

Fleet Channels

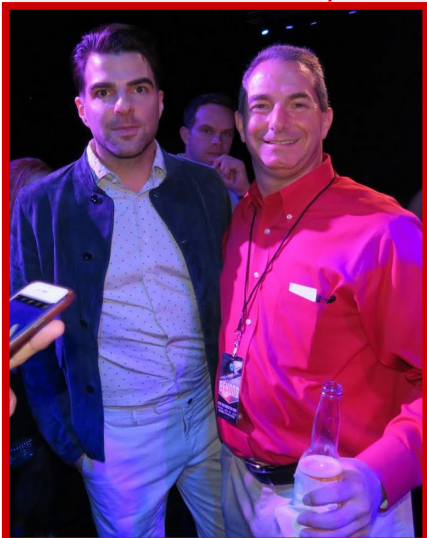
Winter Newsletter Region 3 Starfleet

Shakedown Cruise: Summit & Beyond

The Shakedown Cruise of the USS *Apollo* continued over the last 6 months under the guidance of her CO, CMDR Robert Zane and XO, LCDR Karyn Gressett. With her roster now at 13 Officers and Crew, the Commissioning Ceremony for the *Apollo* has been tentatively scheduled for December 17, 2016.

Robert Zane won tickets to attend the *Star Trek Beyond* Fan Event on the Paramount Studio Lot in Hollywood, California. Karyn Gressett accompanied him to the exclusive event on May 20, 2016. Appearances at the event included *Star Trek Beyond* stars Chris Pine, Zachary Quinto, and Karl Urban, director Justin Lin and producer J.J. Abrams. Cadet Aiden Zane and Robert Zane attended the Region 3 Summit June 23-25, 2016 in Odessa, Texas, where Aiden took 3rd Place in the Region 3 Mini-Golf Tournament. The USS *Apollo* hosted a Fan Table on July 20, 2016 at Cinemark West Plano in celebration of the

USS *Apollo* page 4



From left: USS *Apollo* CO CMDR Robert Zane with Zachary Quinto at the *Star Trek Beyond* Fan Event at Paramount Studios; CMDR Zane meets Director Jeremy Lin; taking the Captain's Chair with support from the Orion Slave Girls at the fan event 2016.05.20. For more photos of this event see USS *Apollo*, page 4.



Fifty-One *Star Trek* Fans from around Region 3 (below), gathered at the San Antonio Westlakes Alamo Drafthouse theater to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of *Star Trek*, the Original Series, in a private event featuring showings of "The Cage" and "Where No Man Has Gone Before." Following the episode screenings, Region 3's new ship the USS *Tarvos* formally commissioned. Please see related stories, page 6. Photo courtesy of Regional Coordinator Jeremy Carsten.



Regional Coordinator's Report:

Greetings!

2016 has been a big year for us here in STARFLEET Region 3, one we will explore in this year-end edition of *Fleet Channels*.

I'd like to thank everyone in the Region, from our old hands to our newest members, for making this year the success it was.

We started off implementing a new award system. That proved not only effective, but far better reflected the work done by our members that is not being recognized elsewhere. We had a VERY successful Summit in Odessa, TX, with 74 attendees, raising \$2580 for our chosen charity, the Children's Miracle Network!

We've launched our beautiful new website, which will continue to see improvements as we move forward but is already a vast improvement on the communications throughout the region.

The USS *Endurance*, USS *Harlequin* and USS *Tarvos* joined our ranks as fully commissioned chapters, and we welcomed the USS *Apollo*, on their shake down cruise as their journey in SFI begins.

We all celebrated the 50th Anniversary of *Star Trek* throughout the year in various ways, with 50 members coming together in September in San Antonio to watch the original series pilots in a theater, followed by more fun gaming.

Speaking of gaming, many chapters of Region 3 participated in Extra-Life, a gaming marathon on (or about) November 5th, to raise money for the Children's Miracle Network. Their combined efforts brought in \$4766! We also implemented the Regional Coordinator's Cup this year, to

Regional Coordinator page 3



VRC 2016 Wrap-Up Report



Having just recently been appointed VRC, I don't have much in the way of a report from that seat yet. But as the former CAO and Chief of Awards, I do have some information to share.

Region 3 proudly brought home four of the eight STARFLEET Annual Awards for 2015 presented at IC 2016 in Louisville, KY.

Congratulations to MCPO Steve Sardeson, Enlisted Member of the Year; Major David Jarrett, Officer of the Year; the USS *New Orleans*, Support Ship of the Year; and the USS *Selene*, Shakedown Chapter of the Year!

We had excellent submissions in each Annual Award category and are very proud of all our Region 3 nominees and winners.

It was suggested that we include some biographical information on the website's Awards section on the three individuals for whom awards are named. I think that is a great idea, especially for newcomers to the Region and STARFLEET who did not know those individuals and their contributions to Region 3. I am asking those who knew Steven "Doc" Jessup, Glen Corbin, and Marion Murphy, especially those who served in the same chapters, to share your recollections with me so an appropriate biography for each can be added to recognize their contributions. We honor them with a named award, so let's work together to write something that reflects why they were so important to the Region. All contributions will be appreciated.

By the end of the year, Commanding Officers need to identify those individuals who will be nominated for Region and Annual Awards for the year's work in 2016. Region 3 will not be having a Summit in 2016 due to the 2017 IC being held in New Orleans.

Should the 3rd Brigade Marines get a Muster together in spring 2017, it could offer us an occasion to present the Awards for 2016 before an audience. That means the timeline for submitting nominations will need to be adjusted to an earlier time frame. This could mean opening nominations in early January and closing them in early February to give time for the activities that need to take place before presentation.

This is another good reason why COs and chapters need to identify their nominees by the end of December. Nothing is concrete yet, but I wanted you to be aware of the possibility of this change in procedure. (And no, we cannot give out our Region awards at IC. We need to do that before IC.)

Once a new CAO/Chief of Awards is appointed, I will work very closely with the individual to train them in the ways of the awards process here in the Region and with STARFLEET. Until then, any questions you have about awards can still be directed to me.

I am happy and excited to move up to the Second Seat in the Region and look forward to continuing to make Region 3 the BEST Region in STARFLEET. Any assistance I can give to members and or chapters, please don't hesitate to let me know. My email address now is vrc@region3.org.

**VADM Lucy Ferron Franck,
Vice Regional Coordinator,
Region 3 StarFleet**

Zone 4 End-of-Year Report

Greetings Shipmates,

Since the last article, there have been widespread volunteer efforts across Zone 4 including supporting food banks, cancer research, treatments, and education. September saw a rather interesting celebration of the 50th

Anniversary of *Star Trek*, along with the USS *Tarvos*' commissioning, at the Alamo Drafthouse Westlakes in San Antonio. We watched the episodes "The Cage" (original pilot for the series) and the second pilot, "Where No Man Has Gone Before," commissioned the USS *Tarvos*, and congratulated shipmates on their promotions.

In October, San Antonio hosted Torch-Relay, which turned out to be a 2-mile walk by people to raise funds for Children's Miracle Network Hospitals (CMNH). This was definitely a worthwhile effort to participate in, supporting CMNH, as this non profit's fundraising activities are much more than just Extra-Life. The event in San Antonio also encouraged serious cosplay, and I highly recommend increasing our presence there next year. I think it will pay dividends in visibility and recruiting to be seen at things like this.

Also, since Extra-Life has been mentioned, USS *Texas* as well as other chapters in Zone 4 had gaming events going on 5 November.

There are a couple votes that I want to highlight being taken by the CCO regarding Region 3's focused charity effort. The first vote is whether or not to adopt CMNH for 2017, and the second vote is whether or not to adopt CMNH as a permanent Region 3 effort or at least until the CCO adopts another. Thanks to those that voted and gave me their feedback on this issue. It is important, and having a focused effort improves effectiveness as we are stronger together and better than the sum of all of us than we are individually.

Finally, this will likely be my last article as the Zone 4 Leader as I have accepted the appointment as the Chief Administrative Officer for the Region 3 Staff. I look forward to continuing my service in this capacity, and I know that Zone 4 will still be in good hands.

Very respectfully,



**MCPO Steve Sardeson
Region 3 Zone 4 Leader
Chief of the Boat, USS *Battle Born***

Regional Coordinator's 2016 Wrap-Up

From Page 1

recognize the very best chapter in this effort. And, as nothing can ever run smoothly, we had a tie between the USS *Artemis* and the USS *Zavala* - both delivering huge efforts toward this worthy cause! They will have to share the forthcoming trophy for the year, and both chapters' names will appear on it as winners for 2016.

There has been a huge effort in documentation this year as well; publishing the first Region 3 Handbook update in four years, and working hard to get out the much more detailed Region staff manual. We did not get that one quite done yet, but it is not far off.

Sadly, not all has been perfect and enjoyable - we've had to say goodbye to far too many friends this past year; starting with the Commander, STARFLEET himself, Admiral Wayne Lee Killough, Jr., in April. 2016 took half a dozen more Region 3 members alone before it was done, in addition to those friends from the rest of the fleet and various celebrity / sci-fi community members. The year has been brutal in this regard, and we leave far, far too many behind.

Looking ahead to 2017 we have a whole year of opportunities. The region once more selected the Children's Miracle Network as the chosen charity, and to stick with it for the foreseeable future - enabling us to work with them to try and establish a mutually beneficial relationship. The International Conference, our entire organization's annual meeting and gathering will be taking place in New Orleans, August 18-20 2017 - right in our own back yard. I look forward to seeing everyone there! We're also due for a trip to Johnson Space Center in Houston, and I hope to have far more game days throughout the year.

Our charity efforts will continue and expand, as will the recognition for that. I'd like to expand the RC cup to cover the entire year's worth of efforts instead of a singular event. I look forward to meeting the challenges the coming year will undoubtedly place before us as well. Together, as friends and comrades, we will meet them all.

Let us all Go Boldly into 2017, and Prosper even more than the we did in this past year!



Region Three First Lady Sarit Carsten and RC Jeremy Carsten at Summit 2016 in Odessa.

Jeremy Carsten
Regional Coordinator, STARFLEET Region 3
(Louisiana and Texas) www.region3.org

Dogs of War DOIC Leads Visit to FENCON 2016



Third Brigade Deputy Officer in Charge BDR Jeremy Carsten, at left, with his treecat Menace, greets Brigade 6-1 BDR Tank Clark, with his Tribble, at FENCON XIII in Dallas. Photos courtesy Jeremy Carsten.

Sometimes you feel down and need to recharge. Sometimes that recharge is simple: a movie, time with friends, a walk through nature, sniffing glue, painting, writing a poem, skydiving, a martial arts class, Noodling (<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Noodling>), or meditation.

For me it came as an unplanned visit to FenCon XIII. The week or two previous had not been the best ever. Nothing terrible, but just tired, sore, drained... you know, as one gets. To top it off the lovely wife was not feeling well either, and had much school work to do, so we were not going to go anywhere that weekend.

She had noticed that I had FenCon on my calendar, but that was more of a 'gee I wish thing'. She told me I should go...and, well...on Friday after work, I just finally followed her advice, and loaded up and drove to Dallas.

I was once again reminded as I was going through the big D (and I do mean Dallas) how much I dislike the driving there, but finally arrived, checked in, got a drink (or two) and worked out as then people

registered for the con, just above the opening ceremonies concluded. Shucks, right? Eh, it worked out as then people flooded out of the main ballroom and I was immediately among friends both new and old.

Good, geeky chat and some snack chow later, and we were off to room parties. Friday night didn't end for me until well after two in the morning, just chatting with various people, most of whom I did not know, but all who were super friendly and loving the geeky atmosphere. Saturday had more interesting panels than one person could possibly attend, from *Star Trek* to extreme astrophysics to weird tech from the *1632* universe ... (a fictional universe I must start reading, it seems!) and almost always a concert/music to watch and listen to. Busy day. I got to connect with fellow SFI members, and meet folks from The Royal Manticoran Navy fan club that I've been talking with for some time - it's always great to put a face to a name finally! The vendor room and charity auction were great, and quite successful at taking my money, and the room parties Saturday night were a blast!

As cons go, Sunday was a little bit of a groggy start, but still MORE wacky panels, future of computing, the Future of Trek, SyFy channel shows on and coming up - and many, many more. For a 'small, fan convention' FenCon had it all.

As I departed in the rain Sunday afternoon, my body was tired, as one will be after having a great deal of fun, but my mind was refreshed. Sometimes we all need to recharge, and I think I am not alone in finding that at a gathering of fellow geeks, hosted by passionate people that deliver a fantastic event.

It sure beats dorodango (<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dorodango>)



Dogs of War 6-6 Come Sarah Hays, in mufti, scored 10.5 of a possible 11 to win the 1632 Trivia Contest at the 1632 Mini-Con during Fencon XIII. The prize basket contains sausages and other treats from Germany.

Join us
for the
1632
Mini-Con
at

FENCON



Dallas/
Fort Worth
9/23~9/25
2016

Jeremy "Sideshow" Carsten
Brigadier, 6FMC
DOIC, Third Brigade

USS Apollo Shakedown Cruise Continues

From Page 1

Premier of *Star Trek Beyond*. Aiden Zane and Robert Zane staffed the table in Plano, Texas with a visit from Aaron Dyer of the USS *Artemis*, the *Apollo's* Support Ship.

Three members of the USS *Apollo* Crew, Karyn Gressett, Sherri Kidner and Robert Zane hosted a Fan Table at Cinemark 17 in Dallas, Texas for the screening of *Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan* - Director's Cut in celebration of *Star Trek's* 50th Anniversary.

With the *Apollo's* Shakedown nearing its end, the entire Crew is looking forward to dropping the training wheels and soaring into 2017 as a Commissioned member of the Region 3 Fleet. Live Long and Prosper!

CMDR Robert Zane
CO, USS *Apollo*



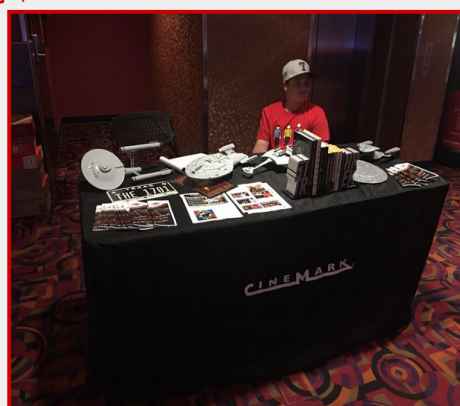
Clockwise, above: At the *Star Trek Beyond* Fan event, actor Chris Pine, with Adam Savage (*Mythbusters*), and *Star Trek* Film producer J.J. Abrams, director Jeremy Lin, and actor Karl Urban; cast members Urban, Pine and Quinto discuss the Film; the street sign for Leonard Nimoy Way, on the Paramount Studios lot, unveiled as Zachary Quinto, center, toasts its dedication; the Captain's Chair proved almost as popular as the Transporter, complete with Orion Slave Girls, for Fans' photo opportunities. Far left, lower: CMDR Robert Zane, USS *Apollo* CO, being transported among the Orion Slave Girls at the Fan event. Below: CMDR Zane and Cadet Aiden Zane at the *Star Trek Beyond* Premiere and USS *Tarvos* commissioning, San Antonio Alamo Drafthouse Westlakes; USS *Apollo* CO Robert Zane takes a hero's stand at the premiere.

Story and Photos:
CMDR Robert Zane,
USS *Apollo* CO

Below: Region 3's 2016 Summit in Odessa, Texas drew USS *Apollo* Cadet Aiden Zane, left, to a photo op with Regional Coordinator Jeremy Carsten (center) and *Apollo* CO CMDR Robert Zane, right; below, Cadet Zane shows off his Miniature Golf Charity Tournament prize (third place), along with Loyd Bates, center left, James Muench Jr., center, and RC Jeremy Carsten, right.



Below, left, USS *Apollo* CO CMDR Robert Zane staffs the Fan table at *Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan*, Director's Cut screening, a 50th Anniversary event at Dallas' Cinemark 17. Cadet Aiden Zane, at right, also worked the Fan table.



Star Trek 50th Anniversary in Vegas



Unlike many of you, I had never flown before nor been to Las Vegas. For the 50th Anniversary, my fiancé and I couldn't resist the chance to see it all. In January we bought our tickets, reserved the hotel, and had our flights booked, but the waiting game had only begun. Finally August was here and with all of our excitement, we boarded our flight to Vegas. I would be a liar if I said I wasn't nervous about flying, but I was happy to have the window seat for my first flight.

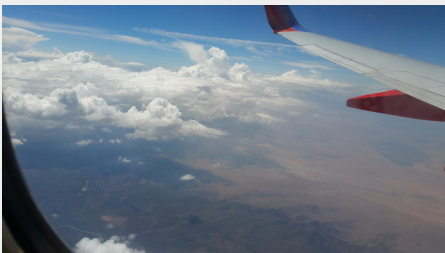
Three hours later, we landed and thankfully our friends Rob and Eleanor Hunnicutt from the neighboring Chapter back home, *USS Zavala*, were there with a car to pick us up. First we had to take a tour of the Hoover Dam. After that it was off to get checked in at the hotel. During our time there we met with various SFI members from all over the world.

We took the opportunity to join photo ops with different clubs and even put together a small photo with a few SFI members. Luci brought our SFI name badges and they made it easier for other Chapters to see we are SFI as well as us seeing others wearing theirs. We took part in the costume parade and can be seen on video.

Inside the Vendor Room, we ran into the NASA Federal Credit Union. Luci and I took some photos for their advertisement and shot a short video with them. On one of the karaoke nights, Luci and I even sang on stage with Connor Trinneer and Dominic Keating from *Star Trek Enterprise*.

The food and drinks were all Trek-themed; it was an experience that will never be forgotten. Next year we are preparing for Star Trek Las Vegas: TNG 30th Anniversary. After seeing what other fan groups were doing out there, we will be prepared to share info on SFI and are working on creating a large photo op for SFI members.

Story and Photos:
Captain Joshua A. Laughlin
Commanding Officer
USS *Endurance*, Region 3
Zone 3 Leader



Above, left: Approach to Las Vegas ending First airplane flight; right, the Las Vegas tour includes Hoover Dam. Below, Region 3 StarFleet members Lloyd, Par left, and Reed Bates join a photo opportunity during the 50th Anniversary celebration in Las Vegas; USS *Endurance* XO Lucinda Moseley, third from right, and Commanding Officer Joshua Laughlin round out the crowd. Bottom photo: mass gathering of *Star Trek* fans in "Insurrection Blacks" style uniforms during the Las Vegas *Star Trek* convention includes *Endurance* CO Joshua Laughlin, third from left on stage.



Above: CMDR Lucinda Moseley, left, and USS *Endurance* CO CPT Joshua Laughlin at the 50th Anniversary Star Trek Las Vegas convention. Below: Trying out the transporter.



Region 3 Celebrates Star Trek's 50th Birthday at the Movies

On 10 September, 2016 members of Region 3 comprising 8 different Vessels of the Line converged on Alamo Drafthouse Westlakes in San Antonio, Texas to celebrate the 50th birthday of *Star Trek* and to formally commission the USS *Tarvos*, NCC 90866.

To commemorate such a significant milestone, we enjoyed viewing the original two pilot episodes of an ever-living saga, *Where No Man Has Gone Before* and *The Cage*. It was quite the treat to see them on the big screen, and the ambiance of seeing the episodes with so many fellow Starfleet shipmates was superb. Also, after the costs were covered to host the event, remaining funds were donated to Region 3's supported charity, Children's Miracle Network Hospitals.

Also on the docket, the USS *Tarvos* NCC 90866 was commissioned, and CDR Michael Trujillo promoted to Captain. The following members also received promotions following Champagne toasting by all who chose to do so:

Arwen Wilson to Lieutenant Commander
Gracie Varnado to Lieutenant Junior Grade
Ralph Wilson to Petty Officer Third Class

Daryl Varnado to Lieutenant Junior Grade
Matt Gower to Ensign

Following the episode showings and the commissioning, several members of the combined group converged on a local entertainment venue, The Main Event. There we socialized over drinks, food, billiards, laser tag and rope courses. Overall, it was a great day to spend with friends and shipmates.

In case others may want to execute an evolution like this, here are some lessons learned:

1. Setting this up took some time to gather the appropriate information in order to get the right questions to the right people.
2. Do not be afraid to ask question on what it would take to have a theater reserved for private functions. We've noticed that prices will vary depending on particular movie houses, capacity of each individual theater, time frame and date, and I may have missed a couple categories.
3. Also, we were allowed to bypass licensing/copyright issues by having this as a private event versus a public event.

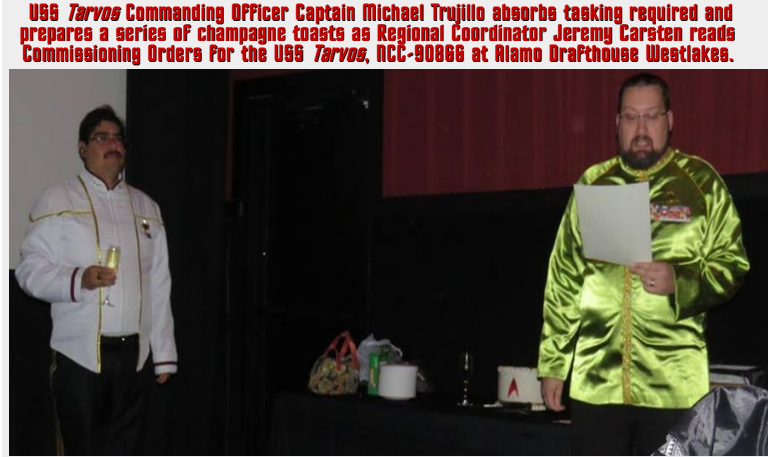
So, armed with this information, we hope that your regions, zones, sectors will be able to enjoy such an event as we did recently.

Very respectfully,
MCPO Steve Sardeson
Region 3 Zone 4 Leader
USS Battle Born Chief of the Boat

The officers and crew of the USS *Tarvos* NCC 90866 being recognized upon commissioning of their ship Saturday, September 10, 2016. From left: BDR John W. Johnston, executive officer, USS *Tarvos*; ENS Matt Gower, LTJG Gracie Varnado, LTJG Daryll Varnado, LCDR Arwen Wilson, PO3 Ralph Wilson, Tony Bejar, Elaine Bejar, and CAPT Michael Trujillo, Commanding Officer, USS *Tarvos*.



Images Courtesy of CMDR Robert Zane, USS *Apollo*



USS *Tarvos*' commissioning ceremony at the San Antonio Westlakes location of Alamo Drafthouse drew more than 50 Region 3 Starfleet members representing eight chapters. A portion of the group, above, includes members of the USS *Tarvos*, USS *Battle Born*, both from San Antonio; USS *Diamondback*, Abilene; USS *Crockett*, San Antonio; USS *Zavaia*, Houston, and USS *Apollo*, Frisco, Texas.



All the attending members of Region 3 gather for a group photo to wrap up a successful celebration and commissioning and prepare to depart for home or to follow-on after parties.



Communications Department Report

Greetings,

First, thank you for my amazing staff, especially Sarah Hays, for handling the COMMs department while I've been dealing post flood recovery. I have been enjoying reading about everyone's adventures at conventions, book festivals, gaming (and more gaming!) events. We're looking at another three months until we can move back into the house. Many, many heartfelt thanks for the donations-we did put them to good use settling up the apartment, and my son did splurge and got himself a new computer game. Yes, he's a geek. ☺

When people ask me why I'm a member of STARFLEET, I can point to caring individuals like you who took time out of their day to say they were thinking of us, seeing what we needed, and sometimes a strong back to lift furniture to the curb. We're more than just a group of people who enjoy Star Trek, we're a family.

GROUP HUG EVERYONE!

Announcements

- Please remember STARFLEET is having a recruiting contest! I would love to see a Region 3 chapter win. For complete details check out <http://sfi.org/recruitment-drive/>.
- Linda Olson is seeking stories about your chapter's name! So why did you decide on the USS LOLLYPOP? Send your submissions to her at dragonladye@wildblue.net to share with the rest of STARFLEET in her Membership Reports.
- The time is now to start plotting your recruiting strategy for next year, and give COMMs feedback on the recruiting materials provided. What worked? What didn't? What type of marketing materials would help you even more? Send this to info@Region3.org.
- Make sure you submit those "After Action Reports" post-event(s) to <http://region3.org/wp/after-actions-reports/>.
- I'm still very much available for press release review, consults on table layout/displays, and other marketing assistance. Please contact me at Comms@Region3.org.
- Zone Leaders should be finding out what events the chapters are having and updating the Regional Calendar. Additional assignment-letting us know if there's a great chapter activity we should be featuring on Region3.org! Continue to keep up the great work out there, and let us know if you need anything!

Elevator Speeches-Pressing the Right Buttons!

You've got the great display, wear the sharp uniform/polo, and marketing materials are in your hand. The convention door opens, and the masses of people start wandering by your table randomly picking up the tribble, tricoder, or paging through your photo album.

What do you do next? What do you say when they ask the inevitable question "What's this all about?"

Before you even arrive at the table that morning, you should have your talking points prepared and ready to go. These are sometimes called 'elevator speeches'- a short (30 seconds or less) commercial about your chapter and STARFLEET.

This elevator speech is: absolutely not longer than 25 to 30 seconds; or - in words - approximately 80 to 90 words; or - in sentences - 8 to 10 sentences.

How do you do this without sounding like someone from Scalos rushing through your speech so fast the prospective member can't understand you?

Here are some tips to help you build your own elevator speech:

What STARFLEET is in ONE sentence.

Yes ONE. It can be done. My standard opening line is "We're here representing STARFLEET, the oldest and largest Star Trek Fan club with over (insert number) Trekkers worldwide." Lay it out there for them. You're a Star Trek Club, and they can make a bunch of new friends. Boom.

Why this event and STARFLEET are perfect together in two sentences (bonus points if you can do it in one!) If it is a gaming convention, have how STARFLEET is active with board games, RPG's, and especially fundraising with Extra Life. A celebrity filled convention? Stress how you love to discuss the series/actor, how STARFLEET can help them share their love of Star Trek and other sci fi shows. Community events - show with a quick and easy arts and craft project how family oriented your chapter and STARFLEET is. If you're raising money for a charity and asking for donations, this is where you should mention it.

Bonus tip-Repeat "STARFLEET" and/or the name of your chapter in this pitch. It will help it sink into the prospective member's brain a little better!

What makes STARFLEET different than just hanging out online on forum boards or reading *Star Trek* blogs in one or two sentences. Emphasize they can be a real STARFLEET Academy graduate, help out their community, explore new worlds (or activities) that they've never done before!

What do YOU love about STARFLEET? Keep it short. Be enthusiastic! Put the brochure/marketing literature in their hands.

Call to Action! How do they take the next step? Make it easy for them to join and get more information from you. Mention your next event, have them fill out a card for you to contact them afterwards.

SMILE AND MAKE EYE CONTACT!

That's it. Hopefully they should have questions, or watch to see their reactions to see what part of your pitch seem to spark their interest. Try to get a conversation started.

So how do you get from paper to real life? Here's a checklist for fine-tuning what you've developed.

STEP 1: First write down all that comes up in your mind about.

STEP 2: Then cut the jargon and details. Make strong short and powerful sentences. Eliminate unnecessary words.

STEP 3: Connect the phrases to each other. Your elevator address has to flow natural and smoothly. Don't rush.

STEP 4: Memorize key points and practice.

STEP 5: Have you really answered the key question of your prospective member: What's In It For Me?

STEP 6: Create different versions of your elevator speech for different situations.

What I want to emphasize is that this elevator speech should tell more about what you DO, rather than bland statements of what you are. This kind of answer only gives a tiny glimpse into what you really do. There's nothing about this kind of answer that is going to set you apart from the other clubs out there. Plus, it can be boring! And no one wants to be boring, do they?

Please let me know if you craft your own elevator speech, and send it to me via email to Comms@Region3.org. Or better yet, create a YouTube video to share with everyone.

Trisha Tunis, Rear Admiral, Starfleet
Commanding Officer, USS Corsair
Region 3 Communications Officer

From The Third Brigade OIC:



Greetings once again readers of *Fleet Channels*. A lot has happened since the last issue of *Fleet Channels* for the Third Brigade. The Brigade continues to show the Corps how real SFMC units (both MSGs and MEUs) get things done.

The 2016 Brigade and Corps level musters are complete and awards have been earned. Congratulations to the marines of Third Brigade who won both Valor and Honor awards. Currently, the Third Brigade holds the distinction of being the only brigade with all their units reporting (i.e. no dreaded "failure to report").

It is amazing to see the leaps and bounds the Brigade has grown and improved to become a shining example within the Corps. This is thanks to all the active units and the Brigade Staff in supporting everyone towards the common goal.

As 2016 draws to a close the Brigade is already looking forward to 2017. Since the International Conference will be in Third Brigade's area of operation there will not be a regional conference.

Historically, the Brigade steps up and conducts its own standalone muster which both the Brigade and the Region are invited to. A location or time has not been locked down but the Brigade's Operation Office (S-3) is open to any suggestions. (Hint: if you help pick the location and time you can influence your own unit's ability to attend!)

As always ALL Brigade events are open to ALL STARFLEET members, so make sure you keep your eyes and ears open for these fun events.

Until then, stand easy, Marines.



Edward C. Tunis III
Major General, SFMC
OIC, Third Brigade



USS *Zavala* Celebrates Bajoran Holiday

"Peldor Joi!" was the greeting to everyone at the USS *Zavala*'s Second Annual Bajoran Gratitude Festival, held October 22, 2016. Banners, beads, stars, tablecloths and other decorations in the traditional colors of purple and gold were assembled by the hostess, Wendy Weston, to set the holiday mood for the celebration.

The potluck menu for the evening included the dishes Roast Thill, Hatana, Bajoran Larish Pie, Klingon Blood Sausage, Yallitian Salad, Croissants a' la Picard with Icoberry Jelly, and Tarkalian Tea. Desserts were Quark's Yigrish Cream Cake, Klingon Frustration Cake with Gaggh topping, and Jumja Sticks.

Zavala XO Lucy Franck donned Bajoran-style garb (including earring and nose ridges) to lead the traditional Renewal Ceremony as featured in the DS9 episode "Fascination" (Season 3, Episode 10).

The crew members used flash paper scrolls to write down their troubles. Incense burned and chimes rang as the ceremony proceeded. Lucy intoned the ancient Bajoran Blessing that began the ceremony.

"And now I have the honor of placing the first Renewal Scroll into the fire. As the scrolls burn, may all our troubles turn to ashes with them." As she then read, each member took a turn, placing their scroll in the fire bowl (on the balcony) and all watched it burn brightly.

Cries of "Peldor Joi!" rang again as the assemblage was told "Now for the next twenty-six hours I expect you to enjoy yourselves."

The crew enjoyed the food, fun and fellowship of the evening and sincerely hoped that their troubles turned to ashes. We'll have to wait and see!



Story and Photos:
VADM Lucy Ferron Franck,
XO, USS *Zavala*



From left, clockwise: USS *Zavala* crew gathers at the home of LT Wendy Weston for the ship's Second Annual Bajoran Gratitude Festival. The fire bowl burned brightly on the balcony, in anticipation of the Renewal Festival connected with the ceremony. Hostess Wendy Weston, left, and celebrant VADM Lucy Ferron Franck, right, set the tone for the evening's gathering. Below: desserts included Quark's Yigrish Cream Cake, at left, and Klingon Frustration Cake with Gaggh topping.



Region 3 Lower Decks Profiles



Lieutenant Colonel Jen Petersen Science Officer / XO, USS *Battle Born* 301st MSG, Strike Group Cerberus

Jen has served the USS *Battle Born* as Science Officer and is very active in the Marine unit. She has participated in multiple honor guard details and helped with the Summit 2015 silent auction. She is always at hand to help, including with computer troubleshooting.

Jen has been a member of SFI since 2011 and has received numerous awards since then, including two separate awards of the Grankite Order of Tactics, 2nd Class. Among the Marine awards she has received are Brigade Achievement Awards, Marine Proficiency Awards, Embassy Duty Awards, and

an SFMC Achievement Award.

Besides her chapter and Marine activities, Jen also participates in Renaissance fairs, gaming, fandom conventions, and "sharp pointy objects," according to her CO. Jen has recently volunteered to step up and become the XO of the USS *Battle Born*. We congratulate Jen on her accomplishments and promotions and look forward to her continued rise in our ranks.

LT Arthur George Dullinger IV Chief Engineer USS *Endurance*

Lieutenant Arthur Dullinger has been a member of the USS *Endurance* since its first meeting in August of 2015. He comes from a military background, having served in the Army Reserves, the National Guard, and on Active Duty. Since joining STARFLEET, Arthur has taken advantage of the many Academy courses available and has earned a Bronze Boothby Award.

Upon appointment as Chief Engineering Officer, he immediately began holding department meetings to build rapport with his team. He even led the team in building the ship's first 3D printer. Arthur and his wife Sabrina have made a point to attend every meeting, and Arthur has led away missions and meetings.

He has shown his leadership abilities and dedication to the chapter and STARFLEET and was promoted to Second Officer of the USS *Endurance*. In a short time Arthur has accomplished a lot in helping to establish and launch the *Endurance* and we salute him for his outstanding efforts.



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Music Draws New Texas Symphony, Trek Fans Together

Region 3 was invited, through our online contact form, to host an information table at the New Texas Symphony Orchestra's presentation of "Movie Magic: Look to the Stars!" Although many of the Region's Ships were already deployed in the Extra-Life Sector that weekend, the USS Apollo accepted the invitation and set up a standard Fan Table in the lobby of the Dallas City Performance Hall.

The NTSO is an all-volunteer organization with the mission to enrich the greater Dallas communities. They offer inspiration and entertainment by connecting the patrons of North Texas with live symphonic music. The performance of the day celebrated the fantastic fans of science fiction with symphonic selections from hits including *2001: A Space Odyssey*, *Star Wars* and *Apollo 13*.

The entire Second Act was a tribute to *Star Trek's* 50th Anniversary including music from:

Star Trek: The Next Generation - Season 4, Episode 24, "The Mind's Eye"

Star Trek: Voyager - Season 5, Episode 10, "Counterpoint"

Star Trek: The Next Generation - Season 6, Episode 8, "A Fistful of Datas"

The performance concluded with an arrangement titled *Star Trek Through the Years* including:

Theme from *Star Trek*

Theme from *Star Trek: Deep Space Nine*

Star Trek: The Next Generation - Season 5, Episode 25, "The Inner Light"

Theme from *Star Trek: Generations*

Theme from *Star Trek: Voyager*

Theme from *Star Trek: The Motion Picture*

Also attending were members of the Starship USS Joshua (not affiliated with STARFLEET International), one of the oldest and largest science fiction and fantasy fan clubs in the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex. They brought with them a life-sized Mr. Spock, a Tardis from *Dr. Who* and a Stargate. Members of the Joshua and Apollo Crews dressed as *Star Trek* favorites such as Captain Kirk, Mr. Spock and Q, among other SciFi characters.

With the powerful and recognizable music of *Star Trek* as a centerpiece, the USS Apollo represented STARFLEET and Region 3 proudly. Live Long and Prosper!

More photos and videos can be found at <http://www.facebook.com/ussapollo>



USS Joshua Jan Chamberlain (left) and
USS Apollo CO CMDR Robert Zane (right)



USS Apollo CO CMDR Robert Zane (upper left), Dr. Katherine D. "Cathy" Brown, Founder
and Artistic Director of NTSO (lower center) and Crew of USS Joshua



New Texae Symphony Orchestra

Story and Photos: CMDR Robert Zane, USS Apollo CO



USS Joshua Jan Chamberlain (left), Wade Hyde, Executive Director of NTSO (center)
and USS Joshua John Coward (right)



USS Apollo Fan Table