



CHAPTER ACTIVITY REPORT

USS *Republic* NCC-1371

June 2007

The USS *Republic* NCC-1371 made a strong presence at Sci-Fi Summer Con (<http://sfscon.tripod.com>), a three-day general science fiction fan convention, during the second weekend of the month, June 8-10, at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Marietta, Georgia. Now in its seventh year, this year's convention attracted dozens of fans from across the metro Atlanta area, the state of Georgia and nearby states.

Commanding Officer Capt Eric L. Watts was scheduled to moderate a discussion panel titled "*Star Trek: Back to the Future?*" at 7:00 p.m. on Friday evening. Unfortunately, there was no apparent programming support from convention management for this panel, most notably the absence of any visible signage for the event and the absence of a specific room location given in the program book. Although Capt Watts arrived on time and was prepared to give a presentation, only two people—the *Republic's* very own Ens Zannetta Law and Friend of the *Republic* Kevin Parker—came to the panel, both at the Captain's specific invitation. After a bit of off-topic conversation, because no one else entered the room to be a part of the "audience" and because Ens Law and FotR Parker both admitted that there were more interesting things going on elsewhere in the hotel, Capt Watts cancelled the panel at 7:15 p.m. due to lack of interest, an audience and programming support, and the trio went their separate ways in search of something actually enjoyable. The results of their efforts remain classified.

Around noon on Saturday, Capt Watts arrived to set up a fan table for *TrekTrak* and the *Republic*, armed with t-shirts, programming DVDs and a TV/DVD player to promote *TrekTrak*, and five fabulous gift baskets, full-color brochures, copies of the first two issues of the chapter newsletter, *The Sovereign Star*, a 23" x 31" full-sized color poster and a wi-fi enabled laptop computer displaying the chapter web site to promote the *Republic*. The gift baskets included an assortment of valuable *Star Trek* collectibles, including various out-of-print *Star Trek* books and copies of *TrekTrak* programming DVDs donated by Capt Watts; and new, unopened boxes of *Star Trek* trading cards, donated by Ens Tony Cade from his comic book store, The Dragon's Horde (one of the *Republic's* Member Benefit Program Partners). These gift baskets once again proved to be extremely successful member recruitment incentives and by the end of the convention on Sunday afternoon, they had all been given away to five new members upon their joining the *Republic*. The command and crew of the USS *Republic* is pleased to welcome aboard Nelson M. Barnhouse of Smyrna, Georgia; Andrea Benton of Acworth, Georgia; Sue Lin Lange and her son, Eric Lange, of Alpharetta, Georgia; and Chadd Franklin of Douglasville, Georgia.

In addition to Capt Watts, Ens Law and our five new members, other *Republic* members in attendance at Sci-Fi Summer Con included Ens David Churvis (playing with the band Hyperdrive on Friday night), Ens Eric Koske (working on con security staff), Ens Theresa Parker and Ens Susan Rey. *Republic* command wishes to thank Ens Tony Cade for donating merchandise for the gift baskets, Ens Mark A. Ozanick for loaning his laptop computer for the fan table display, and Ens Zannetta Law for tending the fan table when Capt Watts needed relief. In spite

of the programming misstep on Friday evening, this year's Sci-Fi Summer Con proved in the end to be a very successful event for the *Republic*.

On Friday, June 15, the *Republic* held an "away mission" to the premiere of *Fantastic Four: Rise of the Silver Surfer* at the Regal Cinemas Hollywood 24 in Chamblee, Georgia. In attendance were Commanding Officer Capt Eric L. Watts, Ens Lee Cox, Ens Dave Churvis, Ens Zannetta Law, Ens JG Anita Letendre and Ens James L. Newton. Joining us on the mission were Atlanta Outworlders Mike Allgood, Edward DeGruy, Ryan and Jo, as well as a friend of Ens Letendre's. Everyone enjoyed the movie—even Ens Churvis, for the most part—and agreed that *Rise of the Silver Surfer* was one of those rare sequels that is definitely superior to the original. Following the movie, the group went their separate ways; Capt Watts, Ens Cox and Ens Law trekked to Tucker to patronize another one of the *Republic*'s Member Benefit Program Partners, The Stage Door, and enjoyed an evening of karaoke and cocktails.

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

Upcoming events include a fan table at TimeGate V in Tucker on Saturday, July 14; a Summer BBQ & Pool Party at Ens Hal Doby's home in Conyers on Saturday, July 28; an "away mission" to the commissioning of the USS *Robins*, the newest STARFLEET chapter in Georgia, in Warner Robins on Saturday, August 11; and a big chapter presence at Dragon*Con over Labor Day Weekend (at a STARFLEET fan table and the Happy Hour at Ten Forward event). In the fall, the *Republic* will face the Atlanta "MurFurs" in a bowling challenge in September; hold its annual "Halloween Spooktacular" in October, hosted by Ens Marjan Peltier in Hampton, Georgia; and begin planning the chapter's 20th Year Celebration, which will be observed in June 2008.

During the month of June, a lively and spirited discussion between several members took place on the chapter's YahooGroups message board regarding the justification of a member's reduction in rank in May. As a result of these conversations, and taking into consideration several suggestions made by some of those engaged in the discussion, Capt Watts and Ens Will Dover have begun to develop a set of guidelines and policies governing rank assignments and promotions. These guidelines will be presented to the membership once they have been finalized and approved by the Commanding Officer sometime this summer.

In other business, the *Republic* received two new orders for chapter t-shirts in June to add to the four orders already received, bringing the total current order to six. Orders for four additional shirts need to be received in order to reach the ten-shirt minimum order. An order form for chapter t-shirts can be found on the [Republic's web site](#).

In addition to the five new members recruited at Sci-Fi Summer Con, the USS *Republic* also welcomed aboard one additional new member in late June: Leon Gray of Lithonia, Georgia, thanks to the recruitment efforts of Capt Watts. As of June 30, these six new members bring the *Republic*'s crew roster up from 39 to a total of 45.

Respectfully submitted,



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