



From the RC To You

FCPT Reed Bates Regional Coordinator

Four Zero Five. That's Four Hundred and Five or 405 persons who are attached to Region 3 in STARFLEET. That is as of the date of this writing, November 2, 2009. I think that is wonderful!!! I have been trying to gather information from the database people to find out if the Region has ever had over 400 members, and it looks like it has not. Anyone else have any data or recollection about the Region's numbers? I have not' been able to find any evidence so this might be a record year for the Region.

I'm very excited about our membership! The movie has done some good to boost our numbers, along with several members actively recruiting—going out and meeting people. It's not that hard to do you know. Just drop a plug any time you can, if the conversation is appropriate. You say, "Well, in my star trek fan club, STARFLEET, we like to do..." or "the other night at my star trek club, we talked about the same thing..." There are also helpful materials on the SFI.org website to help members recruit for their chapter.

In addition, we've been having some good numbers of people transfer to our Region. At the USS Ark Angel's Halloween Party, I met two of them, Holly and William Swift. They have recently joined Region 3 from Alaska. Holly said she was looking forward to seeing the sun all year round.

I'm looking forward to seeing everyone at Retreat in January (please see separate article on the details). I also am still working on visiting each chapter separately, but have been delayed because of budgetary reasons. Please keep me informed of any chapter events you have planned or send me an invitation if it's something special, and I'll try to work everyone into my schedule.

As mentioned at Summit, I am one of the Admiralty Board Members who volunteered and is assigned to the STARFLEET Bylaws (a/k/a our "Constitution") Committee, charged with submitting suggestions to Fleet's attorneys for have a complete re-write of the Bylaws. A revision to the Bylaws definitely has been needed for a long, long time. I have been so confused when I read our Membership Handbook that it made my head hurt. It was explained to us that when it was written, several authors were charged with writing

certain sections and then just stuck those sections together without thinking that maybe someone wrote something contradictory to the other. Therefore, we've been stuck with a badly written document all these years. We're going to fix it. After we make the suggestions to the attorneys, they will come back with a document and we'll discuss and revise until it's the way the committee wants. Then, the Committee will begin writing the Membership Handbook. It is our hope that this will all be done by next summer, in time for the STARFLEET Elections, so all members will then vote on the new Bylaws (aka Constitution).

You too can participate by reviewing the Bylaws Committee's discussion at: <http://lists.sfi.org/listinfo.cgi/bylaws-l-sfi.org> and if you have comments and suggestions, you may send them to me at rc@region3.org or you can send them to our Vice Commander STARFLEET, Dave Blaser, who is the chair of the Bylaws Committee at vcs@sfi.org. One of us will be glad to review it, and pass it along for discussion.

ECAB and Admiralty Board discussions are ongoing and constant as well. If you wish to see any AB Resolutions for this year, please review them at the website: <http://historian.sfi.org/AB/#2009>. Recently, the AB is discussing some Membership Handbook revisions regarding the Shakedown Operations Command ("ShOC") and some revisions adding special memberships, like for political situations such as those from Cuba, who we are barred from having transactions involving money so we're discussing the possibility of an electronic membership for them. I have sent both of these suggestions to the Region 3 CCO for their input as well, so if you have any questions, you can ask your CO or me. Due to the fact that the AB and ECAB have been very active and that I'm on the Bylaws Committee, I have had a very busy first 4 months. I'm working hard to try to keep up, so if I owe you an email, maybe send it to me again, because I might have missed it. Or, if you have my number, please call me. Your email may have been lost in the thousands I now get being your RC. I am, however, looking forward to the next several months and even year. I've been enjoying being your RC and happy and thankful that you voted for me to represent you.

Take care everyone,
Reed Bates, Fleet Captain
Regional Coordinator for Region Three

Still at the Keyboard

LGN Aaron Murphy
Chief of Staff

Greetings Third Fleet,

Things have been somewhat quiet here at Regional HQ. However, quiet does not mean that the staff is not doing anything. In my role to oversee the projects going on, I get insight into all the various departments here at HQ. Here's a peek inside each of their offices.

Communications: In addition to ongoing work on Fleet Channels, Trisha continues to streamline the department and work on the Region's Public Relations face.

CompOps: Ken has been busy with not one, but two possible design ideas for the Regional and Brigade websites. Having had a sneak peak at one of them already, I can say that he's doing quality work. Also, he announced the idea of giving web space/templates on the regional server to chapters for their use, after the demise of GeoCities, a popular free hosting site. More to come on those plans.

Ops: Lisa has been working hard with Trisha (when she hasn't been confined to Sickbay) on a possible bid for the 2010 Regional Summit. This is still being hashed out and we hope to have more details at Retreat.

ShOC: The region continues to grow. As we have more chapters launching into Shakedown mode, Beau will have his hands full.

As for me, I continue to work with the staff, cracking the whip where necessary, but mostly helping out where needed. I also continue to work with Reed to make sure everything runs smoothly and to help develop and streamline regional policy and operations. Welcome to the oh-so-glamorous world of the Chief of Staff.

See you again in sixty.

CompOps Report

FCAPT Ken Kopacki
Region 3 Computer Operations



The new website is just about ready. Honest! I had some family issues derail me, but I've been working hard getting things finished.

Also, I've begun phase two, which will be to develop the SFMC side of the website, as well as a infrastructure to offer

hosting to chapters and MSG's that want it.

The recruiting video I talked about at summit is still on the drawing board and as soon as pre-production is complete I'll start asking for some input from the REC.

As always, if anyone has any web development questions, feel free to contact me.

Northern Lights

RADM Robyn Winans
Senior Vice-Regional Coordinator
Vice-Regional Coordinator, North

It was great to see many of you at Summit this year and for those we missed we hope to see you at Regional events as well as ship events across the region next year.

It was a great pleasure to visit with Kris Dobie at summit this year. Everywhere you looked; there she was sporting her new camera. Be sure to look for her photos in this issue and future issue of Fleet Channels. Thank you to the Marines for the JOA and to the USS Lone Star for their partying ways at Summit. People are still talking about the fun that was had.

Retreat is just around the corner in January and we hope to see you there for event planning for 2010.

Robert, John, and I are working on reviewing the unassigned list and will be contacting the CO's with lists of new recruits. What better time then right before the release of the new Star Trek Movie (Nov 17) to contact these folks. Invite the new folks to

share a movie night with your chapter and join in your holiday spirit.

Here in the north we've halt work on our arks and enjoy the fresh fall air. In case you hadn't heard, I've retired from the CO position of the USS Trinity River. I wish Dan Stockelman well on his next big adventure as a cat herder. I was able to join the USS Regulator for their October meeting and looking to do make many more. Beau was up for Star Wars Fan Days III and brought a new crewmember. We hope we haven't scared her off yet. It is always a joy when we can do a sector 2 meeting in person. Keep the good work Beau and I am looking forward to making some of your events next year. For moment with the Holidays, we have the Sector 1 meetings on hold but will start them up again after retreat. We're hoping to make a sector 1 bowling event a regular item every quarter if we can.

The TR has added a few new members these past months and they were put to a labor of love in helping with the USS Trinity River and 325 MGS-River Rats Toys for Tots Collection while at Star Wars Fan Days. We'd also like to thank TR parents, Jerry and Ann Norman, for helping with the Toys for Tots collection.

The ships are gearing up for the holiday parties in the next few months where food, fun, and fellowship will be abound. We'd like to remind every one to please support your area food banks and pantries during the up coming holiday season. It's no fun having all that party food if you can't share it with those around you. So when you pick up your supplies for the festivities, pick up a few extra cans of this and that and drop them off at a local collection area.

Keep your feet on the ground while reaching for those stars.

Go West, Young Man!

COL John Johnston
Vice-Regional Coordinator, West

Greetings, Trick or Treaters! I hope you get lots of candy while you're out scaring the Bejeebus out of some... oh wait, wrong speech.

Hello, fellow Third Fleeters! This is your friendly Vice Regional Commander from the West, with your bi-monthly news report!

As you may know, the new Star Trek movie will be available for sale on Tuesday, November 17th. This would be another good recruiting opportunity if you

were able to make arrangements with your local video retailer or renter.

On November 11, the people of the United States take a moment to thank those who have helped the defense of our great nation. Be sure to thank a soldier, preferably as many as you can find, because for many, a "thank you" means the world for them in a mostly thankless job.

So, have a happy Thanksgiving, Christmas, Hanukah, and other festivals you plan to enjoy this Holiday Season! And, I'll see you all again after New Year's!

Southern Spacedock

Vice-Regional Coordinator, South
COMM Robert C. Graham

Hello everyone,
I hope that all the Southern CO's & their chapter's members are doing well. We still have many members on the unassigned list particularly in the south as of the time this article is being written. If your chapter is expecting any new members & they're not listed on your ship's roster please e-mail me privately & we'll work to get those members on to the chapters that recruited them. I'm looking forward to seeing all of you at Retreat in January 2010. Until next time, Take care of yourselves and each other.

Awards Coordinator

Award Coordinator
LTC Kyle Schugart

Greetings Region 3:
For those who don't know me my name is Kyle Schugart, I am the Xo of the USS Regulator, and now it seems I have the privilege of being the Region 3 award coordinator. I started out in Starfleet and Region 3 about 10 years ago when Mark West gave me my first year's membership for Christmas. That same year I went to my first summit, and I was hooked. Then about three years ago, Billie Clifton asked if I would consider being a member of the awards committee, I was hesitant at first but soon was very glad of my decision. I think that the awards presentation at opening ceremonies tends to help set the mood for summit and help motivate crewmembers to see new heights that this organization can reach whether it's working toward one of the many charities supported by the region chapters or just allowing us to have fun together.

I am fortunate to have the beginnings of a great committee that I will introduce to you as soon as all the seats are filled. I hope to be able to set the bar high during my posting to this position to not only repay Reed, Aaron, and the rest of the staff who had the faith (or insanity) to offer me this post, but to earn the faith of the rest of you. This coming year will be an interesting challenge for me, and I won't promise it will be without bumps, but I will promise that this committee will be fair in giving due consideration to all nominations, divorced from any "fleet politics" or personal bias. I will, in future issues, be not only introducing the rest of the awards committee, but also posting various award criteria and discussing effective nomination practices. Also starting this issue I will be ready to take suggestions, advice, criticisms or any other comments from any member of the region from the R.C. down to the lowest ranking bottle washer. I thank you for your patience in reading what has turned into an epic length introduction.

Reed's Shop on the Promenade **FCPT Reed Bates**

Hello there, Region 3! I am still here, acting as your Quartermaster, yes, still, and yes, again in addition to my duties as your RC. We are still looking for someone to take over this very important Regional position-please see our Want Ad if you would like to Apply.

As announced previously, we have a Spreadshirt Store, just like SFMC and SFI. It is located at: <http://region3.spreadshirt.com>. I am slowly but surely working on items to add into the store, but it will definitely help to have a new Regional Quartermaster to set it up further. As your RC and Admiralty Board Member of STARFLEET, I just do not have the time that I wish to devote to this key Regional position.

What's more, if your chapter wishes to get some Polo's, shirts or hats made, you can use our link to http://www.queensboro.com/index.html?ref_id=705420 to set up your own account with them. The Region gets a small referral fee, which will be used to buy Regional merchandise and be able to pass on the savings. They only require a minimum purchase of 4, and you can mix and match as long as the logo placement is the same on each shirt. Hats, however, will need to be 4 of the same kind of hat.

Please check out our store on the Region's website. I hope that our new one will be launched soon, and with it will come a new Regional store for you to buy your most preferred Regional merchandise at any time you wish. Just think, you will not have to wait for Summit each year. The Holiday season is fast approaching, so check it at at: <http://region3.org/qm.php>.

S.C.O.P.E **Shakedown Operations Report** **FCPT Beau Thacker**

Greetings, Region 03 Texas and Louisiana SHOC report, several away teams are still working out issues and forming their crews. In both Texas and Louisiana, but with the help of other Region 03 members like Mark West and Trish Tunis and their crews, we are working to launch these, brave chapters, hopefully by next, year.

For those of you that maybe haven't started a chapter, let me tell you, it is hard work. The time and effort to get a chapter started is one of the biggest undertakings a new Commander and his/her crew will have to face. Once you get started chapter upkeep doesn't stop there, but it does get easier if you have a good active crew.

Region 03 as a whole needs to step up, and help each other, forget the old bones and work to bring Region 03 and Starfleet a brighter future.

Anything I can do for you, just email me. I'm here for you.

Open Frequencies **Communications Report** **FCAPT Trisha Tunis**

Deadlines, how quickly they pass! Especially during the hectic fall season. Now that it's passed, hopefully we can get back on some resemblance of a schedule.

First off, it's only due to the outstanding efforts of COMM Liz Goulet that you're receiving this issue at all. She valiantly copy/pasted from everyone's articles into a nice Word document that I'm formatting now. Yes, this isn't the fanciest version of Fleet Channels, however it has finally arrived on your virtual doorstep.

At FenCon, it was a pleasure to place names and faces together, and hang out with everyone. I also managed to gather a staff They are:

COMM Liz Goulet: Liz will be the Assistant Editor, doing the final edits on Fleet Channels, and compiling the Calendar of Events. She'll also work on keeping me somewhat sane.

2LT Tank Clark: Tank will be providing reviews of Star Trek episodes, news, and editing the Chapter/Staff reports as needed. He'll also be defending the editor's stash of rum.

FCPT Evan Richards: Even will be compiling MSR reports from chapters that do not submit articles.

TJ Gordon: TJ will be doing feature articles, and editing on an as needed basis.

So many people submitted photos from FENCON, that I'll be posting them online with the help of CompOps. I'll post the address as soon as they are on line.

3rd Brigade Report

Brigadier Jeff Schnoor, SFMC

We had our Brigade Muster at Summit this year. The following Marines received awards at the Muster. For 2008 Awards and 2009 Special Awards.

- 303rd Meritorious Unit Citation
 Streamer:
 - o Meritorious Unit Award 08
 - o Reporting Award 08
- 308th Meritorious Unit Citation
 John Johnston
 Sword of Valor
 Brigade Service Award
 Mortah tSepes
 Brigade Service Award,
 Community Service Award
 Streamer:
 - o Community Service Award 08
 - o Meritorious Unit Award 08
 - o Reporting Award 08
 - o Participation Award 08

- 313th Meritorious Unit Citation
 Legion of Valor
 C/CPL Isabo Turner SFMC
 Cadet Cross of Valor

- MSGT (BDE SGM) Kaiden Kahos,
 Brigade Service Commendation
 Brigade Achievement Award
 Community Service Award,
 Great Barrier Expedition
- GSGT Artemis O'Conan,
 Brigade Service Commendation
 Brigade Achievement Award
 Community Service Award
 Great Barrier Expedition
- GSGT Frank Miller
 Community Service Award
 Great Barrier Expedition
- SGT Chris Turner
 Great Barrier Expedition
- CPL Jesse Battle
 Great Barrier Expedition
- SGT Adrienne Betties
 Great Barrier Expedition
- Streamer
 - o Legion of Valor Award 08
 - o Community Service Award 08
 - o Meritorious Unit Award 08
 - o Reporting Award 08
 - o Participation Award 08
 - o Recruiting Award 08

- 314th Meritorious Unit Citation
 LTCOL Christopher O'Banion,
 Community Service Citation
 Embassy Duty
- 1LT Cathey Osborne
 Community Service Citation
 Embassy Duty
- CPL Conell Osborne
 SFMC Cadet Shield of Valor
 Community Service Citation
 Embassy Duty
- SGT. Nikkie Green,
 Community Service Citation
 Embassy Duty
- Streamer
 - o Community Service Award 08
 - o Meritorious Unit Award 08
 - o Reporting Award 08

- 321st Meritorious Unit Citation
 Major Jared Fielder
 Brigade Service Commendation
- CWO2 Joyce Fink
 Brigade Achievement Award
- Col. Bill Downs
 Brigade Achievement Award
- Streamer:
 - o Meritorious Unit Award 08

- Reporting Award 08
- 325th Meritorious Unit Citation
LTC Daniel Dreesbach,
Brigade Service Commendation
Col. Jan Agee
Shield of Valor
Community Service Commendation
Streamer
 - Community Service Award 08
 - Meritorious Unit Award 08
 - Reporting Award 08

- 333rd Meritorious Unit Citation
Streamer
 - Meritorious Unit Award 08
 - Participating Award 08

- 342nd Meritorious Unit Citation
LGEN Aaron Murphy
Cross of Valor
Embassy Duty
Streamer
 - Meritorious Unit Award 08
 - Participating Award 08
 - Reporting Award 08

- 345th Meritorious Unit Citation
LTC David Bailey
Brigade Service Commendation
Streamer
 - Meritorious Unit Award 08
 - Participating Award 08
 - Reporting Award 08

- 347th Meritorious Unit Citation
LTC Angelita Schnoor,
Community Service Citation
Brigade Service Commendation
LTC Norma Ybarra
Community Service Citation
C/MSGT Marissa Schnoor
Community Service Citation
C/PVT Isaiah Schnoor,
Community Service Citation
C/SGT Gabrielle Schnoor,
Community Service Citation
BGN Jeff Schnoor,
Community Service Citation
Streamer
 - Meritorious Unit Award 08
 - Reporting Award 08

Tahnya Abbot
Naval Achievement Award
Robin Van Cleave

Naval Achievement Award
Beau Thacker
Naval Achievement Award
USS Joan of ARC
Naval Unit Citation

The Following Awards Were issued post Summit:
Attention On Deck!!!! Will the Following Marine Step
Forward and receive their Awards!

For Performance as Marine Honor Guard at the
Recent R3 Summit in setting up State Colors, Regional
Colors, and handling of Brigade Colors. On September
18th, 2009.

GYSGT Artemis O'Conan you are hereby
awarded the Marine Honor Guard Award
1LT Thomas Clark you are hereby awarded
the Marine Honor Guard Award

For Stepping up and Volunteering to perform a
Demonstration and Q&A session in regards to the
Brigade and SFMC SFI-DYI.

COL John Johnston you are hereby awarded
the Embassy Duty Award
1LT Thomas Clark you are hereby awarded
the Embassy Duty Award

For Stepping up and Volunteering to perform a skit
as Marines
LGEN Aaron Murphy you are hereby
awarded the Embassy Duty Award
LTC Kyle Shugart you are hereby awarded
the Embassy Duty Award

For representation of the 3rd Brigade in a
Mecha/Battletech Competition during Summit
BDR Mark West you are hereby awarded the
Embassy Duty Award
LTC Kyle Shugart you are hereby awarded
the Embassy Duty Award
MCAPT Don Williams you are hereby
awarded the Embassy Duty Award

For providing a Outstanding Party and following
proper security protocols
MSGT Kaiden Kahos you are hereby awarded
the Embassy Duty Award
GYSGT Artemis O'Conan you are hereby
awarded the Embassy Duty Award
SGT Adrienne Bettis you are hereby awarded
the Embassy Duty Award
LCPL Lewis Morris you are hereby awarded
the Embassy Duty Award

The Following Marines received the 2009 Marine Muster award: Daniel Dreesbach, Jeff Schnoor, Alvina Bryant, Phayton Vakes, Adrienne Bettis, Lewis Morris, Doraio O'Conan, Artemis O'Conan, Chris Turner, Isabo Turner, Barbra Baker, Aaron Murphy, Kris Murphy, Amanda Murphy, Brendan Murphy, Joe White, Jan Agee, Thomas Clark, Elizabeth Hazelwood, Jesse Battle, Anastazia Morris, Amy Turner, Christopher O'Banion, Cathey Osborne, John Johnston, Beau Thacker, and Mark West

For traveling a great distance to attend the 3rd Brigade Muster the following Marines are Hereby Awarded the Great Barrier expedition award: Jessie Battle, Artemis O'Conan, Kaiden Kahos, Jeff Schnoor, Christopher O'Banion, Cathey Osborne,

For assistance to the Third Brigade during the 3rd Brigade Muster

Steve Gordon you are hereby awarded the Naval Achievement Award

R3 Special Forces Report

SFSO Director

Captain Joseph White

It has been reported that the 4 Ships at Summit expressed interest in activating units in Region 3. To date one unit has officially rejoined the ranks. The 33rd Ranger Squad, based on the USS Regulator, under the command of LTC Kyle Shugart.

The SFSO now has a SFI bank account, and our first offering is on the SFI Quartermaster site. The SFI Pins are \$8 each and \$5 each will be used to pay back the SFSO operator that paid for the manufacturing cost. So, please visit the SFIQM and get a pin.

SFSO Unit 001, The black Legion, took part in the MD telethon in Lubbock, and helped raise over 100 thousand dollars from the South Plains Chapter of the MDA.

With the Christmas season coming up, we are urging our SFSO Units to lend a hand with the USMC Toys for Tots drive, or work with any other charity that helps people during the holiday season.

If there is any Region 3 group or ship, who wishes to join, or rejoin, the SFSO, please go to www.sfsf.org and look it over, then send a message to Brigadier General Larry French petitioning for acceptance, or re-acceptance into the SFSO community. After that follow the link to the resources section and apply to join the SFSO list. Till next time, be well.

Chapter Reports

Space Station Freedom III, NCC-SS001

Greetings Region Three!

Here on the Freedom III we are still undergoing changes and getting organized, even if you can't tell from our website yet.

Our XO FCPT Reed Bates and our Operations Officer, Captain Lloyd Bates, are continuing to revise and update the Freedom III's website, which is <http://www.ssfreedom3.org/>. Members should start noticing some changes soon with continued revamping over the next couple of months. Lloyd at times, has grand plans for the website, and at other times, we just need to get content up. So, look for both, off and on, over the next year.

Reed Bates will be contacting the F3 members to see what and how they wish to be involved, with the goal of also putting out a newsletter by the end of the year. The Chapter needs a Communications Officer at this time and we look forward to finding a good candidate.

We have one new member, John Friday, of Austin, Texas who was friends with Reed and Lloyd Bates on their bowling team. We're going to be planning some new recruiting avenues to seek and find other members to join up with STARFLEET.

See everyone at Retreat or sooner.

FCPT Reed Bates
XO, SS Freedom III

USS Ark Angel, NCC-1889

Welcome to the end of the year!

In October, the Ark Angel voted in its leadership for the next year. Raymond Ford will be our new CO, Clint Hill will be our new XO, and John Halliday will continue as our Ops officer. We also visited Star Wars Fan Days. Our camping trip got rained out, so we moved it indoors with good food, role-playing, and Rock Band!

November is finally here. We can't wait for Millennium Con the first weekend of November. Massive gaming will be had by all. We will also be

having our official Change of Command on November 21st.

In December, we will be having our annual Christmas Party.

Clint Hill

USS Azrael, NCC-73339

The USS Azrael is a correspondence ship, physically located in sector 02 of Region 03, where most of us communicate through the internet; we do get together and meet in person. This month members met in Plano, Texas for Star Wars Fan Days 3.



Pictured here is my new Chief of communications, Ensign Darlene Patterson (Diddles). Brand new to both Star Trek and Star Wars, so folks they are, out there and ripe for the pickings. Also, this month we went to Adventure games and had a paintball war with the locals. Next month, we are planning trips to Ren faire and more.

FCPT Beau Thacker

USS Trinity River, NCC-6425

The Trinity River did their normal volunteer mission at the local Sci-Fi Expo. We help control the lines and watch for correct badges for attendees. We even get to watch tables for the stars when they go on break or have a Q&A period. We used our table to kick off our annual Toys for Tots toy drive. While not real US marines, our River Rats Starfleet marines did themselves proud and collected boxes of toys. Here is a hint. If you are collecting toys for charity, do it at a toy convention. Especially announce reminders toward the end of the last day. People might not like to take that hard to sell toy home, and you can get it donated.

We had our normal monthly meeting, plus were the main attendees at a Sector 1 bowling event. I think we are ready to challenge other clubs. Our bowling handicap will beat any other club's handicap. We also got our houses and cars ready for the Halloween season.

CPT Dan Stockelman

SS Maverick, SFR-301

The SS Maverick sent an away team to Alamogordo, NM on October 24 & 25 to visit the New Mexico Air & Space Museum and White Sands National Monument. CO, Margi O'Neill, made a surprise visit to the Maverick and was able to participate in the away mission. XO, Doug Hogan, was totally agog when Margi beamed in at the debarkation coordinates Saturday morning. Two shuttles took off at 0800, carrying crewmembers Margi O'Neill, Doug & Cindy Hogan, Brian & Dawne Franks, & Janie Moreno.

In Lovington, we encountered a freak ion storm that knocked out our navigational systems. We were captured by the gravitational pull of a gas giant planet called Hobbs. We had to sling shot around it to head back northwest to our original course. Navigational systems were repaired and reset. We were able to observe parts of New Mexico that were reminiscent of the Maquis Badlands.

We rotated pilots in Artesia. Margi & Doug piloted their respective shuttles through the spatial anomalies (mountains) common to that part of New Mexico.

The away team checked into the local accommodations in Alamogordo. Capt. Hogan then headed a search party for round plastic skimmers. No luck at Wal-Mart but fortune smiled upon us at Big 5 Sporting Goods. Three skimmers were acquired and we set off to White Sands National Monument.

Some prime sand dunes were located, which we promptly climbed, and screamed like little girls while sliding down the 40-foot slopes on skimmers. It was SO MUCH FUN! We got sand inside places we didn't know sand could get into. Even though we tried not to bring any sand with us, it was inevitable. Just more fun.

We went to dinner at Applebee's. (Tracking sand everywhere we walked). The wait before being seated wasn't bad and we were seated at a large booth. The restaurant was very busy. After ordering,

we waited, and waited, AND WAITED. We were enjoying talking with each other, not getting upset about the wait, but wondering when our food would arrive. It arrived about 45 minutes after we ordered. Our server had been keeping us apprised of developments in regards to our food, which we really appreciated. Upon finishing our meal, she left to talk with the manager. She came back with the bill and our entire meal for six people was free! Needless to say, she earned her tip that night!

Back at the motel, we racked our brains playing Star Trek Trivia designed for Really Big Fans Without A Life.

Sunday morning, we ate at The Pancake & Waffle Shoppe, where we almost lost our CO to Romulan Imposters. Those pesky Romulans have now learned to make silver Saturn Vue copies. The crew alerted Margi that she was at the wrong coordinates and got her back.

0900 found us arriving at the New Mexico Air & Space Museum where we began our tour of the outside grounds. The ample number of rockets on display was a wonderful refresher course on the history of rocket development. Ham, the first chimpanzee in space, is buried there. Inside the four-story museum were displays and items from our history of aeronautics and space exploration. Fascinating!

We departed Alamogordo about 1330, extremely pleased with the success of this mission. Everyone had a great time!

Upon leaving Lovington, NM on our return trip, we discovered we had not been knocked off course by a rogue ion storm earlier but rather the Romulans had installed cloaking devices on the highway signs. We soon discovered their ruse and were able to effect course corrections. Beware of the absence of highway markers when passing through Lovington, NM.

Strong solar winds buffeted our two shuttles around, straining our inertial dampeners, but our skilled pilots handled the final leg home with ease.

Thanks to all who went. It was a blast! So fantastic to see everyone again.
FCPT Margi O'Neill

Retreat 2010

Reed Bates, Fleet Captain Regional Coordinator

Our next major Regional event will be Retreat in Round Rock, Texas, January 23, 2010. Since we do not have a Summit 2010 location yet, we are doing it near our RC's house in [Teravista's Community Center](#).

The Schedule for Retreat:

Nothing has been set in stone yet, except for the space reserved at the Community Center, which is noon to 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, January 23, 2010. We will meet and have fun during that time, and probably have lunch brought in either by yourself or we can all chip in for delivery. After the meeting, we will be heading to the Salt Lick's new Round Rock location for some BBQ.

If all you want or can do is the meeting, then that is fine, but if you wish to do more, we are planning more. Friday night, January 22, 2010, you may arrive and we might go bowling around 9 p.m. or 10 p.m. at Round Rock's Interstate Lanes. Saturday morning is breakfast on your own, but those staying at the RC's house either may go out or might invite others for special breakfast, maybe even a trip to a farmer's market for breakfast and some local shopping. Saturday evening after the BBQ, we will figure something out, like movie watching or if we do not bowl Friday, we might do it then. Sunday morning, January 24, 2010, Reed and her husband Lloyd are scouting for some mighty fine vittles for eatin' and drivin' home. We have some good locations to suggest.

Places to Stay at Retreat:

You can make reservations at Red Roof Inn using STARFLEET's discount. You will need to show your STARFLEET ID Card when checking in. Please use this link <http://www.redroof.com/Partners/starfleet-international> when making your reservation. Otherwise, you can get the special code from STARFLEET's website for member benefits.

In addition, my home will be available for crash space, as well as some members of the USS Ark Angel. Please email our Chief of Operations Lisa Pruitt to get on a list if you wish to stay in local housing.

Stay Tuned for Updated on Retreat:

The Regional Staff and the RC are still putting things together, so the next issue of Fleet Channels will have all the details, plus the Region 3 General Discussion List will also have updates. As always, if you have any questions, ask your Commanding Officer or Reed Bates, your Regional Coordinator.

Thanks and see everyone in Round Rock in January.

RSVP Now: <http://region3.org/retreat.php>.

WANTED—PREFERABLY ALIVE!**Reed Bates, Fleet Captain
Regional Coordinator**

Here is a staff position that is currently open in the Region and for which we need a qualified person as soon as possible. If you are interested, please send your resumes, both real life and Fleet-related, if any, and a paragraph or two on what you will do in that position to your Regional Coordinator Reed Bates at [rc at region3.org](mailto:rc@region3.org) and to the Chief of Staff Aaron Murphy at [cos at region3.org](mailto:cos@region3.org).

Regional Quartermaster:

This is definitely a position we need to fill as soon as possible. The Region is seeking a trustworthy person to be the Regional Quartermaster. Our current RQM will be glad to train you, but the applicant must be willing to attend most Regional events. If you cannot make them all, that is fine as long as a Deputy RQM is appointed to serve in the RQM's place, especially for Summit and Retreat. The Regional Quartermaster currently serves on the Support Staff so any meetings or conference calls of the Support Staff would also be required. The applicant must also be willing to sell and plug our merchandise

From our Regional Handbook:

The Regional Quartermaster (RQM) is responsible for the coordination and promotion of Region 3 fundraisers and is responsible for the selling of any Region 3 merchandise. The RQM will work with, and may serve as an assistant to, the Chief of Operations when deemed appropriate or needed. Upon request, the RQM will be available to aid and assist any chapter with fund raising events. Deputies may be appointed as needed.

**Overseas Coupon Program-Keep
on Clipping!****FCPT Kris Dobie, USS Joan of Arc**

Long, long ago & in a country far, far away a certain chaplain and her husband saw a desperate need in the ranks of the lower enlisted service men. Those families simply couldn't make ends meet on a monthly basis. They had the problems of most new families: too much month and not enough money...Help was on the way!!! After many discussions; much thought; and research, the Reverend Beck Thane and her husband began to quietly send their expired personal manufacturers coupons back to their former base overseas in Germany. This was the birth of the OCP---Overseas Coupon Project. In a modified form, this same project continues today almost 17+ years after its inception.

The program started with one ship, the USS Infinity, and very soon thereafter began building momentum. Everyone wanted to be part of such a worthwhile project. As the project progressed, the number of participants came from all works of life. There were social clubs, church clubs, families, individuals, & so many from fleet that the ships had to be listed in alphabetical order!

Just think it ALL started with one ship here in REGION3!!!

Becky Thane stepped down from the daily operation in June 2000 but she had a successor in Eddie Allen to take over the reins. At that time and to this day, OCP is a strictly volunteer program that gets only the time from its loyal staff with no funding at all. Donations get recorded on the site as 'real life' allows which is why it takes awhile to see your ship's ranking change. After Eddie resumed OCP operations, it looked like the program was again on its way up...Indeed the coupon total from just the Fleet chapters in 2005 was more than the grand total in 2003.

Family& individual coupon totals were up also. Recently, the program has been experiencing a falling off of Fleet ships contributing coupons... 2006's rooster showed 25 ships listed on the Fleet Chart with 4 of them from Region 3. The downslide continued into 2007 with 22 ships involved and dropping to two ships from Region 3. Ships were still listed in order of how many dollars of coupons they had donated. 18 ships was the total number of actively participating ships in '08, Region 3 continued

to have 2 in this list. It was the first year that there wasn't a separate Fleet chart for donations...

The largest drop in number of ships came in 2009. There were 8 all total with 1/4th of them being from Region 3. Those ships were/are the USS Joan of Arc & the USS Aurora Vulcanus. For a more detailed/complete history of the OCP and individual ship's ranking, please go to the OCP site at www.ocpnet.org.

The Joan of Arc has been involved with this program since records have been kept, about 1998. It has been the focus of the Science Dept. as our long distance service goal for many years. The club has collected \$13,412.53 dollars worth of coupons up to 2002. This was only the beginning as the 'Lady J' began to rise in the ranks of coupon donations. We started off 2005 in 19th place in Fleet & 4th place in Region3. 2006 was to be a banner year for the club. We ended in 9th place Fleet-wide & 2nd in Region 3.

This was the summer that we challenged the USS Victory (out of S.A.) to a 90-day coupon collection period. The premise was to see which ship could collect; process (cut, sort, & count food & non-food), then record the most dollar amount of coupons in the given time period. The victors were 'allowed' 5 free shots from full water guns during the water wars at the summer BBQ at Tahnya Abbott's home. Happily, the Joan rose to the occasion with a grand total of \$8,053.78 dollars as opposed to \$2,688.50 dollars for the Victory. After getting TOTALLY DRENCHED the CO & XO formally presented their coupons to be added to the Joan's & sent to our base in Japan. Everybody wins in a scenario like that; the program, the overseas base & both clubs. The final Total here was \$ 10,742.30dollars WOW!

Collections dropped slightly in 2007 on the Fleet level but we climbed to 2nd in Region 3. The USS Aurora Vulcanus was only ONE rank above us. As previously stated in the OCP history section, Ships weren't ranked in 2008 just listed in ABC order with the other organizations. The Joan continued her rise in the donation standings. At the end of '08 the 'Lady J' had moved into 10th place in Fleet standings plus remaining in second in Region 3. The A.V. passing us by a slim margin.

So far in 2009, only 8 ships have been recorded in the OCP database since March 01,'09. The USS Aurora Vulcanus is STILL among the 8 participating ships, coming in at 4th place Fleet-wide while the USS Joan of Arc has donated \$8,125.85 dollars is currently waiting for the data base to catch up. This will put the

Joan in First place in both Fleet & Region3 records at the current record count. Hooray for the "Lady J" She is truly legendary.

P.S. A follow up box of \$4,833.18 dollars was sent on Aug 13,'09. This brought the Joan's yearly total to \$12,959.03. Truly, LEGENDS ENDURE!!!!

Tanks Take on Trek

2LT Tank Clark, USS Regulator

"Return of the Archons"

The Original Series, Season 1, Episode 21
Before we begin, I'd like to explain my method of episode selection for this series. Although I'm a life-long Star Trek fan, I own no copies of the live-action episodes. I recently purchased the Animated Series on VD, but other than that and the Star Trek Movie Trilogy boxed set released not long ago (Wrath of Khan, Search for Spock, and The Voyage Home) I don't yet own any Trek DVDs. I still have my VCR tapes of the first eight movies...I never bought Nemesis, or, as I like to call it, "Attack of the Clone." I have my TiVo set up to record any Star Trek series that comes on, and I usually have a choice between episodes of Enterprise, Voyager, and – once a week of so – an episode of the original series. This episode most recently aired on TV Land on 4 Oct 2009.

The Enterprise visits Beta III to try to find out what happened to the spaceship Archon, which went missing a century ago. Lieutenants Sulu and O'Neil beam down, but are quickly found out by the locals as being "Archons" and are chased by brown robed dudes called "Lawgivers." It turns out that the landing party was given out-of-style clothes, as the natives are dressed in 1880's styles clothing rather than the 1780's clothing Sulu & O'Neil were wearing. Anyway, Sulu calls Enterprise to get beamed up. O'Neil panics & runs off, and a Lawgiver zaps Sulu just before he gets transported up. When Lt. Sulu arrives on Enterprise, he's weird: he doesn't seem to recognize anyone, he keeps babbling about Landru and the Body, and so forth.

Capt. Kirk therefore sends another landing party down, this one made up of himself, Spock, McCoy, Mr. Lindstrom (a sociologist) and a security guard. As a security type, this sort of thing really annoys me...let's send the CO, XO, and the CMO into a very dangerous area with only a few people to protect them from unfriendly people. Grr. The party arrives just in time for Festival, a time when the normally peaceful and clam natives go on a twelve hour spree of vandalism

and violence. Kirk & company take refuge at Reger's place, even while Reger's daughter Tula participates in Festival. Interestingly, the tailors on Enterprise have learned their lesson about bad costuming. Kirk's suit jacket, although it looks like he might have borrowed it from the Joker, even has a label on the inside pocket.

A native turns the Enterprise landing party in to the Lawgivers (because of their strange behavior, not participating in Festival and all), who show up & kill one of the other natives ("Tamar"). The Lawgivers want to take our heroes captive, but Kirk refuses & the Lawgivers don't know how to respond. They start "communing" with Landru. The sound that this makes sounds just like a tricorder, which I suppose is convenient. Meanwhile, Reger takes our heroes to a safe house, and on the way there, they find Mr. O'Neil, who has been "Absorbed" into "the Body" which of course means he works for Landru now. Kirk takes O'Neil anyway, and rather than having him beamed up the ship (where I suppose he & Sulu could share a nice quiet room) he has him taken into the safe house. This gives Landru the ability to find the landing party: Landru sends a holographic projection to lecture them, then zaps 'em with a sonic weapon to knock 'em out. When we come back from commercial, most of our heroes are in a dungeon awaiting Absorption; McCoy and a red shirt are getting the treatment.

Lucky for Kirk & Spock, the guy running the Absorption machine is relieved by the third member of Reger & Tamar's resistance cell, Marplon. Marplon returns their phasers and communicators, and tells them to act like they'd been Absorbed. Kirk checks in with Enterprise, and discovers the ship is under attack by heat beams, and has only a few hours left before her shields fail & they fall out of orbit into the atmosphere. Meanwhile, Spock has concluded that Landru, who has been running the planet for some six thousand years, is a computer. Oddly enough, the remaining landing party member is never sent to the Absorption Chamber, and nobody seems to care. I guess sometimes it's good to be a minor character.

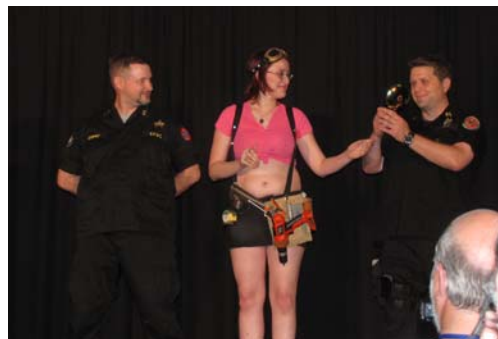
Kirk and Spock then overcome two Lawmakers and borrow their robes & staffs. Marplon takes them to Landru's audience chamber, where they ignore Landru's projected image (by the way, it looks like Landru got his hair cut at the same place that Flock of Seagulls did), blast a hole in the wall, and check out the computer who calls itself Landru. Landru disables their phasers, so Kirk has to talk the computer into destroying itself. Kirk's good at this sort of thing: remember Nomad? Remember M-5? When Landru stops controlling everyone, two

Lawmakers rush in asking for Landru to guide them. Kirk aims his phaser at the pair, but Spock stops him from shooting. I'm not sure why...after all, the phasers were disabled by Landru less than five minutes earlier. Anyway, Kirk finishes talking Landru into suicide, thereby ending the only known way of life to the last 6,000 years on Beta III. Before leaving orbit, Kirk is kind enough to leave Sociologist Lindstrom and a team of scientist behind to help "rehabilitate" the planet.

I've always been surprised Kirk wasn't cashiered for his blatant disregard of the Prime Directive. Spock commented that destroying Landru would upset Beta III's culture, but Kirk stated the Prime Directive only applied to "a living, growing culture." I guess Starfleet agreed with Kirk, but I would have loved to see Beta III revisited, perhaps by Captain Sulu and the Excelsior, or maybe by Enterprise-D's crew. If anyone knows of any novel on this subject, please let me know. Send your comments, opinions, or thought to me at tank.clark@live.com.

Two Scenes From FENCON

(More coming on line....!)



LGN Aaron Murphy & LTC Kyle Schugart in their award winning performance "Trading Spaceships"



FenCon Author Guest of Honor Keith R.A. DeCandido and FCPT Kris Dobie