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TERMINAL 47



# TRANSMISSIONS

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USS TYCHO NCC-59325-A Award Winning Newsletter

THE LCARS COMPUTER NETWORK

Volume 31 Issue 12

18-88526

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## Captain's Corner

By Ted Klosowski

### December

December was another busy month for the Tycho. We had our Christmas party, monthly meeting and a trip to Appold Planetarium all in one week!

Tycho Christmas Party. I had an awesome time at the Tycho Christmas party. As always there was plenty of food and deserts, and everything was amazing! All the food, chicken, several soups, Mexican casserole wow! Plus, all the deserts, no one ever goes hungry after one of our gatherings. Special thanks to those that brought all the take home containers. What a wonderful, thoughtful thing to do! Plus, Lisa's games, the gifts everything was amazing! I hope all the people coming through wasn't too much of a distraction. It was a multi church Christmas concert and the church had well over 250 people for a standing room only crowd!

Appold Planetarium. We gathered at Paddy Jacks before the planetarium for some great food. If you haven't been Paddy Jacks specializes in grilled cheese sandwiches. They have many combinations of grilled cheese that you probably wouldn't think of and they are delicious. They also have pizza! After filling our bellies, we headed to Appold Planetarium to see The Mystery of the Christmas Star. It was a good well thought out presentation. They didn't believe it was a supernova or anything that obvious because everyone would have noticed it. Instead, they believed it was an alignment of the planets which the Magi would have noticed because they studied the stars and the night sky. Tycho favorite Dr. Laura Megeath didn't do this presentation but Gary did and he did an awesome job. He was hired in so Dr. Megeath didn't have to be there for all the presentation. We had a long chat with him afterwards and turns out he is a big Science Fiction fan as well.

I would like to take this time to wish you all a Very Merry Christmas and the Happiest of New Years!

**We hope to see you at our next meeting on Thursday,  
January 4 6:30 pm at Charlie's and on Zoom!**

## The Wanted Chord

By Belinda Williams

*How true is this written word*

*That inevitably must disturb*

*the enthusiasm of a verb*

*How like a lyric*

*of woe is this remnant*

*of a verse*

*Hence this dark refrain*

*that mirrors a livid curse*

*So we make a vain and selfish attempt*

*to explore*

*That which the average man tends to ignore*

*Are we not the dissidence*

*Within the wanted chord*

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## A Tycho Story

By AI

**Story 10** [www.aistorygenerator.org/](http://www.aistorygenerator.org/)

The USS Tycho, a state-of-the-art starship with a diverse and skilled crew, embarked on a mission to explore a newly discovered planet in a distant galaxy. As they entered the planet's atmosphere, the ship's sensors detected strange energy readings and anomalies on the surface. Captain Ted, a seasoned explorer, ordered the ship to proceed with caution.

First Officer Marchelle, a no-nonsense officer with a sharp mind and quick reflexes, took the helm, navigating the ship through the treacherous atmosphere. Brian, the ship's computer management expert, worked tirelessly to analyze the strange energy readings, while Linda, the stellar cartographer, mapped out the planet's surface features.

As the ship approached the planet's surface, Chrissy, the disaster recovery and helm specialist, prepared for any unexpected events that might occur. Justin, the chaplain and anthropologist, offered words of comfort and support to the crew, while Jeremy, the engineering assistant, worked to keep the ship's systems online.

Ryan, the biologist, and Sherryl, the lab manager, prepared to collect and analyze any biological samples they might encounter, and Troy, the shuttle bay technician,

readied the ship's shuttle for landing. Lisa, the archaeologist, and Wynnne, the communications and interpreter expert, prepared to investigate any ancient ruins or artifacts they might find on the planet's surface.

Donna-Marie, the chief medical officer, stood at the ready to tend to any injuries or illnesses that might occur, while Paula, the helm specialist, assisted Marchelle in navigating the ship.

As the USS Tycho landed on the planet's surface, the crew braced themselves for the unknown. Little did they know, their mission would lead them on a journey that would change the course of their lives forever.

**Story 11** <https://tools.picsart.com/text/ai-writer/story-generator/>

In the vast reaches of space, the USS Tycho soared through the cosmos, a beacon of hope and exploration. On board this magnificent spacecraft, a diverse and talented crew embarked on a journey of scientific discovery and interstellar diplomacy.

At the helm of the Tycho was Captain Ted, a seasoned leader who possessed a brilliant mind and unwavering determination. With his calm demeanor and sharp intellect, he steered the ship through the uncharted territories, ensuring the safety and success of the crew.

Marchelle, the First Officer, was Captain Ted's trusted advisor and confidante. With her sharp instincts and dip-

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lomatic finesse, she played a vital role in maintaining harmony among the crew and fostering peaceful interactions with extraterrestrial beings.

Brian, the Computer Management specialist, was a genius when it came to technology. Armed with an encyclopedic knowledge of computer systems and programming languages, he worked tirelessly to keep the ship's systems running smoothly and efficiently.

Linda, the Stellar Cartography expert, possessed an uncanny ability to decipher the secrets of the universe. Using advanced imaging technologies and her extraordinary analytical skills, she mapped out star systems, identified potential habitable planets, and unraveled the mysteries of distant galaxies.

Chrissy, a Disaster Recovery specialist, had a unique gift for handling high-pressure situations. As the ship's skilled helm officer, she navigated through treacherous asteroid fields, dodged incoming enemy fire, and executed daring maneuvers with the precision of an acrobat.

Justin, a Chaplain and Anthropologist, brought his deep understanding of different cultures and religions to the Tycho. His presence provided solace to the crew during times of uncertainty, and his research into alien civilizations helped bridge the gaps between species.

Jeremy, an Engineering Assistant, was a whiz when it came to repairing and maintaining the ship's complex

machinery. His boundless creativity and knack for thinking outside the box allowed him to find innovative solutions to even the most challenging technical problems.

Ryan, the ship's dedicated Biologist, had an insatiable curiosity for all forms of life in the universe. Whether it was studying alien ecosystems, conducting experiments on strange organisms, or deciphering the genetic codes of new species, Ryan's passion for biology was unmatched.

Sherryl, the Lab Manager, oversaw the ship's state-of-the-art research facilities. With meticulous organization and a talent for multitasking, she ensured that all scientific endeavors ran smoothly and that valuable data was collected and analyzed efficiently.

Troy, a Shuttle Bay Technician, was responsible for maintaining the ship's fleet of space shuttles. His dedication and expertise ensured that the shuttles were always in top condition, ready for any planetary exploration or emergency mission.

Lisa, an Archaeologist, specialized in uncovering the secrets of ancient civilizations. From deciphering hieroglyphics to unearthing long-lost artifacts, she pieced together the history of different species and shed light on their cultural significance.

Wynn timer, the Communications/Interpreter specialist, possessed a unique talent for understanding and translating alien languages. Her gift allowed seamless communication

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with extraterrestrial species, promoting peace and cooperation throughout the galaxy.

Donna-marie, the Chief Medical Officer, was not only a skilled physician but also a beacon of compassion and empathy. Her tireless efforts to ensure the health and well-being of the crew earned her the respect and admiration of all who knew her.

Paula, the Helm/Navigation Officer, maneuvered the ship with precision and finesse. Her mastery of intricate star charts and navigation systems allowed the Tycho to chart new frontiers, avoiding dangers and finding hidden paths through the vastness of space.

Belinda, the Head Nurse, was a pillar of strength and support for the crew. Her calm demeanor and exceptional medical skills were invaluable in times of crisis, providing comfort and healing to injured or distressed crew members.

Sherriea, the Chief Communications Officer, was a master of interstellar diplomacy. Her eloquence and tactful negotiation skills enabled the crew to forge alliances with alien races, resolving conflicts and expanding the Tycho's mission of goodwill and exploration.

Karolyn, a Nurse, dedicated herself to the physical and mental well-being of the crew. With her nurturing nature and sharp medical instincts, she ensured that everyone on board received the care they needed, regardless of species or rank.

Diana, the Chief Science Officer, was a brilliant mind that epitomized the pursuit of knowledge. Her groundbreaking research and breakthrough discoveries pushed the boundaries of scientific understanding, earning her accolades and acclaim throughout the galaxy.

Jerry, the Chief Engineer, was a techno-wizard, capable of understanding the intricacies of the ship's advanced propulsion systems and energy sources. His ingenuity and resourcefulness kept the Tycho running smoothly, even in the face of the most daunting challenges.

Guy, the ship's Ambassador, was a human with an uncanny ability to bridge the gap between different species. With his charismatic personality and deep understanding of interstellar politics, he was instrumental in fostering diplomatic relations and negotiating treaties.

Dianne, the Damage Control specialist, possessed an unparalleled ability to stay calm and composed during emergencies. Her quick thinking and decisive actions saved lives and prevented catastrophic damage on numerous occasions.

Together, this remarkable crew formed a harmonious tapestry of expertise and dedication, each contributing their unique skills to the Tycho's mission. They braved unknown dangers, explored uncharted territories, and made groundbreaking discoveries, forever altering humanity's understanding of the universe. The USS Tycho, an embodiment of human ingenuity and perseverance, remained a shining symbol of hope, opening doors to a future filled with boundless possibilities.

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## Chief Medical Officer Report

By Donna-Marie Mominee

### WEIGHT LOSS AND FAT REDUCTION

Weight loss is undergoing some serious medical review. A recent drug, tirzepatide, better known as the diabetic drug Ozempic and Wegovy has been discovered to help with big time weight loss, or as it's used by doctors for the obesity epidemic.

Weight loss history is replete with wild speculation (boom to bust, sadly) and small scientific progress. Bariatric Surgery was used mostly in the late 50's to 60's. People lost up to 70% of the extra weight. However, side effects were terrible: food left the stomach too quickly, causing dizziness, excessive sweating, rapid heart rate, and vomiting. Alcohol abuse rose, along with suicide and self-harming behaviors. Often people suffered from malnutrition, also.

Patients as of now are suffering from some side effects of Ozempic, et al: nausea, stomach upset and "power vomiting" which apparently are a mechanism of the drug. Unfortunately, these drugs also can trigger other eating disorders, such as bulimia, anorexia, by longer term wishes to stay skinny. Probably other long-term behavior and side effects will be showing up. Also, if the injections stop, the weight returns, almost always to the original amount.

Another fascinating facet to this medicine is what seems to be the loss of appetite, having no desire to eat. Another disorder to kill you...

How is it that no appetite can be a good thing? There is the mantra that we have the right to choose what to do with our bodies, but there is not enough information on these medicines to be able to choose long term. The diabetic use of these medicines is being monitored extremely closely. In essence, these drugs are being used as ongoing tests on the participants as never been done before.

Sadly, it appears that everyone will have to work harder to combat an anti-fat bias that actually started over 50 years ago. What has happened is that the bariatric surgery, "diabetic drugs," crash diets, or the plethora of other "noon-medical" diets are not miracles or cures. There will always be some

fat people (human nature) no matter what they are – "non-responders, refuseniks, or languishers."

Weight loss discussions must be the reflexive scientism of single-minded scrutiny to a broader perspective.

Weight isn't exactly a biological "problem" but an accumulation of societal problems of power, ranking, race, status, etc., to the most human of conditions of wanting more.

Reported by Eleanor Cummins, a freelance science journalist and adjunct professor at New York University; Science, Health, and Environmental Reporting Program. Wired Magazine 2023

**Thought for the Month:** Skinny People are easy to kidnap. STAY SAFE. Eat lots (But, of course, don't overdo it...)

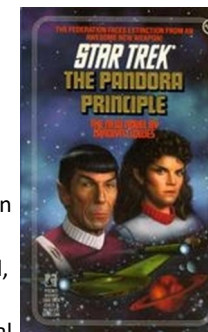
## Book Review

By Ted Klosowski

### The Pandora Principle (Star Trek: The Original Series Book 49) by Carolyn Clowes

This is an origin story for Saavik. Spock and his father Sarek are exploring the alien world of a planet called Hellguard. While there Spock discovers several young children, Romulan Vulcan children who were left to survive on their own. Spock develops an interest in the young Saavik and as the rest of the youth are gathered to be evacuated, Spock takes Saavik to mentor her. The story resumes as the Enterprise discovers a Romulan vessel near the neutral zone with all crew aboard dead. They tow the ship back to Earth so Starfleet can check it out. There Saavik, now a student at Starfleet Academy and Spock are reunited.

While the backstory of Saavik was interesting I didn't really care for the way Kirk was characterized. They made him act like a bit of an impatient jerk and then kept him locked in Starfleet for most of the book. Plus, I don't think Starfleet would bring an unknown, unscannable box into Starfleet, just seems too risky for me. But otherwise, it was an interesting story.





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## CURRY LENTIL SOUP WITH CHARRED CAULIFLOWER

Submitted by Donna-marie Mominee

### INGREDIENTS:

- 1 tablespoon extra-virgin olive oil
- 3 carrots, chopped
- 1 large yellow onion, chopped
- 1 teaspoon fine sea salt (leave out if broth is not low-sodium)
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1/8 to 1/4 teaspoon red pepper flakes (optional, if you like spice)
- 4 cups low-sodium vegetable broth
- 1 cup unsweetened full-fat coconut milk
- 1 cup green lentils, sorted and rinsed
- 2 tablespoons curry powder
- 3-inch strip kombu (seaweed, page 16), optional
- 3 cups loosely packed, roughly chopped kale, stems removed
- 1 tablespoon fresh lime juice
- 1 recipe Charred Cauliflower



### DIRECTIONS:

Heat the oil in a large pot over medium heat. Add the carrots, onion, and salt and cook, stirring occasionally, until softened but now brown, about 5 minutes. Add the garlic and pepper flakes (if using) and cook, stirring

continuously, for 1 minutes, being careful not to let the garlic brown.

Add the broth, coconut milk, lentils, curry powder, and kombu. Bring to a boil, then reduce the heat and simmer covered, stirring occasionally, until the lentils are soft, 25 minutes.

Remove the kombu and discard. Stir in the kale and simmer for 5 minutes. Turn off the heat and stir in the lime juice. Taste and season with additional salt and pepper flakes if needed. If too thick, add 1/2 cup water or more until the desired consistence is reached. Serve topped with Charred Cauliflower.

### CHARRED CAULIFLOWER

#### INGREDIENTS:

- 1 large head cauliflower, cut into similar-size florets (to ensure even cook time)
- 1 tablespoon extra-virgin olive oil
- 1 teaspoon ground cumin
- 1/2 teaspoon fine sea salt

#### DIRECTIONS:

Preheat the oven to 450 degrees F.

Place the cauliflower florets on a large baking sheet and dry well with a paper towel. Add the oil, cumin, and salt and toss well to combine.

Spread out on the baking sheet and roast in the center of the oven until well browned and slightly charred, 25 to 30 minutes.

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## Easy Slow Cooker Mexican Casserole

Submitted by Ted Klosowski

**PREP TIME** 20 minutes

**COOK TIME** 4 hours

**TOTAL TIME** 4 hours 20 minutes

### Ingredients

- 3 pounds ground beef
- 1 diced white onion
- 1 diced green pepper
- 1 teaspoon of black pepper (optional)
- 1 teaspoon chili powder
- 3-10 ounce cans of Rotel tomatoes and green chilies, drained
- 15.25 ounce can of whole kernel corn, drained
- 15.25 ounce can of black beans, drained
- 19 ounce can of red enchilada sauce
- 3-1 ounce package of taco seasoning
- 2 pounds shredded Mexican cheese
- 5.25 ounce package of Spanish rice
- 10 flour tortillas or corn tortillas and or corn chips



### Instructions

- Cook the ground beef, onions, and green pepper in a large saucepan. Drain the grease.
- Add the ground beef back into the saucepan add taco seasoning, pepper and chili powder and mix well.
- Grease a slow cooker
- Mix the ground beef, Rotel tomatoes, corn, black beans and red enchilada sauce and mix well
- Cover with the lid and cook on low for three hours.

Prepare the Spanish rice according to its directions and mix in with rest of the items. Mix in 1 pound of the shredded cheese and cook for 1 hour

Top the casserole with the remaining cheese and cook until melted

## Garlic Soup

Submitted by Donna-marie Mominee

### INGREDIENTS:

- 2 tablespoons of butter
- 6-8 LARGE cloves of garlic, chopped
- 1 large onion, chopped
- 2 egg yolks
- 2 tablespoons of flour
- 6 cups of chicken or vegetable stock
- 1 cup of  $\frac{1}{2}$  and  $\frac{1}{2}$  milk
- 1 teaspoon of salt

### PREPARATION:

Melt butter in a heavy pot and saute onions and garlic until they are golden. Add the flour and stir until well blended with the soft vegetables. Stir in the broth and bring to a boil. Reduce heat and simmer 5 minutes. Remove from heat and take 1 cup at a time of the hot mixture and put in a blender and blend it to a smooth consistency. Return to the pot. Whisk the egg yolks and  $\frac{1}{2}$  and  $\frac{1}{2}$  together in a big bowl. Slowly add a cup of the hot mixture to this egg mixture while stirring vigorously. Do several cups this way. Then, slowly add the cream mixture back into the remaining hot mixture slowly and stirring constantly. Return to low heat for 5 minutes, stirring occasionally. Serve with a dash of black pepper and/or thyme on top of the servings!



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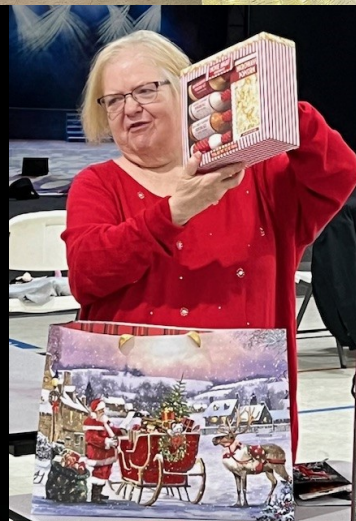
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## Tycho Christmas party





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## Tycho Christmas party

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## They Say It's Your Birthday!

January 1	Sue Wetmore / USS Tycho
January 1	Famke Janssen (Kamala TNG)
January 6	Aaron Eisenberg (Nog DS9, Kar VOY RIP)
January 8	Stephan Hawking (Played Himself TNG)
January 8	Rachel Nichols (Orion Redhead Gaila ST09)
January 12	Kirstie Alley (Lt. Saavik STII)
January 14	William Wagner/USS Tycho
January 15	Torin Thatcher (Marplon TOS)
January 15	Andrea Martin (Ishka Moogie DS9)
January 16	Michael Pataki (Korax TOS)
January 17	Michelle Forbes (Ens. Ro TNG)
January 20	DeForest Kelley (Dr. Leonard H. McCoy "Bones" TOS RIP)
January 24	David Gerrold (Author TOS)
January 27	James Cromwell (Zefram Cochrane STFC)
January 30	Daphne Ashbrook (Melora DS9)



Sue Wetmore



Famke Janssen



Kirstie Alley



William Wagner



DeForest Kelley



David Gerrold

## Fortune Cookie Quote

A heart full of gratitude is the best gift of all.

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## Science and Sci-Fi News

*Submitted by Ted Klosowski*

**Fans Invited To Vote For Best Of Star Trek With 2024 LLAPy Awards**



**Star Trek's First Female Captain Isn't Janeway Or Strange New Worlds' Batel'**



**"Justice League Of Star Trek": Brent Spinner's Nemesis Sequel Plan**



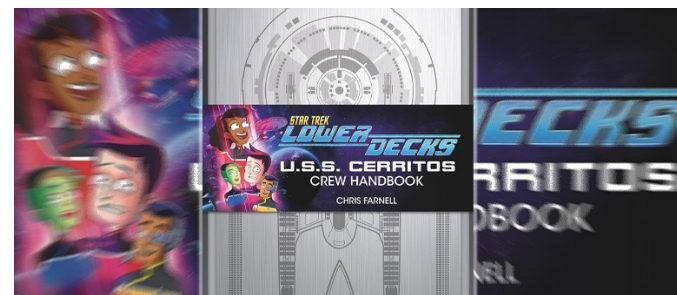
## Unearthing Secrets from the Making of Star Trek: The Animated Series



**TNG "Was Absolutely Not Allowed To Use The Word Spock", Says Star Trek Writer**



**The 'USS Cerritos Crew Handbook' Is An Instant Classic And Fun Companion To 'Star Trek: Lower Decks'**



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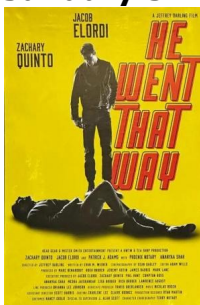
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## At The Movies

Brought to you by [FilmAffinity.com](#)

## January 5



### He Went That Way



Drama A journey of curious tensions and bonds between two and at times three

interesting characters all on their own path. [Jeff Darling](#)

[Zachary Quinto](#), [Jacob Elordi](#), [Ananyaa Shah](#) ..

## January 12



### T.I.M.



Sci-Fi Prosthetics engineer Abi moves to the countryside to work on Integrate Robotic's latest product - a humanoid artificial intelligence called T.I.M. - Technologically. Integrated. Manservant. [Spencer Brown](#) [Georgina Campbell](#), [Eamon Farren](#), [Mark Rowley](#)

## January 19



### I.S.S.



Sci-Fi When a world war event occurs on Earth, America and Russia, both nations secretly contact their astronauts aboard the ISS and give them instructions to take control of the station by any means necessary. [+]

[Gabriela Cowperthwaite](#) [Ariana DeBose](#), [Pilou Asbæk](#), [Chris Messina](#) ...

## January 19



### Sunrise



2024

Thriller A man, Fallon (Alex Pettyfer) roams the land as a creature of the night as he comes to terms with tragic loss of his family at the hands of a brutal demagogue, Reynolds (Guy Pearce).

[Andrew Baird](#) [Guy Pearce](#), [Alex Pettyfer](#), [Olwen Fouere](#) ...

## January 26



### Sometimes I Think About Dying



Drama Fran, who likes to think about dying, makes the new guy at work laugh, which leads to dating and more, now the only thing standing in their way is Fran herself.

[Rachel Lambert](#) [Daisy Ridley](#), [Dave Merheje](#), [Bree Elrod](#) ...



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## U.S.S. Tycho Minutes

USS Tycho

December 7, 2023

Presiding Officer: Ted Klosowski

Recording Officer: Marchelle Lee

Location: Charlie's on Central and Zoom

Attending: Linda, Lisa, Brian, Chrissy, Diana, Jerry, Ted, Marchelle, Wynnne, Dianne, and Donna-marie

The meeting began with the sound of packing bubbles popping.

Guy is going to Florida, where his brother passed away.

We had a great Christmas party, with good food, games and gifts.

As of January 1, 2024, Starfleet membership rates will go up \$5 per membership. Region One has an opening in the newsletter department.

Going to see a Star of Bethlehem planetarium program at Appold Planetarium at Lourdes on Saturday, December 9. Meeting at Paddy Jack's at 5:30pm and at Lourdes at 7:00 pm for a 7:30 pm program.

In January we will probably go see a movie. Aquaman is a possibility.

Sherriea provided an update on her health status.

Wynnne got some new glasses, will probably purchase another pair.

Dianne – Solvent

Donna-marie – Talked about mosquito nets, which are in use to prevent mosquito bites, in the Black Swamp they used smudge pots. Diphtheria and malaria were common to our area. Presented travel pillows.

Linda – Nick is on his last deployment with the Navy.

Lisa – Lost her cat Martini, who was 14 1/2.

Brian – 150 species of mosquitoes in North America.

Chrissy – Hurricanes blow the mosquitoes away.

Diane – Lost their cat Midna.

Jerry – They're licensing operators at work, there's 13 in the class.

Belinda – Shared about Mario Lanza, a singer.

Newsletter deadline – December 16

January 4 – Next meeting

Review of snow rules for the winter. If it's a Level 1 or more in Lucas, Wood, or Ottawa County, the meeting will be on Zoom only.

**Next meeting is January 4, 2024**  
**Charlie's @ 6:00 and Zoom @6:30**  
**Be there or be a tribble.**



Tycho crew visits Appold Planetarium

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## From the Chaplain

By Justin Hunt KGO

### Aurë entuluva!

As this year comes to a close, I find myself in my usual contemplative state of mind. Given the generally festive nature around the holidays, it is no small wonder that some of my friends have mistaken such a severe attitude for depression. In attempts to be less of a downer, my compromise has been to meditate on more positive matters. This year, the idea that has been absorbing my quiet times has been the nature of hope.

Hope, as a concept, is one that is significant to pretty much everyone. As a natural pessimist, it is something that I often lack. My personal religion promotes it as a good thing. *Star Trek*-- in fact, nearly all of my major interests have hope as a central theme.

In the Bible, Hebrews 6:19 says, "We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner place behind the curtain,"

In the Kelvin Timeline (*Star Trek Beyond*), Spock is quoted as saying, "We will do what we have always done, Jim. We will find hope in the impossible."

In the Green Lantern franchise, the Blue Lantern Corps has the oath, "In fearful day, in raging night, with strong hearts full, our souls ignite. When all seems lost in this war of light, look to the stars, for hope burns bright!"

But for the sake of this article, I'm going to take a cannonball dive into the deep end of Middle-earth.

You see, Professor Tolkien, in the writing of his greater legendarium, really explored the idea of hope in a manner that few others have. He looks at hope as something both ethereal and concrete, a con-

stant and a variable. He sees it as something that can be bestowed upon another, even if the granting party has little-to-none themselves.

Looking to *The Silmarillion*, we see Tolkien's writing at its darkest. There are things in that book that would shock the more casual fans. But, when the stories are at their darkest, the theme of hope is at its most prominent. One of these stories is "The Last Stand of Húrin at the Nirnaeth Arnoediad."

The Nirnaeth Arnoediad is also known as The Battle of Unnumbered Tears. It was one of the battles against Morgoth (Middle-earth's Satan) and is considered one of the darkest moments in the greater legendarium as, in this case, Morgoth wins. Through the course of the fighting, the united forces of Elves, Men and Dwarves are being trounced on. Húrin, as one of the prominent men, fights to the last. His defeat was epic. As everything was falling apart and he knew defeat was inevitable, he decided that he would just keep going.

Abandoning his shield to pick up a two-handed battle axe, he began to cry aloud, "Aurë entuluva! Day shall come again!" as he hacked away at the orcs that were attacking him. He yelled it out with every strike of the axe. He was cleaving limbs from the orcs so swiftly, that the hands stayed clinging to him after they were severed. He yelled it out seventy times before he was finally captured.

In this instance, Tolkien wrote of what he termed, "Northern Courage." This is a form of reckless abandonment that comes over heroes in many of the Norse and Celtic stories and leads to one person doing a great deed before their inevitable fall. However, in this particular case, the words of Húrin speak of a hope that he knows will endure, even after he falls. This is less of an abandonment than it is a defiant hope. This is a proclamation of future victory in the face of momentary defeat.

If we then turn to *The Lord of the Rings*, we see the theme of hope similarly spattered all throughout, if not quite as heavy handed. But

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where *Lord of the Rings* differs is how it handles the idea of hope. As in *The Silmarillion* and most other literature, the traditional understanding of the concept is maintained. However, two more unique notions are brought forward in the pages of this work. Firstly, that hope is a trait that is not necessary to work toward a goal. And secondly, that you do not need hope to inspire others.

In book four, chapter three of *The Lord of the Rings* (That's in *The Two Towers* for those that break it down into the standard volumes.), we get a glimpse into the mind of Sam that sadly didn't translate into the movies. Sam is typically seen as the hopeful one. He encourages Frodo to keep going and insists on trying to save the rations long enough to make it all the way to, and back from, Mount Doom. Whereas Frodo regularly acknowledges the unlikelihood of their making it back, even if they make it there.

However, in the book we see this line as they are staring down at the Black Gate of Mordor and the impossible task of getting in. "And after all he (Sam) never had any real hope in the affair from the beginning; but being a cheerful hobbit, he had not needed hope, as long as despair could be postponed."

You see, hope in this context is something separate from the sense of duty. Sam is following Frodo out of a sense of friendship and responsibility. This is in some sense a form of hope, as it requires him to think of the needs of a future that very likely will not come, but that isn't the same thing as a sense of expected success. Just as the eleventh chapter in Hebrews points to people who had not received their promises to show that good things can and do happen after we are gone, Sam maintains an idea of a future that he cannot, and may never, see. This becomes a strange ethereal hope that both is and isn't present. It is, however, sufficient to keep them going.

Then, if we dive deeper into *The Lord of the Rings*, we will eventually stumble across the appendices. It is in these (Appendix A to be precise) that we find the story of Gilraen, Aragorn's mother.

After the death of her husband, Arathorn, Gilraen took their two-year-old son, Aragorn, to Rivendell for his safety. As the last heir to the two kingdoms of Arnor and Gondor, Gilraen knew that he was not safe. To further protect him, Aragorn went by an Elven name while he was there; Estel. The selection of this name is not insignificant. In Sindarin, the name "Estel" means "Hope." And even this takes a deeper meaning as Aragorn's birth was foretold to some degree by his maternal grandparents with the expression, "...hope may be born for our people..."

Sadly, Gilraen would not live to see this "Hope" come into fruition. And what was worse, she was very aware that she wouldn't. Her whole time in Rivendell was spent in the fear of what might happen to her son and the events that were to come. She worried so much that what should have been an exceptionally long life (as she was of the dunedain), was cut down to the length of a normal person. Her last words to her son were, "Ónen i-Estel Edain, ú-chebin estel anim." Which, being roughly translated from the Sindarin, means, "I give hope to men/the dunedain, I have kept no hope for myself."

This was an obvious allusion to her son's Elvish name. While she would not live to see the hope she preserved go beyond an idea, it inevitably changed the world. Because she looked beyond herself, she sent a great hope forward. I think about this more often than I care to admit. As a pessimist, I seldom expect good things for myself. However, that doesn't mean that I shouldn't act with a mind to the future and what good my efforts can bring about.

If you can see fit to look past the excessive length of this article, I hope that you can take away something encouraging from it. That is that no matter how dark things may seem, no matter how much wrong has taken hold, "...Day shall come again!"

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## uP In Space

Submitted by Marchelle Lee

"Axiom Space, which holds a firm-fixed price, indefinite-delivery, indefinite-quantity contract with NASA, is on schedule to launch and attach its first module, named Axiom Hab One, to the International Space Station in 2026. A total of four modules are planned for the Axiom Commercial Segment attached to the station. After the space station's retirement, the Axiom Commercial Segment will separate and become a free-flying commercial destination named Axiom Station.



A hatch of the Axiom Hab One module, which will attach the module to the International Space Station.  
Axiom Space

The hatches of the Axiom Hab One module are fabricated and prepared to undergo pressure testing to ensure a strong enough seal to withstand the vacuum of space. Manufacturing of the Axiom Hab One module is underway, and the critical design review will occur in 2024. During this review, NASA will assess the maturity of the Axiom Space design and provide feedback necessary to ensure safe operations when it is attached to the International Space Station."

From [NASA.gov](https://www.nasa.gov)

*Ritter Planetarium Offerings**Appold Planetarium Offerings*

## Upcoming Events

*Monthly Meetings*

Thursday January 4, 6:00 [Charlie's Central Ave](#) and [Zoom](#)@6:30

Thursday February 1, 6:00 [Charlie's Central Ave](#) and [Zoom](#)@6:30

Thursday March 7, 6:00 [Charlie's Central Ave](#) and [Zoom](#)@6:30

*Extra Curricular*

\*\*Check the [Tycho Facebook Page](#) and watch your email for further details\*\*

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Managing Editor: Ted Klosowski

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FOR MORE INFORMATION ON BOTH THE U.S.S. TYCHO AND STARFLEET, PLEASE CONTACT:

Captain Ted J. Klosowski CO / President

Toledo, Ohio 43611

E-mail: [usstycho@gmail.com](mailto:usstycho@gmail.com)

Commander Marchelle Lee XO / Vice President

Toledo, Ohio 43614

E-mail: [mlee1961@aol.com](mailto:mlee1961@aol.com)

Commander Dianne Blankenship / Treasurer

Oregon, Ohio 43616

Email: [secretlurker1@cs.com](mailto:secretlurker1@cs.com)

