



## Letter From the Editor

**By: CDR Marshall Crockett**  
Chief, Dept of Public Relations

It's that time of the year. No, not Christmas...the publication of the December Blue Alert! This month, and for future publications, we will publish them in .pdf format and post them on our department webpage. We will also post a link in the Newsletters Thread on the OSB main page to show you where to go. This format is absolutely a trial and error opportunity and one in which the membership can have a significant voice. I encourage all of you to send me feedback on whether or not you like the new format. If you do, we will gladly continue publishing them in this way. If not, please give some examples of how you would prefer the format to be presented.

In late October 2009, the Dept of Communications was redesignated the Dept of Public Relations and a significant shift in direction took place. This is only one of many changes that have come about. We are always looking for motivated officers to join our ranks. Please see the job announcements board and the department website for more information. ♦

## The Captain/First-Officer Relationship

*Part I: Captain Picard & Commander Riker*

**By: LT Yu'wana**  
Sr. Correspondent / Feature Writer

While trying to post an answer on the thread, "What if you could pick your crew," it occurred to me that, no matter what captain I choose, I cannot find a better first officer than the one they already have. Why is that? I shall try to provide an answer to this question in the next series of essays entitled "The Captain/First Officer Relationship." If you should find yourself asking why Picard and Riker are my first subjects, you should know that it was simply 'The Prophets' decision.' Who am I to mess with the Prophets?

Captain Picard chose Commander Riker as his first officer without even knowing him personally. As he confesses to Admiral Pressman, Captain Picard almost passed over Riker's record, but he suddenly noticed the incident when Riker refused to allow Captain DeSoto to beam down with the away team. This fact had a major influence in Picard's selection of Riker as his "number one;" he was impressed that a first officer would dare to challenge a captain's authority and face a court-martial rather than put the safety of the captain at risk.

At their first meeting, Picard was very cold, which might have been a little discouraging for the ambitious Riker. As he proved his skills and expertise, Picard praised him in private and put him to yet another test; a test of character, which Riker passed brilliantly.

PICARD: "I see in your file that Captain DeSoto thinks very highly of you. One curious thing, however; you refused to let him beam down to Altair Three."

RIKER: "In my opinion, sir, Altair Three was too

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 Letter From the Editor
- 2 Officer Profile: LCDR Greg Campbell
- 3 Announcements and Updates
- 4 Top 10 Favorite Threads
- 5 OSB @ 200
- 6 Christmas at Sandrine's

*continued on page 3*

## Officer Profile

*LCDR Greg Campbell, Chief of Forum Security*

**By: LT Yu'wanna**

Sr. Correspondent / Feature Writer



Name: Greg Campbell

Age: 19

Position on the Starbase: Chief of Forum Security

Location: Edinburgh, Scotland, UK

Hobbies: Graphic Designing, Attending the UK Air Training Corps as a Cadet Sergeant, Sports, Going out with mates, and having/making fun!

Enjoys: Aircraft Recce, Admin, Cadetting, PARTIES!

Hates: Open uniform buttons, liars and hypocrites

Guilty Pleasures: Enjoys 'Old' Music

First Encountered Star Trek: Around 7 or 8 yrs old, watched an episode of TOS

Other Interesting Facts: He hopes to be a pilot in the Royal Air Force

Interview:

1.) What is the most valuable thing you have learned from Star Trek?

"That there is some hope for humanity."

2.) What is your favorite Star Trek race and why?

"The Betazoids, as some of my friends see my empathy as almost telepathic."

3.) What are the things you like and dislike most about other people?

"I'm not one to judge others, until I get to know them, but it only takes a major "balls up" to make me think there is something wrong with the person, but then I would not hold a grudge."

4.) Any plans for the future you wish to share with us?

"Apart from wishing to be a pilot in the RAF, base wise, I would love to serve in a Command capacity."

5.) What do you like most about Online Starbase?

"I think that the sense of community and understanding is beyond comparison, everyone is human and everyone is respected."

6.) As the Chief of Forum Security, what are some of your most critical responsibilities and what challenges have you faced leading the Department?

"As I served as the Deputy Chief for some time, most of the teething problems, such as knowing staff, and leading the department well enough to be able to make it effective. My only difficulty is my stretching time with work being hectic and with Christmas coming ever closer, and my younger sisters "Demanding" more time on my laptop"

7.) What future plans do you have for Forum Security?

"Right now, I see the department as effective and well organized, we have a great variety of officers and we work well as a team, however, I am looking at some opportunities for the new staff, and possibly inventing Security Branches."

8.) If someone wanted to join Forum Security, what type of person are you looking for and what process would they undergo to apply?

"Someone who has a keen eye for detail, is VERY active, and who sees the base as a place to be enjoyed by all, and wishes to protect it."

9.) What words of wisdom do you have for new members to OSB that would help them get integrated?

"I would say Contact Commander Kerr, seriously, but if I was to give some personal advice.....ENJOY IT!" ❖

*Visit our Public Relations Website  
by going to:*

<http://osbpubrel.webs.com/>

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Congratulations to Admiral Dean on his first anniversary as the OSB Commanding Officer. Hip, Hip, Hooray!

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### OPERATION TRIBBLE HUNT

PLACE: OSB

TIME: 14 DEC – 17 DEC

Search the starbase for tribbles strategically placed in myriad locations. See the Announcements post for more details.

### OSB CHRISTMAS PARTY

PLACE: OSB

TIME: 18 DEC @ 1300 OST

Let's get together to celebrate the season with good ol' fun!

### ARTICLE SUBMISSION FOR BLUE ALERT NEWSLETTER

PLACE: PM TO CDR CROCKETT

TIME: 8 JAN 2010, 2359 OST

Anyone who wants to get published in our next newsletter must have their articles submitted by the 8<sup>th</sup> of every month.

## What I Like Most About Service Aboard OSB

**By: LTJG James T. Kirk**  
Correspondent

Well, where to begin? There are so many things to enjoy about OSB. If I am to pick the thing I enjoy most, it is the friendly service that is provided. The staff is excellent and all are there to help you. From the first time you step on board you are treated like family.

I also enjoy the rank system. It isn't just based on how much you post; it's based on your understanding of the rules and regulations of the Starbase. So, you can get really well integrated.

There are so many things to do around the base. For one: Department service. A great way to get involved. As Admiral Dean likes to say, "Participate, Promote, get involved." There are also games you can join: The OSB Book Club is amazing and the USS Phoenix simm is fun as well.

All in all, the staff will always be there to help you out with any questions you have to ask. ♦

dangerous to risk exposing the Captain."

PICARD: "I see. A Captain's rank means nothing to you."

RIKER: "Rather the reverse, sir. But a Captain's life means a great deal to me."

PICARD: "Isn't it just possible that you don't get to be a Starfleet Captain without knowing whether it's safe to beam down or not? Isn't it a little presumptuous of a first officer to second guess his captain's judgment?"

RIKER: "Permission to speak candidly, sir?"

PICARD: "Always."

RIKER: "Having been a first officer yourself, you know that assuming that responsibility must, by definition, include the safety of the captain. I have no problem with following any rules you lay down, short of compromising your safety."

PICARD: "And you don't intend to back off that position?"

RIKER: "No, sir."

It is only after passing this test, that Picard finally welcomed him aboard and Riker truly became Picard's First Officer. Picard was the type of commander who preferred to delegate. He wanted an executive officer who he could fully trust to organize and supervise the routine job without the captain being bothered unless his presence was vitally needed. Since Riker proved his skills and his strength of character, Picard was convinced that Riker was indeed the "number one" he needed. He proceeded to grant him full trust and freedom to manifest his leadership skills.

Picard, himself, used to be a very private man and Riker, rather the opposite. Picard knew he could also count on Riker to provide the moral support for the crew, which Riker would gladly do. It coupled an increase in responsibility with the opportunity to "practice" being a captain, which was after all his greatest ambition.

From that point on, the relationship between Picard and Riker started to develop, at a slow pace, from familiarity to respect and finally into friendship; a strong and long lasting one...

To be continued next month....♦

# Top 10 Favorite Threads

By: **LT Logan**  
Correspondent

During the four months I have been on the Starbase, I have found a few good threads to post in and I have narrowed it down to a Top 10 just for the 'Blue Alert' Newsletter.

1. Caption This – Now this thread(s) is great fun to post in even though that you do think of Captions that are not decent and are against Game Regulations but I guess that everybody can admit to that every now and then, it is more that the Caption This game is fun to read the other posts from the other members of the OSB even if you aren't involved in that weeks caption.

2. Collectibles – I guess that if you want to know about other members Collectibles and other Trekkie Memorabilia head over to the collectibles thread(s) and have a look see at what others have in their collections, I have also posted my Collectibles in there and if you have a collection and want to let others on the OSB know I suggest you post it in the Collectibles Thread(s). You will be surprised on what the other members have in their Collections.

3. Stargate Universe – If you are interested in the latest series in the Stargate franchise head over to the Stargate Universe thread and put in your input and thoughts on this new series of Stargate and even if you haven't seen it yet due to it not showing in your area I suggest you should head over to the thread and check it out and see on what other members have to say about SG:U as it is also known as.

4. Dr Who – Well what can I say about this thread as I think that it speaks for itself.. It is just a discussion on the new version of the Adventures of the Doctor and his various sidekicks which include favourite episodes in this new incarnation of the Doctor Who series. On a side note if you are more into the old version of Dr Who I suggest that you should check out the favourite Doctor thread as well and leave your opinion of your favourite Doctor.

5. Menu of the Good Ol' Mess – Do you have a favourite Star Trek recipe that you would like to share in to the other members or you would like to see what the menu is in our mess hall here at the Online



Starbase make sure you transport yourself over to the Menu of the Good Ol' Mess thread. Oh and I would like one Borg Banana Split please.

6. Station Tribble? – Have you seen Murray our Station Tribble?? If so here is the thread that you place you're reported sighting of one of the OSB's mysteries. Also on this thread you can see the last reported sightings of Murray. I think I just saw him near the Holodeck before I started on this article.

7. Promotions – Now these threads are a one of the most important threads to watch out for as they are where Admiral Dean posts the Promotions for the month. So make sure you congratulate all recently promoted Officers in these threads. Oh look I just got a promotion in November to Lieutenant.

8. Ensign Welcome Threads – Want to welcome our new Ensigns to the Starbase well here are the threads where you can do just that. It is an honour to get welcomed onto the Starbase from other members as I was welcomed to the Starbase four months ago in a thread just like the ones now.. If you go through the threads you may just see my welcome thread and I would like to welcome all the new Ensigns to the starbase.

9. Blue Alert – Located inside the Monthly Newsletter Board is where you find this newsletter and when I first signed up to the Starbase I went through quite a few of the issues of this exciting publication and I find that it is an honour to serve as a Correspondent in this fine publication. The threads are named as Issue (insert number).

10. Bio's for Starfleet Officers – This thread is where you will find out more information on other officers in the OSB which off course is fictional but a lot of fun.. Just have to remember to update your Rank and Base Duties when they change. This thread can be found in the General Starbase Discussion Board. ♦

## What's in a Name? Part II

*The Registry*

**By: CDR Marshall Crockett**

Chief, Public Relations

Starships have been part of the Starfleet canon since its inception; when NCC-1701 became as realistic as any actual vessel ever has been. To better understand what the elements of the Starship naming conventions mean, I have begun a multi-part series that breaks up the alpha-numeric into a more easily understood sense. In Part I, we looked at the Prefix and established a few schools of thought as to why the NCC was used for starfleet vessels and why a few other prefixes like NX, NFT and others were used as well.

In this part, we will be looking at the registry number. While the original series (TOS) was the first series, we have to look "back" to the Enterprise series for the actual origination of the registry numbers. There were only two seen in that entire series, NX-01 for the Enterprise and NX-02 for the Columbia. These are both listed as experimental starships and the only two in the series. However, they are not assigned to a particular class. In TOS, the registry numbers made much more sense.

There were three main numerical series (1600, 1700, & 1800) that were sponsors of "Classes" of starships. For the most part, the lowest number in a block signify the namesake of the class. For example, the NCC-1700 USS Constellation. The second ship in the Constellation class was the NCC-1701 USS Enterprise. While the majority of the starships in TOS fell into these three numerical sets, others did surface as well.

The NCC-1017 USS Constitution, the only namesake starship to not be the lowest possible number in the series, fell outside the main three number blocks. And, by the movie era, those registries outside the main three became more prevalent with the individual numbering of scout ships (NCC-638 USS Grissom, NCC-595 Revere).

The US Navy uses a different method to establish class via registry numbers. For example, the USS Enterprise, CVN-65 is the only member of the Enterprise Class. However, the USS Nimitz, CVN-68 is

the first of a series of Nimitz Class aircraft carriers numbered CVN-68 through CVN-77. While the namesake is still the lowest number in the class...it is not necessarily the "00" in the number set.

By the Next Generation (STNG) era, registry numbers had moved from four digits to five. For the majority of the series, registry numbers ranged from the USS Berlin's NX-14232 to the USS Crazy Horse's NCC-50446. During the DS9 and Voyager eras, registry numbers fell in the 60000 and 70000 series. For example, the USS Voyager, NCC-74656, fell into that category.

Later in the Voyager years, the USS Relativity made it's appearance and showed a six-digit registry number.

From the CVN-65 to the NX-01 to the NCC-1701, the USS Enterprise has sported a variety of registry numbers and classes.

Stay tuned for next month's final installment, Part III: The Suffixes. By the end of this 3-part series you will have an outstanding comprehension of exactly why starships are named like they are and what those pieces of alpha-numeric on the saucer section actually mean. ♦

## OSB @ 200

**By: LT Kai-EI**

History Section Leader

Recently, Online Starbase reached an historic milestone. Never in its six year existence has OSB had 200 members, until now. We have come a long way from an invitation only group, wouldn't you say?

When I asked our CO what he thought about reaching this milestone, he had this to say: "For several years during its run on MSN Groups, Online Starbase was so exclusive that membership never exceeded 24 people, with my registration as a member being one of the last to join the group under the first CO's command. Upon its move to Proboards under the leadership of its second commanding officer, OSB opened for public registration (as it has been since). Because of the community being a "late bloomer" in terms of public exposure, membership numbers remained low for years. It is so exciting that we've crossed the "200"

*continued on page 7*

## Christmas at Sandrine's

**By: LT Yu'wanna**

Sr. Correspondent / Feature Writer

Are you tired of traditional holidays and want to try something different and challenging this year? Then the Online Starbase is the right place to be. The Starbase has come up this year with a variety of offers impossible to resist. We shall briefly present you the top offer- Sejour Number One from 25th December to the 2nd January:

24th December: 1400 hours: The fascinating Sejour Number One begins with the arrival on the Starbase Docking Area from where the guests are transferred to Special Guests Quarters.

The evening starts at 1800 hours with the welcome opening speeches, by Admiral Ryan W. Dean, on behalf of the organising staff and by Captain Jean\_Luc Picard, special guest and host of the event. Then, at 1900 hours the guests are invited in holodeck 2, at Sullivan's pub, where they can spend Christmas Eve in a warm, old-fashioned, 19th Century Irish atmosphere singing traditional carols, dancing folk Irish dances and playing Rings. Many other surprises are to be expected. Appropriate costumes are compulsory. This evening will be hosted by Michael Sullivan, together with the event's special guests: Admiral Kathryn Janeway and the legendary USS Voyager Crew.

25th December: you are invited at a Special Christmas night at Sandrine's, where you will spend an enjoyable evening playing pool. You can enter the challenge to play against the unbeatable Kathryn Janeway. A special prize is awarded to whoever manages to beat Janeway: a trip to Risa.

The New Year's Eve Party will be held in Holodeck 1 and it is going to be a surprise Party. As the title says, no details will be known in advance, so, prepare for the unexpected!

Many other special guests will honour us with their presence: Captain Kirk & Co accepted our invitation and have obtained permission from the Guardian of Forever to join us!

You should also make sure you drop by Quark's who temporarily moved his bar on our starbase, due to the

fact that the DS9 Promenade is closed for repairs. (Morn moved on our starbase, too)

During your stay, you can try our latest additions of the Mess Hall's menu: Federation Fruitcake, "Tasters on Stun" or 39.1 Degrees Celsius.

During the Sejour, many other activities like competitions, parties, trips, concerts, etc will take place around the starbase, among which we mention:

- jazz playing competition : Captain William T Riker vs Ensign Harry Kim. Make sure you go and vote your favourite.

- Klingon Martial Arts Lessons held by Commander Worf and Lt. Be'lanna Torres
- Karaoke night hosted by The EMH Mark1
- Poetry writing workshop conducted by the Department Officers: Lt. Cmdr. Data and Capt. Picard
- Survive Neelix's gourmet touch challenge(for the bravest only)
- Hide-n-seek with Constable Odo
- Velocity challenge with Seven of Nine(No chance to win unless you're Capt. Janeway)
- Cheat better than a Ferengi!-Quark challenges you to a cheating competition!(not much prize to win, but you can proud yourself with cheating on a Ferengi!)
- Dance lessons with Doctor Beverly Crusher also known as "the Dancing Doctor"
- Where's Murray? Find the Tribble challenge

On the last evening we have the pleasure to announce you a special event: Favourite Captain competition: Jon Archer, Jim Kirk, Jean Luc Picard, Ben Sisko and Kathryn Janeway will compete to earn your votes as The favourite captain of all times. Make sure you vote your favourite and you'll have the chance to win the greatest prize: Be God for One Day, kindly offered by one of our most important sponsors: Q. The lucky winner will be given the power of Q for one day!!!!

Choose our offer and you won't regret. And remember: Space, the final frontier...awaits you!!! ♦

**Merry Christmas to  
Everyone at OSB!**

member-mark, and while we do value quality of membership over quantity of membership, it is wonderful to see so many people enjoy this community."

**Starbase Officers: 210**  
**Newest Officer: spaceman1**  
**Your Personal Messages: 94 New: 0**

Here are some membership tidbits. The longest current serving member is Rear Admiral Ryan W. Dean, who joined in 2003. The newest member is Ensign Spaceman1 who joined in early December of this year.

So this is a joyous occasion for OSB, and here's to looking towards the next 200 members! ♦

## Blue Alert Staff

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Feature Writer

LT Logan  
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## Personnel and Command

**By: CDR T. Kerr**  
OSB Vice Commander

October and November were quite busy in the red-shouldered area of the Base. The new Department of Command website was created and is now active! R&D uploaded 11 new avatars to the database and streamlined the Base's format, making the standard profile seen in threads more detailed. The rank pips also changed to silver. The rank of Fleet Captain was laterally changed to 'Commodore' to be in line with Star Trek canon.

Several officers were promoted to the senior ranks (Lieutenant Commander and up) in the last two months, congratulations. Two senior officers with a long, distinguished history at OSB were promoted to the rank of Captain. Congratulations to Captain Jade and Captain Christian!

The Departments here at OSB were rearranged, with Recreations replacing Engineering and Communications being renamed as Public Relations. The FAQ section was significantly expanded and updated during the past two months. The role of Starbase Personnel Officer was merged with the position of Vice Commander by the decision of the Commanding Officer.

The former Vice Commander resigned from the Base late in November. The Commanding Officer, after careful consideration and consultation with the Senior Staff, appointed Commander T.Kerr as the new Vice Commander. Be Involved, Participate, and never be afraid to ask a question! ♦

### ATTENTION ALL OFFICERS!!!!

If you were a staff officer in OSB's past, please contact LT Kal-El (Snowman) with your office, dates and historical recollections.

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