

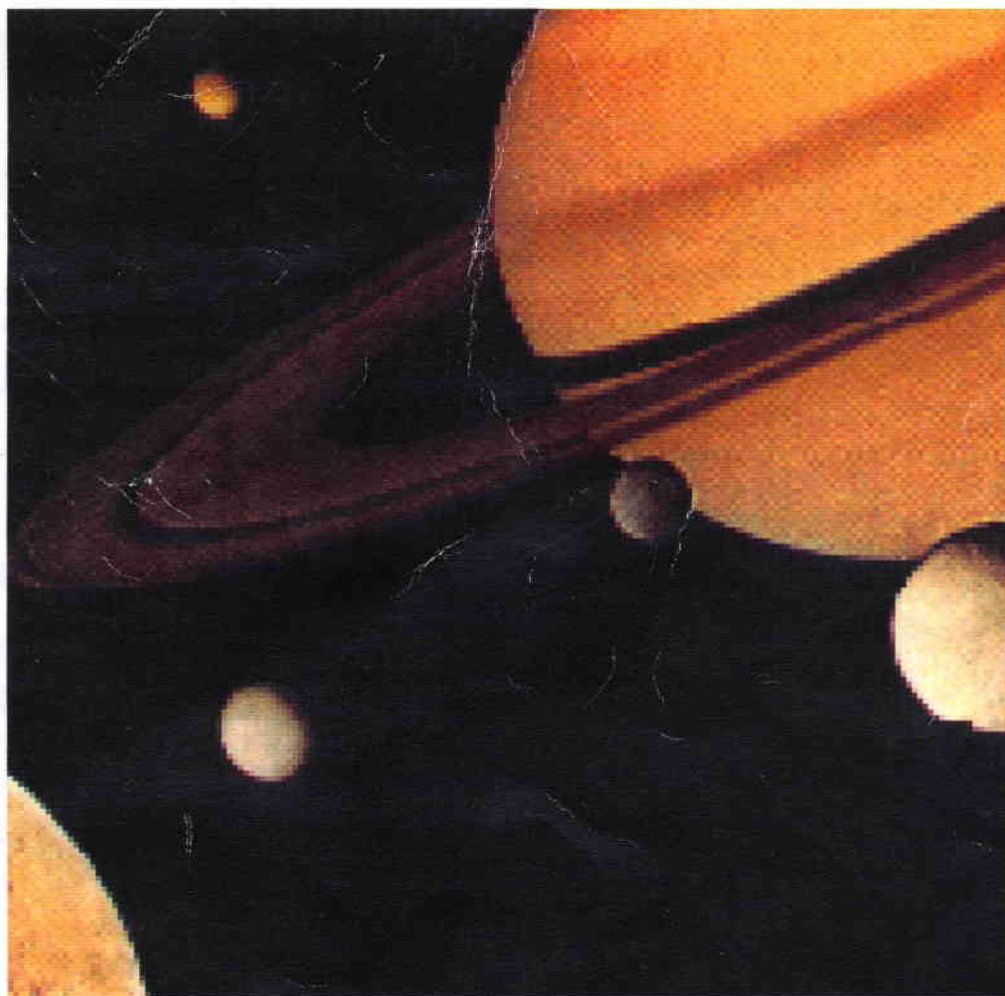
# the *Republication*

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VOLUME X, ISSUE TWO

MARCH/APRIL 1998

The Official Newsletter of the USS REPUBLIC, NCC-1371 —Atlanta, Georgia  
A Chapter of STARFLEET, the International **STAR TREK** Fan Association



*Macte nova virtute, puer, sic itur ad astra.*

Blessings on your courage, boy; that's the way to  
the stars.

—Virgil (90BC-17BC)  
*Aeneid*, Book IX:641

## NEWSLETTER STAFF

Edmund Trafford  
*Chief of Communications*



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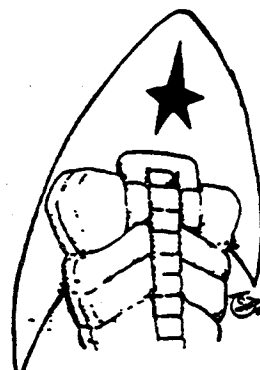
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## FROM THE CENTER SEAT



*by Fleet Captain Jeff Kirkland*

*Open Hailing Frequencies . . .* A lot of things have happened since our last newsletter went out. First, we had a good time in Little Five Points with the Klingons' Day of Honor. There were promotions given to the Klingons and to three members of the MacLeod. The XO of the MacLeod, Leon Lord, was also promoted to captain. Yours truly was promoted to Fleet Captain.

Now for things coming up. On May 9, the USS Republic Tenth Anniversary Banquet will be held at Mike and Kelly's condo complex. On May 16, at the Express Lanes on Piedmont Road just off I-85, is the Bowl-A-Thon for Children's Miracle Network at 12:00. To bowl is \$10 minimum, but we want more. On May 22-24 is Vulkan with Neelix and other guests.

Now for a bit of sad news. Due to my new job, I cannot make our meetings or a lot of our events, which makes me feel that I am not able to do a good job. So with this article, I am stepping down as the Commanding Officer. I hope you give the new CO as much help as you can. This does not mean that I am leaving the ship,

*continued on page 2*



because I am not. I will be as active as I can without jeopardizing my job. Thanks for a good drive. You have been a great crew. Close frequencies . . . ★

## FROM THE RIGHT SEAT



by Commander Tonya Spanks

Greeting Republic Crew!

First I'd like to welcome all new crew members. This is an active ship and we hope that you can join us on our trips. We are planning trips to the CARTER CENTER, CYCLORAMA, AND THE ZOO. We are also planning our annual trips to STONE MOUNTAIN- bring lots of food, water, and your best water gun. We play all day. And then there is my personal favorite... WHITE WATER. Last year we were joined by members of the MacLeod and KAG. We had a lovely picnic in the parking lot under a nice shade tree. Most of our activities are events in which families can participate so if your significant other and/or children don't mind strange but loveable (I speak only for myself) people they are welcome.

We (STARFLEET) are working with KAG on a BOWL\*A\*THON to help raise money for the CHILDREN'S MIRACLE NETWORK

set for May 16th. This is a regular meeting/activity day for us. The bowling alley is EXPRESS LANES which is located on Monroe Boulevard just off the I-85 north exit just a block up on the right headed towards Piedmont Road. All are welcome to bowl. I haven't bowled since 7th grade so this should be fun. There is a minimum donation of \$10 with bowling shoes included. If you have a costume or uniform please feel free to wear it. This makes for more fun.

Attendance at meetings has improved somewhat with the joining of Robert and John, two Coweta residents. They have made nearly every meeting since joining. I don't fault someone for not attending meetings because they have to work. I work every other Saturday and can't attend all, but if you're not coming because you simply don't feel like it then what's the point in joining a fan club if you are not going to put your dues to good use. I will be making more of an effort to keep people informed of meetings and such but it also helps for you to keep in touch with me and your captain. Jeff's phone number is (770) 253-6474. My phone number is (770) 808-5910 and my E-mail address is RE13711@aol.com. See ya soon!!

On March 21st the Republic, MacLeod, and KAG met at LITTLE 5 POINTS at FILINNI'S Pizzeria for Klingon Honor Day. There Klingons received promotions as well as Members of the MacLeod and our own Captain received a well deserved promotion to FLEET CAPTAIN (hip hip hooray!!!). Robert and John arrived just as the festivities were coming to an end and missed our location but caught up with us at Mike and Kelly's place where the party continued with SOUTH PARK, SCATTAGORIES, and a computer lesson or two (thanks, Kelly).

continued on page 3



The MacLeod will be going to the Georgia Renaissance festival on April 18th and I will be joining them. All fun loving people are welcome to join (no uniforms please).

In closing, I will mention the ship's 10th anniversary party is set for May 9th and there is a VULCON scheduled for May. Call Mike Henigan for more details on both. His number is (404) 688-2882. ★

## OPERATIONS



*by Vice Admiral Mike Henigan*

Well, we start this about the same way I did last issue . . . The Republic is growing!

YAY! We'd like to extend a warm welcome to new member, Robert Worley. Robert lives down in Newnan area and is a good friend of Jon Vanzant, one of our newer members. Thanks goes to Jon for introducing STARFLEET to Robert!

We also have to say Hello to Carl Gosline who recently transferred onto the Republic. Carl has been a Fleet member for a few years already and is looking forward to getting involved on the Republic. He also is a STARFLEET MARINE so he also joined our Marine Strike Group, the 600th.

I personally have been rather busy this past month with getting all the details put together for the Regional Sunny Summit and then wrapping things up with bills, budget etc, so I did not devote much to the ship for the obvious reasons. However, that is changed! I am devoting most of my fleet time to our ship! I am no longer a regional staff person for the most part and have lots of time to get things moving in the Operations area. In that order, we are trying to get more things going on with our ship and crew, but we NEED your input.

We have scheduled some fun activities for this summer, but we could use some feedback on what else y'all want to do for fund raising, charity events etc. Give anyone of us a call and we will see what we can get worked out for new projects or events on the ship.

Here is a fun and entertaining activity we can do right away: Who wants to take the **Officer Training School Test**? I will be happy to have an OTS party here at our home for anyone that would like to take the OTS test and learn more about fleet and have fun doing it. The test costs only \$3 and we can do it right here online in my home. We will have munchies, do the test, play some games, and socialize. It WILL be a fun time, guaranteed!. Once you complete OTS then you earn an automatic promotion to Ensign and are free to advance further in rank on the ship. Think about this idea and let me know if you are interested!

How about doing some volunteer work? We can do one of many things...like working in the Atlanta Food Bank, Project Open Hand, Centennial Olympic Park, Sci-Trek Museum among others are good suggestions. Just tell me/us what you would like to do and we will work on it right away to get it scheduled.

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Everyone, we are here for you, the Crew. We want YOU to experience the fun and fellowship that happens when you are on a STARFLEET vessel so GET INVOLVED! Contact US for any idea you might have!

One final thing . . .

We also want to Congratulate Captain Kirkland on his recent promotion to FLEET CAPTAIN!!! Congrats Jeff, you deserved it!!! ★

## REGIONAL COORDINATOR



*by Vice Admiral Kelly Hilliard*

This year's Summit came and went and we had a great time, even though the Putt Putt Tourney had to be canceled due to rain as well as the pie toss. We did institute the Tribble Toss, which raised over \$300 for the treasury and for our charity, for which we will present a check for over \$1,100 from funds raised through the weekend.

We set a new record for attendance at the Summit and finally broke the 100 attendees figure! We were graced with the presence of our Fleet Admiral Mike Smith along with members from Regions 1,3 and 5! The Recruiting DUO of Ron Fell and Jack Hopkins were in attendance along with the

well-in-demand copies of their ultimate recruiting guide. Ron even did us the favor of filling in as the Auctioneer as Auctioneer Freddy Heller was home waiting for his wife Connie to give birth (which she did 10 days later!) Ron did such an AWESOME JOB that we negotiated a return trip from him for Magnolia Summit next year. A couple of nice things came out of the Summit and they were promotions. We would like to congratulate:

- *Captain Jeff Kirkland, who was promoted to Fleet Captain!*
- *Captain Kathy Webster who was also promoted to Fleet Captain!*

A Hearty Congratulations goes to these two deserving individuals! Thank Jeff and Kathy next time you see them for everything they do for the Republic, the MacLeod, and Zone 2!

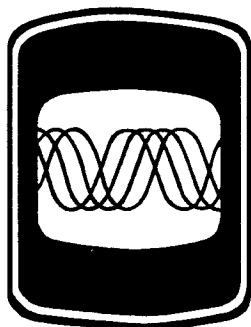
We would also like to congratulate the newest ships in the Region which were both commissioned at the Summit:

- *USS Relentless, CO Captain Wade Olson*
- *USS Cherokee, CO Captain Tatia Brewer*

On a disturbing note, Mike and I received letters from STARFLEET IG Robert Westfall stating there was a formal investigation into improprieties with regional summit and several other matters. These allegations, which were unfounded, were all brought about by a vindictive disgruntled CO in our Region. We are doing our best to bring this matter to a close by the end of this month. In this timeframe, we have taken a short leave of absence until the matter is cleared up. SR VRC Jennifer Rosbury is Acting RC for the time being.

In Service to the Fleet and Region, Region 2 RC—Region 2, Second to None! ★

## COMMUNICATIONS



by Commander Edmund Trafford

Like last year, the Region 2 Summit was informative and fun. At first, I wasn't sure about the "Vulcan" Room at the hotel; I thought initially it was a clever marketing gesture for the Starfleet convention. Then I discovered that Birmingham's history as a steel town included the patron god Vulcan, of foundries and forges. 'Nough said . . .



56-foot statue of Vulcan on the summit of Red Mountain, overlooking downtown Birmingham

Aside from the distinctly un-Southern spring weather, this year's Region 2 Summit was a hit with everybody. Unfortunately, the weather prevented the outdoor activities—golf and pie toss. The dinner was quite a spread; it always gives me a thrill to walk into a room and see Fleet uniforms everywhere. (Speaking for myself, I do not think of my attire as a "costume"; it's a *uniform*, thank you very

much, and I'm very proud of it.) After dinner and the awards ceremony, Dawn Benton and I assisted Vice Admiral Mike with the auction record-keeping, like last year.

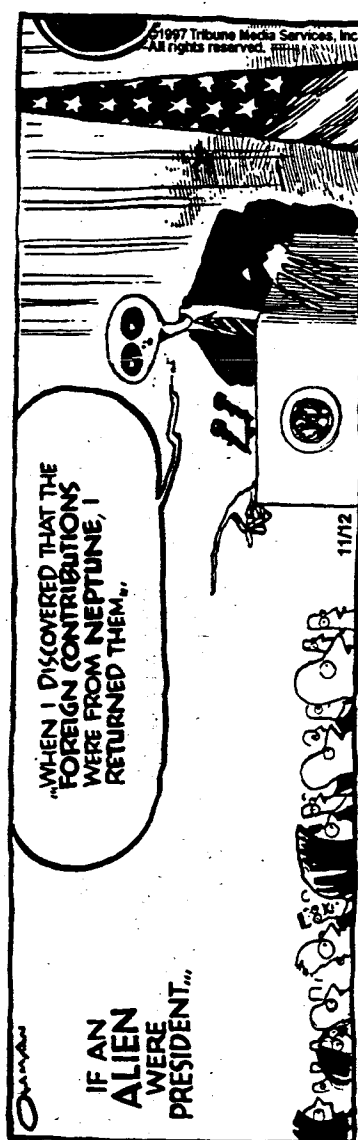
The discussions on recruiting and newsletters were interesting. Hopefully we

can make some use of some of the information we all shared. It will be obvious by now that I've made some changes in our newsletter layout and I've chosen to restore our original banner of "Republication."

**PLEASEPLEASEPLEASE NOTE:** All submissions for the May/June *Republication* are due on May 31!! ★

By Jack Ohman

MIXED MEDIA



## trekbits

**F**ox Television's late-night irreverent hit "Mad TV" is modeled deliberately after "Saturday Night Live." A Mad TV skit on Saturday evening, March 15, 1998 addressed the possibility that ST lived beyond its original cancellation by becoming a direct competitor of the old Rowan & Martin "Laugh-In" show. (Fans will remember that in ST's third season, the show was promised a spot next to Laugh-In, which would have guaranteed a strong lead-in audience, but was instead relegated to late Friday night, a schedule which effectively killed the show.) The skit presented the "Kirk & Spock Variety Hour," complete with the Dancing Tribbles chorus line, a green Orion go-go girl, and lots of stand-up humor ("Spock it to me, baby!"). "Kirk's" opening monologue included the desire for "a star date with someone whose personal phasers are set on stunning."

**M**ax Grodénchik, who appears as "Rom" in *DS9*, had a small part as a 30s-era gangster in the Walt Disney movie *The Rocketeer* several years ago; the gangster's name was "Wilmer." "Wilmer" was also the name of the petty hood in the classic 1941 Humphrey Bogart flick *The Maltese Falcon*. That character of "Wilmer" was played by Elisha Cook, Jr.—who showed up 25 years later in the Classic ST episode "Court Martial" as "Samuel T. Cogley," the unreconstructed lawyer who distrusted computers.

**C**olm Meaney narrates the audio book *The Irish in America*, a collection of essays by various writers exploring the trials and tribulations and contributions

of our Celtic immigrants. The review, by Deirdre Donahue, which appeared in *USA Today* on April 3, 1996, stated "The best thing about this audio book has to be Irish actor Colm Meaney's voice, with its authentic brogue and rich, emotional tone." ★

## Star Trek in Everyday Life

A brief feature in *Newsweek* magazine for March 9, 1998 was titled "Starfleet Academy." The article itself had nothing to do with ST, of course; in fact, ST wasn't even mentioned—the writer just assumed that the average reader would understand the reference to the UFP's premiere educational institution. The article discussed "a career as a space-traffic controller": "With more than 200 satellites already in orbit and another 1,300 set to launch during the next decade, the cosmos



is going to need to some crowd control. Industry analysts worry that without properly trained ground control crews to steer them through space, satellites could easily hurtle into one another in a kind of heavenly demolition derby." NASA has contracted with Allied Signal Technical Services to begin training the new breed of traffic controller; classes begin in April 1998. ★

Bringing you the  
23rd Century . . .  
... **TODAY!**



*The Captain & Crew  
of the  
USS Republic  
NCC-1371  
Cordially Invite You to  
Our 10th Anniversary  
Extravaganza*

Date: May 9, 1998  
Place: McGill Park Clubhouse  
301 Bedford Place, Atlanta, Georgia

Great Dalmuti Tourney 3pm  
Semiformal Banquet 7pm  
Buffet Banquet Catered by  
Executive Chef Joseph Mamaril  
Change of Command Ceremony 8:30pm

***Let the Party Begin 9pm until ???***

\$15.00 per person  
Reservations: Mike Henigan  
1115 McGill Park Ave  
Atlanta, GA 30312  
(404) 688-2882

We would like to see anyone and everyone attend this great event and milestone in the history of the USS Republic, the oldest ship in Zone 2, Region 2. The Great Dalmuti Tourney will include Prizes to the top three finishers in the tourney.

We request that people dress in uniforms or semiformal for the banquet; please dress casually for the afternoon and remainder of the evening. Dressing rooms with showers are available in the McGill Park Clubhouse as well. Plan to come for the entire event and have a GREAT TIME! ★

## **Books Books BOOKS**

**BOOKS Books BOOKS**

***The Star Trek Chronology*, by Michael and Denise Okuda** (newly updated to include material from *First Contact*)

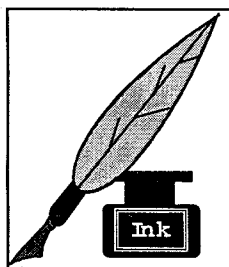
This is a fascinating and yet disappointing tour through the world of ST—past, present, and future. The cross-references are thought-provoking, laying out in order all the persons and events of our ST universe. However, in the introduction, the authors make clear that they rely exclusively on only the several television series and feature films. With but a single exception, they deliberately disregard the highly acclaimed animated series, and the novels are ignored altogether. This methodology results in some strange omissions. Uhura has no given name listed—"she has never had one." Yet fans are nearly unanimous that her name has been accepted to be Nyota; how can the Okudas just totally ignore this? Also, the animated series features Captain Robert April in one episode ("The Counterclock Incident") and Diane Carey's excellent novel "Final Frontier" also features him, along with a very young James T. Kirk and Kirk's father, George. We know that Gene Roddenberry created the character of "Robert April," first captain of the fabled Enterprise (later changed to "Robert Winter" and then to Christopher Pike), but there is no reference to April anywhere in the Okudas' "standard" chronology; this information has been supplied by the fans themselves. Although the Okudas have made clear their reverence for the original sources and their reasons for not considering all other sources, their book

*continued on page 8*



still leaves disturbing holes in an otherwise thoroughly researched and well organized chronology. One aspect of the book which is really quite interesting is a separate section on time travel, discussing various stories which can only be accounted for in "parallel universes" or "alternative timelines." ★

### Ravings From the Editor . . .



Readers of my regularly scheduled editorial columns know how frequently I rail against pseudoscience, "ancient astronauts," crystal therapy, and other blatantly unscientific

and totally unfounded popular myths. An article in *USA Today* on April 7, 1998 was headlined "Mars 'Face' Just a Pile of Rocks." The headline referred to a widely reproduced photograph of the Martian landscape taken by NASA's Viking I in 1976 that some people believe to be an artifact or structure—like the Sphinx or Pyramids—left over from a vanished Martian civilization. It supposedly shows a



"face"—rather like the "man in the moon" face—of shadows and bright spots. Finally, 22 years later, a picture transmitted from NASA's Global

Surveyor shows the same terrain under different lighting, and reveals nothing more than "erosional remnants of rock shaped either by wind or water" according to Arden Albee, project scientist at Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, California. "It looks like the Badlands of South Dakota." Naturally, the true believers (or at least those with a financial stake in preserving the fiction of ancient Martian ruins) immediately blasted the pictures. Richard Hoagland, author of *The Monuments of Mars*, criticized the photographs as being of poor quality: "There's all kinds of random speckles." Supporters of a "conspiracy" theory that NASA is hiding the truth (including various nuts on the Internet) will never be convinced of the photograph's veracity, of course, since the absence of proof of a conspiracy is itself proof that a conspiracy exists. Such circular logic can be used to "prove" absolutely anything and is a central factor in all conspiracy theories.



As fans of the ST universe, we know that science is a rational, logical process. The most amazing advances in our universe (warp drive, transporter technology,

medicine) are based on proven scientific principles extrapolated into the foreseeable future. There is no room in the ST universe for pseudoscientific junk and "conspiracy" theories. The genuine truth of the cosmos is far more awesome and awe-inspiring than any "ancient Martian monuments" some fruitcake can dream up. ★

## FUND RAISING



We need some ideas for raising funds for our ship. These funds are used to pay for our newsletter and the upkeep of your displays. One thing that has worked well for us in the past is a bake sale at conventions. Unfortunately cons are far and few in between and the funds do go quickly. If you have any ideas and would like to help please contact me, your XO, TONYA at (770) 808-5910 or E-mail RE13711@aol.com. Thanks in advance for your help. ★



*By Vice Admiral Mike Henigan*

**Vulkon**—Atlanta, May 23-25, 1998. Guests: Ethan Phillips, Robin A. Downes (Byron, B5). Place: Holiday Inn, Marietta Ga. For more info contact Joe Motes at Joemotes@aol.com.

**Tachy9Con**—June 5-7, 1998, Orlando, Florida. Guests include Richard Biggs. Others are being contacted. Hotel: Adams Mark Hotel. They have a web site at: <http://www.ao.net/~tachycon/t9.htm>. Their email address is tachycon@ao.net.

**PHENOMICON**—June 26-28, 1998, HighPoint, NC. Guest: Jason Carter is the

B5 guest, along with Sandra Bruckner from the B5 Fan Club; Janet Nemecek (script coordinator, *Voyager*) and Larry Nemecek (Star Trek Historian). The event will be held at the Holiday Inn, Market Square in High Point, North Carolina. For more information, call (336) 475-2342. Write to: Phenomicon 98, P.O. Box 250, Thomasville, NC 27361. Their web site is <http://www.stargame.org/phenomicon98>.

**OutWorld**—June 26-28, Atlanta, Georgia. Harvey Hotel. Guests Erick Wujcik, Ed Kramer, Bill Johnson, Brad Strickland, James Lock. Web site: [www.geocities.com/Area51/Rampart/1498](http://www.geocities.com/Area51/Rampart/1498) Email: [outworld.dan@juno.com](mailto:outworld.dan@juno.com)

**Starfleet 1998 International Conference**—July 2-5, Lubbock, Texas. Holiday Inn Civic Center, 801 Avenue Q, Lubbock, Texas, 79401, 806-763-1200. Email [uss.quanah.parker@sfi.org](mailto:uss.quanah.parker@sfi.org), write IC'98, PO Box 94353, Lubbock TX, 79493-4353. Conference members \$20, Dinner with the brass \$10, Saturday night banquet \$25. Make check payable to Starfleet IC '98.

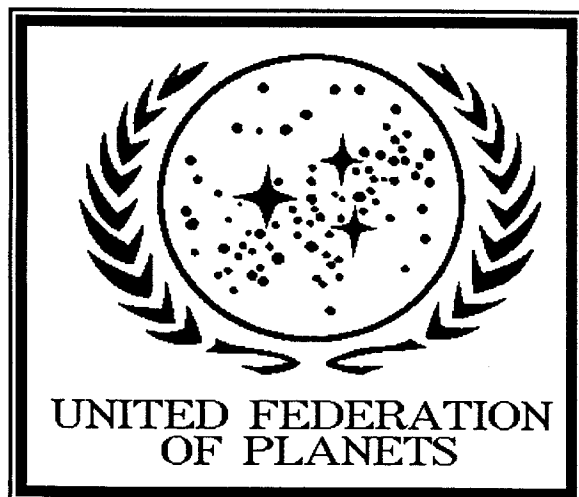
**Dragon\*Con**—September 3-6, 1998 at the Atlanta Apparel Mart and Hyatt Regency Atlanta in Atlanta, Georgia. Dragon\*Con is the host of the 1998 First Fandom Reunion and Hall of Fame Awards. Over 300 Notable guests for this year including: Jonathan Harris (*Lost in Space*), Robin Curtis (*Star Trek*), Jeff Conaway & Pat Tallman (B5), Harlan Ellison, Peter David, Kevin J Anderson and Anthony Daniels (*Star Wars*' C3PO) who will serve as Master of Ceremonies. Hyatt Regency Atlanta and the Atlanta Apparel Mart. All major programming events, banquets and receptions, the Art Show, late-night concerts and dances, as well as the Convention Hospitality Suite will be in the Hyatt Regency Atlanta. Rooms are \$119 per

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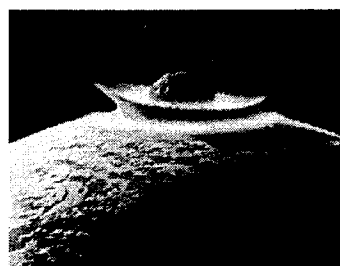
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night single and double (\$10 additional per person for triple / quad); suites are discounted at 30% off published rates: call (404)577-1234. Pre-Registration: Weekend passes good for all four days are \$40 through March 31, 1998, and \$50 through July 31, 1998. Atlanta in '98 Pre-Supporters receive a \$5 discount (by mail only). Memberships will be available at the convention for \$60. Children-in-tow, age six and under admitted free of charge; professional babysitting provided with paid membership for child. Special Family and Club Discounts are also available. For info: Call our 24-hour info / fax line at (770) 623-6321 or call the Dragon\*Con office at (770) 909-0115 or e-mail to [dragoncon@dragoncon.org](mailto:dragoncon@dragoncon.org) or link to <http://www.dragoncon.org>. For a full Progress Report by mail, call their office or write to Dragon Con '98, P.O. Box 47696, Atlanta, GA 30362-0696. You can register by mail or charge your four-day membership using Visa, MC, or AMEX by calling TicketMaster at (404) 249-6400 through September 5, 1998. ★



## Keeping An Eye on the Universe

Most biologists believe that life on Earth began in the "primordial ooze" or "organic soup" presumed to have blanketed the planet eons ago. New research, reported in the *Atlanta Journal and Constitution* on Sunday, April 12, 1998 ("A Rocky Start") suggests that possibly life began on the rocks—or actually in them. University of Chicago geophysicist Joseph Smith hypothesizes that life—like the most tenacious forms of lichens found in the inhospitable polar regions—started with "concentrations of fragile biomolecules in locations proximate to each other, rather than dispersed in sea water, where they would be protected from lethal solar radiation." In light of the recent revelations of Martian microbes found in fossilized rocks, Smith believes that Earthly life began in porous rocks which contained a high degree of rich minerals that could absorb organic molecules from the water around them and shelter them while chains of polymers formed. His "candidate rock" is called mutinaite, found primarily in Antarctica.



There have been some recent doomsday scenarios concerning a possible collision

with Earth on October 26, 2028 by an asteroid that was originally predicted to pass within 30,000 miles of our home planet—well within the orbit of the Moon. Subsequent calculations placed the asteroid's approach at something like

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600,000 miles—a trajectory that is certainly a close shave by astronomical standards, but still well outside any conceivable danger zone. (An article in the *Atlanta Constitution* for Thursday, March 12, 1998 was entitled "Earth Faces Close Pass by Asteroid.") After the sensationalistic scare passed, follow-up news in both the *AC* ("Pondering the Paths of Those Asteroids"; Sunday, March 15) and in *Newsweek* ("Never Mind!"; March 23, 1998) discussed the fact of unknown space rocks hurtling through the cosmos and the actual chances of Earth being hit by one with little or no notice. The *AC* article was subtitled "Wayward Space Rubble Has Scientists Worried," and the *Newsweek* feature stated "There are literally thousands of uncharted asteroids and comets with the celestial equivalent of 'road rage'—they keep speeding out of their orbital lanes and wind up in ours." Aside from the minipanic caused by inaccurate predictions of imminent disaster, both follow-up articles discussed the real facts facing astronomers trying to predict the dangers of space debris. One only has to remember seeing the fantastic pictures a year or so ago of the fragments of Comet Shoemaker-Levy crashing into Jupiter to think what could happen here.

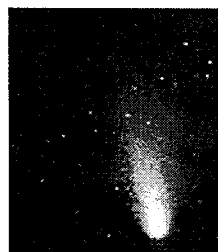


Photo by George Adamski

Unexplained." It detailed a local gathering of the MUFON organization (Mutual UFO Network), a 25-year-old association "that meets to compare notes about strange

An article in the *Atlanta Journal* for Saturday, February 28, 1998 was titled "UFO Investigator Group Drawn by the

things in the sky and share knowledge with the public." Tom Sheets, the state director of MUFON, is quoted as saying "We're trying to get across the fact that UFOs are a real phenomenon. . . . We don't understand the phenomenon, but what we try to do is investigate sightings, learn more about what's out there, and emphasize that you're not crazy if you have a sighting." The most notable aspect of this article is that it was reported as "straight news"; that is, there were no cutesy references to "little green men" or "X-Files." The writer states that "MUFON members say they often are ridiculed but continue seeking answers for the unexplained."



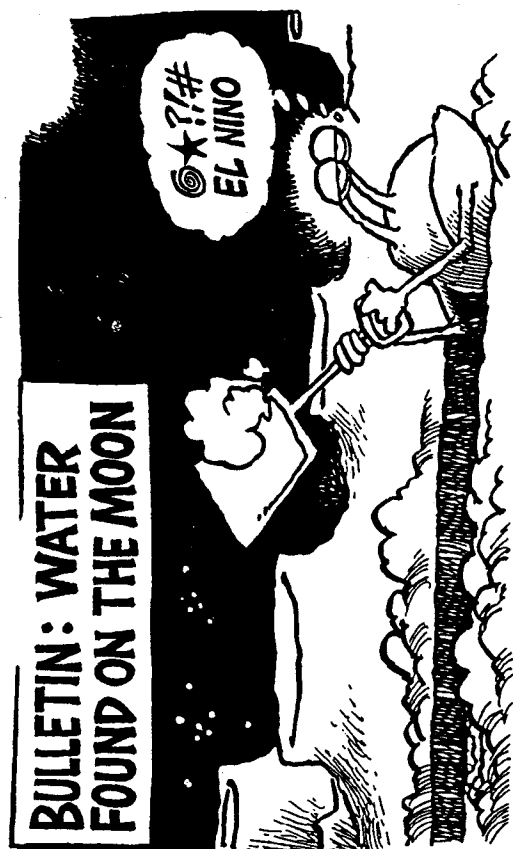
Comet Hale-Bopp (1997)

And speaking of comets, an article in the December 1997 issue of *National Geographic* ("The Age of Comets" with some stunning color pictures) provided a fascinating look into the existence

of these cosmic wanderers. On most occasions in history, these stellar objects have provoked awe and terror; comet appearances are presumed to presage tragedies: The Saxons were terrified when Halley's Comet appeared in 1066AD, and of course, William the Conqueror changed British history forever that year. The Aztec emperor Montezuma II saw "a flaming ear of corn" in the heavens in 1517AD, and lost all heart for fighting the invading Spanish conquistadores. But not all comets were portents of doom. A comet seen in Rome shortly after the assassination of Julius Caesar in 44BC was supposed to be confirmation of his godhood. The danger of these spacefaring snowballs is that there are so many of them and their orbits are incredibly erratic. Halley's Comet has a predictable 87-year term; other comets

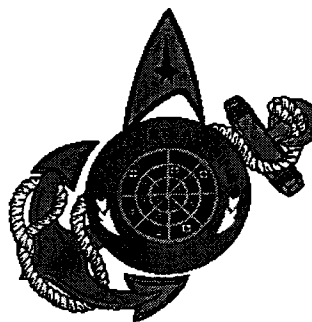
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appear once and are "slingshotted" by the Sun's gravity out of the solar system forever (as happened in 1990); still others have terms so long as to be meaningless (a comet discovered in 1996 will return in "about 20,000AD" and a comet discovered in 1997 will return in "about 4400AD," according to the article). Because the orbits of many comets are erratic, they can be easily influenced by any celestial body they approach, and can thereafter be thrown off on an entirely new and sometimes unpredictable trajectory. For example, last year's Hale-Bopp Comet was calculated to have a period of 4,200 years, but after leaving our vicinity and passing too close to Jupiter, the estimated period has been cut nearly in half, to 2,400 years (watch for it!).



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## 600th Marine Strike Group Forms by Vice Admiral Mike Henigan



As some of you may be aware, we recently formed a chapter of the STARFLEET Marine Corps here

on the Republic. We are known as the 600th Marine Strike Group, the Phoenix Group.

We are here to assist the Republic in any way possible, whether it be to list additional support and help where it is needed on the ship, or to call for support and security when it is needed on the ship.

What is needed to join? Simply asking the OIC, the Officer in Charge about joining and getting involved. We are a sub-group within the Republic and can and will plan separate activities (as well as always being involved with normal ship activities as well) depending on what the SG members wish to do.

Contact me anytime you wish to see about joining or to get further info!





**Babylon 5 Episode Schedule**  
(submitted by Mike Henigan, courtesy of  
Dirk A. Loedding)

TNT has just published some massive changes to their schedule. I hope and believe that I have interpreted the changes correctly. I'll make any corrections when I get confirmation from TNT. I've also heard information from other places, as well. This schedule reflects all of the information I have at this time. *Note time change for Saturday repeat of Season 5 episodes!* Rerun episodes of the first 4 seasons will be aired at 7:00 PM Eastern Time.

**Season Three ("Point of No Return")**

Air Date	Episode	Title
03/30/98	315	Interludes and Examinations
03/31/98	316	War Without End, Part One
04/01/98	317	War Without End, Part Two
04/02/98	318	Walkabout
04/03/98	319	Grey 17 Is Missing
04/06/98	320	And the Rock Cried Out, No Hiding Place
04/07/98	321	Shadow Dancing
04/08/98	322	Z'ha'dum

**Season Four ("No Surrender, No Retreat")**

Air Date	Episode	Title
04/09/98	401	The Hour of the Wolf
04/10/98	402	Whatever Happened to Mr. Garibaldi?
04/13/98	403	The Summoning
04/14/98	404	Falling Toward Apotheosis
04/15/98	405	The Long Night
04/16/98	406	Into the Fire
04/17/98	407	Epiphanies

04/20/98	408	The Illusion of Truth
04/21/98	409	Atonement
04/22/98	410	Racing Mars
04/23/98	411	Lines of Communication
04/24/98	412	Conflicts of Interest
04/27/98	413	Rumors, Bargains and Lies
04/28/98	414	Moments of Transition
04/29/98	415	No Surrender, No Retreat
04/30/98	416	The Exercise of Vital Powers
05/01/98	417	The Face of the Enemy
05/04/98		(No episode on Mondays during NBA playoffs.)
05/05/98	418	Intersections in Real Time
05/06/98	419	Between the Darkness and the Light
05/07/98	420	Endgame
05/08/98	421	Rising Star
05/12/98	422	The Deconstruction of Falling Stars

The second run-through of the first four seasons starts on 5/14. Start times may be unstable until the NBA playoffs are finished. Some episodes could start after the basketball game is complete.

**Season Five**

Starting with #513, the time changes to 8:00 PM

Air Date	Episode	Title
04/08/98	513	The Ragged Edge (Encore showing at 11PM)
04/15/98	514	The Corps is Mother, The Corps is Father
		NBA Playoffs
05/27/98	515	Meditations on the Abyss JMS
06/03/98	516	Darkness Ascending JMS
06/10/98	517	And All My Dreams, Torn Asunder JMS GG
06/17/98	518	Movements of Fire and Shadow JMS JF
06/24/98		Pre-empted by NBA draft coverage

*continued on page 14*



*continued from page 13*

Note: Each episode will air at 10:00 PM Eastern Time, with a repeat at 11:00 AM Eastern Time the Saturday following the air date listed above, with one exception: "A Tragedy of Telepaths" (previously titled "Cat and Mouse") will air on 3/27/98, at 7:00 PM, causing the regularly scheduled third season episode to be pushed to the following week, along with the rest of the rerun schedule forward. Starting with #513, the airtime for fifth season episodes changes to 8:00 PM. ★

### *Calendar of Events* By Vice Admiral Mike Henigan

Last issue I asked this question: What do y'all want to do over the next 4-6 months!?!?!?!?!

Well, we are working on that or at least some of our members are. We sat down with Fleet Captain Kathy Webster, CO of the MacLeod, and we came up with some tentative dates for our usual summer events. We will be formalizing these no later than the end of April, so pass along your input if you so wish no later than April 15th.

May 9<sup>th</sup>—Republic 10th Anniversary Party. Place still tentative at McGill Park in Atlanta, which is where Kelly and I live.

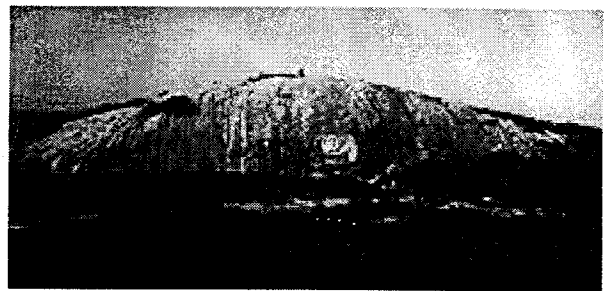
May 16<sup>th</sup>—Bowl-a-thon. This is a fundraiser for the Children's Miracle Network. Plan to sign up and raise some funds for our charity. We will be doing this in cooperation with the MacLeod and the local KAG ships as well.

July 4<sup>th</sup>—Starfleet Atlanta Picnic. As this is the usual meeting day for both of our ships, then why not combine that with a nice

picnic and possibly a BBQ. We are still looking for a suitable site, so let us know if you have someplace for us to have this???

July 25<sup>th</sup>—WHITEWATER BLOWOUT! Our Annual trip to show off our white skin and have a great time on the water slides and lazy river. Contact Tonya or Kelly to see about getting discounted tickets. Plan on an all day affair and bring food for lunch, and then we eat dinner in the park.

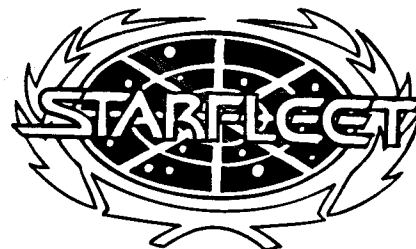
August 15<sup>th</sup>—Battle for Stone Mountain!



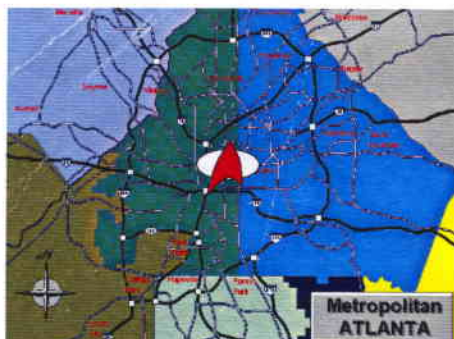
Aka The Annual Stone Mountain Outing and Picnic. This is an all-day affair. We arrive mid-morning and others arrive throughout the day. Bring meat for yourselves and a dish to share. We of course hold our Water Gun Battle, which is always a really WET blast! The day also includes games, trip up Stone Mountain itself and ends with the Laser Show that evening.

August 22—Rain date for the Stone Mountain Trip!

There you have it, these dates \*MIGHT\* change, but plan for those dates right now! Stay tuned for the next newsletter for further details. ★





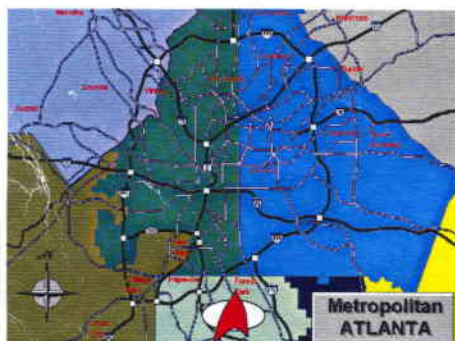


USS *Republic* • NCC-1371  
Fleet Captain Jeff Kirkland  
510 Haynie Road  
Moreland, Georgia 30259  
(770) 253-6474

The Atlanta metropolitan area's oldest **STARFLEET** chapter began as the Shuttle *Nautilus*, attached to the USS *Perseus*, NCC-544, Columbus, Georgia, and was commissioned the USS *Republic*, NCC-1371, at Dixie Trek in 1988. The *Republic* is an Excelsior-class heavy cruiser modeled after the *Excelsior* of *STIII* and *STVI*. With a crew of about 35, the *Republic* serves as the flagship of Starfleet's Region 2 and coordinates the activities of Starfleet Atlanta with the USS *MacLeod*. The *Republic* was the mothership for the former Shuttle *Alacrity* (now the USS *Alacrity*, NCC-1881), stationed in Memphis.

In addition to picnics, con parties, and visits to Fernbank Science

Center, the *Republic's* community activities have included sending a fully uniformed away team to distribute tribbles at Eggleston Children's Hospital and visiting the MDA Summer Camp. The ship provided volunteer staff for the popular "Star Trek Federation Science Exhibit" at SciTrek Museum in 1993 and has since "adopted" SciTrek as an ongoing volunteer activity. Crew members have assisted at recruiting efforts at Vulkan, Fantasy Fair, and Dixie Trek and have presented Trek-related and Fleet-related talks and fan panels at Magnum Opus Con and at DragonCon as part of the "Trek Trak" programming. The ship hosted the 21st International Starfleet Conference during the summer of 1995. □



USS *MacLeod* • NCC-10524  
Fleet Captain Kathy Webster  
21 Spencer Drive  
Ellenwood, Georgia 30049  
(770) 507-6381

As the USS *Republic* grew, it became apparent that other **STARFLEET** chapters were needed to serve metropolitan Atlanta-area Trekkers. The Shuttle *MacLeod* was formed in December 1991 for southside Atlanta Fleet members. At commissioning ceremonies at Vulkan in February 1993, the USS *MacLeod*, NCC-10524, took its place as the newest ship in Region 2. It is only the fourth Ambassador-class vessel commissioned in the Fleet.

The crew of the *MacLeod*, which includes a large Klingon contingent, has helped staff recruiting efforts at Dixie Trek and participated in the annual Muscular Dystrophy telethons. Crew members collected relief items for distribution to the

victims of Florida's Hurricane Andrew. Other community involvement for *MacLeod* members includes service with Electrical Eggs (working handicap services at cons) and Scottish Rite Children's Hospital. Joint Starfleet Atlanta projects with the USS *Republic* have included con recruiting, participating in the "Trek Trak" panels and discussions at Dragon Con, and picnics at Stone Mountain Park. Members of the *MacLeod* participated in presenting the 21st annual Starfleet International Conference in July of 1995.

When off-duty, *MacLeod* members make their own uniforms and have been known to sling-shot into the past to enjoy a visit to the Atlanta Renaissance Festival. □



**BOWL-A-THON**  
**PLEDGE SHEET**  
**TO BENEFIT**  
**CHILDREN'S MIRACLE NETWORK**  
**MAY 16, 1998**  
**12PM TO 2PM**  
**EXPRESS LANES**  
**SPONSORED BY**  
**KAG'S DARK PHOENIX QUADRANT**  
**&**  
**STARFLEET ATLANTA**



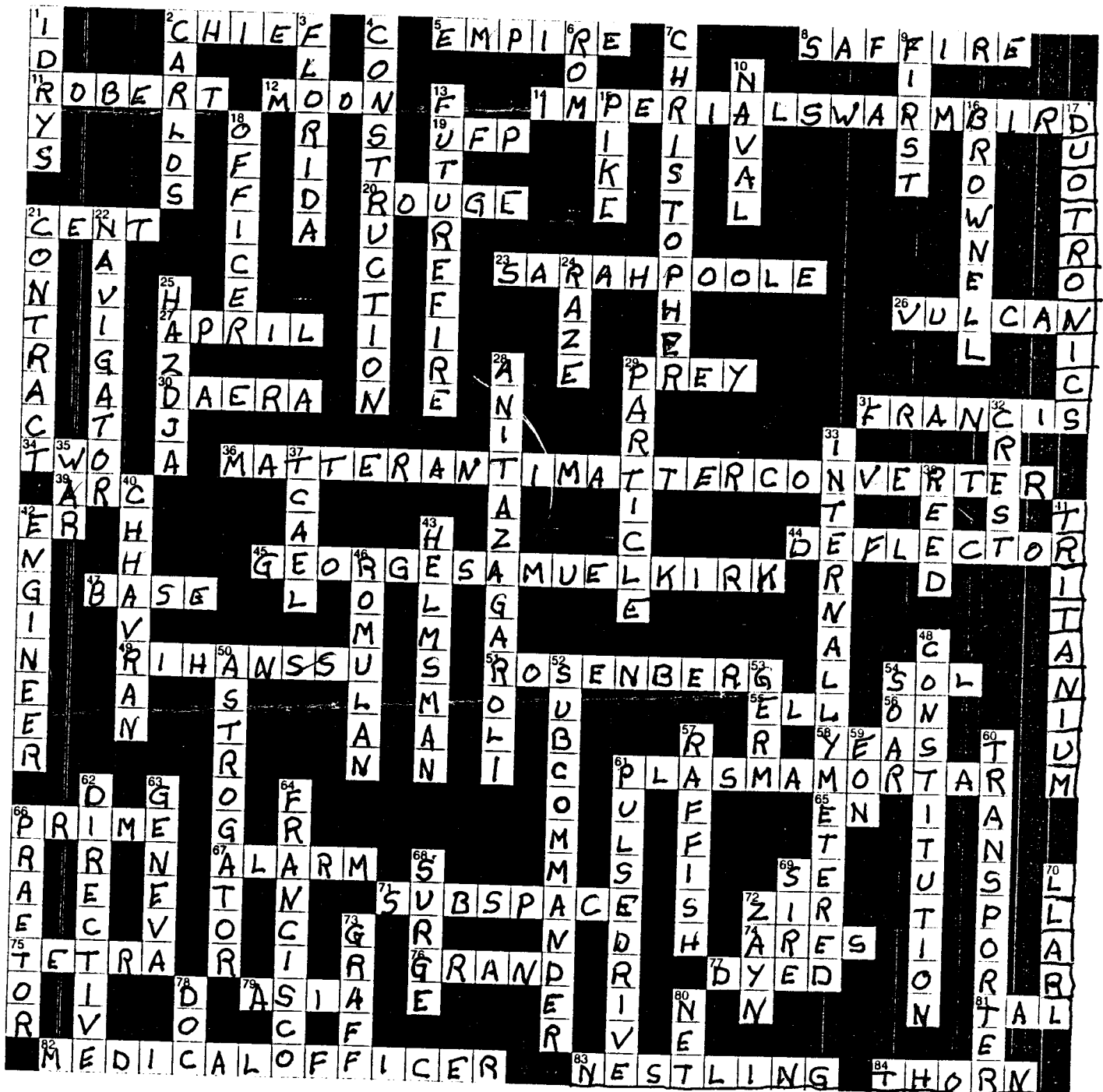
**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_  
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**ORGANIZATION:** \_\_\_\_\_

NO.	NAME OF SPONSOR	AMOUNT PER POINT *	FLAT AMOUNT*
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\* Minimum total amount pledged is \$10.00

# Final Frontier

32. Highest part of a mountain or wave
33. With 61 down; what impulse means
35. With 84 across; Romulan patrol vessel
37. With 76 across; \_\_\_\_\_ primas of Imperial swarmbird
38. With 31 across; Enterprise 1st security chief
40. Romulan home world
41. What Enterprise is constructed of
42. With 2 across; Leo Brownell's position
43. He actually flies the Enterprise
46. Federation name for Riihansu
48. Enterprise is the first of this class
50. It feeds navigational and course information into Enterprise's main computer
52. Romulan military rank
53. Bacterium
54. Romulan patrol vessel
57. Romulan patrol vessel
59. Long period of time
60. Ship to planet means of travel
61. See 33 down
62. See 66 across
63. Where the Federation council is located
64. City by the bay, San \_\_\_\_\_
66. With 76 across; supreme commander
68. Unexpected increase in power
69. Father a child
70. Commander of Raffish
72. See 72 across
73. Second Romulan saboteur
78. Sarah Poole; to her friends
80. Comm \_\_\_\_\_; holographic communications; official Starfleet communications network

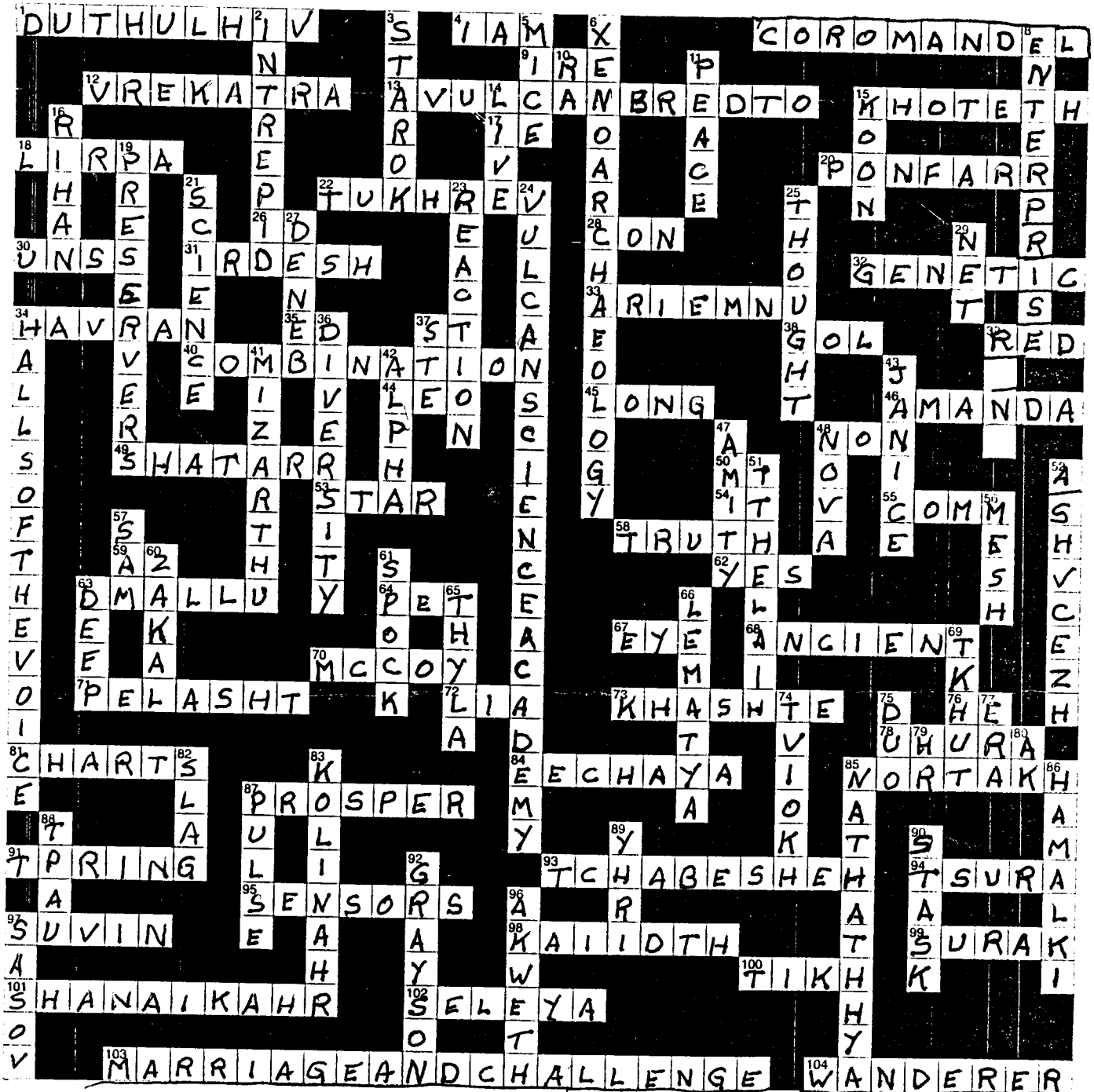


# Spock's World

- worse than death"
56. Fit together snugly, as in gears
57. Jim's brother
60. Most feared of Vulcan's ancient mind lords
61. Enterprise science officer
63. \_\_\_\_ space, Enterprise exploration area
65. Vulcan term meaning "friend, lover, brother, etc."
66. Vulcan nocturnal predator
69. Vulcan name for its neighboring planet, Charis
74. Vulcan term meaning "neighbor";

- usually used as an insult to out-worlders
75. \_\_\_\_-tronics, Daytrom's dream
77. Time period
79. Measurement of time, abbr.
80. Northern state on the Bering Strait, abbr.
82. Molten rock, after cooling; dross
83. Vulcan rite meaning divorce from all emotion
85. Vulcan term meaning "the passing on"
86. Spider-like delicate lifeform
87. I.M. \_\_\_\_; sublight propulsion

- drive
88. Ruler of Vulcan and head of house to Spock
89. Vulcan international terrorist group
90. Father of the Romulan race
92. See 46 across
96. Vulcan term meaning "the hidden"
97. Earth's first Vulcan ambassador



## *Calendar of Events*

May 9th - **Republic 10th Anniversary Party** - CANCELLED! See Vulkan for rescheduled activities.

May 16th - **Bowl-a-thon** - This is a fundraiser for the Children's Miracle Network. Plan to sign up and raise some funds for our charity. We will be doing this in cooperation with the MacLeod and the local KAG ships as well.

May 22nd - **Vulkan** - Holiday Inn, Delk Rd - Guests: Ethan Phillips and Robyn Downs. The Republic's 10th Anniversary Celebration Week-end. We plan a room party as well as dinner at the Spaghetti Warehouse. Stop by the Table at Vulkan for mor einfo. The Republic will be manning the Starfleet Atlanta Table along with the MacLeod. We need YOU to volunteer for a shift. Contact Tonya/Mike to do so!

June 6th - **Food Bank** - We will go to the Food Bank after the meeting to volunteer for a few hours to help sort food. Contact Tonya or Mike for further details!

July 4th - **Starfleet Atlanta Picnic** - As this is the usual meeting day for both of our ships, then why not combine that with a nice picnic and possibly a BBQ. We are still looking for a suitable site, so let us know if you have someplace for us to have this???

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August 22 - Raindate for the Stone Mt Trip!

Sept 3-6 - **Dragon\*Con** - Guests: Robin Curtis, Anthony Daniels, Jeff Conaway, Pat Tallman among 300 others! There is a STARFLEET table that we put together and help man, we need YOU! Contact Tonya for further info.

There you have it, these dates \*MIGHT\* change, but plan for those dates right now!

VAdm Mike Henigan  
Chief of Operations

# **Con Watch**

**Mike Henigan**

**Vulkon, Atlanta, May 23-25, 1998.** Guest: Ethan Phillips, Robin A. Downes <Byron, B5>. Place: Holiday Inn, Delk Rd. Marietta Ga. For more info contact Joe Motes at Joemotes@aol.com.

**PHENOMICON** - June 26-28, 1998, HighPoint, NC. Guest: Jason Carter is the B5 guest, along with Sandra Bruckner from the B5 Fan Club; Janet Nemecek <script coordinator, Voyager> and Larry Nemecek <Star Trek Historian> The event will be held at the Holiday Inn, Market Square in High Point, North Carolina. For more information, call (336) 475-2342. Write to: Phenomicon 98, P.O. Box 250, Thomasville, NC 27361. Their web site is <http://www.stargame.org/phenomicon98>.

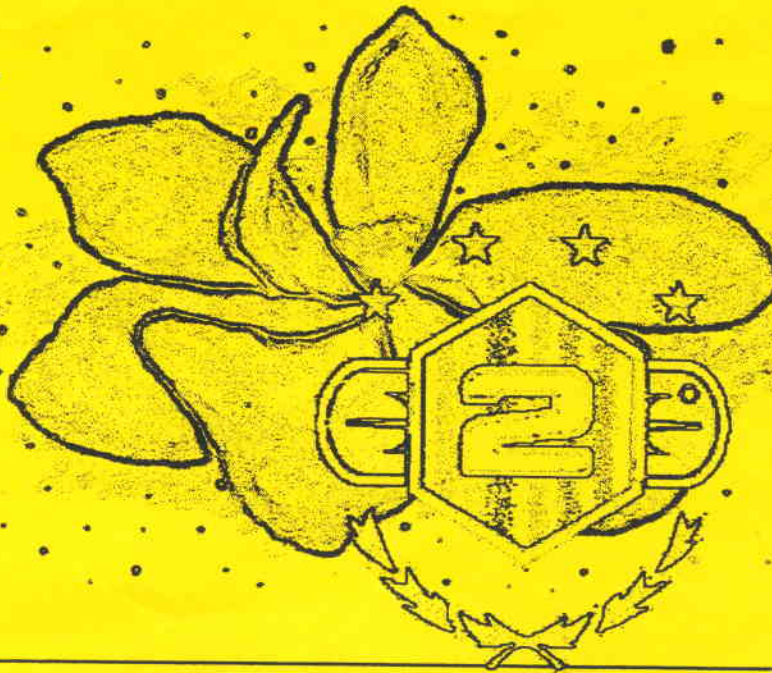
**OutWorld** - June 26-28, Atlanta, Georgia. Harvey Hotel. Guests -- Erick Wujcik, Ed Kramer, Bill Johnson, Brad Strickland, James Lock. Web Site -- [www.geocities.com/Area51/Rampart/1498](http://www.geocities.com/Area51/Rampart/1498). Email --outworld.dan@juno.com

**Starfleet 1998 International Conference** - July 2-5, Lubbock, Texas. Holiday Inn Civic Center, 801 Avenue Q, Lubbock, Texas, 79401, 806-763-1200. Email [uss.quanah.parker@sfi.org](mailto:uss.quanah.parker@sfi.org), write IC'98, PO Box 94353, Lubbock TX, 79493-4353. Conference members \$20, Dinner with the brass \$10, Saturday night banquet \$25. Make check payable to Starfleet IC '98.

**Dragon\*Con** - September 3-6, 1998 at the Atlanta Apparel Mart and Hyatt Regency Atlanta in Atlanta, Georgia. Dragon\*Con is the host of the 1998 First Fandom Reunion and Hall of Fame Awards. Over 300 Notable guests for this year including: Jonathan Harris (Lost in Space), Robin Curtis (Star Trek), Jeff Conaway & Pat Tallman (B5), Harlan Ellison, Peter David, Kevin J Anderson and Anthony Daniels (Star Wars' C3PO) who will serve as Master of Ceremonies. Hyatt Regency Atlanta and the Atlanta Apparel Mart. All major programming events, banquets and receptions, the Art Show, late-night concerts and dances, as well as the Convention Hospitality Suite will be in the Hyatt Regency Atlanta. Rooms are \$119 per night single and double (\$10 additional per person for triple / quad); suites are discounted at 30% off published rates: call (404)577-1234. Pre-Registration: Weekend passes good for all four days are \$40 through March 31, 1998, and \$50 through July 31, 1998. Atlanta in '98 Pre-Supporters receive a \$5 discount (by mail only). Memberships will be available at the convention for \$60. Children-in-tow, age six and under admitted free of charge; professional babysitting provided with paid membership for child. Special Family and Club Discounts are also available. For info: Call our 24-hour info / fax line at (770) 623-6321 or call the Dragon Con office at (770) 909-0115 or e-mail to [dragoncon@dragoncon.org](mailto:dragoncon@dragoncon.org) or link to <http://www.dragoncon.org>. You can register by mail or charge your four- day membership using Visa, MC, or AMEX by calling TicketMaster at (404) 249-6400 through Sept 5, 1998.



# MAGNOLIA SUMMIT '99



**MARCH 5-7, 1999**  
**JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI**

The Ships of Zone 4 are proud to host the 1999 Region 2 Summit. Along with the regularly scheduled Region 2 workshops, fun and events, we have a special guest:

Astronaut Fred Haise, namesake of the USS Haise, NCC-74664

Pkg A - \$35.00 (including Registration, Hospitality, and Banquet) - Prior to November 1

\$40.00 Prior to January 1

\$50.00 Prior to February 28th.

Pkg B - \$20.00 - Meetings Only, Prior to January 1

\$25.00 - Prior to February 28th.

Summit T-Shirt - \$15.00 Sizes Sm-XL  
17.00 Sizes 2XL, 3XL



**MAGNOLIA SIMONT '89**

**MARCH 5-7, 1988**  
**JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI**

- Hear Fred Haise discuss Apollo 13 and the Space Shuttle program.
- Throw a tribble or cream pie at your 'favorite' person for charity.
- Attend workshops on recruiting, media, costuming, SFMC, etc.
- Stuff your face at the banquet.
- Honor the annual Region 2 Awardees and cheer for your ship.
- Race in the Grand Prix Race.
- Come in under par in RC's Putt Putt Tourney.
- Enjoy the planetarium shows- 3 blocks from the hotel
- Become the Great Dalmuti for a year.
- Visit Quark's Casino in Vicksburg.
- Study Federation History at the Vicksburg Battlefield Park

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## Registration Form:

**Pkg A - \$35.00 (including Registration, Hospitality, and Banquet)**

- Prior to November 1

**\$40.00 Prior to January 1**

**\$50.00 Prior to February 28th.**

\$\_\_\_\_\_

**Pkg B - \$20.00 - Meetings Only, Prior to**

January 1

**\$25.00 - Prior to February 28th.**

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Summit T-Shirt - \$15.00 Sizes Sm-XL**

**17.00 Sizes 2XL, 3XL**

Size \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Enclosed:**

§

**Mail check or money order to Region 2 1999 Summit c/o Mike Henigan,  
1115 McGill Park Avenue, Atlanta, GA 30312 Please do not send cash.**