



# The ScuttleButt

The Official Newsletter of The USS Southern Cross

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2008  
Volume 2, Issue 1

## In This Issue

- \* 2007 SC Chapter Awards
- \* Crewmember of the Year Announced
- \* Region 11 News
- \* The "Story so far" of our RPG
- \* Recipes & Humour
- \* An Away Mission report on NZ
- \* ST XI movie report
- \* Techno babble!

Welcome  
to 2008!



## From The Bridge

The New Year always brings with it new resolutions. Generally within each of us are 'resolutions', sometimes unspoken and merely thoughts, that somehow "this year will be different" and they hide away in the back of our minds until they get forgotten about, or until we simply roll back into the routines of everyday life and we go back to whatever it was that we were doing last year...

But not for us on the Southern Cross ! Oh no siree !! We will all be making resolutions that this, our second year as a chapter of SFI, will see us grow even more than we did in 2007.

Grow not so much in size (although it is likely that we will attract even more members) but I instead suggest that we will grow as people—as members of the same 'club'; as friends; as co-workers who will share our enthusiasm and skills to continue building our chapter into one of the best in the Fleet.

I realize that this all sounds so "motivational" (cue music with trumpets etc) but what I am trying to say here is this... 2006 saw us come together as new-found friends. 2007 was our year of learning, adjustment and growing even more.

Together, we have built a mighty fine chapter and already we have done some good things as a group. But I would suggest to you all, that in 2008, we will begin to grow beyond the boundaries of a being a bunch of 'newbies' and instead, lay claim to the successes we have accomplished so far—create even more opportunities to show off our growing skills—find ways of having even more fun and gain more pleasure from our chapter, than at any time in the last couple of years. This is because we can now throw away the water wings and swim in the big pool with everyone else.

The Southern Cross HAS staked its claim to be seen and recognized as one of the most active, most keen and enthusiastic chapters in SFI. We already know this—let's now show the rest. 2008 will be the rise of the giant that is the mighty Southern Cross, and everyone will be able to see this by what we do, how we do it, and how we will always come out the other end with big fat smiles on our faces that say "yep, we are THAT good..."

I am certainly looking forward to the ride this year!

**COL Bruce O'Brien**  
**Commanding Officer**  
<http://www.uss-southerncross.com/>

ScuttleButt is the newsletter of the USS Southern Cross a correspondence chapter of Starfleet International covering Australia and New Zealand. For all inquiries please contact ...

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## Contents:

1. From the Bridge.
2. Region Eleven Continues to Grow
3. Attention All Stations – From the XO's Desk
4. Editorial
5. Region 11 news
6. SC Annual Awards
10. Club 360, BioShock

## Operations

11. Ship's Muster/Promotion Points/New Crewmembers

## Medical

12. CMO's log
13. Recipes
14. The Psyche Report#3
15. Burn Notice

## Ships Services

16. "The Pitcairn Incident"
18. RPG Corner: character spotlight
19. The Southern Cross Chronicles

## Communications

21. ST XI movie report
22. Eyes on the Enterprise

## Tactical/Security

23. Conventions listing

## Marines

24. SFMC news

## Science

25. Parking in Space

## Engineering

27. The Heart of the Ship
28. Techno news

## Miscellaneous

29. Bits & Pieces
30. Calendars

## Region Eleven continues to grow .... from the CO

*I am continually amused by the comments I receive from other chapters within SFI—particularly those in the US. The perception that we have done so well to have so many members from what is perceived to be a "small population pool" tends to amaze and astound.*

*But to my thinking, this simply evidences the strong interest we have in all things sci-fi, and the eagerness we Australasians portray when it comes to being involved in group activities. Add the impact of the internet in there (where we are classed as being amongst the highest users) and you have the cocktail for success.*

*But without a strong and dedicated team of people to maintain that motivation, surely we would fail—and it is thus that we are extremely fortunate to have so many individuals who are keen to participate. With the recent launch of the USS Atlantis, R11 grows even more with the potential to expand our horizons further through the benefits of the three chapters able to work together to promote and advertise to a greater number of people, the benefits of belonging to an organisation such as SFI.*

*All it requires from us, is our own individual motivation and participation at chapter level and the ground swell started by the USS Mawson and the USS Southern Cross in 2006, will continue. With the commissioning of the USS Genesis and the commissioning later this year of the USS Atlantis, R11 will indeed become a strong and well-founded region within SFI. On our own ship, there is a continuing stream of new recruits signing on to join our crew and this has to be the best sign we have of a healthy and well intentioned chapter.*

*It is therefore not silly to suggest that our success and size will attract others—and as such, the potential for Region Eleven to expand even further, becomes more evident. So let's all watch what happens over the next year and I am certain that we will see our great region blossom and flourish to become one of the most significant regions within SFI.*



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# From the X/O's Desk

Attention all Stations:

Hello and welcome to my little area for voicing my ideas or opinions.

The new ScuttleButt is online and the CO and I are in the process of putting together this edition you are now reading, as our editor has resigned. So we have taken up the challenge for the moment until we get a new editor - or editors!

I hope everyone had a really nice Xmas and enjoyed the Xmas cards I sent out on behalf of the CO. and myself to some members. With some, I added some magnet calendars as a gift and the reason why not everyone got one is because I never got the second order in time to send them out. Sorry about that....

We do have plans to change some things on the website this year including the Bio section. If you haven't submitted your bio to the CO, please do so.

I also hope to have project Monkey Bum up and running soon - I just need to catch up with Jason. And again, please make sure you send in the photos etc to him so we can work on it to get it finished.

There will be a new college starting in a few months we hope, and myself and two other SC members will be working on creating and testing for them, so keep a look out for it.

And if I ever get enough spare time I will redo the menu system that we have on the site so it is a bit more modern, but that will take a bit of time and effort to do as it's not a five minute fix.

Well that's it for me so I hope everyone had a great Xmas and New Year!

Please keep looking at the website as it changes just about weekly.

**Cmdr Wayne Smith**  
**Executive Officer**  
**OIC 377<sup>th</sup> MSG**



**CMDR**  
**Wayne**  
**Smith**

-  
**Executive**  
**Officer**

-  
**OIC**  
**377<sup>th</sup>**  
**MSG**

## CREW MOVEMENTS

As is the case in any organization, there are always changes to personnel and responsibilities. The Southern Cross is certainly no different and the following crew members have 'adjusted' their shipboard activities.

**LTCMDR Kirok of L'Stok** has resigned as the Editor of this publication and will focus more fully on his role as Cadet Corps Cmdr.

**ENS Ashley Lauren** has transferred from TAC/SEC to Operations to take up a role assisting in membership records.

## PROMOTIONS

The following crew members have been promoted in the last reporting period:

**Louise Hup** (SO/CMO) to Lieutenant Commander  
**Erik Stubblefield** (CSO) to Lieutenant Commander  
**Josephine Fisher** (COO) to Lieutenant.  
**Donna Reid** (CCO) to Lieutenant  
**Robert Fisher** (CEO) to Lieutenant  
**Matthew Tuting** (CSO) to Lieutenant  
**Ashley Lauren Walker** (Operations) to Ensign  
**Burt Gabot** (Science) to Ensign

# FROM THE EDITORS' DESK

## An Editorial



Now to the qualified eye, reading the above headline presents a perfect opportunity for grammatical criticism.

"Surely, it is meant to read—'From the Editor's Desk'? With the apostrophe denoting the use of a singular noun? Surely this cannot be correct? ".....

But I am afraid this is quite correct—because you see there has been not one, but several 'editors' associated with this, our first edition for 2008.

After slaving over the very hot coals that is our chapter's newsletter, and having produced a sterling, professional publication that the ScuttleButt has now become, our editor for the last year—LTCMDR Kirok of L'Stok—has stood down from the role, relinquishing the reins of his editorial position so as better to focus on his other areas of interest.

And like a restaurant that has lost it's chef, the Southern Cross has had to rely in the short-term, upon the talents of others who have stepped up to the plate to cook up the four-course meal you see laid before you. But what a simple, quick meal we have provided! Using the very sound and stable 'stock' of the design of our previous newsletters (thanks again Kirok!), we have been able to put together this issue of interest and news, with barely a ripple to the surface of the soup coming to a simmer away on the back burner.

The ScuttleButt has become (in the words of some) a 'beast' for sure—but a beast that carries with it the designation of being our 'front door' to the rest of world. When the 'Butt gets published, we receive many hits to our website as interested people from around the globe, come to see what's been happening on the Southern Cross—the Pride of the Pacific. The messages contained herein, are OUR messages. Our stories, poems, ideas, bits of 'fluff' and interest—all the things that to us, are important enough that we want to share them with our fellows.

And it is because of the that importance, and to the importance that the 'Butt has to our chapter, that we have (in this case with this issue) more than one editor.

So for the future of the 'Butt, we certainly expect to be able to continue the great work that has been done so far. We came third in the annual Newsletter of the Year Awards announced at the IC in August 2007, having forwarded our first and only qualifying edition (that of November/December 2006). We certainly will be putting ourselves forward again at the IC 2008—and we are certainly going to be spoiled for choice as to which issue we will use, as all are worthy of an award.

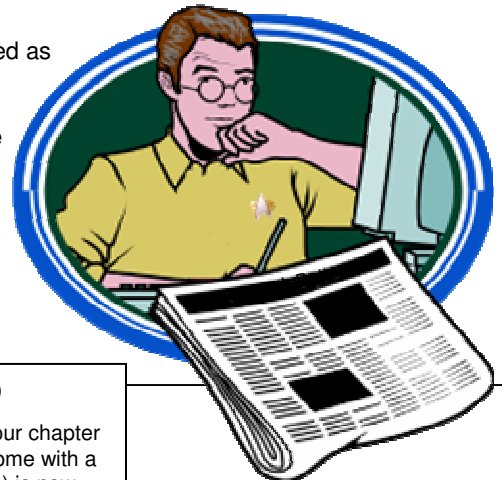
It has to be hoped that the momentum gathered so far, and with the increasing amount of participation; involvement; contribution and sheer encouragement and support we receive from our members; it is certainly expected that the 'Butt will always be a success.

So thank you to those who have contributed , especially those who have contributed as they always do, and especially to those who contributed at such short notice.

This issue—for everything that it is worth—is dedicated to the crewmembers of the USS Southern Cross who have pride in the chapter, and most importantly, in their newsletter.

Well done 'Crossers—and enjoy 2008!

**COL Bruce O'Brien**  
**Acting Support-Editor**



### SOUTHERN CROSS EXAM RELEASED

For those crewmembers who wish to test their knowledge of our chapter and our ship, plus earn the extra 100 promotion points that come with a successful pass mark, the Southern Cross Exam (SCE 101) is now available.

Send an email request to the CO to receive your copy.

# REGION ELEVEN NEWS

## *USS Genesis Commissioned*



It is great news to know that our region is once again the home of multiple commissioned chapters, with the commissioning, right at year's end, of the USS Genesis.

To CPT Kieran Bock and his crew, the officers and crew of the Southern Cross send their very best wishes and congratulations, and we wish them fair seas and LOTS of stars to follow.

## *USS Atlantis is Launched*



It was also announced just this December, that the USS Atlantis (another Akira-class starship!) was launched for her shakedown cruise. The Atlantis is a correspondence chapter that hails from Wellington, New Zealand and hosts an International crew.

Commanded by CMDR Jaydon Tyronian (known to some of us as "Merriac") the Atlantis will likely be commissioned in September and swell the region's numbers even further. With all this activity within our great region, and now with three vibrant chapters, we can expect many more new recruits to our chapters which can only but serve to make Region 11, one of the best and brightest in SFI.



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# Southern Cross 2007 Annual Awards

This is our second year of chapter awards, and the last time that we will make such an announcement at the beginning of a New Year.

With our plans to shift the Annual Awards program to coincide with the Region summit, the next round of chapter awards will be at that time - proposed sometime around the middle of 2008.

The awards announced here, are therefore to be associated with the activity of nominated crew, for the period January to December 2007.

We give our unreserved congratulations to all winners as these awards are to be seen as recognition for the accomplishment and efforts that they have put toward our chapter over the past year.

Well done everyone!



## The Press Gang Award

This award is for the crewmember that has provided the chapter with the greatest number of new recruitments within the year.

For her direct involvement that saw an additional four new members attributed by her efforts, this award goes to

*LT Donna Reid, CCO*

*Special recognition goes to LT Robert Fisher for his efforts at recruitment at Armageddon*

## The Banjo Patterson Award

Each year the editor of ScuttleButt, the Southern Cross newsletter, puts forward nominations of the members he/she considers to be the best contributors to the newsletter.

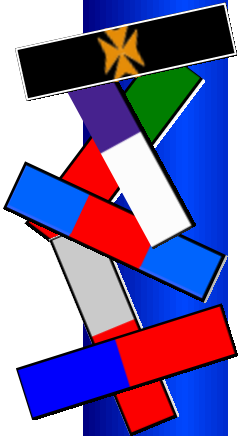
This year there were several nominations recognizing the increasing involvement and commitment crewmembers have to our great publication.

After analysing all the contributors/nominations, and in recognition of her continual high standard of regular, well-written contributions this award goes to

*PO1, Wendy Brokensha*

### **NEXT YEAR'S AWARDS**

*Nominations for the 'second series' 2007/2008 Awards will be called one month prior to the Region summit. Make sure you put your nominations forward for the crewmembers you think are most deserving.*



COL  
Bruce  
O'Brien  
-  
C.O.

CMDR  
Wayne  
Smith  
-  
X.O.

# Southern Cross 2007 Annual Awards (continued)



## Southern Cross Excellence in Academia

This year, this has been the hardest award to finalise. There is no doubt that 'Cross is a highly Academy-supportive chapter and so there were many worthy nominations.

Ultimately, this award has been presented to the biggest 'star' the SFA and SFMCA have seen for some time - with his accomplishments as Red Squad Leader; inaugural recipient of the SFA Commandant's Citation; and a staggering 470 exams in under twelve months - it is evident that to be honoured as this year's winner is:

*LTCMDR Erik Stubblefield*

*Special recognition must also be given to LT Josephine Fisher and the XO, CMDR Wayne Smith, whose own Academy achievements would make any chapter proud. Both these officers have rated extremely highly in terms of exam output; Red Squad team membership; and assistance with exam creations and Beta testing; to say nothing of the accomplishments of CMDR Smith in holding two Academy Director's roles.*

COL  
Bruce  
O'Brien  
-  
C.O.

## Sunshine Award

This award is presented the crewmember that portrays the "best attitude" in the chapter. While this award is normally nominated by the CSS, there were a few others who put forward this officer's name for consideration. In reading through the supportive narration it is quite clear that this officer well deserves this recognition.

Always cheerful and enthusiastic, despite her own personal concerns (either health or family); she is always there to support any crewmember; dedicated, helpful and willing to try anything new - the Sunshine Award for 2007 is awarded to:

*LTCMDR 'Doc' Louise Hup, SO*

CMDR  
Wayne  
Smith  
-  
X.O.

## Community Service Award

The 'Cross has been involved in a couple of events this year aimed at providing a small source of funding for local charities in Adelaide.

This officer has been at the fore-front, ably assisted by other crew, in the organization, co-ordination and participation of these events.

This award is presented for the first time in acknowledgment of her efforts on behalf of the chapter, to:

*LT Donna Reid, CCO*



# Southern Cross 2007 Annual Awards (continued)



## The Downunder Ambassador's Award

As we are one of the most far-flung chapters within Starfleet, our ability to be able to gain exposure and recognition for our chapter and the Region, is very important.

Many in our chapter have assisted in this goal to one degree or another.

But it is for his work in the both the pre and post RC election process, and for his efforts on our behalf on fleet chat and message lists during the CS elections, helping to bring the Southern Cross to the fore within many quarters of SFI - that this award is presented to:

**BDR Gary Amor, OIC/TIC**

COL  
Bruce  
O'Brien  
-  
C.O.

## Chief Officer's Awards

Generally speaking, these awards can be presented at any time during the year. But because we have the opportunity to evaluate the efforts and results of many, the following people have been nominated for, and awarded, a Chief Officer's Award. (For those crewmembers for whom this may be a second award, a star is to be placed onto existing ribbon)

The recipients are:

*PO1 Wendy Brokensha* (2<sup>nd</sup> COA award) – nominated by the CCO for her efforts made on behalf of the Comms. Department – most notably her efforts to attend all online meetings despite her very limited internet access; her regular contributions made on behalf of Comm Dept. to ScuttleButt; her support for the CCO; and for her “door knocking” efforts in fund raising.

*LT Matthew Tuting* – nominated by the CO in recognition of his great efforts on the chapter's behalf at the Armageddon Con in Melbourne and for his regular contributions to the chapter 'behind the scenes'.

*LT Robert Fisher* (2<sup>nd</sup> COA award) – nominated by the CO also in recognition of his great work at Armageddon and for his continual support to new members and for his willingness to proffer direct involvement on behalf of the chapter at the 'drop of a hat'.

*LT Josephine Fisher* - nominated by the XO, The ChOPs continues to tirelessly maintain the administration of our important membership files – stepping in when her Dept. crew have been unavailable; a member of this year's Red Squad; huge commitment to course work at the Academies with exams in excess of 200 for this year alone; and generally providing a core example of a dedicated, motivated chapter member.



# Southern Cross 2007 Annual Awards (continued)



## Chief Officer's Awards (continued)

*LT Sandra Mutter* - nominated by the CO, the CSS has only recently joined the crew, but has proven from Day 1 to be committed, energetic, enthusiastic and skilled. Her work in the establishment of the RPG has helped paved the way for the future. A well deserved award.

*CMDR Wayne Smith* – nominated by the CO as a continuation of the efforts and achievements this officer has made since the founding of the chapter. In the past year, the XO has lead by example at the Academies; greatly enhances the chapter's image within SFI with his dual roles appointments as college director; worked with other colleges assisting in exam establishment; and has generally carried out his responsibilities in a manner befitting our chapter.

## Southern Cross Crewmember of the Year Award



Nominated by crew/CO & XO this is the most significant award for our chapter is the 'crewmember of the year'. This is awarded to the member who best embodies the efforts of an individual crewmember in providing the commitment, effort, support, results and overall contribution to the chapter.

With the outstanding level of attention that this member has brought for our chapter, to say nothing of his commitment and dedication to his responsibilities, or to his record of achievements that have been well noted, it is with pleasure that we pass this award to

*LTCMDR Erik Stubblefield*

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We offer our congratulations to all of this year's winners. No doubt there will be many more considerations to be made at next year's Awards nomination process, judging by the increasing level of effort and commitment to our ship that the Command Officers witness every day.

Well done all!



**PSST... BEEN AWARDED A RIBBON? NEED TO GET ONE?? THEN CONTACT THE C.O.....**



COL  
Bruce  
O'Brien  
-  
C.O.

CMDR  
Wayne  
Smith  
-  
X.O.

# Gaming on the Southern Cross



**Hello And Welcome to Club 360 !!**

**In this issue, we are reviewing the game, "BlackSite: Area 51". Hope you enjoy!**

Cmdr Wayne Smith  
XO USS Southern Cross, OIC 377 MSG



## BlackSite: Area 51

I have just purchased this game, and I must say I like it very much, and I would recommend it to anyone that likes to play first-person shooters.

When I started to play this game, I did not want to stop as it is very addictive and it brings you into a story I found very entertaining. Unfortunately, no one else has got the game as yet so I can't play with any of our members online.

There are heaps of weapons, and you get to drive Humvees and shoot the guns from helicopters. There are some very massive creatures in this game, and explosive little buggers as well that you cannot let get too close to you.

I have finished the game, but I will be going back for seconds on a harder level. Please find below the gamers tags of the crew members we have on line so far.

FlagrantCactus (XO Southern Cross)

Jarheadinspace (CO Southern Cross)

Fairlane90 (Lt JG Southern Cross) Deltaflie

(OIC TIC Southern Cross)

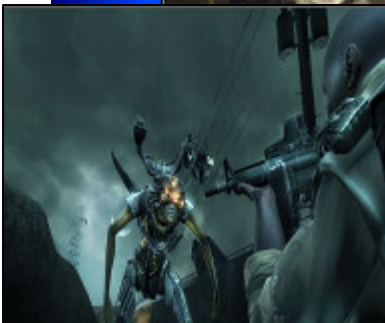
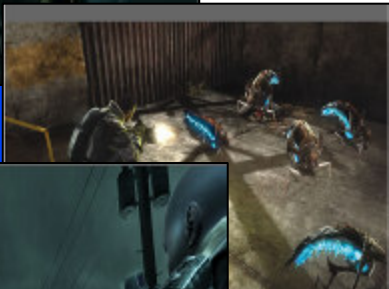
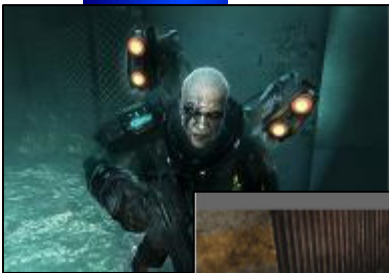
Organarse (Ships Services Southern Cross)

Merriac (CO Atlantis)

Any Southern Cross member or SFI member is welcome to join in the fun! Just contact the XO. it's a great way to get to know your fellow crew mates and have a good deal of fun at the same time.

<http://www.xbox.com/en-US/games/b/blacksitearea51/>

**CMDR  
Wayne  
Smith**  
-  
**Executive  
Officer**  
-  
**OIC  
377th  
MSG**



Modern day fears come to life in a familiar, yet extraordinary setting in **BlackSite™: Area 51®**: A small American town is swarming with alien life. The government is desperate, unable to contain the secrets of the town. Everything hinges on the actions of Aeran Pierce, a former Special Forces assassin thrown into the most explosive moment in American history.

**You are the leader.** Do well and your living, breathing Special Forces squad will rally in battle. Waver and their morale will sink, affecting their tactics and their will to fight.

**Intuitive squad-level combat.** with the ability to issue squad commands through the press of a single button, you have the power and authority to issue orders to your troops. Plant C-4 explosives, snipe from long range, or take control of vehicles or weapons left behind.

**Drive, shoot, and ride.** Commandeer civilian cars, trucks and ATVs in your quest to keep America safe. Drive the latest military vehicles or take a position in the gunner's chair in daring, low-level helicopter raids.

**Online multiplayer modes.** Work with a friend. Competitive play includes a variety of traditional online modes, such as "Death Match," "Team Death Match," and "Capture the Flag," as well as all-new unique multiplayer modes, such as "Human vs. Reborn" and "Siege."

# Ship's Muster

## Academy Activity

The crew members of our ship have continued their excellence in passing many exams, but as the SFI database has not been sending out information on the performance of our crew I am unable to list their achievement.

Once SFI recommence advising Operations of the crew's exam results I will once again be able to acknowledge their achievements.

The performance of our crew members has continued to be outstanding, as to the number of Boothby Awards that have been attained by them.

To date the following have been received:

- Bronze (50 exams) 8
- Silver (100 exams) 6
- Gold (150 exams) 4
- Latinum (200 exams) 4
- Diamond (250 exams) 3
- Dilithium (300 exams) 2
- Titanium (350 exams) 2
- Zirconium (400 exams) 2
- Platinum (450 exams) 2

Keep up the good work. Your efforts are being noticed by SFI. In just one year our ship has become the best of the fleet.

**LT Josephine Fisher**  
Chief Operations Officer

**ENS Ashley Walker**  
Operations Intelligence Officer

## Changes to Promotion Points Recording



We have made some changes to the Points Record Sheets for members to use and we are sure that you will find these very worthwhile and easy to use.

So What Has Changed?

The first thing you will notice is that the Points Record has undergone a major face lift. The *matrix* table has gone in favour of an automated form system -Yes Automated!

The next major change is the way you input your points. Previously you would record in the relevant cell how many points a certain activity was worth. Now you input what you have done, and the Points Record calculates the value for you, and adds to a Total

As well as tracking the total number of points, it also has a counter that will tell you both how long you have left (in months) for Time in Grade) as well as how many points you need before you are qualified for a promotion.

Overall, we are sure that you find this new format for tracking your career path to be fun, east to use, and really handy.

Enjoy!

(Forms will be forwarded separately to each individual member. Please forward any enquiries to the Intel Officer - ENS Ashley Walker on [alwalk78@optusnet.com.au](mailto:alwalk78@optusnet.com.au).

Welcoming New Crewmembers

*Savannah Clark Daniel Fryer*  
*Mark Russell Kelly Russell*

LT  
Josephine  
Fisher  
-  
COO

# From the Sickbay



## Know Your Family

### History

It really helps to know your family history when trying to keep healthy. Among many things, knowing your family

history will help you know what you may be susceptible to, like if your family has a history of high blood pressure or heart disease, you will know that it is important to exercise regularly, eat the appropriate diet and help prevent the occurrence of the same things in yourself.

It is best to start with a chart. Record all of your family members. List only those related to you by blood. The important information to include in the chart would be:

Your own name, Sister/s, Brother/s, Your Mother, Mothers Sisters/Brothers, Father, Fathers Sister/Brothers, Your Cousin/s – listed as child of..... Then Mothers-Mother, Mothers-Father, Fathers-Mother, Fathers-Fathers;

List all birth dates. List the dates of all deaths, and occurrences of cardiovascular disease, diabetes type2, cancer and other medical conditions. Give precise details - don't guess. It's important that the information be reliable. Confirm diagnoses with records – such as death certificates - if you can.

It is also important to Conditions to note medical conditions like asthma, birth defects, blood disorders, cancer, chromosome disorders, cystic fibrosis, deafness, diabetes, epilepsy, eye disorders, heart disease, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, infertility, kidney disease, liver disease, mental illness, mental retardation, miscarriages, muscular or skeletal disorders, neurological disorders, osteoporosis, and skin disorders. Also include in your medical history each relative's age at diagnosis of a condition, specific condition, and the relationship to you. .

While every medical condition has different preventative strategies, there are four that are consistent for most common series diseases: eat healthy, exercise, don't smoke, and undertake the recommended early detection or screening tests. Knowing your family medical history is like having cheat sheets in a university exam.

## Vegetarians life style!

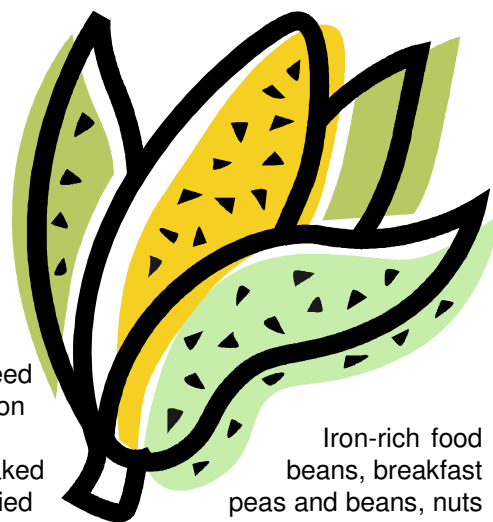
Many consider going vegetarian is a very healthy thing to do. Here are some meat-free but healthy essentials at any age.

**0-2 years:** Babies and toddlers need iron and protein. For iron, introduce foods such as pureed apricots, prune juice and green vegetables after six months. Protein-rich foods include mashed or pureed tofu and legumes, soya or Dairy products.

### 3-12 years of age:

Growing children need plenty of iron and zinc.

such as baked cereals, dried



seeds, leafy green, vegetables and dried fruit taste great but will be absorbed faster with vitamin-C, such as a glass of orange juice. Foods rich in zinc include whole grains, nuts and legumes.

Iron-rich food beans, breakfast peas and beans, nuts

**13-17 years:** Teenagers need calcium for their growing bones, and it's best gained from milk, yoghurt and cheese. For vegans, calcium-enriched soy milk, cheese and tofu are good dairy substitutes. Other tasty sources of calcium are beans, lentils and chickpeas, tahini, green vegetables, nuts and seeds. Girls especially need to keep up their iron intake, so they should eat plenty of eggs, lentils, nuts, seeds and chick- peas.

**Adults:** Vegetarian diets can reduce the risk of heart disease. This is because most vegetarians eat fewer saturated fats and less cholesterol, and eat 50% - 100% more fibre. So stick to good fats such as avocado, salmon and virgin olive oil.

**Beyond 65:** Older vegetarians can sometimes have problems absorbing vitamin B12 from foods so they might think about taking a B12 supplement.

From the office of the CMO

LTCMDR Louise Hup



# Recipes for Fun & Health



## Healthy Recipes for the New Year

### Choosing the Right Spud

**For chips:** King Edward, Bison, Pontiac, (my favourites) Russet Burbank or Sebago.

**For mashed potatoes:** Spunta. King Edward, Pontiac or Pink eye.

**For crisp, tender roast potatoes:** Golden delight, Sebago, King Edward or Coliban.

**For potato salad:** Kipfler, Coliban, Desire, Pink eye or Nicola.

### A Recipe for Smashed Potato and Herb Salad

1.5 kg chat potatoes  
¾ cup Bertolli virgin olive oil  
Sea salt  
½ cup white wine vinegar  
1 lemon, juiced  
2 teaspoons castor sugar  
2 cups flat-leaf parsley leaves  
2 tablespoon dill, roughly chopped  
1 bunch chives, chopped

Preheat oven to 180C. Place potatoes in a large saucepan and cover with cold water. Bring to boil over medium-high heat. Boil uncovered for 20 minutes or test them with a skewer. Drain. Allow to cool slightly. Place on a chopping board. Using your palm, gently press potatoes to flatten slightly. Place in a single layer in large greased roasting pan. Drizzle with ¼ cup oil and sprinkle with sea salt. Roast for 30 minutes or until potatoes are crisp and golden. Transfer to a platter.

Whisk together vinegar, ¼ cup lemon juice and remaining ½ cup oil in a bowl. Add sugar and season with pepper. Pour dressing over warm potatoes. Turn potatoes to coat in dressing. Sprinkle with fresh parsley, dill and chives.

Serve.

### Bailey's Truffle Fudge

3 cups semisweet chocolate chips  
1 cup white chocolate chips  
3 cups powdered sugar  
¼ cup butter  
1 cup Bailey's Irish Cream  
1 ½ cups nuts, chopped -- optional

Melt chocolates with butter until chocolates are soft enough to stir smooth.

Do not overheat. Add chocolate/butter mixture to powdered sugar and Baileys.

Stir until smooth, add nuts and mix well. Place fudge in an 8" X 8" pan, oiled. Lay a sheet of plastic wrap on top and gently press to smooth fudge.

### for the truffle topping:

1 cup semisweet chocolate chips  
½ cup white chocolate chips  
4 tbsp Bailey's Irish Cream  
2 tbsp butter -- cut in pieces

Melt chocolates until soft. Remove from heat. With a fork, beat in butter and Baileys until smooth. Spread topping over fudge with knife. If a very smooth top is desired, place plastic wrap over top as in above. Refrigerate until firm; 1-2 hours. Can be frozen.

Using all semi-sweet chips (instead of white chocolate) will yield a deeper, darker fudge.

**LT Sandra Mutter**  
Chief of Ship's Services



From  
the office  
of the  
CMO

LTCMDR  
Louise  
Hup

# Medical Files



## *The Psyche Report*

This issue, we get insight into the mind of another one of our senior officers: LT Donna Reid – one of the ship’s founding members and a highly active member of the crew.

*1LT Mylan Kelnar - Ship’s Counsellor*

### Psyche Report #3: LT Donna Reid



**Name:** Donna Reid  
**Rank:** Lieutenant  
**Ship:** USS Southern Cross NCC 63550  
**Position:** Chief Communications Officer

**What Made You Join SFI?** Wanting to add to my “Trek Experience” by testing my knowledge doing Start Trek related exams.

**How long have you been a member of SFI and the Southern Cross?** About the same – just over 12 months now ! Wow – what a ride.

**What has been your most rewarding SFI experience so far?** Definitely the Commissioning, even though I came down with the flu smack bang in the middle of the weekend. Next would be welcoming new people on board and having others to share my love of Star Trek and other science fiction.

**What is your favourite Star Trek series/episode?** Hard one – really love them all for different reasons. If I HAD to pick one it would be Star Trek Next Generation – Inner Light. The fact that it gave Picard the ability to experience a life completely different from his own.

**Who is the Star Trek character you would most like to be?** Character? Mmm, Deanna to be Imzadi with Riker or any female who got to be REALLY close to Trip!

**What would you consider to be the most important thing you have learnt since joining SFI?** Nothing technically I guess, but that there are lots of people all around the world that, like me, believe there is something about Star Trek that makes them want to follow on with its “beliefs and values” .

**List your 5 favourite Science Fiction TV shows of all time.** *Star Trek* (all of them) well there’s five right there! Otherwise my five favourites are, *Battlestar Galactica (original)*, *Buck Rogers* (for it’s time), liked early *Andromeda*, *Earth: Final Conflict*. Also *V* and *Alien Nation*. Sorry – a few more than five!

1LT  
Mylan  
Kelnar

Ship’s  
Counsellor

# Burn Notice

*Hi all! This is my first posting for the ScuttleButt. As I sim-post far better than anything else, I would like to take artistic license in this article (I hope you don't mind).*

-----

As the years flyby and the technology increases at such an unbelievable rate, I sometimes feel we are forgetting what we are in favour for the 'easy way out'.

When asked to add a medical component to the ScuttleButt my mind swam with all the marvelous advancements in the field. Then an incident struck me in which, at the time, was terribly irritating.

For reasons of Doctor/Patient confidentiality, I will not disclose where when or who.

Being transported between two planets over such an incredible distance I was 'forced' to find lodgings on a Federation Starship (Forced in the respect I despise the vessels). As with the nature of the peaceful/scientific vessel it came under fire for some unfathomable reason.

During the fracas, something called a 'Trinary fluid interlacing data re-constitutor', of which I have no idea about, somehow erupted - a shower of sparks rivaling the best fireworks displays. The result left the prospective patient with a severe 'burn' wounds in the middle part of his lower left arm, and it was quite severe, I'm afraid to say.

In his defense, I will say he did have the intelligence to seek medical aid before the condition could worsen, although his rejection of natural healing processes over the 'quick way' practices did irk me.

The body is perfectly naturally set up to repair itself, and the strange thing is that when it does, it actually heals better. What doesn't kill the body makes it stronger is true in most occasions (though not all).

Forced into action during this perilous time, I was the one this person was directed to. On hearing it was a simple 'hot water' scalding from a beverage he called 'Tea, Earl Gray-Hot,' I knew exactly what to do.

Fifteen minutes under a less than tepid water flow was followed by a non-adhesive cover. Then an overlapping covering bandage starting at the wrist was applied, with the bandage ending at the elbow. The patient in question was after the 'quicker' solution - a thermal denigrator with an infused analgesic nerve deflective infuser. Somehow the 'Borg intrusion' seemed more important.

Forced by a program emulation, I complied. That is the end of that story because I had no other path to follow.

## ***(In the now world)***

If you get an oil burn on your arm when cooking, run the burn area under slightly less than freezing water for about twenty minutes or more depending on your individual pain, then for another ten minutes.

You may have heard that story of cooking an egg on the sidewalk? Well, the human skin can hold more heat than that for a lot longer! Really! Hold that part of your body under that water flow longer than you would think it will need, you'll be doing nothing but good by your body. You would be surprised by how much heat your body can really actually hold!!

I hope this information helps you understand the dangers of over heating your skin better. Your skin IS the LARGEST "ORGAN" of your body! As an Australian, I know how important taking care of your skin is...



A  
report  
by

LT  
Bruce  
Mutter



# SHIP'S SERVICES - Features



The following synopsis is the work of ENS Burt Gabot, and details the first chapter of the Southern Cross' first RPG - "Starbase Pitcairn"

## "THE PITCAIRN INCIDENT"

an archive synopsis from Memory Alpha Archives  
folio SB-188/BMG-southerncross 1701, public-access records division



### Chapter 1, Summary

As in any culture, there are many stories that become famous or iconic, held up as symbols of what is good about itself and its people – stories that showcase its citizens at their best. There are also many stories that are the opposite, infamous for how they show how far from the ideal they can be.

But there is another kind of story – the kind that the Federation is famous for: a combination of the first two kinds – cautionary tales of the base nature of its citizens, but with good eventually rising triumphant. This is one of these stories.



This story revolves around Starbase Pitcairn, one of the Federation's newest Starbases, stationed above a nondescript planet of the Kobliad System – one of the systems that the Federation had identified as a "relocation zone" for displaced Federation societies.

**Starbase 188, Pitcairn** The Skreeans, a fairly new member-species of the Federation had lost their home planet. In one of its benevolent moves, a move its detractors would say is patronizing and condescending, the Federation had ceded one of the uninhabited Kobliad Class M planets to these galactic orphans. This happened at a time when the Bajoran wormhole was yet to be mapped and discovered.

The discovery of this wormhole, and its eventual use for regular access to the Delta Quadrant, brought with it increased commercial traffic, and not just from the Federation but from other places as well. With the Kobliad System's relatively close proximity to the Bajor System, the Skreeans, one of the poorest Federation societies, found itself being looked upon with envy by those who want permanent access to the Delta Quadrant. Looking upon this as a way to better their lot, the Skreeans started inviting all interested parties to negotiate for homestead rights or rights to put up embassies and consulates on their adopted planet, now christened Kentanna. One of the first races to come forward were the Cardassians.



File photo, Amb. Reena of Kentanna



At the time, the newly-activated Starbase 188, Starbase Pitcairn, was just freshly towed in and put into geosynchronous orbit above Kobliad Five, an uninhabited Class K planet a few million kilometers from Kentanna. She had just finished a shakedown tour, and had just opened its doors to visitors. As expected, the newly installed Federation ambassador of Kentanna asked to make use of its facilities for her negotiations. But, a few weeks into her stay onboard, the ambassador was assassinated.

**File photo, Amb.**

**Areem Du'lam of Cardassia** Rumors abounded - about who killed her, and the reason. The two most common theories said that it was related to a failed negotiation for land titles, or something to do with the political squabbling between the major political parties of the Skreean government. Federation authorities naturally started an investigation immediately. But though the investigation was just starting, the Kentanna government wasted no time to appoint a new ambassador. One of the suspects was Ambassador Arim Du'lam from Cardassia, an unapologetic, foppish flirt – for a Cardassian, that is. And it is here that the story begins.

(continued)

HoD

LT  
Sandra  
Mutter

Synopsis  
by

ENS  
Burt  
Gabot

(Science  
Dept)



# SHIP'S SERVICES – Features (continued)

## “THE PITCAIRN INCIDENT” (continued)



Starfleet Command had seen fit to install as the Pitcairn's base commander Admiral Verena De la Porta, a no-nonsense Starfleet human from Centaura. And, although she had misgivings about doing so, she had arranged for a reception ceremony for the new, incoming ambassador, an Ambassador Reena. She had wanted to have her executive officer join her but he had elected to meet the base's new crew.

### File Photo, Adm.

**Verena De la Porta** Commander Cha'Ael, De la Porta's x/o, had the distinction of being the only actively-serving Federation officer that was a Romulan. Several years before, Cha'Ael was deported from Romulus for unspecified political crimes. The former Centurion and captain of a Romulan warship applied for immigration and citizenship to Earth and to the shock of everyone, his application was granted.



File Photo, Cmdr. Cha'Ael

Now he was with Starfleet, assigned as executive of Starfleet's newest installation. Naturally, most of the crew didn't trust him, and Cha'Ael had philosophically accepted the fact that he would never be completely trusted, and tried to hide his frustrations from day to day. On that fateful day, in very Romulan-esque tradition, he went to fetch the new crewman, Lt. Wildstar. He would also have liked to welcome one of the newly-assigned NCO's, a Klingon Starfleet marine, Sergeant-Major Kathvaj, but he was arriving at almost the same time via personal runabout with his human wife – something Cha'Ael's Romulan sensibilities found a little off, to say the least – cross-species marriages were unheard of on Romulus. Which also brought up some uncomfortable thoughts of Wildstar, who was a product of exactly the same kind of interspecies marriage.



### Graphic of Sgt. Maj. Kathvaj

All of them were at the reception for the incoming ambassador, all in formal dress uniform. But apparently the assassins weren't done. Cha'Ael had noticed one of the waiters had a blinking device on his tray, and, too late to prevent it, the waiter had triggered what turned out to be a bomb. In the inevitable depressurization, there were a handful of deaths, and it took the heroics of his new staff to save him from the same fate.

The following day, the admiral ordered a new investigation. Preliminary results showed that the suicide bomber, as well as the bomb itself, was Romulan, yet some of the bombing paraphernalia that they had discovered on the outside hull was Klingon in origin. Colonel Stavros, the base's security chief, clearly had his work cut out for him.



File Photo, Lt. Derek Wildstar

Naturally, everyone onboard the was in an uproar, dignitary after dignitary calling on the Admiral, expressing their ire at the lax securities and demanding assurances from the beleaguered starbase commander, including the Cardassian Ambassador who, against all regulations bought an active energy weapon onto the command deck.



### Early File Photo Col. Stavros

Because of requests from the Skreean Ambassador, and orders from Starfleet Command, De Porta arranged another reception party, this time in the base's main cargo loading deck, but artfully dressed up as a reception area. She had ordered all guards tripled, but an eagle-eyed Lt. Wildstar noticed that there were three more security personnel than could be accounted for. De la Porta and Cha'Ael arranged to have these fake guards discretely detained without any of the guests noticing. However, as soon as they did they lose power in the deck, plunging it, as well as many other parts of the base into complete darkness. And despite the heroic efforts of the command crew, the power outage continued, and started to spread to the rest of the base...

**About Memory Alpha:** Memory Alpha is a planetoid, located in Federation space, on which the Federation's largest library is located. The library is a central repository for the collected scientific, historical, and cultural information from each member planet of the Federation.



HoD

LT  
Sandra  
Mutter

Synopsis  
by

ENS  
Burt  
Gabot

(Science  
Dept)



# RPG CORNER: Character Spotlight



**Havraha Jaeih  
Aidoann  
Cha'Ael**

the  
Southern  
Cross  
RPG  
Players

**NAME:** Havraha Jaeih Aidoann Cha'Ael  
**RANK:** Commander, Starfleet  
**GENDER:** Male  
**RACE:** Romulan (now a Terran citizen)  
**D.O.B:** 2090 (subject now roughly the equivalent of 290 Earth years, putting subject in advanced middle age)  
**BIRTHPLACE:** Romulus  
**POSITION:** Executive Officer - Starbase Pitcairn

## **CAREER HISTORY:**

2115-2119 Romulan Imperial War College  
2119-2315 Classified by the Romulan Empire  
2315-2355 Commander of the Talon, a Romulan D'dejin- class cruiser  
2355-2359 Incarceration in high-security prison on Remus for unspecified political crimes against the Romulan Star Empire  
2360 Deportation from the empire  
2360-2361 Applied for immigrant status to the Earth Federation Council, since the UFP denied political asylum. Investigation of subject by Starfleet Department of Intelligence and Bureau of Personnel was initiated.  
2362 Federation Department of Immigration, and Earth government approves immigration of subject. Subject enrolls in Office Candidate School, graduates after 6 months. Was assigned to Starfleet HQ in the Department of Foreign Relations.  
2363 Was given a series of promotions and is now currently a commander, under a Command posting (red tunic). Assignments and other service record details are classified by Starfleet.  
2368-69 Executive Officer, Starbase Pitcairn

## **AWARDS:**

All service record details from the Romulan Imperial Armed Forces bureau of records unavailable. No record of awards yet received from Starfleet.

**HEIGHT:** 1.92 meters (6 feet 4 inches)  
**EYE COLOUR:** Black  
**HAIR COLOUR:** Black

**PERSONALITY:** Authoritative but quiet, inspires respect and fear. The few people that could be reached that had the opportunity to work with him at Starfleet HQ characterized Commander Cha'Ael as a very precise and by-the-book officer. Speaks out rarely but shows unusual insight during the moments that he does deign to volunteer an opinion. His official "security escort" for the first year after the approval of his papers, Lt. Linden Avery, says that the man is absolutely brilliant and has had enormous life experience that he doesn't share so openly. Has very little to say at social gatherings during the few times that he attends such events. His staff at Starfleet HQ are evenly split with awed respect and fear of the man. BuPers (Bureau of Personnel) records show him to have an extremely high I.Q. - such scores only usually associated with very few gifted Vulcans, but, unlike typical Vulcans, has very good spatial instincts (ability to think in non-linear spaces), making him an ideal pilot. Has never been assigned as a pilot due to somewhat advanced age for his species. Is referred to as "Harve" or "Harvey" by his Human associates.

**FAMILY DETAIL:** Classified, rumoured to be second heir to the very politically influential Ael clan, as well as rumours of a wife and two full-grown children in the Romulan Space Merchant Service.

**MILITARY HISTORY:** Classified

# The Southern Cross Chronicles



*In the world of Star Trek, you often see Kirk or Picard, or Geordi or Spock exploring new worlds and places and, in fact, almost the entire Star Trek TV and movie franchise is but a chronicle of these explorations.*

*Lt. Sandy Mutter, Southern Cross CSS, had an idea to start a kind of chronicle, too, here in the pages of the ScuttleButt. Except that this would be the chronicles of the Southern Cross crew, the places they have been and seen, and, even though the places will not be as exotic as Quo'Nos, Romulus, the Delta Quadrant or V'Ger's planet, it will nevertheless be in the same spirit of Captain Kirk's original five-year mission, and a new venue for us Southern Cross crew to get to know each other better, and to see our home planet with fresh eyes.*

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## Chronicles #1: A Humorous View of the Land of the Long White Cloud Through the Eyes of a Stranger

by ENS Burt Gabot, USS Southern Cross

*A few years back, when I was still working for IBM, I had the privilege of visiting New Zealand. It wasn't a holiday, to be sure, as I was sent to the IBM Wellington office because of work. The one good thing about it was that I got to stay for a whole month, and got to see a lot of the people and the country. But then again, it was June...*

*I couldn't help but imagine I was like an explorer, almost like exploring a new world. In the back of my mind, I was fancying myself like Kirk exploring a Class M planet in some obscure corner of the galaxy. Indeed, for me, it really WAS like a different world.*

*Consider:*

*I was there in the middle of June and it was wintertime; there are twenty sheep per human being (if indeed a space alien were to land in New Zealand, he'd probably assume it was the sheep that ran the country); when you go to the loo (I, of course, had to practice using that word), the water would spin the wrong way when you flush; in every town or city there's a High Street; in every other bank or similar establishment, there would be a life-size cutout of Sean Fitzpatrick\* (it was the mid-nineties); the people like calling themselves after a curiously furry but incredibly tasty citrusy fruit; and there's this kind of jam or jelly or spread that you don't exactly know what it's made out of but is surprisingly tasty (I assume this means "Marmite" – the BEST spread in the world! Ed #1)*

*All joking aside, though, I enjoyed my all-too-brief time in the land of the Long White Cloud, and enjoyed the people and the places I went to.*



Active sulfur pit that the author almost fell into - Sulfur Springs Rotorua

*Our Kiwi hosts were kind enough to take us out every weekend, and got a pocket-tour of the place. Mostly shopping trips in the different stores and malls (I got two really nice wool sweaters and a cap with a little bobble on top, which I get to use during the December months here, though up to now they still smell slightly of sheep).*

*My most favorite trip was our visit to Rotorua and its steaming vents and geysers, and the Skyline Park just outside of the town whose main attraction is the luge ride (I cannot believe what fun can be had by rolling down a small hill on gravity-driven cars - sorta like what we used to do when we were kids). And we drove cross country down the Desert Road, which I gathered was the main road that connected the north and south parts of the country. And it truly lived up to the name – desolate and totally far from any signs of civilization.*



New Zealand natives dressed for winter...

HoD

LT  
Sandra Mutter

Report filed by

ENS  
Burt Gabot

(Science Dept)

# The Southern Cross Chronicles (continued)



## Continuation of Chronicles #1 (this is the first of a series)

*We were surprised to see heaps of snow by the roadside (snow was still a novelty for me, as I am from a tropical country). We pulled over, got out and started making up a little snowman. After a while, people started noticing our van pulled up by the roadside. Some actually asked if our ride broke down. But when they saw us making our lumpy ice person, they decided to get out and make their own.*



**Snow-covered terrain by the Desert Road near Taupo**

*I was there from June to July, so the weather was extreemely rainy and cold, and therefore there wasn't much to see in Wellington itself (the Wellington Gardens were denuded of all the flowering plants and trees). We did get to ride the little cable car t hough, and got to stand up by the radar dishes overlooking the city, and we did it at the height of a storm no less.*

*We went to a car museum in a town called Paraparaumu, and I found it so hilarious that their main attraction was a gaudy Jeepney... (if you didn't know, Jeepneys are like little minibuses from the Philippines, and is a staple of our daily commutes where I live. What one was doing in New Zealand – I don't know).*

*What is most memorable for me are the place names (the most hilarious name of a place we visited was Paraparaumu) and the multicolored houses (first time I ever saw a black-and-orange-and-pink house before). One thing I puzzled over were those high-tech looking buildings that we kept on encountering by the highway every ten miles or so. When I innocently asked what they were, my host said they were abattoirs. And when I found out what the word "abattoir" meant... well... One word: "Yeeaugghh!"*

*I didn't have a chance to go jetboat-riding (the ride was closed) or bungee-jumping (not that I would have gotten up the courage to actually do it), but it was still a memorable time. I did go to the Wellington zoo, and saw a real live kiwi (the bird, not the fruit), fed a banana to an itty-bitty spider monkey, stepped in wallaby-doo (the keepers call 'em roo-doo) and got spat on by a camel. Who'd a thunk - a real-live camel in New Zealand.*



**author posing with the museum central attraction - Car Museum, Paraparaumu**

*We got to stay at a little hotel right beside IBM, by the seaside highway. Right across the hotel was Cook's Strait and a picturesque little pier that went out to the sea. On the mornings when I wake up a little early, I would walk to the end of the pier and look out to the sea, and it sort of became a habit for the month that I stayed in NZ.*



**The author and his team, freezing their \_\_\_\_\_ off, Taupo NZ**

*It was truly memorable, especially the people. The way the people would go out of their way to say hello, or to offer help if they thought you looked like you needed it, made me feel curiously at home – the only people I ever saw do things like that regularly were the people from my mom's province back at home. After a week or so, I was saying "G'day!" with the best of them, and there were always "no worries" for me the whole time I was there.*

*That was so many years ago, but it feels like it was just yesterday. Especially now that I am a member of the Southern Cross and got reunited with my "inner kiwi" again.*

*A G'day to all of you, and may there always be no worries for all of us.*

*Live long and prosper.*

*\*Sean Fitzpatrick was at that time, captain of the All Blacks – NZ's world famous national rugby team –Ed. #1)*

Report  
filed by

**ENS  
Burt  
Gabot**

(Science  
Dept)

# COMMUNICATIONS REPORT

## STAR TREK XI - The New Movie

By Donna Reid

(reference: [www.trekmovie.com](http://www.trekmovie.com))



Just an interesting update I found that gives, I thought, something a little bit more interesting in a behind-the-scenes/folklore sort of dimension to the information we have been seeing on the new movie that is due to be released at the end of this year.

So far we know that the cast list contains the following:

*Chris Pine as Kirk ■ Zachary Quinto as Spock ■ Leonard Nimoy as older Spock  
Karl Urban as Leonard "Bones" McCoy ■ Simon Pegg as Montgomery "Scotty" Scott  
Zoe Saldana as Uhura ■ John Cho as Hikaru Sulu ■ Anton Yelchin as Pavel Chekov  
Eric Bana as Nero (the villain)*

The site that I got this information from, [trekmovie.com](http://trekmovie.com), has an even more detailed list. What I also liked was their summary of FAQ's, and, as a fan they answered many of my question. Here are most of them:

**Will it fit with Star Trek History (canon)?** Yes. The writer/producers (Abrams, Orci and Kurtzman), as well as star Leonard Nimoy, have repeatedly said they will respect **Trek** history and canon.

**Does 'Trek canon' allow for Kirk and Spock meeting before the Original Series?** Yes. First, it is not yet clear if the film will be set before the five-year mission or not, but if so, there is nothing in established canon that would contradict meeting before.

**Is it based on the unused 'Academy movie' story that Harve Bennet (Producer of the first five Trek films) developed for for ST-VI?** No.

**What happened to the previously rumored Star Trek XI projects?** John Logan and Brent Spiner who co-wrote the story for **Star Trek Nemesis** had stated they had a 'crossover' sequel planned, but after **Nemesis** failed at the box office this was not pursued. In 2005 Paramount (through producer Jordon Kerner) commissioned a new 'Romulan War' script with Erik Jendresen, but after it (**Star Trek: The Beginning**) was submitted, the project stalled. The announcement of the JJ Abrams film effectively negated the Kerner project.

**Why a TOS film instead of another TNG film? (or even a new cast and crew)?** The short answer is this is the story that Abrams (and his writers) want to tell. Clearly Paramount had lost faith in Rick Berman and the rest of the Trek team (and possibly casts) and they have quite a lot of faith in Abrams. In addition, Abram's deal with Paramount gives him an unprecedented amount of creative control, including final cut. It is important to note that after the failures of both **Star Trek Enterprise** and **Star Trek Nemesis**, the franchise was essentially dormant until JJ Abrams made it clear to Paramount that if they wanted him, he wanted **Trek**. Even though it may be Abrams idea, Paramount probably see it as a 'get back to basics' origin story along the lines of Warner's **Batman Begins**, MGM's Bond 'restart' **Casino Royale** and Fox's 3 **Star Wars** prequels.

Since we probably won't be seeing any new series for quite some time lets make the most of the movie. I know I will be lined up on opening night in Adelaide to see it. Hope we can make it a date.



HoD

LT  
Donna  
Reid  
-  
Comms

# STAR TREK XI - Back to the Beginning



CHEKOV

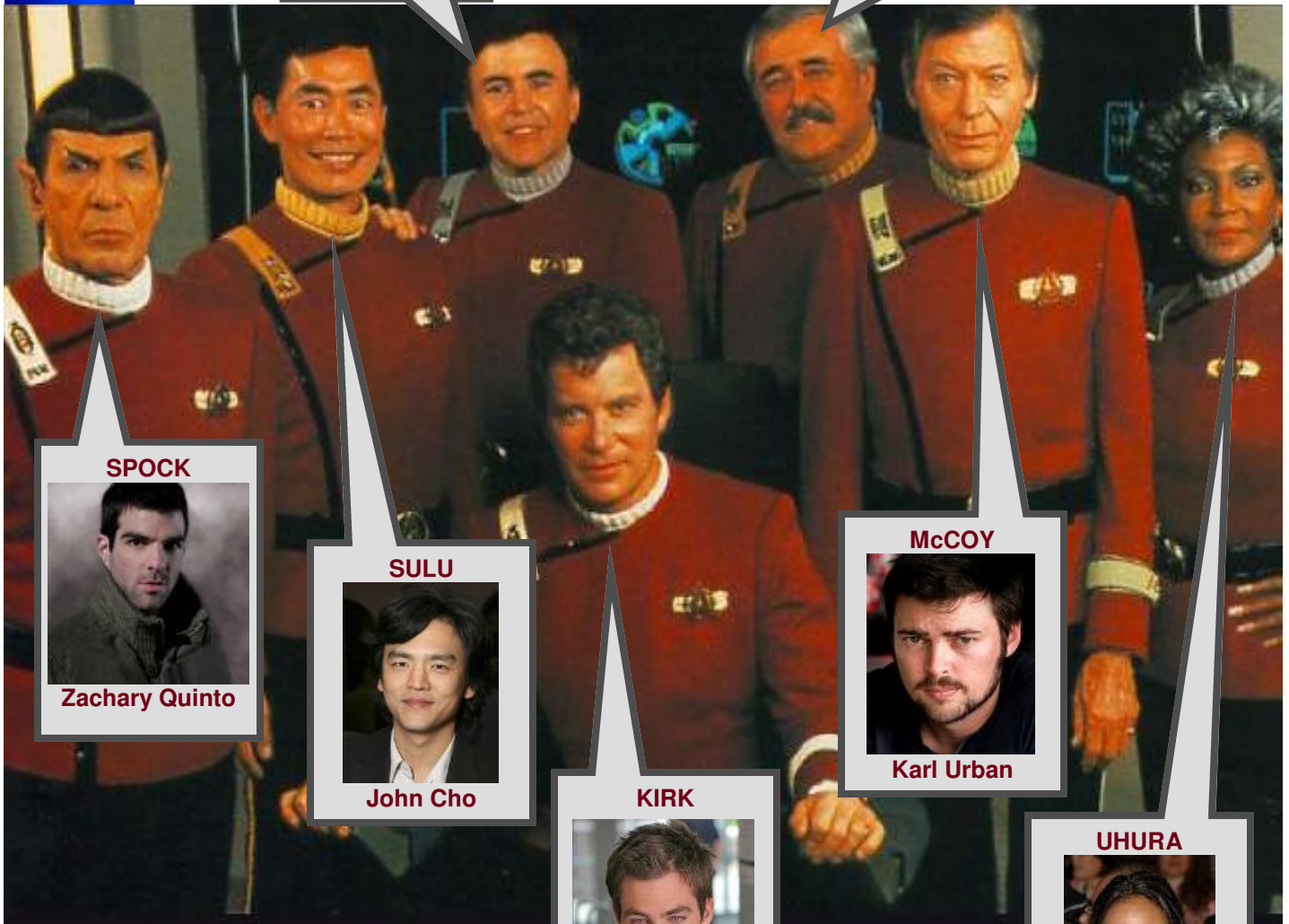


Anton Yelchin

SCOTTY



Simon Pegg



SPOCK



Zachary Quinto

SULU



John Cho

McCOY



Karl Urban

KIRK



Chris Pine

UHURA

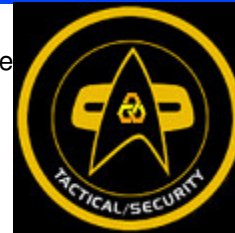


Zoe Saldana

Star Trek -  
old and new  
castmembers

# USS Southern Cross – Region 11 Convention Listing

There are some good conventions coming up for those fans who love to go and meet the stars. Here is the next few months listing - hope to see you there! If I have missed a convention that you know about, please drop me a line at [mad101man@yahoo.com.au](mailto:mad101man@yahoo.com.au) and I will add it to our list.



**LT Matthew Tuting, Chief Of Security**

## January 2008

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**25-28**      **Arcanacon XXVI** - Role Playing Gaming (RPG) Convention  
Collingwood College, Melbourne, Vic Aus (<http://arcanacon.org/>)

**Summerfest IV** - Role Playing Gaming (RPG) Convention  
'The Hermitage' Mittagong, NSW Aus  
(<http://www.isaiah61rpg.org.au/html/summerfest.html>)

## March 2008

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**20-24**      **SwanCon Conquest** - SF Convention  
Guests: Ken MacLeod, Paul Cornell, Glenda Larke, Zara Baxter  
All Seasons Perth, 15 Robinson Avenue, Northbridge, Perth, WA, Aus 6003  
Mail: PO Box 367, Nedlands, WA, Aus 6909; Email: [swancon2006@gmail.com](mailto:swancon2006@gmail.com);  
Website: <http://www.swancon.com/>

**21-24**      **Conquest** - Tabletop, Freeform, Multiform, Board, Card & Miniatures gaming,  
Melbourne High School, Forrest Hill, South Yarra, Vic, Aus 3141  
Mail: PO Box 5318, Mordialloc VIC. Aus 3195; Email: [enquiries@conquest.asn.au](mailto:enquiries@conquest.asn.au)  
Website: <http://www.conquest.asn.au/>

**28-30**      **SupaNova** - Desc, Royal Showgrounds, Melbourne, Vic, Aus  
<http://www.supanova.com.au/>

## April 2008

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**3-6**      **Gatecon** - Stargate-centered media convention  
Guests: Dan Payne, Alex Zahara, Corin Nemec  
Surfers Paradise, Qld, Aus, Mail: PO Box 5220, Port Macquarie, NSW, 2444  
Email: [info@gatecon.com](mailto:info@gatecon.com) Website: <http://www.gatecon.com/>

**4-6**      **SupaNova** Desc, RNA Showgrounds, Brisbane, Qld, Aus  
<http://www.supanova.com.au/>

## May 2008

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**2001: A Space Odyssey** 40th anniversary screenings  
Guests: Gary Lockwood & Keir Dullea; The Astor Theatre, St Kilda, Vic, Aus  
<http://www.firstcontactconventions.com.au/2001%2040th%20Anniversary%20Info.htm>

**2009**      **Australian Natcon 2009** in Adelaide.

**2010**      **Worldcon** Australia has a bid in motion to host the Worldcon (watch out for announcements)

**Info from:**      The Australian Costumers Guild: <http://www.australiancostumersguild.org.au/index.php>  
The Australian Science Fiction Bullsheet: <http://members.optushome.com.au/aussf/bs/>  
Fanboy's Convention List: <http://dactylmanor.org/fanboy/>  
First Contact Conventions: <http://www.firstcontactconventions.com.au/>  
Terra Nova Events: [http://www.terra-novaevents.com/Convention\\_Calendar.php](http://www.terra-novaevents.com/Convention_Calendar.php)

*If I have missed a convention that you know about, please drop me a line at [mad00man@yahoo.com.au](mailto:mad00man@yahoo.com.au) and I will add to our list - Matt*

LT  
Matthew  
Tuting  
-  
COS

# Message form the Marines - 377th MSG



## Brigade OIC Takes On Additional Role

The 11<sup>th</sup> BDE Officer in Charge, Colonel Bruce O'Brien was recently appointed the Deputy Commanding Officer of the SFMC Training Command (TRACOM).

In this role, COL O'Brien will not only assist the Commanding Officer TRACOM with the day to day administration but will also assist the college directors at the SFMCA and provide support with new exams; new colleges; and the regular assistance to students studying at the Academy.

Having 'one of our own' at a senior level within the SFMCA can only prove of value to us so I would ask all Marines to support COL O'Brien in his new job.

LTCOL Wayne Smith  
OIC 377<sup>th</sup> MSG

## NEED EQUIPMENT?

Check out the QM store  
at the 11th BDE  
Group Site:

[http://groups.yahoo.com/group/11thBDE\\_SFMC/group/11thBDE\\_SFMC/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/11thBDE_SFMC/group/11thBDE_SFMC/)

COL  
Bruce  
O'Brien  
-  
C.O.  
-  
DCO



## TRACOM News

There have been several developments at TRACOM.

Not only is there now a dedicated website covering all aspects of the SFMCA (<http://sfmca.sfi-sfmc.org/>), there are also quite a few new exams being beta-tested, with others in final development stages, allowing the SFMCA to offer more choices to students.

Many of these exams will offer a more military and realistic 'flavour' than those currently on offer by the SFA, as it is obvious that the SFMCA needs to not only provide courses reflecting the needs of its Marine Corps members, and that the SFMCA should ensure a significant point of difference between the two Academies.

Our eleven BDE Marines (as well as the others) studying at the SFMCA should remember to make use of the services of Brigade Training Officer (BTO) Major Erik Stubblefield, who will be more than happy to provide assistance for any student who requires it (although this will not extend to answering the questions for you of course!)

If any member has ideas on certain course topics that they would like to see introduced at the SFMCA, please contact either the BTO or COL O'Brien in the first instance.

You never know what can be done!

COL Bruce O'Brien  
OIC 11 BDE - DCO, TRACOM



# Science Department Reports

## Parking in Space: Orbital Mechanics – A Simplified View

by Burt Gabot, USS Southern Cross



To us terrestrial-bound types, traveling from place to place is a fairly simple proposition, whether it is on our own power, or through riding a car, bus, train or other conveyance. If you were like me, you'd get lost all the time. But the *mechanics* of traveling is fairly straightforward.

But when you think about the mechanics of space travel – it is not that straightforward. For example, parking your AUV (or 'Ute, as many from the Southern Cross call them) at the nearest mall's parking lot is a simple proposition, and when you go back, you're sure it's still gonna be there (well, *fairly* sure, that is – provided you locked up properly beforehand, et cetera...)

Not so in space. When Captain Kirk parks the Enterprise in the orbit of some convenient Class M planet, he is not so sure if it will still be there when he comes back some fortnight later.

Why is that, you may ask? Well, its all because of something called "orbital mechanics." These are the rules that you follow when you need to "park" in space. You, of course, know that worn-out phrase that know-it-all eggheads like to use when explaining something complicated, "it's not rocket science," well here it IS rocket science.

The key that one has to remember when "parking" in space is that the concept of "here" in space is relative. When the average hausfrau parks her yellow minivan in the carpark, she can definitely say it really IS in the carpark.

In space, it's not – that's because everything is moving relative to everything else. So when you say you parked your starship in lunar orbit (let's call it the USS Einstein for convenience), you are able to say that because you are relating the place you parked to the nearest space body – in this case, the moon. But, if your friend happens to be on Earth in, say, Starfleet Headquarters San Francisco, the Einstein would be all over the place - one minute it's like straight up from where he's standing, and after a few minutes, it could be over the horizon.

It is a pretty pickle that you, the captain of the Einstein, find yourself in. That's why when referring to a point in space, it is always in relation to another space body – say the moon, the Earth, Starbase Pitcairn, or maybe you can just say, "well I just parked her right beside the USS Southern Cross" or something.

This kind of problem became most apparent when artificial commercial satellites started coming into use in the early sixties, heralded by the launch of the Sputnik, and the early Soyuz and Gemini rockets. The word "orbit" soon came into its own in the vocabulary of the common man. But what exactly is an orbit?

Assume you were as clueless as me – so you might really be wondering what an orbit is. Well, an orbit is when something in space, let's say the USS Einstein, is crashing down to Earth because of the gravity. What you need to do is to use your impulse engines and apply thrust in a direction parallel to the surface of the planet, with enough speed to actually counteract the fall. However, if your speed is too low, you would have to keep your engines firing constantly so that you don't eventually fall. However! If you were high enough, and had pushed the Einstein to a high enough velocity, you can actually switch off the impulse engines and the Einstein would just cruise along, without falling for a lonng time. Sure, it would eventually crash, but that would not be for quite a while. Crashing in this way is due to "orbital decay." But, if you over-revved your engines, you might actually achieve "escape velocity" and leave orbit and the planet Earth altogether, and you wouldn't be able to meet up with your friend in San Francisco and have that cup of coffee you were promised.

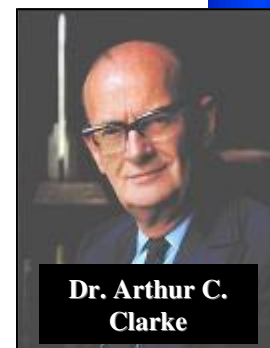
The idea of a "stable orbit" was first proposed by the rocket scientists of the 50's, the most popular of them being the then-budding novelist Arthur C. Clarke, and it is what made commercial satellites possible (Dr. Clarke is most known for his novels *2001 a Space Odyssey* and *Rendezvous With Rama*). And when one says "stable," it is in reference to the Earth.



Report  
filed by

**ENS  
Burt  
Gabot**

(Science  
Dept)



**Dr. Arthur C.  
Clarke**

(continued)

# Science Department Reports (continued)



## “Parking in Space” .... Cont’d...

The term “geosynchronous orbit” came into use (“geo” since we are talking about Earth orbits). This kind of orbit is an orbit with a period that is equal to the earth’s rotation period (what the eggheads call “sidereal period” - the amount of time it takes for a planet to make one full rotation). That means, from someone standing on the surface, he would see the satellite return to the same spot in the sky at the exact same time as yesterday. This means the satellite’s location is *predictable*, and those TV and radio signals can be timed precisely so they bounce off the appropriate satellite, and allow everyone to catch the current rerun of Star Trek TOS.



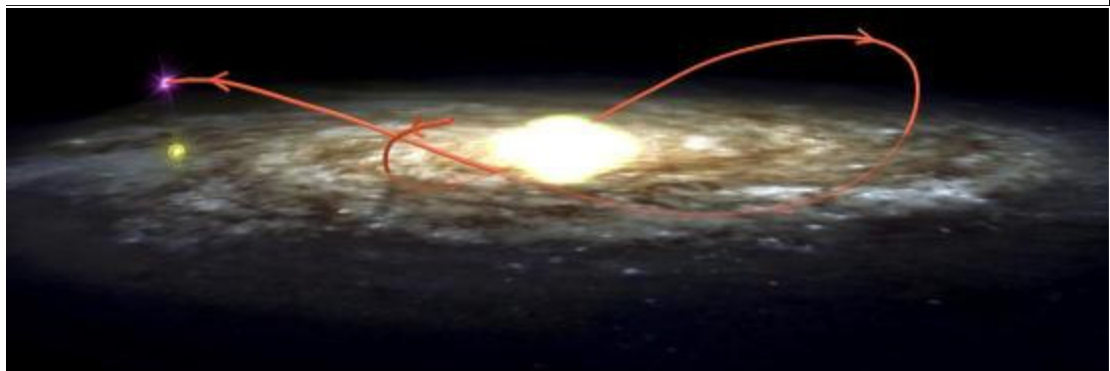
There are other kinds of orbit. There is the *semisynchronous orbit*, which has a period that is one half that of a synchronous orbit. GPS satellites are all in semisynchronous orbits. There are *elliptical orbits*, which are the kind most communications satellites use, where they travel around the Earth not in a round circle, but in an ellipse. This is an orbit designed to keep satellites in view of specific ground stations, so continuous satellite transmission can be possible. The thing is, to the people on the ground, they would see the satellite move in a weird but predictable path in the sky.

There is also the *subsynchronous orbit*, which is a “drift” or temporary orbit for satellites while they change directions or height, and there are “graveyard orbits” (also called supersynchronous orbits) which are orbits reserved for decommissioned satellites or other “space junk”, so that the space shuttle and active satellites don’t mistakenly collide with them.

The most known kind of orbits are the *geostationary orbits*. They are synchronous orbits that have the satellite orbiting parallel to the equator. Because they are directly above the equator, to the



Earthbound observer, they would appear to be stationary in the sky. This is highly useful for telecommunications and astronomical applications.



There are many more details to orbital mechanics, such as things like Lagrange points, and considerations in orbiting high-gravity objects like black holes. But that is the subject for another article. But with this information, it at least shows how complicated orbital mechanics is, and what it takes to keep Jean Luc Picard, Captain Kirk, Captain Jonathan Archer and Captain Janeway flying boldly where no fan has gone before. Think about it next time you look up in the sky and see something that you assume to be a satellite.

H.O.D.  
LTCMDR  
Erik  
Stubble-  
field  
  
Report  
filed by  
  
ENS  
Burt  
Gabot  
  
(Science  
Dept)

# Engineering Department Reports

## The Heart of the Ship

No starship in any Fleet—UFP or any other—would be able to operate without the men and women of its Engineering Divisions. These are the people who ensure that everything works the way it should and they keep it that way. Here are a few articles from one of the most important departments of our ship.



**LT Robert Fisher, HOD - Engineering**

### What is Warp Drive?

Primary propulsion system used by most faster-than-light interstellar spacecraft. Warp drive systems used by Federation Starships employ the controlled annihilation of matter and antimatter, regulated by dilithium crystals, to generate the tremendous power required to warp space and travel faster than light. Warp drive was invented in 2061 by noted scientist Zefram Cochrane. It is inadvisable to go to warp inside of a solar system because exceeding the speed of light near a gravity well can be dangerous if the gravitational potentials are not precisely taken into account.

### What is Warp Factor?

Unit of measure for faster-than-light warp velocities generated by warp drive. Warp speeds are computed geometrically under one of two different formulae. The original Constitution-class Enterprise had a cruising speed of warp factor 6, and could reach warp 8 only with significant danger to the ship itself. The ship nevertheless reached warp 11 in 2267 when modified by Nomad to increase engine efficiency by 57 percent. The Kelvans were also successful in modifying the ships engines to reach warp 11. The ship reached warp 14.1 in 2268 when the warp engines were sabotaged by Losira. Starfleet conducted a series of unsuccessful tests on an experimental transwarp propulsion system that would have dramatically increased the speed of warp drive systems.

By the 24th century, a new warp-factor scale was in use that employed an asymptotic curve, placing warp 10 as an infinite value. Under the new scale the, Galaxy-class Enterprise-D had a normal cruising speed of warp 6 (392 times the speed of light, about warp 7.3 under the old system), and a maximum normal velocity of warp 9.2 (about 1649 times the speed of light, about warp 11.8 in the old system). In 2370, following the formation of a massive subspace rift within the Hakaras Corridor, the Federation Council agreed that the use of warp fields posed a significant threat to some areas of space. Therefore the Council decreed that some areas would be limited to essential travel only. Furthermore, the Council imposed a Federation-wide "speed limit" of warp 5, which could only be exceeded in times of extreme emergency.

Later advances in Federation warp drive technology permitted the use of speeds exceeding warp 5. One of the first ships to be so equipped was the Intrepid-class starships, most notably, the USS Voyager, whose variable-geometry warp drive nacelles prevented damage to the subspace continuum.

H.O.D.

LT  
Robert  
Fisher

## Some of the Important Departments in Engineering



Docking Systems



Genera I Engineering



Transportation



Transporter Systems



## Transparent Aluminum Armor Tested By Military

Transparent aluminum, one of the important story elements in *Star Trek IV, The Voyage Home* is apparently not fictional anymore. Transparent aluminum armor (aluminum oxynitride - ALON) is being tested by the military as a lighter and stronger alternative to traditional materials.



ALON is a ceramic compound with very high compressive strength and durability; it offers better performance than traditional materials consisting of bonded glass. The new transparent aluminum armor uses ALON as a strike plate, a middle section of glass and a polymer backing. It provides better protection against armor piercing threats at half the weight and half the thickness of glass. It also appears to have a much longer life expectancy than glass.

For more information, go to the following sites:

[http://www.tswg.gov/tswg/pp/pp\\_ma.htm](http://www.tswg.gov/tswg/pp/pp_ma.htm)

<http://www.technovelgy.com/ct/Science-Fiction-News.asp?NewsNum=481>

H.O.D.

LT  
Robert  
Fisher

Articles  
supplied  
by  
CDMR  
Wayne  
Smith

## Alter-Lite™ Windows from ThermoView Industries

If you've ever wanted windows like the viewports they had on the Enterprise, then you'll like **Alter-Lite™ windows**. These "smart" windows give you the power to decide just how much sunlight shine into your home.

Alter-Lite™ windows feature suspended particle device (SPD\*) technology.

Suspended particle device means that microscopic light-absorbing particles are "suspended" in a film within the glass of **Alter-Lite™** windows. When light tries to pass through the window, the particles absorb the light, making the window appear dark and preventing the passage of light.



Alter-Lite™ windows remain dark unless an electrical charge is applied.

To make the windows transparent, a low-voltage electrical charge is activated, causing the suspended particles to align so light can pass through. The intensity of the light passing through the window is easily controlled by adjusting the voltage level.

For more information on this, visit <http://www.ebiz247.com/go-home-thermoview.html>

# Bits & Pieces

## A Sci Fi Filk

Done to the children's classic – *The Wheels on the Bus*

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The Star Trek Fans go Beam me up, beam me up, beam me up.  
The Star Trek Fans go Beam me up all thru space.

The Battlestar Galactica Fans go Frak, Frak, Frak. Frak, Frak,  
Frak. Frak, Frak, Frak.  
The Battlestar Galactica Fans go Frak, Frak, Frak all thru space.

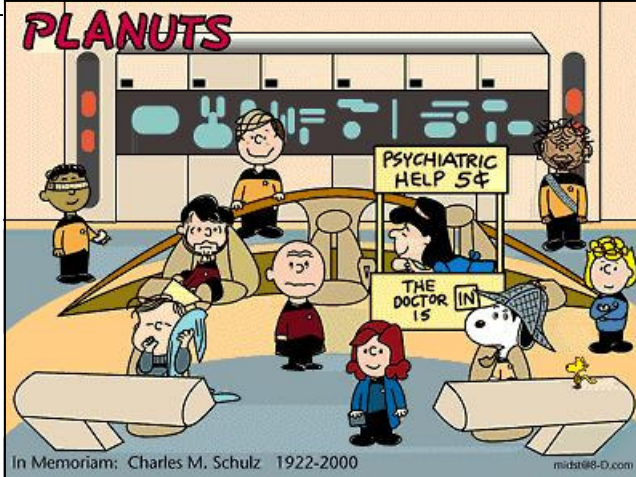
The Red Dwarf Fans go Smeg, Smeg, Smeg. Smeg, Smeg,  
Smeg. Smeg, Smeg, Smeg.  
The Red Dwarf Fans go Smeg, Smeg, Smeg all thru space.

The Stargate Fans go Chappa'ai, Chappa'ai, Chappa'ai.  
The Stargate Fans go Chappa'ai, Chappa'ai, Chappa'ai all thru  
space.

The V fans go Praetor Noma, Praetor Noma, Praetor Noma.

The V fans go Praetor Noma, Praetor Noma, Praetor Noma all  
thru space.

By: Sandy Mutter and Joey Ecker

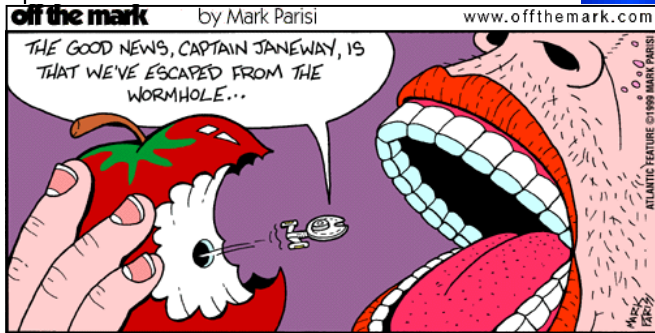


In Memoriam: Charles M. Schulz 1922-2000

## Pathways

Just walk a bit further along the road like this shoulder to shoulder.  
Counting the dreams that are becoming further away.  
Seeing the gradually lessening friends.  
At the moment I am lost in the familiar streets.  
And created the other side of myself in the darkness.  
A yell of thirst as if piercing the heart already filled with depression.  
I want to invite you to see this world with me.  
Inside my heart are answers, which no one else has.  
Find the crucial key to fly at the higher ground.

By Joey Ecker



## Green Mist

A drink from the land of the long white cloud



Amount	Ingredient
1 Shot	Crème De Menthe - Green
1/2 Shot	Cherry Brandy
1/2 Shot	Crème De Bananes
3.5 Shots	Ginger Ale

### METHOD

Shake the Cherry Brandy, Crème de Menthe and Crème de Bananes with ice in a cocktail shaker. Serve into a cocktail glass with some ice cubes and top up with ginger ale.

### GARNISH

A slice of kiwi fruit for that exotic look!

MISCELLANEOUS

# JANUARY 2008



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

HOD Meeting      All Hands Meeting      General Chat



U.S.S. SOUTHERN CROSS      NCC-63550

The Pride of the Pacific

## The Women of TOS - #3



# FEBRUARY 2008



Dr Ann Mulhall

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	

HOD Meeting      All Hands Meeting      360 Games      General Chat



Dr Miranda Jones

U.S.S. SOUTHERN CROSS      NCC-63550

The Pride of the Pacific