

The RAINBOW **CONNECTION**

The Official Monthly Newsletter of the USS Heimdal, NCC 1793 Based (Space docked?) in Madison Heights, Virginia

STARFLEET'S CHAPTER OF THE YEAR 2008 & 2012

The END OF SUMMER Issue, September 2024 Email: heimdalco@aol.com, Website: http://www.ussheimdal.com





From Heimdal's July meeting. See article about the meeting later in this newsletter



FROM THE COMMANDING OFFICER Admiral Linda Smith - Starfleet 2024 SFDPP Certified

I don't know if you've noticed, but this year I've been trying to change the photos of Willy, Carl and me every month just for fun. This month I'm using younger photos of us. It all started when I asked Carl for a photo of him smiling. Carl DOES smile and even laughs but it's hard to get a photo of him doing it, so I asked him for a smiling one. Apparently, it was hard for him to find one, too. He sent me the one following and said it was, "Smiling, sort of." He also said he was a bit younger. THAT gave me the idea to use photos of all of us a "little younger" just for kicks. I hope you enjoy seeing the younger US.

If you were at the last several Heimdal meetings you know that lots of unusual things and changes are going on in Starfleet. Heimdal's Executive Committee with lots of help from Bud are trying our best to comply. It's been challenging, to say the least. I sent the bulk of the information to everyone on email but there will be a condensed version in this newsletter in the STARFLEET STUFF section. We're trying our best to keep everyone informed and up-to-date as we decipher the info as we get it. This new newsletter layout is part of that change.

Kirk, "Spock, times they are a-changing ..."

Spock, "Indeed, Captain ..."

And that's about where we are, so try to come to the meetings, read the newsletter and please feel free to ask us ... any of the Command Staff members, Executive Committee members and Bud. We'll be glad to fill you in on what we know. But now, just buckle your seat belts, hold onto something and enjoy this newsletter.



FROM THE OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER

XO, Chief Science Officer, Adm. Willy Smith – Starfleet 2024 SFDPP Certified

Many probably think that Linda and I come to dinner in uniform each evening, I pull the chair out and say "Admiral Smith," she stands in front of her chair and whips off the white sheet covering the dinner she spent hours preparing and says, "Admiral Smith" to me and after my brief gasp, we bow our heads and begin to go over reports and consume the wonderful meal. I really hate to pop anyone's virtual bubble but we don't have napkins or tablecloth with UFP embroidered and the utensils are probably just like yours ... PLUS, after 27 years of marriage I just learned there was something called a breakfast fork. Huh? Why all this information you may ask? There is much going on but I can only comment on a few things, right now. ONE thing I <u>DO</u> know is that digging up tree stumps by hand is a daunting task at my age. It CAN be done but I think 2 is my limit for this season.

At our last meeting we learned about our Viking heritage from Jeffrey Rigdon, president of Vikings of the Valley and our very own Weston Webb. Jeffrey came from Roanoke to speak once he learned the name of our chapter is Heimdal (there are many books on Norse mythology that includes Heimdal and who it supposedly was). I really enjoyed the presentation.

You'll read about the latest "phaser simulation" further into this newsletter and of course we have members taking STARFLEET Academy courses. There's so much this month I'll not hold you much longer.

I want to personally thank everyone for helping our chapter be compliant with the new database and renew after I send a reminder. Most of you know the email when you see "friendly reminder" ... just another hat I wear. We still have ONE member in Region 90 and we've done all we can do. I can't produce an email for this member but I did find a mention of their birthdate in my old rosters. Linda is still keeping this person on our roster. More news later.



FROM THE DESK OF THE SECOND OFFICER

RAdm. Carl Davis, Second Officer, Chief of Security - Starfleet SFDPP 2024 Certified

I just finished watching the William Shatner produced movie "The Captains." The film consists of a series of interviews conducted by <u>William Shatner</u>, who portrayed <u>Captain James T. Kirk</u> in <u>the original Star Trek</u> with the various other actors who have portrayed <u>Star Trek</u> Captains: <u>Sir Patrick Stewart</u>, <u>Avery Brooks</u>, Kate Mulgrew, Scott Bakula, and Chris Pine.

The Captains delves into each actor's life and career leading up to their film or television performances. The film devotes attention to Shatner's own acting roots, tracking his journey from his beginnings at the <u>Stratford Shakespeare Festival</u> and <u>CBC Radio</u> and <u>CBC Television</u>, to headlining <u>Broadway shows</u>, and eventually getting his break in <u>Hollywood</u> as the star of <u>Gene Roddenberry</u>'s <u>Star Trek</u> series. I don't know how I missed out on seeing this since it came out in 2011.

It was enjoyable seeing the behind-the-scenes happenings at a very large con and remembering some of those that Bonnie and I have attended. My biggest disappointment in the movie was that none of the captains seemed sure about where they would spend eternity. I was surprised that Shatner would bring up the subject and the general feelings of the captains were "I don't know." It tugged at my Christian heartstrings to hear these people who have become a part of our family of sorts to have such uncertainty about the hereafter.

Perhaps I am the last Trek fan to see *the Captains* but if you also managed to miss it then I recommend it for a quiet evening of reminiscing. Shucks, if you saw it in 2011, then it will probably seem like brand new. It happens that way for me anyway.

<u>Disclaimer:</u> This is purely my opinion and doesn't reflect any connection or relation with Paramount/CBS or the Heimdal. I am sorry if any have been offended in any way. No animals were harmed in the typing of this report.

MEETINGS AND COMMITMENTS

SEPTEMBER MEETING

The September Heimdal meeting will be September 21 starting at 6:30 p.m. at the Madison Heights Library and on ZOOM. Please bring an item for refreshments and bring a friend.

Our guest speaker will be Ethan Mason, our student Space Camp trip winner that went to Space Camp in June. He will be telling us all about his trip and will be answering our questions. This will be our opportunity



to see what a wonderful experience we were able to provide for Ethan, our 16th. Space Camp winner. Most of us met Ethan last fall when he and his dad came to a meeting right after he'd won our Space Camp Contest.

We'll see ou at the meeting.

Tim Hazlett will be our ZOOM Coordinator for the evening and the ZOOM address is:

Topic: Heimdal Zoom Meeting

Time: Sep 21, 2024 06:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

https://zoom.us/j/9274947336?omn=97176776633

Meeting ID: 927 494 7336

Passcode: 273082 One tap mobile

+13017158592,,9274947336#,,,,*273082# US (Washington DC)

8558801246,,9274947336#,,,,*273082# US Toll-free

Dial by your location

• +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

• 855 880 1246 US Toll-free

Meeting ID: 927 494 7336

Passcode: 273082

Find your local number: https://zoom.us/u/acC7yeT7hQ



AUGUST MEETING

It Takes a Viking to Raise a Village **August 2024 Chapter Meeting of the USS Heimdal** By Commander William M. Walker, Jr. - Operations

The Heimdal crew gathered at the Madison Heights Public Library (part of Amherst County Public Library system) and online via Zoom on August 17, 2024, for the monthly chapter meeting.

Admiral Linda Smith called the meeting to order and reviewed upcoming events for the chapter. She announced that the



41st Anniversary Party will be April 12, 2025. Admiral Smith informed the membership that she does not receive copies of Starfleet Academy grades, despite what may appear on the automatic emails sent by the Academy. She asked that everyone forward their grades to her directly, and that she will include all she receives before a meeting in that month's MSR report.

Admiral Smith reported that the chapter has one member in "Region 90," meaning that Starfleet International does not officially have that person on the Heimdal roster, due to a lack of email address. The Admiral stated that this person will remain on the Heimdal roster regardless of any action by Starfleet International.

Admiral Smith led a general discussion regarding legal threats from Paramount & CBS regarding copyright image infringement, and guidance received from Starfleet International. There was general agreement that better explanations should be coming from SFI.

PO3 Angie Arnold announced that she will be attempting to host a game night on October 12 at the Madison Heights Public Library.

The guest speaker for the evening was Jeffrey Rigdon, president of Vikings of the Valley.

Taken from Admiral Smith's MSR report: This club is out of Roanoke and educates folks on how medieval life really was for the Scandinavian people and Northern Europeans. They have purchased a ship from the TV show, Vikings to redo into a more accurate style ship and have been working on that for a while! It's 75 feet long. They are also putting together an historical theme park in Roanoke, which is very exciting. Heimdal member, Weston Webb is also a member of the club.





Both Jeffrey & Weaton came in costume & brought an impressive assortment display of Viking helmets, weapons & swords.

Jeffrey spoke about the origin of the Vikings, the ancestry most of us share with the Vikings, what life was ACTUALLY like for them, where the mythology originated, told us about Thor & other personalities we were most familiar with & gave a wonderful presentation. Afterward they held a Q&A session with some very sophisticated questions from those present. It was an excellent presentation followed by refreshments.

Admiral Linda Smith adjourned the meeting.



HEIMDAL'S 41ST ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION: APRIL 2025

WE HAVE A THEME!!!!

Last month I told you about the 2025 41st Heimdal Anniversary Celebration that will be April 12 at the Lynchburg Grand Hotel. More details will be coming in a month or so. WATCH THIS SPACE!

THIS MOMTH we have a Party THEME --- *HEROES AND VILLAINS*. That will also be the costumes of the evening and the Costume Contest theme. The possibilities are ENDLESS and we have some time to think about our costumes and put them together.

Don't forget to WATCH THIS SPACE for updates

HEIMDAL PEOPLE

STARFLEET ACADEMY GRADUATES - CONGRATULATIONS!



Admiral Willy Smith

OPS 131 Hostage Rescue part 1 - Jul 20, 2024 - DISTINCTION

OPS 132 Hostage Rescue part 2 - Jul 21, 2024 - HONORS

OPS 133 CBRN Warfare & Special Operations, Part 1 - Jul 21, 2024 - DISTINCTION

OPS 134 CBRN Warfare & Special Operations, Part 2 - Jul 21, 2024 - HONORS

OPS 135 CBRN Warfare & Special Operations, Part 3 - Jul 22, 2024 - DISTINCTION

OPS 136 CBRN Warfare & Special Operations, Part 4 - Jul 22, 2024 - DISTINCTION

OPS 137 Animal Packing Operations part 1 - Jul 23, 2024 - HONORS

OPS 139 Animal Packing Operations part 3 - Jul 24, 2024 - HONORS

OPS 140 Animal Packing Operations part 4 - Jul 24, 2024 - HONORS

OPS 138 Animal Packing Operations part 2 - Jul 24, 2024. DISTINCTION

OPS 141 Psychological Operations & Guerilla Warfare Pt 1 - Jul 25, 2024 - DISTINCTION

OPS 142 Psychological Operations & Guerilla Warfare Pt 2 - Jul 26, 2024 - DISTINCTION

OPS 143 Psychological Operations & Guerilla Warfare Pt 3 - Jul 26, 2024 - DISTINCTION

IOMOS- College of SpecOps Units - CSOU

RECON 102 - Current Recon - CSOU - Jul 29, 2024 - DISTINCTION

RECON 103 - Weapons - CSOU - Jul 31, 2024 - DISTINCTION

WWSO 104 - Australian & New Zealand Special Forces - Aug 01, 2024 - HONORS

RECON 105 - Training - CSOU - Aug 2, 2024 - DISTINCTION

RECON 106 - LRSU Surveillance I - CSOU - Aug 2, 2024 - DISTINCTION

RECON 107 - LRSU Surveillance II - CSOU - Aug 4, 2024 - DISTINCTION

RECON 108 - LRSU Surveillance III - CSOU - Aug 4, 2024 - HONORS

RECON 109 - LRSU Surveillance - Aug 5, 2024 - PASS

IOMOS - School of SpecOps Defense - CSOR

DEFT 103 - Natural Weapons - Aug 6, 2024 - DISTINCTION

DEFT 104a - Defensive Techniques Against Weapons - Aug 7, 2024 - DISTINCTION

DEFT 104b - Defensive Techniques Against Weapons II - Aug 8, 2024 - DISTINCTION

DEFT 105 - Knife, Rope & Stick Combat - Aug 9, 2024 - DISTINCTION

DEFT 106 - Defensive Techniques - Aug 10, 2024 DISTINCTION

DEFT 107a - Martial Arts Overview Pt 1a (Far Eastern) - Aug 10, 2024 - DISTINCTION



DEFT 107b - Martial Arts Overview Pt 1b (Far Eastern) - Aug 11, 2024 - DISTINCTION

DEFT 108 - Martial Arts Overview Pt 3 (Worldwide) - Aug 12, 2024 - DISTINCTION

DEFT 109 - Martial Arts Overview Pt 4 (European/North American) - Aug 12, 2024 - DISTINCTION

IOMOS - School of SpecOps Defense CSOR

SNIP 101a - In the Beginning, Part 1 - Aug 14, 2024 - DISTINCTION

SNIP 101b - In the Beginning, Part 2 - Aug 15, 2024 - DISTINCTION

SNIP 102 - Care of Equipment -Aug 16, 2024 – HONORS



CMDR Zachary Lyon

IOSS - College of Orbital Mechanics

DISTINCTION for COOM 101 Laws of Motion and orbits Jul 08, 2024

IOTK - College of Plasma Technology

HONORS for CPT 103 - Types of Plasma on Jul 14, 2024

IOSS - College of Spaceflight

HONORS for GEMI 102 - Gemini 2 on Jul 21, 2024

HONORS for GEMI 103 - Gemini 3 on Jul 22, 2024

HONORS for GEMI 104 - Gemini 4 on Jul 22, 2024



LT Lyon Jody (3 Courses,

IOSS - School of Planetary Identification & Discovery

DISTINCTION for SPID 110 - Minor Planets part 1 on Jul 17, 2024

DISTINCTION for SPID 111 - Minor Planets part 2 on Jul 24, 2024

DISTINCTION for SPID 112 - What are Carbon and Chthonian Planets on Jul 24, 2024



Cindy Ward

IOLS - STARFLEET Command College (IOLS:SFCC)

OTS HONORS Mar 30, 2024

OCC HONORS Apr 23, 2024

IOMA - CSME College of Starfleet Medical – 28 courses

CSME 104a Drugs and Treatments Analgesics and Anesthetics - HONORS - Jun 23, 2024

CSME 104b Drugs and Treatments Cardio and Immune suppressants - DISTINCTION - Jun 23, 2024

CSME 104c Drugs and Treatments Neurological and Radiation - DISTINCTION - Jun 23, 2024

CSME 104d Drugs and Treatments Resuscitative, Respiratory, and Sedatives - HONORS - Jun 23, 2024

CSME 104e Drugs and Treatments Stimulants - DISTINCTION - Jun 23, 2024

CSME 104f Drugs and Treatments Other drugs and treatments - DISTINCTION - Jun 23, 2024

CSME 105a Medical Conditions Andorian, Klingon, Vulcan - DISTINCTION - Aug 10, 2024

CSME 105b Medical Conditions Bioengineering and Biological Warfare - HONORS - Aug 10, 2024

CSME 105d Medical Conditions Cellular, Genetic and T-cell - PASS - Aug 10, 2024

CSME 105e Medical conditions Chemical Illnesses - HONORS - Aug 10, 2024

CSME 105c Medical Conditions Cardiac, circulatory, Respiratory - DISTINCTION - Aug 11, 2024

CSME 105f Medical Conditions Encephalitis and Neurological conditions - HONORS - Aug 11, 2024

CSME 105g Medical Conditions Fevers - DISTINCTION - Aug 11, 2024

CSME 105h Medical Conditions Influenza and Insect Borne Infections - DISTINCTION - Aug 11, 2024

CSME 105i Medical Conditions Plague - HONORS - Aug 11, 2024

CSME 105k Medical Conditions Shock and Space Borne diseases - HONORS - Aug 11, 2024

CSME 1051 Medical Conditions Temporal and Transporter conditions - HONORS - Aug 11, 2024

CSME 105m Medical Conditions Viruses - HONORS - Aug 11, 2024

CSME 105n Medical Conditions Other Medical Conditions - DISTINCTION - Aug 11, 2024

CSME 105j Medical Conditions Psychiatric conditions - HONORS - Aug 11, 2024



RENEWALS

A special THANK YOU to Jimmy Farlow, and Beth & Peter Hopkins, for renewing and staying with our Heimdal "family" for another amazing year.

Our Membership Coordinator (one of the many hats he wears), Willy Smith sends out email reminders to everyone a month in advance of your renewal date. THANK YOU, Willy! And he will renew for you with the Heimdal's PayPal account and you can pay us back if you'd rather do it that way. To pay the Heimdal back if we renew for you, please make your check out to Linda Smith and she will deposit it into the Heimdal's account. We ask that you reimburse the Heimdal within in 60 days following your renewal.

Remember the increase in membership rates went into effect on January 1 and congratulations to those of you that renewed 'under the wire.' You may also renew for multiple years with Starfleet ... not just a year at the time.

XXX <u>PLEASE NOTE</u>: When Willy sends you your renewal reminder, he includes in that email your SCC number and expiration date.

Remember, Starfleet suggests you renew a month before your expiration date so you won't risk being removed from the Heimdal's roster, which happens at the stroke of midnight on your expiration date if you haven't renewed.

Those needing to renew are

October - Glenda & Dan Blanks - October 11

Karen Delano - October 18

November – Tim Hazlett – November 18

December - Niki Kessler - December 5

Leslie Miller – December 8



HAPPY BIRTHDAY, RICHARD !!!!

HEIMDAL STUFF

OCTOBER GAME NIGHT

Game Night Coordinator, Angie Arnold is planning Heimdal's Fall Game Night for October 12 at the Madison Heights Library. This will be a **Board Game Night** with everyone bringing their favorite board game to share.

Details will be in the October newsletter and the time will be announced.

This will be so much fun and we hope you'll join us there.

WEB SITE UPDATE From Bud Walker, Webmaster

As many of you may already know, we have had to change our web site due to circumstances beyond our control. However, the old pages are not gone! If you would like to view the current newsletter, the latest role play writing, or look at the old pictures in our gallery, you can still do that. Use this link to access the "members only" section of the chapter's web site:

Star Trek Club | Heimdal Science Fiction

ussheimdal.com

You will be prompted to enter a password. **Please contact me for the password.**If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or anyone on the Command Staff. **Bud Walker, Webmaster**





WHAT DO YOU THINK??????

Because Starfleet is being extremely careful about infringing on any Star Trek copyrighted or trademarked properties held by Paramount Studios / CBS, Skydance, anything using the Delta Shield is not advised. In our effort to be compliant, I have removed this newsletter's previous border design ... it was time for a change anyway ... and I've done a new TRIAL layout this month. I LIKE it. It's cleaner, less busy and keeps us in compliance. I'm not sure what I will do in the coming months > something different every month or work on a repeating page border. WHAT DO YOU THINK? Let me know, please.

RILEY'S RAMBLINGS

BLACKBEARD!By Richard Riley



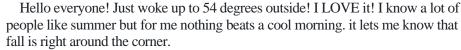


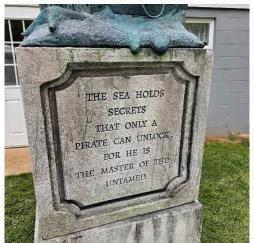












In the spirit of fall I thought I would share with you my latest project, a tombstone. This one is different than any of my previous tombstones. I wanted to change it up a bit on this one. Most of my tombstones have the look of granite or marble but I wanted to create a piece that would have other elements added to it. I went with having bronze pieces to go with it. A lot of monuments will have a bronze medallion, plaque or statue added to the granite pedestal to showcase the person or event being memorialized.

My client from Charleston had a very special request for a tombstone this year. He requested Blackbeard! Seems Blackbeard was notorious for patrolling the areas around Charleston so what better tombstone than one for the notorious Pirate!

The first thing that I do when someone requests that I create a tombstone of an actual person is I look to see if there is a headstone that exists in real life. If it is then I will go about trying to recreate the tombstone to resemble the real one.

I learned that Blackbeard did not have a tombstone. It seems he was beheaded, his body thrown into the ocean and then his head displayed on a pole

for some time. A rather gruesome end to him! So, with that being said, I had free reign to design whatever type of tombstone that I like! A normal tombstone would not do for such a legendary character. It would need to be more of a grand monument for him rather than a normal headstone.

So, I came up with the idea of having a treasure chest incorporated into the design since that is what he is known for, pirating! I knew it would need other elements, though to tie it all together so I needed some swords, a skull, a flintlock and some seashells to round it out.



Now the design! I was originally thinking of having this all look like it was carved from granite but then it occurred to me why not have certain parts look like oxidized bronze as if this monument was old and had been around for centuries. The design ended up being the treasure chest on top with sand around it and a few starfish which would all look like bronze. Next would be the skull and crossed swords, the universal symbol for the pirate flag or "Jolly Roger." Quotes would be added to the memorial that are attributed to Blackbeard along with his name and the dates of his birth and death.

The first thing to take on was the treasure chest! That was carved from foam, the handles and lock were add-ons, much simpler to purchase those items that were ready-made than to create them from foam. I did the same thing with the skull, swords, flintlock and starfish, just toys that were incorporated into the build. I like these mixed media builds; it helps speed up the build process, also no need to create from scratch what can be readily purchased.

The build itself was fairly straightforward however, the paint job would be another story. The treasure chest and the skull and swords were painted this blue / green then weathered heavily to give the appearance of oxidized bronze. The bronze when new has a dark brown tint to it but with the air around it the bronze will quickly start to tarnish into the blue / green color that we see on older statues today. I did weathering on the pedestal as well. That is created using spray bottles of watered-down acrylic paint, spattering the paint and allowing it to run down staining it.

This has to be one of my favorite tombstones so far. The added "metal" look, I think I will bring into more future builds for tombstones. An amazing project for sure!

FROM OUR DEPARTMENTS



<<<**SECURITY>>>**

SECURITY REPORT: September 2024 By RAdm. Carl Davis, Chief of Security, Starfleet SFDPP Certified

Several of the crew had been looking forward to phaser sim for a couple months. We were sorry that Security Officer, Jonathan Hatter would be unable to join us as he was recuperating from another bout of COVID. He was in the sniffle stage and anyone who has joined us for phaser sim knows that sniffling under the face mask is not pleasant.

We gathered at the paintball fields of Bonnie and Carl. As is often the case the Science Department was represented by Willy and Bonnie. Security members Carl and Joe were also present. It was a beautiful day for playing with the temperature only being a bit warmer than ideal. Willy will be bringing a report on the day's activities but I feel like I should mention that Security had the edge for the 6 games that we got in and were redeemed from the last outing that we played.

Security aboard the Heimdal is still above the normal accepted parameters for a ship our size and we appreciate all the efforts of the crew to continue to make it so.





PAINTBALL AUGUST 24 By Admiral Willy Smith – Chief Science Officer, SFDPP Certified

This was your usual Science against Security game and you never know what's going to happen ... little things like mechanical problems can change the entire day. I've been having problems with my marker and I can't afford something new, so I rented one from Carl.

For those taking the time to read this article it was a nice day. You don't know what you're missing.

We started out on the upper field that has satellite dishes and for a little while it looked

like Science would have a decent day, but Security ended up with the upper hand. Joe was having marker issues but still shot me between the eyes ... but we still had a decent day. Keep reading please...

FUN FACT... Bonnie mostly shoots **blue** paint. Carl and I were having a shootout and a few of his rounds missed and landed on the path, unbroken. Heading to the next field, Bonnie picked up 2 of the perfect pink paintballs, put 'em in her gun. Out of the hundred or so paintballs Bonnie had loaded, one of those awful pink ones found its way to Carl's facemask breathing holes and turned his facial hair pink. It would be hard to duplicate again and I know what pink tastes like. What are the odds? That's what makes the sport so interesting plus being with friends. Wish more could attend

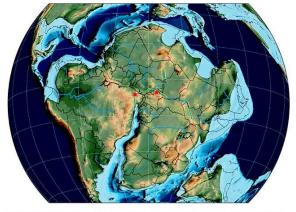
<<**SCIENCE**>>>

MATCHING SETS OF DINOSAUR FOOTPRINTS FOUND ON OPPOSITE SIDES OF THE ATLANTIC OCEAN

By Admiral Willy Smith – Chief Science Officer, SFDPP Certified

Matching sets of footprints discovered in Africa and South America reveal that dinosaurs once
traveled along a type of highway 120 million years ago before the two continents split apart, according to
new research (CNN).

Willy here... You know, I probably wasn't the only kid to look at a world globe in school and think, "those lands used to be together, I'll bet." So, during geography class in the 4th grade I raised my hand and asked that very question, only to have the class break into a fit of laughter and the teacher say, "not now Robie." It probably wasn't a good time to ask since we were learning about the Nile River in Africa at the time. <u>FUN FACT:</u> The Nile River is approx. 4,100 miles long and was historically



Old Earth

thought to be the longest river in the world. ANYWAY, the question about the

land masses being linked never was brought up in school again ... if I had only asked the question at the right time, I might have been labeled a genus.

back to the tracks. Paleontologists have found more than 260 dinosaur footprints from the Early Cretaceous Period in Brazil and Central Africa, now more than 3,700 miles apart on opposite sides of the Atlantic Ocean. The footprints are similar in age, shape and geologic context. Most of the fossilized prints were

created by three-toed theropod dinosaurs, while a few likely

belonged to those lumbering four-legged sauropods with long necks and tails (you know, the kind that Fred Flintstone used to dig on the *Flintstones*.)

The trackways tell a story of how the movements of massive landmasses created ideal conditions for dinosaurs before supercontinents broke apart into the seven continents we know today. There were lush basins for life and the footprints were preserved in mud and silt along ancient rivers and lakes that once existed on the supercontinent, Gondwana, which broke away from the larger landmass of Pangea.

One of the youngest and narrowest geological connections between Africa and South America was the elbow of northeastern Brazil nestled against what is now the coast of Cameroon along the Gulf of Guinea. The two continents were as one along that narrow stretch, so that animals on either side of that connection could potentially move across it.



Dinosaur Tracks in Brazil



Africa and South America began to pull apart from each other about 140 million years ago. The separation created rifts in Earth's crust, and as the tectonic plates beneath South America and Africa

drifted away, magma in Earth's mantle created new oceanic crust. Over time, the South Atlantic Ocean filled the space between the two continents.

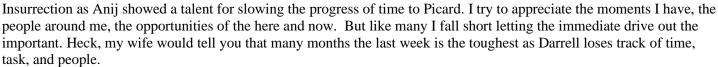
We still haven't figured out for sure what caused the dinosaurs to disappear so quickly but some scientists tend to believe the Earth was hit with a meteor that possibly shifted rotation of the Earth ... and the skies were filled with dirt and ash for years. We'll leave that for another article by someone with more information. *The lands WERE together and a certain 4th grader with another name still remembers*.

<<<ENGINEERING>>>>



ENGINEERING UPDATE FCAPT Darrell Millner, Chief Engineering Officer R1 RDC ENG., Starfleet SFDPP Certified, SFA RED Squad Monthly ENG/OPS Report - SD: 202409.04

I lean back and sip my coffee wondering how we could already be in September 2024. I always hoped that in my twilight years' time would be like STAR TREK



August was great in many ways. With ZOOMS for Role Play, Heimdal Engineering, RDC Engineering, and hosting the Heimdal Monthly meeting. The honor of participating in an evening with Heiðinn Vikingr (Vikings of the Valley) Roanoke Virginia. Working on the Heimdal Engineering website and The Engineering Link. August has been nothing if not power packed. And all of that has been great with the exception of running late on T.E.L. Things are getting away from me but reining them in ha ha – quick more coffee.

A reminder for those that may not have kept up with the email exchanges from 'Heimdal Groups' this month. Regarding the Heimdal Engineering website, the welcome page providing an overview for Heimdal Members to introduce them to the Engineering Department and its direction trek.millnernet.com has been updated and remains available to all on the net. The archive page of **The Engineering Link** monthly newsletter which provides the option to view, print, download current and historical documents (ha ha) https://trek.millnernet.com/home/eng-link/ requires a password now and if you do not see it in your emails from 9/1 please reach out to me via trek1793@millnernet.com and you will receive it.

It is a blessing to work so closely with so many talented and positive people with the Heimdal, Region One, SFA (oh wow I may have to make some apologies regarding SFA yikes) and beyond. Remember everyone, "Put a little TREK in your day" – Millner Out.

<<<<MEDICAL>>>>



MEDICAL MINUTE: September 2024 By Commander Tammy White, Chief Medical Officer . PACEMAKERS FOR PEOPLE AND DOGS

I found out some interesting information about pacemakers that I thought I would share with everyone this

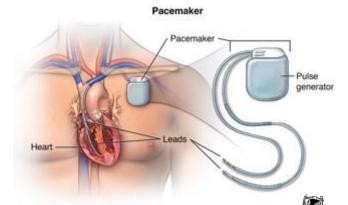
month.

There are about 3 million Americans with pacemakers. Most are older adults over 65. Every year there are about 200,000 more pacemakers implanted.

A pacemaker is a small battery-powered device that prevents the heart from beating too slowly. During surgery the device is placed under the skin near the collarbone. It can also be called a cardiac pacing device. There are 3 different kinds. A single chamber pacemaker usually sends electrical signals to the lower right chamber of the heart. The dual chamber pacemaker sends electrical signals to the upper and lower right chambers. The third is a biventricular pacemaker. This is also called a resynchronization pacemaker and is used for people that have heart failure and a slow heartbeat. The

device stimulates both lower heart chambers. It helps make the heart muscle stronger.

What I found interesting is that there is a program now that allows some pacemakers to be shipped overseas to lower and moderate-income nations.



I found the following information online on the Michigan Medicine site:

Meanwhile, almost 90% of individuals with pacemakers would donate their device to others in need if given the chance. The <u>Frankel Cardiovascular Center</u> has been conducting a series of research projects aiming to establish pacemaker and defibrillator reuse as a feasible, safe, and ethical means of delivering this life saving therapy to patients with no resources.

Throughout this process we have been engaged with the US Food and Drug Administration (<u>FDA</u>) in order to obtain approval and begin a clinical trial. We must never forget that at the foundation of each technological breakthrough is the need to improve humanity in all aspects of our society. Undoubtedly, pacemaker reuse can safely and effectively transform a currently wasted resource into an opportunity for a new life for many citizens in our world!

If you are interested in being a part of this program, please visit the **Donate a Pacemaker** page for more information.

Even more interesting is the fact that now used pacemakers can be donated to dogs.

Here are some places you can donate your pacemaker to in order to save a dog's life²:

- Your local veterinary hospital where they perform heart surgeries
- Local animal shelters can provide you with options if they have partnerships with medical facilities
- Colleges and universities with veterinary medicine programs
- Contact your local pet pharmacy to see if they have a list of dogs with heart problems and ask them to email the pet parents

The University of Georgia and Navicent Health launched a program to recycle used pacemakers for dogs and other animals. The program is available to pet owners whose dogs receive care at UGA. As of May 2019, the program had received about 65 pacemakers, and UGA typically



implants 5-10 pacemakers into dogs each year. Pacemakers that are too old or too large are used for teaching purposes. Medtronic donates hundreds of pacemakers to veterinary patients through the CanPacers program each year. In June 2023, CanPacers had a waiting list of more than 100 pet hospitals for pacemakers.

<<<<COMMUNICATIONS>>>>

COMMUNICATIONS REPORT By Vice Admiral Glenda Blanks, Communications Chief, Starfleet SFDPP 2024 Certified WHAT IS EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION? Written by Coursera Staff

Effective communication is the process of exchanging ideas, thoughts, opinions, knowledge, and data so that the message is received and understood with clarity and purpose. When we communicate effectively, both the sender and receiver feel satisfied.

For communication to be effective, it must be clear, correct, complete, concise, and compassionate, the 5 C's of communication. While the effectiveness of communication can be difficult to measure, its impact is hard to deny. According to one study, surveyed companies in the United States and United Kingdom with at least 100,000 employees lost \$62.4 million per year on average due to poor communication. On the flip side, companies led by effective communicators had nearly 50 percent higher total returns to shareholders over companies with less effective communicators at the helm.

The benefits of communication effectiveness can be witnessed in the workplace, in an educational setting, and in your personal life. Learning how to communicate well can be a boon in each of these areas.

In the workplace, effective communication can help you:

- 1) Manage employees and build teams
- 2) Grow your organization more rapidly and retain employees
- 3) Benefit from enhanced creativity and innovation
- 4) Become a better public speaker
- 5) Build strong relationships and attract more opportunities for you or your organization

In your personal life, effective communication can lead to:

- 1) Improved social, emotional, and mental health
- 2) Deeper connections with people you care about
- 3) New bonds based on trust and transparency





REGION ONE STUFF

REGION ONE 2025 SUMMIT By Willy Smith

REPOSTING FROM LAST MONTH:

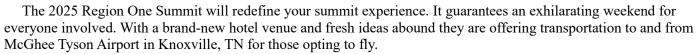
The Region One Summit will be held: May 2 – 4, 2025 Gatlinburg Tennessee

Early registration for the Summit is as follows (per person):

October 1st through January 31st: \$40.00

February 1st through April 30th (Online Registration Ends): \$45.00

At the Door: **\$50.00**



Additionally, the banquet and dance will take place at a separate venue, with transportation provided to and from the event. The Banquet will have a laid-back atmosphere and will be hosted at a Sports bar just a short distance from the hotel. Feel free to dress comfortably as your attire will be for the dance also, which will immediately follow the Banquet.

The Sidney James Mountain Lodge is situated conveniently in downtown Gatlinburg, the lodge offers numerous amenities, including a stunning indoor pool facility with a swim-through cavern and waterfall, rooms with balconies overlooking a mountain stream, and a full-service restaurant. Guests can easily access nearby attractions, restaurants, and shops, either by hopping on the Gatlinburg trolley, which stops right outside the hotel, or by taking a short walk.

More information and pictures at: www.Sidneyjames.com There will be a costume contest and a silent auction. Much more information located at: https://r1.sfi.org/2025-region-one-summit/

Join us for a weekend unlike any other! I plan on registering soon!

Additionally:

Greetings All,

The 2025 Region One Summit can now be found on <u>r1.sfi.org</u>. This includes registrations (general, lodging, banquet, and breakfast), online photo release form, preliminary schedule of events. costume contest information, and silent auction donation form.

Best Regards, Anthony Leopard, Commodore 2025 Region One Summit Co-Coordinator

STARFLEET STUFF

STARFLEET'S COMPLIANCE WITH PARAMOUNT'S INFRINGEMENT LAWS By Linda



Following the merger between Paramount and Skydance earlier this summer, Starfleet was contacted by Paramount Studio's attorney with a list of infringement laws that now govern what Starfleet can and can't use in newsletters, publications, advertising and all things Starfleet. Starfleet was NOT singled out with this contact. Other Star Trek fan organizations, including Klingon groups were as well. This not only applies to Starfleet but to all Starfleet chapters.

Region One's Regional Coordinator set up a meeting with Commander Starfleet, David Nottage and all CO/XOs of Region One chapters on September 1. He

explained where the organization and chapters stand legally and discussed just what chapters can use. The main take-away from the meeting is that Paramount owns the copyright and trademark for all things Star Trek and fan organizations can use ONLY what is approved. CS Nottage supplied a list of what he knows we cannot use and can.

The Heimdal's Executive Committee and Webmaster, Bud Walker met on September 6 to discuss this. Following that meeting I sent an email to our heimdaliogroups email list with information from that meeting. Because you have already received the info and because it's too detailed to go into here, PLEASE do refer to that email.

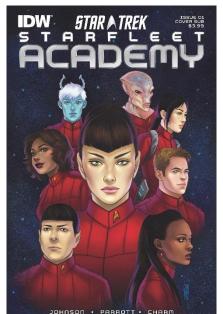
Anyone with specific questions please DO feel free to contact me, Willy, Carl, Bud and any member of Heimdal's Executive Committee.



Because of the information we have at this point, which is most likely incomplete, Bud has wiped Heimdal's website of all things Star Trek, we have submitted our logo to Starfleet's David Ye for approval and I have changed the border on this newsletter's pages. We're taking NO chances while awaiting further information.

STAR TREK STUFF

Star Trek: Starfleet Academy Begins Filming Story by Ryan Louis Mantilla From Glenda Blanks, Star Trek Editor



School is officially in session. Production has begun on *Star Trek: Starfleet Academy*. The newest installment in the Star Trek universe is a coming-of-age series following a team of young cadets as they train to become officers while facing formidable threats. It is executive produced by Alex Kurtzman and Noga Landau, both of whom also serve as showrunners.

Per the synopsis, Star Trek: Starfleet Academy will introduce "a young group of cadets who come together to pursue a common dream of hope and optimism. Under the watchful and demanding eyes of their instructors, they discover what it takes to become Starfleet officers as they navigate blossoming friendships, explosive rivalries, first loves and a new enemy that threatens both the Academy and the Federation itself."

The titular Starfleet Academy will be graced by Sandro Rosta, Kerrice Brooks, Bella Shepard, George Hawkins, Karim Diané, and Zoë Steiner, with Academy Award winner Holly Hunter joining the cast as "the captain and chancellor." Some familiar faces will also return to reprise their past Star Trek roles, including Tig Notaro (Star Trek: Discovery) as Jett Reno, Robert Picardo (Star Trek: Voyager, Star Trek: Prodigy) as The Doctor, Oded Fehr (Star Trek: Discovery) as Admiral Charles Vance, and Mary Wiseman (Star Trek: Discovery) as Sylvia Tilly. Meanwhile, Paul Giamatti and Gina Yashere will also appear in the series as recurring guest stars.

"As we continue to explore more of the Star Trek universe, we're thrilled to bring Star Trek: Starfleet Academy to fans around the world as the next chapter in this expanding

franchise," president of CBS Studios David Stapf previously said in a statement. "Alex Kurtzman and Noga Landau's vision is a smart and thrilling take that celebrates the core principles of what Star Trek has always stood for, but through the eyes of the next generation of Starfleet's leaders."

No release date has been set yet for the upcoming Paramount+ series.

SEPTEMBER QUESTION OF THE MONTH

Are you sorry to see summer end & why? What are you looking forward to as fall approaches?

<u>Willy Smith:</u> When I worked before retirement the heat was always an issue since my job was quite physical or I was stuck inside a machine cab that didn't even have a fan. I've always liked cooler weather. I'll start out with a jacket and as the day progresses, I can adjust.

I look forward to early morning cold when you see your breath and exercise warms me up, it's a good feeling. Woodstove. **Linda Smith:** I've always been a summer person and every year I get almost depressed when summer ends. But it's been so miserably hot and humid this year, I'm not sorry to see fall arrive.

I'm looking forward to low humidity and maybe the deer not eating our blooming shrubs long enough for them to recover from being 'summer salads' for the deer the past several months.

THE ZAK PERSPECTIVE

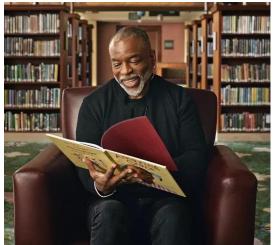
Ways to Grow: Discovering the Vivid Spectrum of Life through Reading Rainbow*
A reaction to the documentary *Butterfly in the Sky*By Zak Lyon

Hi! My name is Zak Lyon and I am 40 3/4. I am from Fairfax, Virginia. And I want to tell you about this great documentary, *Butterfly in the Sky* by Bradford Thomason and Brett Whitcomb. Have you ever wanted to know how a certain children's television show was made? And how it became a classic? I'm here to tell you all about it. Why not try *Butterfly in the Sky*? It's about the love of reading and lots of other cool stuff. You can watch it on Amazon Prime right now!

Hope that nostalgic opening took *you* back the way it took *me* back to my preschool days when I first heard a kid say something similar on PBS's *Reading Rainbow*. When I heard that a documentary about this series was being produced, I couldn't wait to experience it. And boy was it interesting!

Reading Rainbow was the brainchild of Twila Liggett and Tony Buttino who were tasked in 1983 with inventing a format to encourage reading in the summer for kids. Twila, a teacher, was told that "teaching kids to love reading is not the goal, rather she should teach the skill." She left teaching. She knew the skill followed the love. This belief is what she brought to *Reading Rainbow*.

Funders didn't really think it would work, but a pilot was shot anyway. It was picked up! At first, they couldn't get authors to allow their books to be read on the show. However, librarians noted books read or reviewed on *Reading Rainbow* caused kids to rush in to check them out. Within a few years they had piles of books. Authors were requesting



their works be featured on the show. They knew they'd finally made it when episodes were being shown in first and second grade classrooms. It just worked. But why?

In *Butterfly in the Sky*, we learn why. First, their premise: Children love stories. Children love discovery. And the showrunners never wavered from this. They checked with kids to determine what a "good" book was. They followed *their* lead. Second was their passion - it was evident in all the interviews presented in the doc. They strove to get the best celebrity narrators – ones whose voice and personality would bring the book alive. I also think that the music was extremely important.

In detailing how the music for this show was created (quite interesting), the documentary highlighted the necessity of crafting a theme that was announced from the other room that the show was on. Steve Horelick, the composer, worked tirelessly to get the melody just right. He recreated his process for the camera displaying some of the very best use of the 80s

synthesizer! The same attention was paid to the song. It was catchy, accessible to young kids and very 80s. Speaking of kids, they were a major reason it worked. When the viewer heard those words "You don't have to take my word for it," the kids watching felt empowered. The child readers were given no script or coaching. They wrote and performed their reviews in their own unique styles. It was so authentic. Jason Reynolds, National Ambassador for Children's Literature and YA author, said about the show, "Its reading, yes, but what it really is, is story and because we are sharing in the moment of story, I feel a part of something."

Several of the readers were interviewed for the documentary. The older versions of the Reading Rainbow kids were still enthralled with the books they read. Just touching the books brought back memories. Kenn Michael who read Jumanji said that when the movie came out, he felt he had a part in it – some ownership in the story. And it was story that the show was about after all. Jason Reynolds said that "for the kids watching, it says your voice matters, your opinion matters, your story matters."

Larry and Cecily Lancit, producers, realized early on in the creative process that they needed just the right host. But who? Twila insisted that the host be a male. She was trying to capture Fred Rogers' genuine connection with children. The Lancits' dream casting was LaVar Burton. Team member Lynne Ganeck was determined to get him. The Lancits were convinced he was too big of a star. But this was right up his alley. LaVar Burton, host of Reading Rainbow for all 26 years as well as the host of this documentary, said he took the job because he felt one's life should involve service. He said *Roots* had taught him that all television is educational. The question is what are we teaching?

Lavar Burton was necessary for the show to work. His charisma and honest presentation gave the show just what it needed. When he looked into the camera the viewers thought they were right there with LaVar, that he was their friend, that he respected their opinion. One of the creators said that "LaVar had the finest qualities of a 5 or 6 year old who was dazzled by everything. We tend to lose that as adults."

LaVar still has the wonderment of life. He said this was the 8-yr-old in him. He also felt that the fact that he was a black man was extremely important. He received letters from people who said he was the first black man they ever met – see, they thought they had actually met him!

When Burton was cast in ST:TNG, the team was sure they would lose him for Reading Rainbow. How could they find anyone with his enthusiasm, joy of life and rapport with the kids? It was the last episode of season 6 - My Little Island, when LaVar signed off with - "I'll see you next time" – you could see he was emotional. But season 7 began with an episode that highlighted TNG and even showed the kids how they did the beaming special effect. LaVar was back and continued being the host throughout the run of TNG. When PBS was about to lose federal funding, Burton testified before Congress and funding continued. There may have been other pressures but having watched Burton's impassioned speech, I think that was all that was needed to turn the tide.

From the beginning of this year, I knew I was going to get this documentary and was going to write about it — it was that important, that influential in my life. Hearing an adult say "you don't have to take my word for it" was revolutionary for me. This show would have meant nothing to me if it was about phonics or mechanics of reading. But as it was said many times, this show is about the importance of story. It's about the amazing variety of people and experiences. Whoopie Goldberg, producer and celebrity reader said of Reading Rainbow, "It wanted you to know that there were all kinds of stories out there. And if it wasn't a story from your neighborhood, it was one you should know about."

Reading Rainbow told me you could still feel the same levels of excitement and interest in the world as an adult because of LaVar Burton. He demonstrated and modeled this. Thanks to Paramount for working this out.

So, in a very roundabout way Star Trek saved *Reading Rainbow*. Would it work today? As far as I think, it would - as long as someone still remembers that skill follows love.

I'll see you next time...

*If you have not seen the show, each episode would start with the "audience" popping in on the host in the middle of something. It made him think about a book. Then, a celebrity narrator would read in voice-over as an image of each page filled the screen. Then the show would become documentary-style inviting viewers to take a field trip related to the theme. Next, children would review other books in the style of an entertainment reporter. Finally, the host wrapped up the episode.

INTERDEPARTMENTAL ROLE PLAY

Do we all holy rites; Let there be sung 'Non nobis' and 'Te Deum'.

Henry V, Act 4, Scene 8

ACT II of *The Bound Dog Shall be Loosed*Chapter 22: "Into the Breach"

By Darrell Millner, Kathy Whately, Zak Lyon, Jody Lyon and Bud Walker

Still waters run deep, and we are about to get as still as it gets, Millner thought as he reviewed the crew before him so diligently working on last minute adjustments, thoughts and banter. His throat cleared and all eyes turned their gaze to him, wish they knew how much I'd rather be having a raktajino and scone with them – anywhere else but here. His voice carried strong but caring...

"Team, we may have been thrown into this without our consent, and this mission is not going to be as crisp and clean as we STARFLEET Officers prefer. I know many of us have doubts, why us? Well, darn it – BECAUSE - and that will have to be enough for now. I personally trust the galaxies have brought us together at this time and place to make a difference and we will, no matter what or who awaits us on that ship. I tell you now – trust to your training, have the back of the person beside you as always, and remember we are Heimdal Strong!" (the team nods in unison) "Remember this is not about being a soldier, it's about getting our people home – now let's get rolling!"

"Robin, be sure to listen out for our check-ins. We won't be following standard ½ hour protocol on this mission. We're counting on you." Millner gave a slight nod to Commander Hudson. "We'll call ya when we get there."

"No problem, Chief. It's a layup. See you on the other side," she acknowledged as her hands moved over the transporter controls. As sparkles of silver starlight surrounded the courageous team, the Shuttle Quantico dissolved from their vision.

On board the ISS Garmr...

Lt. Lyon realized that her eyes were squeezed tight as she materialized. *Relax*, she thought and slowly opened her eyes to see...total darkness. *Where are we? Is this where Commander Lyon's contact on the Garmr meant for us to arrive? Can we trust him?* Jody could feel her heart beating out of her chest and she could hear Kathy's rapid breathing.

Commander Whately's eyes began to adjust somewhat to the darkness as she backed up...into shelving? She cringed at the thought of making noise and steadied the objects that had begun to rattle. A cleaning supply closet? Commander Whately thought. No high-tech cleaning? They're kind of backward around here...wait a minute, maybe cleaning is used as a punishment or disciplinary exercise. Maybe they have to conserve energy for torture and weapons protocols. She unconsciously shivered and noticed through the darkness that the team was looking at her. With a thumbs up gesture, she indicated "I'm alright." Doubt if they even saw that, she thought with a grin.

Commander Lyon pushed his hair out of his eyes. I know myself' and there has to be a reason he put us here. Something he wanted us to see. He allowed himself to reach out to his counterpart. Is it just me or do I hear the breath of an animal? No, no... Guess that's a little paranoid. I must orient myself.



Commander Lyon felt his way around the small dark room and his hand recognized the outline of an old-style control panel on the wall. *Guess the Empire's wealth doesn't go to tech updates*. He located what he felt sure was the button that operated the door. "*Ta Da*" Lyon whispered, spreading his arms wide. And...an overhead light came on. "*Oh. A doorknob. How quaint*," he mouthed, barely whispering.

Captain Millner put his finger to his lips in a shushing manner, shaking his head slightly. The door creaked as Lyon slowly pulled it open. A thin blade of light sliced across the room. As the opening door revealed more of their surroundings, Millner pointed to Commander Lyon and with inward facing palm and a downward chop set their course.

Lyon turned sideways and inched through the opening. He was greeted with a clunk and bang and just managed to catch himself before tripping over...a mop? Who would leave a mop just lying around?(* SEE CHAPTER 19, "EXIT STAGE LEFT.)

The rest of the team followed Lyon and found themselves in a vacant mess hall. To the right was the door to the corridor. As the team crept toward it, Commander Whately hesitated and went back. She grabbed the mop and leaned it up against the wall. *Someone could get hurt*, she thought. As she turned toward her crewmates, Kathy froze. Hanging on the wall was a massive banner featuring a cruel looking woman dressed in a black and gold leather uniform, the severed heads of dozens of Vulcans under her feet and her arms raised to the sky. Above it was written: **All Honor to our Glorious Captain, Defender of the Empire, Subjugator of the Monastery of P'Jem. For she has stabbed the sky!** She felt a hand on her shoulder.

"This could be what saves us, Kathy," Zak whispered. She acknowledged Zak's attempt to comfort her. But little comfort could be received. It was not the marshal nature of this banner which shocked her, it was to be expected. With horror, the face of this evil villain terrified her. Her eyes widened as she stared, still frozen. But it was something unexpected that shook her to the core. The cruel looking woman standing on a pile of bloody severed heads was her!

To be continued...

THAT'S IT - WE QUIT ...

THANK YOU to EVERYONE that contributed to this newsletter. It's pretty awesome.

And THANK YOU TO BUD who worked so hard to make Heimdal compliant with Paramount Studios demands on Starfleet and to our Heimdal Executive Committee that continues to work non-stop since the first of the year attempting to comply with all sorts of stuff. We ROCK!!!

We'll see you at this upcoming awesome September meeting.

Linda, Willy and our staff of THOUSANDS.

<u>Disclaimer:</u> No part of this newsletter is intended as an infringement on the Star Trek copyright or trademarked properties held by Paramount, CBS, Disney, Skydance, the ACLU, CIA, FBI, HSUS, AFL/CIO or any other company or entity. This is just us doing good and having fun so we hope all those folks and anyone else looking for something to do will leave us alone.

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IN THIS September 2024 ISSUE:

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& Kathy Whately - Thanks!

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We'll See You Around the Galaxy ...