors this issue:** Linda Smith, Willy Smith, Carl Davis, Darrell Millner, Tammy White, Zak Lyon, Glenda Blanks, Bud Walker, Carol Arthur, Beth Hopkins & all that answered the Question of the Month.

*Thanks!*

**On-Going Contributing Columnist:**

Richard Riley (Riley's Replicas)

**Guest Contributors** – None this month

**Distribution Guy:** Willy Smith



*We'll See You Around the Galaxy ...*

## HEIMDAL LOWER DECKS

BY BUD WALKER

