

Phoenix Rising



November 2016

Table of Contents

| | |
|--|----|
| Monthly Status Report by RADM Ralph Planthold | 2 |
| Second Officer's Report by LCDR John Bevan | 4 |
| Marine Unit Report by ADM Sunnie Planthold | 8 |
| Security Chief's Report by LT Rezty Felty | 10 |
| Chief Engineer's Report by Cadet LT Dyson Felty | 12 |
| Chief Weapons Officer's Report by LT KLar Batt | 13 |
| Chief Medical Officer's Report by LT Laura Felty | 14 |
| Astronomer's Report by LTJG Carolyn Kaberline | 15 |
| Fun & Frivolity | 17 |

MSR REPORT

| | |
|-----------------|----------------------|
| CHAPTER: | USS Dark Phoenix |
| REPORT FOR: | October, 2016 |
| SUBMITTED: | 11/04/2016 |
| SUBMITTER: | RADM Ralph Planthold |
| ADDRESS: | 2200 W 26th St #C-15 |
| CITY: | Lawrence |
| STATE: | Kansas |
| ZIP/POSTAL: | 66047 |
| COUNTRY: | United States |
| PHONE: | 813-244-9733 |
| CHAPTER TYPE: | MEETING |
| REGISTRATION: | NCC 74920 |
| CLASS: | Prometheus |
| CO: | RADM Ralph Planthold |
| XO: | ADM Sunnie Planthold |
| NEWSLETTER: | Phoenix Rising |
| PUBLICATION DT: | 10/12/2016 |

FLEET MEMBERS

| SCC | EXPIRE DT | RANK | NAME |
|-------|------------|-------|--------------------|
| 44342 | 04/13/2017 | ADM | Sunnie Planthold |
| 46072 | 06/23/2017 | COL | Patrick Malone |
| 49691 | 04/13/2017 | RADM | Ralph Planthold |
| 55881 | 06/23/2017 | CRMN | Michael Malone |
| 61751 | 06/09/2017 | PO3 | Teague Banister |
| 61754 | 06/09/2017 | CDT | Ethan Banister |
| 64850 | 06/09/2017 | CDT | Emma Banister |
| 70180 | 09/19/2016 | ENS | Karessa Kow |
| 70978 | 05/10/2017 | LT | Rianna Melton |
| 71621 | 03/03/2017 | LT | Jeremy Schroeder |
| 73140 | 01/26/2018 | LCDR | John Bevan |
| 73223 | 02/22/2017 | CRMN | David Morton |
| 73240 | 02/27/2017 | LTJG | Carolyn Kaberline |
| 73257 | 03/04/2017 | CRMN | Ruth Lichtwardt |
| 73697 | 09/26/2017 | ENSJG | Jean Martin |
| 73886 | 08/02/2017 | LT | KLar Batt |
| 73954 | 08/20/2017 | LT | Brent Barbee Mr |
| 74062 | 09/19/2017 | ENS | Josh Levering |
| 74085 | 09/27/2017 | LT | Rezty Felty |
| 74086 | 09/27/2017 | LT | Laura Felty |
| 74087 | 09/27/2017 | CDT | Tesla Felty |
| 74088 | 09/27/2017 | CDT | Sagan Felty |
| 74089 | 09/27/2017 | CDT2C | Dyson Felty |
| 74246 | 11/13/2016 | CRMN | Nicole E Blackburn |
| 74365 | 12/23/2016 | CRMN | Jim Robinson |
| 74366 | 12/23/2016 | CRMN | Mary Robinson |
| 74487 | 08/02/2017 | CDT | Hannah Batt |
| 74503 | 02/03/2017 | ENS | Reuben Juarez |
| 74504 | 02/03/2017 | ENS | Selena Juarez |
| 74509 | 02/05/2017 | CRMN | Carol Jean Walker |
| 74601 | 02/23/2017 | ENS | Fahad Far |
| 74613 | 03/01/2017 | CRMN | Brian Cervantez |
| 74659 | 03/12/2017 | LTJG | Martin Peterson |
| 74775 | 04/18/2017 | CRMN | Lisa Brown |
| 74796 | 04/24/2017 | CRMN | Tim Burns |
| 74802 | 04/29/2017 | ENS | Sara Fisher |
| 74803 | 04/29/2017 | CRMN | William Fisher |
| 74804 | 04/29/2017 | ENS | Troy Fisher |
| 74805 | 04/29/2017 | CDT | Lacy Fisher |
| 74821 | 01/26/2018 | CRMN | Natasha Maklakova |
| 74822 | 01/26/2018 | CRMN | Charles Hays |
| 74823 | 01/26/2018 | CRMN | Judith Bevan |
| 74824 | 01/26/2018 | CRMN | JoAnn Hays |
| 74825 | 01/26/2018 | CRMN | E Dean Bevan |
| 74856 | 05/13/2017 | CRMN | Robert R Planthold |
| 74869 | 05/13/2017 | CRMN | David Planthold |
| 74870 | 05/13/2017 | CRMN | Josie Thompson |

| | | | |
|-------|------------|------|----------------------------|
| 74871 | 05/13/2017 | CDT | Kira Thompson |
| 74872 | 05/13/2017 | CDT | Lea Thompson |
| 74873 | 05/13/2017 | CDT | Corbin Thompson |
| 74874 | 05/13/2017 | CDT | Flynne Planthold |
| 74910 | 05/21/2017 | CRMN | Shelby Peek |
| 74918 | 05/21/2017 | CRMN | Alton Girdner III |
| 74919 | 05/21/2017 | CRMN | Melissa McCandless-Girdner |
| 75110 | 06/22/2017 | CRMN | Krystin Tally |
| 75212 | 07/20/2017 | CRMN | John Antons |
| 75656 | 09/26/2017 | ENS | Tracy Mengel |
| 75789 | 10/23/2017 | CRMN | John Eppich |
| 75790 | 10/23/2017 | CRMN | Connie Arensman |

ACADEMY

OTHER INFO

MEETING DATE 10/22/2016

PROMOTIONS

| SCC: | NAME | NEW RANK | EFFECT DT |
|-------|-----------------|----------|------------|
| 75789 | John Eppich | CRMN | 10/23/2016 |
| 75790 | Connie Arensman | CRMN | 10/23/2016 |

ACTIVITIES

- 10/05 Command Staff met for dinner and discussed updates and expansions to ship communications hardware.
- 10/08 SO passed the FCC examination for the Technician Amateur Radio (Ham) license and has begun studying for the General licensure test. This is the start of a project that he has in mind for at least the Region, if not all of SFI.
- 10/14 SO hosted Game Night at his home. Attendance was only SO and ENS Mengel. However, fun and games were enjoyed until after 3 AM.
- 10/22 Ship meeting was held at Jin Shan Chinese Buffet. Topics discussed were the NEKAAL Open House at Farpoint Observatory taking place that evening, the potential of starting a ham radio club on the ship, and the availability of two Halloween parties on Saturday the 29th (one hosted by the crew and friends of the Dark Phoenix and the other hosted by the USS Valiant).
LT K. Batt was recognized (belatedly) for completing his certification as Chief Weapons Officer.



Crewman Mengel was promoted to Ensign upon completion of OTS.



Those who attended the meeting were: L-R: CRMN Arensman, CRMN Eppich, ENS Mengel, ENSJG Martin, SO, CO, LT K. Batt, CDT H. Batt, LT L. Felty, and CDT T. Felty.
Behind the camera: LT R. Felty.



- 10/28 CDT H. Batt really WAS there! SO hosted Game Night at his home. The only one who attended was ENS Mengel. She introduced a new dice game called Farkle and donated a play set to the game inventory.
- 10/29 Ship held its 2nd Annual Halloween Party at the farm of friends of the CMO and Security Chief in Basehor. Those who attended were the Command Staff, LT L. Felty, LT R. Felty, ENS Mengel, CDT S. Felty, and CDT T. Felty. We thank the Folsoms for making us all welcome in their home and for insuring that we all had a great time! (SO's comment)



10/30 L-R: Jean Folsom, CDT S. Felty. Command Staff met for dinner and discussed the chain of command of the ship and the design of the organizational chart. SO later started to consider professional development goals for various members of the crew. These will be discussed with each person privately.

FUTURE PLANS

- 11/11 SO will host Game Night at his home.
- 11/19 USS Dark Phoenix bowling outing, 3 PM at Royal Crest Lanes in Lawrence KS.
- 11/19 USS Dark Phoenix monthly chapter meeting, 6 PM at Conroy's Pub in Lawrence KS. We meet on 3rd Saturday this month to avoid conflict with Thanksgiving weekend.
- 11/24 CO, XO/MSG 269 OIC will be out of town visiting family. SO has the conn.
- 11/25 SO will host Game Night at his home.
- 12/09 SO will host Game Night at his home.
- 12/17 Salvation Army bell ringing, 2-4 PM, HyVee west door, Clinton Pkwy & Kasold Dr in Lawrence KS.
- 12/17 USS Dark Phoenix monthly chapter meeting, 6 PM at Perkins Restaurant in Lawrence KS. We meet on 3rd Saturday this month to avoid conflict with Christmas weekend.

COMMENTS

- 10/05: SO reviewed crew records and found that Command Staff had missed presentation of a promotion to LTJG for ENS Peterson. He joined the crew after the Spring Academy Night and therefore when he passed OCC, he was eligible for promotion as part of the next Academy Night graduating class which occurred in September. Therefore, although belatedly, we are pleased to promote ENS Peterson to Lieutenant (Junior Grade). Congratulations LTJG Peterson!
- 10/23: Welcome aboard, CRMN Eppich and CRMN Arensman!
- 10/25: ENS Manwaring requested transfer to USS Jeannette Maddox; approved and completed. (Who was that masked Ensign?)
- The following crewmembers are reminded that their memberships are now APPROACHING

expiration date, and that they should renew NOW:

| SCC | RANK | NAME | EXPIRE DT |
|-------|------|------------------|------------|
| 74246 | CRMN | Nicole Blackburn | 11/13/2016 |
| 74365 | CRMN | Jim Robinson | 12/23/2016 |
| 74366 | CRMN | Mary Robinson | 12/23/2016 |

- The following crewmembers are reminded that their memberships have EXCEEDED expiration date, and that they should renew NOW to retain their positions on the ship, in the region, and at the Fleet level:

| SCC | RANK | NAME | EXPIRE DT |
|-------|-------|-----------------|------------|
| 73652 | LTJG | Carrie M Mills | 06/05/2016 |
| 73696 | ENSJG | El Johnston | 06/14/2016 |
| 73875 | PO2 | Travis Jackson | 08/02/2016 |
| 73876 | CRMN | Jamie Jackson | 08/02/2016 |
| 73877 | CDT | Gabriel Jackson | 08/02/2016 |
| 73878 | CDT | Larissa Jackson | 08/02/2016 |
| 73879 | CRMN | Venita Jackson | 08/02/2016 |
| 70180 | ENS | Karessa Kow | 09/19/2016 |

Second Officer's
Report
By Lieutenant
Commander John
"Sparky" Bevan



Greetings all! Happy Thanksgiving!

Not long after we publish this month's newsletter will be everyone's favorite time of year to pig (or dare I say turkey) out! Just make sure that you save room for some great pumpkin pie. ☺

Crew Changes

This month, we have two more additions and one who has just slipped away. For the past couple of meetings, we have been graced with the presence of Connie Arensman and John Eppich, coming down to join us from Seneca. For those of you unfamiliar with this town, it is about 60 miles northwest of Topeka and approaching the Nebraska border. Effective as of the day after our meeting, they have joined our crew. Welcome aboard, Crewmen Arensman and Eppich!

Though he has been in SFI and a member of our ship for only about a month, Ensign Emanuel Manwaring transferred to our sister ship in Wichita, the USS Jeannette Maddox. This is a better choice for him as it is much closer to his home port of Salina. We wish him well among his new crew and look forward to our next

joint adventures with the Jeannette Maddox.

Fleet Leadership Election

As I prepare this edition of the newsletter, November 15th quickly approaches. This is the deadline for getting your ballots cast to elect our next Commander, STARFLEET, from among the wide field of five hopefuls. Given the late date, if you have not voted yet and wish to do so, your only option is to use the online method as mentioned in the ballot form you received. There is no chance that you will be able to mail in the ballot and have it received by the 15th, meaning that any mailed ballots will not be counted. We of the Command Staff hope that all our members have voted their consciences and are as interested and excited to see who shall lead us for the next three years. The announcement shall be made on November 20th, per SFI bylaws.

Ship Uniform Order

We have nearly enough shirts requested to place our order now. For those who wish to order shirts, please make sure that you get in touch with Ralph as soon as possible to update any requests you have placed on the order form recently or, if you have not already done so and wish to, let him know how many shirts, what color(s), and what size(s). Remember that the uniform color should denote what division of which you are a member (Red for Command, Yellow for

Operations/Security, Blue for Sciences/Medical, and White for active duty Marines).



Additionally, those of us who are in the Special Operations Unit, The Dark Devils, we have an additional shirt option available. It is a black shirt with grey blocks on the shoulders. These shirts are a bit cheaper and are sized slightly differently than the regular uniforms, so be sure to get the details from Ralph. You may contact him by email at admiralr@bdcusa.com



Events

On October 14th, we had a very lightly-attended Game Night event with only Ensign Tracy Mengel in attendance. However, as a pleasant surprise for the first time in a long while, the fun lasted until 3am. (Previous Game Nights in the distant past have been enjoyed until as late as 5am, so it was fun to have one carry on for nearly as long once again!)

October 22nd was our ship meeting for the month. It was held at Jin Shan Chinese Buffet. At this gathering of our crew, Lieutenant K Lar Batt was belatedly recognized for completing his Bridge Officer certification as Chief Weapons Officer. He completed this qualification back in July but the Command Staff had dropped the ball in honoring him with the formal presentation of his certificate since that time, so that error was rectified. He has been our CWO and member of the Senior Staff since he earned said certification. Those who attended this meeting were the Command Staff (minus our XO); Lieutenants K Lar Batt, Laura Felty, and Rezty Felty; Ensign Tracy Mengel; Ensign (Junior Grade) Jean Martin; Crewmen Connie Arensman and John Eppich; and Cadets Hannah Batt and Tesla Felty.

October 28th was the next Game Night and, as before, only Ensign Tracy Mengel attended. At this game, she demonstrated a

new dice game called Farkle and donated a set for our game inventory. This game is typically played until one player reaches a total score of 10,000 points. Points are achieved by rolling one or more ones or fives or some combination of any numbers (such as a pair of twos or a straight of one through five). As long as one can keep setting aside a die from each roll so as to add to his total for that turn, he may keep rolling. If there is a point at which he cannot do so, however, he Farkles and any points accumulated during that turn are lost. This game is fun, helps to develop the concept of observation (as a straight will not always have the dice roll all nicely lined up, for example), the mathematical concept of probability (odds of rolling a certain value on each die, for example), and allows one to practice mental math. I recommend this as being enjoyable not only for our adult crewmembers but also good fun with educational value for our Cadets.

The next evening, October 29th, was the time of our 2nd Annual Halloween party. This year, as mentioned in last month's newsletter, it was not a potluck but instead a cookout at the country home of friends of the Feltys, who have since become friends of the ship. From our crew, those who attended were the Command Staff; Lieutenants Laura and Rezty Felty (as two of our hosts with the others being their friends and the home owners, Gene and Anna

Folsom); Ensign Tracy Mengel; and Cadets Sagan Felty and Tesla Felty. This event had a nice bonfire, some very loud fireworks, and a few costumes. Even one of our folks came in the uniform of a Fleet Admiral! (Yes, you guessed it. That was yours truly. ☺)

On November 5th, I started contacting some of our crew regarding potential professional development opportunities. These opportunities include earning the Bridge Officer certifications so as to remove the "Acting" modifier from their Senior Staff position titles, taking Officer Training School to earn one's commission as an Ensign, and more. If you have not been contacted but wish to discuss a path for you that leads to higher rank and/or more responsibility on the ship, please drop me a line at your convenience at sosparky@bdcusa.com

On November 10th, four of our Special Operations Unit, SOU-666 The Dark Devils, met for dinner in Tonganoxie. This was not previously planned but was definitely enjoyable. We met at the Talette's Café, a restaurant recommended by Lieutenants Laura and Rezty Felty. Those in attendance were Lieutenant Commander John Bevan (who serves as the Team Leader), Lieutenants Laura Felty and Rezty Felty (who serves as the Assistant Team Leader), and Ensign Tracy Mengel (the newest member of the Unit).

November 11th was the next Game Night and since only Ensign Tracy Mengel was in attendance once again, rather than play games, we watched some episodes of Star Trek: The Next Generation and discussed courses available through Starfleet Academy.

November 19th, prior to the ship meeting mentioned immediately below, we will have our 2nd Annual Brrr Brrr Bowling. This will start at 3pm at the Royal Crest Lanes bowling alley in the separate building south of The Community Mercantile (commonly known as "The Merc" by the locals) on the southwest corner of 9th and Iowa. This is very impromptu and we apologize for the short notice. We recently found some coupons that offer free bowling to groups of folks, so we thought we would put them to good use. We do ask that, as this is a public event that we are hoping will lead to some recruitment, that anyone who attends wear their uniforms. Also, be aware that of those who have already responded, two are coming just for the fun but not to bowl, so do not feel like you have to put ball to alley if your skills are no better than mine. (I rarely break 100 when I play.) How long we will be there depends on the number of people who show up as the coupon varies the amount of free play time based on the size of the group. Please RSVP by noon on this day so that we can know how many to expect. Send RSVPs to dpcommand@bdcusa.com

November 19th will be the date of our next ship meeting. Please notice that this is a week earlier than our regular schedule. As we do every year, we move the meeting up ahead a week due to the conflict with Thanksgiving during the fourth week of the month. This meeting will be held at Conroy's Pub located at 3115 West 6th Street. This is in a strip mall just east of the Sonic Drive-In and about a block west of the intersection of 6th and Lawrence Avenue. The meeting will be at the usual time of 6pm. Please RSVP by noon on the day of the meeting so that we know for how many to tell the restaurant to plan. Send RSVPs to dpcommand@bdcusa.com

November 25th will be the next Game Night. As always, it will be at 7pm in my home. Please RSVP by November 24th so that I can have plenty of light snacks and other supplies on hand. Send RSVPs to sosparky@bdcusa.com

December 9th will be the next Game Night. As always, it will be at 7pm at my home. Please RSVP by December 8th so that I can have plenty of light snacks and other supplies on hand. Please send RSVPs to sosparky@bdcusa.com

December 10th is the 25th Anniversary of the ISS Katana being a Starfleet International ship of the line. They are hosting their celebration at the Riverfront Community Center in

Leavenworth. The exact address of the facility is 123 South Esplanade Street, Leavenworth 66048. The cost for this event is \$20 per person to cover the cost of food (as I understand that they will have it catered). RSVPs are due by December 1st, so if you wish to go, please send your RSVPs and/or any questions to the host, Admiral Robert Westfall, at isskatana77003@gmail.com

December 17th will be the date of our next ship meeting. Please take note that this is a week earlier than our usual "fourth Saturday of the month." As always, this is because of the conflict with family plans that tend to occur during the fourth week of December: Christmas. It will be held at Perkins located at 1711 West 23rd Street (the southeast corner of 23rd and Ousdahl). The meeting will be at the usual time of 6pm. Please RSVP by noon on the day of the meeting so that we know how many to tell the restaurant to be prepared to serve as part of our group. Please send RSVPs to dpcommand@bdcusa.com

December 23rd would be the next Game Night but due to the proximity to Christmas, we are cancelling that and wish everyone a happy family gathering and will look forward to reconvening with everyone on January 6th (the day before Russian Christmas, just as a bit of trivia).

January 6th will be the next Game Night. As always, it will be

at 7pm in my home. Please RSVP by January 5th so that I can have plenty of light snacks and other supplies on hand. Send RSVPs to sosparky@bdcusa.com

January 20th will be the next Game Night. As always, it will be at 7pm in my home. Please RSVP by January 19th so that I can have plenty of light snacks and other supplies on hand. Send RSVPs to sosparky@bdcusa.com

January 28th will be the date of our next ship meeting. It will be held at McAlister's Deli located at 2108 West 27th Street (the northwest corner of 27th and Iowa). The meeting will be at the usual time of 6pm. Please RSVP by noon on the day of the meeting so that we know how many to tell the restaurant to be prepared to serve as part of our group. Please send RSVPs to dpcommand@bdcusa.com

February 3rd will be the next Game Night. As always, it will be at 7pm in my home. Please RSVP by February 2nd so that I can have plenty of light snacks and other supplies on hand. Send RSVPs to sosparky@bdcusa.com

February 17th will be the next Game Night. As always, it will be at 7pm in my home. Please RSVP by February 16th so that I can have plenty of light snacks and other supplies on hand. Send RSVPs to sosparky@bdcusa.com

February 25th will be the date of our next ship meeting. It will be held at Jin Shan Chinese Buffet in the 10 Marketplace located at the northeast corner of 23rd and Harper. The meeting will be at the usual time of 6pm. Please RSVP by noon on the day of the meeting so that we know how many to tell the restaurant to be prepared to serve as part of our group. Please send RSVPs to dpcommand@bdcusa.com

As always, if anyone has any questions about the contents of this article, suggestions for future events, or wishes to submit articles or announcements for publication, please feel free to contact me by email at sosparky@bdcusa.com or give me a call at (785) 727-1355. Be aware this is a regular phone, so don't try to send it text messages.

John Bevan is the Second Officer of the USS Dark Phoenix and the Team Leader of the Special Operations Unit 666--The Dark Devils--and has been a member of Starfleet International since January 2015. When not honoring our ship with his dedication, he owns and operates a computer sales and service firm he founded back in June 1989. The motto by which he lives is "Nothing changes until something changes."

Marine Unit Report
By Admiral Sunnie
Planthold



*[Author's Note:
What follows is an
excerpt from the
2009 Edition of the
Starfleet Marine Corps Manual
which discusses its history.]*

SFMC: The Dominion War
Conclusion (2375)

(excerpted from SFMC History
Manual 2009 Edition)

While the allies had established a beachhead in Cardassian space, they soon found themselves bottled up in the Chin'toka system. Any push to carry the invasion forward was stopped by the combined Cardassian-Dominion forces that had encircled the Chin'toka system. By the end of 2375, the war had become a stalemate.

During the stalemate of 2375, one notable and infamous battle took place: The Battle of the Joe's. It was during this battle that the USS Cupajoe NX-98134, a Percolator-class assault ship from the 99th BDE, used the SFMC's famous conflict resolution system, RPS, to defuse a particularly difficult situation that resulted in the parties enjoined in the battle reaching an amicable resolution. Each side searched for a way to break the stalemate and move the war forward. The Dominion was able to break the stalemate after enlisting the help of the Breen.

When the combined Dominion fleet entered the Chin'toka system, they used a Breen energy-draining weapon and were able to decimate the Allied forces. Federation and Romulan ships easily fell victim to the Breen weapons while Klingon ships however were somehow immune.

The Second Battle of Chin'toka again saw the SFMC taking heavy losses in both space and on the ground. Most of the ground casualties resulted from the orbital bombardment that commenced after the Allied fleet was swept aside. Many SFMC units were left behind. Some were able to elude capture and were recovered after the end of the war, some were taken as prisoners of war, and others have not been seen since.

While the Allies reeled from the loss of the Chin'toka system, there came news that the Breen had successfully penetrated Sol space and attacked Starfleet Headquarters on Earth. It was a clear signal that the tides of war had once again shifted, this time in favor of the Dominion. Since Federation and Romulan ships were vulnerable to the Breen weapon, the Klingons had to hold the front lines themselves until a countermeasure could be developed.

While the Dominion and its allies continued to win battle after battle, an internal struggle was beginning. Sensing that they were no longer favored by the

Dominion, the Cardassians began to organize a rebellion. The Federation, wanting to take advantage of an internal rebellion, sent Starfleet officers and SFMC Special Operations units in to help instruct and organize the rebellion. While ultimately the rebellion itself was betrayed from within, they were able to capture a Jem'Hadar fighter outfitted with the Breen energy weapon and return it to Federation space. Before the rebellion was crushed, it was able to inflict significant damage to various Dominion infrastructures on Cardassia. With a countermeasure developed and the Dominion trying to rebuild some of its infrastructure on Cardassia, the Allies determined the time was right for a three-pronged attack. Federation, Klingon, and Romulan forces would simultaneously attack Cardassia on three fronts.

The Battle of Cardassia has been called the single greatest space battle in recorded galactic history. The start of which saw the Allies taking heavy losses. For a time, it looked like the invasion would fail. However, the civilian populous on Cardassia having been emboldened by the actions of the failed rebellion, were able to destroy the main communication complex on Cardassia. This caused a complete breakdown in communications between the Dominion commanders on Cardassia and their forces in space. In retaliation, the Dominion ordered the destruction of Lakarian City,

hoping it would deter further acts of rebellion but it did not have the desired effect.

Upon hearing the news of Lakarian City, the Cardassian forces that had been fighting alongside the Dominion suddenly began to fire on Breen and Dominion ships. With the Cardassians changing sides, the Breen and Dominion were caught off-balance and the Federation was able to capitalize on the situation and broke through the Dominion lines.

With communications re-established, the Dominion ordered all ships back to Cardassian space and ordered the complete annihilation of the population of Cardassia Prime. However, this would not come to pass as the Cardassian rebellion was able to capture the Changeling, thus ending the battle.

The war officially ended with the signing of the Treaty of Bajor. Shortly thereafter, all Dominion forces retreated to the Gamma Quadrant. The Changeling, however, remained to stand trial for war crimes. The cost of the Dominion War was staggering: billions dead, whole planets reduced to rubble, and thousands of ships destroyed. It will take decades to repair the damage and in some cases there may be no recovery. The SFMC suffered its greatest losses in its entire history during the Dominion war. As of the last tally, it was 50%, with 35% of those being lost

to space combat. Even when faced with insurmountable odds the SFMC exemplified itself on the field of battle and never swayed from its duty to protect the Federation.

The SFMC Today: Threats Abound

Even with the Dominion defeated, the Federation cannot relax. The alliance with the Romulans created during the Dominion war is an uneasy one. There may come a day when the Romulan Star Empire may engage in normal relations but the Romulans are isolationists and are more comfortable with political intrigue. We have not fought face-to-face since before the founding of the Federation but Romulan hands can be detected in nearly every major conflict of this century. We must remain vigilant on this border and remember the sacrifices of our predecessors.

Conflict with the Borg was brief, intense, and primarily naval in nature but just because it has curtailed does not eliminate it from Starfleet's or the Corps' future. We have defeated them twice but still they come, constantly finding ways to adapt to our technology and warfighting. Then there are the threats that have been discovered in the Delta Quadrant. While distant from us currently, there may be a time when travel to the Delta Quadrant will become common place. So we must study the threats that the

USS Voyager has discovered there and prepare to one day meet them.

Sunnie Planthold has been a member of Starfleet International since February 1995. She holds the billets of Executive Officer and Officer in Charge of the 269th Marine Strike Group--The Black Bettys. When pursuing civilian life, she is an independent sales consultant for LegalShield (alongside her husband Ralph), performs community service for the Lawrence Humane Society and the Willow Domestic Violence Center, and interprets church services into American Sign Language each Sunday. The quickest way to befriend her is to offer her a bite of chocolate.

Security Chief's Report
By Lieutenant
Rezty Felty



Black Friday occurs later this month and many of us are starting our shopping for the winter holidays, so this is a good time to take a few minutes to talk and think about credit security.



When using credit cards online, try to use only reputable, well-known sites. If you haven't heard of a site previously, chances that it is a malicious site that will harvest your credit card for nefarious purposes are greatly increased. The same advice applies to ordering via phone: don't give out your credit card number over the phone unless dealing with a reputable and well-known merchant.

Anytime you make an online or telephone purchase, watch your accounts a little more closely for the next few days for any unauthorized purchases. If you see any, immediately call your bank or credit-issuing agency to have the charges disputed and a new card issued. Some card issuers answer phones only during business hours (which, for credit

fraud purposes, is a terrible idea), so it is important to have the national numbers handy as they can at least stop any additional uses of your card until the issuing agency can be contacted. Those numbers are:

- VISA 1-800-847-2911
- Master Card 1-800-627-8372
- American Express 1-800-333-2639
- Discover 1-800-347-2683



Many agencies will issue a temporary credit card which is good for only a day or two and/or has a very low credit limit or number of uses specifically to use for online purchases, so even if your number gets stolen, it is no good to the thief. Check with your issuer to see if this service is available. If your issuer doesn't offer this service, you may also buy a credit card at a retailer such as Wal-Mart and pre-load it with just the amount you need and use it which will also frustrate thieves.



What about using credit cards in the real world? The banks say always to sign the back of your credit card. I disagree with this. This is just my opinion but if you sign the back and your wallet or purse gets stolen, the thieves now have not just your card numbers but your signature too. Having my cards unsigned takes an extra minute or two at the register, as the cashiers (ideally) ask to see a driver's license to verify the card is mine but for me it is an extra layer of security. It also allows me to see which merchants just accept any old unsigned cards. Most don't pay any attention to signatures, either. A guy spent 6 months testing this, using X's, lines, and other things when he signed, even signing things such as "This card is stolen," and they were all accepted until he drew a picture of male genitalia for his signature at which point the cashier asked to compare to the back of his card. So the signature appears to be of little use, security-wise.

<http://www.tickld.com/x/this-guy-just-made-the-staff-at-walmart-lose-their-mindsthis-is-genius>

Be mindful when using credit in the real world. There are many scams people use for getting your credit card number. People have been caught snapping cell phone pictures behind others in line as they used their cards, installing cameras over the card slots in ATMs and self-checkout machines, and many other scams.

[Editor's Comment: Something that I often do when I have my credit or debit card outside of my wallet is to insure that I keep a finger over the number so that it cannot be viewed by anyone from any angle. This protects against the "shoulder surfers" who may attempt to use memory, cameras, or other methods to obtain the card number. I suggest that others do something similar.]



Also, lots of people think "If there's a problem with my card, I'll just call the number on the back" without taking the extra minute to realize that if the card is stolen, they won't have that number. Write down the numbers to contact your card issuers and keep them somewhere beside your wallet or purse such as in the glovebox of your car. Our CMO had her wallet stolen in a

Wal-Mart parking lot and I can tell you in that panicky "They got everything!" moment, you don't want to be trying to find a device to Google your bank numbers: you want to have them at hand.

In conclusion, we all want to spread joy as we buy special things for those special in our lives this holiday season but take some precautions to make sure your season of joy doesn't turn into a season of terror. Also, be aware that there are some companies which offer protection or insurance against these types of situations, even going so far as to monitor everything for you and alert you of any nefarious activity. Contact our own Admirals Planthold, who are independent associates for LegalShield and IDShield, for more information on this.

Rezty Felty insures the safety and security of the USS Dark Phoenix and engages in Warp Core research, has been a Trek fan since the '60s, and has been a member of Starfleet International since September 2015. In real life, he is owned by the CMO of the USS Dark Phoenix, 5 kids, and a variety of dogs, cats, and rats when not performing Linux Engineering.

Chief Engineer's
Report
By Cadet Lieutenant
Dyson Felty



No article submitted.

Dyson Felty is the Acting Chief Engineer of the Dark Phoenix and is an exception to the rule of only Officers being in such responsible positions. As he challenges the same Officer training tests and tasks as his adult colleagues, he has been granted the rank of Cadet Lieutenant.

Chief Weapons
Officer's Report
By Lieutenant KLar
Batt



No article submitted.

Chief Medical
Officer's Report
By Lieutenant
Laura Felty, SFMD



This month's article is about stress.

Stress has played a big role in the lives of the Felty family this past month. As you may know, Cadet Sagan Felty was hit by a car on October 25th. He was walking to school in the early morning and, while crossing the street, a car clipped him. To make the whole matter more complicated, the driver took off and did not call the authorities. The cadet was able to get up and walk away though he had abrasions and contusions all along his right side. To say the least, this whole situation could have been a whole lot worse. But, it was still stressful.

Stress is a body's reaction to anything that breaks up our usual routine, either physical or mental. Our bodies react to stress in many ways. Ideally the stress will disrupt our normal routines for only a short while but stress can cause changes that manifest themselves physically as well as emotionally. They generally start gradually and if let uncontrolled or untreated, they can get out of hand and wreak havoc upon our lives.

Physical responses to stress can include change in weight, hair loss, digestive issues, heart issues, changes in blood chemistry, skin conditions, and even reproductive issues. There

are also emotional responses to stress: sleep issues, avoiding others, mood swings, memory issues, and increase in pain.

Of course as I said in the last issue, a little stress can be good for us. It keeps us on our toes, alert and ready to conquer. Prolonged stress can lead to physical and mental challenges and break down.

Known causes of stress can be heavy work load, heavy school/education load, relationship trouble, illness of self or loved one.

Treatment for increased stress is therapy: this means having someone to talk to, help you sort out your feelings, and how to minimize the impact upon your life. Of course, you also need to remember to eat properly. Oftentimes during stressful periods, it is just easier for us to run through fast food or throw something in the microwave but these are not the best choices when we are already dealing with diarrhea, heartburn, and indigestion. Eating fresh food with minimal carbohydrates, more vegetables, and fiber help our body improve and feel better. Getting a good exercise routine started will help manage stress as well.

Knowing your body is the best plan. If you are able to pick up on the subtle changes your body gives off before the stress has taken hold of your body, you

may be able to take the steps to get back on track before stress makes too much of an impact on your life.

Thank you for reading. And as always if you have suggestions or questions for an article, please feel free to contact me at lfelty@kc-felty.net or give John the information and he can pass it along. Have a great Thanksgiving!

[Editor's Note: Folks of the Dark Phoenix, be aware that if you need to speak with someone, each of us on the Command Staff and our ship's Counselor, Crewman Ruth Lichtwardt, stand ready to listen and give any feedback/advice that we can. Please feel free to contact any of us at any time. We are happy to offer our friendship, support, and help to take the load off your shoulders.]

Laura Felty doesn't just play in the medical field in Starfleet International: she has been employed in the nursing field for over 30 years and works as a Registered Nurse. She and her husband Rezty have five children and three grandchildren.

Astronomer's
Report
By Lieutenant
(Junior Grade)
Carolyn Kaberline



Hopefully, you had a chance to see the super moon on November 14th. Known by the Native American tribes as the Full Beaver Moon because it was the perfect time to set their beaver traps before the waterways froze, it was the second super moon for this year. The super moon designation is given because it is not only at its closest approach to Earth but also is located on the opposite side of the Earth in such a way as to appear larger and brighter than usual. The third super moon of the year will occur on December 14th.

There are three meteor showers to be aware of in the coming month: the Taurids, the Leonids, and the Geminids.

The first of these--the Taurids--is a minor meteor shower that runs from September 7th to December 10th. Although it has two separate streams--one produced by dust grains from Asteroid 2004 TG 10 and the other from debris left behind by Comet 2P Encke--it produces only five to ten meteors per hour. The shower runs from September 7th to December 10th but best viewing will occur in early November. These meteors appear to come from the constellation of Taurus although they can appear anywhere in the sky.

Considered an "average" shower, the Leonid Meteor Shower can be seen through most of November with its peak being November 16th and 17th. Produced by dust grains left over from Comet Tempel-Tuttle, 15 or so meteors per hour often can be seen. However some of the fainter meteors may be hard to see due a waning moon at that time. This shower gets its name from the constellation of Leo, from which most of the meteors seem to radiate.

If you like looking at globular clusters, nebulae, and galaxies, December 11th might be the best time to do so since there will be a new moon that evening. With the moon located on the same side of the Earth as the Sun, no moonlight will interfere with stargazing.

If you want to try to catch a glimpse of Mercury, December 11th might be the best time to do that too as it will be at its highest point above the horizon in the evening sky. Even so, look for it just after sunset in the western sky.

If there is one meteor shower you don't want to miss, it is the Geminid Meteor Shower. Since this shower produces up to 120 multicolored meteors per hour, many people consider it to be one of the best showers (if not the best). The shower runs from approximately December 7th through 17th with its peak being the night of the 13th and the

morning of the 14th. Although there is a full moon about this time which will block some of the fainter meteors, the meteors are so bright and numerous that you should still be able to see many of them. As the name implies, the meteors will seem to come from the constellation of Gemini but they may appear anywhere in the sky. Don't forget to look for the third and last super moon of the year on December 14th too. (Information taken from "The Sky," a web page presented by Sea and Sky at

<http://www.seasky.org/astromy/astronomy-calendar-2016.html>)

It's not too early to make your reservations for the third weekend in August of next year--that's the weekend of a total solar eclipse which will be visible to some extent over most of the United States. In this part of the country, the eclipse will be about 98% total; however, a short trip to St. Joseph, Missouri, should allow you to see a total eclipse--if there's a lack of clouds, that is.

The International Space Station is usually visible in the night sky. While it has been easy to find in the northwest sky at Farpoint most evenings around 8:30 or so, if you want to be sure to catch a glimpse, sign up for alerts at <https://spotthestation.nasa.gov/signup.cfm> According to the NASA website, this service will only notify you of "good" sighting opportunities--that is, sightings that are high enough in the sky (40

degrees or more) and last long enough to give you the best view of the orbiting laboratory.

Carolyn Kaberline is a semi-retired public school teacher, having retired from one school district after teaching high school English for 45 years and now is a substitute teacher in another school district. Additionally, she is a script consultant for Project: Potemkin, a fan-created Star Trek-themed web series. In her spare time, she is an amateur astronomer and member of the Northeast Kansas Amateur Astronomers' League (NEKAAL) as well as a freelance journalist.

Fun and Frivolity

Trek Trivia

TOS: On what planet did Captain Kirk try to strand the mutated Lieutenant Commander Gary Mitchell?

TNG: Where was the USS Enterprise-D built?

DS9: Of the three original runabouts on the station, what is the only one that hasn't been destroyed by the fifth season?

VOY: What class of ship is the USS Voyager?

Logic

1. Duncan Drivel had a collection of rare bird calling records which he wished to sell. He sold half of his records plus a half-record more to Professor Bumble. Then he sold half of what remained and half a record more to Professor McGonagall. At this point, Duncan had only one record remaining. How many did Duncan have originally?

2. Two of the fastest horsemen in the kingdom proposed to the king's daughter. The king didn't like either suitor but he wanted to look fair, so he suggested a horse race in which the winner would have his daughter's hand. The only catch was that the winner would be the person whose horse came in second. The king was certain the race would never take

place because he felt that neither horseman would let the other win. Finally, the king's daughter made a suggestion to the two horsemen which would guarantee a fair race. What did she suggest?

3. Everyone knows that both Christmas Day and New Year's Day always fall on the same day of the week. However, in 1939, the year of the outbreak of World War II, Christmas fell on a Monday and New Year's Day fell on a Sunday. Why?

Logic Puzzle

Harvey Houdini is the Midwest's most famous private investigator as well as a world-renowned master of disguise. Over the past month, Houdini has been busy, having assumed five disguises (including that of a schoolboy) to assist the authorities in fighting crime. In each case, Houdini assumed a different alias and infiltrated a different venue (one was a hotel) in a different city to help bring a different villain to justice. Houdini's schedule is filled months in advance. In fact, he just booked a case for December that may be his most challenging yet: Santa Claus! From the information provided, can you determine the disguise that Houdini used with each alias and the city in which he work it to infiltrate a venue as well as the villain Houdini helped to capture in each case?

Given #1: Houdini used the alias Clyde Glyde to root out the ruthless Rottanya. Houdini disguised himself as a cocker spaniel in the park. AJ LePage was Houdini's Cincinnati alias.

Given #2: Houdini derailed Diobolo with the horse-trader disguise that he donned at a television station. Houdini posed as Lincoln Logge at a factory. Houdini posed as a milkman while pursuing a villain in Akron.

Given #3: Houdini apprehended Evilda in Cleveland. Before confronting the Golem, Houdini donned the guise of a mild-mannered web designer.

Given #4: Houdini posed as Favio Rojas in Louisville and Nestor Bester in Frankfort (where he pursued the Yeti). Houdini went undercover at the circus when he collared the Golem but not in Louisville.

[Logic Puzzle Source: PennyPress Original Logic Problems.
<http://www.pennydellpuzzles.com/>

As always, the answers for the puzzles may be found at:
<http://www.bdcusa.com/downloads/november2016.pdf>. For previous month's answers, change the URL to the appropriate month such as
<http://www.bdcusa.com/downloads/october2016.pdf>.

