



CHAPTER ACTIVITY REPORT

USS *Republic* NCC-1371

October 2008

The USS *Republic* NCC-1371 participated in three events during the month of October 2008: our Fall Dinner & Business Meeting, “*Star Trek* Night” with the Atlanta OutWorlders, and our third annual Halloween Spooktacular.

On Saturday, October 18, Ens Naomi Hemingway hosted the *Republic*’s Fall Dinner & Business Meeting in her home in Decatur, Georgia. In addition to Ens Hemingway, also in attendance were Capt Eric L. Watts, ENS3 Zannetta Law, Ensigns Jeff, Joanne, and Julianne Trew, Ens Reginald Franklin, and Capt Michael Cowart, a former longtime member of STARFLEET and a former Director of the Department of Technical Services. Ens Hemingway provided two huge platters of barbecued chicken wings, Capt Watts brought potato salad, paper goods, sodas and ice, and everyone else brought a wide variety of sumptuous dishes, including Ens Joanne Trew’s delicious cornbread pudding, Ens Law’s fresh salads, and an assortment of hot side dishes and various desserts. Everyone had plenty to eat and enjoyed some great conversation over dinner in Ens Hemingway’s living room.

The “business meeting” portion of the evening wasn’t so much a structured list of discussion items as it was a casual, ongoing conversation about recent and future chapter events, how to increase member participation in chapter and Regional events, how to reduce membership attrition, the *Republic*’s relationship with other metro Atlanta science fiction clubs and other STARFLEET chapters, and whether the *Republic* should consider withdrawing from STARFLEET (and being subject to its rules) and “relaunch” as an independent, completely autonomous organization. Ens Jeff Trew remarked that the *Republic*’s affiliation with STARFLEET seemed to be a positive selling point at the *Republic*’s fan table at Dragon*Con; Capt Watts stated that too many members are citing a lack of perceived value from their STARFLEET dues when asked why they refused or were hesitant to reenlist. The Captain also stated that he continues to need assistance with some of the chapter’s administrative duties and feels frustrated that few members seem interested in helping with the behind-the-scenes planning and coordination of the chapter’s many events. Capt Cowart expressed interest in seeing the *Republic* develop a more fictionalized, starship-based structure, such as establishing “departments” for the ship’s “personnel” to join or be assigned to. Capt Watts appreciates all the feedback and input on chapter operations and suggestions for future events. Considering the casual nature of the evening, no official motions or binding votes were made. At the end of the evening, everyone thanked Ens Hemingway for her warm and gracious hospitality.

On Friday, October 24, members of the USS *Republic* were invited to join our friends, the Atlanta OutWorlders (AOW), for their monthly event: “*Star Trek* Night,” an informal and relaxed social occasion where members watch two or three episodes of a *Star Trek* series and then enjoy some casual conversation about them. Each month features a specific theme; this month’s theme, for Halloween, was “Ghost Stories.” The event was hosted by AOW member Alan Siler in his home in Doraville. Capt Eric L. Watts attended this month’s event and stayed for the first two episodes shown: “Catspaw” from *Star Trek* and “Who Mourns for Morn?” from *Deep Space Nine*. About a dozen members from various other local sci-fi clubs, including the OutWorlders, Star-gate Atlanta and the USS *Atlanta*, were in attendance. We wish to thank the OutWorlders for inviting us to participate in their “*Star Trek* Night” event and look forward to future events.

On Friday, October 31, Ensigns Jeff, Joanne, Julianne and Jenilee Trew hosted the *Republic*’s Third Annual Halloween Spooktacular in their home in Whitesburg, Georgia. In addition to the Trew family, also in attendance were Capt Eric L. Watts and ENS3 Chadd Franklin. The Trews’ beautiful home was extensively decorated for the occasion both inside and outside, and the Trews provided a scrumptious assortment of heavy hot hors d’oeuvres, including a pot of chili with all the fixings (including hot cheddar cheese), chips and an irresistible homemade dip, cheese and veggie snacks, and some delicious desserts, including frosted cupcakes. Ens Jeff Trew was also kind enough to open up the bar and humidor for the Captain. Ens Joanne Trew gave tours of the home and back yard. After enjoying a hearty meal, Ens Franklin broke out a card game, Apples to Apples, for everyone to play. The gang played two games around the living room coffee table before calling it a night. Although member turnout was light, everyone who was there had a thoroughly enjoyable evening thanks to the Trews’ warm and generous hospitality. Nevertheless, the Captain is disappointed that the event did not attract more members than it did, and also given the rather low attendance of the Fall Dinner & Business Meeting, has decided to suspend any new chapter-only activities until the Christmas Party & Awards Ceremony in December.

Photos from our Fall Dinner & Business Meeting and our third annual Halloween Spooktacular can be viewed on the [Republic’s web site](#).

On Tuesday, October 14, Capt Eric L. Watts emailed the seventh issue of the *Republic*’s monthly eZine, *The Républiqué*, to more than 200 email addresses, including members and friends of the *Republic*, as well as all known Region 2 Commanding Officers and several key STAR-FLEET personnel. The purpose of *The Républiqué* is to keep our members and friends up-to-date on our upcoming events and activities, as well as to announce new members, member birthdays, upcoming membership renewals and occasional special offers. The October issue included information about the upcoming Fall Dinner & Business Meeting, “*Star Trek* Night” with the Atlanta OutWorlders, and our third annual Halloween Spooktacular; the *Republic*’s new Xbox Live gamertag, our new web site host, the upcoming Commanding Officer elections and available

chapter merchandise; as well as recent chapter event photos, a call for contributions for *The Sovereign Star*, a wish list, relevant hyperlinks, a brief chapter overview, classified ads and an editorial flashback: “16 Years Ago Aboard the USS *Republic*.”

Upcoming events include KAG Atlanta’s Fall Sci-Fi Charity Putt-Putt Challenge on Saturday, November 8; “*Star Trek Night*” with the Atlanta OutWorlders on Friday, November 21; answering telephones on live television during the Georgia Public Broadcasting Pledge Drive on Saturday, December 6; and the *Republic*’s annual Christmas Party & Awards Ceremony on Sunday, December 21.

At the end of September, *Republic*’s crew roster on the STARFLEET database included 73 Active members (70 plus Jeff, Alexandra and Anna Pakulski) and six Inactive members (Ens Patrick Anderson, ENS3 Russell J. Broomfield, Ens Lee Cox, Ens Chris Jones, Ens Leslie Mele, ENS3 Susan J. Rey) for a total crew of 79 members. During the month of October, *Republic* welcomed aboard one new member: Michael Cowart of Marietta, Georgia. Active members whose dues came up for renewal during October include ENS3 Tony Cade, Ens Robert H. Dorton, Ens Joshua Graham, ENS3 Anita Letendre, ENS3 Michael Shipley, Ens Mike Stauffer and Ens Tom Wilson. Members who reenlisted during October include ENS3 Shipley. Ens Cade has indicated his intent to reenlist soon; Ensigns Letendre, Stauffer and Wilson have chosen to not reenlist at this time; and Ensigns Dorton and Graham have not yet responded to reenlistment reminders. Ensigns Dorton, Stauffer and Wilson were unassigned from the *Republic* in the STARFLEET database on October 11. On October 28, STARFLEET officially launched the *Republic*’s chapter-in-training, the USS *Exeter* NCC-1706, and transferred six members from the *Republic* to the *Exeter*: Commander John R. Sims, Ens Hyo Soon Yoo, Ens Julie Cain, Ens JG Jordan Cain, Ens Ryan McDowell and Ens Chris Hamm. At the end of October, *Republic*’s crew roster on the STARFLEET database included 62 Active members (59 plus Jeff, Alexandra and Anna Pakulski) and 9 Inactive members (Anderson, Broomfield, Cade, Cox, Graham, Letendre, Jones, Mele, Rey) for a total crew of 71 members.

Respectfully submitted,



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