



# *The RAINBOW CONNECTION*

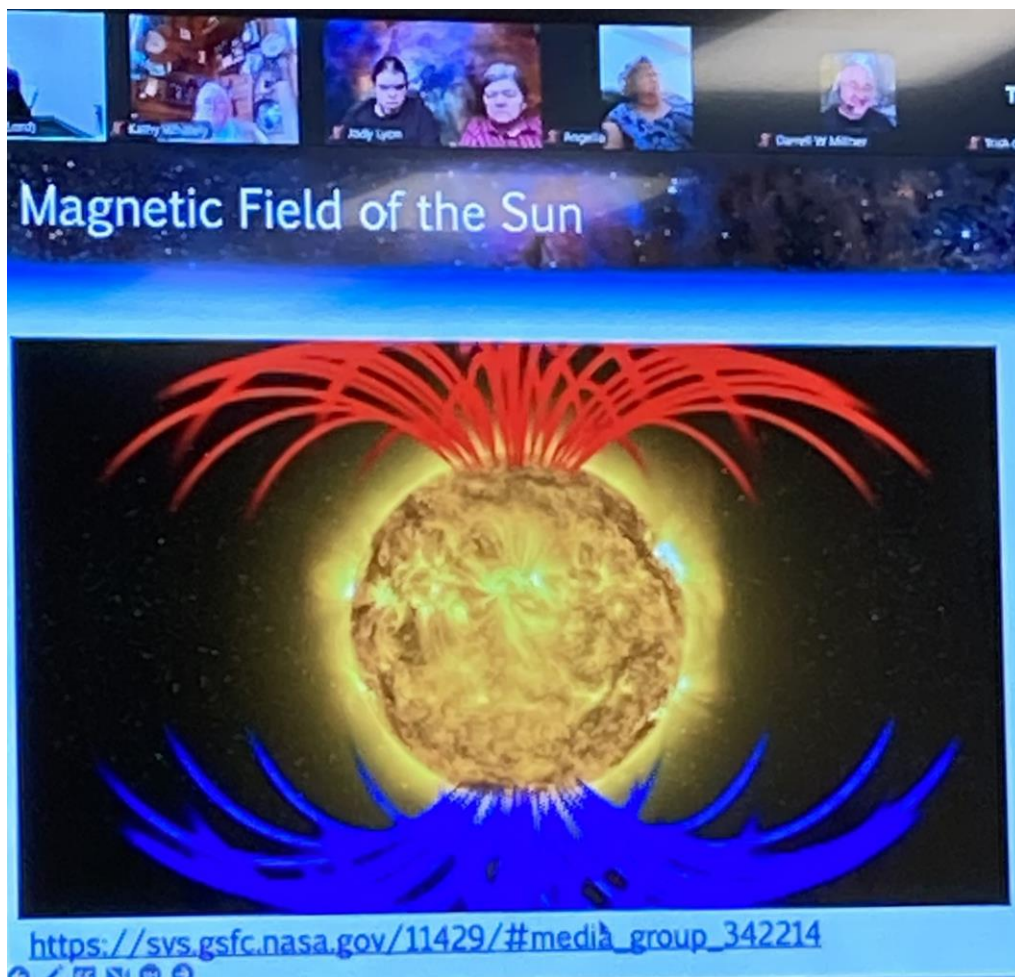
The Official Monthly Newsletter of the USS Heimdal, NCC 1793  
Based (Space docked?) in Madison Heights, Virginia

**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 **Early Summer of Relaxation** Issue, June 2024*

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**PHOTO FROM HEIMDAL'S AMAZING MAY MEETING**

See article about the meeting under the **MAY MEETING** header later in this newsletter



## FROM THE COMMANDING OFFICER

### Adm. Linda Smith - Starfleet 2024 SFDPP Certified



Hey!!! Already we're in June and half of 2024 is behind us. How can that BE???? Well, here we are, though, at the beginning of summer with MORE cool Heimdal stuff ahead. We're into our first year and first *summer of relaxation* after almost 40 years of spending so much of our summers doing fundraisers. While I miss the constant contacts with all of you that we've had doing on-going fundraisers summer after summer (and that's the DOWN side), I haven't missed pounding the pavement day after day trying to get auction donations, which is clearly the UP side. We'll see how it goes AND we'll see how far our bank account CD investments take us. Which reminds me ....

A special **THANK YOU** to Willy for following up on our two CDs when they matured in March and April, going to the bank, speaking to a Customer Service person and getting our interest rate on both CDs back up to and continuing for us at 4.8% ... much better than the current rate of 1%. WAY TO GO, Willy. Running this Heimdal show and all the many facets of it takes a village ... or a starship.

So here we go into June and a wonderful June meeting at the Sugar Mill Recreation Area's pavilion featuring Richard Riley. We all look forward to seeing Richard and his phenomenal presentations as well as because we just really LIKE him. We'll see you there.

## FROM THE OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER

### XO, Chief Science Officer, Adm. Willy Smith – Starfleet 2024 SFDPP Certified



Hello everyone! We had a wonderful guest speaker in May, Trish Cerulli, who is not only President of the Blue Ridge Astronomy Club but is a very intelligent person about most anything in the sky. Top it off, she's a Solar System Ambassador with NASA and giving presentations is one of the things she does regularly. If you remember a couple weeks back, the sun was acting up and gave our country an aurora borealis that was so amazing. This was the main part of her presentation... we were lucky to have her speak.

Moving along, STARFLEET renewal reminders is one of the hats I wear and thanks to a great crew, everyone for June has already renewed. Thanks for your patience with my renewal reminders and only a couple of you have renewals in July. Gosh, that sounds like summer ... be sure to check out Linda's list in this newsletter and see if YOU are one of the "couple" needing to renew.

We continue to have phaser simulation at Carl's and if Jonathan's pictures came out, you'll see that I was like a crash test dummy. I don't know what got into me but I think I was shot first each time. Reminded me of one of those ducks at the carnival and later I stopped off for a cold drink and the lady behind the counter said, "*I hope you were playin' paintball.*" Under the small amount of hair I have left, the paint on my head looked like caked blood and even cooler later going down the drain like an Alfred Hitchcock horror movie in the shower ... lucky I had my shower cam on... eh, just kiddin'.

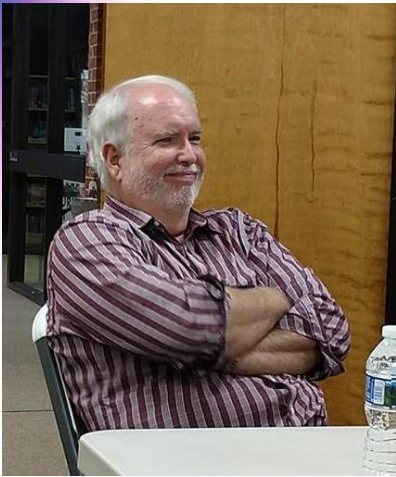
Here's a time lapse of my week, Linda and Willy are getting new carpet – decades of clothing and furniture moved. I planted a flowering tree; my first rose bush is being munched by critters. Large ants found their way into my truck and I had to pull over to get them off of me ... bought ant spray. Limb broke out of tree ... firewood. Launch of Boeing's Starliner Spacecraft was scrubbed at 4 minutes until takeoff ... me watching, I said "**oh darn.**" I'm writing XO article and will go pester Linda. It's a good life! Hope we have people come play Putt-Putt Saturday. Y'all take care!!  
SMITH OUT

## FROM THE DESK OF THE SECOND OFFICER

### RAdm. Carl Davis, Starfleet SFDPP Certified

It's time for my monthly report and as I pondered what I should mention, an article caught my eye on AOL. Yes, I am one of the dinosaurs that still use it for my daily venture into the internet. I started with it way back when and just never bothered to make a change.





Anyway, the article that caught my eye was how people from other countries find some of our eating habits to be unacceptable. How could that be I wondered. Who would dare find fault, but what if they are right, so I read further.

Their first entry was one of my favorites, peanut butter. PEANUT BUTTER! That's just plain dumb. Yeah, if you are one of those who has an allergy to peanuts then you have my sympathy but without peanut butter, we have no pb & j sandwich. No Reese's Cups. No Moose Tracks ice cream! Who would find fault with peanut butter? Maybe one of those countries who prefer escargot or grasshoppers.

And then they attacked corn dogs. Not quite the staple that peanut butter is but not something to find fault with just because it's not your cup of tea. Personally, I'd take a corn dog over a cup of tea any day.

But then they got me really riled. Biscuits and Gravy!!! You can kick my dog or say bad things about my preference in cars but when you are running down biscuits and gravy then you are walking on the fighting side of me. (Borrowed from Merle Haggard) If you don't like it with sausage then leave it out but don't mean mouth biscuits and gravy. It is the

original breakfast of champions. Just ask John Wayne.

Would you believe they disprove of Root Beer, sweet potato casserole with marshmallows, **and** easy cheese in a can. We don't take a car trip in our family without a can of squeeze cheese to put on crackers to chase away the tummy rumbles. How could anyone not appreciate the convenience of cheese in a can?

Chicken fried steak? You might as well say ambrosia stinks. And they did! Ambrosia, food that would make some people smack the mother-in-law, and foreigners don't like it. I've run out of nice things to say about people who don't approve of our foods.

They round out the top items of disapproval with Hershey's Chocolate. I understand that some countries have some pretty good chocolate. I brought some back from Amsterdam once and it was something to write home about but life without Hershey's? That's just plain un-American and I'm convinced that we've got to realize some people will not understand the finer things of life and what they don't understand then they find fault with it. Some people prefer Star Trek, some Star Wars. Some Galaxy Quest. I like them all but make no mistake, I'd give them all up for a plate of milk gravy covering hot buttermilk biscuits.

If you'll excuse me, I need to make a trip to the kitchen.

## MEETINGS AND COMMITMENTS

### JUNE MEETING

The June Heimdal meeting will be June 15 starting at 6:30 p.m. at the Sugar Mill Recreation Area in Sugar Mill subdivision and on ZOOM. In case of rain, we will meet at the Madison Heights Library ... same bat-time, same bat-channel. Our ALWAYS amazing guest speaker will be foam sculptor, Richard Riley. We'll be at the Sugar Mill pavilion so Richard can give us a foam sculpting demonstration. I don't have a clue what it will be but I DO know it will be fun and interesting as his presentations ALWAYS are. This would be a great meeting to bring a guest. You don't want to miss this meeting.

Please bring one item for refreshments.

Darrell Millner will be our ZOOM Coordinator and here are the coordinates:

**CO Linda Smith** is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: **Heimdal June 2024**

**Time:** Jun 15, 2024 06:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88541103915?pwd=CbWB1zrjp1xuQ39OI40xWvn4AB4a3r.1>

**Meeting ID:** 885 4110 3915 **Passcode:** 202406



### MAY MEETING

#### Here Comes the Sun

#### May 2024 Chapter Meeting of the USS Heimdal

*By Commander William M. Walker, Jr. - Operations*

The Heimdal crew gathered at the Madison Heights Public Library (part of Amherst County Public Library system) and online via Zoom on May 18, 2024, for the monthly chapter meeting.





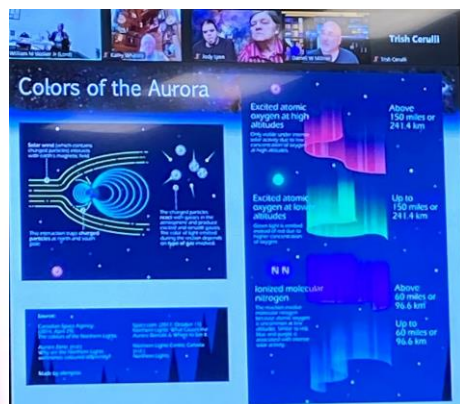
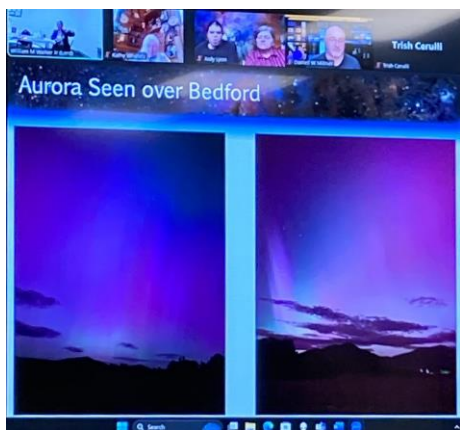
Admiral Linda Smith called the meeting to order and introduced the speaker for the evening, Trish Cerulli, President of the Blue Ridge Astronomy Club (BRAC). Ms. Cerulli provided some of her background, stating she has earned two degrees in chemistry, a B.S. from the University of Mary Washington in 2008 and an M.S. from the University of Virginia in 2014. She worked in the pharmaceutical industry as an analytical chemist before graduate school, and at UVA her coursework and research focused on astrochemistry. After starting a family, Trish continued to stay involved in the science community at the Belk Observatory and Claytor Nature Center.

Sharing the wonders of the universe has been her lifelong passion and Ms. Cerulli recently launched her own program for mobile astronomy outreach in the Lynchburg region, “**Science in Space.**” She can come to parties or do corporate events, bringing telescopes and other equipment.

Ms. Cerulli also now works with Randolph College as the Science Festival Assistant Director and SUPER Program Administrator. The festival usually occurs the third weekend in March. Saturday is “Science Day” and is targeted for kids, while Sunday is “Maker Faire” with broader participation and a possible opportunity for the Heimdal to attend.

Ms. Cerulli joined the Blue Ridge Astronomy Club when she moved into the area but found that it was dormant. Taking the reins as President, she has built membership back up to around 22 members. The club usually meets on the third Tuesday of the month at a local library. She stated that one does not have to possess a telescope to join.

Ms. Cerulli provided a presentation on the Sun and the Solar Dynamics Observatory. She stated that one can use solar glasses anytime to observe the Sun, not just during a solar eclipse. She discussed recent sun activity & the aurora borealis, explaining that the aurora effect is caused by solar storms, whereby plasma from the Sun interacts with our atmosphere. She stated that the specific term for this event is “CME” or coronal mass ejection. She further explained that the Sun has its magnetic field reverse and flip every eleven years and that the next cycle begins in July of 2025. As we near this time, more sunspots and more CME’s will take place.



Admiral Linda Smith thanked Ms. Cerulli for her informative presentation and then called on Commander William Walker. Commander Walker gave a very brief presentation of the new **Writing Role Playing** section of the chapter web site. He concluded by playing a recruiting video for the inter-departmental role-playing team.

Admiral Smith asked the group for feedback on whether the chapter should have an anniversary party next year. The consensus of the group was in the affirmative. Admiral Smith will aim for April of 2025 for the event.

Admiral Smith discussed the ongoing upgrade to Starfleet International (SFI)’s database. She expressed concern that a date-of-birth and email address are required of each member, otherwise their membership will be transferred from their current chapter to a fictitious “holding” region. The concern is that this might affect small chapters and cause them to fall under SFI membership requirements.

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

- Angie and Richard Arnold are organizing a putt-putt night for June 1st, with a rain date of June 8<sup>th</sup>.
- The June meeting will be at the Sugar Mill Recreation Area’s pavilion on June 15<sup>th</sup>.

Rear Admiral Carl Davis stated that the next phaser simulation will take place on May 25<sup>th</sup>.

Fleet Captain Darrell Millner reviewed the current state of his department and the progress of the inter-departmental role-play team.

After several pieces of “Dolly Parton Icing” cake were consumed, Admiral Smith adjourned the meeting.





## HEIMDAL PEOPLE



### WESTON BUILDS A MEDIA ROOM ... WOW!

By Sarah Webb

Our Theater room is now fully operational! I'm so proud of Weston! His creative thinking and hard work have made his ideas come to life. I'm truly

amazed and am so proud of him. Now it's time to sit back, relax, close the doors and hope those stormtroopers and gunners don't have blasters



## STARFLEET ACADEMY GRADUATES – CONGRATULATIONS!



### Admiral Willy Smith

#### IOIE - School of Intel History (SIH) 6 courses

SIH 105 - Fabricated Intelligence	DISTINCTION	May 18, 2024
SIH 106 Communications Intelligence	DISTINCTION	May 20, 2024
SIH 107 Women in Espionage	HONORS	May 20, 2024
SIH 108 Assassination in History	DISTINCTION	May 21, 2024
SIH 109 US and International Piracy	HONORS	May 24, 2024
SIH 110 - Evolution of Covert Underground Operations	HONORS	May 24, 2024

#### IOIE - School of Intel Gathering (SIG) 7 courses

SIG 101 - Who Does it?	DISTINCTION	May 26, 2024
SIG 102 - Intelligence Gathering Methods and Means	DISTINCTION	May 27, 2024
SIG 103 - Intelligence Gathering Methods and Means Pt. 2	DISTINCTION	May 28, 2024
SIG 204 - Interrogation	HONORS	May 29, 2024
SIG 205 Domestic KGB	HONORS	May 31, 2024
SIG 206 British Intelligence	HONORS	May 31, 2024
SIG 207 CIA	DISTINCTION	Jun 01, 2024



### CMDR Zachary Lyon ( 3 Courses, 2 Awards )

#### SFA Awards

Awarded the “DENNIS RAYBURN BOOTHBY 050”

Awarded for **BOCP** - Chief Communications Officer Certification on May 11, 2024

#### IOSS - College of Spaceflight

DISTINCTION for SKYL 101 Program Start on May 6, 2024

DISTINCTION for SKYL 102 Skylabs I & II on May 6, 2024

HONORS for SKYL 103 Skylab II on May 6, 2024



**LT Lyon Jody ( 3 Courses, Award )**

IOSS - School of Planetary Identification & Discovery  
DISTINCTION for SPID 107 - Dwarf Planets Pt 1 on May 13, 2024  
DISTINCTION for SPID 108 - Dwarf Planets Pt 2 on May 13, 2024  
DISTINCTION for SPID 109 - Dwarf Planets Pt 3 on May 13, 2024



**FCPT Darrell Millner ( 3 Courses, 1 Award )**

SFA Awards

Awarded the **Boothby 0350** - Titanium (350) on May 17, 2024

IOAE - College of Mythological Studies

DISTINCTION for EGY 201 - Egyptian Creation Myths Pt 1 on May 26, 2024

DISTINCTION for EGY 202 - Egyptian Creation Myths Pt 2 on May 26, 2024

DISTINCTION for EGY 203 - Name That God on May 26, 2024

### RENEWALS

**A special THANK YOU to Annette Overstreet, Carol Arthur, Virginia Williams, David Frankham, and Darrell & Barbara Millner for renewing and staying with our Heimdal "family" for another amazing 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 within in 60 days following your renewal.

Remember the increase in membership rates went into effect on January 1 and congratulations to those of you that renewed 'under the wire.' **You may also renew for multiple years with Starfleet ... not just a year at the time.**

**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**

**July – Joe Arnold – July 20**

**Carl & Bonnie Davis – July 30**

**August – Julie & Brett Witcher – August 6**

**Zak & Jody Lyon – August 7**

**Tyler St. Clair – August 10**

**Eric Merrill – August 27**

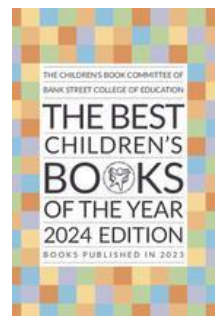
**September – Jimmy Farlow – September 2**

**Beth & Peter Hopkins – September 5**

### CONGRATULATIONS, RON MILLER!

Congratulations to Heimdal friend and guest speaker, Ron Miller. He posted:  
**Just learned that my book, The Big Backyard, was selected for the Bank Street College of Education's 2024 The Best Children's Books of the Year in the 14 to 17 category, and it was also noted as a title with Outstanding Merit.**

<https://educate.bankstreet.edu/ccl/27/> "A clearly written and beautifully illustrated introduction to the solar system and what lies beyond it."







### WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

#### HELEN COHEN

Congratulations to Helen Cohen, Heimdal's 2017 Space Camp winner who recently graduated from Bard College in MA this year. It seems like no time at all since she won our contest and was only 15-years-old.

### HEIMDAL STUFF



### HEIMDAL JUNE GAME NIGHT

Putt Putt on Timberlake Road was the scene of was the first Heimdal Game Night of 2024 on June 1. Seven Heimdal members came out to enjoy competing in a game of miniature golf in weather that was just perfect for the occasion.

Heimdal women faced off against Heimdal men with the guys winning. Willy Smith had the low score for the evening with a number of holes-in-one ... and won the evening.

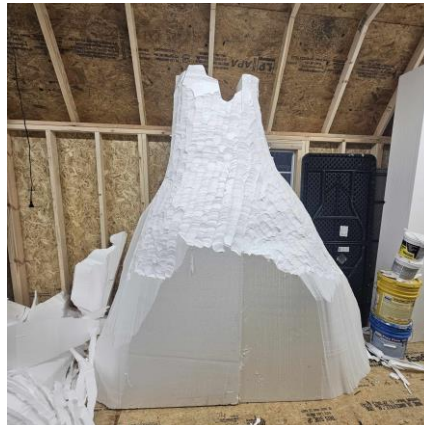
Hoping to have a second Game Night in September at the library with board games and fellowship. We'd love to have more of you joining in the fun.

A special THANK YOU to Angie Arnold for coordinating the event. Not only did she send out frequent reminders, she set up a Facebook Event Page for the evening.

### RILEY'S RAMBLINGS

#### FINDING NEMO

By Richard Riley







Hello everyone! I hope that everyone is well! In a few short weeks we will be going into Summer and I am already wishing for cooler weather! I have never been much for the hot summer days but,



oh well, nothing that I can do about that. I will just stay inside as much as I can and work in my basement which gives me a bit of relief from the heat!

This month's newsletter I will discuss how I was commissioned to build a volcano and also 2 sea anemones for the play *Finding Nemo*! This was strange in that I had just built

a volcano for the Jurassic Park theme for the Orthodontist and to then have a second volcano to make back-to-back with the other one was rather unusual! It did help a bit though since I knew how to make one so it would go a bit faster.

In the play *Finding Nemo* the sea anemones are creatures that are in the sea Nemo and his father live in. A sea anemone has many tentacles on it and they use them to capture their prey and feed on them. Luckily for Nemo and his father the sea anemones do not consider them part of the food supply since they do not eat clown fish, which is what Nemo and his father are.

The biggest obstacle for making them was to find out how to create the tentacles ... pool noodles would work but are not very flexible ... I needed a material that would have some give to them and appear to move since the play is supposed to be underwater. I settled on insulation covers for copper pipes. It is a black, rubbery material that is used to go over pipes to keep them from freezing in the winter months. After some calculations I worked up that it would be about 150 tentacles per sea anemone. All of them would need to be painted with primer then painted with glow paint. These were fairly straightforward builds with the bodies of the creatures being made from foam, under them a wood base with wheels for ease of moving and then having the tentacles attach using PVC pipe that would then push into the tops of them. I had to have all of the tentacles removable for ease of delivery.



The volcano was fairly easy to do however, it needed to look more like a cartoon or toy since there is a scene of Nemo who ends up in a fish tank that has this large toy volcano in it. The volcano needed the lava to be bold since it was going to be viewed from a stage so I did not add any small lava streams but stuck with large lava flows that would show up under black light. This again was on a wood base with wheels for going on and off the stage.

I really love how all of these pieces turned out, the glow paint makes these pieces POP and the sea anemones do seem to have a life to them! Great project to be involved with and now I am off to get back to work, like the old saying goes, no rest for the wicked!



## FROM OUR DEPARTMENTS (Summer)



### <<<SECURITY>>>

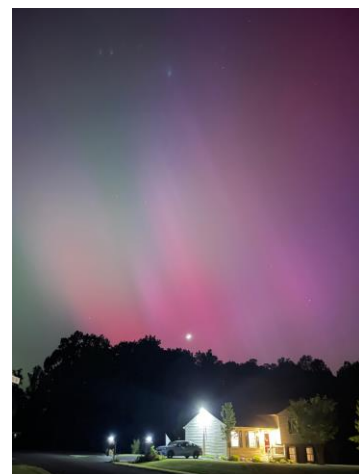
#### SECURITY REPORT: JUNE 2024

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

I'm happy to report that we had some great games of phaser sim on May 25<sup>th</sup>. 6 people were on the fields and Jonathan is bringing a full report NEXT on how the day's play went. I had a good day and that's all I will say about that. It was good to have Jonathan's friend Jeremy back with us.

We all enjoyed our guest speaker at the regular meeting. She gave us some excellent information on the sun and how it relates to much of what happens on Earth including the aurora borealis. Very pertinent as many of us were able to witness the Northern Lights so far south this month. Fortunately, we received no reports in Security of the sky falling as the lights were dazzling in some locations. At our house we witnessed pink lights that moved slowly across the sky.

Security fully supports the story writing for the newsletter that many members have been taking part in. While I have had little input into them so far, I stand ready to assist should I be needed. It is good that we have such talented writers in the crew. Security out.....



#### PHASER SIM MAY 25

**By Jonathan Hatter, Assistant Security Chief**

On Saturday May 25, 2024 Heimdal crew members and a guest gathered at Mountaintop Christian Adventures to hone their phaser skills in simulated battle. Participating in today's exercise would be the Security Chief, Admiral Carl Davis, Security crew members Joe Arnold and myself, Second Officer Willy Smith and Commander Bonnie Davis. Also joining that day was my friend Jeremy Greenman. Jeremy joined team Sciences so we could have three crew members each.

It was a beautiful afternoon in the woods as we prepared our equipment and donned our safety gear.

We began our first game in the Alpha Quadrant by taking each side and waiting for the whistle to signal the beginning of the battle. This engagement went swiftly with me taking cover behind a large tree and getting a shot in on Jeremy who was hiding behind a pile of brush. Willy made a dash for cover but got caught in the phaser fire.







Game two had the teams switch sides and Jeremy dug in tight behind a log making it very difficult to find him. This allowed him to take out the Security Chief who never knew where the blast came from. Joe and I carefully surveyed the area and crept forward until I saw the top of Jeremy's head move. Joe continued to lay down suppressing fire while I was able to get a shot in and take Jeremy out.

For Game 3 we moved to the Beta Quadrant which sports additional cover behind large metal drums. This field also slopes downhill which is where Jeremy and Bonnie went low in an attempt to flank team Security. I slowly creep forward but Jeremy had an excellent firing position and hit me, removing me from the simulation. Above me phaser fire continued with Willy and Bonnie being taken out while Jeremy made a mad dash across the hill to attempt a maneuver on the remaining Security team members, Joe and Carl. It was a valiant effort but, in the end, he was eliminated.

During phaser simulation if you are hit you become known as a "Dead Man." This means that you are not allowed to share tactical information with other members of your team. This is represented by the phrase ***"Dead men don't talk."*** Believing Carl had been hit and was still sharing information, Bonnie reminded him of this rule to which he replied ***"I'm not dead!"*** We all shared a laugh over this exchange.

We switched sides again and took aim. I went to the low side of the field and attempted to make my way through a thicket of pine trees to get a bearing on Jeremy, who, to my surprise, was already in position and took me out with two well-placed shots. I was now reduced to a spectator on the field. I took a position on the low side and listened to the crackling of the phasers above me as I waited for the final whistle of the game. Suddenly I saw Jeremy sneaking up the



hill to my right, he had gotten down and was Army crawling in an attempt to avoid detection. He made steady progress and was able to locate a suitable firing posture, taking position between a log and a large tree. He began laying down fire on Carl. I watched spots of phaser fire crack all around him when he suddenly called ***"I'm Out!"***

It was a beautiful day to be out in the woods firing phasers and having fun with other crew members and friends. We look forward to the next exercise and hope more of you will be able to join us.

<<<SCIENCE>>>



## NASA'S STARLINER

By Admiral Willy Smith – Chief Science Officer, SFDPP Certified

Several days ago on June 1, in less than 24 hours, NASA astronauts Butch Wilmore and Suni Williams were to be the first to launch aboard Boeing's Starliner spacecraft to the International Space Station as part of the agency's Commercial Crew Program. Unfortunately, due to a computer glitch – the computer STOPPED the launch ... the flight was postponed until the following day and then postponed indefinitely.

NASA, Boeing, and ULA (United Launch Alliance) were ready for the Saturday, June 1, launch of the agency's Boeing Crew Flight Test. The partners made the announcement during a prelaunch media briefing held earlier from NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Florida.

We've been waiting for this 2<sup>nd</sup> way to travel to the ISS and I remember the SHUTTLES when they first appeared. It seemed like





forever before it was to be headed to the ISS, actually *building* a great deal of it bit by bit. Hopefully everything would go as planned and everyone would arrive safe and sound (you can tell I'm writing this ahead of time) BUT the computer put a disappointing end to everyone's hopes on June 1.

Maybe there will be more when the STARFLNER has got some "miles" on her but right now, no one knows when that will be. I hope, when it DOES happen, we can watch the takeoff and everything goes as planned on the next attempt.



## ENGINEERING UPDATE

**FCAPT Darrell Millner, Chief Engineering Officer**  
**R1 RDC ENG., Starfleet SFDPP Certified, SFA RED Squad**  
**Monthly ENG/OPS Report - SD: 202405.31**

The Short and Sweet of it all - The latest issue of The Engineering Link should be posted by now, and an exceptional issue it is.... <https://trek.millnernet.com/home/eng-link/> the Engineering Crew gives its all and they make it so simple for this department chief. Guess more donuts in the break room this week.

June looks to be a stellar month, our team is already waiting for SFA postings, awards and more. The support of the Interdepartmental Role Play – which, by the way, meets the second Thursday of each month at 7 pm via zoom - is really picking up steam. Did you see the promo video by our own CMDR

Walker? <https://www.ussheimdal.com/roleplay> it gives me chills and that's just the surface.

Until next time.... Millner Out



<<<ENGINEERING>>>



## MEDICAL MINUTE; JUNE 2024

**Commodore Tammy White, Chief Medical Officer**

A few weeks ago, I saw a video about a man who was paralyzed from the neck down. His name is Noland

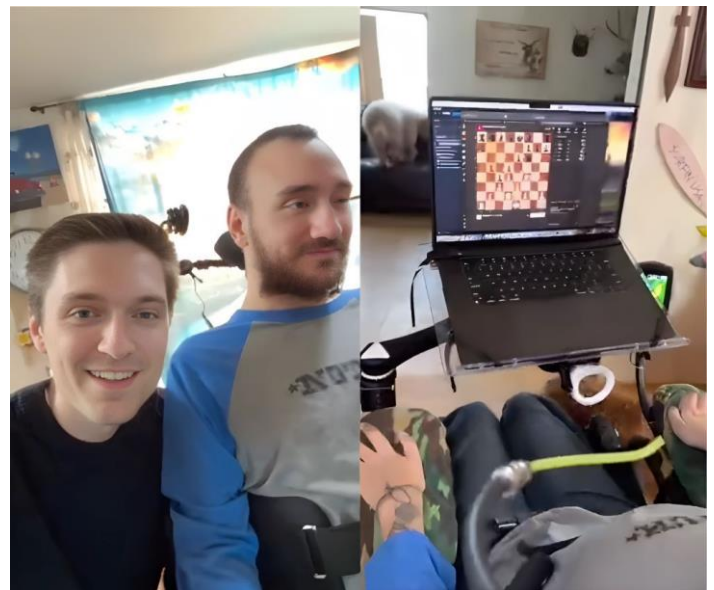
Arbaugh and what he did is amazing. He played a game of chess on a computer using his mind.

He had the implant, Neuralink N1, installed in January. This implant allows him to move a computer cursor and play video games with his mind. What this did for him was much more than play games on his computer. After 8 long years this small device helped him regain some of his independence and reconnect socially. He states before Neuralink he stayed in his bed most days. Now he is learning new languages and other things.

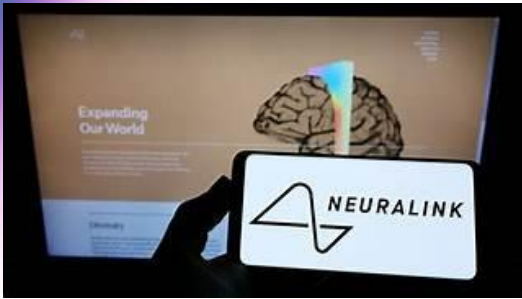
After the implant was placed and turned on, Noland says his first instinct was to play around with it. During the body mapping phase there was a visualization of a hand moving on a screen and different actions he was asked to perform. Things like push your hand forward, pull your hand back. He was told those actions would be how he would control the cursor with just his thoughts.

***"Even though I can't move my finger, I can still try to move it, and it feels like it should be moving. The signal is still happening in my brain."***

He goes on to state that he's constantly multitasking when he's in sessions or playing around. He can put on an audiobook or throw something on his TV and then play a game at the same time. It takes very little brain power. What he thinks the whole time is just where I want the cursor to go. Right now, he's using a Macbook but they're planning on moving it to other devices. He says it will move to a phone soon and continue to go from there.



<<<MEDICAL>>>



There were some setbacks after about 100 days. Some of the threads came out. Noland said he knew right away that something was wrong. About 2 weeks later he was playing and things just got better. They had to make one little tweak on the software and things kept getting better and better. He says the threads have stabilized, and some that were pulled out of his brain found their way back in and he's not worried about that happening now.

When asked what he would like to do with the implant that he can't do now he said, *"I think it would be so freakin' cool if I had a [Tesla]*

*Optimus robot that I could control with it that would do basically everything for me and be a caretaker. It would eliminate probably 90 percent of the things that I need other people for. On top of that, it could connect to other things. On top of that, it could connect to other things. I could connect to a car—a Tesla would be pretty cool, because they're already self-driving. I would just need to find some way to get into it and set an address. Right now, it's a mission to get me anywhere. There are so many people, so many moving parts that are involved. If I could do all that on my own, man, it would change everything."*

I'm not convinced that a person paralyzed from the neck down should be driving but hey, who knows what the future holds.

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



Communications

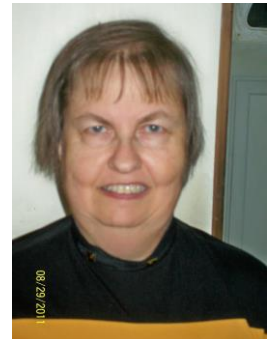
#### JUNE COMMUNICATIONS REPORT

##### PEACH ON EARTH

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

Peace on earth. No, this is not an article about Christmas, but about the state of our world. Israel vs Hamas, Russia vs Ukraine, the chaos right here at home. Every time you turn on the news, someone's gone on a shooting spree.

You know why Star Trek has been so popular? This may sound trite, but it makes us long for the Star Trek Universe, where war and conflict don't exist on earth. We have grown beyond the desire for property and wealth, and are devoted to the peaceful exploration of other worlds. All races work together to achieve this goal - black and white, Klingon(at least in the later series) and Andorian. It's a lofty goal. Do you think we can make it?



### HEIMDAL'S PET FLEET

#### HEIMDAL PETFLEET PICTURE OF THE MONTH

Provided by Annette Overstreet







## STAR TREK STUFF

### HOLLY HUNTER TO LEAD 'STAR TREK: STARFLEET ACADEMY' SERIES

Hunter will be Chancellor

From TrekMovie.com

From Glenda Blanks, Star Trek Editor



**Paramount+** just announced Holly Hunter will star in the upcoming YA-focused **Starfleet Academy** series, playing the “captain and chancellor of Starfleet Academy.”

Hunter’s Hollywood career spans decades, starting in the 1980s, including a breakout role in **Raising Arizona** and her first Oscar nomination for **Broadcast News**. She went on to pick up three more Academy Award nominations, and won in 1994 for her leading role in the film **The Piano**. She is also known for voicing Helen Parr (Elastigirl) in the two Incredibles Pixar movies. Hunter’s television resume is also extensive, including multiple Emmy nominations and two wins. She starred

in the TNT series **Saving Grace** which ran for 3 seasons from 2007-2010 and most recently was part of the cast of the NBC sitcom **Mr. Mayor** which ran for two seasons between 2021 and 2022.

*“It feels like we’ve spent our entire lives watching Holly Hunter be a stone-cold genius,”* said Starfleet Academy co-showrunners Alex Kurtzman and Noga Landau in a statement. *“To have her extraordinary authenticity, fearlessness, sense of humor, and across the board brilliance leading the charge on Starfleet Academy is a gift to all of us, and to the enduring legacy of Star Trek.”*

The new series is set at the famed Starfleet Academy in San Francisco in the 32nd century, the same timeframe established in **Star Trek: Discovery**. It is set to go into production in late summer at Pinewood Studios in Toronto. Alex Kurtzman and Noga Landau serve as co-showrunners and executive produce the series alongside executive producers Gaia Viola, Aaron Baiers, Olatunde Onsunsamni, Jenny Lumet, Rod Roddenberry, Trevor Roth, Frank Siracusa and John Weber. The series premiere episode is written by Gaia Viola. As we’ve previously reported, Lower Decks star Tawny Newsome is one of the show’s writers.

Hunter is the first officially confirmed member of the **Starfleet Academy** cast. While Discovery’s Mary Wiseman has sidestepped questions regarding the show, fans expect she will also be part of the cast. Her Sylvia Tilly was established to be a teacher at Starfleet Academy in season 4 and continues to be one in the current fifth and final season, although she is “on loan” to the ship at the moment.

### THE STORY BEHIND DEFOREST KELLEY’S PINKIE RING

Questions are occasionally raised about the ring that McCoy wore on his left pinky finger. **DeForest Kelley** was very serious about that ring. **Gene Roddenberry** was also very serious about the actors wearing no jewelry on the show. (Note: Maybe this only applied to the male actors.) When faced with this “order” from the creator and producer, Kelley responded with his own ultimatum – no ring equals no DeForest Kelley on the show. Obviously, we know who relented.

The ring belonged to Kelley’s mother, Clara, who passed away in 1956. The ring was her one possession that Kelley wanted and he reportedly wore the ring in memory of his mother until his own death in 1999.

The ring already had an interesting history before DeForest inherited it. Clara’s brother had supposedly won it in a card game while in France. A diamond that was originally set in the ring was lost while Kelley’s mother was feeding the family’s chickens and reportedly was later found inside one of those chickens when she was preparing it for a meal.





## INTERDEPARTMENTAL ROLE PLAY

### ACT II of *The Bound Dog Shall be Loosed* Part 19 “Exit, Stage Left” By Darrell Millner

#### Aboard the ISS Garmr

Third Class Maintenance Worker Millner stared blankly at his reflection in the water on the floor by his mop. There was a flicker of memory – even a smile as he remembered. *Heimdal/Constitution Refit. \* SD:48419.42. That amazing Engineering Room!*

Suddenly thoughts and feelings rushed over him. He grasped the broom handle to steady himself. Time stood still as he was confronted with wave after wave. **“Yes, we did the right thing.”** He spoke out loud to no one to assure himself. He stared at the puddle on the floor taking a slow breath when the rest came rushing into his memory. *Blown out into space. Rescued by Stawpah inside the shields of his escape pod. Yes. That’s what happened.*

Millner pressed his eyes tightly shut and remembered what he could. He had been seriously wounded and had been left seriously damaged after the impact with the nacelle. The fact he and his friend, Stawpah both survived had truly been a miracle. *Well, “survived” being a relative term in his case.*

Millner concentrated to recover more bits of memory. He remembered Stawpah protecting him during the triage which had all but given up on him. There were so many wounded. *Yes. They wanted to medicate me and let me die peacefully’ ...*

Millner squeezed the mop and twisted his hands not noticing the blood running from his fingers. Catching his breath, he realized where his thoughts had taken him. He grinned, wiped his hands, then knocked the side of his head fiercely. The cyber implant plate on the right side of his head beeped. The implant kept him alive but at a very diminished capacity compared to his former self. He slapped his head again. *No...Stawpah, Millner thought. Stawpah protected me. Helped me regain purpose.”*

Millner looked up, realized the time, and went back to mopping the floor in the mess hall. *Quiet this time of night, Millner thought. No one picks on me, no one hurts me. “But this is no life for me,”* he said out loud. Then he giggled, **“Stop it Darrell Wayne, it could be worse, you could be in a rolling agony booth with blinking lights and not be able to brush your teeth”** This always made him smile. Something about that phrase always made him smile, but why...

Stawpah’s quarters, not much larger than a closet, were intended to be his office space and his living space. He was cramped and longed to be back in his ample quarters on his ship, in his time.

When Stawpah first brought them to this reality after the event...after the accident..., he knew they could not stay. This was not their universe. He had helped Millner as much as he could. Time was running out. He completed the final detailed entries on his PADD, then initiated the program that disguised it as a book.

He placed a memory chip and a pouch on his personal transport device and mumbled to himself. **“Chief, I hope this helps you at some point, we MAY meet again.”** The hum as the items dematerialized was overshadowed by the sensor alarm that immediately went off. *Frak. Faster than I thought.* He grabbed his and Millner’s packs, his PADD, and the toothbrush off the counter, then bolted down the corridor. *Two tasks to go!*

Millner casually continued to clean the blood from his hands. He realized that Stawpah had been talking to him and seemed out of breath. **“Chief, it’s time for us to go.”** Millner looked confused. He heard the words but couldn’t quite grasp the meaning. Stawpah turned Millner to face him. **“Chief, everything is fine, but our presence here only complicates things. I beamed the item you gave me to this timeline’s prime universe Chief Millner. Hopefully someday he will understand. But right now, I am concerned OUR Security Chief may be on to us.”**

**“Stawpah? They gonna be ok?”** Millner said with concern and remorse showing on his face as he thought of the Heimdal and her crew.

Stawpah smiled at his friend, **“We’ve done all we can”**

Stawpah reached over, grabbed his friend’s shoulder, and spoke softly. **“Hold on Chief.”** The two men grinned as they were engulfed with a light and sound, blue and like a transporter, but not.... And as they disappeared there was the faint sound of Stawpah’s voice. **“Maybe this time”...**

*To be continued...*

(\*Reference the previous role play arc, The Mazur/El-Aurian Saga beginning in the July issue of The Rainbow Connection)







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

I hope you've enjoyed this issue of our newsletter. And THANK YOU to EVERYONE that contributed to it. It's pretty spectacular because it is the PERSONALITY of the Heimdal and it takes a STARSHIP (not a village) to make it what it is. We ROCK, you know ... LOL

We'll see you at the June meeting. You know how amazing our guest speaker is.

*Linda, Willy and our staff of THOUSANDS.*

Disclaimer: No part of this newsletter is intended as an infringement on the Star Trek copyright held by Paramount, CBS, Disney or any other company or entity. This is just us doing good and having fun.

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*Thanks!*

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

## HEIMDAL LOWER DECKS

BY BUD WALKER

