



CHAPTER ACTIVITY REPORT

USS *Republic* NCC-1371

January 2009

The USS *Republic* NCC-1371 participated in two events during the month of January 2009: “*Star Trek* Night” with the Atlanta OutWorlders and an episode screening of *Star Trek: Phase II*: “Blood and Fire, Part I.”

On Friday, January 16, 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. Previously scheduled for January 30, this month’s event was moved back to January 16. Each month features a specific theme; this month’s theme was “A Tribute to Majel Barrett Roddenberry,” who passed away on December 18, 2008. The event was hosted by AOW member Alan Siler in his home in Doraville. *Republic* members in attendance include ENS3 Russell Broomfield, ENS2 Zannetta Law and Capt Eric L. Watts, as well as about a dozen members from various other local sci-fi clubs. Alan showed a Nurse Chapel episode from the original series, followed by “Haven” and “Ménage à Troi” from *The Next Generation*. We wish to thank the Atlanta OutWorlders for inviting us to participate in their “*Star Trek* Night” event and look forward to future events.

On Saturday, January 24, the USS *Republic* held a free screening of the newest *Star Trek: Phase II* episode, “Blood and Fire, Part I,” at The Stage Door Bar & Grill in Tucker, Georgia. Partly due to the mature theme of the episode, partly because they have a DVD projector and wall-sized projection screen, and partly because they are one of the *Republic*’s Member Benefits Program partners, the event was held at The Stage Door, a popular gay bar in this suburban community east of Atlanta. Written and directed by David Gerrold, best known to *Star Trek* fans as the author of “The Trouble with Tribbles,” this controversial and highly anticipated episode boldly goes where no two men have gone before in live-action *Star Trek*, introducing Bobby Rice as Ens Peter Kirk and Evan Fowler as medical technician Alex Freeman in a same-sex relationship. All the best original *Star Trek* episodes were allegories for contemporary cultural and political issues, and following the highly publicized marriage of George Takei and Brad Altman as well as the recent passing of California’s Proposition 8, “Blood and Fire” continues this tradition, depicting marriage equality in the 23rd century as an accepted and routine matter. The USS *Republic* is proud to have presented this free screening to the general public. *Republic* Executive Officer Cmdr Brian Holloway served on the production crew as a makeup artist and also ap-

peared as an extra in a couple of scenes.

Southern Voice, a local weekly newspaper serving Atlanta's gay and lesbian community, included an article about the event on their web site.

Republic members in attendance include Capt Michael Cowart, ENS3 Chadd Franklin, ENS2 Mark A. Ozanick, Ens Jeff Trew, Ens Joanne Trew, Ens Julianne Trew and Capt Eric L. Watts. Also in attendance was a member of the Atlanta OutWorlders, a young lady named Thompson, as well as Stage Door owner and manager Bryon Noel. Prior to the screening, Ens Jeff Trew helped Capt Watts set up the chapter's two banners outside the bar, one on a banner pole next to the front door and the other secured to the bar's roadside readerboard sign with bungee cords. Just prior to "showtime," everyone in attendance ordered a meal from The Stage Door's lunch menu and enjoyed their meal during the episode, which ran for about 50 minutes. Following the episode, those in attendance discussed the story only briefly, stating that they all enjoyed it, but not engaging in as much conversation as one might have otherwise expected. Instead, the discussion had more to do with the upcoming Region 2 Summit and Capt Cowart's proposal for chapter comm badges, rendering the chapter logo as a *Deep Space Nine/Voyage*-style comm badge, a prototype for which he brought to show around. Most of the members there (and Bryon, too) liked the comm badge very much and after discussing the expense, effort and time required for their manufacture (all of which would be handled by Capt Cowart), everyone agreed to move forward with their production.

At the end of the afternoon, everyone thanked Bryon for allowing us to hold our screening at The Stage Door, and Bryon said he'd be delighted to host a screening of Part II, whenever it comes out.

Photos from the screening of *Star Trek: Phase II: "Blood and Fire, Part I"* can be viewed on the [Republic's web site](#).

On Monday, January 12, Capt Eric L. Watts emailed the tenth issue of the *Republic's* monthly eZine, *The Republic*, 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 STARFLEET personnel. The purpose of *The Republic* 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 January issue included information about the *Republic's* upcoming screening of *Star Trek: Phase II: "Blood and Fire, Part I;" "Star Trek Night"* with the Atlanta OutWorlders; the STARFLEET Region 2 Summit; and "*Star Trek* Bingo Night: Trekkies, Tribbles and Klingons, Oh My!" benefiting PALS Atlanta. News and announcements included Capt Eric L. Watts' reelection as Commanding Officer; the fourth meeting of the *Republic's* shuttle, the USS *Exeter*, at the Orlando Vulkon; the *Republic's* brand new 2009 chapter calendars; the availability of the *Republic's* televised appearance during the

Georgia Public Broadcasting pledge drive on DVD; and in a new section called “Personnel Records,” important recent events in the lives of some of our members. Information was also included about chapter t-shirts, as well as recent chapter event photos, a call for an administrative assistant for the Captain, new partners for our Member Benefits Program, a wish list, relevant hyperlinks, a brief chapter overview, classified ads and an editorial flashback: “17 Years Ago Aboard the USS *Republic*.”

Upcoming events include our Valentine’s Day Lonely Hearts Dinner (and First Metropolitan Community Church of Atlanta food bank collection drive) on Saturday, February 14; “*Star Trek* Night” with the Atlanta OutWorlders on Friday, February 27; the STARFLEET Region 2 Summit on the weekend of March 6-8; and “*Star Trek* Bingo Night: Trekkies, Tribbles and Klingons, Oh My!” benefiting PALS Atlanta on Wednesday, April 8.

At the end of December, *Republic’s* crew roster on the STARFLEET database included 61 Active members (58 plus Jeff, Alexandra and Anna Pakulski) and 12 Inactive members (Ens Patrick Anderson, ENS3 Russell J. Broomfield, Lt JG David Churvis, Ens Lee Cox, Ens Joshua Graham, Ens Naomi Hemingway, Ens Chris Jones, ENS3 Anita Letendre, Ens Page E. Lewis, Ens Leslie Mele, ENS3 Susan J. Rey, Ens Terry Lee West) for a total crew of 73 members. During the month of January, *Republic* welcomed aboard one new member: Cmdr Joseph A. (“Joe”) Campbell, a former member of STARFLEET, who reenlisted after a ten-year absence and a long recruitment effort by Capt Watts. Active members whose dues came up for renewal during January include Ens Tammy Pakulski and her family, associate members Jeff, Alexandra and Anna Pakulski. Members who reenlisted during the month of January include Lt Churvis and Ens Hemingway. At the end of January, *Republic’s* crew roster on the STARFLEET database included 64 Active members (61 plus Jeff, Alexandra and Anna Pakulski) and 10 Inactive members (Anderson, Broomfield, Cox, Graham, Jones, Letendre, Lewis, Mele, Rey, West) for a total crew of 74 members. *Note:* As of February 10, the STARFLEET database continues to list Tammy, Jeff, Alexandra and Anna Pakulski as “Active” members, although their dues expired on January 26. If the database were correct, it would show that the *Republic’s* crew roster included 60 Active members and 14 Inactive members.

Respectfully submitted,



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