



Letter From the Editor

By: CDR Marshall Crockett
Chief, Dept of Public Relations

Aren't Star Trek Conventions amazing? I really enjoyed myself when I attended my first convention more than a decade ago in Pasadena, California. It was Grand Slam Sci-Fi IX and it was the first time I saw Shatner and Nimoy together on stage. What a riot! Ever since then, I have done everything possible to get to at least one convention each year.

Aside from the celebrities, it is quite interesting to simply 'people watch.' It takes all kinds to make the Star Trek world go round. From the old man with three dogs to the Ben Sisko dead ringer to the two ladies who won the costume contest two years ago as a Horta family (basically a piece of shag carpet and a lot of bending over and grunting) fans are something to see. I have to admit, in past years, the most dressing up I have done is a black Klingon baseball jersey and a goatee. Maybe soon, I'll go all out and devise an OSB outfit to rival the masses.

I hope everyone has had at least one good convention experience. I know Capt Scott has been to quite a few. The ST Convention this August proves to be great! ♦

To Interfere or Not?

A Moral Dilemma From ST:ENT Episode "Cogenitor"

By: LCDR Yu'wanna
Internal PR Section Leader / Feature Writer

Cogenitor is the story of human's first contact with an alien race called Vissians and some problems arising out of the clash of two cultures.

Vissians individuals are of three genders: males, females and cogenitors, who represent a minority-only 3% of the Vissians population. Largely female in appearance, the other Vissians treat them like slaves. Cogenitors are nameless, are not taught to read and have few if any civil rights and they are used for reproductive purpose only. However their neural anatomy is virtually indistinguishable from that of males or females. Trip Tucker, becomes dangerously interested in the apparently dumb and docile Cogenitor owned by a male- female couple who is planning to use it to have a child. With Trip's help the Cogenitor learns to read to college level within 24-hours. Unfortunately the 'owners' do not appreciate Trip's interference and the end is tragic: the Cogenitor, becoming aware of his lousy condition commits suicide.

So, it would be too easy to try and answer such a simple question as: Was Trip right or not...since the matter is much more complex. I will not attempt to solve the moral crisis, but rather to consider it from distinct perspectives:

From Trip's perspective, who grew up in a culture where each individual had equal rights, the Cogenitor being treated like a slave was totally unacceptable. But as they say "The road to hell is paved with good intentions". The fact is that he has not considered the possible consequences of his actions. Not just for the Enterprise, Archer, and Vissian culture in general, but for the Cogenitor, too. Even if he was pretty sure that

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Officer Profile

CAPT Daxino Joel, SIMM Project Leader

By: LCDR Yu'wanna

Internal PR Section Leader / Feature Writer



Name: Daxino Joel

Age: 24

Position on the Starbase: Simm Project Leader

Location: UK

Hobbies: Fencing, Reading and so on.

Enjoys: Indian and Chinese Takeaways

Hates: Beef

Guilty Pleasures: Chocolate

First Encountered Star Trek: From my Dad and at School

Other Interesting Facts: not much really to say

How did you and Star Trek meet? Watched it at home with my dad.

Which is the most valuable thing you have learnt from Star Trek? Well I think how so many different kinds of people co-operate together even when they see each other nearly every day.

What is your favorite Star Trek race and why? My Fav race would have to be Species 8472 as they were very different then what we saw before of any race; they had different traits.

What is your favorite ST character and why? That is difficult to answer as there are so many that I quite like for different reasons. Captain Picard and Captain Janeway had very different styles, Ensign Kim, Tuvok; Guinan was an extremely interesting character and I would have liked to have seen more of her.

Any plans for the future you wish to share with us? Do not know yet.

How long have you been on the OSB? On what circumstances did you join the Starbase? I have been on OSB for about 4 or 5 years now.

The things you like and dislike most about yourself and about other people? I am very patient and a good listener. I think I can be a little straight with people sometimes. About other people, some can be quite rude which is not nice but do like how some people can be really good friends.

What do you like most about Online Starbase? It has so many different people with different opinions and views which is really good.

As Phoenix Project Leader, what are some of your most critical responsibilities and what challenges have you faced so far? I suppose with responsibilities it is with the organizing, information, and doing mission outlines.

The biggest challenge so far has been with keeping the Simm going, as it has been difficult with people saying will join and not really posting to be able to progress and to keep going.

What future plans do you have for the Starbase? At the moment it is getting the simm actually going full storm.

If someone wanted to join Phoenix Project, what type of person are you looking for and what process would they undergo to apply?

Anyone is welcome to PM Capt Kerr or me and say what position they would like; if available they can have it. We only request that they do a Character Biography. We are looking for anyone as everyone can be involved in the Simm; all we ask is that once involved that you regularly post in the Simm and read the current Mission Outline beforehand so you know basically where that mission is going as each has its own mission title.

What words of wisdom do you have for new members to OSB that would help them get integrated? If they need any help just ask any of the Senior staff! ❖

Remans

By: LT Khan Noonien Singh

Correspondent

Remans are the humanoid, slightly telepathic, species native to Remus. They look slightly resemble that of bats. They have been the slave labor caste of the Romulan people since at least the 22nd century, and have been forced to work in the hazardous Dilithium mines. As Remus is a tidely locked Planet, the Remans live on the Dark side, and as such are extremely sensitive to light.

It was never made clear if the Remans were the original inhabitants or a mutated offshoot of the Vulcan colonists, or the result of interbreeding between the Vulcan Colonists and the original inhabitants of Romulus or Remus. Though grotesque, their morphological constitution has much in common with their possible Vulcan progenitors, such as limited telepathic powers, pointed ears, greater physical strength and endurance most humanoid species.

Whatever the case of their origins, their grotesque appearance and unique constitution owes much to the race living generation after generation in an intensely hostile and radioactive environment. As eons passed they became more distinct from their ancestors as a result of both natural selection and genetic drift.

The Remans are treated as second class citizens, an undersible caste within the Romulan Empire. Remus is a prime planet for dilithium mining, and as such many Remans have been forced into slave labor. However despite this, they are not inherently less intelligent than Romulans, as evidenced by the intellect and telepathy demonstrated by Shinzon's viceroy.

During the Dominion War, the Remans were used as cannon fodder, and often were sent in the first wave.

In 2379, the Remans usurped the power of their Romulan overlords in a military coup, installing their leader Shinzon as the new Praetor of the Romulan Senate and thus the Empire. As an act of war against the federation, Praetor Shinzon, with his Warbird the Scimitar, then proceeded to attack Earth.

However, with the destruction of the Scimitar, at the battle of the Bassen Rift, after Shinzon's supporters on Romulus turned on him, the bid for Reman superiority ended prematurely. ❖

History of the Federation

Part IV: Space is disease and danger wrapped in darkness and silence

By: LCDR Matt Foard

History Section Leader

OK so the Good doctor may have been onto something all along???

In 2365 the Federation was introduced to the nightmare which is the Borg. One year later that nightmare became a reality when a single cube struck into the heart of the Federation, the battle cost the Federation nearly 40 ships and the loss of nearly 11,000 lives. The effect of this damaging assault forced the UFP to build more starships than ever before and introduce the Defiant Class (the first starship designed for war).

The Borg then struck at sector 001 again in 2373, once again Starfleet was able to halt the Borg but at the expense of many ships and lives. The Borg was a constant menace to the Federation but worse was to come...

On the far side of Federation space a small and quite unremarkable space station was about to become the centre of the universe. It was helping to rebuild the Bajoran people and with the signing of a final peace treaty between the UFP and Cardassia in 2370 and all seemed well.

But at the other end of a wormhole a new and powerful enemy saw the Alpha quadrant with envious eyes and put in place a plan to control it.

The Cold war between the UFP and the Dominion unbalanced the whole of the Alpha and Beta quadrants. Friends became enemies, alliances were formed and broken and mistrust and suspicion was everywhere and the Federation along with other powers danced to the tune of the Dominion. With the Dominion/Cardassian alliance in 2373 and the huge military buildup that followed deep into Cardassian space, it quickly grew clear that it was a question of "when" not "if" full scale interstellar war would break out.

It was time to decide whether to fight or fly... ❖

CONGRATULATIONS

Hip, Hip HOORAY to all OSB Promotees (eff. 30 April 10):

Logan and Tre'gok of Mirtak to LT COMMANDER

Cottingham to LIEUTENANT

AND THE BAND PLAYED ON

The promotion to Captain doesn't happen every day and we want to extend our congratulations to the OSB Vice Commander on her receipt of the Richardson Award:

Captain T. Kerr

Congrats! Well Deserved!

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT:

Admiral Dean is looking for a dedicated member to assist with InDev. If you are interested in becoming a part of the developmental staff of Online Starbase, and are at least a LTJG, please contact the admiral for more details. This is a great new position and good luck to all applicants.

T-SHIRT DESIGN CONTEST:

As many of you know, I will be attending the Star Trek Convention in Las Vegas this year and will be preparing to go in OSB style! What I need from you are ideas as to the "Official OSB T-Shirt" design. Since it will take a few weeks to have the shirts produced, the designs will need to be emailed to CDR Crockett by 30 June 2010. They will be created in July and ready for August. Any interest? Start designing and email me at entrprse14@aol.com.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

ARTICLE SUBMISSION FOR BLUE ALERT NEWSLETTER

PLACE: PM TO CDR CROCKETT

TIME: 8 JUNE 2010, 2359 OST

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

he was doing the right, moral thing, he failed to consider the consequences, if things didn't work out, for the very person he was trying to help.

The question we the humans may ask would be: How could the Vissians, who seemed such intelligent, reasonable people, be so deliberately closed-minded? I suspect it was the fear that, if genitors have become free and aware of their potential, they might not wanted to willingly take part in the mating process, which could have endangered the surviving of their species. But it's only one of the many speculations that one can make out when the data are insufficient.

Trip hurries to judge a culture's customs based on his first subjective impression and this brings up the difficult issue of cultural moral relativism. The Vissians are upset and explain that humans know nothing of their culture. But are they right to treat the cogenitors as they do? Of course not; not on human terms, at least, but as Captain Drennik points out, "We're not on your world." Though it's not a particularly satisfactory answer, it is nevertheless true.

Archer's situation is very difficult:

"We're out here to meet new species, not to tell them what to do."

You knew you had no business interfering with those people, but you just couldn't let it alone. You thought you were doing the right thing. I might agree if this was Florida or Singapore, but it's not, is it? We're in deep space, and a person is dead -- a person who would still be alive if we hadn't made first contact."

By the end of the episode, we see a disappointed and remorseful Archer who may have realized that, in a way, the failure is his own and he blames himself. "You did exactly what I'd do? If that's true, I've done a pretty lousy job setting an example around here."

As my intention was not to draw a conclusion to the moral crisis, the matter remains open for debate. But I must confess that, since I'm not an ENT fan, this is one of my favorite ENT episodes because it explains the necessity of a Prime Directive and it's also brave enough to show something that I believe we should have seen in this first Starfleet mission: humans messing up and getting into troubles that are their own fault. ❖

Trek Tech: Warp Drive, Pt I

By: **LCDR Tre'gok of Mirtak**

Senior Correspondent

Warp drive or "Hyperdrive" as sometimes know, is a technology that allows space travel at faster than light. This is done by generating warp fields to form a subspace bubble that envelopes the Starship distorting the local space/time continuum and moving the starship at velocities that exceed the speed of light. these velocities are referred to as warp factors. (E.G "Warp factor 6 Mr Paris.") Warp drive is the most common form of interstellar propulsion used in the Milky Way Galaxy, making interstellar exploration, commerce and/or warfare possible.

24th century federation warp engines are powered by the reaction of matter (deuterium) and antimatter (Antideuterium), mediated through dilithium crystals, which are nonreactive with antideuterium when subjected to high-frequency electromagnetic fields. This reaction produces highly charged plasma, called electro-plasma or Warp plasma. This is channeled by plasma conduits through the electro plasma system or "EPS". The warp plasma is funneled by plasma injectors into a series of warp field coils, usually located in warp nacelles. These coils are composed of verterium cortenide and generate the warp field. Other civilizations use different power sources, such as the Romulan's use of artificial quantum singularities to power their warp drives but the basic process is similar. In some vessels, such as the Intrepid-class, the nacelles are mounted on variable-geometry.

Some of the different parts of the warp drive are: Antimatter relay, Warp plasma, Nacelle, Warp coil and space matrix restoration coil. Different warp system types are: The Class 7 warp drive, the Class 9 Warp drive and the S-2 Graf unit.

Warp drive and other Faster-Than-Light or "FTL" propulsion techniques are the lynch pin of an interstellar civilization, making trade and exploration across vast and interstellar distances viable. Without these technologies, these distances could not be crossed in any reasonable periods of time, making interstellar civilization limited to a single sector. To put this into perspective planets that are years away by impulse drive can be reached in a matter of days by a ship equipped with a Warp drive.

Cultures in the Galaxy have (and mostly have to) discover(ed) warp drive at their own pace and rate of development. The Vulcans were an interstellar species by the 3rd century, had reached the level of warp 7 by 2151. Klingons had reached warp 6 by the same year. It is unclear when their first experiments with warp drive began. However, it was the rapid progress of humanity that led to the wide scale exploration of the galaxy and the formation of the united federation of planets. The development of the warp drive is recognized by the United Federation of Planets as the marker of an advanced society. It is only after a people develop warp drive that the Federation will make contact, as codified in the Prime Directive.

During the 21st century on Earth, the warp drive was initially invented by Zefram Cochrane in the period after WWII. Despite the hardships imposed by the war's aftermath, and the lack of advanced materials, Cochrane was able to build a manned warp-capable vessel using a converted Titan II missile. The successful first flight of his ship, the phoenix, took place on April 26 2063. This drew the attention of a Vulcan exploratory vessel, leading to the event now know as First contact. ❖



Warp Drive Image From ST:TNG

Social Media Update

By: LCDR Kal-EI

Deputy Chief, Dept of Public Relations

As many of you know, we at the Department of Public Relations have recently launched the first two of our social media projects. Both projects were designed to the name "Online Starbase" out there in as many places as possible on the Worldwide Web, with a main focus on recruiting new members to our great community. They were never meant to be, nor should they ever become, a replacement or substitute for the homesite of OSB.

The first of these was Twitter. Briefly, Twitter is a micro-blogging site used by millions. Businesses, organizations, celebrities and regular folks from all over the world can be found there--and now, so can OSB. You can follow us @Online_Starbase, or at http://www.twitter.com/Online_Starbase.

The second project was Facebook. Facebook is a social networking site, again, used by millions of people the world over. Our (OSB's) presence has been established there to make ourselves known as one of the best online Star Trek communities ever. You can aid us in that task by "liking" OSB and suggesting us to your friends. We can be found here: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Online-Starbase/112383052110533>

If anyone has any comments, concerns, or suggestions for either of these projects, feel free to contact Lieutenant Commander Kal-EI via private message. ❖



Source: US Satellite Press/Associated Press. Updated by Reader 7/20/09.
37 percent of us put on a particular outfit for watching TV.

OSB Writing Contest

By: CDR Marshall Crockett

Chief, Dept of Public Relations

The Public Relations Department is always looking for creative writers. Contest Submission Guidelines are:

Length: 725 words maximum

Deadline: 8th of the following month, 2359 OST; PM CDR Crockett

Topic: Finish the starter at the bottom of this section

Genre: Any Star Trek genre is acceptable

Don'ts: Don't kill off any main characters, have relations between any characters beyond the ones established in ST canon, use foul language, overt sexual innuendo or verbiage, or any other distasteful item not covered here but would make you go, "What? Seriously?"

MAY TOPIC: *It felt like he was being stung by thousands of tiny mosquitoes. When the medical officer looked down at his arm he saw nothing. But, the pain was still there. He quickly took out a hypo and injected an antihistamine into his bloodstream. Just then, the rest of the landing party started feeling it...*

WINNER WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE NEXT ISSUE!!!

Recruiting

By: LT Cottingham

Public Relations Recruiting Team Member

Why is recruiting an important part of OSB you might ask. Well there is one simple answer to that question. If we don't recruit new members to OSB the site will not be run to its full potential.

Online Starbase has the growth potential and command structure to become one of the largest online Star Trek forums around today, but if we do not recruit new members this cannot happen.

We are all Star Trek fans here at OSB, and we all probably have friends who are Star Trek fans as well. So why not tell them how great Online Starbase is and that they should join.

These are the reasons recruiting is such an important aspect of OSB. If you have any suggestions or comments on recruiting and retention feel free to contact myself or Lt. Commander Kal-EI. ❖

April Writing Contest Winner

"A Rock and a Hard Place"

By: LTJG S.F. Warp

Starfleet Headquarters was immediately placed on Red Alert and Admiral Hollister, Chief of Starfleet Operations, ran through the hall at breakneck speed. His Intelligence Chief, Commander Krill, waited nervously for his arrival. "It's not good sir. See for yourself," Krill said.

"It's heading Toward the moon," Hollister interjected.

"What is it?"

"When first detected leaving Romulan Space, it got the attention of Intelligence. Initially, we thought it might be a destructive device sent by the Romulans. All indications are now, however, that it's a stellar core. It's about half the diameter of the moon." Krill paused.

Hollister raised an eyebrow, "And?"

"It's going to strike the moon a glancing blow. The moon will then ricochet into the Earth. The Earth...and all life as we know it...will cease to exist."

"That'll be the day," Hollister barked. "What's its ETA?"

"We have just over 74 hours, Admiral."

Hollister thought very hard. Then he commanded, "I want to see Singer and Salek!"

"Aye, sir! Ensign Nguyen, you heard the admiral! Get 'em up here pronto!"

"Already on their way, sir," the petite Asian calmly replied.

Krill smiled. "I knew there was a reason I hired you."

Singer, Salek and Krill were all seated in front of the Admiral.

"Lieutenant Laura Singer. Graduate of Starfleet Academy, majored in celestial mechanics. Graduated cum laude. Impressive! It says here, your expertise is in orbits and trajectories."

"I seem to have flair, Admiral." Her modesty was genuine.

"Commander Salek. Graduate of Vulcan Science Academy. Long on achievements. We'll settle for your knowledge of geology and metallurgy for now. What can you tell us about the object?"

"It is a planetesimal sized stellar core. Its mass is not much greater than that of the Earth. Its gravity poses no appreciable threat. It radiates a temperature of approximately 9000 degrees Kelvin, which renders it unapproachable by conventional means. Its composition is the anomaly, Admiral. It is metal, a very dense metal, yet it has properties of plastic. It is solid, yet it is liquid. It is a super-saturated solution."

"What's the bottom line, Salek?" Hollister was impatient.

"Its very existence is illogical. It should never have formed in the first place. I am astonished that it has not already exploded. It is most assuredly unstable. The bottom line, Admiral, is that there are at present no known

countermeasures for it.

"Okay, Singer, what's the rest of the bad news?"

I studied the dynamics of the motions involved several times. I even ran the data on two different computers. I came to the same conclusion every time. The timing and location of the moon in it's orbit is the critical factor. The moon will have come around from behind the earth when the object encounters it. A few hours either way, and the object would pass by harmlessly. As it is, collision is imminent."

"And if the object explodes," interjected Salek, "the shock wave and a fractured moon will shatter the Earth. Either way..." His voice trailed off.

"Terrific!" Hollister despised the apparent inevitability. "Krill, can we evacuate the Earth?"

"Admiral, you know as well as I do, there are not enough ships in all of Starfleet to accomplish such a task in less than three months, even under ideal conditions."

"I know. Salek, can we do anything to the object at all?"

"It's too hot to approach, sir, and to try to alter it could cause it to explode. It would be similar to an explosion of your own sun. It is better left alone, Admiral."

"It's going to kill us all and we can't touch it!" Frustrated, Hollister was fuming.

Ensign Nguyen entered with a tray of beverages. As she was passing them around, She said, "Why can't you just give the moon a push?"

Everyone's eyes lit up simultaneously. Hollister boomed, "Of course!"

The Admiral gave the order. Within two and a half days, twenty-seven starships were assembled in the moon's orbit trail. Shields were raised and twenty-seven ships began pushing against the surface of the moon.

A few hours in, "Singer?"

"Not quite fast enough, Admiral."

"Then use every shuttle from every starship," he barked.

The moon was soon sent far enough forward in it's orbit that the stellar core passed by harmlessly.

Later, Hollister, Krill, Singer and Salek all raised glasses of champagne in toast.

krill announced, "Here's to Lieutenant J. G. Nguyen!"

"Here, here," three more voices chimed in.

Starfleet's newest lieutenant junior grade blushed as she smiled. ❖

ATTENTION ALL OFFICERS!!!!

If you were a staff officer in OSB's past, please contact LCDR Foard with your office, dates and historical recollections.

Visit our Public Relations Website
by going to:

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

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The Command Department

By: CDR Richard Boudreau

OSB Evaluations Officer

Attention All Online Starbase Officers:

As of today, 20 April 2010; I am happy to announce the commencement of the "Personal Quarters Contest". This is a judging contest to see who's Personal Quarters is the most favorite. I have developed this contest to give recognition to the Officers of Online Starbase that have created their own little corners. I have the full contest rules below;

Personal Quarters Judging Contest

From now until June 20th, 2010; Officers can vote for their favorite Personal Quarters. The Personal Quarters with the most votes will be declared the winner on June 21st, 2010.

Officers can vote for their favorite Personal Quarters using these polls;

<http://www.pollwizard.com/31556>

<http://www.pollwizard.com/31802>

The Winner of the contest will have their very own "Custom Rank" in their Officer Profile for 30 days. 2nd & 3rd Place Winners will receive their own Graphic Award and an Honorable Mention in July's Issue of Blue Alert.

* The "Custom Rank" cannot be Starfleet/naval officer-standard or equivalent (ranks such as King, Squire, Grand Nagus, etc are acceptable).

So, start voting now to see who has the top "Personal Quarters". ♦



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