



## *From the RC To You*

### **FCPT Reed Bates Regional Coordinator**

This year's Retreat was different than any others that I have attended. First, it's the first one I have had to arrange. Secondly, I've only been to a few others and to me, it was necessary to do something more than just coordinate the calendar for the next year. So, that's why I planned this year's Retreat as a training session and more informative reporting meeting. I feel it went well. I'd like to thank those members who attended and participated. There were many good conversations about where this Region should go.

We have a new handbook for the Region. We'll be working on finishing up the appendices and developing a map of the Region to go with it. Also, we're taking new applications for staff positions, as the terms of office were up January 1 of this year. Those currently holding a position on staff can send me an email if they wish to stay on, or they can apply for a different position, or both just in case there is some new competition out there, which I hear we might have some new people on staff. Rumor has it that someone's interested in my old position of Quartermaster. I'm glad for that. Stay tuned for more information.

I'd also like to thank my staff and especially some of the trainers. We didn't get to everything but some did do a lot of preparation and I thank them for that. We plan to put the presentations up on the website as soon as possible, including the ones you didn't get to see—we might put some voice to them. I'd like to thank STARFLEET's CompOps guy John Halliday for his presentation of the Fleet computer database, Robyn Winans for her presentation of the unassigned and do not disturb list, Ken Kopacki for his presentations (yet to be seen) on the R3 listservs and the R3 future website, and Jeff Webb for his entertaining presentation on Leadership.

The whole weekend ended up being fun for me and I hope for others too. We had a good crowd at bowling Saturday evening after going to a terrific restaurant that is new in town. I plan to go back again. The Region 3 Biggest Loser contest (round 2) ended during that weekend and the winners were announced: 1st Sharon Lambert, 2nd John Montgomery, and 3rd Lisa Pruitt. Congratulations to those who are big losers.

### **STARFLEET's Bylaws Committee**

We are wrapping up the first part of the committee and have a list of suggestions to the attorneys for them to draft up the Bylaws. Once they get things done, then I believe we will work with them on questions we might have and then hopefully next summer, during the triennial election, we'll have some documents for you, the members, to approve. Please remember, that you can follow along in the discussions of the Bylaws Committee through the Archives set up at [sfi.org](http://sfi.org) and also you can feel free to send me your questions, and I'll be glad to answer them.

**STARFLEET's Admiralty Board/Executive Committee**  
The Admiralty Board had a very busy year in 2009 passing many Resolutions, and 2010 seems to be another active session. Many of the items being worked on are to bring STARFLEET into compliance with rules and regulations of the United States. I have sent the most recent EC reports to the CCO, I believe for December 2009, and will continue to do so whenever an EC Report comes out. The CO should pass on any pertinent information to their chapters if they so choose.

### **The RC's Road Trips:**

At one time, I had hoped to visit all the chapters within the first year of my term as RC, but alas, the best laid plans don't always come true. My finances have just not been what I was hoping they'd be, and also my real work schedule has been hectic as of late. Yes, good to be busy, but it doesn't leave as much room for the fun stuff and visiting my friends. I still will try to visit you all when I can; it's just going to take longer. Here's a list of some of the trips I plan to take at this time, tentatively:

March 5-7, USS Lone Star's 14th Anniversary, Lubbock, TX

March 13-14, Region 3's Battleship Texas Hard Hat Tour and Sleepover (I'll be staying at a local hotel though), La Porte, TX

April 30-May 2, Region 1 Summit in Pigeon Forge, TN

June 25-27, Region 3 Summit, Lake Charles, LA

July 30-August 1, STARFLEET's International Conference and Annual ECAB Meeting in Wagoner, OK

If you wish me to visit your chapter, especially during a special event or anniversary, please let me know and I'll do my best to attend.

*RC Report Continued***Ambassadors to the Region**

I hear that the Victory's Steve Gordon will be representing our Region at Region 2's Summit in Columbus, Georgia, March 12-14. Steve, please represent us well and have lots of fun.

***Still at the Keyboard*****LGN Aaron Murphy  
Chief of Staff**

Greetings from the Great White North (well, actually East, but who's keeping track?)! For those of you unaware, I had a rapid change of fortunes and I am employed on a web analytics project in Washington, D.C. I am going to be here for most of the next two and a half months or so, when it turns into a telecommuting arrangement. I am still available via cell phone, e-mail, instant messenger, smoke signals, and carrier pigeon, so if you need me, I am still here.

Retreat was definitely a beneficial and productive affair. We were able to set up some good events for the year, as well as going over some proposed changes to our regional handbook. There are some alterations that are a significant change from the norm we have been working under, while other less-dramatic modifications just streamline the rules we are operating under. I would recommend that those of you who were not able to make retreat contact your CO or a member of the regional staff and they should be able to answer any questions you might have.

As always, I get to wield the big stick, much to the staff's dismay. However, I have been staying busy helping out where my skills are needed. It also allows me to give kudos where they are merited. The Communications staff has been doing a great job, under the conditions that they work under. Everyone is stepping up and taking a portion of the load. You get to see the final product, but unless you've worked on a newsletter, you don't realize the pile of teeth that are left lying around after they get done trying to "encourage" people to submit reports and articles. Don't make Trisha start making up fiction for people. You'd be surprised where your ship ends up.

I also have to give a nod to Ken in CompOps. As the previous Chief, I probably have a more critical eye than most for the design and what goes on behind the scenes. We were able to get a sneak-peak at the soon-to-be-released website and he's done a great job making it visually "pop" while making sure it is functional. The funny thing is... as any good designer tends to do, he's already thinking of the next redesign that he wants to do on it.

Finally, our OPS chief, Lisa, has done an outstanding job researching and negotiating Summit for us. This year, it's going to be held in Lake Charles, LA. I'll leave the details to her, so that I don't steal all thunder. It looks like it's got the potential to be a great event and I would like to thank her for all the time and work she's put into it. This is first regional event that we've had in recent memory, if at all, in Louisiana, so I encourage each of you to show up in force and show our Cajun neighbors some love (while keeping it family-friendly, of course).

***Northern Lights*****RADM Robyn Winans  
Senior Vice-Regional Coordinator  
Vice-Regional Coordinator, North**

Hope that everyone has recovered from the holidays and are excited about all the new things to come in 2010. It was great to see everyone at Retreat. Congrats to our Biggest Loser Winners. Sharon Lambert, John Montgomery and Lisa Pruitt.

I had the chance to share with the CO's at Retreat, concerns with our unassigned list. I got some great feedback and the VRC's and I this month will meet and discuss implementing guidelines on how the Unassigned list can be used as a recruiting tool. One of the big items to come out of Retreat is that we'll be renaming our quadrants to Zones and our VRCs to Zone Leaders and we are doing away with sectors and sector leaders from any official recognition in the handbook. This isn't to say that current sector leaders are going away, but they will be seen more in the role of assistants to the Zone Leaders. Please be patient with us as we work thru this new reorganization and CO's keep your eyes peeled to the CCO list for those announcements for any time lines that Reed sends out on these matters.

Remember to send in your calendar events to Ken so he can put items on the Regional Calendar. Please send your suggestions to the CCO list if your group would like to sponsor a regional event this year. The North would like to see a Ren Fair trip or a Zoo trip to either Dallas or Fort Worth again. The Fort Worth Science Museum has been reopened after the reconstruction and would be another great place to visit. I know I'd love to see another trip to NASA in Houston as well a trip to Fredricksburg to include the National War Museum of the Pacific War

You can also add your calendar events to the STARFLEET calendar. From the main page of

**VRC North Report Continued**

www.sfi.org click on FUN in the menu bar below the STARFLEET Log and drop down to CALENDAR.

It was great to see representatives from the DFW area at Retreat. At the end of January, the Northern folks volunteered for the first Dallas Comic Con of the year which included guest such as Adam West, Anne Lockhart, Herbert Jefferson, Junior and Sean Patrick Flanery. It was a busy weekend with much recruiting and talk of Star Trek Fan Days coming up in Oct.

***Go West, Young Man!***

**COL John Johnston**

**Vice-Regional Coordinator, West**

Greetings, one and all!

Here we are, folks: smack dab at the beginning of a new decade! Open horizons for great possibilities for the immediate future!

I'm looking forward to the USS Lone Star's anniversary party on the 6th of March! It's always a great chance to knock the dust off the ol' dress uniform and look spiffy while eating dinner with our friends from the West, as well as some very honorable guests. I had lots of fun last year as Master of Ceremonies, and I hope to get the chance to do it again this year.

I am also looking forward to the Regional Summit, which is scheduled for the 26th of June! To my knowledge, this will be the first Summit in Louisiana ever! If not, it will be for me, anyway.

And, I certainly do not want to miss the Starfleet International Conference in Wagoner, Oklahoma on the 30th of July. This will be interesting, since it will be an all outdoors summit. So, pack your bug spray and sun screen!

That is all I have from the West at this time. This concludes my final article as the VRC-West. And on a personal note, if has been an honor and a privilege to serve as the Western VRC. Take care, and may the Force be with you.

***Southern Spacedock***

**Vice-Regional Coordinator, South**

**COMM Robert C. Graham**

As 2009 came to a close, I hope that all of you in the South had a very safe & Happy Holiday season. I hope that the New Year has gotten off to a good start for all of you in the Southern part of the Region. Myself & the SpiritWolf's XO attended the 2010 Region Three Retreat recently. The event was well attended & the absent Southern chapters were well represented by proxy. I recently reviewed the Database and saw that the Southern chapters have a 90% rate of reporting in & on time each month. That's good but there's always room for improvement. Let's all work together to get that up to 100%. Many thanks & I look forward to seeing all of you at Region Three Summit in Lake Charles June 25-27, 2010. Until next time, take care of yourselves & each other.

***Awards Coordinator***

**Award Coordinator**

**LTC Kyle Schugart**

Greetings Region 3,

With Summit and IC looming ahead, it's time to get on the stick. I am hereby asking for volunteers to be on this year's Region 3 Awards Committee. I will be selecting four members for the committee to help read, judge and assign awards based on submissions throughout the Region. I am looking for free-thinkers, not afraid to give opinions, and most importantly...NO politics! Volunteers must be in good standing with SFI and Region 3. Neither rank nor position will be a factor. I will gladly take anyone from Chief Bottle Washer to Chapter CO's.

Please drop me an email stating your interest no later than Feb 28th. Provide your name, rank, chapter, chapter location and your reason for wanting to serve on the committee.

Serving on the Committee requires your time and dedication, but be assured that it is time well spent and rewarding. I look forward to working with you.

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

Greetings , Region Three: SHOC report as follows, currently paperwork is being presented on both the Rachael Garrett in North Texas Commanded by Marian Murphy and the Thunderwolf in South Texas Commanded by Jeff Schnoor. Both crews have been detailing their chapters and making sure all SHOC requirements are present.

Other away team, possible future chapters are still being accessed in Louisiana. Currently both Louisiana chapters are working hard to make sure all and any new Chapters are properly formed with all stable foundations to begin SHOC status.

***Open Frequencies*****Communications Report  
FCPT Trisha Tunis**

As some of you know, this is my last Fleet Channels. I hope you'll enjoyed the issues I produced, it's been a pleasure to share all the news that fit to print (and some just not fit to print, but I did anyway). I'm stepping down as Communications, but won't be going very far away, and can always be lured back to do some ad hoc work.

Please remember some simple rules to make life easier for the next person in the Communications seat when submitting your articles;

There should be a single space between sentences, not double.

Fleet Captain according to the STARFLEET manual is abbreviated FCPT.

Submit articles in Word or text NOT Publisher or Powerpoint. Not everyone has these programs.

DO NOT SUBMIT YOUR ARTICLE ALL IN UPPER CASE LETTERS.

Spell check.

Starfleet should be STARFLEET when referring to our parent organization.

If you are writing about an events, please include date, time and location.

Please remember to send your item in before the deadline!

Thanks again to all my assistants doing the editing, compiling and some of the writing.

***Operations.*****Operations Report  
Rear Admiral Lisa Pruitt**

WE ARE HAVING A SUMMIT!!! The Region Three 2010 Summit will be June 25 – 27 in Lake Charles, Louisiana at the Best Western Richmond Suites Hotel at the intersection of Exit 33 on I-10 and highway 171. Check the Region web site for the phone number and be sure and use the Code: Starfleet Region Three. DO NOT TRY TO RESERVE YOUR ROOM ONLINE -- IT MUST BE DONE BY PHONE. Reserve your room(s) as soon as possible. If you have a problem, please let me know and I will be glad to assist you!

Lake Charles has lots of things to do for the entire family. There are museums, beaches, parks, shopping, a historical district, and ,of course, several casinos, and even horse racing. Come early and stay afterward and make Summit a true family vacation. There are numerous restaurants ranging from fast food to high end dining experiences and everything in between! Thanks to one of the restaurants, I can now say I have eaten alligator.

The hotel provides a great breakfast buffet that is free for all guests and a free evening cocktail party (with snacks) every evening from 5:00 - 9:00 pm except Sunday. There is a great pool and hot tub that they will keep open late for us.

Keep an eye open and your ear to the ground as more information becomes available and plans are firmed up. Summit 2010 will definitely have something for everyone and some fun new things as well as some of the old favorites. Stay tuned for breaking news!  
Ops out

## Chapter Reports

### USS Joan of Arc NCC-73289

#### *Ice Rays Hockey Game*

On the evening of Nov.28,'09. the club gathered at the Van Cleave home for a dinner of 5 can chili before heading off to see the local ice skating team. We, the Joan of Arc, were once again asked to come to the Ice Rays home game.. This time we had quite a crowd. All the Van Cleave family, John W., his son, T.J, Diane B., Margaret B., & myself were all in duty uniform. Margaret's brother, his wife plus her cousin & family rounded out the group. The game seemed a bit more rowdy than I remembered. Members of the opposing team seem to crash into the Rays on purpose. Rarely did this result in a penalty. At the conclusion of a drive, during the player exchange, two skaters were truly slugging it out, helmets flying & fans screaming while the officials just stood by & watched. Only after one player tried to trip the other with his stick did the referee eject BOTH skaters.

During the quarter break, T shirts were thrown to the crowd. Alex became the proud owner of one because his hand was smaller fitting between the seats to secure the desired prize. One last thing was that the Rays won again 3-2 ,same score as the last time we attended. Is the JOA the Ray's good luck charm????

#### *Festive December*

December hosted two gatherings: First, early in the month was the general crew meeting where the final touches for the Christmas Party were announced. Two weeks later Annual Christmas Party was held at the Butter Churn restaurant in Sinton.

People started gathering about 5:30 to fit into the allotted time frame. Dinner came first, then Robin officially opened the party with a few well placed remarks. This year's theme for the "Poem" was in keeping with other Star Trek ideas was "Prequel". I found a stocking that looked like an old fashioned sock to use as the pass around gift during the reading of the poem. As always Miss Margaret B. read it using her "teacher" voice to insure all could hear. The newest recruit Ryan, won the gift.

Now the main event of the party happened--- FERENGI GIFT EXCHANGE--- Each guest or crewman in numerical order got a present either from the overflowing present table or by stealing it from another person. The exchange took a while because

there were 20 adults to work thru. Marion was SURE he was going to 'get stuck' with 3 collectible Disney Princess Figurines since he was the first person to open a gift. Thankfully a few trades into the game he was relieved of the princesses in favor of another gift. The three most contested items were: the new Trek movie, a working phaser, & snowmen cups with several packets of Cocoa!

We had a large number of visitors from Victoria coming in with our contingent of Marines. Artemis had family down from Dallas.

The Cadets had their own present opening just prior to the adults... Each cadet was given a present from their own pile but NO swapping here...Can you imagine explaining to a excited 5yr.old that the rules of the game permitted another child to take/steal HIS GIFT----the exchanging starts when the cadets play as an adult generally about 11/12 yrs..

Shortly before 10 p. Robin wished the crew a hearty Happy Holidays to one & all!! Shore leave was then declared until Jan. 7th.

#### *Cadets in excellence in education.*

This time we had 2 of the 4 cadets make the A/B or A honor role for the first semester of the 2009-2010 school year. A big round of applause goes to Marine Cadet Corporal Isabo Turner & Chief Warrant Officer Christopher Van Cleave.

#### *Anniversary Party*

WOW 17 years!!! That's how long the Joan of Arc has been gathering for Anniversary Parties. We have 3 original members still in the club. One is an long distance having moved to Colorado for job reasons. Her name is Charis Roueche & she was the original Chief of Sciences. The other two live in town being Jim Van Cleave, original captain, now chief of Engineering And myself. I was originally a science crew member with my latest assignment is that of Chief of Sciences & RVA. Robin handed a lot of both promotions & awards. You can see them by visiting the club web site at [www.joa.homestead.org](http://www.joa.homestead.org) .

Margaret B announced that awarding the OCP pin would be her final act as Chief of Sciences. This is an award which goes to the person who collects the most manufacturer's coupons in a year to send to our base in Japan. This year was a banner year for the JOA. we sent off 5 bags each totaling around 2,500 dollars each. Our final grand total was 19,331.90 dollars! Amy Turner and myself were the top coupon gatherers in the club.

The final two appointments made at the Anniversary Party are Standard Bearer & Ambassador of the year... Artemus O'Connor received the Standard Bearer with Jim Van Cleave as her alternate. Mike Baird representing the Caller Times Newspaper was the ambassador due to his ongoing support of the club.

As reported by FCPT Kris Dobie

### **USS Regulator NCC-73337**

Well, we have gotten a new branch of our ship off to a good start. We have formed the 33rd Rangers on board our ship. We have quite a few members who have decided to sign up so this should be interesting for all of us.

It was decided at the last monthly meeting that instead of jumping into a "Game Day" for the northern part of the region, we will work on just getting a feel for who all wants to participate in the Sector first. From there, depending on the feed back we get, we might expand it.

Weather permitting, we are hoping to do a laser tag game in February after our monthly meeting on February 20. Have access to a local park that has lots of trees and good coverage for a game.

As reported by COMM Liz Goulet

### **USS Maverick SFR-301**

Brrr..... January was a cold month up here in the Panhandle but the Maverick kept it warm as a tribble...

Our station's pool team did well during the last session and hopes to do even better this one. Gene "Dr. Doom" Adams keeps us on our toes and, fueled by hot (nonalcoholic) beverages, has lead us to quite a few smashing victories. Me - I'm still trying to find that pesky 8-ball!

Videos were the entertainment of choice as the thermometer dipped, with several of our members catching sci-fi movies at the theater and rental shops. Our CO, Margi, represented us at Retreat and had lots of news from around the Region afterwards. Since Prairie Dog Pete didn't see his shadow, we're looking forward to an early spring. Come on warm weather!

As reported by CPT Doug Hogan

### **USS Trinity River NCC-6425**

The USS Trinity River had its normal meeting on the second Sunday at Dan's house. We discussed items including the upcoming bowling match and convention. January 16 we did go bowling, most scores were low but serviceable. The next Sunday was Retreat in Round Rock. Members of our ship attending were Captain Dan Stockelman, Rear Adm. Robyn Winans, and LTC Daniel Dreesbach. The next day we met again for a fundraiser, badge making party. The final weekend of the month included community service by the ship volunteering at the local Sci-Fi Expo. COMMENTS : Next month's planned events include our ships anniversary party on 20 February. We will be bowling again and invite all Sector One, Region 3, and Starfleet International personnel to attend. We will be at USA Bowl 10920 Composite Drive close by the corner of I35 and Walnut Hill in Dallas. Later in the month there is planned Sector one meeting.

As reported by CPT Dan Stockelman

### **USS Lone Star NCC-73628**

In the past few months the crew of the Lone Star did many community service and fun events. In December we participated in the Miracle on 34th Christmas parade. Everyone rode in our shuttle or in the back of the pickup pulling it. Immediately following that we took our shuttle out to Lubbock's Santaland, an area set up in one of the parks with lights and gave kids another option to get their picture taken with Santa than just the mall. We left the shuttle out there for a week for the purpose of collecting toys for Toys for Tots. We collected 200 toys. We also visited the crew or the USS Tejas for their Christmas party. We met to cheer Texas Tech on in football. We also prepared dinner for the families staying at the Ronald MacDonald House.

In January we had a New Year's Eve party. Several of the crew attended the Region 3 Retreat. We met for bowling.

In February we had a Super Bowl Party and planned out events for the month. We will be preparing dinner for the families staying at the Ronald MacDonald House which we do monthly with a few exceptions. We will be helping two crew members to move. On March 6 we have our fourteenth anniversary coming up.

The details are as follows:

Mar 6 @ 7:00 At River Smith's Banquet Room  
Menu: Chicken Bits and Roast Beef  
\$12 a plate, kids TBD  
Regional Coordinator is going to be in town for dinner; other guests may be joining  
RSVP by Mar 1st

*An Injury to one is an injury to all-Captain Jack  
Harkness Torchwood: Children of Earth Day 4*

As Reported by John Montgomery

## **Monthly Status Report Summary**

### **November 2009**

#### **USS Ark Angel**

LGEN Aaron Murphy  
Meeting at the Round Rock Library. This was our yearly Change of Command Ceremony. We planned the next several months of activities.

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#### **USS Aurora Vulcanus**

ADM Michelle Fanelli  
We were scheduled for an early December publication of the AG. The Catt is managing the group during the holidays.

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#### **USS Azrael**

FCPT BEAU THACKER  
DVD viewing for Star Trek. Had several members and non members show up.  
Canned Food drive for the Fuller House.  
Recruitment fliers handed out at RPG function.

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#### **USS Bexar**

CAPT Arthur Vaccarino  
Our regular crew meeting was held on Nov. 14th. We discussed our upcoming schedule & calendar and many of volunteer opportunities.

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#### **USS Corsair**

FCPT Trisha Tunis  
  
Did Wine tasting at LA Ren Fest and our monthly meeting at Borders.  
Upcoming plans include charity gift wrapping, and a New Year's Eve/Day Sleepover.

#### **USS Firebird**

2LT Wallace Cady  
Two bags of clothing were donated to the Salvation Army.  
Change of Command.  
Members attended Ren Fest.

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#### **SS Freedom III**

FCPT Evan Richards III  
F3 members will be attending The Retreat for the 2010 annual summit for Region 3 held in Round Rock, Texas.

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#### **USS Gunslinger**

COL John Johnston  
The crew of the USS Gunslinger assembled at our headquarters to bid a fond farewell to our founder: FCPT (ret) Robert Olivares. The USS Gunslinger, along with the Doctor Who Royal Society of El Paso, sponsored a two day Star Trek festival! Lots of classic episodes and the new movie were shown.

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#### **USS Joan of Arc**

COMM Robin Van Cleave  
Meeting held first Saturday of November at Butter Churn in Sinton. A fund-raiser rummage sale was held at the Turner's home in Flour Bluff. Took 10 POUNDS of pop tabs to the Ronald McDonald House on November 30th, also, on that same day, delivered four large bags of clothing, personal supplies, and toys to the Women's Shelter of Corpus Christi. Having a book drive for the School of Science and Technology - new school with no books in their library.

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#### **USS Lone Star**

RADM Lisa Pruitt  
  
Nov. 3: V Premier watching party  
Nov. 7: Crew Meeting  
Nov. 14: TTU Football watching party  
Nov. 21: TTU Football watching party at Hooters where members received regional TV coverage on Fox Sports Net Southwest  
Nov. 28: TTU Football Watching Party and Game Night

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#### **SS Maverick**

CAPT Doug Hogan  
Held our monthly meeting at DayBreak Coffee. We also prepared and served dinner for about 40 residents at our charity, Ronald McDonald House. This month also found us heading out to dinner at a local restaurant. Preparations were also made for a future away team mission to the Odessa Meteor Crater. Plans were also made for our Christmas party and a separate Christmas activity at a local museum.

**USS Palo Duro**

CAPT Arthur Vaccarino

We watched a Stargate: Universe episode, then talked about it over chips and dips. We all liked it! Good fun was had by all!

**USS Regulator**

BDR Mark West

Christmas Party on Dec 5th. Planning for a Game Day Spring to be finished for announcement at Region Retreat in January.

**USS SpiritWolf**

COMM Robert Graham

MEETING DATE : 2009-11-01

Recruiting efforts continue.

**USS Tejas**

CAPT Brent Chapman

Collectables: still collecting:

Pennies for our "Mile of Pennies"

Coupons for OCP, Humane Society, and First Step

Newspapers for Wilbarger County Humane Society

Newspapers for Wichita County Humane Society

Aluminum cans for Wilbarger County Humane Society

Aluminum cans for Wichita County Humane Society

**USS Trinity River**

CMDR Dan Stockelman

One of our members attended a Klingon Kampout, extending and improving our relationship with others in the area. We had our normal meeting on the 8th, and had a very fun Game Day at Kris's house.

Between games we went over the trivia from the Star Trek movie due to be released at midnight the next day.

**USS Victory**

RADM Sharon Lambert

Phone meeting. CO volunteered to help set up for the Raul Jiminez Thanksgiving Dinner. Tj and Alivna put in their bid for CO of the Victory, Voting will be at the next meeting.

**December****USS Ark Angel**

VADM Raymond Ford

19 December - Christmas Party at the Academy in Lago Vista USS Ark Angel's annual holiday gathering. Started with an informal meeting, followed by a meal, a white elephant gift exchange, and gaming. We welcomed our new members and visitors from the former USS Rhyanna crew. Event organizer - Dixie Hill.

**USS Aurora Vulcanus**

ADM Michelle Fanelli

Coupon Totals for November \$696.23 and for December \$474.46 Year end total was \$18,035.87 Chapter starting to gear up for 2010 fun. Getting together with the crew to see what we can do catch up the publication since we missed the last AG of the year.

**USS Azrael**

FCPT BEAU THACKER

Started meetup.com site for the NW area.

Members went to Avatar movie and want to go again.

Working on new year's activities. Brought cans to Fuller House, and gave toys away at toy drive.

**USS Bexar**

CAPT Arthur Vaccarino

Our regular crew meeting was held on Dec. 12th. our annual USS Bexar Christmas party is on Dec. 12th at 2:00 PM at Edward Thomas' home. Our "Ferengi Gift exchange" went really well. We also volunteered for the Elf Louise Project, which provides toys for needy children in the San Antonio area with the help of volunteer Santa teams. We Wrapped gifts on Dec. 8th. and did the Santa Deliveries, on Dec13th and on Dec 19th.

**USS Corsair**

FCPT Trisha Tunis

Raised money for the American Diabetes Association through gift wrapping tips; had Star Trek Sleepover NYE Partyer.



**USS Firebird**

2LT Wallace Cady

Toys for Tots in December. Trip to USS Texas. The donation of two 40 gallon bags of clothes to Salvation Army, Christmas Dinner (Christmas Day) for the first part of the End of Time, David Tennant's last episode on Doctor Who, Dickens on the Strand, a Victorian fair for steampunk and historical use. Toured the SS Elyssa, an 18th century cargo galleon.

**SS Freedom III**

FCPT Evan Richards III

Members of the Freedom 3 preparing for the Region 3 Retreat being held in Round Rock, Texas.

**USS Gunslinger**

COL John Johnston

The USS Gunslinger assisted the El Paso Wintercon (an anime convention) with different tasks. (Dec. 17th) The USS Gunslinger hosted a Christmas gathering at the Norris Residence. Several new friends from the Wintercon attended. (Dec 31) The USS Gunslinger hosted a New Year's Eve Costume Party at the residence of Matt and Melissa Sipple.

**USS Joan of Arc**

COMM Robin Van Cleave

1st Saturday - regular meeting at Sirloin Stockade  
3rd Saturday was our traditional Christmas party at the Butter Churn in Sinton, TX. There were a couple of prized prizes in the Ferengi gift exchange

**USS Lone Star**

RADM Lisa Pruitt

12-04: Wrapped packages at local Barnes and Noble for donations.

12-05: Traveled to Vernon Texas to help the USS Tejas celebrate their chapter anniversary and the season in general.

12-06: Held December crew meeting at the White's home.

12-12: Participated in the local Miracles Christmas Parade.

12-14-18: Set up our full sized shuttle at the City of Lubbock sponsored Santa Land for a Stuff the Shuttle toy drive for Toys for Tots drive.

12-19: Delivered over two hundred (200) toys to local Marine Corps representative.

12-19: Prepared and served dinner at local Ronald McDonald House.

12-19: Finished off the day by helping the chapter XO Darrell Carey celebrate his birthday.

12-31: Rang in 2010 at the annual USS Lone Star New Year's Party!

**SS Maverick**

CAPT Doug Hogan

The Maverick held our monthly meeting at DayBreak Coffee. November was our month to cook for the Ronald McDonald House. We also had our Maverick Christmas party at our Chief Engineer's house and the Ferengi gift exchange was enjoyed.

**USS Palo Duro**

CAPT Arthur Vaccarino

We watched a Stargate: Universe episode, then talked about it over chips and dips. We all liked it! Good fun was had by all.

**USS Regulator**

BDR Mark West

Getting started on Spring project.

**USS SpiritWolf**

COMM Robert Graham

MEETING DATE : 22009-12-01

Recruiting efforts continue.

**USS Tejas**

CAPT Brent Chapman

Collectables: still collecting

Pennies for our "Mile of Pennies"

Coupons for OCP, Humane Society, and First Step

Newspapers for Wilbarger County Humane Society

Newspapers for Wichita County Humane Society

Aluminum cans for Wilbarger County Humane Society

Aluminum cans for Wichita County Humane Society

We meet, around the end of the month, some of the crew in Wichita county, some of the crew in Wilbarger County

**USS Trinity River**

CMDR Dan Stockelman

December was a slow month this year. We had our annual Christmas party. Lots of fun and gifts exchanged. Our monthly meeting was held at that time. We voted to donate \$100 to our charity. Liz added \$5 more to bring the total donation to \$105. We discussed retreat next month and plan to attend.

**USS Victory**

CMDR T.J. Arizmendi

Held a Christmas party and a ferengi gift exchanging.

## January

### USS Ark Angel

VADM Raymond Ford

This was a productive meeting with much discussion. Several new ideas and proposals were presented. It was decided to table these proposals until the next meeting to allow more of our members to participate in the discussion. (23 January – Region Three Retreat) Clint Hill acted as USS Ark Angel proxy during the Congress of Commanding Officers meeting. Much of the meeting revolved around refinements to procedures established by prior Regional Coordinators. Jeffrey Webb ran a presentation on leadership.

### USS Aurora Vulcanus

ADM Michelle Fanelli

Coupon Totals for January \$4,605.72

We manage to get AG #4 out in early January. The 'It Ain't Pretty' Issue will be my last of general workhorse. We are getting a new publication team of Theresa Bristow and Leona Henry to handle the master, while our creative crew continues to pump out the submissions.

### USS Azrael

FCPT BEAU THACKER

Working on recruiting drive at local RPG store the Dragons Lair. worked on finding cheap alternates to uniforms for members on fixed incomes. Online meeting, working with members on OCC.

### USS Bexar

CAPT Arthur Vaccarino

Our regular crew meeting was held on Jan. 9th. we discussed our upcoming schedule /calendar and many of volunteer opportunities, Region 3 Retreat & Summit. Region 3 Retreat was held on Jan. 23rd, we discussed many topics many that will affect the membership. The "proposal to schedule a potluck" event together once every quarter has been approved.

### USS Corsair

FCPT Trisha Tunis

Matthew Ezell PROMOTED TO Master Gunnery Sergeant on 01/02/2010. Upcoming Events include an Orientation Day, Study Hall (to promote people to take STARFLEET Academy Classes), Star Trek Online, Crawfish Boil, and Krewe of Mutts Parade.

### USS Firebird

2LT Wallace Cady

Nicole Green:

- 1) 4 40-gallon bags of clothing were donated to a Conroe, Texas, Shelter.
- 2) 2 30-gallon bags of clothes and a box of canned goods were donated at a collection box for a Conroe, Texas shelter.
- 3) 2 boxes of books were donated to a Huntsville, Texas shelter.
- 4) Funds were raised by sales of used magazines to a local used book store.
- 5) Wallace Cady Participated in Hewitt Telethon raising 2.97 million dollars for Haiti Disaster Relief.

### SS Freedom III

FCPT Evan Richards III

The Freedom 3 relaxing after the Region 3 retreat held in Round Rock, Texas.

Plans are being made for the 2010 Regional in Lake Charles, Louisiana on June 25th through the 27th.

### USS Gunslinger

COL John Johnston

MAJ Nathan Conlon attended the Starfleet Region 3 Retreat in Round Rock, TX. MAJ Conlon carried the Gunslinger's proxy, which was used to vote on several issues of Regional importance. COL Johnston listened in via Subspace (GotoMeeting), and promoted Mr. Conlon during the meeting.

### USS Joan of Arc

COMM Robin Van Cleave

The Anniversary party was celebrated at the Astor Restaurant in fine frigid style.

There were several promotions and awards handed out. The third Saturday, a meeting was held at Sirloin Stockade. On the agenda - 20th Anniversary Celebrations committee was formed - with talks of possibly hosting the retreat in 2013.

### SS Maverick

CAPT Doug Hogan

Our station's pool team did well during the last session and hopes to do even better this one. Our CO, Margi, represented us at Retreat and had lots of news from around the Region afterwards.

### USS Palo Duro

CAPT Arthur Vaccarino

We watched a DVD of the latest Star Trek movie. We talked about it over chips and dips. We all liked it! Good fun was had by all!

**USS Regulator**

BDR Mark West

Planning training events for build up to running a Game Day next year.  
Got prices on ship patches for club shirts, assigned tasks to members for upcoming events.

**USS SpiritWolf**

COMM Robert Graham

The CO & XO attended the 2010 Region Three Retreat. Recruiting efforts continue.

**USS Tejas**

CAPT Brent Chapman

Donated \$100.00 to American Red Cross for Haiti

Collectables: still collecting

Pennies for our "Mile of Pennies"  
Coupons for OCP, Humane Society, and First Step  
Newspapers for Wilbarger County Humane Society  
Newspapers for Wichita County Humane Society  
Aluminum cans for Wilbarger County Humane Society  
Aluminum cans for Wichita County Humane Society

**USS Trinity River**

CMDR Dan Stockelman

The USS Trinity River had its normal meeting on the second Sunday at Dan's house. We discussed items including the upcoming bowling match and convention. January 16 we did go bowling, most scores were low but serviceable. The next Sunday was Retreat in Round Rock. Members of our ship attending were Captain Dan Stockelman, Rear Adm. Robyn Winans, and LTC Daniel Dreesbach. The next day we met again for a fundraiser, badge making party. The final weekend of the month included community service by the ship volunteering at the local Sci-Fi Expo.

**USS Victory**

CMDR T.J. Arizmendi

In January members of the USS Victory participated in an away mission to Boerne and Sistersville Tx. Members also attended the R3 retreat in Round Rock TX. After the R3 business meeting Victory members participated in 3 spirited games at the Interstate Lanes with fellow fleet members.

***On the Road..again..*****Reed Bates, Fleet Captain  
Regional Coordinator***The RC's Road Trip to Vernon, TX*

The first weekend in December, 2009, I drove by myself out to Vernon, TX to visit the USS Tejas for their combined anniversary and holiday party. I actually love to drive so it was pleasant even if by myself. I actually enjoyed the solitude of the drive—and there was always my cell phone to keep me company when not listening to oldies on the radio.

The crew of the Tejas didn't know I was coming; it was sort of a surprise. I arrived early, had my gift for the Ferengi Gift Exchange in hand, along with some food from the local grocery I bought to add to the potluck. I changed into my uniform (Red Shirt TOS) and proceeded to help set up.

The party was at a great location with a full kitchen with all the utensils imaginable. The food was delicious, especially Chyrlon Stroud's meat balls. I want the recipe. There was some great desserts too. After dinner, we played one of the hardest and meanest trivia contests, based on TOS Episodes. The XO Jeremy Skelton and the CO Brent Chapman put us to the test, and we pretty much failed. I believe the score was: my team - 2, the other team 1. (At least that's how I remember it) Either way, we didn't answer too many correct, but we won!!! There was no prize other than our pride in living through one of the toughest trivia contests I have ever been in. Next time, I'll need to bone up hard.

After the contest, we had a wild round of Ferengi Gift Exchange. There were quite a few sought after gifts and several three-way triangles were formed—passing one gift to the other, to the other, to the other, until the gifts were in the hands for a third time, where the gift then remained.

After the party, and after watching the USS Lone Star crew fix a flat tire, I spent the night at Karon McLain's house and had breakfast with her on my way out of town. I also enjoyed the ride home. I want to thank the crew of the Tejas for allowing me to come visit. I had a great time and would love to come up there again some time.

*RC Trip to San Antonio*

The second Saturday in December, 2009, I drove with my husband, Lloyd Bates, to San Antonio to visit the USS Bexar at their annual Christmas Party. They started it off with their monthly members meeting, where I learned that CO Robert Ybarra was unable to attend his first meeting in a very long time. He had a great excuse, his daughter was graduating from nursing school. XO Jesse Gutierrez handled the meeting along with Terrie Thomas, who read statements from Robert. The crew has been very active lately and were planning to be elves the following day to deliver Christmas presents to the underprivileged children.

After the meeting part of the day, we then enjoyed a traditional holiday meal with Turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes, and egg rolls. Yes, egg rolls with a spicy sweet sauce. They are handmade by Jesse Gutierrez's wife and have become a tradition with the Bexar crew. They were delicious and gone very soon. All the food was wonderful.

After the meal, while the others were watching some TOS episodes, I went on a tour around Edward Thomas' house. He's got quite a collection of Star Trek memorabilia. The whole upstairs was full of it, some still in boxes, and include a model of the Enterprise hanging from the ceiling right over the heads of those watching the shows. It was really cool!

Once I finished my tour, we then had what I then learned was a STARFLEET chapter tradition from around the universe, another Ferengi Gift Exchange. Theirs was very similar to the one I experienced out in Vernon and just as ferocious. There were several choice gifts stolen several times. All in all good fun. Lloyd and I said our goodbyes and wished them well on their elfish deliveries the next day.

## ***Tankø Take on Trek*** **2LT Tank Clark, USS Regulator**

This issue's episode: "Lower Decks", Star Trek: The Next Generation, Original Air Date: 5 February 1994 (Season 7, Episode 15)

As I may have mentioned, I missed an awful lot of ST:TNG when it was originally aired, and thanks to the weirdness of re-run syndication, I recently watched this episode for the first time ever. I think it's one of my favorite TNG episodes now. Perhaps it's because I identify with junior officers; perhaps it's simply because it's such a great episode. Regardless, if you haven't seen this episode and want to remain "spoiler-free," read something else.

The story begins in the Ten Forward lounge, where CDR Riker and Counselor Troi are discussing the current round of crew evaluations. At a different table are this episode's heroes, ENS Sam Lavelle, ENS Sito Jaxa, ENS Taurik, & Nurse Alyssa Ogawa. We also learn that although all four ensigns are up for promotion, Lavelle and Sito are competing for the same position: Ops night duty officer.

After the commercial break, we join the crew during a battle drill. Lavelle is at Conn, Sito at Tactical (with Worf looking on sternly), and Taurik in Engineering with LCDR La Forge. Following the drill, Riker gives Sito advice but snaps at Lavelle, who acknowledged an order with more than one "aye." I thought Riker was nitpicking... "Aye, aye" is acceptable, if slightly redundant. CAPT Picard comes in & orders a course change to the Argaya system near the Cardassian border, and pulls the senior officers into the briefing room. ENS Sito is told to take Ops, and she and Lavelle chat a bit. Lavelle, by this point, is convinced his chances for promotion are slim at best. Meanwhile, in Engineering, Taurik is overenthusiastic (imagine, an enthusiastic Vulcan) in discussing some ideas with La Forge. When we cut to Sickbay, Dr. Crusher tells Ogawa that she's recommending her for promotion.

Later, LT Worf encourages ENS Sito by informing her that he was the one who recommended her for Ops. Meanwhile, Lavelle tries to ingratiate himself with CDR Riker; unfortunately, the ensign was misinformed – he thought the first officer was Canadian, not Alaskan. A painfully uncomfortable conversation ensues:

*"You know, my grandfather was Canadian."*

*"Really?"*

*"Are you one too, sir?"*

*"A grandfather?"*

*"No, Canadian, sir. Canadian."*

*"No, I was born in Alaska."*

Near the Cardassian border, USS Enterprise-D searches for and finds an escape pod, on the other side of the border, outside of transporter range. After some adjustments by La Forge and Taurik, the occupant of the pod is beamed directly into sickbay. Only senior officers are allowed in, and ENS Sito is guarding the door outside. Picard visits his "guest," then takes Sito with him to his ready room. There, he proceeds to gripe her out about an incident at the Academy (go watch the episode entitled "The First Duty" for more information). After the captain tells the ensign he doesn't understand how she was assigned to his ship, Sito is dumbstruck, and leaves without defending herself.

Meanwhile, ENS Taurik and LCDR La Forge are shooting a shuttlecraft with a phaser rifle. Taurik is curious, but La Forge refuses to explain, instead telling the Vulcan ensign some cock-and-bull story about testing aspects of the shuttlecraft. At the same time in Sickbay, Ogawa is sworn to secrecy and then enlisted by Crusher to assist in an emergency surgery on the mystery guest: a Cardassian.

That evening, we see two poker games: one with the four ensigns and Ben, a civilian waiter in Ten Forward, and one with many of the senior officers. I really like how the two groups are shown to be so very similar, personality-wise. I also enjoyed Lavelle's response to discovering that the other three officers know, or have deduced, something about the Enterprise's current mission that he doesn't. (I'm going to have to remember this next time I plot out an adventure for the Star Trek RPG!) La Forge leaves his game to get Taurik and go to Engineering, and the junior's game breaks up.

In what appears to be the next day, after his martial arts class, Worf puts Sito through an interesting situation as part of an initiation to his advanced class. After being knocked around, and down, quite a few times, she finally loses her temper and refuses to take part in the unfair test. Sito learns her lesson the hard way – she learns to stand up for herself when she's being unfairly attacked. Taking Worf's advice, she asks Picard to judge her by what she's done on Enterprise, not at the Academy. The captain is pleased, and offers the Bajoran ensign an important and dangerous assignment. She agrees to pose as the

Cardassian's hostage. (It turns out that the Cardassian, Joret Dal, is a spy for the Federation, and needs to get back across the border.) He "steals" the shuttle that La Forge and Taurik damaged, and heads back across the border with Sito, who is dressed in Bajoran mufti. The plan is that after they make it through the Cardassian patrols, Sito is to get into the shuttle's escape pod, return to Federation space, and be recovered by the Enterprise.

Later, back onboard Enterprise, ENS Lavelle scans Cardassian space for the escape pod, and is told by CDR Riker to narrow the scan field to look for Bajoran life signs. Only after launching a probe do they detect something: debris. According to intercepted Cardassian message traffic, a Bajoran prisoner was killed in her pod while trying to escape. CAPT Picard makes an announcement to the crew: "To all Starfleet personnel: this is the captain. It is my sad duty to inform you that a member of the crew, Ensign Sito Jaxa has been lost in the line of duty. She was the finest example of a Starfleet officer and a young woman of remarkable courage and strength of character. Her loss will be deeply felt by all who knew her. Picard out."

Afterward, Taurik, Ogawa and Lavelle are in Ten Forward. Lavelle shows his friends the pip he's received for his promotion to LTJG, and ponders if he was promoted only because Sito died. He's told to honor her memory by excelling in his new position. The episode ends with Ben convincing LT Worf to join the junior officers in remembering Sito.

I can't say enough good things about this episode. The story was amazing, and I have since watched it two more times within the space of a week. Seeing the senior officers and the missions from the viewpoint of junior officers is a wonderful change, and I've learned things about them that I never saw in any other show of this or any other Trek series.

What do you think? Also, has anyone out there used a story like this in a role playing game plot? Write to me at [tank.clark@me.com](mailto:tank.clark@me.com) and let me know.

## Regional Calendar of Events

### March 2010

5-7 USS Lone Star's 14th Anniversary, Lubbock, TX  
 13 USS Ark Angel Hard Hat Tour of the USS Texas  
 (and Sleepover), Houston, TX  
 20 USS Corsair Book signing with Diana Rowland &  
 Crawfish Boil with Area 504, Baton Rouge, LA

### April 2010

24-25 NOLA Con (Comic Book convention) New  
 Orleans, LA <http://www.nolacomic.com/>

### June 2010

25-27 Region 3 Summit, Lake Charles, LA  
<http://www.region3.org/summit/>

*Scenes from the Best Western Richmond Suites  
 Hotel where we will be having the Region 3 Summit*



## Regional Staff Listing

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