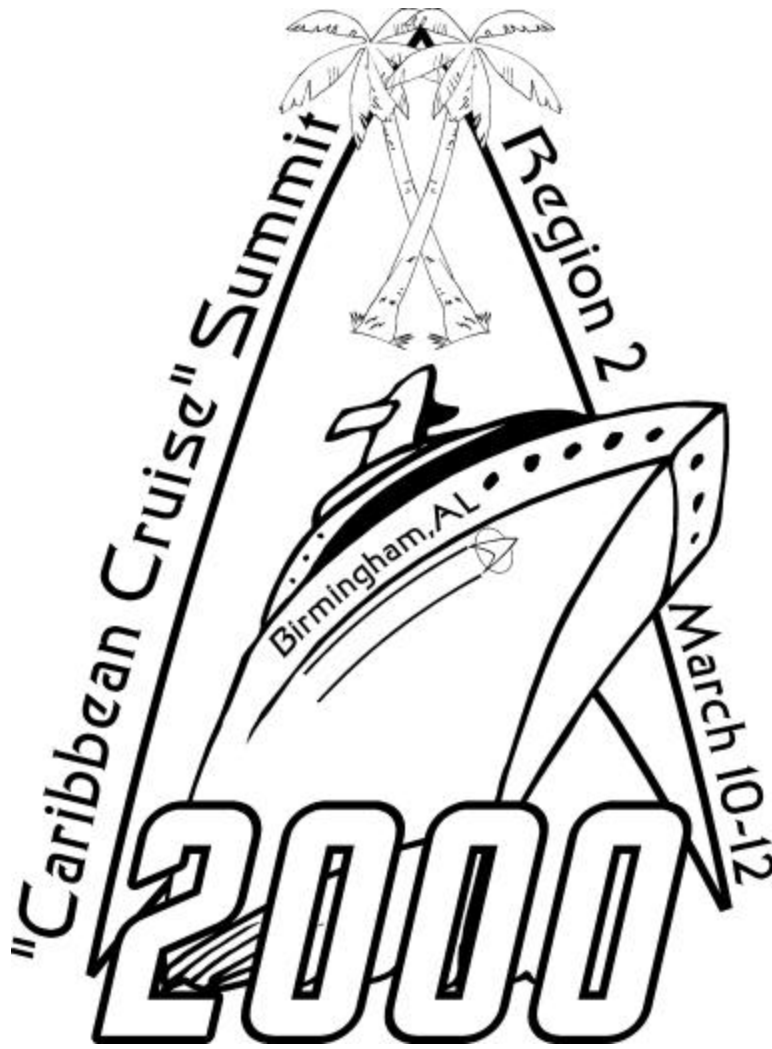


REGION 2 UPDATE FEBRUARY 2000



REGION TWO SUMMIT
SPECIAL ISSUE

REGION 2 STAFF CONTACT LIST

Regional Coordinator
Commodore Pete Mohney
1105 Oak Creek Trail
Birmingham, AL 35215
205-680-5723
E-Mail: PDMohney@aol.com

Vice Regional Coordinator
Fleet Capt. Jennifer Rosbury
579 NW 41st St. Apt. B
Oakland, FL 33309
E-mail: r2vrc@trekland.com

R2ZC 1 - Florida
Joe Dobson
PO Box 21611
Ft. Lauderdale, FL. 33335
(954) 920-1339
Email: USSTRIUMPH@aol.com

R2ZC 2 - Georgia
Capt. Jeff Kirkland
510 Haynie Rd.
Moreland, GA 30259-2713
E-mail: fltcptJeff@juno.com
IJK051553@aol.com

R2ZC 3 - Alabama
Fleet Capt. Carol Buran
1820 County Road 23
Florence, AL 35633
E-mail: cab111051@aol.com

R2ZC 4 - Mississippi
Capt. Bethany Theilman
121 Redbud Trail
Brandon, MS 39042
E-mail: theilman@sprintmail.com

Chief of Communications
Comm. A. Isaac Turner
4721 Cyndell Drive
Pinson, AL 35126
E-mail: YamatoComm@aol.com

R2 Chief of Awards
RAdm. Barbara Paul
110 Napier Ave.
Warner Robbins, GA 31093
E-mail:
timberwolf@cyberhighway.com
(912)929-3210

R2 Chief of Quartermaster
Capt. Bill Paul
110 Napier Ave
Warner Robins, GA 31093
E-mail: wlpaul@cyberhighway.com

R2 RDC Marines
John Adcock
8360-3rd Ave Unit 309
Ft. Rucker, AL 36362
(334) 598-4638
kamarag@snowhill.com

R2 Chief of Cadets
Capt. Jay Gallops
810 Barksdale Street
Pensacola, FL 32514
E-Mail: jimj7@worldnet.att.net

R2 Chief of Security
Commander Bill Hart
207 SW 2nd Place
Dania, FL 33004
305-927-6548
E-mail: Bhart45@aol.com

R2 Chief of Computer Operations
Flt. Capt. Richard L. Trulson
28825 Airport Lane
Ardmore, AL 35739
E-mail richlt@HIWAAY.net

R2 Chief of Medical
Fleet Captain Rosa Jackson
rjackson@evcom.net
5843 SE 47th Ave Apt C102
Stuart FL 34997-8481
561) 220-0561

R2 Chief of Treasury
Lt. J.G.Denby Potts
2912 Dublin Drive
Helena, AL 35080
E-mail: Trekwife@aol.com

R2 Chief of Operations
Captain Willis Burhan
1820 County Road 23
Florence, AL 35633
E-mail: WJB41472@aol.com

R2 Chief of Engineering
Commander Alice Strange
1294 George Crowe Road
Odenville AL 35120
Frantrek@aol.com

R2 Shuttle Operations Command
RAdm. Barbara Paul
110 Napier Ave.
Warner Robbins, GA 31093
E-mail:
timberwolf@cyberhighway.com
(912)929-3210

Region 2 Chief of Summit
Rear Admiral Mike Henigan
1115 McGill Park Avenue
Atlanta GA 30312
404-688-2882

R2 Chief of Public Relations
Commander Jean Smith
1294 George Crowe Road
Odenville AL 35120-8015
205-629-6135
Destra3@aol.com

R2 Chief of Sciences
Commander Neil Yawn
135 Foust Court
Birmingham AL 35214
205-798-2272
cmosnuffy@aol.com

Assistant Director, Starfleet
Diplomatic Corps, Region 2
Lt. Ed deGruy
2005 Regency Woods Dr.
Atlanta GA 30319
404-327-5760
degry@aol.com

Around the Region

By Commodore Pete Mohney
Region 2 Regional Coordinator

Greetings! I am glad to see that we came through Y2K without any real problems. As a programmer, I was one of the folks who spent many hours working to prevent problems from occurring on January 1, and I was glad to see that the work that we did took care of the job. Indeed, we were so successful, that some people actually decided the whole Y2K problem was a hoax! I guess that is a mark of a job well done, if a strange one.



This edition of the Update is an emergency quickie version produced by me; R2 Chief of Communications Ike Turner had a hard drive crash, any was not able to get his system fixed in time to get this issue out. So, if you are wondering where all the neat graphics and high production values went, that is where. Ike should be back for the next issue.

This will be my last column before the Summit, unless the Monthly Memo gets out earlier than usual. I have been sending out email updates to the Region 2 Maillist, and to all of the Region 2 Commanding Officers, as issues have arisen and news has occurred. It is shaping up to be an excellent summit, quite possibly the biggest one we have ever had, and certainly the busiest! We will have a number of Starfleet Headquarters staff on hand, including the Fleet Admiral, and it looks to be a very competitive year for awards. Also, quite a few nominations for promotions have been submitted, and we also will have an area for Region 2 merchandise open for much of the weekend. All in all, it looks like it is going to be a great event, one I will be proud of having had a hand in arranging.

The plans for the 2001 Summit are shaping up nicely, and we will be announcing the details shortly, as soon as the hotel contract and banquet contract have been approved by R2 Chief of Summit Mike Henigan, and we know we can plan on the site. The location for next year will be a bit more centrally located than most, so we can hope to have even more people attend from around the region.

The order for a couple of dozen polo-type shirts with the R2 logo and some other items should have gone out by the time you read this. We have had to negotiate a bit with the embroidering company over prices and design elements, and I have been too busy to complete this prior to now, but we plan on having the shirts on hand at the Summit. We may also have patches in the new logo design ready, through another supplier. Until then, we have some items left over from old orders and the summit auction from 1999. If you wish to purchase any of these items, send payment in check or money order to me, made out to Starfleet Region 2. If you wish to purchase multiple items, postage would probably be less; contact me for details.

Price	Postage	Item
5.00	1.00	Region 2 embroidered patches
2.00	2.00	Posters (postage on additional posters .25)
		3 different Star Wars: CCG posters
		many small Star Trek: First Contact/Star Trek: The Experience two-sided posters
		several small Babylon Five crew posters

3.00	2.00	3 full-sized Star Trek: First Contact posters
3.00	2.00	Playmates figures: ST: Generations, Kirk in space suit The Mugatu
5.00	3.00	coffee mug with image of Mr. Spock plate
3.00	2.00	Books: 3 copies of Beyond Uhura, hardback 2 copies of ST:TNG, Dark Mirror, hardback Star Trek: TNG: Kahless, hardback ST: TNG: Crossover, hardback Boldly Live as You've Never Lived Before, hardback
4.00	1.00	Pass to Laser Zone in Mississippi, worth \$7.50 each (5)

All of the Starfleet electronic mail lists crashed in September, and the subscriber lists were lost. If you are interested in rejoining the Region 2 Maillist, simply send a message like this:

To: majordomo@sfi.org

Subject: subscribe

Message: subscribe region2-l@sfi.org <your email address>

Be sure to put the sfi.org on the address, or you will not be properly subscribed. This will start an automated process by which a request for approval message will come to me. I will approve you for the list, which is open to anyone at this time. Unless someone posts junk mail to the list, abuses the hospitality of the list, or uses language inappropriate to a family forum, I will not remove anyone from the list or moderate posting on the list.

The list of Region 2 Summit 2000 registrants has become too long to publish each month. As a result, instead of publishing it, registrants will receive a notification by email or US Mail. This will help people see if their registration has been received. If you are not sure your registration was received, please email or contact me otherwise me and I will confirm. Please note that registration rates for the Summit are now up to \$55 for the full summit and banquet, to \$35 for the summit only, and to \$25 for Saturday only. T-shirts must be pre-ordered to guarantee availability; we will have some available on site, but we sell out every year, so pre-order if you want to be sure to get a shirt.

One of the things that we will be doing a little different at the Summit this year is the presentation of promotions. Promotions to Commander and under will be performed at opening ceremonies on Saturday morning, and will be done in groups, by rank, ascending. If you have a promotion you would like presented at the Summit, be sure to let me know so we can add the name of the person to the list we will call to the front. Promotions to Captain and above will be done individually, at the awards ceremony on Saturday night.

Starting in August, at the end of each month, we have been having a drawing from among the paid Summit registrants for a \$10 Auction Certificate, good for \$10 on bidding at the auction. (Certain members of summit staff, such as myself and my family, and Danny Potts and his family, are not eligible for these drawings, even if they are paid attendees.) The sooner you register, the more chances you have to win! The winners so far are Bill Hart, Willis Burhans, Tony Goretski, Jo Banister, James Brunton and Mary Ann Curry.

Speaking of the Summit, Chief of Summit Mike Henigan is responsible for the requirements for the 2002 Summit, which is scheduled to be held in Georgia. If you would

like a copy, contact him at tdbear@mindspring.com, or by telephone at 404-688-2882. If you are interested in putting in a bid for that, you should start planning.

We have begun work on the Region 2 Handbook. This will be a list of guidelines, history and so on, and will probably be modeled, at least initially, on the Starfleet handbook. The first draft will be roughed out by a committee from the Region, and will be composed of a group like the Constitutional Committee – myself, the VRC, all the ZCs, the IG as a non-voting member to advise us on legal issues, and one at-large member from each zone. After the committee finishes its preliminary work, the document will be voted on by the whole region. If there are any particular issues or subjects of particular concern to you that should be in the handbook, be sure to contact your Zone Coordinator.

Region 2, Second to None!

Pete Mohney
Region 2 Regional Coordinator
1105 Oak Creek Trail
Birmingham AL 35215
(205) 680-5723
pdmohney@aol.com

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REGION 2 ONLINE CHAT

The next Region 2 Online Chat will take place on March 5, at 7 p.m. Alabama and Mississippi time, 8 p.m. Georgia and Florida time. Instructions on installing the software for the chat and setting up your connections can be found at www.sfi.org, then press the Cyberspace button. The channel you need to join is #sfi-r2.

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STARFLEET ARMED SERVICES PROGRAM
VADM BARBARA M. PAUL - DIRECTOR

Greetings From ASP Headquarters,

I have assumed command of the Program again after a short hiatus. Pulling two jobs and trying to tie down a family life and do the things I have to do in my Region got a little much. I'm now down to one job with the City Police Department and have let a couple things go. I now have plenty of time to do what needs to be done.

I've touched base with my two Military Liaisons, one which is stationed in S. Korea at the moment and I've made contact with a person in Europe whom I hope will help us get things going there.

To very briefly let you all know what we do in 100 words or less, the ASP Program is designed to assist our Real Life Military members in establishing chapters on their base that meets in accordance with their duty schedules and deployments etc.

It's taken many years to fine tune it and merge it into the infrastructure of this organization but it's now merged on all points and we're ready to field test it.

A Contact Point for this Program for right now is myself till I hear back from my Liaisons. I have several staff positions open (to be filled by "Active Duty" military folks) as Liaisons and Headquarters Staff. If any of our military members think they would like to help us build this program into something great get with me at tmbrwolf@cyberhighway.net. We cater to all Branches of the Armed Forces.

Hailing Frequencies are open.

Yours in Service,

**Vadm. Barbara M. Paul
Director - ASP Program**

**REGION 2 AWARDS PROGRAM
VADM. BARBARA M. PAUL - DIRECTOR**

Greetings,

Region 2 now has now entered Cyberspace with it's Awards Program. This program which has been in operation for going on five years now has been expanding and improving with time and the needs of the membership in this Region. We issue certificates and plaques for our awards and try to recognize 'ALL' aspects of this Region while still meeting Fleet Award Criteria. We have at present twenty-three awards we give out, some with several categories in them. We have also merged our Marines into the Program and they now have the opportunity to present their awards at the Region Summit and Award Presentations.

This program has proven it can truly unite this Region on at least one common ground. That of recognizing the best of the best from the oldest Officer to our youngest Cadets. Our Program is available for review on-line at the following

link:<http://omnifacets.com/region2/awards/awardsprogram.htm>. You can access it from the Region 2 Web Site as well.

We invite you to visit this site and let us know what you think of our program. We've put a lot of work into it and hope it continues to grow and improve with age like a fine bottle of Romulan Ale or Saurian Brandy.

Yours In Service

**Vadm. Barbara M. Paul
Director - Region 2 Awards Program**

**REGION 2 SHUTTLE PROGRAM
VADM. BARBARA M. PAUL - DIRECTOR**

"Stand-By to disengage all Mooring Lines. Prepare to engage thrusters."

This is the order all Shuttle Commanders can't wait to hear. The order to launch as a Commissioned ship of the Fleet.

Region 2's Shuttle Program is off and running again and with the completion of this years Region Summit in Birmingham Alabama, we will be saying just those words to a couple of our shuttles.

We'll be presenting the new Region 2 Shuttle Operations Manual for the RC's review and approval and from there it'll be sent on to Fleet SHoC for their review and approval. If we pass both inspections we'll have a manual that we can give to all newly forming groups that will help guide them along their way from conception to commissioning.

We are currently working with a couple groups in the Region and hope to see them commission by next Summit with all due respects to everyone concerned here. As we all know, a shuttle is the life-blood of the Organization. It represents growth and new visions and perceptions.

Questions or comments can be directed to the following:

VAdm Barbara M. Paul (R2 SHoC Director) tubrwolf@cyberhighway.net

Capt. Jack Eaton (Vice R2 SHoC Director) r2viceshoc@hotmail.com

I hope to expand this program to include the Rookie Chapters by supplying the new Chapter CO's with a Senior Captain who can help guide them through their first and often most difficult period of chapter operation, their first year.

We also are able to advise and assist Mothership CO's who suddenly acquire a shuttle and have never had one before. This can be a very busy and trying period for both groups.

We hope to hear from you folks out there. We're here to Serve.

In Service to the Region and Members

**VAdm Barbara M. Paul
Director - R2 Shuttle Operations**

REGION 2 CHIEF OF COMPUTER OPERATIONS REPORT By Rich Trulson

Somewhere in the vastness of cyberspace, my last report for the Update got lost. So I've reworked that report and added some new info.

I'm very pleased with the new look of the web site even though I haven't received any feedback on it. The biggest changes are to the layout and color scheme. Since some of you may not like frames, or may not be able to use them at all, I decided to start with a regular HTML page. There are some tags that older browsers can't handle, but the information and links will still display just fine. To return to the frames version, simply click the "Activate Frames" link. Bookmark whichever version suits your tastes more.

I decided to go with black writing on white background because it usually prints easier and is what more people are accustomed to. For some reason a lot of sci-fi web sites seem to use the light on dark approach because it simulates space. The internal file structure has changed too. Even though you won't notice much difference, from my standpoint the sub-folder use is better organized and easier to deal with.

What you will notice is that I've finally got the Region 2 Awards Program online. There are HTML web pages, Adobe Portable Document Format, Microsoft Word, Rich Text Format, and plain ASCII text format versions of the program guidelines and the nomination forms. Therefore, no one can use the excuse that they didn't have access to the information in order to submit award nominees. Even if you don't have computer access, you should be able to get a copy from your Commanding Officer or the Regional Coordinator.

While I was at it, I also got our newly approved Constitution on the web in various formats as well. The chapter listing has been cross-linked within itself. You can jump directly to the chapter you want by clicking on the alphabetical listing by name, by city of charter, or by zone. And while they've been online before, the Monthly Memo and the

Monthly Status Reports will be returning eventually as well. Eventually, I hope to even had the Region 2 Update online as well.

However, I still haven't done the awe inspiring things that I'd like to do. As it is now, the web site is still standard HTML, with frames being the most advanced feature. Eventually, I hope to add some nifty Javascript features, and maybe even Java. I've even got a Vice-Chief that's wanting to do some Shockwave plug-in work.

You may also be wondering where the Region 2 Summit pages have went. The old URL (<http://www.OmniFacets.com/r2summit/>) will no longer work. However, there is a link available that will take you to its new location (<http://www.OmniFacets.com/region2/summit/>). This makes the Summit pages even more integrated with the Region's pages, which is where they probably should have been to begin with. You can either navigate there directly, or go through the Region's site (<http://www.OmniFacets.com/region2/>).

I've also been very busy serving as judge for the new Richard Daystrom Cyberspace award. I'd like to thank Barbara Paul for not only including this award in the Awards Program, but for also entrusting the huge responsibility to judge it to me. I posted my judging criteria and guidelines on the Region 2 e-mail list just before Christmas. Hopefully, these will be incorporated into future versions of the Awards Program Guidelines.

Basically, I thought awarding points based on particular qualities of the web site would be the most impartial way to judge. Criteria included technical correctness, advanced feature use, compatibility, multimedia appeal, efficiency, design, content, and overall impression with a possible 10 points in each category for a total of 80 points awarded by me.

In order to increase the impartiality and provide multiple viewpoints, I've enlisted the aide of two more judges. First of all, my Vice-Chief, Steven Rosbury, will be providing a listing of what he considers the ten best web sites. That listing will be converted into points to be incorporated into my system. (First place will receive 10 points; tenth place will receive 1 point.) I then selected someone unaffiliated with Region 2 to serve as a third judge. I chose Commander John Nelson aboard the USS Matrix, a correspondence chapter in Region 7 (though he actually lives in Region 4). He will provide a 10 best list as well. I'd like to thank them both for volunteering their help!

Awards will be given for Best Ship Site, Best Shuttle Site, Superior Achievement and Performance, Best Interactive, Most Informative, and Best Fun Site. I've also decided to give RDC honorable mentions in various categories to those who came close, which will be announced after the Region 2 Summit. The winners of the main categories will receive a certificate. All winner and honorable mention recipients will be allowed to include a Cyberspace Award logo on their web site. I'd like to thank Steve for agreeing to design these logos for me since my drawing talents aren't that great.

Anyway, I've rambled enough, so I'll save the rest for future articles. I'll discuss the Richard Daystrom Cyberspace Award winners and offer suggestions on how to improve your web site.

**FCAPT Richard L. Trulson
Region 2 Chief of Computer Operations**

CHIEF OF PUBLIC RELATIONS by Jean Smith

I am excited to announce that the press packet for Summit 2000 has been completed after many hours of hard work. My staff has been very dedicated and I would like to thank them. I would also like to thank our region coordinator and zone coordinators for their help. I wish to thank Richard Trulson for putting some great information on the web cite which I borrowed from. My next projects include reestablishing contact with other regions and a booklet that would help new members find the chapters closest to their location. I would like to invite anyone to send your ideas for public relations to me. My E-mail address is Destra3@aol.com.

**Cmdr A. Jean Smith
R-2 Chief of Public Relations**

From the Office Of Region 2 Department Of Engineering

By Captain Alice C. Strange

I was reading an article some weeks pass in the Parade Magazine titled "Catch A Falling Star." In the article I found out how we can enjoy viewing meteor showers without having to need a telescope or even a pair of binoculars!! It appears that the year 2000 will be a very good year for watching them especially after midnight. According to this article, the best nights for seeing a meteor show are as follows:

Date	Shower Name	Origin
April 21	Lyrids	Comet Thatcher
July 28	Eta Aquarids	Yet to be discovered
Aug 12	Perseids	Comet Swift-Tuttle
Oct 21	Orionids	Halley's Comet
Nov 2	Taurids	Encke's Comet
Nov 18	Leonids	Comet Tempeo-Tuttle
Dec 14	Geminids	Asteroid Phaëthon

In my habit of randomly looking at anything that catches my eye, I have come across some excellent web sites for viewing some very interesting things out in space as well as here on earth. One such site is <http://science.nasa.gov/> where you can learn about such things as weather in space, the earth's weather, microgravity, the aurora, the sun, and much, much more. For those of you who don't know about it, NASA's main site can be find at <http://www.nasa.gov/> where you can learn about some of the things they are doing as well as founding some links to some of their other sites. If you are interested in knowing about extraterrestrial life, try going to <http://origins.jpl.nasa.gov/>. If you are an astronomy buff like me, try going to <http://www.skypub.com/> or better yet to <http://opposite.stsci.edu/>. If you would like to see some neat pictures, try going to <http://nix.nasa.gov/>. Hope you will enjoy these sites as much as I have.

**Captain Alice C. Strange
R2 Chief of Engineering**

Region 02 Treasury Report
Submitted by: Denby Potts, Region 02 Treasurer
Prepared: February 15, 2000

Regional Summit registrations continue to roll in! We currently have well over 70 registrations. Can you believe it! At this rate, I expect we'll top 100! We currently have 21 R2 chapters and several out-of-region guests registered, so we're looking forward to a great summit!

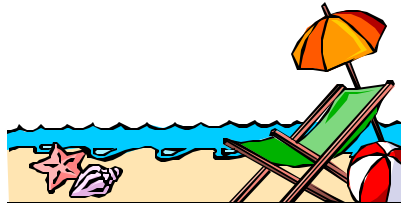
See you in March!

Balance Forward:	3,082.35
Income from 2000 Summit Reg	1,261.00
Income from check return	100.00
Misc Income	11.00

Total Income	1,372.00
December R2 Update Postage	(35.03)
Summit Expenses	(1,305.90)

Total Expense	(1,340.93)
Remaining Balance	\$ 3,113.42

Total Profit/(Loss) for this reporting period: 31.07



OPERATIONS-REGION 2

WBJB41472@aol.com

Greetings!

With the warm weather quickly approaching, it signifies to us that this is the time to plan outdoor events for our chapters. There are many ideas that work well during the summer.

The first idea that comes to mind is a Bar-B-Cue/Swimming Party. Obviously this works well if one of your members has a swimming pool. However, a chapter Bar-B-Cue is always fun, and there are other things you can do besides swimming. If I may borrow from the USS Werner Von Braun, they often have a "Voyager" night so that everyone can catch up on missed episodes. This does tend to work well.

Another idea is to host a chapter carwash. Not only do chapter members traditionally have fun getting everyone wet, but, it is a great way to raise money for your chapter's charities. But, where do I go to setup a carwash area? Well, often "K-Mart" will allow you to setup an area. However, if not, usually you can goto a business, talk to the store manager and just ask if you can conduct a carwash outside their store, to raise money for charity (it's advisable to specify a charity, such as Big Brothers/Big Sisters).

Of course, the better outdoor activities involve basic fun. Some things could be a campout, a canoeing trip, a fishing trip/contest, or a picnic. All of these are fun things to do, and if you are out in the public, help to promote recruitment into your chapter and STARFLEET International. But, please, when outside this summer, take precaution. Don't allow your friends to be come dehydrated and overheated. It's very easy to do when your outside running around. Remember to drink lots and lots of WATER!!!! Sodas won't do it. The sugar in the sodas just adds to your troubles.

One final note, it has been brought to my attention that the new District Vice Chief of the East, Operations-STARFLEET did not receive a large amount of our region's Monthly Status Reports. Though, this is not necessarily anyone's fault, I would like to advise all reporting officer's to please send a copy of the Monthly Status report to Dennis Rayburn at DVCEast@sfi.org if you have internet capability.

Otherwise, everything is operating, as normal. OPS out.

**CAPT Will Burhans
R2RDC-OPS**

Checking Out The Final Frontier

When Star Trek 30 came to Huntsville in 1996, one of the freebies in our package was a check sample from the Anthony Grandio company. They offered a thirtieth anniversary edition that featured gorgeous pictures from the Trek series. I didn't purchase any checks then since I didn't need any at the time. However, when I did finally run out of my current supply, I was disappointed to learn that the checks were for a limited time only and had been discontinued.

Then recently on a trip to my CO's house, he showed me his new checks. They featured eight different gorgeous full color designs of the ships from the various Star Trek series. This includes all six USS Enterprise versions, USS Voyager, and a Defiant/Deep Space Nine/wormhole combination. The name and address were printed in The Next Generation Crillee font style and "Star Trek: The Ships of Starfleet Command" is printed in gold foil. On the back is the schematic drawing of the featured ship.

When I called the next day (1-800-472-6346), the sales rep took my name and address. Just over a week later, I received their brochures in the mail. I was also given their web address (<http://www.anthonygrandio.com/>) so I could check their merchandise out on the internet. They can also be reached by postal mail at:

The Anthony Grandio Company
PO Box 23098
Jacksonville, FL 32241-3098

In addition to the ship series, they have two other check series featuring gorgeous, full-color portraits of many characters from the original Star Trek (5 scenes, including the UFP seal) and The Next Generation (8 scenes). They also have a single image United Federation of Planets seal check series. A box of 200 one-part standard checks costs \$14.95, or \$54.80 for 4 boxes. A box of 150 duplicate checks are \$16.95 each, or \$63.80 for 4 boxes. The ship series is slightly extra per box at \$19.95 for 200 one-part standard checks and \$21.95 for 150 duplicate checks.

The classic Trek and the UFP logo series can have an optional classic Command, Science, Engineering logo added to the signature line for a small fee. The TNG series can have the original combadge design on the signature line for an additional fee. While the Crillee lettering is included with the ship series, they charge a bit extra on the other designs.

They also include a really nice vinyl checkbook cover, which has a full color image of the USS Enterprise appropriate to the series you order. They're available for \$4.95 each separately as well. As if that wasn't nice enough, they also offer for \$6.95 each a marbled "space" vinyl cover featuring the USS Voyager or Deep Space Nine. But for the ultimate in luxurious checkbook covers, they offer a full grain black leather cover featuring the UFP seal. This \$29.95 luxury offers you credit card slots, picture sleeves, a pen holder, and a photo window.

If you don't have a checking account, or are looking for an unique artsy-type gift, they offer a collector's set for \$139.95. Each set includes one of the first 100 boxes ever produced (non-negotiable for payment purposes), four matching numbered and signed uncut sheets of check stock suitable for framing, the checkbook cover originally sold with the series, and a signed certificate of authenticity. They currently offer just the Ships of Starfleet and the Thirtieth Anniversary collector's sets, and I imagine the former is almost sold out.

Finally, they also offer Star Trek return address mailing labels as well. They offer two designs, one vertically oriented and the other more horizontally oriented. They have four full-color designs featuring the original and TNG Enterprise, Voyager, and Deep Space Nine. Since many people can produce their own mailing labels on their inkjet printers, people may find it hard to justify the \$9.95 price tag.

At least now I know where to go when I'm ready for new checks. The Anthony Grandio Company also offers a Xena: Warrior Princess, Wizard of Oz, and Florida wildlife check series.

**FCAPT Richard L. Trulson
Communications Chief
USS Wernher von Braun**

Voyager Video Marathon

For most people in northeast Alabama, we don't see Star Trek: Voyager since Huntsville doesn't have a UPN network. We were able to watch the first three seasons when WAAY 31, the local ABC affiliate, would show a couple of UPN shows about a week after they appeared on the UPN network. Unfortunately, beginning with the fourth season, WAAY stopped showing the episodes when the broadcast fees became too expensive.

The USS Wernher von Braun would occasionally import episodes from other chapters like the USS Hephaestus in Birmingham or the Dark Silence Station in Florence. We'd show one or two episodes after every meeting. However, it was troublesome to lug a TV and VCR to every meeting, and holding it repeatedly at someone's house would have been a burden to the host. As a result, even that began to dwindle in popularity.

Finally, the von Braun decided to host a one-day Voyager episode marathon. Not only was this an opportunity to catch up on missed episodes, but it was also a recruiting opportunity. Beginning in July, various dates were proposed and discarded, but a date was finally set for the last weekend in September. Unfortunately, just as the Communications Chief was to send out press releases, his hard drive crashed and he was unable to produce anything. We also discovered that weekend was the Big Spring Jam concert held at a local park, which would have hogged all the media coverage and drawn away from our event.

So we went back to the drawing board and settled for Saturday, November 13, 1999. This would also allow us to promote the video day at Con+Stellation (<http://www.con-stellation.org/>), a local fantasy/literary/gaming convention held during Halloween weekend this year. Additionally, we had full-color flyers posted at all the comics shops. And finally, we sent press releases to the local paper, television, and radio stations.

Beginning at 11 a.m., we began with the Voyager series premier, "Caretaker," to refresh everyone's memory. We followed that with the "Scorpion" two-part episode that introduced Seven of Nine. Since most of the local members had seen bits of season four already, we focused on episodes from season five. We waited too late to borrow season six episodes from other chapters though.

We had at least five people there continuously, and about a dozen at our busiest. All total, we had about 25 people show up, most of which were people we had never seen before. Some of which I feel were major Trek fans and will turn out to be contributing members of the von Braun. I found out later that some of them had just moved here, so maybe the initial delay was for the best after all. The day wound down around 11:15 p.m. after over a dozen Voyager episodes were watched non-stop without commercial interruptions.

People were enticed in with offers of free snacks and door prizes. We would have liked to have sold some things to help our coffers, but couldn't do so because the Madison Municipal Complex wouldn't allow it. Other places weren't an option either since they charged outrageous amounts per hour. Even then we had to restrict food usage to the downstairs break room. It would have been nice if we could snack and watch at the same time, but we made due with what we had.

Fleet members Don Daniel, Laura Peterson, and Richard Trulson brought food from home. Richard and Laura also graciously donated several items for the door prizes. Laura is a sci-fi merchandise dealer, so contact her (<http://www.wfp51744.w1.com/index.html> or sci-fi-col@mindspring.com or 256-721-1843) if there's something you need. Russ McNutt, who is our Commanding Officer, provided episode tapes, as did Laura. Richard also brought his 22" TV, VCR, and Bose Acoustic Wave machine to provide a nice audio and video system.

The highlight of the evening for me personally though was the coverage from the news media. I was ecstatic to learn that the WAFF NBC affiliate and the Huntsville Times paper announced our meeting in their Community Events Calendar section. The TV station even joked around during their early evening newscast that they weren't sure if they could watch that much Star Trek or not. Talk about some good, free publicity!

Additionally, WAAY sent a reporter to cover our event. We had about 15 seconds of fame midway through the evening newscast. While our name and contact information weren't mentioned, STARFLEET got featured prominently, as did the merchandise we had on display. Several members, including a brief interview sound bite from me, were also seen.

Overall, it was a very enjoyable day. Even with the hassles of meeting space restrictions and needed materials, the results were well worth it. We have ten new members on our mailing list, and I feel confident that a few of those will join STARFLEET. So as a result, this was a very successful event that other chapters in areas without Voyager might consider doing.

For more information about the USS Wernher von Braun, feel free to visit our web page (<http://www.OmniFacets.com/wvb/>).

FCAPT Richard L. Trulson
Communications Chief
USS Wernher von Braun
