

# Ahoy Region 3! January 2017 Update

I hope everyone had a great holiday season, and made into this new year safely. Having read the MSR's it seems a great many of you gathered together in various forms this past month, and that warms my cold, dead heart. Banding together is what SFI about, what it is supposed to be about, and one of the many ways we, Region 3, show how it is done.

December saw the eventual cross over of the new Commander STARFLEET and their new Executive Committee. As of 4 January the EC and the AB have been back to work. Our first goal right now is to get an new IG appointed and in place (to keep the RC election's on time) and then budget. I have reviewed it and asked questions on it, and in hope it will be approved by early February (allowing for time for discussion and voting).

Beyond that I have compiled a list items to address, and shared it with my fellow RC's for their comments and additions. The plan is to keep this list running so that we do not have things falling off the radar as has been the case since Wayne Killough's passing. Odds are there are still a few items out there, but once found, they will go onto the list, and get prioritized and worked accordingly. Right now, not including the IG, we have 11 items on it – which should keep us busy through the first part of the year.

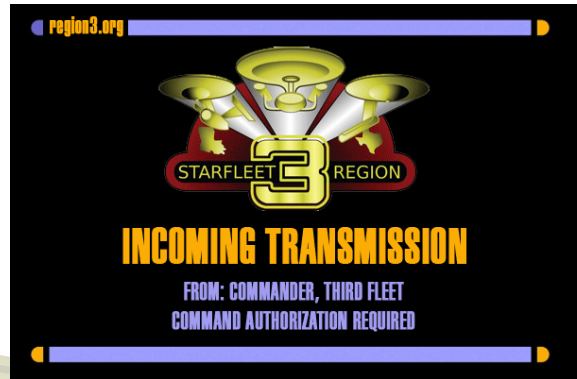
Sadly, there is more technical issues that are being uncovered/developing. Email is always a fickle beast, and it's proving more so now. I received only 8 of the 25 emails for MSR's this month. I did not get my RSR submission confirmation. Other communications to/from the CS and EC departments got lost in the ether. Other RC's report similar issues. So for this, I ask everyone to be aware, and be kind to those volunteers of this organization if you are not getting prompt replies...they may not have received it at all. The CS put the Comms and Comp OPS dept on this to run down the cause(s).

The 3rd Brigade has an ambitious plan for their muster, which we are all invited to as we do not have a summit this year. Your CO's should be soliciting interest levels for that now. Once that is hammered out and secured, I'd like to get the CCO together to hash out the rest of the calendar. We have game days to plan, and this is the year we visit NASA! Expect that discussion to start around mid February.

R3 Staff held a meeting this week, and we went over our goals and priorities for the year. Finish up the staff manual, issue out/publish all CCO votes for 2016, and any new once that come along, re-writes for the FLEET First and Event Planning guide, a Summit manual, QM store and history Wiki, and more expansive RC Cup criteria.

I'm looking forward to 2017, and I think we have a good start to making both the Region and SFI as a whole successful and better.

**Jeremy Carsten**  
**Regional Coordinator,**  
**STARFLEET Region 3**





## RC Cup Update

Greetings to all you generous souls in Region 3! Those of you who read Fleet Channels know already that the first annual Regional Coordinators Charity Cup was a tie between the USS Artemis and the USS Zavala. I'd like to update everyone with just what it is they won! Both these chapters were a huge part of the greater success that Region 3 had in raising \$4681 during our respective Extra-Life campaigns! Behold... the trophy in question.



My VRC, Lucy, and I are working on expanding this year's competition for the RC's Cup beyond just Extra-Life – to incorporate all the actions toward the region's chosen charity over the course of a year.

We haven't got that metric hammered out just yet, but we are working it. Still, it will be done before the end of the year certainly, so keep good records of all your actions and funds raised toward Children's Miracle Network (to include Extra-Life), who was present for each event, etc. This is the prize you are working toward – and get to display for a year!



# The Challenger Seven



**Chaplain Chris Lovejoy**  
**Chaplain, USS Corsair NCC-26556**

**Chaplain Liaison, Region 3**

Today, as I sit here, I reflect on a great tragedy that befell the US and the Space Program; the Challenger Disaster. I was but three years old at the time, but I still feel the weight of it.

Seven NASA astronauts gave their lives, as President Reagan so eloquently said, “to touch the face of God.”

Their sacrifice must be remembered and honored.

The Challenger Seven knew the risks of space exploration and were undaunted. As so many of our astronauts up to today, they were and are pioneers of the final frontier. Celebrate the lives they lead, mourn our loss, and remember the meaning of their lives and what they sought.

- Michael Smith
- Dick Scobee
- Judith Resnik
- Ronald McNair
- Ellison Onizuka
- Gregory Jarvis
- Christa McAuliffe

For so long as they are remembered, their stories told, the fallen will never be truly gone.



## Awards Season

\*\*\*\* From the Chief Administrative Officer \*\*\*\*

Greetings Region 3,

It is that time of year when it comes time to recognize the achievements of our members and chapters and to select those who will compete internationally for the “of the year” awards. Please be sure to review the manual and ensure that the nominations you submit match the award as well as ensure eligibility. Links will be provided below this message for the Region 3 Awards Manual as well as to the link where the nomination forms can be filled out and submitted.

Also note that once you make a submission, you will receive a receipt email. If you do not receive that email, please resubmit via the form and via email to me. I am available for questions and clarification.

**Manual:** [http://www.region3.org/Region3\\_docs/R3%20Awards%20Manual%20-%20Jan%20%202016.pdf](http://www.region3.org/Region3_docs/R3%20Awards%20Manual%20-%20Jan%20%202016.pdf)

**Member Recognition Page:** <https://region3.org/wp/member-recognition/>

Note: There is also a brief description of awards here. To get to the forms, select the tab at the top that says “Resources”, then “Member Recognition”, and you will see more drop downs, the forms are on the top 2 with the top being the SFI Annual Awards and the 2nd being the Region 3 Individual and Chapter Awards.

Very respectfully,

**Steve**

\*\*\*\*\* Note – the deadline for awards submissions is  
31 March 2017 \*\*\*\*\*





# Third Brigade Muster Announced

Third Brigade would like to invite all Starfleet members to their 2017 Muster/Wilderness Challenge.

**Saturday, May 20, 2017, 10am – 8pm(?)**

**Sherwood Forest Faire, McDade, TX**

**Cost \$65 – all inclusive!**

**<http://3bde2017.eventzilla.net>**

Since the International Conference is within Region Three's borders; there is no regular scheduled Regional Summit venue where annual awards for both the Region and the Brigade to announced at. As with past years, the Third Brigade has hosted their own standalone muster when this happens. This year's is extra special because the Region Three Command Element has requested to use the Muster to present their yearly awards and on top of that 3BDE has gotten approval to host its own Wilderness Challenge.

Regarding the Wilderness Challenge, don't fear, there won't be a ten-mile hike with a fifty-pound ruck sack; it will be a simple round robin style familiarization course on topics such as land navigation, first aid, etc.

Afterwards there will be a Field Mess (it's like a Dress Mess only less formal). Cost includes Saturday lunch, Saturday dinner and a cot in the keep (unless you want to pitch a tent) for Friday and/or Saturday evening. Local hotels are available – please check the Sherwood Forest Faire website for locations.



# March 2017 RC update

Greetings Region 3,

The CCO has heard from me plenty already this month; sort of piece meal on topics as they came, so let's get everyone caught up. The RC election is still in the nomination phase. If there is anyone else who'd like to run, they have until the 31st to get two chapter CO's to send in a nomination to the IG. All CO's should have received instructions as to how to do this directly from the IG. We have a new Chief of Computer Operations at SFI HQ, Tony Knopes – and may whatever gods he believes in have mercy on his soul – that is a most challenging post, and we thank him for taking it. That AB has confirmed him, so he is a full member of the EC now.



There is a new MSR template out, that I am asking chapters to use. The few early adopters we had this reporting cycle really stood out from others. Those CO's also stated the template helped them in filing their report. There may be a few upcoming tweaks to maximize the utility of the reports and the MSR's will finally feed into other areas for once.

The RC Cup scoring is about ready to roll – to encompass the entire year. We're going to edit that MSR template, and then chapters can report right there, in their MSR, and R3 staff can use that info to awards the RC Cup next year! Awards will be given out at the 3rd Brigade Muster, which we have been graciously invited to. Not only that, but they are permitting an indoor (with air conditioning and everything!) track for those who might not be interested in the Wilderness Challenge opportunity at Muster. Two meals, a cot to crash out on, and all the fun you can stand for \$65...not a bad deal. 20 May, 2017!

<http://3bde2017.eventzilla.net>

Speaking of awards, we have just over a week left to get those nominations in! The Forms are on the website. Deadline is March 31st!

We also have the NASA field trip secured for September!

September 16th, tickets are availability here: <http://sfi-nasa-trip.eventzilla.net>, as is the hotel information for those traveling.

And let us not forget to plan NOW for IC 2017, taking place in New Orleans! August 18 -20! There is NO event better than IC in all of fandom. For my money, nothing compares to finally seeing, for the first time or a great reunion, the friends we all talk to throughout SFI. <http://www.ic2017.org/>

As for a bit of maintenance, I'd like everyone to go into the database and check to ensure your information is current. Some of the membership processing/renewal issues have stemmed from incorrect addresses and the like. So go check, CO's encourage your crew to check, and let's make sure we are all operating with the best information possible.

Please consider sending in articles to Fleet Channels – now that it is online, things show up almost instantly so we can help you advertise for your upcoming event, and we'd all love to hear how a past event went.

Thank you all, and let's enjoy SFI and Region 3 as we head into spring together!

**Jeremy Carsten**  
**Regional Coordinator,**  
**STARFLEET Region 3**



# April RC Update

Greetings Region 3!

It is time for another thrilling installment of “Monthly Updates from the RC” (MURC? sounds kinda cool right?).

First off, the RC election is ongoing. No other candidates emerged, and thus it is a vote of confidence for me. I am told by the IG that he has received 12 votes (out of 22 chapters). If your chapter has not voted yet, please do so soon. CO's, if you did not receive instructions as to how to vote, please email the IG (IG@sfi.org) ASAP.

The election phase should end on or before 30 April (before is possible if over 50% +1 votes are made to confirm the standing RC...which is me).

The 3rd Brigade has their Muster coming up, and we have all been invited. Not only are they making time for region awards to be presented, but also some non-wilderness challenge related activities to take place in the keep. Please consider attending, it's a great price for what's being offered (\$65 for 2 meals and a cot + all the fun!).

<http://3bde2017.eventzilla.net>

Issues – Membership Processing:

This one remains a thorn in our side, and the VCS gave us some updates yesterday (posted to SFI-L list and Members Only Facebook group). It sounds like the VCS is running a lot of this himself, and that is proving to be the slow point. However, he is also setting up some potentially great stuff that will get information into the hands of members much faster. Please be patient.

The Admiralty Board has been chewing on some issues. One is pretty mild and mostly internal house keeping, what access to what lists do VRC's have – and a vote in in progress regarding that. Nothing earth shattering.

Of far more interest is the ongoing saga that is print membership compensation. The EC has made a proposed plan regarding the issue, but I disagreed with it. I put forth a counter proposal and debate has begun. I will fill in the CCO with more specifics.

Region Awards have been submitted and shall soon be decided upon. The committee is being assembled and meeting scheduled. The trophies have been ordered, and await the names to be engraved. I am very excited on what we're bringing you in terms of hardware this year, and I can't wait to recognize our people and their great works!

Speaking of recognition – promotions! If anyone would like to submit someone for promotion to O-6 (or any rank up to O-6 for unassigned members) to be announced at the 3BDE Muster, please get me the nomination by 30 April. That gives me time to get the promotion boards together, and certificates printed.

<https://region3.org/wp/member-recognition/promotions/>

If you are looking to promote someone beyond O-6, I'd get that nomination in NOW. It has to be received by HQ, sent to me for comment and then back to the EC for deliberation. It is not the most speedy process. I can only promise to be quick with my portion of it.



Please do not forget the Orders of Merit (<http://sfi.org/merit/>) to recognize your people either! We trimmed down the Region 3 awards because many of these, that actually get reflected in the database, cover what great things everyone has been doing. Those are the big rocks for April. Everyone have fun out there in your travels and stay safe!

**Jeremy Carsten**  
**Regional Coordinator,**  
**STARFLEET Region 3**



**Ensign Brendon Milligan** says:

My group isn't a chapter yet, working on it, but I would vote for ya if i could. You have been nothing but helpful, and prompt on my path of starting a new chapter. I thank you for your support.



# May RC Update

Greetings Region 3! Convention season is upon us, and I know some of our chapters have already executed great fan tables. If those that did just complete such events would look over the Fleet First and Event Planning guides to provide feedback, that would be much appreciated. We are only as good as the information we receive. I also look forward to more After Action Reports (which help us gather best practices and prevent any similar shortcomings that get identified).



I have heard from the Commander, STARFLEET that you are all indeed stuck with me for another two years. He's not sure why his announcement did not go out (intended the first week of the month) – but for whatever reason his computer ate it. I look forward to continuing to improve Region 3 and SFI, especially after some of the set backs of last year.

Speaking of actual progress, the efforts to compensate members that paid for a print membership that never received those goods is at the voting stage. We have the data, after herculean efforts by many on the EC to it get sorted, so that the AB could make the right call. The motion has been made and seconded, and voting is actively underway. After that various members of the EC and each RC will be involved in the implementation. A few months from now, this issue might really be done! Even better, soon the ECAB can be onto NEW Business! We are very excited (well, the CS and I are, I can't speak for everyone else).

This past weekend the 3rd brigade successfully held their stand alone Muster and Wilderness Challenge. This was a great event (with great food!) and was really awesome to see so many faces. We have 32+ 2 small children in attendance. That's a pretty good chunk of folks! At Muster Region 3 awards were announced. This is one of the best parts of being RC – recognizing the efforts of those in the Region.

Region 3 Awards:

**Zenith Print Media Award: USS Zavala**

**Apogee Digital Media Award: Trisha Tunis**

**Maelstrom Navigation Award: Sarah Hays**

**Steve "Doc" Jessup Distinguished Service:**

**Edward Tunis III**

**James Trainham**

**Chapter Commendation:**

**USS Zavala**

**Marian L. Murphy meritorious Service Award:**

**Reed Bates**

**Lisa Pruitt**

**Annual Awards:**

**Junior Member of the Year: Isabo Turner**

**Enlisted Member of the Year: A.D. Cruize**

**Officer of the Year: Robert Hunnicutt**

**Commanding Officer of the Year: Joshua Laughlin**  
**Flag Officer of the Year: Trisha Tunis**  
**Shakedown Chapter: USS *Endurance***

**Chapter of the Year: USS *Zavala***

Congratulations to all the award winners, and thanks go out to them for their hard work!  
I will be passing some other information to the CO's concerning Membership Processing, so  
CO's please be on the look out for that.

**Jeremy Carsten**

**Regional Coordinator,  
STARFLEET Region 3**



**MGEN E.C. Tunis III** says:

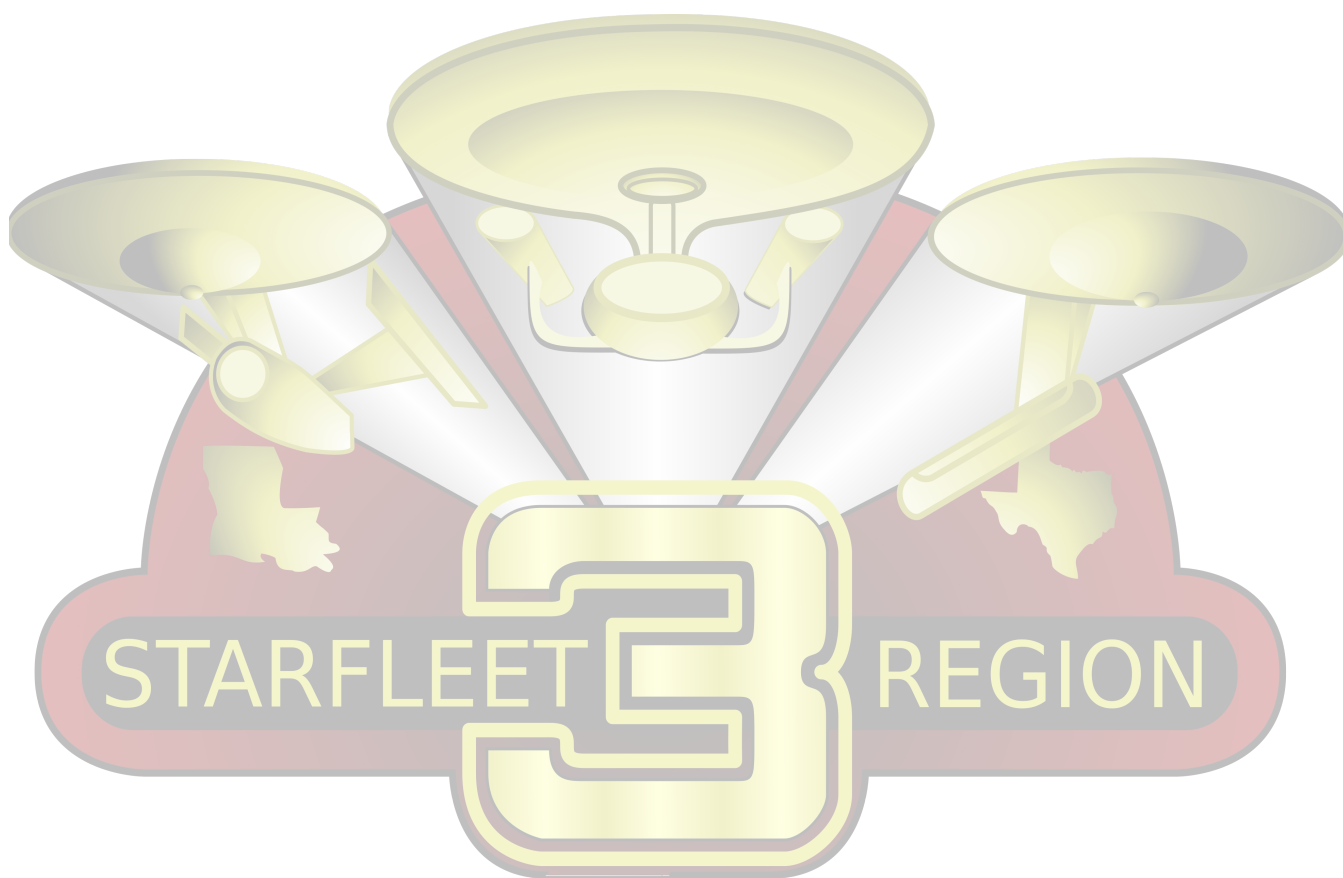
For Brigade Awards – go to the Brigade Website:

<http://3bde.org/2017/05/2017-valor-awards/>

or

<http://3bde.org/archival-records/halls-of-valor/>





# June/July RC Update

First, apologies for the lack of a June update. I did send a brief update to the CCO, but let's go over all the big stuff now!

The motion to restructure the membership rates has passed – this effectively puts everyone, no matter where they live, on the same pricing. It eliminates getting anything physically sent by default, which saves SFI money – and that savings is passed onto the members. If members want a printed certificate, or printed by-laws/Members Handbook, they can pay extra for that. This is in line with the Commander, STARFLEET's campaign promises to make things 'a la carte'.



This had to go first, and was approved, leading to the 2017 budget. That (which takes the new member rates into effect) is being voted on now, and should be done next week. The CS intends to change the way budgeting is done in coming years and this will be the last time it is done in the 'old' format...just when I was getting the hang of it! But progress is good, and I look forward to seeing the changes.

There are some big topics for the EC/AB to discuss at our annual meeting at IC. On my 'to do list' is definition of membership/membership classes and trying to get a solid plan on replacing our database. Those are my biggest priorities, and steps on the way to making SFI more member focused, and I hope to report some movement on both next month.

Locally we have chapters out doing great things, enjoying the summer and flying the SFI flag. We have IC here in our neck of the woods to look forward to next month – and if you haven't registered yet, please do. The International Conference isn't just the 'annual meeting' of SFI – that title does so little justice to the event. It's our far too infrequent group hug, hoisting a glass with friends we don't get to see nearly enough and seeing what the PEOPLE throughout our organization are really up to and really like. The entire point of a Fan Club is to meet and mingle with our fellows, and IC is THE BEST place for that to happen. Please consider attending if at all possible.

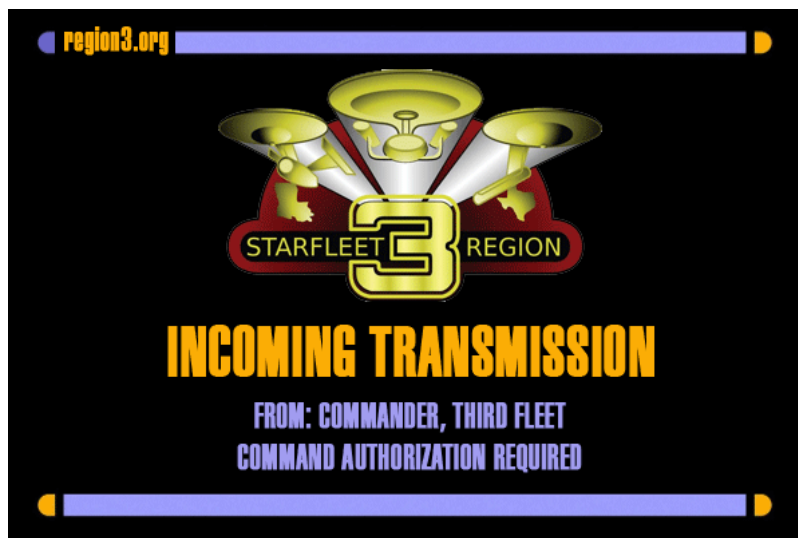
Also coming up is our bi-annual trip to NASA. The Johnson Space Center always has something new, and something fun for everyone. It is also another time to get together and actually SEE each other. We generally get together for dinner after and many stay in the recommended hotel to keep the party going there. <http://sfi-nasa-trip.eventzilla.net/>

The talk of all these events has me wanting to address this website/blog. This is the new Fleet Channels, and there is far too few articles between my RC Updates. I know amazing things are happening; members and chapters out there doing great things. Please share that with us. Not just in a cold, who/what/where report that I get in the MSR way after the fact. Get with your Zone Leaders if submitting directly is too 'scary' (although I think this handy link is pretty easy... <https://region3.org/wp/fleet-channels-submissions/>). Lets make this new medium for Fleet Channels a great place for us all to enjoy what each other are doing!

I hope everyone enjoys their summer safely, and I look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events!

**Jeremy Carsten**  
**Regional Coordinator,**  
**STARFLEET Region 3**





**Randolph Allen** says: This does beg the question about the Regional Budget and how that is doing? July 11, 2017 @ 1:43 PM

**Jeremy Carsten** says: There has been no budget presented, as there has been no income. The Region has money left over from the 2016 Summit, and allotted for expenses (like the R3 Awards and such presented at Muster). Other than that we're simply not spending. There is a staff meeting tonight where we will discuss the plans for the next term here, and any expenses anticipated will be discussed with the CCO. I am not, nor is anyone on staff, receiving anything to go to IC – and the Region 'sending' the RC used to be a big portion of the budget (though not all RC's took it). I'd rather save that to find ways to invest it in the Region. July 11, 2017, @3:12 p.m.

# Harvey Members Relief Fund

Sadly, disaster has struck our region again. The rains remain, causing ever more damage, and is moving east to impact more communities. Harvey will continue to literally rain destruction down as it progresses throughout the week. It is not over.

We know we have members in Corpus Christi who suffered property damage – the extent is still to be determined as many left the area ahead of the storm. A friend of mine who finally left Rockport described that town as simply being “gone”.

Houston is underwater, and might as well be Atlantis now. We have 3 chapters there!



Beaumont is facing not just water from the sky, but overflowing rivers – we have a chapter there. We are all, by now, sadly familiar with what serious rains can do in Louisiana. This could be so much worse than last year for the 5 chapters there.

The Washington Post put it in interesting terms; 9 trillion gallons of water have fallen so far (as of 27 August) – enough to fill the Great Salt Lake twice. Predictions state we could have at least that much

more yet to come. The damned thing is headed back out to sea to collect more water before hitting again!

This is going to get worse before it gets better, and it will be some time before we know the full extent of the damage OUR PEOPLE will have suffered. What we can do now is prepare. STARFLEET is family so we will start 'passing the hat' here to collect donations. 100% of what we collect will be evenly split between member's households and sent to them directly. Oversight on this will be myself, my VRC Lucy Franck, my financial adviser, Reed Bates and Brian Landry who was instrumental to the success we had last year during the flooding in Baton Rouge. This is going to a new, permanent account (both bank account and PayPal) for the sole purpose of maintaining a regional assistance fund.

Our specific goal is to help our members with near-term unmet needs. Insurance and government assistance will happen for those that need it, but it takes time. What we learned last year was needs shift so rapidly that by the time specific items are identified, collected and distributed, they are often not the critical need anymore. Money, however, remains king to dealing with these near term unmet needs. To donate: Visit PayPal.org. (please use the donate/send money to friends and family option, vs the pay for goods or services option). Or send money to [relief@region3.org](mailto:relief@region3.org).

Known chapters directly impacted:

USS *Joan of Arc* (Corpus Christi, TX)   USS *Spiritwolf* (Houston, TX)   USS *Zavala* (Houston, TX)  
USS *Endurance* (Beaumont, TX)   USS *Reaper* (Orange, TX)   USS *LaFitte* (Lake Charles, LA)

This list will grow as Harvey heads east after having recharged in the gulf.

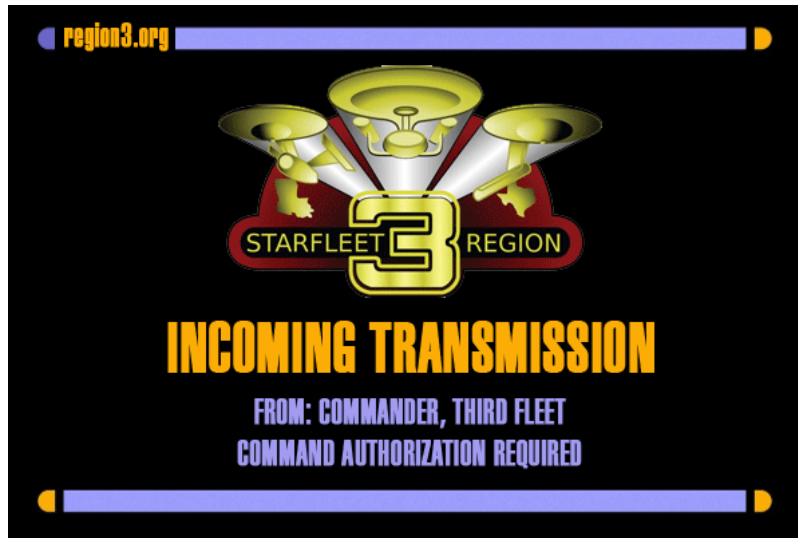
Please consider giving to this cause – it is our own people, our family.

**Jeremy Carsten**  
**Regional Coordinator,**  
**STARFLEET Region 3**

**STARFLEET REGION 3**

(UPDATE 8/29/2017, 2:04PM – added two more chapters impacted)





Randolph Allen says:

You might want to add the following Chapters. USS Reaper, USS LaFitte  
As they are currently being impacted by the storm. August 29, 2017 at 1:49 pm

Jude Peace says:

I've already donated to the Salvation Army – wish I had seen this sooner. But am able to help a little to my SFI family. Hope it helps. If everyone gives a little, it adds up to a lot!

My heart goes out to all of you...

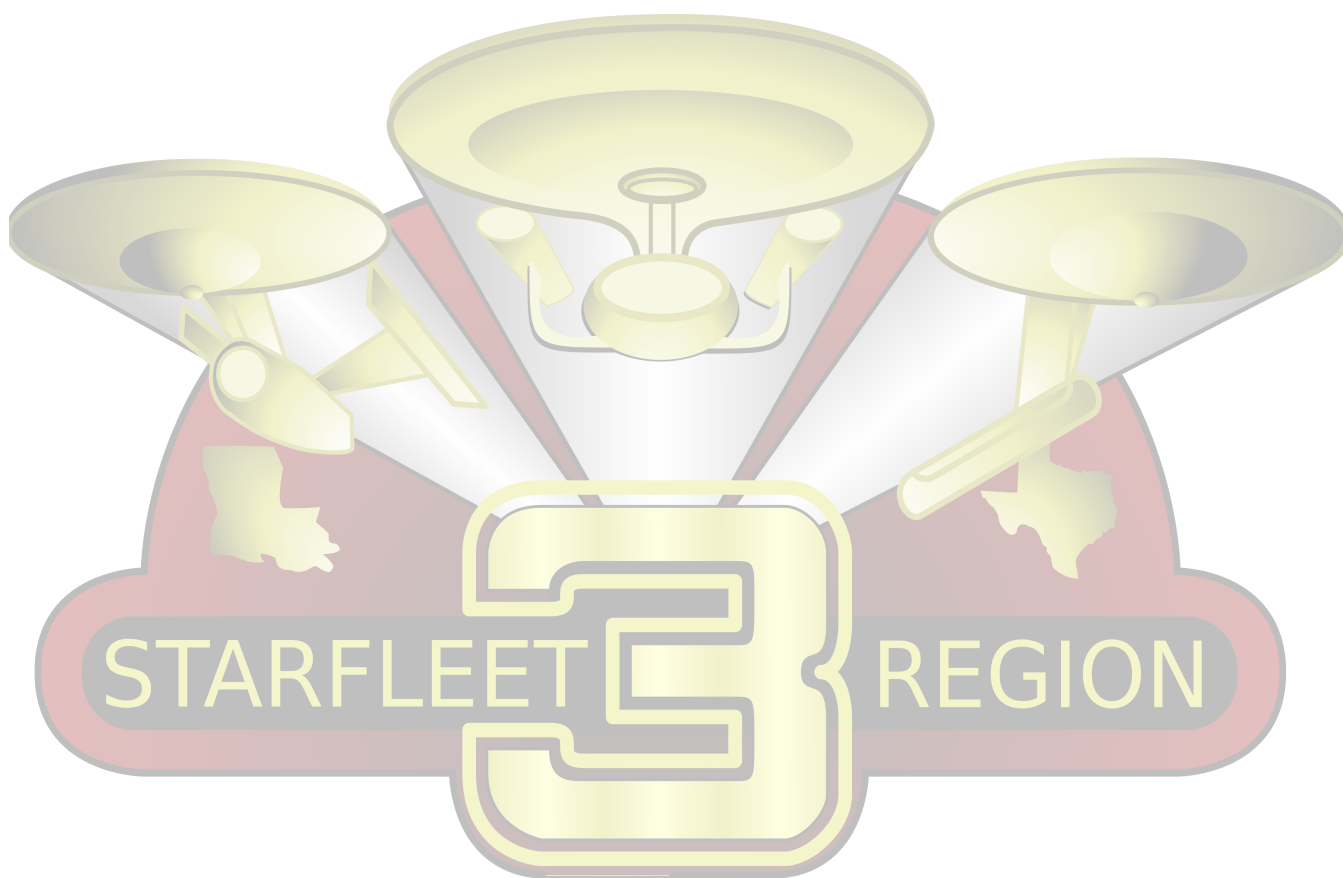
Jude

Laura Victor says:

I'm so sorry to see R3 going through this hell. Again. USS Challenger lends its support. August 29, 2017 at 4:50 pm

Edward Thomas - Cmdr - XO says:

As the XO of the USS Crockett, I have donated \$50.00 to the Region 3 Relief Fund and issue a challenge to all of the other XOs in Reg 3, to match or better my donation. We can all Engage in the effort to help out our fellow SFI Members, so let's Make It So!!!! September 1, 2017, at 9:54 am



# August RC Update

Greetings Region 3!

August has been quite the ride. A publicly quiet start, as many prepared for the International Conference in New Orleans, to the highs of IC itself, and now of course the ongoing pain that is Harvey. Let's take it one step at a time here.

IC!!! A great time, as always – when members can come together, chat, eat drink and remember why we are all family. I had a fantastic time, even if I didn't get away from the hotel much to see the sights New Orleans has to offer. For most of Friday I was enjoying the company of my fellow RC's and the EC in the ECAB meeting. Many thanks to my VRC, Lucy Franck who did her best to keep me sane and on topic during those proceedings. I will be making a separate report to the CO's about many of the items discussed there, as I want to keep this article more focused.

While there was a scheduling mishap with the hotel about the Marine Mess, (now) BDR Brian Allen and the officers of the mess recovered beautifully and delivered THE BEST Mess I've ever been to, and I very much doubt I am alone in that assessment. What a way to start the IC! Apparently somewhere on Facebook should be several videos showcasing my flying prowess, Chief Sardeson's excellent singing and some highly skilled fencing action from BDR Johnston and BGN 'Tank' Clark, and more. Exceedingly good times!

Saturday following a combined opening ceremonies and general session, it seems I was arrested by some local Klingons (really, I had no idea how invested with Klingon the region was...we need to be mindful of this!). For my various crimes, real or imagined, against the Empire, I was condemned to a pie in the face.

Standing with me to endure the same punishments were Ryan Case, RC of Region 2 and the CS himself, Robert Westfall. Would you believe our very own Reed Bates, and her husband Lloyd, were competing with each other as to who got to pie me!? We had a great SFMC Muster, and while other panels were going on, I didn't get to see many, as I was getting the aforementioned pie in the face.

Also that Saturday morning, several Region 3 members saw a promotion. Please congratulate the following:

**LGN Ed Tunis III**  
**VADM Trisha Tunis**  
**RADM Brian Landry**  
**COMM Angela Landry**  
**CAPT John Gilfillan**  
**COL Robert Roush**  
**CAPT Sydney LeJeune**  
**CAPT Charlene DeRoche**

Dinner was great, and it seemed the Dress Black Blouse uniforms are really growing in popularity – self included! The auction went quite well...something about a \$50 Dr. Pepper





(included delivery) – it was great.

Sunday gave us closing ceremonies, always a bittersweet moment as we say goodbye. Reed Bates and I hosted the ‘dead dog party’ – where we even got in the weekly Game of Thrones fix, thanks to the efforts of Matt Hill and Brian Allen.

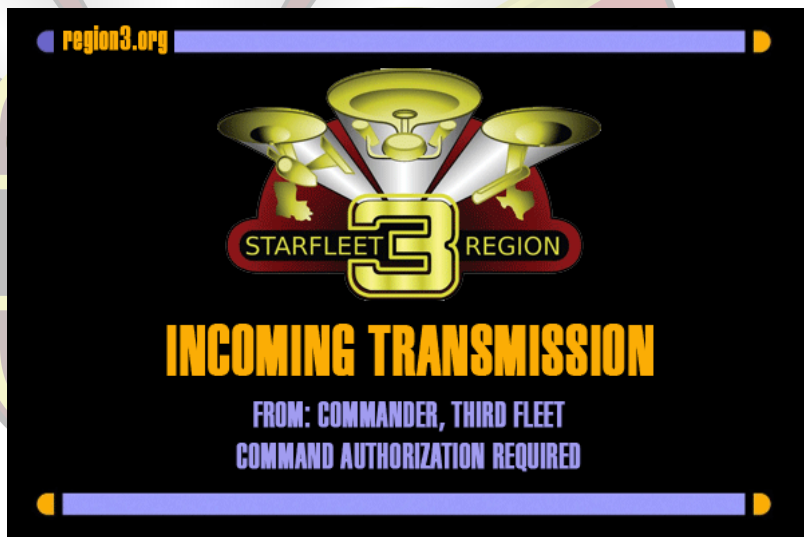
All told – IC was great, as it always is. Not attending, if it is at all possible for you, is a real disservice to yourself in getting the most out of STARFLEET. Much like summits, this is where the lasting friendships and bonds are forged.

Of course, as we returned, recovered, and started to regroup from IC, Hurricane Harvey struck our region. The damage is ongoing, and moving. To do what we can, we’ve started up the Region 3 Members Relief Fund again. If you are impacted by this, PLEASE let me know. If you can donate, please do so – 100% of funds collected will go direct to our members. The article about it is here: <https://region3.org/wp/2017/08/29/harvey-members-relief-fund/>

Or you can donate via PayPal directly to [relief@region3.org](mailto:relief@region3.org)

Ups and Downs – Region 3 will ride it all out and continue on. It is my honor to serve the best of STARFLEET, and I look forward to pressing ahead through the recovery in the aftermath of Harvey, and getting back to the fun that makes our region so awesome.

**Jeremy Carsten**  
**Regional Coordinator,**  
**STARFLEET Region 3**



**COMDR Brendon Milligan** says:

It is a shame I was unable to attend the IC, my military duties kept me away. Good luck to our people who were in Harvey’s way. As a Member of the National Guard I am doing the best I can to help as many as I can with my unit. Qa’plah!

# September RC Update



Greetings Region 3,

September has been insanely busy, at least for me. But let's recap: 10 September – The Orville, a new, *Trek*-like show by Seth McFarlane – many equating it to the best *Trek* show we've had in a long time. I have to admit, that by episode 3, I figured it was the sarcastic version of *Trek*, with that episode feeling right at home in season 2 of TOS or season 3+ of TNG. I know several chapters did, and continue to have viewing parties for this new show.

For me, I'm also trying not to grow too attached to it – being that it is Sci-fi on Fox....

16 September – 50 members of SFI joined up at Space Center Houston for our bi-annual trip. This was a great time, and it was fantastic to see everyone, especially so soon after the hurricane of last month. Personally I love the new (to me) Independence Plaza with the shuttle mock up and the shuttle transport plane. We also enjoyed a great meal next door at Victor's Restaurant – that needs to be a new R3 tradition as well!

22-23 Sept I was personally at FenCon. I did a write up about this convention last year, and I again highly recommend it. It really re-charges my batteries, and is a very well run convention. You should really check it out if you get the chance.

24 Sept – Star Trek Discovery! We got new Star Trek on TV! In San Antonio we hosted a viewing party in a theater, and I know there were many, more intimate, viewing parties held throughout the region and the fleet. Not only should we be enjoying this for what it is, but using it to promote ourselves and our good work. At the San Antonio viewing, we raised \$125 for Children's Miracle Network.

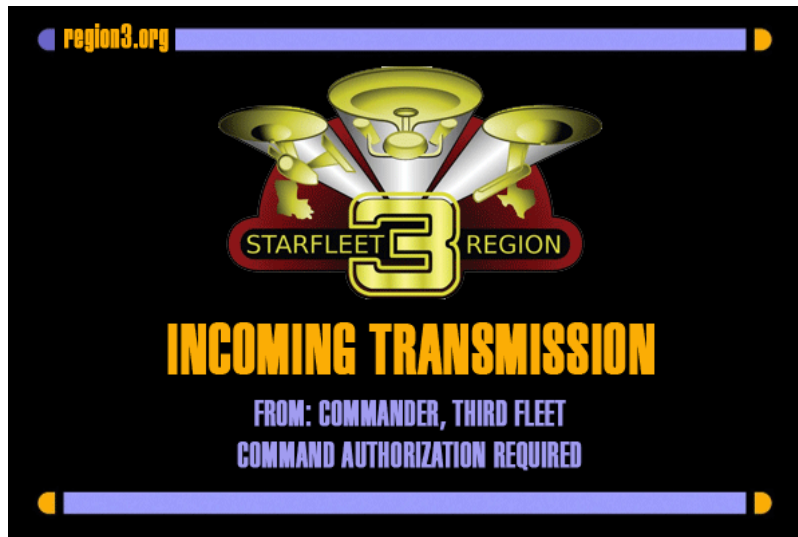
We have some game days we are looking forward to – be sure to share dates with your Zone leaders, so they can get them on the calendar. I know many chapters are doing Extra-life on or about the 4th of November, and now is the time to start advertising for that.

Keep up the great work, and let's enjoy all this new *Trek*/*Trek*-like stuff together!

**Jeremy Carsten**

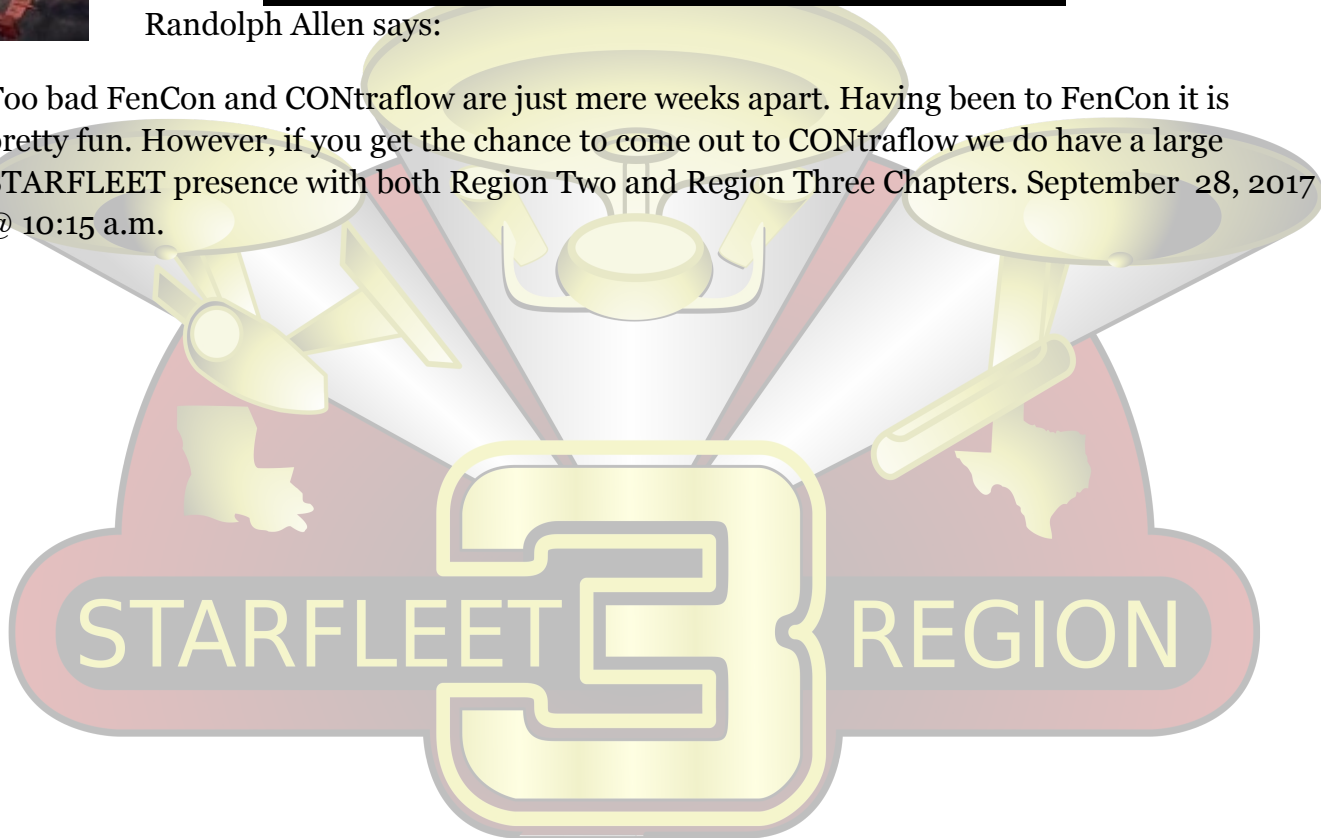
**Regional Coordinator,**

**STARFLEET Region 3**



Randolph Allen says:

Too bad FenCon and CONtraflow are just mere weeks apart. Having been to FenCon it is pretty fun. However, if you get the chance to come out to CONtraflow we do have a large STARFLEET presence with both Region Two and Region Three Chapters. September 28, 2017 @ 10:15 a.m.





# STARFLEET Chapters Put on a Show at CONtraflow

**Reported by COMM Randolph Allen: USS NEW ORLEANS NCC-57288**

DATELINE: STARDATE 201710.08 Mere months after the International Conference held in New Orleans, members from the USS *CORSAIR*, USS *NEPTUNE* and USS NEW ORLEANS returned to city of Kenner and to the New Orleans Airport Hilton for the commencement of CONtraflow VII. The convention which served as a stepping off point for both the NEW ORLEANS and the NEPTUNE when they first launched continues to be a staple of the Gulf South Star Trek Fandom, even with the threat of then Tropical Storm Nate looming in the Gulf of Mexico.

As the states along the track of Nate prepared for what would later be a Category One Storm, convention organizers made the difficult decision to continue the show. The USS LAFITTE and their companions with CyPhaCon both coming from Lake Charles, LA made the decision not to come during the storm because it would have made driving difficult. By the evening of October 6th, most businesses and government offices were in full prep as the storm's track focused on the City of New Orleans. However in the morning of October 7th, the track shifted east and Nate took aim at the Mississippi and Alabama Coastline. New Orleans would be spared, but the USS NEPTUNE would leave the afternoon of October 7th so their crew could make the proper preparations.

Even though Nate was the overriding concern for those going to the convention, that didn't stop events from happening. On Friday Evening, the USS NEW ORLEANS hosted "An Evening at Quarkbucks" in the convention's hospitality suite. A late night coffee social for gamers. It was full and well attended.

On Saturday Evening the USS NEW ORLEANS once again entered the Room Party Contest with their entry "Holly McHolodeckface – The Broken Holodeck." The Chapter had its signature Romulan Ale but this year, no awards were won for the Chapter. Instead it was just a good time and many fans being exposed to both episodes of "Discovery" and the fan series "Continues."

On a final note: while the USS NEW ORLEANS did not win any awards from the convention this year, the Chapter was recognized in another fashion. The Chapter's Commanding Officer, Randolph Allen was awarded Fan Guest of Honor for CONtraflow VIII which will be once again held at the New Orleans Airport Hilton on November 16 – 18,

2018. This time, the convention organizers are hoping that it will be too late in the year to affect the convention.

Link to images:

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=oa.1622087394521390&type=3>



Randolph Allen says:

Featured in the Picture: David Ducombier and Skungy Scontrino of “The Week In Geek Show” now found on Clear Channel. Picture by Brian Held Jr.

# RC Update – December 2017

Greetings and Happy Holidays Region 3!

The last few reports were sent to the CCO only, but I'm determined to keep this message as open as possible. Even better, there is some good news!

First let's focus on the Region. We're still working on Summit – the committee and I meet tomorrow, and I hope to be able to move forward with a contract and announcement shortly thereafter! It will be in the DFW area, and looks like we have a lot to look forward to there!

I look forward to resuming work on several items –

Complete the documentation for things to ensure the region remains sustainable and more easily managed, to include:

- **The ever-delayed staff manual**
- **A technical manual for how the various parts of web, cloud storage, social media, etc work**
- **A re-write of the FLEET First and event planning guide (to include a summit guide – which I am placing WAY at the back burner, as we are learning summits may have to change)**
- **Web pages to archive CCO votes**
- **QM store – and after that**
- **FLEET First bulk item purchases and re-sale to chapters (I hope to do this once, this could, and should be a Fleet level thing eventually, I feel we demonstrating and testing the plan out).**
- **Other R3 swag purchases as deemed financially advantageous.**

All stuff I've said before, but in hopes we're past other obstacles now.

In Big fleet stuff:

My motion for a communications policy committee did not pass. There is not yet a solid way ahead on that front, but then it is December and people are extra busy. There was some preliminary talk, and suggestion by the CS to re-appoint a MHB committee, and go through it section by section with a fine tooth comb – and all needed policies would get wrapped up in that. I personally do not feel this is the correct way ahead, but the conversation is still playing out. At least we're still talking and will likely have a plan in January to move forward.

Joe Sare has been confirmed as Chief of Operations, so we'll give him some time to settle in before beating him up too bad. Chapter launches are under way once again, and we launched the *USS Far Star* here in Region 3 on 4 December 2017!

There is some discussion in the AB (on the new AB lists even, we have get away from using the not-at-all-secret Facebook group as much) on chapter sizes and options. If talks continue, this would very much change the shuttle program, and provide members with more options. I'm kinda excited this one is in talks, as it's been on my to do list for awhile. Maybe it helps when it doesn't come from one of the typical loud mouths on the board?

Also improving is the EC vs AB relations – or at least I hope so. The ECAB list was transitioned over to google groups (just like the AB and ABVOTE lists) so that we can have reliable comms with the entire ECAB. That gives us a chance, at least, to work together. I really



believe that most of our issues stemmed from the technology not (specifically the email lists) preventing good, reliable communication. It's impossible to work with people if you cannot reach them – today we can!

As for the holidays, Much of SFI HQ has been shutting down to critical functions through the new year, and R3 HQ is in the same boat. I hope everyone has a great holiday, a I look forward to a new year with everyone!

**Jeremy Carsten**

**Regional Coordinator,  
STARFLEET Region 3**

**[www.region3.org](http://www.region3.org)**

