



# FLEET CHANNELS

JULY - AUGUST '07 A VOLUME 16, NO. 4

## DARTS, POOL & STEAK

The Region Invades Harker-Heights Moose Lodge!



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THE NEWSLETTER FOR REGION THREE

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Shakedown Status Reports ..... smsr@region3.org

Promotions Requests ..... promotions@region3.org

*Fleet Channels* ..... fleetchannels@region3.org

**REGIONAL MAILING LISTS**

There are currently two mailing lists: R3list@region3.org, the general information list for Region Three and shoclist@region3.org, for all prospective and current vessels taking part in STARFLEET's Shakedown Operations. To subscribe, send e-mail to majordomo@region3.org with "subscribe <maillist>" in the body of the message (where <maillist> is the list to be joined). More information can be found at the Region Three Web Page (<http://www.region3.org>).

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Submissions are respectfully requested in the form of an ASCII Text file or Works for Windows v4.0 that can be sent via the INTERNET to FleetChannels@region3.org. If you cannot upload a file then send it to me at the above address on a returnable 3.5" floppy disk compatible with IBM or carefully typed on white paper with at least one and one-half spaces between the lines in a sans-serif font (i.e.: Arial). If you cannot type then carefully hand print -- incursive will not be accepted under any circumstances! Reports and/or submissions need to be 500 words or less.

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## Through the Eyes of a Redneck

by: ADM Brad Pense,  
Regional Coordinator  
RegionalCoordinator@region3.org



Howdy,

Over the weekend of July 21st we saw the return of the ever popular Pool and Darts event in Killeen at the Harker Heights Moose Lodge. While I did not get to make it this time, I understand that we had a very good turn out and that fun was had by all who did get to go. If you missed it this year then you need to make plans to attend next year like I will be doing.

Then, over the weekend of August 3rd to 5th members from Region Three attended the STARFLEET International Conference in Denver, CO where it was also announced that Region One had won the bid to host the 2009 STARFLEET International Conference. IC 2009 will be held in Greensboro, NC August 7th - 10th, 2009. More info is available at their web site: [www.ic2009.org](http://www.ic2009.org). BUT, before IC '09 comes IC '08 will be held in Ithaca, New York the weekend of June 27th-29th, 2008. Be sure to go and check out the new IC '07 web site ([www.ic2008.org](http://www.ic2008.org)) where you can find on-line registration along with lots of IC information.

Our next event this year is the Biennial Region Three trip to the Space Center in Houston, TX. that is set to take place on Saturday, September 15th. And we wrap up the year with the very successful annual Region Three Game Day V to be held in Round Rock, TX. during November. Events being held during the weekend will include open gaming, the third Brigade Fall Muster and much more. More information is available at [www.ussarkangel.com/pages/AEvents/](http://www.ussarkangel.com/pages/AEvents/)

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## SOUTHERN SPACEDOCK

Senior Vice-Regional Coordinator  
Vice-Regional Coordinator, South  
by: ADM Michelle Fanelli  
[vrccs@region3.org](mailto:vrccs@region3.org)



Howdy, Howdy,

We had a fun time in Killeen for the successful return of Pool and Darts. We had many chapters there with all enjoying the weekend. The steaks were as tasty as in the past and we thank the Moose for the warm hospitality. I personally liked the *Harry Potter* chat with no spoilers. The *Rhyanna* is still celebrating their victory at darts.

The south is gearing up for fall activities. The USS *Ark Angel* is planning another charity lazer tag event and working on Game Day. A potluck anniversary party was held by the *Bexar*. The members of the *Firebird* supported Apollo Con and are ready planning for 2008.

The Transformers Recruiting Drive by the *Joan of Arc* was reported as electrifying with lightening killing the power. But they did grab a few new members. The *Renaissance* celebrated the 38th anniversary of the first moon landing with cake and refreshments.

The *Thunderwolf* did their part in the community with cooking meals at Ronald McDonald House and helping out with the area's flooding. Collecting school supplies for the coming school year was done by *Victory* members.

The Denver IC was a great away trip for regional members. We had members from the *Aurora Vulcanus*, the *Gun-slinger*, the *Lone Star*, the *Spiritwolf*, and the *Victory*. The first time I have seen Tim Russ and he was very entertaining. I hope to return to the city, it contains too

*continued on next page*

## FROM THE WESTERN FRONTIER!

Vice-Regional Coordinator, West  
by: VADM Sam Black  
[VRC-West@region3.org](mailto:VRC-West@region3.org)



Howdy, all. I've just returned from this year's IC in Denver. There were lots of fun events at this year's annual gathering of STARFLEET members, including a great evening of fun and

food at the SFMC's Mess Night, and the rumors are true - they really do make us 'Fleeties feel right at home as part of the fun and festivities. I had so much fun; I hope I'm able to make it to their next Mess Night in Ithaca at next year's IC.

On the way home, we took a minor side trip and drove all the way to the top of Pike's Peak. Let me just say that there are some incredible sights to see along the way. I just hope that I get to go back one day when there aren't any lightning storms at the summit which had the park rangers preventing me from taking pictures from their observation deck.

We've got some great growth going in the region. I'd like to officially welcome our new Louisiana chapters into the fold. Maybe this means the longtime rumors of a New Orleans' summit may come true in the not too distant future. Hmmm???? The region's in a great period of growth at the moment and we have lots of opportunities presenting themselves over the next year. We need to be ready to fully take advantage of these as they come across our radar screens.

Next year's retreat and summit are coming together and I know things are going to be where lots of the membership will have the opportunity to be able to budget summit into their family vacations. Keep your ears open as more details begin to pour through the region's news channels.

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*Chiefly Yours...*

Chief-of-Staff Report  
by: VADM Raymond Ford  
cos@region3.org



Just a few updates:

A date and location for Retreat 2008 has now been locked in. It will take place on January 18 - 20 at the

Howard Johnson's in Killeen. Members of the Region Three staff and USS *Ark Angel* took the opportunity to visit the place during Pool and Darts. The hotel staff was more than happy to oblige us with a tour of the facilities. Everything looked up to meeting our needs.

In addition to the usual combination of meetings and other fare, Retreat 2008 will feature the first change of command and retirement celebration for a Regional Coordinator in Region Three for over a decade. Personally, I look forward to welcoming our new leader and helping to throw the old bum out (Just kidding — Maybe).

The Killeen Howard Johnson's will also serve as the location for Summit 2008. The working date is July 18 - 20 as of this writing and, assuming no conflicts, should be confirmed by the time this issue of *Fleet Channels* reaches you.

We have already received some excellent ideas and good advice on how Retreat and Summit can be improved. Expect some changes to meet your needs. And please keep your opinions coming in! We can't fix it if we don't know it's broken.

Vice Admiral Raymond Ford  
Region Three Chief of Staff

*RC Report -- continued from previous page*

R3GD.aspx

And do not forget that next year's summit which will be held at the Howard Johnson in Killeen, TX on July 18th - 20th, 2008. Additional information on next year's Summit will be posted on the R3 List and R3 Web site as it becomes available.

In service to the Fleet,

Adm. Brad Pense,  
Commander, Third Fleet

*VRC-S Report -- continued from previous page*

much to see in a weekend.

We have had a few command changes with our groups. Alex Trevino Executive Officer of the *Bexar* decided to step down so Jesse Gutierrez has moved in the position. The *Renaissance* new command team is Robert Suttles and Del Davis. Beau Thacker moves to the newly launched *Azrael*. David Bailey is their XO. Trisha Tunis and Danyele Tutt lead our other new group the *Corsair*. Congratulations to all and it is so nice to see two new groups in Louisiana.

I hope everyone is drying out after the floods in Texas. I will be glad when the weather settles down.

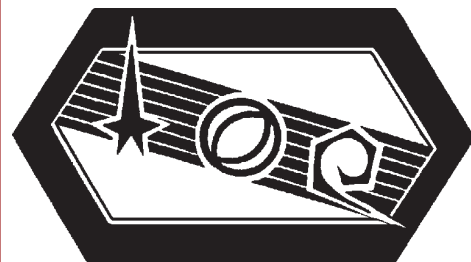
We are moving into the final phases of two elections. I hope that everyone takes the time to listen to all the teams running for Starfleet and cast their vote. It is your organization and your decision who will be the best suited to lead. As a region, we will be deciding our next RC. I hope whoever gets the position that all will support and work with them. It is everyone's responsibility to help the region continue to develop that bright future we know it has.

Our next fall events are Space Center Houston and Game Day. Both promise

to be fun and I hope if you get the chance, Attend. I hope to see many of you in Space Houston.

And may the good news be yours.

Admiral Michelle Fanelli,  
Vice-Regional Coordinator, South

*VRC-W Report -- continued from previous page*

While I'll probably not get to go on the Space Center Houston excursion due to the start-of-school ramp up I go through as a teacher, I'm already looking forward to making it down to Game Day hosted by the USS *Ark Angel*. There's nothing like a great weekend that is surrounded by nothing but good food, good fun, and great friends. And, I'll need that little break in the action by the time November rolls around.

In closing, I'd like to say that, during this transition period towards a new era in Region Three, while change can be a scary thing, change is good for any type of growth. And, remember, growth, in itself, is change. Whomever comes out on the other side of the RC election, we'll all work together to make this the best region in all of STAFLEET. And, speaking of elections, don't forget to read the STAFLEET CS Election materials once they hit everyone's mailboxes and make an informed and honest decision for the best of STAFLEET's future.

Vice-Admiral Sam Black,  
Vice-Regional Coordinator, West



USS Aurora Vulcanus, NCC-1888  
Fleetwide Correspondence Vessel  
CO -- ADM Michelle Fanelli  
auroravulcanus@region3.org  
XO -- CAPT Catt Fanelli  
Commissioning Date: July 4, 1983  
Motto: *"Creatively Sailing in  
Exploration of the Imagination"*

The *Old AV* has been traveling this summer, seeing the sites.

Shell and The Catt attended Pool and Darts in Killeen, Texas. They had a wonderful time talking *Harry Potter* and eating tasty steaks. They also took a side trip to Bryan's Messina Hof winery.

Our away teams also made Denver's IC '07. Along with Shell and Jeanette Fanelli (last minute replacement for David), were David Dlugach and David Paulson. So we had the two out of three David's for the event. Joyce Fink was in the area for her niece's wedding and was a welcome surprise. The event was a bit of work and play. Shell helped host a recruiting panel. All report having a blast. Tim Russ was very entertaining and friendly. Side trips included Pike's Peak, the Capital, and the US Mint. All hope to return for more exploring.

Our crew is gearing up for next issue of the AG. Our saving our past newsletter project has started. We found two years worth already in PDF format. Work continues on the paper pile and ways to recruit new members. We also are busy clipping coupons.

The Chapter starts her twenty-fourth year in fleet with twins. We are thrilled to support the new groups of Louisiana - the *Azrael* and the *Corsair*.

We are planning to host Region Three

*continued on next page*



USS Joan of Arc, NCC-73289  
Sector 6 -- Corpus Christi, TX.  
CO -- FCPT Robin Van Cleave  
joanofarc@region3.org  
XO -- LCDR Tahnya Abbott  
Commissioning Date: January 6, 1994  
Motto: *"Legends Endure"*

I am back tracking just a bit to keep the region up-to-date on an event that happened at the end of June. The club decided to book passage on the boat *Texas Treasure* for an all day cruise where you can gamble, play slot machines, etc. after crossing the state territorial limits out in the bay. I wasn't aware HOW MUCH a tiny wave could impact the boat. I actually needed assistance to walk from one area to another because the tilt of the decks. NEVER MIND looking out the port holes!! There was a good 6-8 foot drop with each wave the *Treasure* crested. There were seven of us who braved the trip but none of us came away in the plus column. For me ONE trip was plenty. Another thing I didn't enjoy, cameras were considered off limits therefore I couldn't take any photos. Better times happened in July.

For the month of July only, the club flipped our meeting schedule, having the uniform event first. We set up a recruiting table in the lobby of the Starplex Theatre during the July 4th weekend. There were a variety of thing for the public to do: watch video, look at a scrapbook, chat with members etc. Shortly after 2:30 p.m., the front began to blow in from the west. Rain fell sideways blown by a truly strong wind. It was around that time when the lights began to blink throughout the entire complex.... This continued for close to 20-30 minutes then the doors shook & a resounding BOOM happened. The lights went out but this time DID NOT return!

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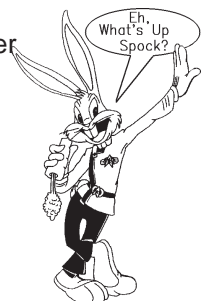
USS Regulator, NCC-73337  
Sector 1 -- Fort Worth, TX.  
CO -- BDR Mark West  
regulators@region3.org  
XO -- MCPT Kyle Schugart  
Commissioning Date: October 1, 1992  
Motto: *"Defending the Final Frontier"*

Well, this summer has been one for the books. First it doesn't look like it will stop raining (all though we have enjoyed the cooler weather) and then we have unexpected company at Summit. Well, life does stay interesting. For those of you who might have been wondering, the XO is better but we're still not sure how he caught what he had. But he is back on his feet and doing well. The CO continues to have some issues with his health but so far nothing serious. It seems we go from one illness to another. The sick bay is thinking of putting in a revolving door.

Because of illness and other issues, it has been decided that Quark's Casino takes a vacation this year. I know you were all looking forward to it -- but we just haven't been able to get out and get the things done to prepare for it properly. And since we won't do a slip-shod job on this, we decided to recuperate from our various illnesses and attack it next year.

We are all hoping to make either the Houston event in September or at least the Marine Mustering in November. Keeping the northern borders secure.

FCPT Liz Goulet,  
Communications Officer  
USS *Regulator*







USS Rhyanna, NCC-1892

Sector 5 -- Austin, TX.

CO -- RADM Heather Ford

rhyanna@region3.org

XO -- FCPT Kathy Hench

Commissioning Date:

September 24, 1991

Motto: "If we don't know it or we don't have it, we'll learn it or find it!"

It's been a long and wet summer. Not much has happened to us after we attended Summit -- except for the fact we have a new Commanding Officer!!!!

Yep, after 10+ years, Stephanie Izard has decided to step down. We held ship elections (the *Rhyanna* version, that is) and we are very pleased to announce that our new CO is (drum roll, please) Heather Ford!!!

She is really excited about the chance to helm a crew of all women and one Token and we are lucky she decided to chance it. Meanwhile, Stephanie will be commanding a new shuttle starting in Marble Falls (her actual home town). We will have Steph for a little while longer while all the paperwork goes through.

It has been so long since our CO changed, we had to dust off the procedure manual on how to handle it. We decided what we really needed to do was have a really big party. What, we should treat this different from anything else? Our 16th anniversary is coming this September and we will have a big get-together on the 8th. We are actually sending out invitations to some of the Region 3 notables but if you aren't on that particular short list and would like to come, get in touch with us and we will send you directions.

The weekend after that we are planning to descend on Houston for the NASA get-

together. We will be staying at the Best Western and will have the usual pool party with pizza on Saturday. If you plan to join us, see me during the day so money can change hands and taste preferences can be noted.

We are also planning a Halloween party on October 27, with the *Ark Angel* joining us for some fun and games. We are thinking of making it "costume mandatory" to put some fun back into the celebration.

I certainly hope to see a lot of the Region at Houston on the 15th of September. The more that show up the more fun we always have.

Until then,

Gigi Jacobson  
USS *Rhyanna*

**AV Report -- continued from previous page**

members for September's Space Center Houston. Collecting items for the space goodie bag and kids packets.

Until Next Time,  
CPT Jared K. Fielder

**JofA Report -- continued from previous page**

The 10 room complex was plunged into total darkness. Our table (laptops & blinking star balls) & the light from outside were the ONLY illumination available. As people started pouring out into the lobby, the 3 men at the table at the time had to link elbows in front of our table to prevent it from being shoved against the wall!

After we closed the table down, we learned that a transformer had been hit next to the complex. Naturally it eliminated all electricity to the building as well as the restaurants near by. The funny thing was that this was the opening weekend for "Transformers"!!!! It was the "most electrifying table" I think we have ever had. The most amazing thing here is that

the Club may have gotten 4 new members from it. WOW!

July has as many birthdays as May but we celebrated them at the business meeting with a card & small gift for each person.

This is only a partial report for August since the Uniform event will happen after the due date for *Fleet Channels*. We did have a business meeting the first Saturday to plan the rest of the month. There was a member's only trip to the planetarium on the campus of Texas A&M-Kingsville. Our XO's father is the department head in physics where he challenged us to scientifically define the characteristics of life. It's MUCH easier to say than to pen down any one thing being the qualifying characteristic. About 6 of our members made the trip down & back ending with further discussion over dinner at Robin & Jim's home.

There will be more information on the recruiting table at the Gaming event the last weekend of August in the next issue.

Fleet Captain Kris Dobie, RVA  
USS *Joan of Arc*.

**STARFLEET  
WANTS  
YOU!**



REGION THREE'S ANNUAL POOL AND DART'S  
PARRISES SQUARES TOURNAMENT  
IN HARKER HEIGHTS, TX.

by: VADM Mark A. Vinson

On Saturday, July 21st Region Three held its newly restored Annual Pool and Dart's Sector vs. Sector Parrises Squares Tournament in Harker Heights, TX. As in years past this event was most looked forward to and was enjoyed by all. After a few years off we again invaded the Kileen/Harker Heights Moose Lodge, sponsored by Richard Getz, where enjoyed the cash bar, fellowshiped, played games, had a marathon *Harry Potter* CD session and devoured steak dinners. Oh, and we threw darts and shot pool.

While we tried to shake off the cobwebs on how to run a tournament people enjoyed each other as well as the many games that were brought along with the many computers. Thanks to Kathy Hench and Reed Bates for running things. The team from the *Rhyanna*, once again, won the darts Tournament and the team composed of John Halliday, Reed and Lloyd Bates and Rick South won the pool tournament.

Since the 3rd Saturday of each month is the Lodge's Steak dinner night we enjoyed meals that included steak, baked potato, salad and dessert for just \$8.00!

It is a fund raiser for the lodge and we appreciated it.

All in all I can state that we made some more memories!



photos by  
Reed Bates &  
Jess Naumann



## Region Three Twelfth visit to Space Center Houston

by: ADM Michelle Fanelli



Need an activity for your group in September?

Enjoy learning about space program?

Are you a Space Junkie?

Want to get out of town for the weekend?

If you said yes to any

or all of these, then we have the event for you.

Mark your calendar to join Region Three for our twelfth visit to Space Center Houston Saturday, September 15. Discover the latest in space exploration with such offerings as Rocket Park, IMAX Theater, Kid's Space Place, and the tram tour of the Johnson Space Center facilities.

The regional Top Gun Tournament - landing the space shuttle will happen during the day. Bragging rights, certifications, and shuttle mission decals are awarded to the best team, best individual, and the infamous "Swamp Rat". The ever popular, much sought after, Space Goodie Bag is back. We raise a few bucks for region while you get some neat NASA items. We will provide packets for the kids in attendance.

As usual we will have discount coupons for all when we gather at the Center at 9:45 am. Currently prices are Adults \$18.95, Children (4-11) \$14.95 and Parking \$5.00. If you want to join in on the group discount count for Space Center Houston contact Reed Bates at reed\_ranger@yahoo.com before Aug. 30th.

We will have dinner at the end of the day at the *Rhyanna's* pool side pizza party at their hotel.

For more information, to let us know you are coming, and how much pizza to order, contact Shell at mrbasil@flash.net.

Jeff Webb is getting the plans together for the Battleship *Texas* visit. Thanks Jeff for giving us another avenue of adventure for the weekend.

Check out [www.spacecenter.org](http://www.spacecenter.org) for features and directions. Hotels and area details can be found at [www.nasaclearlaketexas.com](http://www.nasaclearlaketexas.com).

FYI — Houston's freeways are under construction, I know when are they not? I-45 around Nasa Road One is having delays. NASA Road One is going through improvements as well so bring your patience and some extra time.

So if you have never attended before or made the last ten, come on down to Houston and enjoy experiencing Space Center Houston with Region Three - The Ultimate Space Junkies.

We hope to see y'all there on September 15th.

## TRIP TO BATTLESHIP TEXAS

by: COMM Jeffrey A. Webb



On Sunday morning, after the tour of Space Center Houston, you are invited to join us in boarding the historic Battleship *USS Texas* to present the charity funds from Summit 2006 in person.

We will meet at the San Jacinto Battlegrounds at 10:45 A.M., in preparation to board the ship at 11:00 A.M. The information on the museum and admission is available at: [www.tpwd.state.tx.us/spdest/findadest/parks/battleship\\_texas/](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/spdest/findadest/parks/battleship_texas/)

I am currently awaiting information on group rates for Battleship admission from TPWD. The map and directions to the *USS Texas* and her proximity to Space Center Houston are available on the site linked above. It's not too terribly far, and the San Jacinto Monument is also quite a site to see while we're there!

## Let's Play!

Game Day V coming in November  
by: COMM Jeffrey A. Webb



Game Day V will be held at the Round Rock Public Library at 216 E. Main Street Round Rock, TX 78664 the weekend of Saturday, 10 November 2007. Here's some of the highlights:

Friday night the 9th: Meet and greet at Interstate Lanes for bowling visiting with your Regional friends. 7 PM until Close (1AM). Interstate Lanes is located at 3101 N I H 35 Round Rock, TX 78664. RSVP for bowling will be available when registration opens. Shoe rental is \$1.50, games are \$3.50 per person.

Saturday the 10th: Come by the Library for Game Day 2007. Doors open at 9AM for gaming both open and scheduled, with events running until 5 PM. At 6, the results of any tournaments or competitions will be announced, as well as a change of command ceremony in honor of the retirement of CAPT Scott McKinlay as XO, *USS Ark Angel*. At 7PM, dinner is served, followed by the yearly charity auction.

Sunday the 11th: Join us for breakfast at 8:30 before heading out to Camp Mabry in Austin to catch a WWII Reinactment by G Company Living History Detachment at 11 AM before heading home.

Anyone wishing to run a game during the event, please email Master Chief Clint Hill at [hill\\_dragon@hotmail.com](mailto:hill_dragon@hotmail.com) with the name of the game, time required, number of player slots, and your contact information.

Final dinner menu and registration page, including final event pricing, will be available soon. Watch the Region Three mailing list for more details.



## 2007 CS NOMINATION FINAL SUMMARY

by: STARFLEET Webmaster  
Wednesday, 18 July 2007

As of 7/15/07, this is the summary of CS nominations for all the candidates:

Franklin, Greg	1 received, 1 valid
Lizard, Sal	36 received, 35 valid*
Olson, Wade	13 received, 12 valid*
Plant, Emmett	14 received, 12 valid*
Reid, Kevin	1 received, 1 valid
Ueffing, Joost	26 received, 25 valid*

\* One or more nominating chapter(s) was not in good standing as of 7/15/07



## 2007 R3RC Nomination Final Summary

by: COMM Ray Brown, IG,  
STARFLEET

As of Saturday, August 25, 2007, I have received nominations from the following R3 Chapters:

*Ark Angel, Aurora Vulcanus, Azrael, Bexar, Corsair, El Destino, Freedom III, Gunslinger, Lone Star, Maverick, Regulator, Rhyanna, SpiritWolf, Tejas, Thunderwolf, Trinity River and Victory*

Number of Letters of Intent received: 1

As Saturday, August 25, 2007, was the last day for nominations to be accepted, I hereby declare the Nomination Phase to be CLOSED.

I will now verify all the nomination forms and letters of intent to ensure that everything is in order.

## Austin Chapter Making Fan Film!

Lt. John Halliday, USS *Ark Angel*

Every *Star Trek* fan at least thinks about making a *Star Trek* film or being in one at some point. Last December, when mom and dad purchased a Canon DC40 Mini-DVD video camera for me I suddenly morphed in Steven Spielberg, John Ford and Peter Jackson all at once. I began framing things around me to see how they would shoot and people would stare at me funny (I liked that for some reason and somehow that spurred me on). Low and behold it appeared that my crewmates had this shared dream of creating a fan film too, so they voted to proceed and thus we began our current journey toward making a fan film.

First of all, no one had to tell us how much work was involved in making a film. We had, after all, watched all of the appendices for the Lord of the Rings films. So, since this was a low-budget movie and we were going to use native locations, build only one set and throw together some simple costumes, we knew that this was going to be a little work but basically easy; we'd be done by Christmas! Uh huh.

The reality is that as we went along in pre-production and began talking about all the things that were necessary to be completed, we realized one thing: in order to make a film that would not totally humiliate us, we were going to have to put in some serious time. So far, we hadn't been able to find a place to build our shuttlecraft set (Class F by the way), we didn't have any idea where we would be able to film the outdoor scenes and we didn't have a script! Oh and having absolutely zip for a budget wasn't promoting anyone's spirits much either.

Naturally things started to happen and things looked less bleak. The draft script was completed and we had auditions, filling all but two of the speaking roles. We found a room at a member's church that we were allowed to use for our set and,

significantly, we got ourselves a couple of artists (Juan Hernandez and Charles Ingram), one of which started avidly on storyboarding the film. Our first real production meeting went quite well too and we could tell people were getting fired up. At this point we merely have to finish doing a few things like building the sets, making the costumes, rehearsing, filming and throwing the film together in an editor. Uh huh

This has been our experience so far and when we get further along I'll send an update on our progress. For those interested in following the production more closely, please go to our website: [www.ussarkangel.com/ArkAngelWeb/Film/TantalusConnection.aspx](http://www.ussarkangel.com/ArkAngelWeb/Film/TantalusConnection.aspx)

What we have learned so far is that planning is very important. Whoever produces the film needs to have many skills; the most important of these is project management. If you cannot keep track of everything, you probably will have a less-than-pleasant experience.

What is the Film About? Well our ship, the *Ark Angel*, is one of the few original series ships in Starfleet. We therefore decided to make a film set in the original series era just as some of the other fan film projects have been (see [www.starshipexeter.com](http://www.starshipexeter.com) and [www.startreknewvoyages.com](http://www.startreknewvoyages.com) for more information). The basic plot utilizes characters and scenes from the original series episodes "Dagger of the Mind" and "The Trouble with Tribbles". Essentially we receive a distress call from the penal colony and (mainly since we can't afford expensive sets aboard a starship) the captain sends a shuttlecraft to answer the call while the *Ark Angel* continues on an emergency humanitarian mission elsewhere. There we encounter a mystery and challenge to the leadership of the new Vulcan lieutenant who leads the mission. Unless they find a solution to the situation they encounter, the universe may be changed as we know it!

# DATELINE: STARFLEET

## QUINTO, NIMOY TREK CASTING CONFIRMED

by: Patrick Lee, Sci-Fi Channel News Editor  
07-27-07

J.J. Abrams, who is directing the upcoming *Star Trek* movie due out Christmas 2008, confirmed the casting of *Heroes* star Zachary Quinto as a young Spock and surprised the audience with the announcement that the 76-year-old original Spock actor Leonard Nimoy would also appear in the film. Abrams made the announcements at Comic-Con International in San Diego on July 26.

"This is a series I loved as a kid," Abrams said, acknowledging that he was "more of a 'Star Wars' kid than a *Star Trek* kid." "I certainly intend to bring my own spin"

to the iconic role, Quinto told the audience of more than 6,000. "This matters so much to so many people," he said. "I'm honored to be here and do this."

For his part, Nimoy praised both Abrams and Quinto, saying it was "logical" for him to join the project, in which he will reprise his most famous role. He signed off: "Live long and prosper."

Abrams said the movie will go into production in November. "The exciting thing for us, I think, is the ability to take this amazing world that Gene Roddenberry



**Zachary Quinto, who will play the young Spock in the new "Star Trek," shakes Leonard Nimoy's hand.**

created ... and show [it] in a way that you haven't seen. ... And it's tricky, because this matters so much to so many people ... and you can't screw it up."

Abrams added that the filmmakers are trying to find a way to include William Shatner, who played the original Capt. James T. Kirk, in the movie. "The truth is, it needs to be worthy of him," Abrams said. "So we're on that."

While the character of Captain Kirk has yet to be cast, Abrams said that William Shatner, who played the role in the original TV series, would likely also have a part in the film.

"It has to be worthy, of him and of you," Abrams told fans, adding that production is slated to begin in November.



**AP - Fri Jul 27, 1:23 AM ET** From left to right, writer Roberto Orci, actor Leonard Nimoy, producer Damon Lindelof, actor Zachary Quinto, writer J.J. Abrams, writer Alex Kurtzman, producer Brian Burk, and producer Stratton Leopold at Comic Con in San Diego, Calif. on Thursday, July 26, 2007. The group was on hand to discuss their upcoming Paramount Pictures feature film *Star Trek*. (AP Photo/Dan Steinberg)





## BLADE RUNNER 'FINAL CUT' DVD DUE

07-26-07



Warner Home Video announced that it will release a new cut of Ridley Scott's classic SF movie *Blade Runner* on DVD on Dec. 18, preceded by a brief theatrical run in Los Angeles and New York on Oct. 5. The announcement came at the beginning of Comic-Con International in San Diego, where Scott and some of the cast were scheduled to appear.

Scott did some post-production on the 1982 movie to create *Blade Runner: The Final Cut*, which has also been restored and remastered from original elements. The new version will feature never-before-seen added or extended scenes, added lines, new and improved special effects, director and filmmaker commentary, an all-new 5.1 Dolby Digital audio track and more, the studio said.

*Blade Runner: The Final Cut* will be included in three DVD editions: a two-disc special edition (with a suggested retail price of \$20.97), a four-disc collector's edition (\$34.99) and a five-disc ultimate collector's edition (\$78.92) in a collectible "Deckard Briefcase" package. Simultaneous HD DVD and Blu-ray versions of the "Deckard Briefcase" will also be released in numbered, limited quantities.

Among the bonus material highlights is *Dangerous Days*, a new, three-and-a-half-hour documentary by award-winning DVD producer Charles de Lauzirika.

## Remastered Trek Due On HD DVD

by: Tara DiLullo Bennett,  
Sci-Fi Channel

An HD DVD collection of *Star Trek: The Original Series*, remastered with new visual effects and score, will be released on Nov. 20 in a set of 10 double-sided discs, it was announced at Comic-Con International in San Diego on July 26. The discs will feature the high-def version of the show on one side and the standard DVD version on the other.

*Star Trek* fans were treated to their first glimpse of the set at a panel at Comic-Con. Remastered from the original camera master negatives from the show, the set not only updates the classic series with new bonus materials, but the episodes also feature new visual effects, CGI and a re-recorded score, as in the currently airing syndicated version of the show.

Eugene "Rod" Roddenberry Jr., son of *Trek* creator Gene Roddenberry, appeared at the panel to reassure purist fans that he has provided his official stamp of approval on the new set.

"When I first heard about remastering *Star Trek*, I kind of felt like a lot of fans out there thinking, 'Don't touch it,'" Roddenberry said. "I didn't want the '*Star Wars* [special edition] effect' to happen to it. But when I found out that Mike and Denise Okuda [*Trek* series scenic artists] and Dave Rossy [*Trek* marketing] were going to be involved and had some decision-making power, I felt much better. When I found out it wasn't about changing the scenes—it wasn't about adding content, but taking what was there and just enhancing it and ... putting in CG—I thought it was nice. But then I said, 'You have to keep the original DVDs available for the die-hards that don't want the remaster.' So I'm 100 percent behind it."

Bonus materials include a 3-D self-navigated shuttle tour of the NCC-1701, a "Starfleet Access" interface with onscreen icons that provide additional data, trivia

and exclusive new video interviews from the cast and crew about the episodes, as well as never-before-seen footage from *Trek* extra Billy Blackburn's personal Super 8 movies shot on set. The set carries a suggested retail price of \$217.99.



## Abrams Wooing Cruise for *Trek XI*?

Sci-Fi Channel 08-07-07

IGN Movies reported that J.J. Abrams, who is directing the next *Star Trek* film, would like to bring on his Mission: Impossible III star Tom Cruise for a cameo appearance as Capt. Christopher Pike, according to a "trusted source."

Pike was the first captain of the U.S.S. *Enterprise* and Spock's commanding officer prior to Capt. Kirk, which would fit with the reported flashback storyline in the upcoming film. The character was played by Jeffrey Hunter in the original 1966 *Star Trek* TV pilot, "The Cage," which was later edited into the two-part episode, "The Menagerie."

There have been previous reports of Cruise's involvement in the project, which were denied by his spokesman, Arnold Robinson, last fall. At the time, it was thought that Cruise's public falling-out with Paramount head Sumner Redstone, who controls the rights to the *Trek* franchise, would prevent him from working with the studio again in the near future. But tensions between the two have cooled off lately, and, according to IGN's source, the cameo role would be seen as a favor to Abrams and not to Paramount.

## Endeavour and Crew Home NASA.gov 08-22-07

Capping off mission STS-118, Space Shuttle *Endeavour* glided to a perfect landing at NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Florida on August 21. During almost 13 days in space, the crew members added a new segment to the superstructure of the International Space Station and delivered 5,800 pounds of equipment and supplies to the orbiting laboratory.

*Endeavour* lifted off from Launch Pad 39A on Aug. 8, 2007, following a smooth countdown. The STS-118 mission was the 22nd flight to the International Space Station and *Endeavour*'s first flight since 2002.



**Image above: The orbiter Endeavour is maneuvered into the Orbiter Processing Facility at NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Florida after its return to Earth on Aug. 21. It will undergo post-flight inspections and processing for its next mission. Image credit: NASA/Jack Pfaller**

## MOON GOES INTO HIDING

Second Lunar Eclipse of 2007  
08-28-07



The total lunar eclipse, the second this year, happened on August 28th and was visible in North and South America, especially in the West. People in the Pacific islands, eastern Asia, Australia and New Zealand were also able to view it if their skies were clear.

People in Europe, Africa or the Middle East, who had the best view of the last total lunar eclipse in March, did not see this one because the moon set when the partial eclipse began at 4:51 a.m. EDT. The full eclipse began an hour later at 5:52 a.m. EDT.

An eclipse occurs when Earth passes between the sun and the moon, blocking the sun's light. It is rare because the moon is usually either above or below the plane of Earth's orbit.

Since the Earth is bigger than the moon, the process of the Earth's shadow taking a bigger and bigger "bite" out of the moon, totally eclipsing it before the shadow recedes, lasts about 3 1/2 hours, said Doug Duncan, director of the University of Colorado's Fiske Planetarium. The total eclipse phase, in which the moon has an orange or reddish glow, lasts about 1 1/2 hours.

The full eclipse was visible across the United States, but East Coast viewers only had about a half-hour to see it before the sun began to rise and the moon

set. Skywatchers in the West got the full show.

In eastern Asia, the moon rose in various stages of eclipse.

During a full eclipse, the moon is not completely dark because some light still reaches it around the edges of the Earth. The light is refracted as it passes through our atmosphere, scattering blue light — which is why the sky is blue — but sending reddish light onto the moon.

"When someone asks why is it [the moon] red, you can say because the sky is blue," Duncan said.

The next total lunar eclipse occurs Feb. 21, 2008, and will be visible from the Americas, Europe and Asia.

## DISCOVERY TO CARRY LUKE SKYWALKER'S LIGHTSABER INTO SPACE

Associated Press 08-28-07

The *Discovery* astronauts will have a little something extra in their gear when the space shuttle blasts off in October: Luke Skywalker's original Jedi Lightsaber.



As part of the "Star Wars' 30th anniversary celebration", NASA has agreed to carry the prop weapon into orbit and jettison it in space, according to collectSPACE.com.

The lightsaber will be handed over to the space agency by Chewbacca at the Oakland Airport, not far from George Lucas' Skywalker Ranch, collectSPACE.com said.

It reports the priceless piece will be greeted in Houston by a group of Stormtroopers along with R2D2.



## SEPTEMBER

Thursday the 13th: Rosh Hashana (Jewish)

Thursday the 13th: Ramadan begins (Islamic)

Saturday September the 15th — Join Region Three's space junkies for our twelfth visit to Space Center Houston Saturday, September 15, 2007. Discover the latest in NASA's space exploration with such offerings as Rocket Park, IMAX Theater, Kid's Space Place, and the tram tour of the Johnson Space Center facilities.

Saturday the 22nd: Yom Kippur (Jewish)

Sunday the 23rd: Autumnal equinox

Thursday the 27th thru Wenesday Oct. 3rd: Sukkot (Jewish)

## OCTOBER

Thursday the 4th: Shmini Atzeret/Simchat Torah (Jewish)

Monday the 8th: Lailat Ul Qadr (Islamic)

Monday the 8th: Columbus Day (observed)

Tuesday the 9th: Leif Erikson Day

Saturday the 13th: Eid-al-Fitr (Islamic)

Wednesday the 31st: Halloween

## NOVEMBER

Thursday the 1st: All Saints Day

Sunday the 4th: Daylight Saving Time ends

Friday Night the 9th thru Sunday the 11th -- Regional Game Day V will be held at the Round Rock Public Library at 216 E. Main Street Round Rock, TX 78664.

Sunday the 11th: Veterans Day

Monday the 12th: Veterans Day (observed)

Thursday the 22nd: Thanksgiving Day

## DECEMBER

Sunday the 2nd: First Sunday Advent (Christian)

Wednesday the 5th to Wednesday the 12th: Chanukah (Jewish)

Thursday the 20th: Eid-al-Adha (Islamic)

Saturday the 22nd: Winter solstice

Sunday the 23rd: Festivus

Tuesday the 25th: Christmas Day (Christian)

Wednesday the 26th thru Tuesday the Jan 1st: Kwanzaa

Monday Night the 31st: New Year's Eve

## JANUARY

Tuesday the 1st: New Year's Day

Saturday the 19th: Regional Retreat in Kileen

### Fleet Channels Deadlines

The following is a list of the upcoming deadlines for *Fleet Channels*:

Sept./Oct. Issue -- Oct. 8, 2007

Nov./Dec. Issue -- Dec. 3, 2007

ALL e-mail submissions should be sent to: [fleetchannels@region3.org](mailto:fleetchannels@region3.org).

Note: Reminders of approaching deadlines will be posted on the R3 list.



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DEADLINE FOR THE SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER ISSUE IS OCTOBER 8, 2007