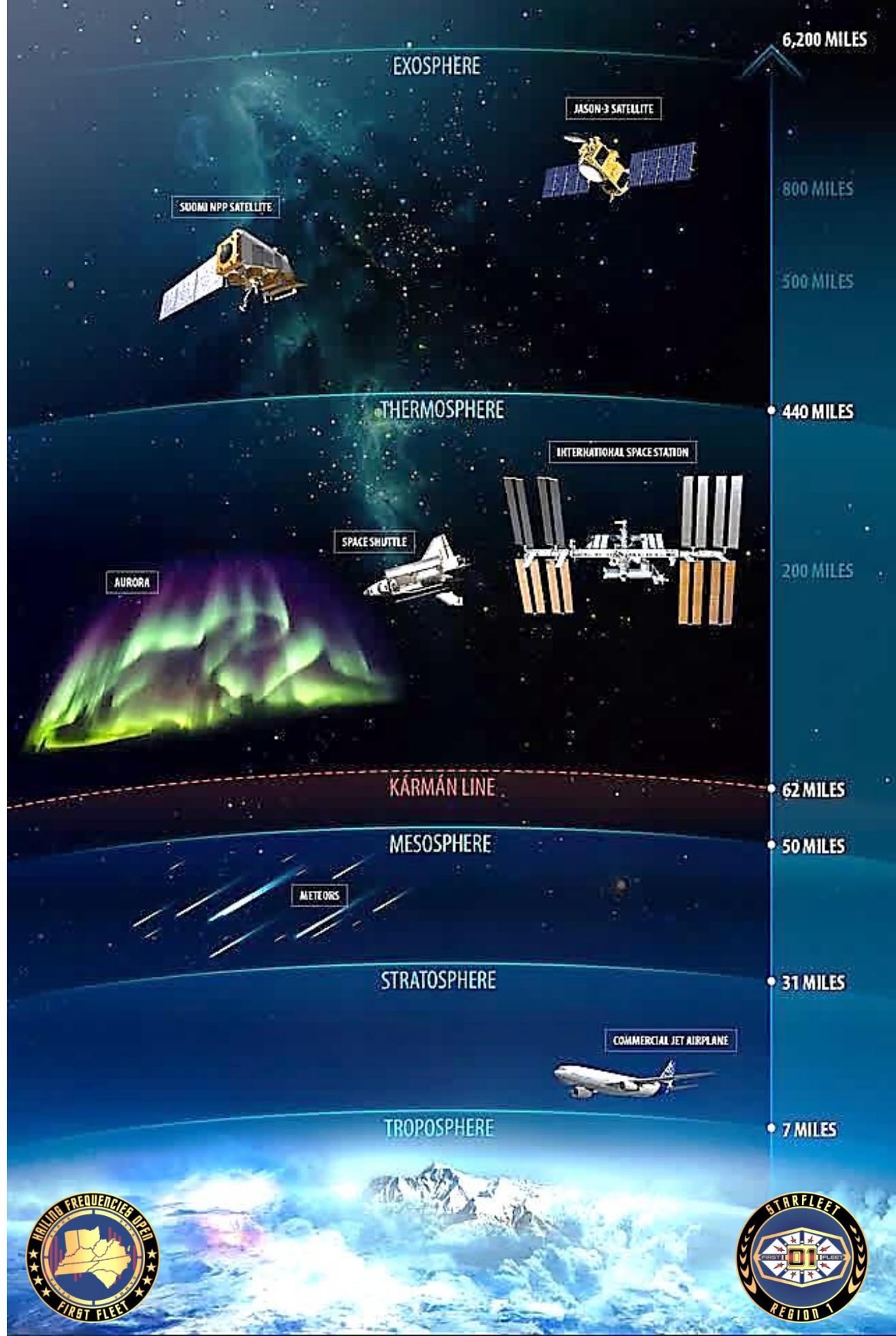


Hailing Frequencies Open



Region One Publications Officer

CMDR Cindy Ray

Region One Publications Officer

r1.publications.officer@gmail.com



There are several new articles in this issue to peak your boson's whistle. One such is our Special Feature this edition, a wonderful piece written by Captain Catherine Weeks. She is currently writing several books on serial fan fiction that will whisk you away into a realm of discovery and adventure. The six pages presented here are just a sampling of the continuing saga her books bring (page 15).

QUICK REMINDER FOLKS:

This edition starts our new (and hopefully last) change to the submission cut-off and publishing dates for HFO.

To recap, the submission cut-off date will now be three (3) weeks prior to the publication date; and, the publication date will become the fifteenth (15th) of each quarterly issue. In reviewing the rest of this year for holidays, long weekends, or special SF events, a mid-month publishing will allow us to capture certain news that would otherwise not be written-up until the next quarterly issue.

The next edition, the cut-off date for submissions is October 25, 2025 and publication date will be November 15, 2025. Complete information on our submission schedule is listed on the last page.

The 2025 STARFLEET International Conference was held in Houston, TX this year. Unfortunately, our department staff was not able to attend. Though we cannot offer an in-person accounting of the goings-on, scuttlebutt has it that it was a "glorious" event. Member articles are still welcome for our next edition.

Reminder:

**Coming Soon! Don't forget to vote for Commander, CS and Vice-Commander, CS.
Your vote is important!**

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On the Cover –
A different kind of cover page this issue. An image called "Atmospheric Layers" caught my eye. A very cool rendition of the layers of Earth's atmosphere.

It's actually a history lesson from the great Scientist's that discovered and calculated the many different layers Earth's atmosphere is made of.

From The Editor

CAPT Justin L. Hunt, KGO, SFMD

Mellow greetings,



This last quarter seems to have been a fairly active stretch for the region, especially those in the sciences division. And to be honest, I can understand why. When the weather is good, it's hard to *not* want to get out there and see what makes things tick.

I remember watching *Star Trek* as a kid and while many watched and wanted to command a starship of their own, I was playing at setting up labs and collecting specimens as part of the crew in blue. Between chemistry sets, bug and rock collections, telescopes and microscopes, and enough non-fiction books to make the local library envious, my mother used to call my bedroom "the lab." It was all just part of who I was, and to some degree, who I still am.

That's why I still find it a little bit funny that when I joined STARFLEET and moved onto the USS *Tycho* that I joined as part of the Medical Division (it made sense as their chaplain). It still somehow seems even odder to me that the work I do in SFI has me mostly known as a member of the Communications team, and now I'm just passed the one-year mark as a CO on the USS *Arizona* and an RDC of Chaplains; both roles that put in me Command. Throw in being a DOIC of the 139th and it seems like the only division with no hold on me *is* Sciences.

But that's the interesting thing about life, both in and out of STARFLEET. When one truly seeks to use their aptitudes in service to others, when you seek out opportunities to put your talents to work, you may just find yourself very far from where you envisioned yourself. That is not to say that I don't still enjoy science, but I have found ways to bring joy to others and explore parts of me that I would not have otherwise.

In *Deep Space Nine*, when "The Sisko" is confronted by entities that exist outside of time and space, one of the things that he helped these entities understand is that we corporeal beings that exist in temporal space take special pleasure in not knowing everything. This concept that was so alien to them is a built-in feature of our nature. And I'm glad it is.

If we were to live every experience all at once, there would be nothing to seek out. If we were to know everything all at once there would be no journey worth taking. And it is my decided opinion that the destinations we find ourselves in are an expression of who we are. But, it's the journeys that shape us like sculptures; trapped in stone and just waiting to be set free and to discover who we are. The greatest journey is life itself. I thank you all for letting me be even a very little part of your journeys.

Savan! (I salute you all!) ,

CAPT Justin 'Emissary' Hunt, KGO, SFMD, SFMC, Editor - *Hailing Frequencies Open* (HFO)



Region One First Brigade SFMC

BDR Dona Rozelle (OIC)

BOIC 1st Brigade (BDE), 1st Division, SFMC

Greetings!

This is BDR Dona Rozelle Burgio, BOIC 1st BDE SFMC, hailing from Ohio.

It has been a long couple of months for me, with Region One Summit and a Rotator Cuff Surgery, through some changes going on in leadership in 1st BDE, and NOW: a Wilderness Challenge BID for 1st BDE, which will be local EVERYWHERE. Let us start with the Regional Summit.

The Summit in Gatlinburg was terrific; the Summit staff did a terrific job all around. The Brigade hosted lunch on Saturday from CiCi's Pizza in Gatlinburg, TN. A group of people helped fund this event, for which I am very grateful, and they all should be proud. We also had a great attendance at the Marine Panel during the Summit where we managed to get a large number of SFMC Marines in a group photo. I'd like to acknowledge all the SFMC members who went to our panel, held panels of their own, served as Honor Guard, participated in Final Mission, and walked in and out as color guard. Thank you to all the following people: If any have been missed, apologies. Keridious Jones, Peter Yohe, Justin Hunt, Kelly McDermott, Lucille McDermott, Phil Holloman, Kenny Azecusky, Brian Grisham, Ben Redding, Cindy Rey, Jill Rayburn, Don Horn, Ron Novak,

Angela Leopard, Anthony Leopard, Susan Mahaffey, Mike Wilson, and Richard Helm. They did Panels, Final Mission, Color Guard Training, Honor Guard Duty, and made the weekend special.

Over the next month, staffing changes will be happening both at SFMC HQ and in our own BDE. Please, I urge anyone interested in applying for a BDE LEADERSHIP or STAFF position to apply. My Role as 1st BDE BOIC will end around the end of August 2025, as I've been asked to serve at the HQ level of SFMC. This doesn't mean that I'm leaving the BDE, nor is my unit. In fact, my unit will be hosting the next Wilderness Challenge (BID is in) during OCTOBER 10th to 12th, 2025. PLEASE read the article about this activity included elsewhere in this issue, and share with all chapter crews and chapters outside Region One as well. It should be a BLAST and a lot of FUN!

Some upcoming events that may be of interest to both the 1st BDE and Fleet members of Region One are:

TIME TRAVELER's WEEKEND for Ohio Renn Fest is September 27th and 28th, 2025 at the Ohio Renaissance Grounds near Waynesville, OH; with GAMING Sunday after RENN FEST on Saturday! Members of several units and Chapters have plans to attend!



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Region One First Brigade SFMC

Wilderness Challenge Weekend for 1BDE is October 10th through the 12th, 2025. Location can be in your own area, or you may find a group to spend time with. Please read the article to find out more details. Hoping many of you will participate in this event!

"STARBASE INDY" IS HAPPENING NOVEMBER 28TH TO 30TH, 2025 IN INDIANAPOLIS, IN

Members of the USS *Indiana*, USS *Gorkon*, USS

Moebius, and the USS *Kitty Hawk* (and their respective units) are all converging on Thanksgiving Black Friday weekend to attend this convention. Hope you will join us!

BDR Dona Rozelle Burgio

1BOIC SFMC

Aide de Camp, FORCECOM, SFMC

OIC, 147th MSG 4th BN 1BDE SFMC "Guardians of Forever", USS *Moebius* R1



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Region One First Brigade SFMC

RADM Anthony Leopard

RDC Chief of Communications

Greetings Region One,

There's been a lot happening behind the scenes over the past few months—from growing our online communities to improving accessibility and exploring new ways to connect through YouTube. We wanted to share a quick update on what's been going on.

Right now, we're considering launching an official Region One YouTube channel. While nothing is set in stone yet, we're brainstorming how to use the platform to share news and highlights from around the Region, feature interviews and member spotlights, and celebrate chapters and projects. We'd love to hear your thoughts! If you're interested in watching or helping create content, please reach out to me at chief.of.communications@r1.sfi.org and let us know what you'd like to see.

In other exciting news, our Region One Publications Department has started work on converting our key Region One documents for screen readers, text-to-speech readers, as well as other accessibility-friendly formats. For example, these will include specific font faces and sizes, styles, headings, line spacing, and an active Table-Of-Contents to name a few. We're looking into updating the Region One Handbook, the RDC (Regional Department Chief) Handbook, and the Ceremony Handbook. These efforts

reflect our commitment to inclusion and ensuring every member has the resources they need to fully participate in Region One activities. Our newsletter is also written in this format and the online version has been tested by several members (including two blind members) for readability. It was given a "thumbs up" rating.

Our online communities continue to grow, which is fantastic to see. The Region One Public Facebook Group

(<https://www.facebook.com/groups/675737795835737>) now has 590 members, with 6 new members joining between May 1 and July 26, contributing 196 posts during that time.

Meanwhile, the Members-Only Facebook Group

(<https://www.facebook.com/groups/118899148133303>) has grown to 270 members, welcoming 10 new members and seeing 154 posts over the same period. Our Region One Discord Server (<https://discord.gg/KWsN4tv6HJ>) currently includes 104 members, with 10 new additions recently. Discord is a lively place for real-time chats, voice calls, casual hangouts, and more. If you're not yet part of these communities, now's a great time to jump in!

Don't forget to check out—and bookmark—our



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Region One Chief of Communications

Region One Events Calendar at

<https://r1.sfi.org/2025-homepage/r1event/> to stay updated on chapter and Region-wide events. If your chapter is organizing something, you can submit your event here:

<https://forms.gle/hXZ7V7whEEWqns4ZA> and we will help spread the word. From ceremonies and awards to online meetups and training sessions, there's always something happening in Region One.

We've got plenty more in the works, and we want to hear from you! Whether you have ideas

for the YouTube channel, or have questions about handbooks, Discord, or anything else, feel free to email me anytime at:

chief.of.communications@r1.sfi.org.

Thanks for being part of what makes Region One so amazing. I look forward to seeing you online—and maybe soon on YouTube!

Live long, prosper, and stay informed,

Rear Admiral Anthony Leopard
Chief of Communications
Region One, STARFLEET

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THE NEW YORK TIMES, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 1979

At the Movies | Tom Buckley

Beaming aboard the starship Enterprise.

THE starship Enterprise and its "Star Trek" crew could have gotten a fair distance into space in the four and a half years it has taken to get from the Paramount lot to the theaters, Gene Roddenberry was saying the other day.

Mr. Roddenberry, the grizzled World War II fighter pilot who created the well-regarded television series that is the inspiration for the film, noted that if the studio had got behind the project, it could have beaten "Star Wars" and "Close Encounters of the Third Kind"—colossal moneymakers both—to the screen.

"Looking at it another way, 'Star Wars' made 'Star Trek' possible," he said. "Until then, what had science-fiction movies done? Not very much. The feeling was, 'Good Lord, the audience doesn't want to see that sort of thing.' I kept writing outlines, and the studio kept turning them down.

"Finally, Paramount decided to do it as a made-for-television movie that could serve as a lead-in for a new 'Star Trek' series. Then, when 'Star Wars' hit so big, they decided they were sitting on the hottest science-fiction property in the world and they got excited enough to come up with a big budget and a list of top-drawer directors."

The cost of the film is given as \$40 million. Even allowing for movieland hyperbole, "Star Trek" still probably cost about three times as much as "Star Wars." The reasons, Mr. Roddenberry said, were galloping inflation and the decision to get it into the theaters for holiday showing and damn the overtime.

Principal photography on the film, whose stars include William Shatner, Leonard Nimoy, DeForest Kelley and other members of the original television crew, began in June 1978 and was completed in a little over four months.

After that, though, Mr. Roddenberry noted, the film encountered serious problems in its special effects, partly because "Star Wars" and "Close Encounters," among other science-fiction films, have raised public expectations as to what will be shown on the screen. In fact, "Star Trek" is not yet completed. Sound dubbing and mixing are expected to continue until shortly before the film's gala opening in Washington on Dec. 6. It will have its New York premiere the following day.

On the other hand, it was the "Star

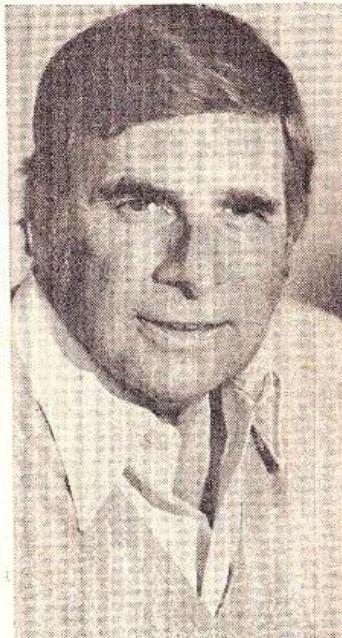
series was in production, and in the decade of reruns since, and Mr. Roddenberry said the film continued in that direction.

"With a lot of sci-fi," he said, "you get the feeling that as soon as the dramatic structure begins to weaken, someone says, 'O.K., let's toss in a light show.' I don't include 'Star Wars' in that group. I saw it four times, and I loved it."

Another quality that endeared "Star Trek" to its viewers was its implicit ideological and political content, which network censors would have excised, Mr. Roddenberry believes, if the setting had been closer to home. Although his own background as the son of a regular Army sergeant who became a combat flier in the South Pacific might have predisposed him to conservatism, the "Star Trek" crew banked to the liberal end of the spectrum.

"A lot of what was said reflected my views on the Vietnam War," Mr. Roddenberry said. "Diversity is the glory of the universe, for example, or that we should not interfere with the life styles of other peoples. Ray Bradbury pointed out to me the other day that science fiction is one form in which a philosopher can range as widely as he wants to."

Mr. Roddenberry believes he has many reasons to feel proud of his creation. Not the least of these are the facts that the premiere of the film will be under the auspices of the National Air and Space Museum, where a model of the starship Enterprise hangs, and that the first space shuttle was named for his fictional ship.



Gene Roddenberry, who created the "Star Trek" television series and is producer of the "Star Trek" film.

"Trek" characters and situations rather than the hardware that created a cult of millions of viewers during the years from 1966 through 1969, when the televi-

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Region One Awards Report and Gamma Sector Coordinator

ADM Pamela Michaud

Region One Awards Director

The following Region One awards were presented:



Enterprise "E" – 1st place Captain's Quest R1 2025 Summit
– **Carnell Eubanks** – USS Star League



Preatares Award – worked during COVID 19 and/or during and after natural disasters – **Justin Hunt** – USS Arizona, **Jessica Hunt** – USS Arizona



Legion of Merit – 20+ years of active service SFI R1 – **William Lemmond III** – USS Arizona



Garth Order of Tactics – Serving in combat zone – **John Dulaveris** – USS Ronald E McNair



Pentares Award – military service – **John Dulaveris** – USS Ronald E McNair



The Legion of Valor replaces the Order of Cronos. This is for 30+ years of active service in SFI's R1.



Phoenix Award – SFI R1 member facing or faced "life threatening" adverse situations and lived to tell about it – **Hunter Chaffin** – USS Saratoga



Meritorious Service – avid participation and/or performance of duty, by young SFI Region One members – **Hunter Chaffin** – USS Saratoga



Region One Awards Report and Gamma Sector Coordinator

Don't forget to submit your hard-working members for R1 awards. I'm working on putting the new awards logos in the R1 Awards Manual. Victor Swindell has been helping to get them onto the R1 awards site. <https://sfirawards60.wixsite.com/starfleet-region-one>



Greetings from your friendly neighborhood Gamma Sector coordinator

First off, I want to thank the chapters and members of our sector that volunteered at the 2025 R1 summit.

Congratulations to the USS *Kitty Hawk* on the bid to host the 2026 R1 summit.

I'm what you would call a member who has been "here forever." I have been a member of SFI since 1999. I have been a member of the USS *Ronald E McNair* for 25 of those years. I was a member of the USS *Angeles* 2021-2022 while my husband was stationed at Ft. Irwin in California. I have the rank of Admiral and serve as the CO of the USS *Ronald E McNair*. I am also the R1 awards director and handle the SFI Orders of Merit too.

I am here to help new COs, XOs and members get acclimated to region one. If you have questions about where to find things on SFI or R1 site and have exhausted all avenues, I might be able to point you in the right direction. If there are any events in our sector and I know about it, I will promote them. I am here to help chapters in training (including help with the shakedown process) as well as already established chapters. I report directly to R1 Chief of Operations. It's my job to report events, issues, concerns or questions. There are many other things that are part of the job. Forward any events in sector to the R1 event calendar. NC/SC chapters. I got an answer from three chapters.

I don't email to "bug" you I just email to touch base with the chapter. I can be reached at

PMichaudSFI@sfi.org.

Currently the Gamma sector has three SFSO units (SOU): USS *Freedom*, USS *Kitty Hawk*, and USS *Ronald E McNair*. If any gamma sector members wish to start an SOU or be an

Independent Operative (IO), make sure your chapter doesn't already have an established SOU or IO. If it has an IO perhaps said member can join that

SOU or join up with the IO and make a SOU. I'm the Director of Operations for SFSO and am here to answer any questions that potential IOs or SOUs may have. PMichaudSFI@sfi.org

SOU Team Leaders and Assistant Team Leaders are required to be SFDPP compliant. You must have special operations under your affiliations.

<https://sfso.sfi.org/activation-deactivation-form/> must be filled out to activate as a IO or SOU.

<https://sfso.sfi.org/>

There are many hard-working people in gamma sector. I wish they were submitted for R1 awards. Please take a few minutes to check out the website for the Region One Awards Program.

<https://sfirawards60.wixsite.com/starfleet-region-one>

I guess that's about it for me at this time.

ADM Pamela Michaud



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Region One Chaplain Corps

Region One Chaplain Corps

RDC of Chaplains Report

The Chaplain Corps has been a bit quiet of late, but that shouldn't be taken as nothing going on. Behind the scenes, R1's Chaplain Corps has been undergoing something of a facelift. I'd like to say that it is strictly cosmetic, but it's not. Given the amount of time that this department has been inactive, it seems only natural that changes would need to be made to help it catch up to the world around it.

The biggest project that is ironically the least visible to the members of the region. We are building a departmental handbook from the ground up. I would very much encourage all chaplains within the region to contact me with any thoughts or input they may have regarding this project. As it moves closer to completion, I would also like to have a couple of people to give feedback. The best way to contact me about this is by email at rdc.chaplains@r1.sfi.org.

One of the more visible projects is an update to the department's heraldry. Just about the first thing I noticed upon taking this position is that the current heraldry, or logo, if you will, bears a striking resemblance to that used by Chaplains Assistants in the United States Air Force. Now we have NOT been contacted by anyone regarding this similarity, but I would like to prevent that from happening. I have worked with the STARFLEET Corps of Engineers to build a new and unique logo



that expresses the ideals of this department. Due to the nature of this RDC, we have been asked not to use the official SFI circlet (outer ring), and we have acquiesced.

Our logo uses a delta and a lemniscate (infinity sign) on a star field inside a gray circlet. The color of the circlet is a nod to the old logo and the work that the department has done in the past. The star field represents hope in the vastness of space. The delta is a sign of our dedication to the ideals of *Star Trek*. The lemniscate represents not only infinity as a concept, but potential infinity as well.

The infinity sign has been used in mathematics since around 1655; however, the motif has been around considerably longer. As a symbol, it has meaning in most Earth religions and philosophies and gives a solid nod to the IDIC. It seems an appropriate symbol for those whose function is to serve in the unique capacity of a chaplain to all.

The other project that I recently received the RDC Director's approval on is the adoption of a collar device/insignia for the R1 Chaplain Corps.

That's right. Chaplains in the region may, at their discretion, wear an infinity sign on their collar opposite, and colored to match their rank pips to denote their special function. This device is a symbol of the office and may be worn in

Region One Chaplain Corps

conjunction with any religious symbols being used by the chaplain. Its use is not mandatory and its positioning on the uniform form will vary according to the type of uniform being worn, but all of those details will be outlined in the aforementioned handbook. I have included examples of the insignia's use in place of the sleeve insignia on a Monster Maroon in conjunction with a Christian cross, and opposite the pips on a medical uniform. I hope to see the device showing up on more uniforms as the



department grows.

Until the handbook's release, please contact me with any questions.

Until next time, Savan! (I salute you all!)

CAPT Justin 'Emissary' Hunt, KGO, SFMD, SFMC
CO - *USS Arizona*, DOIC- 139th MSG
RDC- R1 Chaplain Corps



RDC Sciences Report

By ADM Richard Heim

Regional Division Chief for Sciences/Region 1
CO & CSO, USS *Alaric*

Region One Sciences at the Gatlinburg Region One Summit

By Adm. Richard Heim

Regional Division Chief for Sciences/Region 1
CO & CSO, USS *Alaric*

Hello Region One! The 2025 Summit was held in Gatlinburg, TN in early May. I wasn't able to get a Summit Sciences report written in time for the special Summit coverage in the May 2025 issue of *Hailing Frequencies Open*, so I'm submitting it for this issue.

My wife, Diane, and I arrived in Gatlinburg Friday afternoon, May 2, and explored some of the local shops before having a delicious supper then attending the Opening Ceremony. We took the southerly route through the Great Smokies National Park since Interstate 40 traffic was restricted due to damage caused by Hurricane Helene last fall.

On Saturday morning, as Region One Regional Division Chief for Sciences, I ran the Science panel which had 8 people attend (this was a pretty good attendance considering there were only 3 or 4 dozen attendees in total at the Summit). I brought a couple globes as science props and distributed a handout. After going over the globes and handout, we discussed issues and



science questions raised by the panel attendees. One globe was of the Moon and the other of Mars. Both have geologic features identified on them and mark the locations of space probes sent to each celestial body. I brought them to illustrate how you can use science props at club recruiting events to educate people about space exploration, such as showing where the Apollo spacecraft landed on the Moon and the various landers

touched down on Mars. I especially like talking about NASA's Viking landers, which conducted biochemical experiments in the 1970s to search for life on the Red Planet; the Cydonia region, which is where UFO enthusiasts say there is a Face on Mars; and how the elevational features of Mars show where ancient oceans likely existed before the planet lost its magnetic field and most of its atmosphere, thus becoming a cold desert planet.

The handout contained the usual factoids about Region One Sciences, such as suggestions for chapter science activities and the URLs for our

RDC Sciences

web page (<https://scienlaric.com/r1sci/R1Science.htm>) and Chief Science Officer Handbook (<https://scienlaric.com/r1sci/R1Sci2.htm#handbook>). I included a page listing interesting science videos, web pages where you can find out about science museums in the U.S., and a blurb for STARFLEET Sciences. As I write this, voting is under way to confirm next year's Region One Summit. If approved, it will be in Raleigh, NC, which is the home of the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences (<https://naturalsciences.org/>). This museum is an affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution, is the Southeast's largest natural history museum, and would be an excellent science activity for next year's Summit attendees. For a list of the science museums in the U.S., the cities they are located in, and other information, check out these web resources:

- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_science_centers_in_the_United_States
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_museums_in_the_United_States
- <https://whichmuseum.com/place/united-states-2682/science>
- <https://www.causeiq.com/directory/science-museums-list/>

As the USS *Alaric*'s CO, I participated in the Captain's Quest/Captain's Ax Throwing Competition. My aim was off, so I didn't place, but I made myself useful by picking up axes thrown by others that didn't stick to the target. For lunch, Diane and I partook of the wonderful pizza that was provided by First BDE staff.

During the Saturday afternoon General Session, I announced the Region One Science Awards (<https://scienlaric.com/r1sci/R1Sci3.htm#awards>). There are three main awards. Earlier in the year, I posted the winners of the Einstein Award for regular reporting to the RDC to the R1 Staff listserver. At the Summit, I announced the winners of the 2024 Hawking and Galileo awards, as well as the winners of three new awards.

The Hawking Award is given to the STARFLEET member for the most original submission to a newsletter or list server.

The Galileo Award for Chief Science Officer of the Year is given to the CSO who is voted as the most enthusiastic, most energetic, or most productive member of the Region One Sciences community. Candidates for these two awards are nominated by R1 CSOs and voted on by R1 CSOs. Due to the vagaries of the ranked voting method, the winner of both the Hawking and Galileo awards was Comm. Michael Lewis, CSO of the USS *Potomac*. Congratulations, Michael!

The other nominees for the Hawking and Galileo awards were recognized by two new awards:

- The Region One Supernova Award is given to a CSO whose chapter activities show an explosion of creativity and leadership (these are basically the runners-up in the Galileo Award category).
- The Region One Quasar Award is given to a CSO whose science contributions shine brightly throughout the year (these are the runners-up in the Hawking Award category).

RDC Sciences

The winners of the Supernova Award include Adm. Willy Smith of the USS *Heimdal* and FCapt. Nancy Hall of the USS *Jurassic*. The winners of the Quasar Award include RAdm. Janice Graham of the USS *Renegade*, Lt. David Lyons of the USS *Ronald E. McNair*, and Lt.Jg Teressa Collins of the USS *Tanasi*. P

Please join me in congratulating these fine officers!

This year, Region One Sciences created yet another new award. It was suggested by my Assistant RDC, Comm. Michael Lewis. The new award is the Region One Solar Eclipse Award for Promoting Science and is given to any STARFLEET member for promoting science amongst STARFLEET members and non-members. The winner of the 2024 Solar Eclipse Award is FCapt. Jared Finkenbinder of Region 17. During Eclipse Ambassador Zoom meetings and PowerPoint

presentations run by Comm. Lewis, Jared assisted to help students learn more about science and our solar system. Congratulations, Jared!

Diane and I attended the Sunday morning Closing Ceremony, where I was delighted to learn that I had the highest bid on a number of silent auction items. For lunch, we had a delicious pancake meal at a restaurant down the street. It was next to a game store where I purchased a couple of board games. My traffic app said Interstate 40 traffic was flowing quite well, so we decided to risk taking that route home. However, as we approached the Tennessee/North Carolina state line, traffic ground to a halt. It took us twice as long to get home compared to the southern route. But at the first rest area on the NC side, we encountered some Summit folks leaving the building as we entered – amazing timing!

From the Publications Officer: Richard, this is a wonderful article! I thoroughly enjoyed reading it.



HAILING FREQUENCIES OPEN ~ Aug 15, 2025



Rarunvien's Memoirs

By Catherine Weeks

Rarunvien's steps were light, almost buoyant, yet still carried the silent grace of a huntress as she led Queen Irene, Liem, Flossing, and Arlo deeper into the heart of Aqualien. Her excitement was a palpable thing, a subtle hum that seemed to match the low thrum of the Bio-Grid in this hidden place. The obsidian walls of the village shimmered with a deep, glassy-black, reflecting the muted light, while glowing glyciflora vines pulsed with a soft, inner luminescence, softening the thunder of the Veil of Whispers to a gentle, rhythmic hum.

"This," Rarunvein began, gesturing with an open hand towards the majestic Verdantvien Willow whose gnarled branches stretched outwards over the great lake, "is the Mother Tree. Its roots run deep, not just into Glyceum, but into the very heart of Aqualien's magic. Forty-one years ago, when the crystal guardians attacked, the whispers of the Bio-Grid told my grandmother, Genfir, that the children would be safe here, beneath its leaves, so I brought them here before I went to help her. And they were. It saved them all, even as the rest of the village was under fire." Her voice, typically steady, held a soft reverence as she spoke of the willow, and a faint tremor when she mentioned Genfir.

They continued, the glyciflora pathways cool and alive beneath their feet, guiding them deeper into the labyrinthine passages. Rarunvien paused before a humble



Rarunvien's Memoirs

dwelling carved into the obsidian, its entrance draped with particularly vibrant glyciflora. "And this," She said, her gaze lingering on the entrance, a wistful, almost melancholic expression settling over her face, "This was our home. Mine and Genfir's. She kept it just as she liked it, simple, but filled with the scent of dried herbs and the hum of her arrows." A small, sad smile touched her lips as a memory seemed to drift across her features. "She was strict, but the whispers always told her what I was up to, as they were making me for a destiny I did not know of at that time."

As Rarunvien stood lost in thought, Arlo's gaze drifted towards the great lake where several Aqualien children, small figures glowing faintly from the glyciflor's luminescence, splashed and laughed at the water's edge. He hesitated for only a moment, then, with a quick, hopeful glance at Irene, he slipped away from the group and moved towards the shimmering water. Soon, his own laughter joined theirs, a bright, unburdened sound.

Liam looked over to Irene, "Let him play." He said.

Irene just smiled and said, "I was going to. It's been a long time since he has had the time to be a child."

"Shall we?" Rarunvien said as she led Irene, Liam, and Flossing further through. She stopped by a section of a smoothly carved obsidian wall, with a medium-sized rock in front of it. "It looked bigger when I was a child," she declared as she traced a pattern on its cool surface with her finger. "I used to hide here," she murmured, her



Rarunvien's Memoirs

gaze distant, fixed on a time long past. "One afternoon, when I was meant to be practicing my aim, but all I wanted was to explore the deeper caverns. Genfir always knew, though. The whisperers, she'd say, they tell me everything you do, my child. There's no escaping the truth of the Bio-Grid." A ghost of a smile touched her lips, a mix of fondness and the lingering frustration of a child who couldn't outsmart her Elder.

From there, the path grew quieter, leading them to a smaller, naturally lit alcove where the glyciflora seemed to bloom with an even deeper, more profound glow. Here, amidst the gentle murmur of unseen springs, lay a simple, unadorned stone, partially overgrown with luminous moss. Rarunvien knelt before it, her movements slow and deliberate.

"This is where she rests," Rarunvien said softly, her voice thick with emotion as she gently brushed away the luminous moss that had overgrown the stone. "Genfir. My grandmother. She protected Aqualien and me with her life and her wisdom. She taught me to listen to the whispers, to understand the flow. She prepared me for a path I never truly understood until... Until now." She paused, her head bowed in silent reverence, a quiet moment of gratitude passing between her and the rock beneath them. "Thank you, grandmother, for everything."

As they turned to leave, retracing their steps back towards the more populated areas of Aqualien, the distant sounds of splashing and children's joyous shouts grew louder. Through an opening in the obsidian walls, they saw Arlo, thoroughly soaked, laughing as two small Aqualien children clung to his back, paddling furiously across



Rarunvien's Memoirs

the glassy surface of the lake. His usual quiet intensity was replaced by an open, carefree delight.

Irene watched him, a soft, almost wistful expression on her face. "He's been through so much," she said, her voice barely a whisper, as if speaking to herself. Her gaze lingered on Arlo, then drifted to the gentle glow of the glyciflora vines that adorned the cavern. "I want to do right by him, Flossing. To give him the chance to truly be free, to choose his own path, not just follow mine out of duty or obligation."

Flossing nodded slowly, his gaze also on Arlo. "He holds a deep loyalty to you, Queen Irene. And gratitude. You saved his life."

"I know," Irene replied, a faint shadow crossing her features. "And that's why the burden feels so heavy. He shouldn't feel bound by that. He deserves more than a life of protecting me, no matter how willingly he undertakes it." She sighed, a subtle shift in her posture, a hint of the heavy responsibility she carried. "You all do, and I hope... I hope this journey, this healing of the wastes can also be a path for his own healing. To find his own purpose, beyond me."

Rarunvien, who had been listening quietly, placed a gentle hand on Irene's arm. "Arlo found his purpose, we all did. When he chose to protect you, just like I did. He found it again when he helped bring the balance back to Glyceum with you. Our path is our own, even if it runs alongside yours. And sometimes," she added, a faint smile touching her lips as she looked back at the playful splashes, "the whispers lead us to joy in unexpected places."



Rarunvien's Memoirs

As dusk settled deeper into the Aqualien cavern, painting the glyciflora with richer, softer hues, the group returned to the communal dwelling. A simple meal awaited them: root vegetables pulled from subterranean gardens, served with a savory, glowing stew made from shimmerspore found deep within the caves, and fresh water from the Veil-fed springs. The meal was eaten with the air thrumming with a vibrant current of shared experiences. Arlo, still damp from his play, seemed more relaxed than Irene had ever seen him, his usually guarded eyes carrying a spark of contentment as he kept up conversation with the Aqualien children from the lake.

"It's been forty years since I left Aqualien," Rarunvien mused, a soft chuckle escaping her lips. "So many stories have unfolded since then." She recounted tales of her first adventures beyond the Fangner Mountains, the curious creatures she'd encountered, and the sheer bewilderment of her initial days in Syzygy. Flossing chimed in with humorous anecdotes of courtly mishaps and unexpected magical outbursts, painting Irene's early reign in a surprisingly lighthearted glow. Even Irene found herself sharing a few lesser-known struggles and triumphs from her efforts to guide Glyceum, her serious demeanor softening with each shared memory. The simple meal became a rich tapestry of lives lived, each thread woven with a warmth of connection, solidifying their bond before the unknown journey.

Irene's gaze drifted from the lively conversation towards a quieter corner of the dwelling where the last embers of a small communal fire cast dancing shadows. She saw Arlo, curled on the floor near the warmth, his earlier energy completely spent, deeply asleep. "Look," she murmured softly to Rarunvien, a tender smile touching



Rarunvien's Memoirs

her lips. "Arlo's already out."

Rarunvien followed her gaze, a fond smile mirroring Irene's. "I remember you sleeping the same way in the small cottons we had in your realm," she whispered back, a gentle squeeze to Irene's arm, a silent acknowledgement of their shared past and the deep, familial love that bound them.

Flossing stifled a yawn, stretching luxuriously. "Perhaps that's a sign," he chuckled, "that we all should get some rest. We had a long journey." Liam nodded in agreement, his usual intensity softening slightly with fatigue.

Vora, observing them, stepped forward, her arms laden with thick, woven blankets. "There's no need to move him," she said kindly, gesturing to the floor near the still-warm fire. "You can all sleep here in the communal dwelling. The fire will keep you warm, and it will be comfortable." Vora walked over to Arlo and laid a blanket over his sleeping body.



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SFMC 1st BDE 2025 Wilderness Challenge

BDR Dona Rozelle-Burgio, 1st BDE BOIC, SFMC

Aide de Camp, Forcecom, SFMC

OIC 147th MSG SFMC 'Guardians of Forever', USS *Moebius*

This year, the Wilderness Challenge (WC) will be hosted by the 147th 'Guardians of Forever', located in SW Ohio, on the Weekend of October 10-12, 2025. We will have a location for people to meet and camp during the weekend, and hotels and cabins are nearby.

This WC can be done at home, in a park or campground near you or, you can gather in groups in a location you choose to complete it. You do not have to travel to participate. There will be virtual parts to this activity and in-person parts as well. T-Shirts and bandanas for the WC will be available to be purchased, and there will be prizes.

Nearly everyone should be able to complete this challenge, and thoughts to make that happen have been discussed and thought out. If you have ability issues, there are ways around them for this WC.

There will be an Online Meeting around two weeks before the WC Weekend date, during which the twenty to thirty specific goals and challenges will be explained, discussed, and suggested solutions to help complete them. We will also meet online during the WC on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. "Emergency Contact" will also be available for assistance

and ideas for completing the challenges. A Photo and Video Dump for your completed challenges will be available for documentation.

The scenario is that you are in one of three types of shuttles, carrying various gear for various missions. Sadly, challengingly, your craft will fail, and you will have to survive for 48 hours (roughly). You will be given a mission document, a supply list, and a food list. They will be random, but maybe not. You may be forced to Role Play being sheltered in your Shuttlecraft, in a field with a destroyed craft, or find a cave nearby.

There will be a list of objectives, or challenges provided, TEN of which you will need to complete to qualify for the WC award. Documentation is the key, with Photos and Videos. You will be in contact with the STARFLEET MARINE CORPS throughout the weekend. There will be times to check in regularly, and times that you can make emergency contact.

This is aimed at Inclusion and Enjoyment. No one should feel excluded. The idea is to have a FUN WEEKEND!!!!



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IF you get lost, confused, or need assistance with ideas on how to complete your objectives, use the emergency contacts, which will be provided during the Orientation Meeting, held around two weeks before the actual WC.

For more information, contact Dona Rozelle-

Burgio on Facebook, messenger, or discord; just no smoke signals. Email me if needed, but I'm easy to find on SFI Facebook pages and social media.

Thank you for reading this. Hope you'll think about completing this WC with us!



Chemistry is a Science

Commodore Michael Lewis, Region One Sciences Assistant-Regional Division Chief

Nitrogen is present in Earth's atmosphere. Plants like corn need nitrogen. Corn needs nitrogen for amino acids, chlorophyll, and protein production (Corn, 2021). Corn cannot take nitrogen out of the atmosphere directly. Corn gets nitrogen from the soil the plants grow in. Nitrogen needs to be in a form that the roots of corn plants can absorb. Atmospheric nitrogen can be changed into a usable form by certain bacteria via nitrogen fixation. Organic nitrogen needs to be changed into inorganic nitrogen so the roots of corn plants can absorb it. Nitrate is the main form of nitrogen corn plants absorb through the roots.

How do you determine the level of nitrogen in soil? If you are not a researcher or agricultural scientist, then an economical method of testing the level of nitrogen in soil may not be readily available (Moore, S., 2020). There is a "three-day analysis of soil-test biological activity (STBA)" that seems reliable (Moore, S., 2020). It measures the fungi, insects and bacteria that live in the soil and affect the level of nitrogen (Moore,

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S.,2020).

I am in the second year of an experiment in agriculture. This year my focus is on what form, when to apply, and how much fertilizer to apply on corn. I do not have data on how many corn plants of this variety it takes to yield a bushel of corn at harvest. So, I cannot use this formula, "a 200-bushel corn crop requires about 200 to 250 pounds nitrogen per acre" (Corn, 2021).

Excess nitrogen can transform into greenhouse gases or leech into waterways adding to agriculture's environmental footprint according to Lauren Quinn (Illinois, 2023). I want to avoid this. I use organic potting soil and natural plant food in my experiment to take advantage of biological nitrogen fixation (Nitrogen, 2021).

I post photos of my corn, bean and pumpkin plants on my social media with the hashtags #BacktotheRoots and #GrowOneGiveOne. The company that sells the organic potting soil that I use says they will send a donation of an organic grow kit and STEM curriculum. The donation will go to a school classroom of my choice, if I post photos with the hashtags (Grow, 2025).



References:

1. *Corn Nitrogen Management*. (2021, March 19). LSU AgCenter. <https://www.lsuagcenter.com/articles/page1616180617871>
2. *How much nitrogen does corn get from fertilizer? Less than farmers think* | College of Agricultural, Consumer & Environmental Sciences | Illinois. (2023). Illinois.edu. <https://aces.illinois.edu/news/how-much-nitrogen-does-corn-get-fertilizer-less-farmers-think>
3. Moore, S. (2020, February 18). AZoLifeSciences. AZoLifeSciences. <https://www.azolifesciences.com/article/Determining-Nitrogen-Levels-in-Soil.aspx>
4. *Grow One, Give One*. (2025). Back to the Roots. <https://backtotheroots.com/pages/grow-one-give-one>
5. cherlinka, vasyl. (2021, April 30). *Nitrogen Fixation: N-Fixing Plants & Bacteria, Their Importance*. Eos.com. <https://eos.com/blog/nitrogen-fixation/>



Chapter Articles and Advertisements

Fanboy Expo 2025

ADM Kimberly Donohoe

Commanding Officer, Yorktown Station SFR-106



In July we, members from the USS *Saratoga* and STATION *Yorktown*, went on an away mission for the day to Knoxville, TN to see some of our favorites and my personal one, Kate Mulgrew. She is such an excellent speaker, comes across as warm, intelligent, insightful,



strong in her convictions, *Wernher von Braun* which furthers my belief that Captain Janeway was so much like her, more than an act.

Wil Wheaton's Q&A was on Friday, so we missed that, but were able to meet him at his table. He was so very kind to his fans.

We were also able to meet Billy Dee Williams, who you *Star Wars* fans know as Lando Calrissian, and watch his Q&A. Such a gentleman, so gracious, and I've been a fan since *Mahogany* in 1975.

We ran into Kathy and Ryan Peck from the USS *Wernher von Braun* out of R2, who also have an independent chapter here in Tennessee, the USS *Athena*. Our plans for dinner fell through because someone (me) got sick and was in bed by 6:30. John and Donna Leon were also there for the entire weekend, and except for Donna being sick for a bit, had a blast.



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John, who has the largest collection of *Star Trek* memorabilia in the state, if not the south, looked like a kid in a candy store. I highly recommend this convention, as well as the upcoming Smokey Mountain Fan Fest in Kingsport, TN. Walter Koenig will be there, and John Schuck, who played more than one Klingon in *Star Trek*. <https://www.smokymountainfanfest.com/>



HEIMDAL WATERMELON EXPERIMENT - 2018

By Chief Science Officer, Admiral Willy Smith

Pictured: Alexis & Daryl Spencer: Sciences, Bonnie and Willy.

This was supposed to be a simple scientific experiment showing "potential energy." "When a rubber band is stretched, it is loaded with potential energy... etc. etc. etc.", I explained that to the group in my best *Professor Proton* voice while Daryl & Alexis stretched the bands of rubber around the watermelon now on death row. Their energy of stretching rubber bands was being transferred, and with enough bands of rubber... something was going to happen that day (I wasn't COMPLETELY correct but close enough).

Many have seen this on YouTube, but at that *Heimdal* cookout, we successfully performed the watermelon/rubber band test to the members present that day. Oh yes, it's all they say it is; explosive, messy, time consuming, tasty & possibly dangerous. With the help of Daryl and Alexis, over 300 rubber bands were stretched onto an innocent looking watermelon at the *Heimdal's* annual pool party and cookout on a sunny August day. They are adults now and BOTH started out with safety glasses and may tell their children about it one day.



Chapter Articles and Advertisements

Daryl took his glasses off (1st mistake) and little by little we could see the melon changing shape before it exploded ... sending seeds and red material into the pool and over many of the onlookers before we knew what was going on (2nd mistake).

Chunks of the melon flew 15 feet into the pool where helpers scooped with the skimmer and some firmly believe there are seeds embedded into the wooden pavilion posts ... just a myth but we DID have half a tasty melon that we didn't even need to cut! How cool is that?

Daryl was hit on his arm with 300+ rubber bands, and the juice & seeds came right off with a quick dive in the pool. I walked around with a chunk in my hair for over an hour – they thought it was brain.

When performing this, a good open space is needed with safety in mind. A plastic drop cover and hose are a must. You won't ever forget it if you are close by. *STRANGE*, I am not getting volunteers as I'd hoped for a 2025 demonstration... oh well.



Conventions and Cons

ALPHA SECTOR – KENTUCKY

Convention	Date	Location
EtownCon 2025	August 23, 2025	Pritchard Community Center Elizabethtown, KY
Kentucky Horror-Fest 2025	September 20, 2025	Capital Plaza Hotel Frankfort, KY
Northern KY Anime-Fest 2025	September 21, 2025	Marriott Cincinnati Airport Hebron, KY
TableToppers 2025	September 26-27, 2025	BG First Church Bowling Green, KY
Richmond Comic & Toy Show 2025	October 4-5, 2025	Richmond Mall Richmond, KY
ScareFest Weekend 2025	October 17-19, 2025	Central Bank Center Lexington, KY
Bowling Green Anime-Fest 2025	October 19, 2025	National Corvette Museum Bowling Green, KY
PokeKon Fest - Frankfort, KY 2025	November 15, 2025	Capital Plaza Hotel Frankfort, KY
LouisvilleCon 2025	December 6, 2025	Triple Crown Pavilion Louisville, KY

ALPHA SECTOR – TENNESSEE

Convention	Date	Location
AnimeVerse Tennessee 2025	August 30-31, 2025	Chattanooga Convention Center Chattanooga, TN



Conventions and Cons

Happily Ever After Book Festival 2025	September 5-7, 2025	Sevierville Convention Center Sevierville, TN
Memphis Comic Expo 2025	September 13-14, 2025	Memphis Sports & Events Center Memphis, TN
PokeKon Fest - Clarksville, TN 2025	September 20, 2025	Quality Inn Exit 4 Clarksville, TN
Chattanooga Comic Con 2025	September 27-28, 2025	Chattanooga Convention Center Chattanooga, TN
Brickonomicon 2025	October 3-5, 2025	Hilton Knoxville Airport Alcoa, TN
Appalachian HorrorFest 2025	October 11, 2025	Holiday Inn Knoxville West- Cedar Bluff Rd Knoxville, TN
ClarksvilleCon Fall 2025	October 18, 2025	Quality Inn Exit 4 Clarksville, TN
Tennessee Horror-Fest 2025	October 25, 2025	Quality Inn Exit 4 Clarksville, TN
Creation Nashville 2025	October 31 - November 2, 2025	Grand Hyatt Nashville Nashville, TN
Memphis Monster Con 2025	November 8-9, 2025	Simmons Bank Liberty Stadium, Pipkin Building Memphis, TN
Omnicon 2025	November 15, 2025	Tennessee Technological University, Roaden University Center Cookeville, TN
Clarksville Anime-Fest 2025	November 29, 2025	Quality Inn Exit 4 Clarksville, TN
Yama-Con 2025	December 5-7, 2025	LeConte Center at Pigeon Forge Pigeon Forge, TN



Conventions and Cons

BETA SECTOR – OHIO

Convention	Date	Location
Matsuricon 2025	August 29-31, 2025	Hyatt Regency Columbus / Greater Columbus Convention Center Columbus, OH
Nightmare Weekend Cleveland 2025	August 29-31, 2025	Huntington Convention Center of Cleveland Cleveland, OH
GDEX & CORGSCon 2025	September 4-7, 2025	Greater Columbus Convention Center Columbus, OH
Canton-Akron Comic Book, Toy and Nostalgia Show 2025	September 7, 2025	St George Serbian Orthodox Church Canton, OH
HorrorHound Weekend - Cincinnati 2025	September 12-14, 2025	Sharonville Convention Center Cincinnati, OH
Furrest City 2025	September 13, 2025	Sears think[box] Cleveland, OH
FiveStar Comic Con - Middletown 2025	September 13-14, 2025	Miami University Middletown, Johnston Hall Middletown, OH
Cartoon Crossroads Columbus 2025	September 18-21, 2025	Various Locations Columbus, OH
Cleveland Gaming Classic 2025	September 19-21, 2025	I-X Center Cleveland, OH
Fountain City Fandemonium 2025	September 27, 2025	Williams County Public Library Bryan, OH
Cleveland Comic Book and Nostalgia Show 2025	October 5, 2025	DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Cleveland - Westlake Westlake, OH



Conventions and Cons

World Wild Fur Camp 2025	October 17-19, 2025	YMCA Camp Willson Bellefontaine, OH
Cincinnati Comic Expo 2025	October 24-26, 2025	Sharonville Convention Center Glendale, OH
Cleveland Anime-Fest 2025	November 1, 2025	Wyndham Garden Westlake Westlake, OH
Buckeye Comic-Con 2025	November 16, 2025	Aladdin Shrine Center Grove City, OH
GalaxyCon Columbus 2025	December 5-7, 2025	Greater Columbus Convention Center Columbus, OH
Mahoning Valley Comicon 2025	December 13, 2025	Metroplex Expo Center Girard, OH

BETA SECTOR – INDIANA

Convention	Date	Location
IndyFurCon 2025	August 15-17, 2025	Wyndham Indianapolis Airport Indianapolis, IN
Evansville Raptor Con 2025	September 13-14, 2025	Old National Events Plaza Evansville, IN
Rappig Crossing 2025	September 26-28, 2025	Wyndham Indianapolis West Indianapolis, IN
Brickworld Fort Wayne 2025	October 11-12, 2025	Allen County War Memorial Coliseum Fort Wayne, IN
Lafayette Comic Con 2025	October 25, 2025	Tippecanoe County Fairgrounds Lafayette, IN
Starbase Indy 2025	November 28-30, 2025	Indianapolis Marriott East Indianapolis, IN



Conventions and Cons

Days of the Dead Indianaoplis 2025

December 5-7, 2025

Indianapolis Marriott East
Indianapolis, IN

DELTA SECTOR – VIRGINIA

Convention	Date	Location
Fairfax Comic Con 2025	August 23-24, 2025	Dulles Expo Center Chantilly, VA
FursonaCon 2025	August 28-31, 2025	Newport News Marriott at City Center Newport News, VA
Roanoke Valley Brick Convention 2025	September 6-7, 2025	Salem Civic Center Salem, VA
Tidewater Horror Convention 2025	September 12-14, 2025	Holiday Inn Virginia Beach - Norfolk Virginia Beach, VA
Anime Ink 2025	October 3-5, 2025	Greater Richmond Convention Center Richmond, VA
Anime Fairfax 2025	October 4-5, 2025	Dulles Expo Center Chantilly, VA
Anime USA 2025	October 10-12, 2025	Hyatt Regency Crystal City At Reagan National Airport Arlington, VA
Richmond Anime-Fest 2025	October 11, 2025	Four Points by Sheraton Richmond Airport Richmond, VA
Nightmare Weekend Richmond 2025	October 17-19, 2025	Greater Richmond Convention Center Richmond, VA
Nekocon 2025	October 31 - November 2, 2025	Hampton Roads Convention Center Hampton, VA



Conventions and Cons

Norfolk Anime-Fest 2025

November 9, 2025

DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Norfolk
Airport
Norfolk, VA

DELTA SECTOR – WEST VIRGINIA

Convention	Date	Location
HurriCon WV 2025	September 6-7, 2025	Valley Park Conference Center Hurricane, WV
Tsubasacon 2025	October 10-12, 2025	Charleston Coliseum & Convention Center, Charleston, WV

GAMMA SECTOR – NORTH CAROLINA

Convention	Date	Location
Mad Monster Expo 2025	August 22-24, 2025	Embassy Suites by Hilton Charlotte Concord Golf Resort & Spa Concord, NC
Wake Forest Comic-Con 2025	August 23, 2025	Flaherty Park Community Center Wake Forest, NC
Greenville Horror-Fest 2025	August 30, 2025	Holiday Inn Greenville Greenville, NC
Queen City Anime Convention 2025	September 12-14, 2025	Embassy Suites by Hilton Charlotte Concord Golf Resort & Spa Concord, NC
Epic Mighty Con 2025	September 13, 2025	Wendell Community Center Wendell, NC
AshevilleCon 2025	September 20, 2025	Haywood Park Hotel Asheville, NC



Conventions and Cons

Furry Takeover 2025	September 26-28, 2025	Fontana Village Resort & Marina Fontana Dam, NC
Fayetteville Brick Convention 2025	September 27-28, 2025	Crown Complex Fayetteville, NC
Carolinas Horror-Fest 2025	October 4, 2025	Haywood Park Hotel Asheville, NC
NC Disneyana 2025	October 4, 2025	Millennium Hotel Durham Durham, NC
MoTownCon 2025	October 18, 2025	Cabarrus Arena & Events Center Concord, NC
Makeup Battle 2025	November 1, 2025	Piedmont Hall Greensboro, NC
Carolina Furfare 2025	November 6-9, 2025	Hickory Metro Convention Center Hickory, NC
NC Comicon 2025	November 8-9, 2025	Durham Convention Center Durham, NC
Asheville Anime-Fest 2025	December 13, 2025	Haywood Park Hotel Asheville, NC
Fayetteville Anime-Fest 2025	December 20, 2025	Crown Complex Fayetteville, NC
PokeKon Fest - Wilmington, NC 2025	December 20, 2025	Hotel Ballast Wilmington Wilmington, NC



Conventions and Cons

GAMMA SECTOR – SOUTH CAROLINA

Convention	Date	Location
Soda City Comic Con 2025	August 23-24, 2025	Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center Columbia, SC
SC Horror Convention 2025	September 20-21, 2025	Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center Columbia, SC
Incredible Con 2025	September 27-28, 2025	Charleston Area Convention Center North Charleston, SC
Charleston Anime-Fest 2025	October 5, 2025	Embassy Suites by Hilton Charleston Airport Hotel & Convention Center North Charleston, SC
VillainSCon 2025	October 31 - November 1, 2025	The Power House Rock Hill, SC
CharlestonCon 2025	November 23, 2025	Embassy Suites by Hilton Charleston Airport Hotel & Convention Center North Charleston, SC
PokeKon Fest - Charleston, SC 2025	December 27, 2025	Embassy Suites by Hilton Charleston Airport Hotel & Convention Center North Charleston, SC
Columbia Anime-Fest 2025	December 28, 2025	DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Columbia, South Carolina Columbia, SC

Comic, sci-fi, anime, and pop-culture fan conventions (various dates)
FanCons.com. Available at: <https://fancons.com/> (Accessed: 19 August 2025).

Region One – Open Position(s)

RDC of Uniforms and Costuming

DESCRIPTION:

The role of the Regional Department Chief (RDC) of Uniforms and Costuming is crucial to our community, serving as the primary resource for all things related to Star Trek costumes and uniforms. This includes both pre-made and custom options, as well as expertise in sourcing materials and offering guidance on creating costumes and accessories.

While the primary focus is on Star Trek, the RDC must also possess a broad understanding of other Sci-Fi, Cosplay, and Steampunk genres. Experience from previous conventions will significantly enhance the effectiveness and insight this role brings.

The RDC is responsible for maintaining active and engaging presences on Facebook, Discord, and other social media platforms. Regular posts—on a weekly or bi-weekly basis—are essential to keep these channels vibrant and foster communication and collaboration within our costuming community.

Additionally, the RDC should make it a priority to reach out to new chapters within Region One shortly after their establishment. Providing timely assistance and guidance will ensure that our members, whether seasoned or new to costuming, receive the support they need.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- o Be a member of Starfleet in good standing.
- o Be a member of a Chapter within Region One. (You don't have to physically live within the region as long as you are a member of a chapter that is within the region.)
- o Preferably a DC on that chapter, or an "expert" on the subject matter (not a hard requirement, but, definitely a plus).
- o Passed OTS.
- o Passed OCC.
- o Must SFDPP certified.
- o Reliable internet.
- o Reliable e-mail.
- o Sense of humor and a great attitude.
- o Pride and enthusiasm in Region One.
- o The ability to perform duties in a timely and responsible manner. (While it is true that this is a volunteer position, you will have certain duties that MUST be done regularly as an RDC.)
- o Willingness to invest personal time and effort to perform an important, but sometimes thankless, job for the benefit of Region One's members.
- o Passed any SFA school that is within the RDC position's subject. (For example, if you are applying for the position of RDC of Sciences, you may want to take a course in the SFA Vulcan Academy of Science, etc.). This



Region One – Open Position(s)

may not apply to all positions. Please list the dates taken and passed.

OVERALL RDC REQUIRED JOB DUTIES

How the RDC runs their department is pretty much up to them. However there are certain duties that apply to ALL RDCs. These include:

- o Make your RDC program one that provides value and interest to the region!
- o Monthly reports to the RDC Program Director are due on 1st of every month; the 2nd – 5th is considered late and after the 5th is considered failure to report. Missing 2 reports in a row will get the RDC a warning. Missing 3 reports in a calendar year will result in possible dismissal from position. (BUT, the RDC Program Director can be very understanding if they know what they are being understanding about. If circumstances cause you to miss a report or two ... don't wait until you get a warning to call or write and say you have been very busy with something. Instead, you should send a note; e-mail or regular mail saying what is causing you to miss this report before it is due or as soon after it is due as possible).
- o Post to the Region One Facebook Page or Discord AT LEAST every two weeks
- o Stay in contact with those ships that provide you with names and addresses of a contact person. Don't make communication a one way street. After a while your contact person will get tired of sending in reports if they never know if it arrived or not. When you get a report, let the person reporting know.
- o Send a recent photo of yourself if you are chosen for the RDC webpage.

All interested applicants are asked to fill out the application form at:
r1.sfi.org/rdc/



Regional RDC of Logos and Graphics

DESCRIPTION:

The position of Regional Department Chief of Logos and Graphics (RDC of Logos and Graphics) plays a crucial role in establishing and maintaining the visual identity of our region. As the RDC, you will be the primary point of contact for designing logos and graphics to meet various needs, including chapter logos, event branding, departmental visuals, and more. These graphics should be provided in standard formats (such as .jpg, .bmp, etc.), with a maximum turnaround time of four weeks.

A strong background in graphic design is essential, as is a commitment to creativity and efficiency. You are encouraged to build and lead a team of talented designers and graphic specialists who can support your efforts and ensure that all design requests are fulfilled promptly and to a high standard.

Additionally, you will be responsible for posting monthly updates to regional lists, promoting the logo and graphics services available. It is also important that you reach out to each new Region One Chapter within the

Region One – Open Position(s)

first few weeks of their establishment to offer your services and support.

Your work will be instrumental in ensuring that our region's visual identity remains unified, professional, and consistently impactful.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- o Be a member of Starfleet in good standing.
- o Be a member of a Chapter within Region One. (You don't have to physically live within the region as long as you are a member of a chapter that is within the region.)
- o Preferably a DC on that chapter, or an "expert" on the subject matter (not a hard requirement, but, definitely a plus).
- o Passed OTS.
- o Passed OCC.
- o SFDPP certified within one month of accepting the position.
- o Reliable internet.
- o Reliable e-mail.
- o Sense of humor and a great attitude.
- o Pride and enthusiasm in Region One.
- o The ability to perform duties in a timely and responsible manner. (While it is true that this is a volunteer position, you will have certain duties that MUST be done regularly as an RDC.)
- o Willingness to invest personal time and effort to perform an important, but sometimes thankless, job for the benefit of Region One's members.
- o Passed any SFA school that is within the RDC position's subject. (For example, if you are applying for the position of RDC of Sciences, you may want to take a course in the SFA Vulcan Academy of Science, etc.). This may not apply to all positions. Please list the dates taken and passed.

OVERALL RDC REQUIRED JOB DUTIES

How the RDC runs their department is pretty much up to them. However there are certain duties that apply to ALL RDCs. These include:

- o Make your RDC program one that provides value and interest to the region!
- o Monthly reports to the RDC Program Director are due on 1st of every month; the 2nd – 5th is considered late and after the 5th is considered failure to report. Missing 2 reports in a row will get the RDC a warning. Missing 3 reports in a calendar year will result in possible dismissal from position. (BUT, the RDC Program Director can be very understanding if they know what they are being understanding about. If circumstances cause you to miss a report or two ... don't wait until you get a warning to call or write and say you have been very busy with something. Instead, you should send a note; e-mail or regular mail saying what is causing you to miss this report before it is due or as soon after it is due as possible).
- o Post to the Region One Facebook Page or Discord AT LEAST every two weeks
- o Stay in contact with those ships that provide you with names and addresses of a contact person. Don't make communication a one way street. After a while your contact person will get tired of sending in reports if they

Region One – Open Position(s)

never know if it arrived or not. When you get a report, let the person reporting know.

- o Send a recent photo of yourself if you are chosen for the RDC webpage.

All interested applicants are asked to fill out the application form at:

r1.sfi.org/rdc-logos-and-graphics/application/



Regional RDC of Diplomatic Corps

DESCRIPTION:

The Regional Department Chief of Diplomatic Officers (RDC) is entrusted with the creation and maintenance of a comprehensive knowledge database, detailing effective recruiting techniques and practices. Additionally, the RDC will engage with non-SFI fan groups within the R1 area, publicizing joint events and operations to enhance regional visibility and cooperation.

Collaboration with the R1 Recruiting Officer is a critical aspect of this role, ensuring that strategies and insights are shared and aligned. The RDC must be committed to the overall well-being of the Region, always prioritizing collective interests.

On a more imaginative note, a familiarity with Federation diplomats and their methodologies is beneficial, reflecting the diplomatic finesse required for this position. You are tasked with posting bi-weekly updates to the Region One Facebook Pages, Discord channel, and other social media sites to promote our gaming program.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- o Be a member of Starfleet in good standing for at least one (1) year.
- o Be a member of a Chapter within Region One. (You don't have to physically live within the region as long as you are a member of a chapter that is within the region.)
- o Preferably a DC on that chapter, or an "expert" on the subject matter (not a hard requirement, but, definitely a plus).
- o Passed OTS.
- o Passed OCC.
- o Must be SFDPP certified.
- o Reliable internet.
- o Reliable e-mail.
- o Sense of humor and a great attitude.
- o Pride and enthusiasm in Region One.



Region One – Open Position(s)

- o The ability to perform duties in a timely and responsible manner. (While it is true that this is a volunteer position, you will have certain duties that MUST be done regularly as an RDC.)
- o Willingness to invest personal time and effort to perform an important, but sometimes thankless, job for the benefit of Region One's members.
- o Passed any SFA school that is within the RDC position's subject. (For example, if you are applying for the position of RDC of Sciences, you may want to take a course in the SFA Vulcan Academy of Science, etc.). This may not apply to all positions. Please list the dates taken and passed.

OVERALL RDC REQUIRED JOB DUTIES

How the RDC runs their department is pretty much up to them. However there are certain duties that apply to ALL RDCs. These include:

- o Make your RDC program one that provides value and interest to the region!
- o Monthly reports to the RDC Program Director are due on 1st of every month; the 2nd – 5th is considered late and after the 5th is considered failure to report. Missing 2 reports in a row will get the RDC a warning. Missing 3 reports in a calendar year will result in possible dismissal from position. (BUT, the RDC Program Director can be very understanding if they know what they are being understanding about. If circumstances cause you to miss a report or two ... don't wait until you get a warning to call or write and say you have been very busy with something. Instead, you should send a note; e-mail or regular mail saying what is causing you to miss this report before it is due or as soon after it is due as possible).
- o Post to the Region One Facebook Page or Discord AT LEAST every two weeks
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- o Send a recent photo of yourself if you are chosen for the RDC webpage.

All interested applicants are asked to fill out the application form at:

r1.sfi.org/rdc-of-diplomatic-corps/



Publication Information

This newsletter is published quarterly by the Region One Publications Department of STARFLEET Region One according to the following schedule below. **Please send all submission/contribution material to the Editor at: r1.hfo.submissions@gmail.com.** This includes any photos, images, logos, specific signature lines, author and photographer names (or anonymous), and chapter name (if affiliated).

Upcoming Submission and Publication Schedule

SUBMISSION DUE DATES	PUBLICATION DATES	VOLUME/ISSUE NUMBERS
2025		Volume 2
July 25, 2025 October 25, 2025	August 15, 2025 November 15, 2025	Issue 3, May – Jul, 2025 (current) Issue 4, Aug – Oct, 2025

Submission Guidelines

IMAGE TYPES

The majority of image types may be submitted. **.png files are requested** if at all possible, but not required. These include but are not limited to: .png, .jpg, .jpeg, .bmp, .gif and .svg.

DOCUMENT TYPES

Articles can be accepted in most word processing formats including: .doc, .docx, .wps, .wpd, .pdf, .rtf, .rtfd, .txt, .odt. For any other document type, please contact the Publications Officer directly at:

r1.publications.officer@gmail.com .

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