

U.S.S. Sol's

# A F I S T F U L O F C R E D I T S



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## Happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July

### EDITORIAL

By Cmdr. Michael Thomas

I went to my first club bowling activity which was held on the 9<sup>th</sup> of June and I'm not shy about my score, 142 which isn't bad for someone who hasn't bowled since The Center closed. If the other club members are as brave you may see some additional scores in the future. And some of them were impressive to me at least.

According to Captain Swift he's working on the radio script. For those of you who were at the bowling alley got to see the first draft. I skimmed over it. So it seems next meeting there will be something for us to work on.

Referring to *Meeting Notes* I concur. Keep the plot simple but also keep it interesting and easy for the audiences to follow.

*Ed. Note: I'm looking for letters to the editor for the next issue. Start thinking up some questions for me to answer. And give me some feedback, so I can do a better job. Tell me what you would like to see. You just may see it in the newsletter. If you don't want to use your names just use your initials. Remember to use Attach or I cannot use it.*

### CAPTAIN'S READY ROOM

By Brian Swift

Captain's Log – Stardate 10702.01

The club is once again committed to creating a new piece of fiction – an Audio Drama in this case which should test our acting talents in all new ways. First, of course, we need a plot, then a script. I have already secured Commander Don Carlson's enthusiasm and effort for this production and with the talents of Carlson Video and Sound (c), I feel confident in quoting professor

Zaroff – “No-ting in zee World Can shtop me now!”

Captain’s Log – Stardate 10704.03

We’ve picked an overall plot for our first audio drama. On the upside the plot is pretty generic so there’s lots of flexibility. On the downside the plot is a little generic and doesn’t involve the characters any more than any other piece of space opera.

What we need is a good way to make the conflict personal – so that the story is more than just about Starfleet Officers doing their jobs – it needs to be about people, people who grow, develop, and change over the course of the story. So that’s probably the next piece to focus on.

## MEETING NOTES

By Carol Thompson  
Communications Officer  
Second Quarter, 2007

### *Radio Play*

This quarter we took on the project of developing a radio play featuring the crew of the USS Sol. Factors we had to consider were how complicated the plot should be, what could be presented effectively by audio only, and what kind of time commitment we were willing to adhere to.

Outside research into airing our play publicly on the University radio station varied from a full-season commitment to a single spot divided up into acts. We determined that we needed to keep it simple. There are only 6 active members willing to participate in the project.

Work sessions occur after the regular meetings for those who are participating. Other members retire to the living room to view a science fiction movie.

### *Activity*

Over the years our outside activities have dwindled to nearly zero. But our crew did agree to a monthly bowling activity. Trying out a weekend schedule, we went to the downtown alley. But as the

season for tournaments arrived, there was no open bowling on weekends. We had to relocate to the University lanes. Unfortunately we found the University equipment in very poor repair and made plans to change our schedule to fit into the schedule at the downtown alley.

Bowling for the most of us is a challenging activity. We are NOT a coordinated bunch of people! Our approach techniques vary from arcade-skeet-ball (step up to the line, swing the ball a few times, and let go) to a classic 4-step approach. However, there is potential hidden there somewhere. In spite of our limitations, we DO enjoy getting together for fun.

### *State of the Chapter*

Though we gained two members from the decommissioned Crystal Star in Anchorage, we are still learning to communicate with them on the chapter board. We have a long ways to go to integrate our long-distance members into the chapter.

Our membership has varied from 13 to 16 members in this time period and we have had interested visitors who want to participate in our radio play and facilitate its public airing.

We have a decent balance in our treasury should we ever need it.

### *Member news*

Our CO Brian Swift has begun a sci-fi movie after-school program at Monroe High School, where he teaches math and physics. Once a week the students view and discuss vintage sci-fi movies.

Carol Thompson has written several Colleges for Starfleet Academy. The most recent project was the Vulcan Orientation College.

She is also heading up the new Academy Degree Program which will award diplomas based on the number of courses members have taken.

Having been invited to be the Academy Commandant candidate on one of the slates for Commander, Starfleet, she is also very busy with wrapping up current projects and preparing for the possible election of “her” team.

Two of our members are pursuing an education at the University of Alaska, Fairbanks: Commander Mike Whyant and Captain Jennifer Ernst.

## THE CRITIC

By Cmdr. Michael Thomas

### Remastered TOS

For the TOS episode *I Mudd* the changes didn't do anything for the show. In my opinion they should have just left it alone. They made Norman look more like the Terminator without his skin when he showed his entire workings.

As for the episode *Doomsday Machine* it was great with all the space and maneuvering shots. It made the show more entertaining than the original. I think the kids that are watching it now are getting a real treat.

## STORIES

By Michael Thomas

### Klingon Sword of Honor "Bat'leth"

A traditional Klingon sword of honor: The bat'leth date's back to the time of Kahless the Unforgettable who lived about 1, 500 years ago.

According to the legend of Kahless, Kahless cut off a lock of his hair and dropped it into the lava of the Kri'stak Volcano and then plunged the burning lock into the lake of Lursor and twisted it into a blade.

After forging this weapon, He used it to kill the tyrant Molor and gave it a name. He called it *bat'leth* or "sword of honor".

This story of the sword has never been recorded in the sacred text. Only the high clerics know the story

which has passed down through the centuries. This is so if Kahless returns as he promised when his people needed him. If he can retell the story, this would prove that he is Kahless.

The bat'leth design hasn't changed much over the centuries. There are a few alterations in the details but the overall design is still the same.

The modern bat'leth measures 116 centimeters long from outer tip to outer tip and weighs 5.3 kilograms and is usually made out of beakonite metal.

The bat'leth is passed down from father to son or father to daughter. In Worf's case his bat-leth had been passed down for 10 generations.

Much like the Samurai sword of Japan before WW II, it was said some of them had been in family for hundreds of years. They were considered weapons of honor and sometimes had the families crest engraved on them.

For hand to hand or close combat the bat'leth is usually the weapon of choice because of its adaptability to a variety of attack and defense movements: blocking, stabbing, hooking, and slashing.

## STARFLEET NEWS

By Carol Thompson

The crazy season is upon us: election time! From now until July 15<sup>th</sup>, Commanding Officers and RC's are nominating their choices for Commander, STARFLEET, which is the same as a CEO in a corporation. Current nominees are

Joost Ueffing/Dixie Halber  
Sal Lizard/Garrick Halverson  
Emmet Plant/William Devine  
A fourth as yet unrevealed Candidate

The best all-around site for Election coverage is  
[http://issmacarthur.com/?page\\_id=584/](http://issmacarthur.com/?page_id=584/)

The final candidates will be announced on July 15<sup>th</sup> 2007.