



CHAPTER ACTIVITY REPORT

USS *Republic* NCC-1371

March 2007

The USS *Republic* participated in three separate and successful events during the month of March 2007.

STARFLEET International, the worldwide organization of which the *Republic* is a commissioned chapter, has approximately 4,000 members belonging to more than two hundred chapters around the globe, grouped into twenty regions. STARFLEET's Region 2 is comprised of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, Puerto Rico and the Caribbean, and is currently the home of 29 STARFLEET chapters. Each March, a different chapter in Region 2 hosts the annual Region 2 Summit, a three-day leadership skills-building conference that includes a regional business meeting, discussion panels, how-to workshops, a game tournament and a charity auction, as well as the highlight of the weekend, the annual Region 2 awards banquet. On Saturday, March 10, Captain Eric L. Watts, Lt JG Marq Collins and Ensign Zannetta Law travelled to Columbus, Georgia, to attend the 2007 Region 2 Summit, hosted by the USS *DaVinci*.

Arriving at the host hotel just before 11:00 a.m., Capt Watts and Lt Collins attended the CO/XO meeting, where one of the major issues discussed was Regional Coordinator Jack Eaton's proposal that the five Zone Coordinator positions (one for each state in the Zone, plus the islands) be eliminated in favor of a "Captains Board," made up of the Region's 29 commanding officers who would report directly to the RC. After a lengthy discussion with arguments both for and against the proposal made, a secret ballot vote was taken, with the 10-to-8 result being to keep the ZC positions in place. The Zone Coordinator for Georgia (Zone 2) is Admiral W. Michael Henigan, a former commanding officer of the *Republic* who recently transferred his chapter assignment to the *DaVinci*.

During this meeting, Ens Law attended a "newbie" orientation for new members of STARFLEET. Following these meetings, Watts, Collins and Law enjoyed lunch at a nearby Chinese restaurant. Afterwards and throughout the remainder of the day, these *Republic* members attended several other events, including a discussion of early *Star Trek* fandom, an "alien food" workshop, a costuming panel, the charity auction and a "Boffer battles" demonstration.

That evening, Capt Watts, Lt Collins and Ens Law attended the Region 2 awards banquet, where more than two dozen regional awards were presented, including Chapter of the Year, Shuttle of the Year, Commanding Officer of the Year, Flag Officer of the Year, Enlisted Member of the Year and Junior Member of the Year, as well as awards for best newsletter and web site, plus several performance awards. Prior to the Summit, the *Republic* was nominated for Commanding Officer of the Year, Chapter of the Year, the Recruiters Award (for most new members), and the best newsletter and web site awards. Capt Watts received the 2007 STARFLEET International Region 2 Commanding Officer of the Year award for outstanding performance as commanding officer of the USS *Republic* NCC-1371 during calendar year 2006.

Capt Watts' nomination described in great detail his efforts to resurrect a chapter that was in danger of being decommissioned by STARFLEET when he took command in May 2006, including the creation of a new web site, public contact address, chapter email address, membership cards, chapter t-shirts, a member benefits program, a membership roster, chapter brochures and a PayPal account. He also coordinated a busy schedule of chapter activities, including convention appearances, joint activities with other groups and holiday parties. In addition, Capt Watts relaunched the chapter newsletter, which had not been published since early 2003, and spearheaded an aggressive member recruitment campaign, including innovative gift basket incentives, which resulted in the addition of 22 new

members by the end of the year. Capt Watts was presented the award by Regional Coordinator Jack Eaton.

As the winner of the Region 2 Commanding Officer of the Year award, Capt Watts is automatically nominated by Region 2 for the STARFLEET International Commanding Officer of the Year award, to be presented at this year's International Conference in August in Denver, Colorado.

Following the awards banquet (a self-service buffet featuring fried chicken and traditional homestyle sides in catered chafing dishes), the proud members of the award-winning *Republic* returned home to Atlanta. As of the date of this report, the command and crew of the *Republic* have yet to receive any form of congratulatory expression from Zone 2 Coordinator Admiral W. Michael Henigan.

On the evening of Saint Patrick's Day, Saturday, March 17, the USS *Republic* and KAG Atlanta co-hosted a "Star Trek Game Night," including a potluck dinner, at the "Spring 4th" facility, a partially vacant building located at the intersection of Spring Street and 4th Street in Midtown Atlanta. This very successful evening was attended by *Republic* members Capt Eric L. Watts, Ens Mark A. Ozanick, Ens Theresa Parker and Ens David Churvis. KAG Atlanta was represented by several ships. From the IKV *Fek'lh'r's Fury*, Tony & Jennifer Roberts and their daughters Tiffany and Kimberly, Scott & Cindy Rennick, and Rick & Stacey Day; from the IKAV *Nemesis*, Kevin Parker, Derek Simpson, Diana and Phedre Ong, DeAnndre Nguyen and former *Republic* member Tonya Spanks; from the KPV *Arrow QeyHa'*, Gayle Thompson; and from the KPV *Battle Fury*, Delton Wilson. Command and crew of *Republic* did not fail to notice that they were outnumbered by Klingons three to one. Nevertheless, gauntlets were thrown and groups were formed around tables featuring *Star Trek Monopoly*, *Star Trek Uno*, *Star Trek: The Game*, Tribbles (a "customizable card game"), and an interactive video game featuring Klingon characters. There was plenty of good food and drink for everyone, including fried chicken, pizza and several casseroles, including a lasagna beautifully decorated with the Klingon trifoil. After about an hour of food and fellowship, the gaming began around 8:00 and continued for more than two hours. Although the Uno table got a little rowdy from time to time, *Republic* command is pleased to report that all participants played honorably and at the end of the evening, the event was declared a success and both groups claimed victory.

The command and crew of *Republic* gratefully acknowledge with utmost appreciation Adrian Havens for donating the *Star Trek Uno* and Tribbles card games to the chapter, and the *Fek'lh'r's Fury's* Rick Day, owner of the "Spring 4th" facility, for providing meeting space.

On Saturday afternoon, March 31, the USS *Republic* accepted an invitation from the Atlanta Outworlders to a bowling challenge at Midtown Bowl in Midtown Atlanta. Representing the *Republic* were Capt Eric L. Watts, Ens Russell Broomfield, Ens David Churvis and Friends of the *Republic* Chris Jones and James L. Newton. Lt JG Marq Collins made a brief cameo appearance to express his support for the chapter, but was unable to stay and play. Representing the Atlanta Outworlders were Edward Degruy, Michael Green, Kris Harter, Carlton Harrington, Thompson Jennings, Jeff Nunn, Kris Roehling, Alan Siler, Jeff Smith and Shelby Smith. The *Republic* was again outnumbered, this time by a two-to-one margin, so rather than the two groups competing against each other in team play, members of both groups competed against each other individually on three lanes in a less competitive, more interactive atmosphere. At the end of three games, Outworlders president Kris Harter announced that members of the *Republic* had the highest cumulative score, as well as the highest-scoring player, James Newton, marking in seven frames for a best score of 144. Kris handed out several token awards to the winners, which were appreciated by the recipients. At the end of the afternoon, members of both groups declared the event a success and agreed to plan more joint activities in the future.

Photos from these three events can be viewed on the [Republic's web site](#).

In other business, Lt JG Marq Collins is continuing to prepare the second issue of the chapter's new newsletter, *The Sovereign Star*; Capt Watts has added more new content to the *Republic*'s chapter history page on the chapter's web site; and no new orders were received during March for new chapter t-shirts to add to the four orders already received; a minimum of ten orders is required before a reorder can be placed. Upcoming events include a Spring Dinner & Business Meeting in April, "Away Missions" to *Spider-Man 3* and *Fantastic Four: Rise of the Silver Surfer* in May and June, a presence at Sci-Fi Summer Con in June, and a pool party and an "Away Mission" to the commissioning of the USS *Robins* in Warner Robins, Georgia, in July.

During March, the USS *Republic* welcomed aboard four new members: Joel & Milli Michaels of Norcross, Georgia, thanks to the recruitment efforts of Capt Matt Ebeling; James L. Newton, also of Norcross, thanks to the recruitment efforts of Ens David Churvis; and Marjan Peltier of Hampton, Georgia.

On November 7, 2006, *Republic* command received an email message from longtime *Republic* member, former Commanding Officer and current Zone 2 Coordinator Admiral W. Michael Henigan announcing that he, as well as Admiral Kelly S. Hilliard and "Rosie" Hilliard (their dog), had transferred their memberships from the *Republic* to the USS *DaVinci* of Columbus, Georgia. *Republic* command had previously received duly completed and signed change of chapter assignment request forms from Commodore I. Jefferson Kirkland, Jr. and Ensign Martha Y. Kirkland in October 2006, and also received similar forms from Fleet Captain Tonya L. Spanks and Ensign JG Roderick Jennings in November 2006, all of whom had also transferred to the *DaVinci*. *Republic* command rightfully presumes that a Zone Coordinator would be familiar with established STARFLEET procedures for requesting a change of chapter assignment, particularly in light of said Zone Coordinator's criticisms of *Republic* command's handling of chapter operations and given the timely receipt of his comrades' forms. Accordingly, *Republic* command patiently waited for duly completed and signed change of chapter assignment request forms for Admirals Henigan and Hilliard (and the dog) for nearly four months, but none were ever received. Confident in the belief that Admirals Henigan and Hilliard had been given more than sufficient time to properly and appropriately handle their own reassignments, and with the upcoming Region 2 Summit one week away, *Republic* command took the liberty of unassigning the Admirals and their dog from the *Republic* via the STARFLEET International online database on March 2, 2007. Shortly thereafter, *Republic* command appointed Captain Matthew D. Ebeling as the chapter's new Executive Officer, to fill the vacancy created by Admiral Henigan's unassignment. Lt JG Marq Collins is continuing his efforts to complete the necessary STARFLEET Academy exams in order to be eligible for the position at a later date.

Respectfully submitted,

— eric!

Captain Eric L. Watts
Commanding Officer, USS *Republic* NCC-1371