

MEETING MINUTES

USS Republic NCC-1371

September 2006

The USS *Republic* was busy throughout the month of September, participating in three different *TrekTrak* programming events at Dragon*Con at the beginning of the month and then facing off against a challenge from KAG Atlanta at the end of the month.

On Saturday, September 2, SFI Region 2 Zone 2 Coordinator and *Republic* XO Admiral Mike Henigan, USS *Myrdinn* CO Captain Max Schoenfeld, USS *New Hope* CO Captain Nancy O'Shields and the USS *Star League*'s Admiral Cindy Krell moderated the one-hour *TrekTrak* programming event, "Starfleet International: Captains' Call." The foursome from 'Fleet discussed *Star Trek* fandom in general and SFI happenings and activities across the southeastern U.S. in particular, and answered questions from an audience numbering about 20.

On Sunday, September 3, FCapt Tonya Spanks hosted the USS *Republic*'s table at the "Happy Hour at Ten Forward" event on *TrekTrak*, once again featuring the enormously popular Klingon Disco, which was admirably DJ'ed by *Republic* member Ensign Marq Collins. The *Republic* was one of several groups hosting tables; others included the IKAV *Rogue Phoenix* and Starfleet Command. Tonya served up a variety of tasty treats and refreshments while DJ Marqy Marq kept the crowd boogie'ing with dance classics from the '70s and '80s. Hundreds of fans were entertained throughout the evening!

On Monday, September 4, *Republic* XO Admiral Mike Henigan and FCapt Tonya Spanks hosted the fourth annual "Starfleet Kitchen" event on *TrekTrak*, once again entertaining an audience of about 20 with a lively presentation, sharing recipes and demonstrating how to turn ordinary dishes into delightful science fiction treats. At the end of the one-hour event, the audience was able to sample many of the delicious dishes prepared by Mike and Tonya.

Throughout the four-day convention (September 1-4), the *Republic* shared a fan table with *TrekTrak* in the lobby area of the Marriott Marquis, one of Dragon*Con's three host hotels, where there was a tremendous amount of foot traffic. *Republic* CO (and *TrekTrak* Programming Director) Cmdr Eric L. Watts had previously prepared two *Star Trek*-themed gift baskets, each valued at approximately \$200, as chapter membership incentives, and both baskets went quickly. FCapt Tonya Spanks created chapter brochures and manned the *TrekTrak/Republic* fan table for several hours from Friday through Sunday. As a result of these recruitment efforts, the *Republic* signed up three new members for SFI at the convention and two more joined shortly thereafter. Our new members for September 2006 include Russell J. Broomfield, Patrick Anderson, Eddie Atkins, Zannetta Law and Brooke Perry. These five new members bring the *Republic*'s SFI members of record up from 16 at the end of August to 21 at the end of September—a 31% membership increase in one month and a 133% increase since May, when Cmdr Watts was elected CO of the chapter.

On Saturday, September 30, Ensign Zannetta Law, FCapt Tonya Spanks, CO Cmdr Eric L. Watts and Friends of the *Republic* Mark Ozanick and Chris Jones teamed up against a formidable challenge from KAG Atlanta, represented by Tony Roberts, Stacey Day, Clay Leaphart, and Scott & Cindy Rennick, at the 300 Atlanta bowling lanes in Chamblee. The *Republic* emerged victorious in the first game with a 107.5 average score per team member, while those Klingon bastards outscored the *Republic*'s 90.6 average score per team member in the second game. (Exact Klingon scores were destroyed to protect the dishonorable!) Both teams enjoyed all-you-can-eat chips & salsa and soft drinks during the two-hour bowling challenge, and everyone had a great time and agreed both groups should engage in more challenges such as this one.

Photos of the "Starfleet International: Captains' Call," "Happy Hour at Ten Forward" and "Starfleet Kitchen" programming events at Dragon*Con, as well as the Klingon Bowling Challenge, can all be viewed on the *Republic*'s web site.

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